

# Junior Cycle

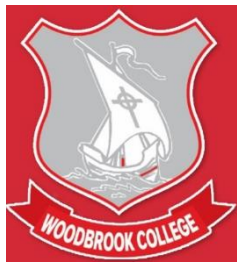
## Cookery Exams in Woodbrook College

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Here in Woodbrook College, the third-year students were completing their junior cycle cookery exam on April 26<sup>th</sup> 2021. We were excited to be asked to observe their cooking and investigate the key skills learned. The students were concentrating very hard from the get go and we knew we were in for a real treat!!



After observing the students, we asked Ms. Cluskey some questions about their dishes. She gave us a brief explanation of the task at hand. They chose three tasks at random which were; sustainability, nutritional needs for teenager and allergies. We asked Ms. Cluskey how long the 3<sup>rd</sup> years had to practice their dishes.



Her response was *"They practiced weekly at home during lockdown but they have been accumulating their skills from 1<sup>st</sup> year."* This cookery exam is accounted for 50% of their 3<sup>rd</sup> year exam and most of the students were preparing two dishes. They have an hour and forty minutes to complete their dishes in their final exam. Eight tables were set up, all with different dishes that were semi- finished. We noticed that pasta and brownies were the most popular dishes among students. The food was well presented and students were tidying up as they cooked.



Coming up to the end of their cookery practice, we questioned a few students while they were cleaning up. We asked a few students for the reasons they chose their dishes and how many times they practiced their dishes. One student said, *"my dish shows off my skills and its nutritional value is high"*. This student previously practiced their dish twice at home and seem confident. The other student responded, *"For my starter, I am making vegetable soup as it's not too complex and*

brownies for desert. The last student responded with, "I chose this dish because it's simple to make and I have practiced it a few times before hand."

To conclude our observation, we both believe the students worked really hard for their cookery exams as Ms. Cluskey said "I am very proud of my students as they have worked very hard towards their cookery exam this year."