

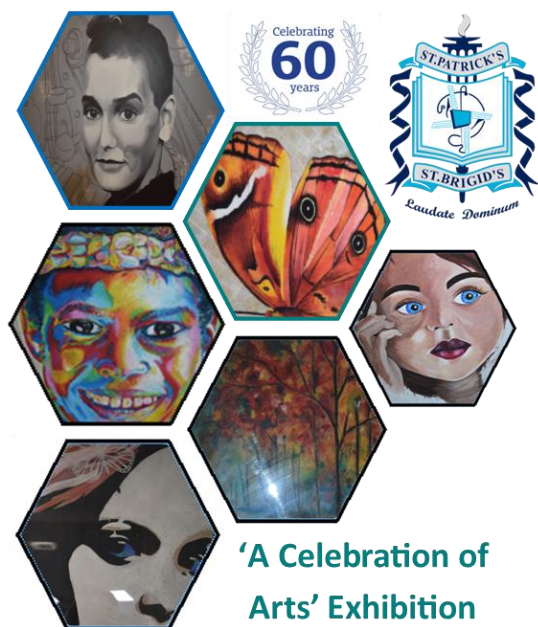


7th May 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been a busy few weeks with the public formal examinations well underway. Our Key Stage 3 pupils have also sat their examinations and did exceptionally well managing the demands of this challenging time. We have had the induction for our new Yr. 8 pupils and inducted our new members of staff for September last Tuesday. There are only 3 school weeks remaining and much to pack in. There are a lot of events still to take place including, but not limited to:

- Taster Days for P.6 pupils
- Ongoing completion of public examinations for Yr. 12
- GAA tournaments
- 'A Celebration of Arts' Exhibition
- Sports Day, Colour Run & Prize Draw (tickets still available: £10)
- Celebration Assemblies for Yr.7 – Yr.11
- Day Trips
- 'Claudy's Got 60 years of Talent' Competition



Date: Thursday 20th June 2024

Time: 3.45 p.m. - 6.15 p.m.

Presentations: 5.45 p.m.

Venue: Assembly Hall

A Celebration of Arts Exhibition

The aim of our exhibition is to celebrate 60 years of 'the Arts' at our college. The event will include the work of pupils, past and present, and will mainly represent work from the Art and the Technology departments.

10 of our current GCSE students will have their work on display. The work on show will range from graphic design to fine art outcomes and it is based on the themes of either 'Structure' or 'Waste'.

We are also exhibiting work from 3 former pupils:

-[Aoife Harvey](#) is an award-winning sustainable fashion designer who was the winner of BBC NI's 'A Stitch Through Time'.

-[Leona Devine](#) is now a practicing ceramicist whose work is inspired by the natural landscape and local environment.

-[Chelsea O'Kane's](#) work was recently exhibited as part of CCEA's 'True Colours' exhibition - an annual collection of the most impressive work produced across Northern Ireland in GCSE and GCE Art and Design.

The exhibition will also include a few portraits by the college's Art Teacher and practicing artist, Mr Coyle.

Fundraising – Make 2nds Count

We raised **£377.59** from our tea party on Tuesday and **£655.00** has been raised online. There was a bake sale during break today and **£105.20** was raised. Thank you to the pupils involved in 'The Prince's Trust' who helped to facilitate the bake sale and to those who made a purchase.



It is estimated that 35,000 people are currently living with breast cancer in the UK yet only 7% of National funding for cancer goes towards this incurable disease. Make 2nds Count aims to address this imbalance.

It is hoped that you can either support our Colour run on Friday 21st June or by entering our prize draw which takes place on the same day. There are still tickets available: £10.00.

Sacred Heart - June



Today, we celebrated the feast of the Sacred Heart, Friday 7th June. Yr. 8 have been learning about the feast in RE classes and have created beautiful sacred heart images. Our Sacred Space in the college foyer is dedicated to the Sacred Heart during this month.

Our first Sacred Heart reflection morning began this morning and will continue every Friday in June in Room 9 from 8:50 a.m. -9:05 a.m. All are welcome.

Let us pray: *Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you. Amen.*

Uniform Sale - New & Pre-loved: Thursday 20th June (3.30-6.00pm)

Burns & Co. will be having a Pop-Up Sale at the college on Thursday 20th June (3.30-6.00pm). There will also be pre-loved uniform items available to purchase at unbeatable prices. Below are the prices Burns & Co. will be selling their items for – this is too good to miss! It will be cash payments only.

- Blazers: £25.00, Jumpers: £15.00, Scarves: £7.50
- P.E Tops: £5.00, P.E Shorts: £5.00, Socks: £3.00

The Education Authority are expecting their system for system for uniform allowances and Free School Meals to be operational from the Week Beginning Monday 17th June.



Vaping

You may be aware from media reports of instances of vapes containing illegal substances.

Please speak to your child about the dangers of vaping and the wider risks. Form tutors will be devoting their PSE lesson on Tuesday to the dangers of vaping.

The college takes a firm approach to vaping and our stance is firmly as follows:

- the risks associated with vaping are fully eliminated when vaping does not take place.

- All pupils have been made aware of the college's position, the implications for their health and the potential damage to the long-term development of the teenage brain.
- Pupils have been made aware of situations external to the college, where other illegal and highly dangerous substances have been found in vapes.
- Pupils have also been informed that vapes are deemed by the college as a prohibited item and depending on the substance in the vape, the drugs policy may need to be implemented alongside the Behaviour Policy of the college.
- It is not an acceptable view of mitigation by claiming a pupil/s did not know what was in the vape.
- The college has a duty of care to act for the good of the whole community.

Pupils are also aware of how they can report vaping by:

- reporting to their trusted adult such as their Form tutor or Head of Year or any member of staff
- Should your child need support or help to stop vaping, please inform the college's Assistant Principal (Child Protection/Safeguarding) to discuss a referral for specialist service
- Make an appointment with your GP

Textbooks

Please could Yr. 12 pupils who have borrowed textbooks ensure they are returned. In addition, if any pupil would like to donate any used textbooks following their examinations, they too would be greatly appreciated. Pupils can drop them off at main reception.

Key Dates

Some key dates:

Thursday 20 th June	A 'Celebration of Arts Exhibition' from 3.45pm (Presentations at 5.45pm)
Friday 21 st June	Sports Day, Colour Run & Prize Draw
Monday 24 th June	Year 8 Trip to Carrowmena Activity Centre
Monday 24 th June	Year 11 Celebration Assembly
Tuesday 25 th June	Year 9 Trip to The Lake, Kilrea
Tuesday 25 th June	Year 8 Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 26 th June	Year 11 Trip to The Lake, Kilrea
Wednesday 26 th June	Year 10 Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 26 th June	'Claudy's Got 60 Years of Talent' competition (£1 entry fee)
Thursday 27 th June	Year 10 Trip to The Lake, Kilrea
Thursday 27 th June	Year 9 Celebration Assembly Trip
Friday 28 th June	End of Term (12.00 finish)

Final Prayer

A prayer for those sitting examinations:

*May the Lord bless your mind and help you recall everything you have studied.
May the peace of God fill your heart as you tackle your examination with courage.
May God give you the focus and concentration needed to excel.*

Amen.

Yours sincerely,



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

