



06 October 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to this week's newsletter.



Sacred Space

Our Rosary Club started this morning for pupils and staff members. The Holy Rosary is our new theme for our Sacred Space now that we are in the month of October. Pupils and staff members can put any petitions in the box. Rosary Club will continue next Friday in Room 9 at 8.50am.

A talk on 'The history, promises & miracles of the Holy Face devotion'

This talk takes place tonight in St. Patrick's Church, Claudy after the 7.30pm First Friday Mass. Holy Face relic and oil from the international shrine (Tours, France) will be available. Streaming at: <https://watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/saint-patricks-claudy>

School Levy

Thank you to all the parents/guardians who have already contributed. The Deadline is: Tuesday 10 October. If any parent/guardian would like to speak about the levy or the deadline, then please do not hesitate to contact the college.



Yr. 8 Board Game Club

A Board Game Club for Yr. 8 pupils will take place each Tuesday in the LRC from 12.35pm-12.55pm. Any pupil who wishes to attend should give their name to their Form teacher so that they can be registered.

Ski Trip 2024

The pupils going on this year's ski trip and their parents/guardians are invited to an information session in the Main Hall on Thursday 19 October at 4.30pm.



Gaelic Football

Congratulations to our U16 Boys Gaelic Team who played St. Patrick's Dungiven this week winning 3-11 to 1-7.

Our Girls Team also gave good account of themselves this week particularly in such poor weather conditions. The girls will be back in action again before the half term break.

Mr White will be taking Yr. 8 Gaelic Training from Wednesday 11th October.

National Poetry Day

Yesterday was National Poetry Day. The college will have entries in a national poetry competition called this 'This is Me'. The theme for this year's National Poetry Day was 'Refuge'. Here are poems from two of our Yr. 10 pupils:

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Keys to the Rain by Erin O'Kane

On rainy days, needing a break,
I reach for my piano.
My concerns queue in my head,
waiting, trying to escape:
I uncover them in my sanctuary,
where my troubles sing back
in the form of a handmade melody.

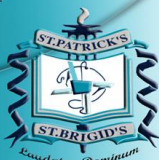
At lessons I play many songs,
but I find freedom in my own -
and when I'm playing alone.
There are times when others invade my realm,
so I lock it up until they leave,
then use the keys to unlock that world again.

Exploring more,
my hands continue to create,
until new doors are unlocked
and more music is made.
I leave when I'm ready to re-join reality,
when I find the rain departed for another day.

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Pain into Anger x Anger into Strength! by John McShane

When you're punching bags,
the timer sounds.
It's a constant looping in your ears!

You can hit and sweat away the anger.
Sparring is fighting a stranger
that has lost their mind.

There is excellence in the ring:
but at training,
bags start to fight you back.

Reaching for gloves from a shelf
is taking ammunition for a pistol.

The coaches are harsh,
but want the best for you.
This is my safe house - the Star of the Sea.

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Key Dates

Monday 30 th Oct – Friday 3 rd Nov	Half-Term break
W/b Monday 6 th Nov	National Chemistry Week
Sunday 6 th Nov	Diocesan Mass for Deceased Children and Young
Friday 30 th Nov	Prize Giving Evening (7.00pm start)
Friday 1 st Dec	Yr. 8 Parent/Tutor Day
Thursday 21 Dec	Last Day of Term (12.05pm finish)

Final Prayer



Last Sunday was the Feast of St. Therese de Lisieux:

O Glorious St. Therese, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and inspire the human family, I implore your Miraculous Intercession. You are so powerful in obtaining every need of body and spirit from the Heart of God. Holy Mother Church proclaims you 'Prodigy of Miracles... the Greatest Saint of Modern Times.'

Now I fervently beseech you to answer our petitions and to carry out your promises of spending Heaven doing good on earth...of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses. Little Flower, give me your childlike faith, to

see the Face of God in the people and experiences of my life, and to love God with full confidence. St. Therese, my Carmelite Sister, I will fulfill your plea 'to be made known everywhere' and I will continue to lead others to Jesus through you.

Amen

Yours sincerely,

Mr P. McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH
College Principal

