

Celebrating 6th Years 2021

Students from Leaving Certificate Class of 2021 return to Kishoge

Seven students from Leaving Certificate 2021 were welcomed back to Kishoge this week to talk to staff about their experience of the exams and what they're hoping to do next. The class of 2021 were only the second group to graduate from Kishoge, and arguably had the hardest path to their exams with multiple lockdowns and exam uncertainty. Nevertheless, this class group persevered, modelling a positive attitude towards challenges to younger years in the school. After months of uncertainty and worry around results, the wait was over on Friday 3rd September.



Principal Niall Hare, Brianna, Shakira, Sorcha, Julia, Jordan, Hafsa, Priscilla, Year Head Kristina Troy.

When asked was it all worth it, Priscilla Nkunga said *“it all paid off in the end”*. Looking back on her time in Kishoge, she noted *“it went by like that!”* with a click of her fingers. Shakira

Adelakun had similar feelings, saying *“It feels weird growing up!”* now that her time at Kishoge has come to an end.

The moment of opening their online portal on results day was, naturally, one of mixed emotions. Brianna Ciocan, who got 566 points, said she *“wasn’t expecting it, I cried and mom basically panicked!”* There was great excitement in the Negru household also, when Julia calculated that she had received 625 points, the maximum a student can achieve in the exams. *“It still doesn’t feel real”*, she said, and as the days have gone on and she waited for her CAO offer, she has resolved to *“looking forward”*, with Jordan Ahern saying there were *“phone calls all over the place”* once he realised he had achieved the grades he wanted.



Niall and LC 2021 students

Deciding to take advantage of the wisdom gathered by these students over their years in Kishoge, when asked for tips on how to manage the workload, many advised focusing on the work itself. Hafsa Qasim feels like all the hard work paid off for her, *“It’s hard but doable. It’s all about the mindset you have, make sure you contact teachers with questions you have. You have options, talk to the guidance teachers”*. Sorcha Farrell, who is hoping to study medicine, agreed that you need to *“start your study early in 6th year”*. No matter what

results students were aiming for, there is something useful in the approach of *“trying to understand what you’re learning, then you start making connections”*, a great tip offered by Julia.

Finally, when reflecting on their time in Kishoge and if they’d do anything differently, or indeed if they had any further advice for current Leaving Cert. students, the idea of *“surrounding yourself with people who believe in you”* and *“believing in yourself”* was one that was noted across the board.



LC 2021 students with Deputy Principal Ciara McMackin

The whole school community is proud of its Leaving Certificate class of 2021 and wish them success in their future studies and work. We cannot forget the efforts and hard work of teachers, classroom assistants, tutors, guidance teachers, our Principal and Deputy Principals, their Year Head Kristina Troy, and of course parents and guardians who got these students through their exams. We hope this class group will keep the connections and friendships they’ve made in Kishoge, and carry on the spirit of equality, innovation, and hard

work that has been fostered over their secondary school careers. A fitting wish to match our slogan “Ar aghaidh le chéile”.

