



SCHOOL COMPETITION 2024 FINALIST



ST. BRENDAN'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL

L-R: Jack O'Meara, Moya Guinan, Joseph McLoughney, Ben Younge

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ABOUT OUR SCHOOL:

St. Brendan's Community School offers each student the chance to study, for state and other examinations, a wide range of academic, cultural and technical subjects. Equally important are the many further opportunities for physical, social, cultural and moral development which are promoted through a rich variety of extracurricular activities.

We strongly encourage each and every student to take a positive role in the life of the school, to become involved in school activities and to contribute in any way he or she can to a happy and productive school atmosphere.

WHY WE ENTERED THE COMPETITION?:

We chose to participate in the Certified Irish Angus project because we're interested in farming as we all come from a farming background. This gives us the responsibility of working together, having things prepared and finished on time. It can also be a great opportunity to help us grow our confidence. We are interested in working in Agriculture after school and want to promote Agricultural Science in our school. Participating in the Certified Irish Angus School's competition to rear 5 calves is an excellent opportunity to showcase our skills as a farmer, work with a premium product, and support a programme that is committed to sustainability and animal welfare. It also gives us insight into the farming industry and what other farmers do. We believe this experience will be invaluable.

THEME OF OUR PROJECT:

How small Adjustments Lead to Enhancements in Sustainable Beef Farming

We will focus our research on the following areas:

- How we can use the AgNav platform to create a plan and improve the sustainability of our Angus calves production.
- Researching the importance of soil health in producing healthy cattle.
- Explaining the importance of planning to improve farm beef production.

We will raise awareness and promote our theme by:

- Creating a St. Brendan's C.S Angus farm Vlog to update people on our animals performance.
- Inviting leaders of the Agricultural industry to our school to launch our "Pasture to Plate initiative".
- Investigating the use of the AgNav Tool and looking at the carbon footprints of other local beef rearing systems to highlight strengths and weaknesses from a carbon efficiency perspective.
- Closely monitoring liveweight gain and trying to maximise growth as efficiently as possible.
- Creating a take-home flyer for farmers to enhance their knowledge of how carbon sequestration can be improved on their farm.