

CTI SENIOR COLLEGE  
CELEBRATES 2019 GRADUATE  
PATRICK HACKETT

As I stand  
here

IF I WERE BLIND, I WOULD STILL SEE  
A COURAGEOUS CLASS BEFORE ME.  
I'M IN AWE, HOW CAN TWO YEARS BE THIS MOMENT.  
THEY SAY THE FINAL HURDLE, IT'S BUT A STEPPING STONE

YE ARE MY INSPIRATION, MY SHOULDER  
EACH CHIN RISE TO THE SKY  
A CLICK OF A CAMERA,  
A MOMENT CAPTURED  
BUT THESE MEMORIES UPON MEMORIES  
WILL FOREVER BE PART OF ME.

A MAGNIFICENT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN TAKEN FROM ME.  
FROM THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR  
EACH ONE OF YOU BUILT ME UP, FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT.  
FOREVER THANKFUL  
"I'M PROUD OF YOU" SHE SAID.

AND I AM PROUD OF YE.

LOWEST TO HIGHEST ON THE GRAPH OF LIFE.

ADMIRATION FOR ALL, WE GOT THIS GUIDANCE FROM OUR MENTORS,  
WHOM NEVER FAILED  
TO AMAZE WITH SKILL.

PATIENCE, ENDEAVOR TO SHOW POTENTIAL  
WE THOUGHT HAD FADED

AS I STAND HERE, THE DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY ARE OPENING  
HOPE, DREAMS, IMAGINATION, INSPIRATION.

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CELEBRATES 2019 GRADUATE  
AMY HACKETT

# My Graduation Speech

HI ALL! WHAT CAN I SAY ABOUT VTOS? IN 2017, I DECIDED TO RETURN TO FULL-TIME EDUCATION. IT WAS THE BEST DECISION I HAVE EVER MADE! FOR ME, IT TURNED OUT TO BE THE JOURNEY MORE THAN THE DESTINATION THAT I ENJOYED!!

THAT FIRST DAY WHEN MICHAEL HAS US MEET HIM IN THE MALL.

HE ASKED US TO FOLLOW HIM OVER TO WHAT WOULD BE OUR NEW HOME FOR THE NEXT 2 YEARS. PA OF COURSE TRIPPED UP GOING OUT THE DOOR. WE ALL LAUGHED AND THAT LAUGHTER HAS FILLED OUR VTOS CLASSROOM EVER SINCE.

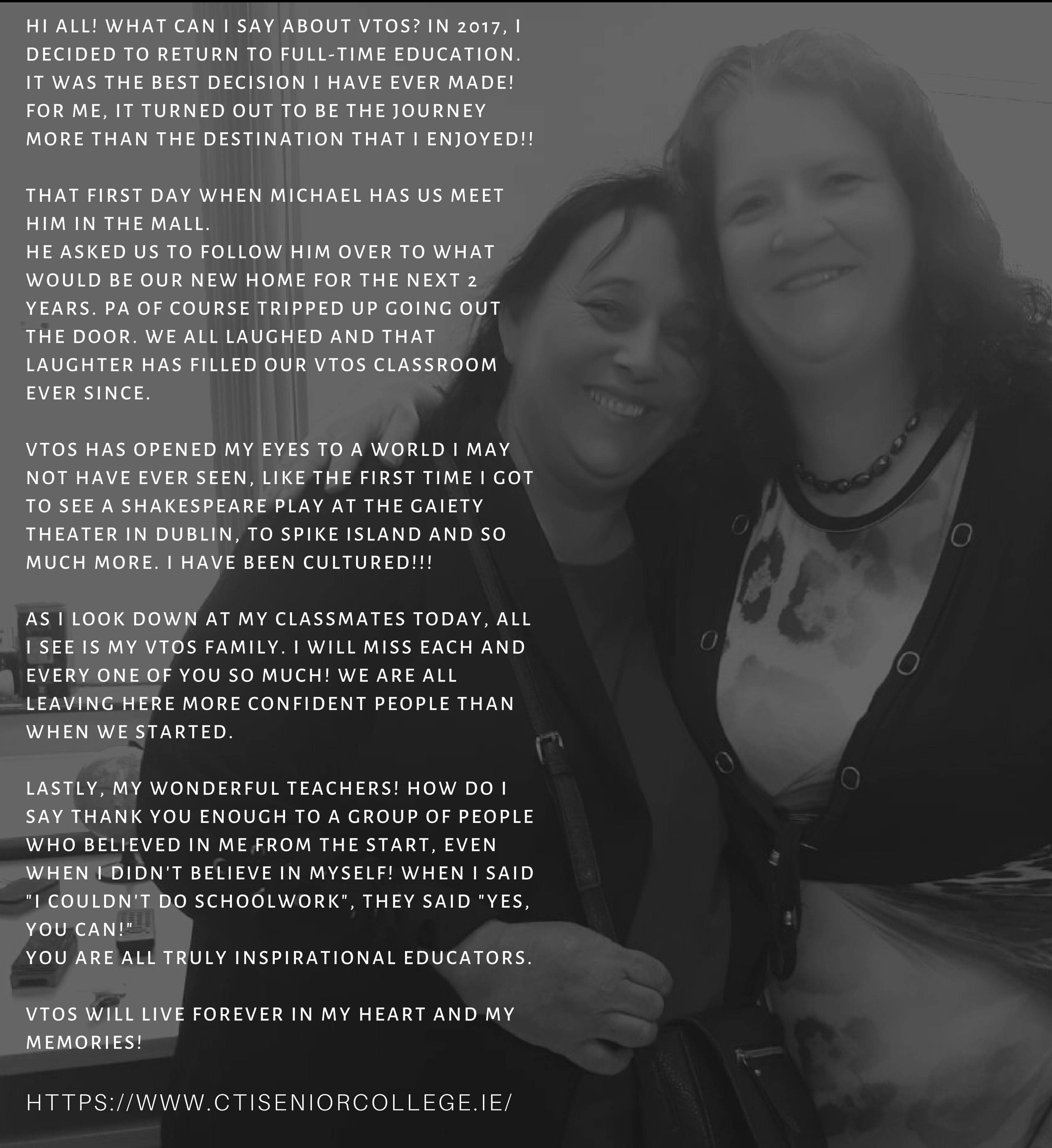
VTOS HAS OPENED MY EYES TO A WORLD I MAY NOT HAVE EVER SEEN, LIKE THE FIRST TIME I GOT TO SEE A SHAKESPEARE PLAY AT THE GAIETY THEATER IN DUBLIN, TO SPIKE ISLAND AND SO MUCH MORE. I HAVE BEEN CULTURED!!!

AS I LOOK DOWN AT MY CLASSMATES TODAY, ALL I SEE IS MY VTOS FAMILY. I WILL MISS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU SO MUCH! WE ARE ALL LEAVING HERE MORE CONFIDENT PEOPLE THAN WHEN WE STARTED.

LASTLY, MY WONDERFUL TEACHERS! HOW DO I SAY THANK YOU ENOUGH TO A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO BELIEVED IN ME FROM THE START, EVEN WHEN I DIDN'T BELIEVE IN MYSELF! WHEN I SAID "I COULDN'T DO SCHOOLWORK", THEY SAID "YES, YOU CAN!" YOU ARE ALL TRULY INSPIRATIONAL EDUCATORS.

VTOS WILL LIVE FOREVER IN MY HEART AND MY MEMORIES!

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NICOLA O'CONNELL

*The Right Time for Me*



"IN 2017, I STARTED MY JOURNEY IN THE BARRACKS AS A VTOS STUDENT. I HAD ALWAYS WANTED TO RETURN TO DO MY LEAVING CERTIFICATE AND IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR ME TO DO THIS AND FELT IT WAS THE RIGHT TIME FOR ME. I WAS SO OVERWHELMED TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN THIS CHANCE. OVER THE 2 YEARS THERE WAS A LOT OF MIXED EMOTIONS, BUT WE AS A VTOS FAMILY WERE ALWAYS THERE FOR ONE ANOTHER. MICHAEL CORBETT WAS SUCH AN AMAZING MAN TO BE INVOLVED WITH AND I WANT TO THANK HIM SINCERELY FOR BELIEVING IN ME AND FOR GIVING ME THAT PUSH WHEN I FELT LIKE I COULDN'T DO IT. I GOT TO FULFIL MY DREAM OF FINALLY SITTING MY STATE EXAMINATIONS IN 2019 AND PASS MY EXAMS. THE TRIPS WE WENT ON AS A GROUP WERE FULL OF FOND MEMORIES (APART FROM WHEN PA DECIDED TO SPLASH WATER ON ME KNOWING I HAD FEAR OF WATER 😬 -TOOK A LONG TIME TO FORGIVE HIM). ONE MEMORY THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET IS THE SURPRISE PARTY THE CENTRE PUT ON FOR MY 40TH-EMOTIONALLY AMAZING. THANKS TO ALL MY TEACHERS FOR EVERYTHING AND FOR BELIEVING IN ME. I HAVE MADE LIFELONG FRIENDS AND FOR THAT I'M GRATEFUL TO VTOS. NOW THAT THIS CHAPTER IS FINISHED, I'VE CONTINUED MY JOURNEY WITH EDUCATION, DOING LEVEL 6 CHILDCARE AND SPECIAL NEEDS.

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