

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018

Irish Independent 

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Thomas F. Meagher
FOUNDATION

THE *People's* FLAG

PRIDE, RESPECT, PEACE

Special
classroom-
based
supplement



NA H EIREANN
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE
IRISH REPUBLIC
TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.
IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the good generation
in which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through you,
summons her children to her flag
and strikes for her freedom.

“The White in the centre signifies a lasting truce
between the Orange and the Green, and I trust
it folds the hands of the Irish
Catholic may be clasped
in brotherhood.”
T. Meagher

170TH Anniversary of
First Flying of Tricolour
1848-2018
March 16TH 2018 Flag Day

PRIDE RESPECT PEACE

Thomas F. Meagher
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INSIDE:

- Learn about the life of Thomas F. Meagher
- Exclusive Junior Cert History Lesson Plans
- The fabulous new GPO Witness History Visitor Centre





Peace, unity and inclusivity in 2018

In an uncertain world, the meaning and place of our national flag is more important than ever, says Rev Michael Cavanagh

Today is the 170th anniversary of Thomas Francis Meagher raising the Irish Tricolour for the first time. 2016 saw the centenary of the Rising, in which the GPO building played an iconic role. These were two chapters in the story of our Nation that need to be placed in a broader context than that of individual events. These were the culmination of a struggle for freedom that has evolved over centuries, with a personal and collective cost that must not be forgotten.

The joint significance of those two events makes it important to understand their combined lesson, and is therefore appropriate that the GPO Witness History visitor centre should be the site of the first ever permanent exhibition on the history and meaning of the Irish Tricolour.

Meagher spoke of his hope for the flag: "The white in the centre signifies a lasting truce between the 'Orange' and the 'Green', and I trust that beneath it folds the hands of the Irish Protestant and the Irish Catholic who may be clasped in generous and heroic brotherhood".

The 1916 Proclamation echoes this hope: "The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all of the children of the nation equally."

The national sovereignty we now enjoy has been made possible through all those who have gone before. We live today in common cause and individual freedom – freedom of speech, freedom of belief and importantly, freedom to disagree. But we do not live – and have no mandate to live – with licence to allow

our disagreements to foster discrimination or propagate sectarian division. These debates and mock what has been so dearly won.

For the past five years, the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation has been working to promote the understanding of the significance of the flag's message of peace, unity and inclusivity for all Irish people both at home and abroad, especially in this time of much uncertainty and potential division throughout the world. In 2018, the Foundation is working with the Department of Education to make this year's Irish Independent supplement a teaching aid specifically aimed at the new junior cycle. Additionally, we are once again providing flag pins for schools to sell on 16th March to raise funds for charities or projects of their choice, and we are again supporting the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation awards and scholarship programme which recognises students who have actively promoted pride in, and respect for, the meaning and message of the flag.

We of the Foundation believe it is incumbent on all involved in education to work to ensure that the nation's young people are aware of their role and place in a 21st-century Ireland – a country rich in heritage, looking to the future with confidence as the 'New Irish', with all their energies and diversities, putting the symbolism of the flag into reality in lives of action, word and song. From wherever they come, and wherever they go, they do so together under the Green, Orange and White of the Tricolour. And those colours must never be allowed to fade.

The author is chair of the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation



Senator Mark Daly, co-founder of the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation which promotes pride in and respect for the Irish flag and its meaning for Peace speaking to students, watched by Niall O'Callaghan from Shannon Heritage and Aine Fitzgerald from GPO Witness History.

Working with schools to unlock history

We need to give students exciting new ways to understand our past, so they understand its meaning for the future, says Senator Mark Daly

It is a great honour to be writing the introduction of this, the fourth supplement to the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation in conjunction with the Irish Independent, and possibly the most important publication to date.

Education is of course a central theme of the work of the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation and this year's publication is particularly important as we have worked with the Junior Certificate History team who are creating the new Junior Certificate history programme which will be rolled out in September this year. The Oireachtas education unit has also been hugely helpful in compiling information for this year's publication. With this supplement we hope to provide information that is of use and benefit to students and history teachers in the classroom years to come.

The Thomas F. Meagher Foundation was co-founded by Church of Ireland Reverend

Michael Cavanagh and I, in 2013. We started with the simple idea that every school should be given a tricolour flag and that the new generation should learn the true meaning of the flag, peace between communities on this island.

This year, the 170th anniversary of the first flying of the Tricolour, was marked with the official opening by An Ceann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann Seán Ó Fearghail TD of the first ever permanent exhibition in the history of the State about the Irish flag, its meaning for peace and its creator Thomas F. Meagher. We at the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation were delighted to work with the Shannon Heritage team at GPO Witness History and An Post to install this new exhibit.

The centrepiece of the new exhibition is an enormous typographical replica of the opening lines of the 1916 proclamation, in polished black granite, with the lines 'summons her children to her flag.'



Senator Daly talking with Caolinn O'Brien whose great, great grand uncle Lieutenant Eoghán O'Briain, was in the GPO Garrison and station on the roof during Easter week. Caolinn's dad is T.D. Darragh O'Brien

dedication ceremony in the GPO. There are rules on who is supposed to be welcome at events such as this and in what order, but as the event was in the GPO, the home of the 1916 rebellion, I slightly deviated from the rules by welcoming my mother, Eileen, and apologising again for being suspended from school. The reason for the suspension was because I led seven other friends onto the roof of Holy Cross on Easter week 1991, on the 75th anniversary of the 1916 Rising, to fly an 18-foot long Irish flag that my granny had made. I am sure my mother has now forgiven me for that act of rebellion all those years ago.

In 1991 the message and the meaning of the flag was largely lost and forgotten. That is why on this, the 170th Anniversary of the first flying of the tricolour, it is important that every new generation learns of the true significance of the meaning of our Nation's flag. It is even more important that they live out Meagher's message of peace and unity, and are also given the opportunity to make this message relevant to their lives and their generation.

That is why the we at the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation work with schoolchildren throughout Ireland to encourage the young people of Ireland irrespective of ethnicity, creed or gender to work together under the Irish Tricolour and live its message of peace and unity.

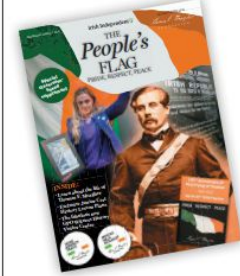
As well as giving the students the information of the history and meaning of the flag we are delighted that again this year that hundreds of schools have signed up for 'Flag Day'.

Our patrons and supporters allow us to give lapel pins free of charge to thousands of second level schools to sell on the 16th of March, the eve of St Patrick's Day, for project, causes and charities of their choosing. Students who are active citizens during 'Flag Day' are eligible to enter the Kerry Group Scholarship and Awards Programme. This year's entries can be submitted in the form of a video, essay, poem, picture or artwork on the theme of 'What it is like to live in Ireland in 2018' and 'What the flag represents to me on this the 170th anniversary of the first flying of the flag.'

The National Flag belongs to every one of us. It is one of the key symbols of the State and as such is worthy of respect. Symbols of the nation are worthy of respect in and of themselves but they are also worthy of respect because of what they represent. Our flag is a symbol of peace between communities on this island and it is important that we all strive to fulfil Meagher's ideals.

The Thomas F. Meagher Foundation is proud to have a wide-ranging and diverse Honorary Advisory Board including US Congressman Joe Kennedy, nephew of President John F. Kennedy, who gave the battle flag of Meagher's Irish Brigade to the people of Ireland in 1963, and Senator Edward Kennedy who was presented with Meagher's Battle sword in 2008 when then Taoiseach Bertie Ahern addressed the US Congress.

Congressman Kennedy in a message to the Foundation, encapsulates our message: 'Meagher well deserves his place in the pantheon of Irish heroes. He deeply embraced the right of men and women. And the truth is that anyone who stands for racial equality and justice is an honorary member of Thomas Meagher's Irish Brigade.'



CONTENTS

New Junior Cycle History explained
Pages 4 & 5

The History Teachers' Association
Pages 6 & 7

Lesson Plan 1: The Flag
Pages 8 & 9

Lesson Plan 2: Revolt!
Pages 10 & 11

Official Flag Protocol
Pages 12 & 13

Lesson Plan 3: America
Pages 14 & 15

Thomas Meagher: Montana's Main Man
Page 16 & 17

GPO Witness History Opening
Pages 18 & 19

The Exhibition
Pages 20/21

Awards and Scholarships and Citizenship
Pages 22 & 23

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The ultimate history man

Thomas Meagher's life is an adventure rich in Learning and lessons in citizenship says Conor Reale, Oireachtas Education Officer

One of the key elements of the new junior cycle history specification is the need for history students to develop a historical consciousness and regard for the motivations and actions of people in the past in the context of their time.

The Junior Certificate syllabus likewise encourages students to develop an interest and enthusiasm for history and a value of their heritage from the past while also recognising the importance of education for citizenship.

The life of Thomas Francis Meagher provides ample opportunity for teachers and students alike to appreciate the efforts of Meagher to shape the political landscape not just in Ireland but across the Atlantic in the United States of America, when civil war erupted over one of the most basic of human rights: freedom from slavery.

Meagher believed that 'a strong people can alone build up a great nation' so for him taking up arms to repudiate slavery or attempting to unite all Irish people through a flag representative of both political and religious traditions on our island were not onerous tasks but were what he considered to be his duty.

Students who are studying the Junior Certificate course should acquire information and develop understanding of the way in which individuals and institutions influence and are influenced by the sequence of events in time.

Meagher's early career as a member of the Repeal Association was marked by orations which drew large crowds and excerpts of these speeches would be a useful primary source in attempting to understand the feelings of those in Ireland who sought to overturn the Act of Union.



Conor Reale, Oireachtas Education Officer

procedural values of the historian as they ensure that the narrative is consistent with the evidence: why did this event happen? How did it impact not just on Meagher but on the nature of political discourse and direction in mid 19th century Ireland?

From September 2018, the new junior cycle history specification will be rolled out to first years' and again the life and work of TF Meagher provides rich opportunities for teachers and students to engage with history as a discipline.

Work could be divided into four units each of which addresses specific learning outcomes from the history specification.

For example a unit looking at the role of the national flag throughout Irish history and the influence of the diaspora covers many of the learning outcomes from strand one of the specification: the Nature of History. Looking at the events of 1848 addresses outcomes 2.3 and 2.7 where students recognise key changes and explore people, culture and ideas in relation to the history of Ireland.

An examination of the contribution Meagher made to the fledgling state of Montana covers aspects of active citizenship while also encouraging students to investigate a repository of historical evidence such as the legislature in Montana through a virtual fieldtrip and compare the political structures of Montana and Ireland.

The life of Thomas Francis Meagher reads like an adventure from the annals of a modern day story teller.

The threads of this rich tapestry bind disparate locations from Ballygarry in Tipperary to Montana in the United States of America via Van Diemens Land, set against a backdrop coloured by the bloody civil war battlefields of Antietam and Fredericksburg.

For anyone with an passing interest in history this supplement provides an insight into the life and legacy of TF Meagher but for students and teachers of history it will illuminate and inspire as the scale of Meagher's impact is uncovered.



Learning: students with Senator Mark Daly, Niall O'Callaghan from Shannon Heritage and Aine Fitzgerald from GPO Witness History.

Junior Cycle reimaged

Studying History is all about studying change, teaching and learning in Junior Cycle is about to change. Junior Cycle Reform will allow for new ways of learning about History and a broader range of historical skills to be assessed.

The study of History at Junior Cycle will enable students to see the relevance of the past in the modern world and to engage more meaningfully in current local, national and international issues. Students will learn about interesting human experiences in the past and how they have impacted on and shaped the world we live in today.

The new History course follows a subject Specification which has a greater focus on developing skills needed for life beyond the classroom and teachers will encourage students' enjoyment of History as they follow three strands of Learning; Strand 1: The Nature of History, Strand 2: The History of Ireland and Strand 3: The History of Europe and the wider world. Strand 1 focuses on History as a discipline.

It helps to develop historical skills and will focus on developing students as historians. It will also further their historical knowledge by introducing them to interesting historical periods and time periods and providing students with a 'big picture' vision of the past. Strands 2 and 3 enable students to engage with these skills through the study of historical personalities, issues and events from both Ireland and the wider world.

- Some of the new areas all students will be learning about will be:
 - the consideration of contentious or controversial historical issues;
 - the appreciation of their cultural inheritance;
 - the development of historical judgements based on evidence;
 - the investigation of a museum, archive, heritage centre, digital or other archival or exhibition;
 - the identification of the causes, course and consequences of the Northern Ireland Troubles;

An tSraith Shóisearach do Mhúinteoirí Junior CYCLE for teachers



- debating the idea that the 1990s was an important decade on the island of Ireland and in the wider world;
- the evaluation of the impact of conquest and colonisation on people;
- the exploration of the significance of genocide, and of the Holocaust and the exploration of the contribution of technology and innovation to historical change.

For the full text of the Junior Cycle History Specification, please visit www.curriculumonline.ie.

Students will complete one Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) 'The Past in my Place' towards the end of second year and another CBA 'A Life in Time' in the second term of third year. Once the second CBA is completed, students will complete a written Assessment Task (AT). This will focus on what they have learned and the skills they have developed during CBA 2. This Task is undertaken in normal class time and will be sent to the

The flag's lessons

The story of our National Flag is one of idealism and possibility and we should honour those ideals, says Mary Keane, President of the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD)

The success of the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation in promoting pride in and respect for the national flag has been remarkable. What makes us what we are? What sets us apart as a nation? One of the key aspects of our culture in the past has been the Irish welcome – the 'I'll put the kettle on' moment to make people feel at home. In the days of the Celtic Tiger, Ireland played host to thousands of individuals and families who were keen to make their future by settling in Ireland. National and local media widely cover citizenship ceremonies and the excitement on the day is palpable. People expressing their thanks to the people for making them feel at home, for the kindness they've been shown, for the welcome they've received. Newcomers to our shores who are resilient, confident in the future that Ireland offers and willing to work to make the country greater and thus improve our and their quality of life.

Thomas Meagher packed so much into his short life, a life characterised by idealism and possibility. Today many of our school pupils participate in school visits overseas. Such is the ease of air transport now that we take it in our stride. When Thomas Francis Meagher visited Paris in 1848 to study the consequences of the French Revolution, he was there following considerable upheaval and revolution throughout Europe. Although he was inspired by the clamour for liberty, egalité and fraternité his vision was to try to achieve this through peaceful means – hence his view of the flag as a symbol of peace. This idealism and possibility is mirrored in our young people and newcomers. Unfortunately in many countries throughout Europe newcomers don't feel welcomed and accepted. There can be an ugly racist commentary from right wing elements anxious to promote what we have held, you have no right to take our jobs, our homes, our welfare, we're not sharing and we're certainly not for turning because you're not welcome here. This attitude is self-destructing for any society and has led to a massive investment by the European Union



Mary Keane, President of the National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals (NAPD)

in programmes to encourage active citizenship and participation in events to promote labour activation measures among young people who feel disillusioned and disenfranchised. These programmes are designed to encourage a sense of belonging and develop a sense of community, particularly a sense of a wider community with cooperation and collaboration at its heart. We have that in Ireland where our schools play an important role in promoting active citizenship through Civic Social & Political Education (CSPE) at Junior Cycle and the new subject Politics and Society at Senior Cycle.

The GPO is one of the greatest symbols of our nation. The opening of the Irish flag exhibition at the GPO Witness History visitor centre is an endorsement of the ideals of Thomas Francis Meagher to promote peace and reconciliation but we must never take them for granted. As a society we must take to teach them, to explore them and to live them.

State Exams Commission (SEC) for marking. The Assessment Task will account for 10% of the overall mark in the final examination. Students will sit a final History examination in Third Year. The exam will consist of one examination paper of two hours' duration at a common level. It will be set and marked by the SEC and reported on and the students' JCPA (Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement) along with the CBAs.

The Thomas Francis Meagher Foundation and the Parliamentary Education Officer have created some very supportive suggestions for teachers on the potential to align the foundations resources to complement the Learning Outcomes of the Junior Cycle and History Specification. The significance of the Irish Diaspora and the inclusion of the need to appreciate why historical personalities, events and issues are commemorated, are two obvious complementary connections. The Junior Cycle History Specification provides teachers and students with new and deeper opportunities also to link our local, national

and international history and the work of the Thomas Francis Meagher Foundation is a welcome development, as Cicero wrote: "To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain a child. For what is the worth of human life, unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the records of history?"

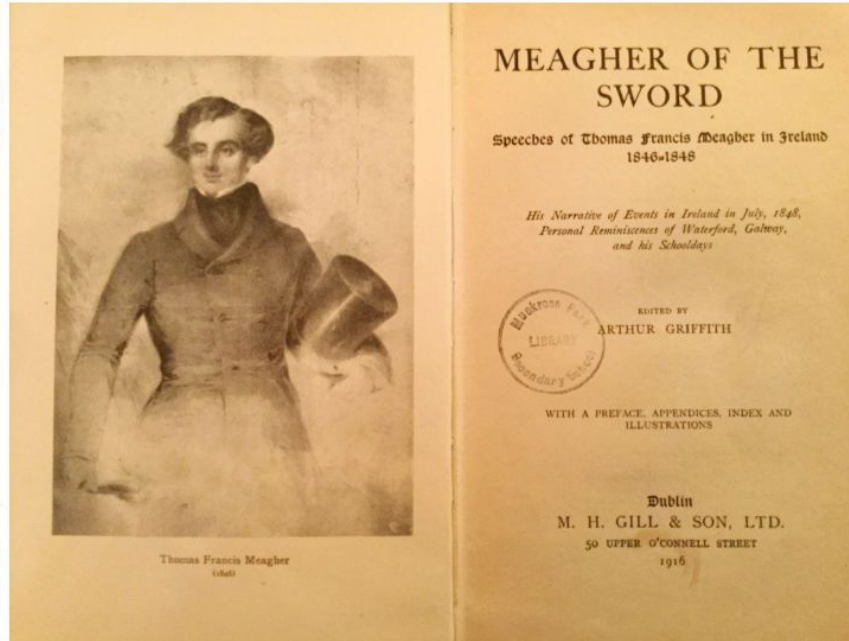
You can get more information on our work at www.jct.ie, our website aims to support schools in their implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle and provides information for teachers and general information on the new Junior Cycle. There is a History specific section on this website. The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) website www.curriculumonline.ie is where you will find key documents such as the specification for History.

You can contact us by email: History@jct.ie and you can follow us on Twitter @jcthistory. The JCT History Team



The history and legacy of the Irish flag

Ceann Comhairle Sean O'Fearghail TD presents a Tricolour that had flown from 33 The Mall in Waterford to the Defence Forces who raise and lower the Tricolour over Leinster House every day the Dail is in sitting. Also in the photo is, far left, Alan Ruane (Head of Facilities at Leinster House) | Colm O'Rourke (Head Usher at Leinster House) and Senator Mark Daly



The story of our flag offers us a treasure trove of classroom content, writes *Deirdre MacMathúna*

'IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.' (1)

The opening lines of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic was a statement by the insurgents of the 1916 Rising asserting their right to national freedom and sovereignty. The flag was used as a unifying symbol whose aim was to embrace and cherish all Irishmen and Irishwomen as citizens of the



It was intended that it would be a symbol of peace and unity. But the study of Irish history has shown that, for some, it became a symbol for violence and disunity.

'Chivalrous, eloquent, generous, ardent and handsome, he inspired personal affection and public trust.' (2)

And on his political speeches Griffith said the following:

'They are the authentic and eloquent voice of Irish Nationalism.' (3)

A special study could focus on the life and times of Thomas F. Meagher who was a lawyer, rebel, soldier, writer, journalist and politician and whose life embraced three continents (Europe, Australia and America) all in the space of 44 years.

This topic could be approached by the study of the life and times of other famous people in History from Wolfe Tone in the 18th century up to Patrick Pearse in the 20th. The journey of the flag in Irish history touches upon the lives of Charles Gavan Duffy, Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, Countess Markievicz and Terence Mac Swiney to name but a few.

Students could also be encouraged to research a local history project by investigating key figures in their own area who were connected with the revolutionary movement.

4. Links

A study of the life of Thomas F. Meagher would include his role in the Irish Brigade in the American Civil War in 1860s. This in turn could forge a link over time with the visit of JFK to Ireland a hundred years later when he celebrated the significance of Meagher, the role of the Irish in that civil war and emphasised the huge emotional connection that links the Irish to America which was embodied in the Irish flag.

5. The Flag – A Reflection

'...a national flag is the most sacred thing a nation can possess...' Discuss.

The Scollnet website has an excellent presentation by Dr. Pat Callan on the origins of the flag. It also explains the various protocols associated with this symbol of nationhood. An appreciation of these protocols will provide students with the opportunity to reflect on its history, its symbolism and its role in our 21st century republic. The recent commemorative ceremonies of the 1916 Rising in schools all over Ireland allowed students and communities to witness at first hand the unifying experience of the flag. However, the flag also has a history of division. The historian Eamon Phoenix has observed that Ireland north and south may have a shared history, but not a shared memory. As President of Ireland, Mary McAleese also observed that:

'The Flag is a statement of intent. It holds aloft our aspiration to be a peaceful country where all traditions are respected and reconciled.'

The controversy surrounding the flying of flags over Stormont in the 21st century is a potent example of the divisive nature of national symbols.

There has also been a renaissance of the display of the flag at sporting venues, concerts and other social events. Reflections on the flag will provoke students into re-examining their past, their own concept of identity and to raise awareness of the diversity of people that attach themselves to the flag and its vision.

1. The Proclamation of the Irish Republic. 1916
2. Arthur Griffith, 'Meagher of the Sword'. (M.H. Gill & Son, LTD. 1916)
3. *Ibid.*, vi.

'The author is President of the History Teachers' Association of Ireland, a history teacher and school archivist at Dominican College, Muckross Park, Doneybrook, Dublin.



European and American history that can be explored in the classroom in a multifaceted way.

1. Chronology: The History of Revolutionary Movements: 1790-1916

Students can be introduced to the origins of the physical force movement in Irish history from the United Irishmen of 1798, to the rise of Nationalism and the Young Irelanders in 1848, the Fenians in 1867 and right up to the IRB and the 1916 Rising in 20th century.

Students can be guided through the sequence of events that preceded Thomas Meagher and influenced him in his actions to become a member of the Young Ireland Movement. They will be given the skills to contextualize his actions and trace the emergence of the flag as a national symbol that has resonated through time and subsequently became a centerpiece of the formal address of President John F. Kennedy to the combined Houses of the Oireachtas in 1963.

2. The Vocabulary of History

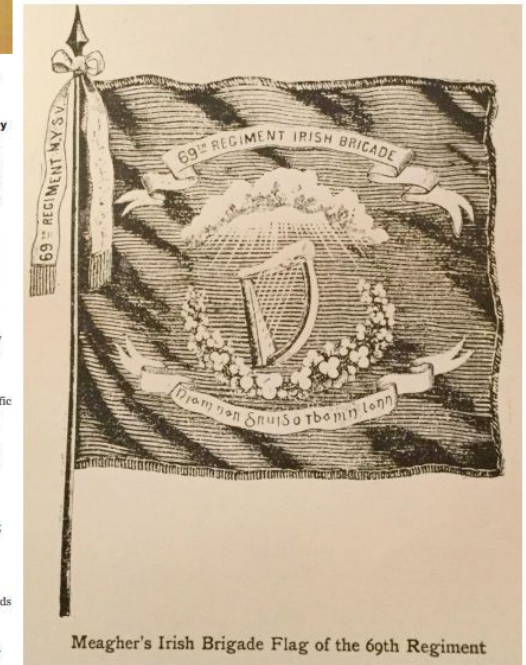
Like all academic subjects, there is a specific vocabulary associated with the discipline of History. Teachers will be able to explore key concepts and phrases such as Primary and Secondary sources; objective and subjective; Bias; Prejudice; Propaganda; Republicanism; Nationalism. As a result, students will be engaging in the skills of the historian in an informed and productive way.

Key phrases used in the assessment of students' work include some of the following adverbs:

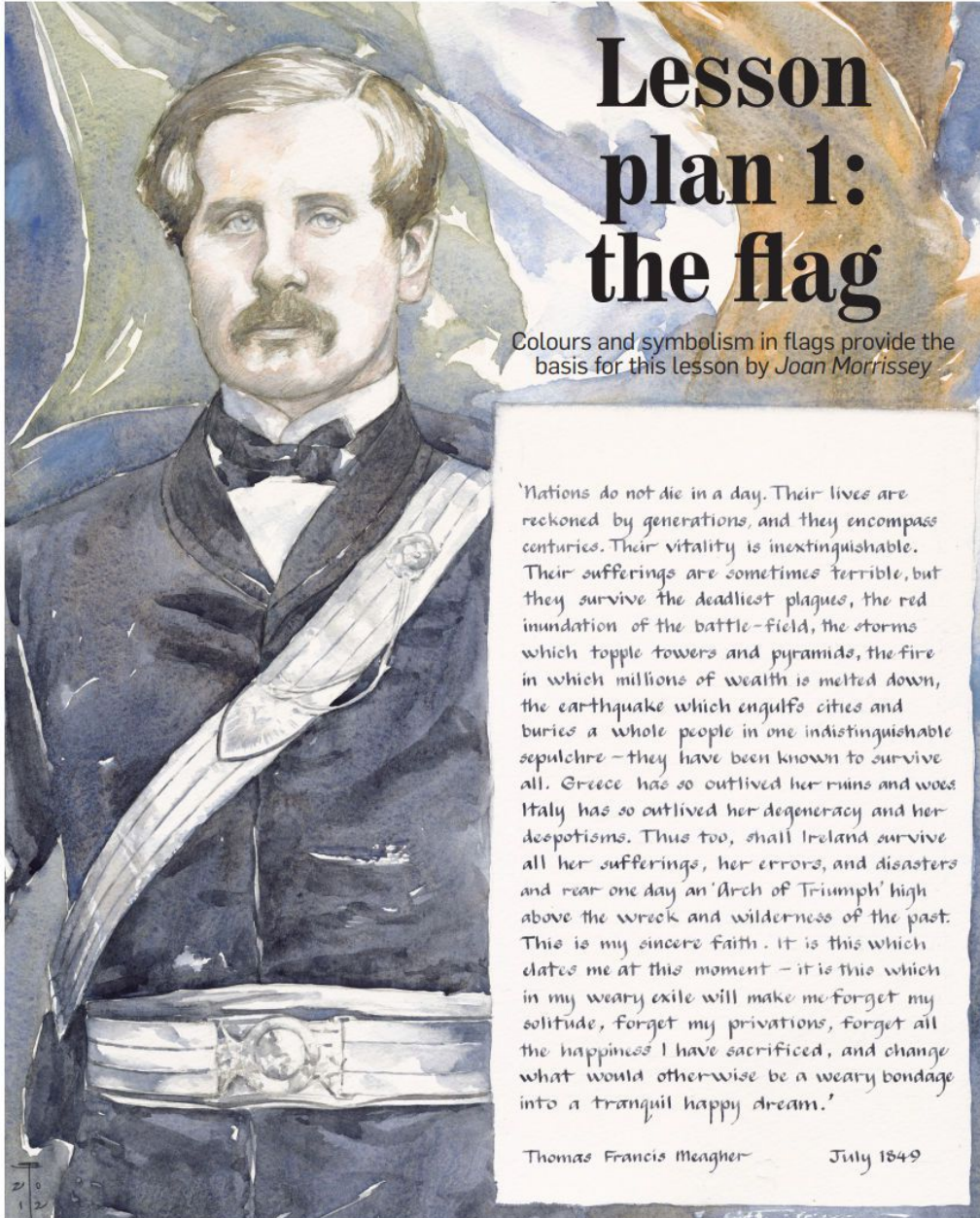
Evaluate-Examine-Explore-Identify-Illustrate-Investigate. By working with evidence be it a diary, a newspaper or a painting, students will be introduced to the job of the historian including how he/she finds evidence to form historical judgments.

3. Key Personalities

Thomas F. Meagher was described by Arthur Griffith as:



Meagher's Irish Brigade Flag of the 69th Regiment



Lesson plan 1: the flag

Colours and symbolism in flags provide the basis for this lesson by Joan Morrissey

'Nations do not die in a day. Their lives are reckoned by generations, and they encompass centuries. Their vitality is inextinguishable. Their sufferings are sometimes terrible, but they survive the deadliest plagues, the red inundation of the battle-field, the storms which topple towers and pyramids, the fire in which millions of wealth is melted down, the earthquake which engulfs cities and buries a whole people in one indistinguishable sepulchre - they have been known to survive all. Greece has so outlived her ruins and woes Italy has so outlived her degeneracy and her despotisms. Thus too, shall Ireland survive all her sufferings, her errors, and disasters and rear one day an 'Arch of Triumph' high above the wreck and wilderness of the past. This is my sincere faith. It is this which clings to me at this moment - it is this which in my weary exile will make me forget my solitude, forget my privations, forget all the happiness I have sacrificed, and change what would otherwise be a weary bondage into a tranquil happy dream.'

Thomas Francis Meagher July 1849

Lesson 1: Developing Historical Consciousness: The Irish Flag & its French Associations

Lesson section	Specifications and methodologies	Time Allocated
	<p>The student values local, national and international heritage, understands the importance of the relationship between past and current events and the forces that drive change.</p> <p>The student understands the origins and impact of social, economic and environmental aspects of the world around him/her.</p>	
Initial Stimulus Material	<p>What does the colour of your country's flag look like? How many flags can you list in your notebook.</p> <p>Ask students to explain symbolism to their nearest classmate and what flag colours represent.</p> <p>Class discussion about the 1916 centenary and flag ceremonies, https://www.scoilnet.ie/irishflag/post-primary/stories/stories/osullivans-role-in-raising-the-tricolour/ Literacy: What does centenary mean? Define.</p>	10 minutes
Learning Outcomes: Time concepts, Social change and explaining the French Revolution.	<p>Numeracy: In what years were the 18th and 19th century? In pairs, students list five facts about life in 19th century Ireland. Elicit and discuss. Compare how Ireland has changed since.</p> <p>Direct Teacher Instruction: the teacher explains that the Irish flag was inspired by the flag of the French Revolution. Discussion: what do you know about the French Revolution? Song: History Teachers (Youtube).</p> <p>Students write down four facts from the song.</p>	20 minutes
Differentiation of student ability Assessment plenary/student self-assessment on learning	<p>Students time each other to see who can speak for longer about flags with stronger students speaking for two minutes and leading the activity while struggling students speak for one minute.</p> <p>In pairs, students self-assess their learning via a paragraph in the copy, recalling what they can about the connection between the Irish and French flags and the symbolism within them.</p> <p>Home learning: students write a 10-line paragraph from online sources on their favourite, and most influential Irish revolutionary, mentioning whether the source is a primary or secondary one. Give weaker students a choice of four: Wolfe Tone, Thomas Meagher or Eamon De Valera/ Michael Collins etc.</p>	10 minutes



These three lessons (see following pages), on the history of the Irish flag are intended to be taught over three 40-minute lessons or extended one-hour lessons. Teaching has undergone significant changes in recent years, with all teachers now being responsible for literacy and numeracy (2011) and providing adjusted lessons for students with special educational needs. As there will now only be one common level exam paper for all non-core subjects, differentiation by level has been included. History contains many of the learning outcomes required by the new junior cycle specifications and remains a wise choice for ambitious students at senior cycle with a very high proportion of HIs in comparison to other choice subjects, at almost double the rate of English. In a world of fake news, the ability to identify propaganda and analyse sources is not only a much-needed skill for third-level, but for life.

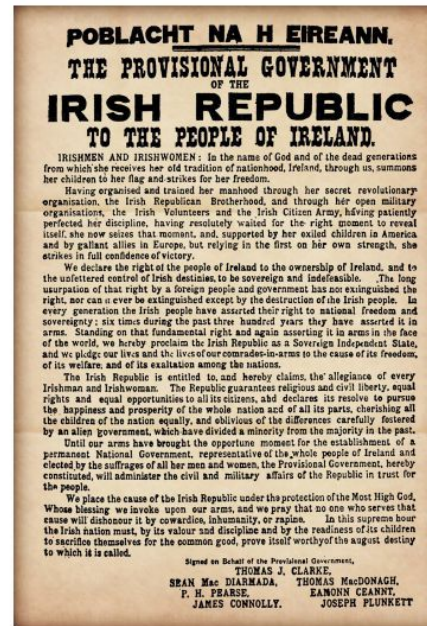
By Joan Morrissey B.A., C.E.L.T., M.A., P.G.D.E., P.G.S.E.N.

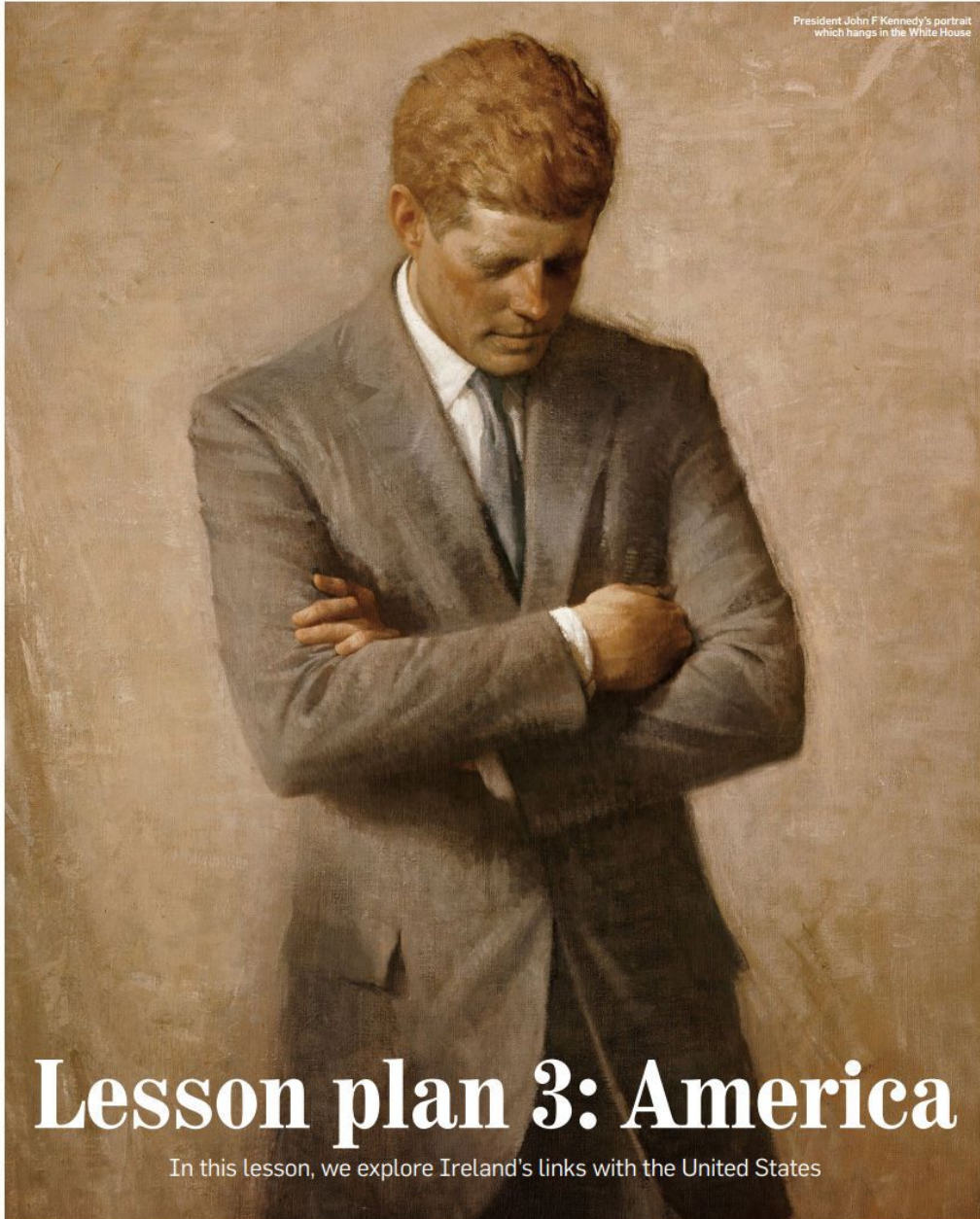


Lesson plan 2: revolt!

Thomas Meagher was one of many Irish revolutionaries who strived to change the course of our history. In this lesson plan, explore those figures and the impact they made

Lesson 2: People in History: Thomas Meagher and other Irish Revolutionaries		
Lesson section	Specifications and methodologies	Time Allocated
	SOL 24: The student uses technology and digital media tools to learn, communicate, work and think collaboratively and creatively in a responsible and ethical manner.	
Initial Stimulus Material	Project images of Irish revolutionaries on the whiteboard. To differentiate, ask stronger students to name the historical figures and the weaker students to match their faces to a list of names.	10 minutes
People in history	<p>Literacy: Distribute a handout on Thomas Meagher (http://tvmfoundation.ie/about/thomas-f-meagher/44-meaghers-life) Students select the most important four words from each sentence and compare their answers. Ask students if this is a primary or secondary source? Would it be found in an archive or museum? Explain.</p> <p>Class discussion: How do you think the Irish Famine would have created an anti-British bias? How do they think the Irish were treated abroad? Source: The Story of Ireland (Youtube) Famine 13:45 – 23:30; Irish in New York 25:45 – 27:14; 27:50 Thomas Meagher image.</p> <p>Explain how Meagher introduced the flag to Waterford and rebelled against the British. Students explain the differences between nationalism and republicanism. Ask students to name any others who were also sentenced to death for fighting against the British for Ireland, e.g Wolfe Tone, Padraig Pearse, and Eamonn de Valera. Homework: Students explain on a PowerPoint slide which Irish figure they think had the greatest influence.</p>	20 minutes
Student assessment on learning	Home research: Go to https://www.scoilnet.ie/irishflag/post-primary/stories/stories/osullivans-role-in-raising-the-tricolour/ and discuss the importance of the flag in 1916. Then complete the 'In your opinion' section. Then go to https://www.scoilnet.ie/irishflag/post-primary/stories/stories/eamon-bulfin-on-the-green-bannarette/ Read this and then go to http://www.bureauofmilitaryhistory.ie/reels/bmh/BMH.WS0120.pdf and compile a list of buildings where the tricolour was flown. The War of Independence: Direct students to https://www.scoilnet.ie/irishflag/post-primary/stories/stories/terence-macswiney-honouring-the-flag/ Complete the 'In Your Opinion' questions.	10 minutes
Plenary	Students create timelines to show understanding of chronology and the 'big picture' of dates including: 1798 United Irishmen, 1845 The Irish Famine, 1848 The Young Irelanders, 1916.	





President John F. Kennedy's portrait which hangs in the White House

Lesson plan 3: America

In this lesson, we explore Ireland's links with the United States

Lesson 3: Irish/American Interconnections

Lesson section	Specifications and methodologies	Time Allocated
	SOL 6: The student appreciates and respects how diverse values, beliefs and traditions have contributed to the communities and culture in which he/she lives.	
Initial Stimulus Material	Literacy; prediction: Project Google Maps on the whiteboard and ask students to identify Waterford, Tasmania & Montana on the map and what the link between these places could be. Show students the picture of Meagher outside the legislature in Montana and explain that he wrote an early version of the constitution. Ask students do they know what the term constitution means and then ask about the Irish constitution: show them this video on it https://beta.oireachtas.ie/en/visit-and-learn/teachers-and-students/cspe-videos/	10 minutes
Learning outcomes: the Irish American links	The Irish Brigade and the American Civil War: ask students to define civil war. Students date the Civil War in the timeline in their notebook. Project an image of JFK and ask students to write his name on whiteboards (or laminated white cardboard). Ask students why they think JFK visited Ireland. Literacy; paired reading: Print JFK's speech and distribute (https://www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=21) Students identify whether it's a primary or secondary source, highlight key information and summarise the article in 25 words.	20 minutes
Student assessment for learning	Key words revision: centenary, century, revolutionary, primary & secondary source, bias, archive, museum, symbolism, famine, nationalism, chronology and civil war. In pairs, students take turns speaking for three minutes on the origins and inspirations for the Irish flag, who first introduced in Waterford and why they were politically active and the international connections that the flag and its creator forged.	10 minutes
Plenary	True or False revision quiz. Homework: revise using online sources https://www.symbaloo.com/home/mix/13eP74C8JR	



Thomas F. Meagher Battle Sword presented to Senator Ted Kennedy by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern in 2008 assisted by Senator Mark Daly



True or False Revision Quiz (15 Questions)

True or False	Answer Key
The previous Irish flag was green with a harp.	True
Thomas Meagher first flew the flag in 1916.	False It was 1848
The Irish flag happened at the same time as the Irish famine.	True
Flying the flag indicated Ireland's independence from Britain.	True
The man who created the Irish flag was from Waterford.	True
Thomas Meagher was an Irish rebel involved in the Young Ireland rebellion of 1848.	True
Thomas Meagher was also involved in the American Civil War.	True
Meagher was also the governor of the state of Montana.	True
Meagher was sentenced to the prison colony Van Dieman's Land which is now Australia.	True
The orange colour in the flag symbolises Protestants.	True
White is the colour most symbolic of peace.	True
The French flag was inspired by the Irish flag.	False
The green in the flag represents our farming heritage.	False
The flag is sometimes called the Tricolour.	True
The Irish flag looks like the Ivory Coast's flag in reverse.	True



Governor of Montana Steve Bullock

Our debt to an Irish hero

We walk in the footsteps of giants like Thomas F. Meagher, says Steve Bullock, the Governor of Montana, in a special reflection

In Montana, we are very proud of our strong Irish heritage, and the connection we have with Ireland. Irish immigrated to the Montana Territory as miners and families. They built our towns, our railroads, ran the shops and boarding houses, they were our clergy and lived off the land as farmers and ranchers. They created and staffed the education system, which in turn graduated a new and educated generation of Irish-Americans who would use their education to move up the legal and judicial system, to become our politicians and establish a powerful presence in all our professions. The pride is seen in their loyalty to one another and in the proliferation of Irish societies throughout Montana. The tie to Ireland and Irish-American identity continues to be evident throughout Montana with numerous events and festivals across the state. The University of Montana's Irish Studies program has helped spark a growing interest in Montanans to reconnect with the history and traditions of their ancestors who came before them.

One-hundred and fifty years after his death, Thomas Francis Meagher remains a figure of intrigue and influence across the globe. At first glance, Montana may seem like an unlikely place for a statue of an Irish revolutionary, but when you understand Montana, Meagher's role in the development of the state, and the Irish in Montana, his legacy across the state is clear. In 1865 President Andrew Johnson appointed Meagher as the Secretary of the newly formed Montana Territory, and soon after arriving, he became the Acting Territorial Governor. Forty years later in 1905, The Irish of Montana dedicated a new statue at the state capital in Helena of Thomas Francis Meagher horseback with saber held high. Today it remains one of the most prominent statues in Montana.

This past summer Montana continued the strong connection to Ireland with the celebration of the life and legacy of Meagher. The Thomas Francis Meagher Association and Friends of Irish Studies held the first annual MeagherFest on the state capitol grounds. The goal was to educate people of the hero on



Remembering: MeagherFest17 in Helena, Montana, in the state capitol grounds



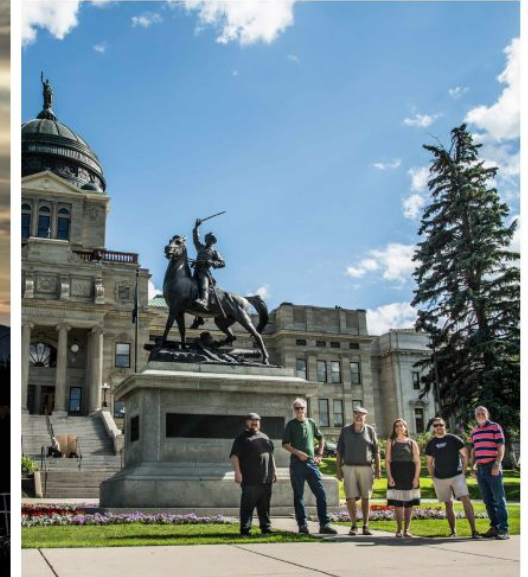
three continents, Thomas Francis Meagher. The festival kicked off with a packed house for Paul R. Wylie's play "Coroner's Inquest into the Death on July 1, 1867 of Thomas Francis Meagher" a fitting tribute to the one-hundred and fifty anniversary of Meagher's death. The festival was filled with traditional Irish music, dance, lessons in the Irish language as well as hurling demonstrations from three-time National Champions our own University of Montana Griz hurling team. One of the

highlights of the festival was the series of lectures that were given on topics ranging from the ongoing legacy of Thomas Francis Meagher to what life in Montana was like during the 1860's. Ireland's Deputy Ambassador to the U.S. Mr. Michael Loneragan came out to our great state to attend the festivities and see what Montana had to offer. We were also joined by Anne Cusack who runs the Granville Hotel in Waterford City, the childhood home of

Meagher. Anne became known as Montana's lost daughter throughout the weekend. Ireland's own Senator Mark Daly made the trip to Montana as well and I was honored when he presented me with an Irish Tricolour flag that had been flown from the same place, 33 The Mall, that Meagher had first publicly flown it in 1848. We greatly appreciated them coming to Montana and gained strong friendships in continuing our bond between Montana and Ireland and we look forward to welcoming others from across the pond as MeagherFest will be celebrated again on June 30, 2018.

Every morning as I head into the office, I look over to the statue of Meagher, his sword aloft, standing in bold defiance in front of the state capitol, and I'm reminded of the unique ties – ties of blood, of kinship and family – between Montana and Ireland. As we look to the decades and centuries ahead, let us not forget those who have come before us. They left to find better opportunity and provide better lives for their families in a place that was affectionately called "New Ireland". We walk in their footsteps, the footsteps of giants who never stopped trying to make this a better place. May we always be reminded of that and strive to do the same.

For over 30 years Montana has been the only state in the U.S. to fly the Irish Tricolour from our state capitol every St. Patrick's Day. March 7 of this year marks the 170th anniversary of Meagher first flying this flag that has gone on to be a well-known symbol of Ireland around the globe. Montana will be celebrating with you this March as we again host the tricolor up the flag pole here at our state capital.



Montana's Thomas Francis Meagher Association, from left to right: Bob O'Boyle, Neal Lewing, Mike O'Connor, Siobhan O'Donnell, John Malia and Tom Pahut



Senator Mark Daly presents the Irish Tricolour, flown at 33 The Mall, in Waterford, to Montana Governor Steve Bullock



The GPO was the venue on February 23 for the opening of the first ever permanent exhibition on the National Flag.

To commemorate the 170th anniversary of the tricolour, the exhibition can be viewed at GPO Witness History Visitor Centre in Dublin.

On March 7th, 1848, Thomas Francis Meagher, flew the Irish tricolour at 33, The Mall, in Waterford city.

Meagher wrote at the time: "The White in the centre signifies a lasting truce between the Orange and the Green, and I trust that beneath its folds the hands of the Irish Protestant and the Irish Catholic may be clasped, in generous and heroic brotherhood."

“ ”

The exhibition embodies all the aims of the Foundation, to promote pride in, and respect for, the Irish flag

The opening was a great day for the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation. Chairman Reverend Michael Cavanagh said the flag represented a "struggle for freedom over the centuries which came at a personal and collective cost that we must not forget".

Foundation co-founder Senator Mark Daly

GPO exhibition that explores Flag's history

The epicentre of the 1916 Easter Rising is the home of a new interactive learning experience, writes Ciaran Byrne

said the exhibition "embodies all the aims of the Foundation, to promote pride in and respect for the Irish flag and its message of peace, to educate the school children of Ireland of this message and to assist them in being active citizens in their community".

An Ceann Comhairle Seán Ó Fearghail officiated at the launch. He said the "Flags for Schools" initiative, which saw the flag

delivered to most primary and secondary schools in the country, was one of the biggest events of the Easter Rising commemoration year in 2016. Meagher's original design was a call to "fair play, tolerance and respect" and the permanent exhibition was "long overdue".

He believed the motivations behind Meagher's original design was a call to "fair play, tolerance and respect" and the

permanent exhibition was "long overdue". The opening of the exhibition was attended by special guests as well as school students who had applied for a scholarship for the 2017 Thomas F. Meagher Foundation Flag Day. Kate Lynch, a fifth-year student from the Regina Mundi College in Cork City, received a scholarship of €3,000 from the Foundation for her work in promoting the values of the flag.





All welcome: the visitor centre is open seven days a week



Interactive: three students exploring with a touch screen at the centre



Experience: the wonder of history at the GPO Witness History visitor centre

Below: The exhibition has many details from the period and original artefacts; inset: a detail from the handling collection



GPO Witness History Visitor Centre, O'Connell St., Dublin 1

GPO Witness History is located within the GPO building; the headquarters of the post office in Ireland as well as being an enduring symbol of freedom and a place of commemoration.

Opened in 1818 (200 years ago this year) it was the rebel headquarters of the 1916 Easter Rising.

This award winning experience focuses on the Rising and the story of modern Irish History up to the present time. History is brought to life through electronic touch screens, video, audio visual booths, sound and authentic artefacts.

The visitor centre also features the first permanent exhibition on the Irish Flag to commemorate the 170th anniversary of the first flying of the Irish Tricolour. This exhibition includes details on the history of the flag, Thomas F. Meagher - who first flew it at 33 The Mall in Waterford in 1848 and also information on the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation.

Relax afterwards in the café and browse the gift shop which is also open to the public. This venue is also available for private functions and events.

For Further Information and Bookings contact 01 872 1916 www.gpowitnesshistory.ie

Open Daily
Monday - Saturday 10:00 - 17:30
Sunday and Bank Holidays 12:00 - 17:30
July & August (Late Opening Thursday) 10:00 - 20:00
Last admission 1 hour before closing
Closed New Year's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter Sunday & December 23rd - 26th inclusive
(Opening times may be subject to change, check our website)



Flying the flag: the GPO in O'Connell Street

Witnessing Irish history

The GPO Witness History visitor centre in partnership with the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation is an unmissable experience for students and teachers, says its Education Manager Ann-Marie Smith

On the 23rd February 2018, the first ever permanent exhibition on the Irish Tricolour was launched by An Ceann Comhairle, Seán Ó Fearghail at the GPO Witness History visitor centre. It is fitting that the centre was chosen as the venue to house this new exhibition as it was at the GPO on Easter Monday, 24th April 1916 that the Irish Tricolour was flown for the first time in Dublin. This act was not just a symbolic gesture by the rebels; the significance of the flag is evident in the Proclamation of the Irish Republic which was read by Patrick Pearse at the front of the GPO, shortly after the rebels took over the building on that same day. The Irish Proclamation called on 'Ireland through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for freedom.'

The multi-award winning GPO Witness History visitor centre opened to the public on March 29th 2016. It was the main flagship project of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme. GPO Witness History has won many prominent awards including Best Cultural Experience at the 2017 Irish Tourism Awards (over 100,000 visitors) and The Micheletti Award at the 2017 European Museum Academy Awards. This prestigious

award is the European prize for innovative museums in the world of contemporary history, industry and science. GPO Witness History is delighted to partner with the Thomas F. Meagher Foundation on this project as both organisations share the

Educational visits are linked to the Primary SESE curriculum and both the Junior and Senior History curricula.

vision that young people are at the heart of our nation and should be encouraged to work together in peace and unity.

GPO Witness History offers engaging and educational tours to students of all ages. Educational visits are linked to the Primary SESE curriculum and both the Junior and Senior History curricula. A school tour takes students behind the historic façade of the GPO. An immersive movie allows students to experience what it was like to be in the GPO and Dublin during Easter Week 1916, this most tumultuous time in Irish History.

As the visitor centre examines modern Irish history up to the present day, students have the opportunity to reflect on how the events of the 1916 Easter Rising, War of Independence, Irish Civil War and the 'Troubles' have shaped Ireland over the past 100 years. Viewing the events of the 1916 Easter Rising from different perspectives supports the students in their development of historical critical thinking. GPO Witness History places particular emphasis on those who witnessed the events of Easter Week; the rebels, crown forces, the GPO workers and the by-standers and it is their stories that are at the heart of the narrative. In addition, as the students

investigate the actions taken by these witnesses they develop historical empathy as they consider the context of the time the witnesses lived in.

Students are encouraged to think about the causes and consequences of the 1916 Easter Rising, War of Independence, Irish Civil War and the 'Troubles' and also to ask the question 'who owns history?' They are asked to consider the 'big picture' as historical events are examined in terms of their overall context; for example the 1916 Easter Rising is examined in the context of World War I.

Students are asked to consider contentious and controversial issues as they examine the development of Northern Ireland and the south of Ireland from 1920 to the present day. The turbulent period of the 1960s to the 1990s,

known as the 'Troubles' is examined as well as the Peace Process which highlights that everyone's view should be respected and heard in a dignified way, thus reinforcing the new broader inclusive definition of Irishness. The judges for the European Museum Academy Awards acknowledged GPO Witness History as a centre of peace and reconciliation and said that it demonstrates how highly controversial events can be interpreted in ways that encourage social and political cohesion and understanding.

Throughout their visit, students take on the role of historians as they examine the various sources that are used to tell the narrative. Students are encouraged to evaluate the usefulness and limitations of the different forms of evidence; sources include witness

statements, original artefacts, audio and secondary sources. A handling collection allows students to engage with various artefacts to bring the period to life. After their guided tour, students will have the opportunity to explore the exhibition themselves and engage with activities such as using interactive maps to route military dispatches from the GPO to St. Stephen's Green and to use Morse code to proclaim the Irish Republic.

For further information on GPO Witness History school tours contact the Education Manager; Ann-Marie Smith; smith@shannonheritage.com. To book a class visit, contact the Reservations Department; e-mail reservations@shannonheritage.com or telephone 01 872 1916.

Congressman Joe Kennedy: Thomas Francis Meagher deserves his place among Ireland's heroic pantheon



I grew up in a family where we thought of Ireland as the neighbouring parish. Standing on the beach at Cape Cod and looking out over the Atlantic, it was easy to imagine the crowded ships that brought our family to these shores.

My family was from Wexford, just next door to Waterford, whose most famous son, Thomas Francis Meagher, led an astonishing life, crossing not just the Atlantic but seas around the globe in pursuit of liberty and prosperity for all.

To be a part of the Meagher Foundation and its work to teach the history of the Irish Tricolour and Meagher's extraordinary contribution to the great causes of his time and ours - freedom, equality and justice - is a great privilege.

While the story of Meagher's trip to France in 1848 and his return with the Tricolour - uniting the Orange and the Green between the white stripe of truce - is often told, he crossed the Irish Sea not in search of a flag but liberation itself.

Movements of working people were sweeping away the old order with economic and social reforms. Meagher went to France as leader of the Young Irelanders in hopes of bringing the same revolutionary message back to Ireland.

About the time Meagher's role in the failed 1848 Irish uprising led to a death sentence, commutation, exile to Australia, and escape to America, my grandfather's great-grandfather Patrick Kennedy was leaving New Ross in Wexford for a new life in Boston.

Unfortunately, their paths never crossed. Patrick died of tuberculosis in 1858, three years before Meagher appeared at the Boston Music Hall to urge the city's burgeoning Irish population to defend the union.

Meagher stood up against the Confederacy and everything it stood for, not just with words but with deeds, marching with the Fighting 69th with sprigs of clover in their hats.

My great-uncle, President John F Kennedy, presented the brigade's battle-riddled banner of the Irish Brigade during his famous trip to Dublin in 1963. My grandfather, Robert F Kennedy, spoke with pride of the New York regiment as the US senator from the state.

Meagher went on to become Montana's first governor after surviving some of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. My great-uncle, Senator Ted Kennedy, loved history and traced stories of Meagher's heroism with his close friend Senator Mike Mansfield, whose statue now stands near Meagher's at the state capital in Helena.

As the world prepares to honour the martyrs of the 1916 Easter Rising, it's important to recall the names of those who came before. Thomas Francis Meagher well deserves his place in the pantheon of Irish heroes. He deeply embraced the rights of man. He deeply understood that aspirations toward freedom and justice were universal - whether among the serfs of Europe, the peasants of Ireland, the slaves of America's south or the impoverished immigrants of its northern cities.

Being Irish is not just the songs we love - and we know how much the Kennedys love the rebel ballads - but the causes we embrace. And the truth is that anyone who stands for racial equality and social justice is an honorary member of Meagher's Irish Brigade.

Congressman Joe Kennedy is a member of the US House of Representatives from Massachusetts's 4th district.



2017 Scholarship Winner Kate Lynch, from Regina Mundi School Cork with Schools Ambassador Maria Walsh, Ceann Comhairle Sean O'Fearghail and Foundation Co-Founders Reverend Michael Cavanagh and Senator Mark Daly



Christ King Girls School, Cork, one of seven award-winning schools receiving their award in Leinster House, with Reverend Michael Cavanagh and Ceann Comhairle Sean O'Fearghail

Celebrating active citizenship with Kerry Group

What it means to be Irish in the 21st Century through active citizenship was the theme of the 2017 Thomas Meagher Foundation School Awards and Scholarship Programme in Association with the Kerry Group.

While the 2016 inaugural awards focused on the centenary of 1916 and the birth of the nation, in 2017, participating schools were being urged to turn their attention towards the next 100 years.

People living in Ireland today, no longer necessarily have the same ethnic or cultural backgrounds and the Foundation is encouraging the young people of Ireland, irrespective of ethnicity, creed or gender to work together towards common goals.

"As well as celebrating the flag and its origins and its meanings, we asked schools to also celebrate the new Irish," explains Senator Mark Daly. "On St Patrick's Day we celebrate 70 million Irish all over the world but we must also remember to celebrate those who now make Ireland their home,



“ ”
We must broaden our view of what it means to be Irish in this most challenging time when the ideas of diversity and acceptance and tolerance are very important as some countries go down a route which is far from tolerant



Kerry Group CEO Edmond Scanlon

who may not be born in Ireland but who consider themselves Irish.

"That is the key message about Flag Day. We must broaden our view of what it means to be Irish in this most challenging time when the ideas of diversity and acceptance and tolerance are very important as some countries go down a route which is far from tolerant."

"We must understand that our view of Irishness must adapt in the same way that Meagher spoke about an Irishness that was inclusive rather than exclusive," he said. The project allowed students to work together for a shared vision of not only learning about the Irish flag and its message of peace and unity but of raising funds to help people in their locality and wider afield. Last year 300,000 flag badges were

“ ”
We must understand that our view of Irishness must adapt



When President Obama left the White House this year, he set up a Foundation, one which focuses on developing the next generation of citizens - and what it means to be a good citizen in the 21st century.

"In dreams begin responsibility. And embracing that responsibility, working toward it, overcoming the cynics and the naysayers and those who say 'you can't - that's what makes dreams real.' That is something we can point to and show our children... That is something we can teach them as they grow up together in a new century side by side, as it has been since our beginnings."

One of the main aims of the Thomas F Meagher Foundation is to promote active citizenship in schoolchildren. By supplying lapel pins to schools free of charge we are giving them the chance to sell these pins for a charity or project of their choosing. Community can be many things, your family, and your neighbour of your school. This community involvement is more important than ever in a society that is becoming more inwardly focused. Groups throughout the world are seeing the benefit and the need to promote Active Citizenship.

dispatched to 723 second level schools across the country, which were sold by students with the proceeds going to assist worthy causes.

"These badges represent pride, respect and peace, respect for our communities, other cultures and reflecting on just how far we have come since the first tricolour was raised," said Senator Daly.

To have a chance of securing one of the seven one year university scholarships on offer, schools were asked to participate in three ways:

- To promote pride and respect for the flag in their schools and communities and to educate students about the protocol around the flag and its meaning
- To sell badges to support community projects of the school's choice
- and to celebrate the New Irish.

Individual students from the winning schools were offered a one year university scholarship thanks to the Foundation's Education Partners; University of Limerick, University college cork, NUI Galway, Dublin City University, University College Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin and NUI Maynooth.

The Foundation partners with the Ceann Comhairle's Office in Leinster House which teamed up with Trocaire to launch a Project For Africa to raise funds for a water conservation and irrigation programme in Tigray in Northern Ethiopia. Schools were given the option of contributing towards the Ceann Comhairle's Project from their funds raised.



Students who entered the 2017 Scholarship programme at Leinster House

Thomas F Meagher Foundation & Kerry Group Awards and Scholarship

This year marks the 170th anniversary of the first flying of the flag by Thomas F. Meagher at 33 The Mall, Waterford.

Meagher spoke of the meaning of the flag: "The White in the centre signifies a lasting truce between the Orange and the Green, and I trust that beneath its folds the hands of the Irish Protestant and the Irish Catholic may be clasped, in generous and heroic brotherhood."

We now encourage the young people of Ireland, irrespective of ethnicity, creed or gender to work together under the Irish Tricolour to proclaim and live its message of peace and unity and celebrate the new broader inclusive definition of Irishness in 2018.

Flag Day 2018 March 16th
Registered schools will receive the Foundation's fundraising pack, including free lapel pins in English and Irish, to sell for charities or projects of your choosing within your school, locally, nationally and internationally. We also encourage you to hold events on the 16th of March to celebrate Irishness in its broadest sense and what it means to live in Ireland in 2017.

Kerry Group Awards and Scholarship Programme

The Thomas F. Meagher Foundation established its Awards and Scholarship Programme to recognise outstanding students who have promoted pride in and respect for the Irish flag and its true meaning for peace and who active citizens in their community. Students from registered schools are invited to submit an entry to our Kerry Group Awards and Scholarship Programme. This year entries can be submitted in the form of a video, essay, poem, picture or artwork on the subject of "What it is like to live in Ireland in 2018 and what the flag represents to me on this the 170th anniversary of it first being flown".

An Awards and Scholarship Presentation lunch is held each May in Leinster House.

HOW TO ENTER Competition Rules

1. The competition is open to all students from registered schools who take part in Flag Day 2018.
2. Students must enter the competition as individuals.
3. Entries must be based on the topic "What it is like to live in Ireland in 2018 and what the flag represents to me on this the 170th anniversary of it first being flown".



Scholarship winner Kate Lynch from Regina Mundi College, Cork

4. All entries must be emailed to info@tffoundation.ie or sent by post to Reverend Michael Cavanagh, The Rectory, Kenmare, County Kerry.
5. Deadline for entries is Monday, April 23rd, 2018.

Entry Format
Entries can be made in any of the following formats:

1. Video (no longer than 2 minutes)
2. Typed Essay (no longer than 500 words)
3. Poem
4. Picture
5. Artwork

Topic
"What it is like to live in Ireland in 2018 and what the flag represents to me on this the 170th anniversary of it first being flown".

Marking Scheme

1. Demonstrated knowledge of the history of the flag and commitment to the message of the Meagher Foundation of Pride in, Respect for the Flag and active citizenship including activities you/your class/your school took part in to celebrate Flag Day on March 16th (40 Marks)
2. Demonstrate the Details of the money raised by you/your class/your school from the sale of the Thomas F Meagher Foundation lapel pins and for what charity or project this money was raised for. (20 Marks)
3. Innovation (originality of entry and uniqueness); (20 Marks)
4. Quality of entry (quality of photos, videos, composition of essay, overall presentation); 20 marks

PRIDE RESPECT PEACE

Thomas F. Meagher

FOUNDATION

WOULD LIKE TO THANK

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- American-Irish Legislators Society of New York State
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- Colonel James P. Tierney *69th Regiment United States of America*
- Fr. Joe Mallin *Son of Michael Mallin one of the 1916 leaders*
- Cora Staunton *9 Times Ladies Gaelic Football All Ireland winner*
- James Tobin *1st Mayor of Waterford City and County Council*
- Henry Shefflin *10 Times All Ireland Hurling Medal winner*
- Brian Schweitzer *The 23rd Governor of Montana*
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