

# BELVEDERE YOUTH CLUB

## Q1 2026 NEWS LETTER



BYC's mission is to support the empowerment of young people to realise their full potential through the provision of a range of programmes, by respecting their rights and hearing and amplifying their voices, while encouraging and supporting them as they transition from childhood to adulthood.

### Welcome Note from CEO

Hope you enjoy reading our Newsletter there has been so much happening in BYC and we really want to share it with you. It has been amazing to have so many children and young people involved in our programme of activities. As you will see from some of the photos our children and young people seem to have really enjoyed taking part in a wide variety of programmes here in the club so far this year.

As we enter into our Spring/Summer programme we have so much still on offer. If you want to know more please reach out to a member of our team.

A massive thank you to our funders and corporate and philanthropic partners who support us to deliver our programmes and to our corporate fundraising committee who work tirelessly on our fundraising efforts. Without you guys none of this would be possible. #teambelvo are committed to creating access to opportunities for all our children and young people while having fun in the process.

We are lucky to have such a vibrant, committed and passionate team who put the needs and interests of our young people before everything else. We look forward to the delivery of our programmes for the rest of the year.

*Jenny Courtney*



# BELVEDERE YOUTH CLUB



## Programmes & Initiatives

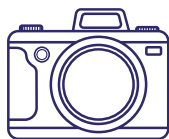
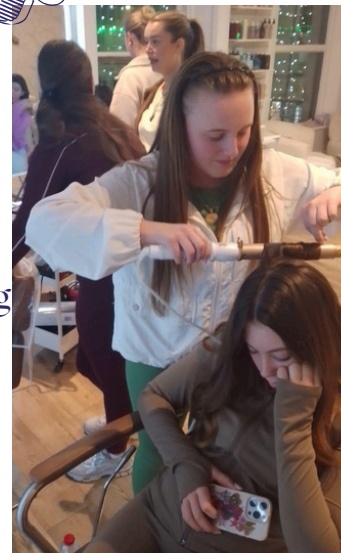
Over the past few months, our youth club has been busy providing a variety of programmes and initiatives designed to help young people build confidence, learn new skills, and express their creativity. Here's a look at some of the activities we've been involved in recently:



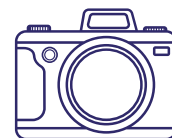
### Hair & Beauty Courses



Our hair and beauty courses have offered young people structured, hands-on training in a professional and supportive environment. Participants have been learning practical techniques such as hairstyling, basic beauty treatments, and essential customer-care skills. The programme also introduces young people to potential career pathways within the hair and beauty sector, helping them build confidence and gain insight into employment opportunities.



### Photography Group



The photography group has been a really meaningful and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. Young people took part in relaxed, guided sessions where they learned the basics of photography, tried out different composition techniques, and chatted about how photos can tell stories. They then got the chance to put these skills into practice by capturing images around the local community—focusing on places, people, and everyday moments that felt special to them. Afterwards, they used their photos to create creative collages that highlighted the parts of their community they feel most connected to. The whole project not only encouraged artistic expression but also helped young people look at their surroundings with fresh eyes and feel a sense of pride in where they live.



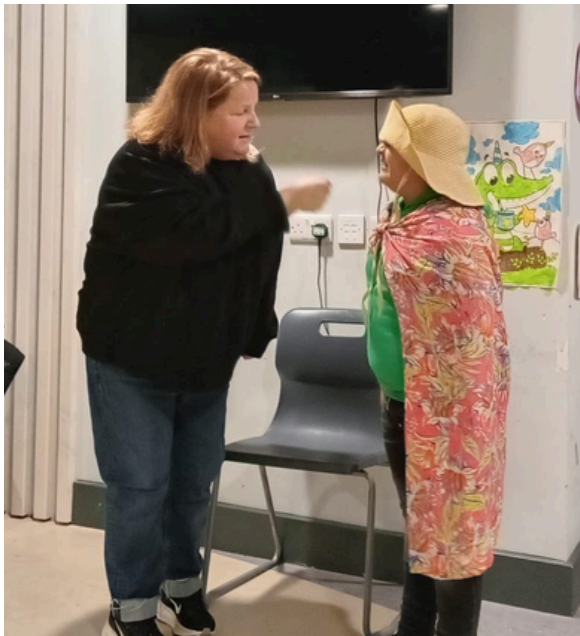
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## Programmes & Initiatives



### Drama Group Imagination Hub



Our drama groups for children and young people aged 7–12 have provided a dynamic space for creativity and personal development. Through drama-based games, improvisation activities, and storytelling exercises, participants have been able to explore their imagination while building key communication and teamwork skills. The sessions have also supported the development of self-confidence, as children and young people are encouraged to express themselves, take on new roles, and engage positively with their peers. The supportive and playful environment has enabled each child and young person to grow at their own pace while benefiting from the collective energy of the group.

### Kicking Off Community Connections!

Another highlight this month was our collaboration with the Gateway Direct Provision Centre, where we organised a friendly football match that brought young people from both groups together. The game created a relaxed and welcoming space for everyone to meet, connect, and share a bit of fun on the pitch. There was a great mix of teamwork, encouragement, and light-hearted competition, making the atmosphere really positive throughout. It proved to be a fantastic opportunity for young people to build friendships, break down barriers, and experience how sport can bring communities closer in such a simple but meaningful way.



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## Community of Practice

### Healthy Mind, Healthy Body

Our first session centred on wellbeing and self-care, offering an open Pilates workshop under the theme “Healthy Body, Healthy Mind.”

Both staff and community members were invited to take part, creating a relaxed and supportive space where participants could step away from their busy routines and focus on their physical and mental wellbeing. The session encouraged gentle movement, mindfulness, and the importance of taking time for ourselves—something that many participants said they appreciated and hoped to see more of.



### Recruitment and Training Event



The BYC was delighted to hold The Intreo Recruitment and Training Event whereby we welcomed the community, connecting jobseekers with employers and training providers, resulting in strong engagement and increased referrals to local training programmes.

### Coffee with Coffey & Tea with Terry

The second session took a more historical and reflective turn, led by Terry and Martin—two well-known local authors, historians, and much-loved community figures. They shared stories from the history of our area, bringing to life the people, places, and events that have shaped our community over the years. Their storytelling sparked great conversations and reminded everyone of the pride and connection that comes from understanding the roots of where we live. Participants spoke about how valuable it was to learn from Terry and Martin’s knowledge, and how these shared memories help strengthen our sense of belonging.



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## The Diamond Project

The Diamond Project is a Youth Justice initiative based in the BYC, supporting young people aged 12–24 in the North Inner City. We work in partnership with community, youth, and statutory organisations to assist young people and their families who have come into contact with the criminal justice system. Through a restorative practice approach and therapeutic supports, we aim to create meaningful opportunities and positive pathways for young people within their communities.

### SHERIFF STREET RUNNING CLUB – 5K COMMUNITY RUN

On 7th March, Senior Project Worker Dwayne, along with a client, joined local participants for the Sheriff Street Running Club's 5K event in support of Pierce O'Leary ahead of his world title fight. It was a positive community morning that brought people together in support of a local athlete, culminating in the celebration of his world title win the following week.

### Agency Visits

Throughout the month, we welcomed a number of professionals and partner organisations to the service. These visits provided an opportunity to showcase our work, share good practice, and deepen interagency understanding of the supports available to young people and families in the North Inner City.

### 5K Fridays

Our weekly 5K Fridays continue to run successfully, offering a structured, positive activity exclusively for Diamond clients, with the option for supporting workers to join. This ongoing initiative promotes wellbeing, routine, and social connection, with the group meeting every Friday at 2pm in Belvedere.

THE DIAMOND PROJECT



### WOODWORK AND CARPENTRY COURSE VISIT – TOLKA VALLEY CTC

Three clients from the Diamond Project took part in a visit to the Woodwork and Carpentry programme at Tolka Valley CTC in Cabra. This initiative, delivered in collaboration with multiple services including Probation, offered participants a hands-on introduction to vocational pathways and highlighted alternative educational opportunities available within the community.

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## BYC

### The Diamond Project

#### Agency Visits

Welcoming circle designed to warmly welcome visitors to the Diamond Space at BYC, prioritising effective communication and fostering open, collaborative conversations during our meetings



**5K**

**SHERIFF STREET RUNNING CLUB**

Come along and join us at Sheriff Street Running Club for our 5K Fun Run In Support of our Great Champ

**Pierce O' Leary**

7th March - 12PM - Sheriff Street

Fee: €10 per person (includes medal and number)

Registration will be opening soon

Logos for sponsors: Wick County Council, Wick County Development Office, SPAR



#### SHERIFF STREET RUNNING CLUB - 5K COMMUNITY RUN

Celebrating our community 5K and the positive impact it brings, supporting clients to feel connected, empowered, and engaged in their community

#### WOODWORK AND CARPENTRY COURSE

Showcasing Tolka Valley CTC woodwork and carpentry course, empowering clients with practical skills, confidence, and valuable pathways toward future employment

