



# School Newsletter

ST PAUL'S SECONDARY SCHOOL, GREENHILLS



## Happy Halloween from St Paul's

### A message from Ms Troy

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I hope you will enjoy reading our newsletter which marks the first half-term in St Paul's for 2021-22. You will get a sense of all that is happening, both inside and outside the classroom. We are delighted that so many of our students are availing of the programmes on offer in the school – Power2Progress, our partnership with UCD and Zurich (Z) Foundation; our Business in the Community Ireland partnership with AWS (Amazon); the STEM Passport for Inclusion programme with Maynooth University and Microsoft Dreamspace; the iWish STEM programme; our link with Trinity College following our award as a School of Distinction (Community



### CONGRATULATIONS

97.4% of the Class of 2021 have progressed to Third Level - we wish them well in their studies.



### POWER 2 PROGRESS

45 5th Year students have begun Power 2 Progress



### GLOBAL SCHOOLS

3rd Year students have created a moving exhibition as part of our World Wise Global Schools Global Citizenship Education

**School of Distinction 2021**  
COMMUNITY AWARD  
**St. Paul's Secondary School**

TRINITY ACCESS  
 Trinity College Dublin  
 Trinity Access  
 The University of Dublin

COMMUNITY • INNOVATION • TRANSFORMATION

Award) earlier this year. These opportunities provide our students with insight into the world of further study and work, and we are grateful for the investment in education and mentoring, which the various companies and universities are providing for our students.

Schools are busy places, and I would like to thank the teaching and non-teaching staff for all the work they do on a daily basis to support the girls in so many ways.

I hope that the girls have enjoyed the various activities provided for the different year groups, finishing last Friday with fancy dress, a pumpkin carving competition, a movie session for 1st years and a whole-school quiz to end the day!

It has been a busy half-term – wonderful to see our sports teams training and competing again.

We look forward to the next half-term and thank you for your support since school opened in late August. I hope the entire school community has enjoyed the mid-term break and taken the opportunity for some well-earned rest and relaxation.

With my very best wishes,

Geraldine Troy (Principal)

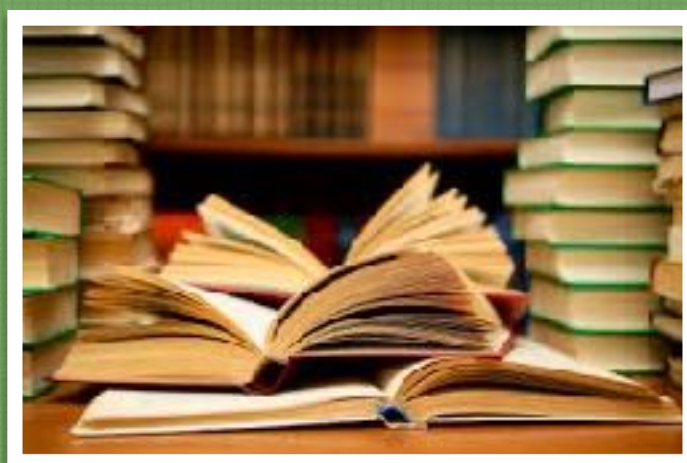
## EVENING STUDY

FINDING IT HARD TO STUDY?

NEED A QUIET ENVIRONMENT WITH  
NO DISTRACTIONS?

SUPERVISED STUDY  
WITH SR MARTINA IS FOR YOU!!

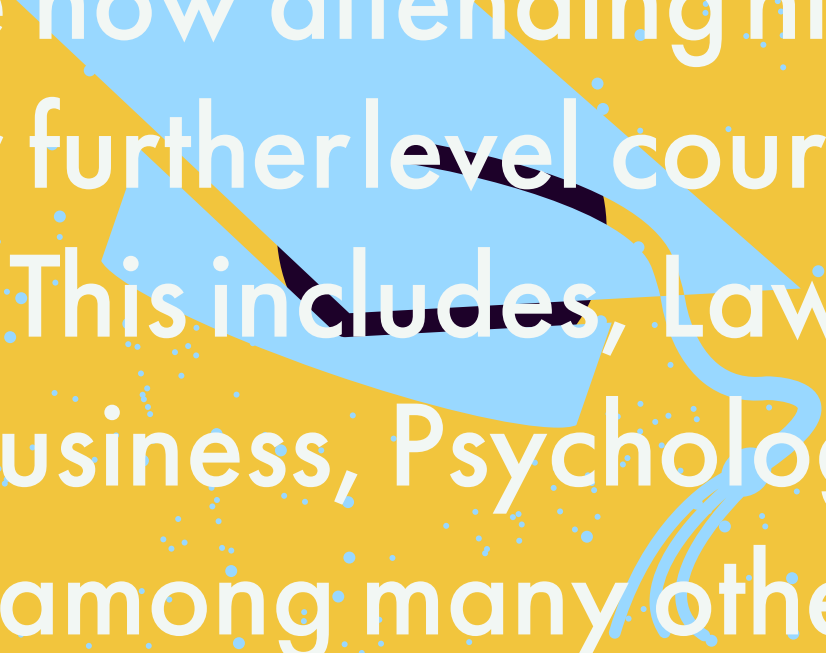
COST FROM MIDTERM  
TO CHRISTMAS IS €50



**MONDAYS, TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS FROM 3:15 TO 5:15PM**

GET ALL YOUR HOMEWORK DONE BEFORE YOU EVEN LEAVE SCHOOL!

APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT RECEPTION



Congratulations to the  
class of 2021!  
97.4% of the leaving certs  
are now attending higher  
or further level courses.  
This includes, Law,  
Business, Psychology,  
among many other  
options. At St. Paul's we  
have the highest level of  
progression to further  
education in Dublin 12!  
We wish them the best!

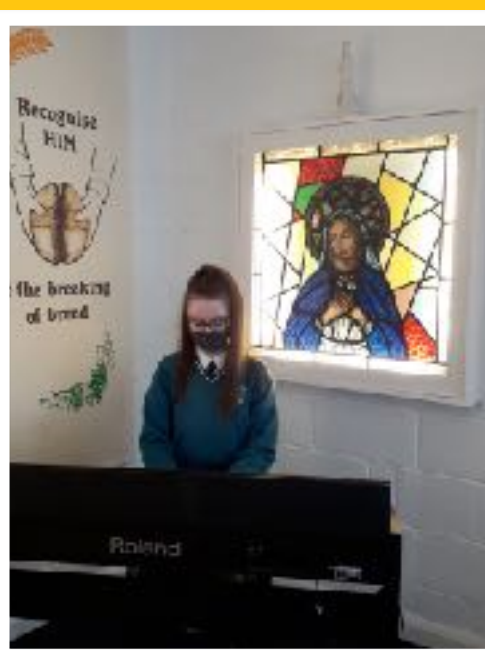
## OPENING OF SCHOOL YEAR MASS

Our Mass to celebrate the Opening of the School Year was unable to be held in the Church of the Holy Spirit this year due to Covid-19 but thankfully we were all able to celebrate as a whole school through broadcasting the Mass from our Oratory to all form classes in their base class rooms.

We were delighted to be able to welcome Fr Roddy back to school to celebrate Mass with us. The theme of the Mass was Hope - something we can all, always do with in our lives. The readings, prepared by our RE Department were read by Ella Chalkley and Munro Bademosi, Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl for 2021-22 respectively. Thank you to Aoife and Maedbh McGee, Olivia and Romy Quinlan and Ms Weldon for their beautiful singing and music which enriched our liturgy.

Fr Roddy reminded us all of the practical ways that we can bring hope to others, our classmates, our family and friends. Whether it is including someone who we don't normally speak with, helping one another with classwork or doing a practical job at home - we can always make a positive difference to someone else!

Our Head Girl, Deputy Head Girl and Senior Prefects for 2021-22 were missioned to their new leadership roles following the Mass by Ms O'Shea and presented with their leadership certificates by Sr Elizabeth. We wish them well in their new roles.



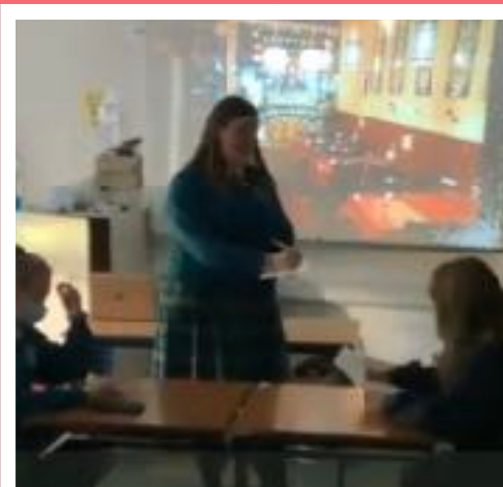
## CHINESE CLASSROOM IN ST PAUL'S

After a restful summer, our students returned to the Chinese classroom full of new perspective and ideas. We introduced Zodiac animals to represent their Chinese classes. Our first cohort chose the tiger, snake, dragon, and rat as their mascots. Another new addition was the 10-week Transition Year module. On Monday, our 1st Year Tiger Tribe effortlessly presented their Chinese culture poster projects. We saw a wide range of topics, including fashion, food, and architecture. They enjoyed working together and assembling their posters.

Our 2nd Year Snake Tribe worked in groups to create tourist brochures on various Chinese cities. On Thursday, they launched the St. Paul's Travel Agency, where each group sold their holiday package. Some students offered their testimonials. It was fun designing this brochure. Selling a city to people is far more exciting than reading out facts.' Another replied, 'It was nearly like planning our own holiday, just in time for mid-term!'

On Wednesday, the 3rd Year Dragon Tribe opened their own restaurant. They got into five groups of three and created a restaurant dialogue. One student played the waiter (Fùwùyuán 服务员) while the other two acted as customers (Kèrén 客人). 3rd years had great fun acting out their dialogues fluently in Chinese. They have indeed improved on last year!

Our Transition Year Rat Tribe are still preparing for their whole-class Chinese shadow puppetry project. Students will reimagine the Legend of Chang'e or origin of Mid-Autumn Festival through the medium of puppetry. From painting boxes to designing characters and sets, it is not to be missed. Following the mid-term break, our TYs have one more week of rehearsals before their big performance on Tuesday 9th November. The Chinese Club has also returned to Room 65 every Tuesday at lunchtime. It is open to all students who want to keep up with their Chinese language, as well as try out Chinese arts, crafts, and sports. Check our Twitter and Instagram pages @StpaulsgChinese for all updates on our club and classes.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE EXHIBITION AT ST PAUL'S

3rd year Visual Art students created a group sculpture called 'Vicious Cycle' for St. Pauls Climate Action Week 2021. A cross curricular link with CSPE, students watched 'Seaspiracy', a Netflix documentary produced by Ali Tabrizi and Kip Anderson.

Seaspiracy shines a light on the negative impacts of commercial fishing, touching on all aspects including importance of our ecosystems, the effects of micro plastic, overfishing and climate change.



Following the documentary, the 3rd Year students decided to create a group installation by creating clay forms based on species of fish that are under threat from 'by-catch' and overfishing. This action was linked to Sustainable Development Goals 14, 10 and 8. explored strand 2 and the topic of climate change, overfishing and the protection of our ecosystems. It is currently on display at our front entrance as part of our Global Citizenship Education programme from WorldWise Global Schools.



## TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAMWORK IN ST PAUL'S

Teamwork's which is run by experience Gaelic games visited St Paul's on 3 occasions so far this year. They ran team building exercises for 1st, 2nd, and 4th year students. The students took part in several activities which incorporated working together to complete a variety of tasks. These tasks built the students communication and teamwork skills while putting them in a competitive environment. It was such an enjoyable day for everyone involved!



## ACTIVE FLAG TEAM OFF TO AN 'ACTIVE START'

This year St. Paul's were one of the few chosen schools to undertake the Active School Flag programme. The term was off to a busy start with Ms. Farrell and our active school flag student team, which is made up of 14 of our Transition year students. Each student is in a team within the class and they will undertake special roles over the academic year. There is the reporting and research team, the junior and senior class liaison team, media team and design team. Each student has to complete an ePortfolio and we will have a school Walk-Way marked out soon on the school grounds for students and staff to get out at lunch and get their steps in.

Our first mission was to make sure that over half the students and staff population completed an online survey about physical activity. We surpassed this goal and now are currently analysing the survey to see how active the students and staff are in St. Paul's. They will be presenting the results to the school management team and update them on what whole school events that will take place over the school year.

The student team were presented with their active school team badges and lanyards to wear with pride. The team have set up a noticeboard located at the top of the 50s corridor to keep students and staff up to date on all key events taking place by the team over the school year. A Twitter social media account has also been set up so check us out @StPaulsgActive.



## STUDENT LEARNING TEAM

The Student Learning Team hold a Digital Clinic every Tuesday at lunchtime for all 1st Year students. To date they have supported students in using the school email, Teams, One Drive and One Note. After the midterm break, they will open it up to the whole student body. They are also planning to hold 'Teach Meets' - where they will hold various 'How to' clinics over the course of the year. 'How to' use Sway, 'How to' jazz up a presentation, 'How to' study etc. Be sure to keep an eye on what they are up to on Twitter @PaulLearning.

Our Student Learning Team Leaders for 2021-22 are:  
Aisling Amazo, Angelina Irvine, Doireann Hickey, Madison Killoran, Hannah Meehan-Tyrrell, Alex Stobie, Aoife McGee and Emma White-Donaghue.





## Student Council 2021-22

Members of the St. Paul's Student Council for this academic year were elected in September and completed their training day soon after election. They include: Ella Chalkley, Munro Bademosi, Emilia Schepis, Megan Quinn (6th Year), Zara Smartt, Alannah Hickey, Keela Talbot, Fatia Adigun (5th Year), Angela Joseph, Saoirse McDonald, Evie King, Aimee Dempsey (TY), Ava Dooley, Ella Geoghegan (3rd Year), Caoimhe O'Rourke, Aisling Amazuo (2nd Year), and Reem Eldeep, Kisi Bademosi, Erin Saji (1st Year).

Since then, the council have been busy organising various spooktacular activities such as Tuck-Shop Thursday, the Halloween Monster Menu and our Annual Halloween whole-school quiz.

To help students get into the Halloween Spirit the Student Council held a spooky-themed tuck shop complete with Banshee Bones and Spider Jellies. The tuck shop was a massive success selling out of all their stock by Thursday. The funds raised from the tuck shop will be used by Student Council to fund their activities next term and current outstanding expenses.

Our students in 1st - 4th Year were challenged this term to make a Monster Menu fit for a monster, ghoul, witch or goblin! They designed some of the most horrible and disgusting dishes the Student Council have ever seen - even drawing some of their fiendish feasts in the witch's cauldron! After much deliberation, the Student Council chose Yashitha Kekada (2nd Year), Taylor Jones Byrne (3rd Year), and Niamh Hickey (4th Year) as the winners. All entries were displayed on the Student Council Noticeboard.



The St Paul's Student Council once again hosted the Halloween Quiz this year to end the term on a spooky and enjoyable note. With quiz rounds featuring General Knowledge, Irish history, Music, Celebs, Dingbats and Halloween Trivia - it was much loved by all! The favourite round is nearly always "Guess That Baby Teacher". The Student Council would like to congratulate Rang Treasa on their amazing win and well done to all who participated. We hope you have a well deserved rest and a safe Halloween.



## GAELIC FOOTBALL IN ST PAUL'S

It has been great to finally have the Gaelic Football Team back and running in St Paul's this year after a long 18 months! The students train on a Monday after school on the great facilities we have, and all new members are always welcome.



The Senior Team played one game against Gaelcholaiste an Phiarsaigh in St Paul's and came out on top after a very close and exciting encounter. They will have 2 more games after midterm against St Mark's and Santa Maria. Best of luck for the year to come!

The Junior Team have played 2 games this year against Gaelcholaiste Reachrann and Our Lady's. Unfortunately, they were beaten in both games but have really done the school, and themselves, extremely proud in both their games. They look forward to their last group game against Mount Anville after midterm. A lot of the team are only in 2nd and 3rd year and have a bright future ahead playing at this level.



The U14 competition for 1st and 2nd year students will start after Christmas and we hope to see many new faces out at training over the coming months to prepare for these upcoming matches.

## TY STUDENTS HEAD TO BRAY

How lovely it was to be back on a school bus counting milk bottles heading on a turas scoile!

4<sup>th</sup> Year students spent a day in Bray and this year as it was active week we decided to do the Bray Loop Walk instead of the normal climb

to the top of the cross! Even the rain couldn't deter us!

The students were fantastic and we got to see some spectacular sights en route. The ice-cream and sceallóga were a well-deserved treat afterwards. Well done to everyone who took part in a great day out ("")



## UNLOCKING OUR CORE VALUES



Le Chéile Trust invited schools to design and create a key that represents what the Le Chéile education 'unlocks' in us. Thanks to Holly Riley from Rang Treasa for her fantastic creation.

This Key form represents the core values of St. Pauls Secondary School. How we foster a sense of belonging is expressed by the tightly woven wire which also symbolises our acceptance of diversity, individuality and the respect we have for each other.

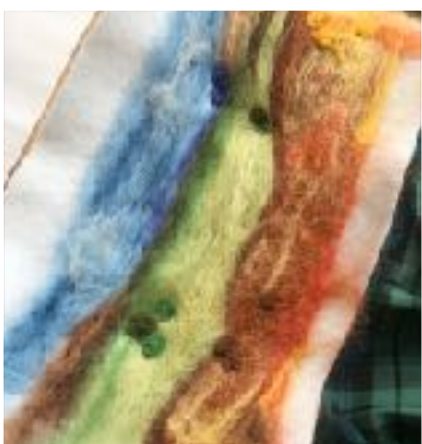
The interwoven fine strands of blue, red and gold thread wire represent the Le Cheile Schools Trust values of Wisdom, Witness and Welcome. '

## POWER 2 PROGRESS WITH UCD & ZURICH

Power 2 Progress has officially begun! The forty-five lucky fifth year students have each received a laptop to aid their studies over the next two years. Each student also receives two hours extra student learning support each week for the next two years. These take place in the form of one hour small group grinds in two different subjects. Some grinds take place in St Paul's while others are available online depending on the students' subject choice. Over the course of the two year programme students will link with Zurich for Careers Clinics and outreach days in UCD.



# ART DEPARTMENT SNAPSHOTS



## A FEW WORDS FROM THE PARENTS OF OUR RECENTLY GRADUATED 6TH YEAR STUDENTS

We found that St Paul's did a very good job protecting children and ensuring that their education continued in a safe environment during the pandemic. Even when at home, the school were in constant contact.

The multiple activities organised by the school; school plays, basketball, football, maths and computer courses in Trinity/UCD, trip to Microsoft, and the skiing trip all helped to give a rounded education.

Different talks organised; Shane Martin, Jigsaw, Careers night, open night, classes for parents, etc. organised by Caroline Gallagher, Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator, form a valuable link between home and school.

We were very happy with St Paul's and would like to thank Ms Troy, Ms O Shea and all the teachers and staff for their dedication and hard work throughout.

I couldn't thank St Paul's Secondary School enough, our daughter had amazing support throughout her time there. Peter the Caretaker and Ann the Secretary were always cheerful and encouraging. The teachers all were so supportive. St Paul's will always have a special place in our hearts.

The saying "what you put in you get back tenfold" applies to both my daughter and myself when it comes to St.Pauls! My daughter had access to a fantastic education, with the tools to help her go forward for a very bright future. I was given a chance to make new friends and even learn a few new skills too. We both have fond memories that will last forever!

My Daughter finished 6th year in June 2021, for the past few years she had an illness and I just want to say that the school had amazing support for both my daughter and I... they really went out of their way to help us! I Was so overwhelmed with the help and now my daughter is in college, and I firmly believe the support in St Paul's got her to where she is today!



