

Creative Schools Initiative



Since September 2018, Glasheen Girls School has been involved in the '*Creative Schools*' initiative, which aims to put the arts and creativity at the heart of children's lives. Throughout the process, our Creative Associate, artist Jane Hayes, met with the Creative Schools Staff Co-ordinators and with the newly formed 'Student Creative Council.' In her workshops with the Council, Jane embraced the voice of the students and listened to their ideas as to how they think the arts and creativity can be promoted in our school.

As well as putting long term structures in place to support creativity in Glasheen Girls School, over a few weeks in June 2019 3rd and 4th Class 2018-2019 took part in music producer Garry McCarthy's (GMC Beats) Song-in-a-Day Workshops. In these workshops each class composed, created and recorded their very own song and music video. They had an experience of a lifetime - producing their own lyrics; singing and rapping using top of the range recording equipment; and shooting their music video around the school grounds on a beautiful summer's day. These workshops provided an invaluable life changing opportunity for the children to explore and express their own individuality and creativity in a safe, fun and interactive way. It allowed the girls to push themselves out of their comfort zone and delve deeper into the creative writing process while also exploring rhythm, rhyme and expression. The process embodied key aspects of Glasheen Girls' ethos - promoting and supporting a strong sense of community while celebrating individuality, diversity and creativity.

A big thank you to Jane, our Creative Associate, for all of her hard work and dedication in ensuring our students will have positive creative experiences throughout their school lives in Glasheen. A big thank you too to Garry for his fantastic workshops full of fun and learning, and for providing those students with memories from their school days that they will never forget.

Without further ado, here are the two songs and their music videos, created by the current 4th and 5th Classes - *'Together As One'* by the current 5th Class, and *'Whoop Whoop'* by the current 4th Class.