

## Moate Community School Trip to Carlingford.

By Ceire Dunning.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of October, over fifty transition year students From Moate Community School assembled outside the front gate of the school weighed down with the luggage they had been instructed to pack to bring to Carlingford in county Louth. They departed at 9:30 from the school and although they were faced with a long journey ahead, there was chat and laughter to be heard on the bus.



On arrival having discarded the carefully packed luggage they headed straight to their first activity, walking for twenty minutes up the Mourn Mountains before arriving to the challenge. As part of the task safety gear was provided and the students were put into groups. The students enjoyed numerous team-building trials such as wooden obstacles and balancing on low ropes to work in teams and successfully complete a challenge within the group.



Back to our base for dinner and the eager students were assigned their rooms. After a quick change it was back outside for a night walk through the mountains and before returning for an early night's sleep in preparation for a long day ahead. Although, if truth be told, most remained awake talking until the small hours of the morning.

Many sleepy heads stumbled out of bed and downstairs for breakfast at the wake up call. Due to weather conditions they were unable to go out in the water for kayaking as planned. Instead they headed to the forest to partake an exercise known as laser combat. Everyone was given a laser gun and put into one of two teams, blue or red. There were several hide outs for the players. When hit with the laser you were out and your team was left to play on. It pushed each team to their limits and got them planning either their attacking or defending strategies.

Later that day the students and their teachers did other activities such as zorbing. For most students this was the highlight of Carlingford. Zorbing is when you and a friend are strapped into a huge inflatable ball face to face and pushed down a hill. For a lot of people it was the most feared task but was by far the most exciting and enjoyable. By night time, everyone was wrecked and went to bed at 11:30.

The final day meant the final activity. This time; rock climbing and abseiling off a quarry in the mourn mountains. A highly enjoyable activity! Alas the end of final activity meant the last supper and it was time to start packing up the bus and say goodbye

to Carlingford. The instructors and staff in Carlingford were friendly, helpful and very hospitable. It was certainly a trip that will always be remembered.

A big thank you must go out to everyone involved, especially Mr. Peter Tormey, Mr. Iain Hatton and Ms Louise Costello for their time and effort, and of course a big thank you to Mr. Duffy and the TY co-ordinator Ms McLoughlin for making this trip possible. The students are very grateful as they had a wonderful time.

