

# THE TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS IN ST. KEVIN'S COLLEGE SUPPORT THE HOPE FOUNDATION

In 2015 the Transition year students were visited by a representative from the Hope Foundation, Jayanne Maher. She gave a talk on the work the Foundation carries out in India. The Hope Foundation was set up by Maureen Forrester in 1989.

Jayanne described Kolkata and the lives of thousands of vulnerable children who are living alone on the streets, working long hours, day after day simply to survive. It really is a truly miserable existence for many.

This message resounded with the Transition students and some were immediately interested in getting involved in the Hope Foundation.

Three students, Daniel Tetis, Jason Bermingham and Cillian O'Brien approached their R.E. teacher and expressed an interest in helping the Foundation during school time.

It was decided that selling the Hope bars in the school would be the way forward and the students set about seeking permission from the principal Mr. Byrne, to support their project. Times, days, financial controllers, product ordering, delivery, storage and other such issues were discussed by the three students and they set about the task of getting the project underway.

Another very important aspect of the project was discussing the area of help the students would concentrate on. **The Education programme** was seen as being a really rewarding aspect of the fundraising campaign as they could sponsor the education of an Indian boy or girl for a year on the strength of selling the Hope bars. €250 would feed and educate one child for a complete year. The boys felt this could be achieved and so started selling the bars during lunchtimes.

Cillian, Daniel and Jason at the start of the venture in 2015.



**In 2015** the boys raised **€1,280**.

**€326.40** euros went to Butlers and they raised **€953.60** euros for the Hope Foundation. This was amazing and the Transition year students felt confident that they could sponsor not one but two Indian children of schoolgoing years.

Two Indian children Tany Khatoon (2001) aged 15 and Md. Tauhid Ansari (2003) aged 13 were chosen by the Hope Foundation. Their education is being sponsored by the selling of the Hope bars in St. Kevin's College by Transition Year students.

Fast forward another year.

**2016**

St. Kevin's College brought in a healthy eating policy which did not deter the next set of Transition Year students from continuing on with the project. Permission was given to selling the bars only at Friday lunchtimes.

The project is thriving and has two great students Robyn Fitzpatrick and Lorcan Gorman who are driving the project onwards.

**In 2016** the boys raised **€1,204.80**.

**€244.80** going to Butlers and **€415.20** going to the Hope Foundation.

**Since 2015/ 2016 St. Kevin's Transition Year students** have raised in total **€1,668.80** for the Hope Foundation and continue to sponsor the education of the two Indian students Tanuid and Tahid. They are waiting to receive the annual Christmas card and letter the students sent last year, telling the boys how they are doing in their studies and wishing them a very Happy Christmas. The Transition Year students will be writing back to them in the New Year as they want to build on the link they have with the Education Project run by Hope.

**DAY OF HOPE 2016**



**Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016**, Transition year students made their way into the city centre for the Day for Hope, to sell bars in the city centre. By raising much needed funds through the Day of HOPE campaign the boys helped by giving vulnerable street children the opportunity to go to school, receive healthcare and nutritious meals and fund HOPE's 12 residential homes which provides a safe place to live to hundreds of former street children.

It was one of the wettest days in October but this did not deter the boys. Wet and miserable they all turned up to support the foundation and Jayanne was really delighted. Bars were sold and the sun did come out even if only for a short spell. Overall the boys enjoyed their experience in the city centre, interacting with different characters and encouraging others to buy the bars for such a worthy foundation.

**The day was a success and the Transition Year students threw themselves into the task at hand and raised thousands of euros for the children which Hope work with.**

### **FUNDRAISERS WITH A SMILE IN THE RAIN**



