



15th March 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here are this week's messages.

St. Patrick

Thank you to Fr. David O'Kane P.P. for the St. Patrick's Day Mass yesterday and to all our pupils who presented on St. Patrick during Collective Worship each morning this week.

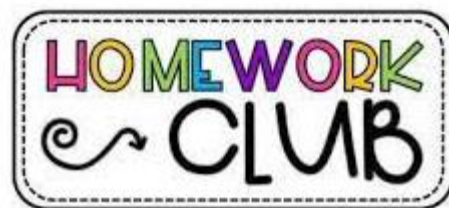


Trocaire

Next week, we will continue to raise funds to support Trócaire's 2024 Lent Appeal which focuses on the impact of poverty and climate change on a family and community in rural Malawi. Each Form group has been provided with its own Trocaire box and there will be a collection at the gate each morning.

Key Stage 4 Homework Club

From next week, we will be offering a Key Stage 4 Homework club in the LRC after school on a Monday and a Thursday from 3.40-4.25pm. This is a great opportunity for our pupils, particularly those in Yr. 11 and Yr. 12, to remain behind after school to do revision for their public examinations in a quiet environment.



Key Stage 4 French

The GCSE French speaking examination will take place on Monday 15th April. There will be revision sessions taking place every Friday during lunch and after school on the following dates:

Wednesday 20th March 3.40-4.30pm

Friday 22nd March 3.40-4.30pm

Wednesday 27th March 3.40-4.30pm

Wednesday 10th April 3.40-4.30pm and

Friday 12th April 3.40-4.30pm

Key Stage 4 Health and Social Care

Mrs Lynch will be delivering after school revision sessions every Monday which will begin on Monday 8th April 3.45-4.45pm. Pupils will receive a revision pack to be used in school and at home.

Key Stage 4 Drama

Year 12 Performing Arts written examination (part one) is on Wednesday 20th March from 12:55pm until 14:15pm (Periods 5B and 6). It is imperative that all of the pupils involved be in attendance.

Appointments

Parents/Guardians are asked not to take their son/daughter out of school for appointments unless there are no alternative options. As pupils approach their end of year or public examinations next term it is vital that they do not miss lessons as it can be difficult to catch up with the missed work.

Yr. 10 Options information

The deadline for the submission of Options information is: **Tuesday 19th March.**

Visit of MLA

Cara Hunter MLA (Education Committee) visit the college yesterday to discuss Mental Health & Wellbeing, Addiction, and support for schools.



Vaping

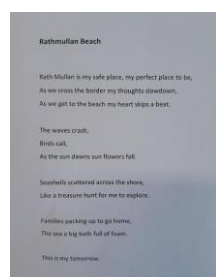


Nationally, there has been a rise in the use of vaping products among young people and we continue to raise awareness about the significant risks of vaping, especially to developing teens. While vaping may seem harmless to some, these products can contain high levels of nicotine, which can harm brain development in adolescents and lead to addiction. The aerosol from vaping can also contain heavy metals, volatile organic compounds, and cancer-causing agents that can damage young lungs.

There is a troubling rise in teen vaping addiction which has been reported in the news. As part of our efforts to keep pupils safe and healthy, our pupils have had talks from Cancer NI and are going to have further talks from the PSNI. This is to help educate about vaping dangers to encourage them to quit if they are currently involved in vaping. Please talk to your son/daughter about avoiding vape use and look out for warning signs of addiction like increased secrecy, devices hidden around the house, and requests for money with no explanation. Together, hopefully we can reverse the alarming vaping trends and prevent lifelong addiction.

Yr. 12 Social Gathering

There are a number of pupils attending a social event tonight with pupils from other schools. Parents/Guardians are reminded that this is not a college event and staff members have been advised not to attend. Parents/Guardians should not contact the college regarding any matters regarding this event.



Foyle School's Poetry Competition 2024

Over 1000 poems were entered in the 2024 Foyle School's Poetry Competition. Congratulations to Caragh O'D's poem 'Rathmullan Beach' which was placed 3rd overall in the Years 8, 9 and 10 Category! Aoife McG's poem 'The View' and Mya K's poem 'Beech Hill' were both awarded 'Highly Commended'.

Coaching Awards

Congratulations to some of our senior pupils Anna M, Erin D and Lauren K who received awards for their coaching at an event in Belfast last night.



Sport

Well done to our Yr. 8 Netball girls who participated in a tournament at St. Colm's High School in Draperstown yesterday.

Key Dates

Some key dates:

Monday 18 March	St. Patrick's Day Holiday (college closed)
Tuesday 19 March	Deadline for Yr. 10 Options Information
Wednesday 27 March	Last Day of Term 2 (Full day)
Monday 8 April	Term 3 begins for pupils and staff members
Friday 19 April	Year 9 Parent/Tutor Day

Final Prayer

Last Sunday was Mothers Day when we remembered and celebrated all the important women in our lives.

Loving God, we celebrate your faithfulness and love.

We commit ourselves to the promotion of the full humanity of all women everywhere.

We know that whatever denies, diminishes, or distorts the full humanity of women is not of God.

Help us to be faithful to your call to love.

Amen.

Yours sincerely,



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

