



School Newsletter

St Paul's Secondary School, Greenhills



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ST PAUL'S

A message from Ms Troy

It is with great pleasure that I introduce our Summer Newsletter 2022. We have experienced yet another extraordinary year. We opened this school year in masks, with social distancing, and gradually, as this year progressed, we managed a return to a whole-school Sports Day and in-person 6th year Graduation.

I hope you will enjoy reading a review of all that has happened during this past school year. It has been incredibly busy on so many fronts. A long-awaited return to sport – training and competitions, the return of the TY play, school trips and tours, a gradual return to in-person events with our education partners in UCD, Trinity College and Maynooth University. While many events had taken place online, nothing replaces the excitement of heading off with friends on coaches or gathering and chatting in person.

We look forward to the 2022-23 school year with the expectation of engagement and interaction both within the school and at off-site events and activities. I will write to you in August with detailed arrangements of our reopening schedule.

I wish all of you a restful summer and time with friends and family. I would like to thank you for your support during the past year and I thank all of our school staff, teaching, and non-teaching, for the care they take of your daughters every day.

Best wishes, Geraldine Troy (Principal)

1

TOP SCHOOL

We are delighted to announce that St Paul's Secondary School has been, again, named as top ranked 'feeder-school' in Greenhills, Walkinstown, Crumlin, Tallaght and Templeogue in the Feeder Schools League Tables for our high progression rates to Third Level.

2

SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION AWARD

We are delighted to announce that St Paul's has been awarded the School of Distinction Innovation Award 2022-23 from Trinity College Dublin.

3

CONGRATULATIONS

Well Done to the Class of 2022 on completing their Examinations - we wish you well in all your future endeavours!

Wise Words from Sr Mary, Chairperson Board of Management



In the 80's when I taught in St. Paul's I recall asking a class what they felt they needed most. I expected all sort of answers but was flabbergasted at the first reply spoken with conviction:

"Good leadership". At the end of the school year 2021/2022 I congratulate you as **parents/guardians** on the milestone of getting your daughter through another year of secondary school. It is no mean achievement, the hours are countless and I am sure it has come with a few bumps on the road. For your daughter, your support of the school is key as well as upholding all we are trying to achieve. You have shown outstanding leadership.

Hopefully we have left Covid behind us but, unfortunately, have been visited by another atrocity, namely, the war in Ukraine. The long shadows cast by Covid and the war continues to impact and reshape all of our lives. Domhnall Gleeson says: "Life is difficult for everyone; everyone has bad days. Everyone has trouble in their life, because it doesn't matter how rich you are: sickness and trouble and worry and love, these things will mess with you at every level of life." As we reflect on life we know only too well how true this is.

Thanks to the **Parents' Association** for your continued support of all activities and events. The vibrant parent spirit keeps getting stronger and the relative ease with which we gather volunteers when required is down to your commitment. Your willingness to review a policy, monitor morning traffic into the school etc. does not go unnoticed. A big 'thank you' to all.

Ms Troy (Principal), Ms O'Shea (Deputy Principal), the staff and entire St. Paul's Community are continually reflecting and looking through the prism of our school's core values: Care, Inclusion and Respect. Every time I visit the staffroom or walk among the girls in school I am amazed at the level of care and concern for each student. Sometimes though it may not appear like that to the girls! The staff are resolute in giving of their best and in helping the students in every possible way. This newsletter is a mirror of the enormous efforts being made so that your daughter may grow leaps and bounds both academically and socially. Everywhere and every day the students benefit greatly from being in St. Paul's, in an environment where, consciously or unconsciously, they learn to become more confident, resilient and authentic. Míle buíochas do gach duine.

Students, during this holiday season, strive be your best self, be helpful, stay safe and enjoy your break. **To our Junior Certificate students:** you have been through a very chequered few years but I am confident that you will come through this a better person and with flying colours. All the very best! **To the Leaving Certificate Class 2022:** Thank you for the contribution you made to St. Paul's. You have the approval, appreciation and respect of all to enjoy success in life, overcoming fear, recognising your abilities and accomplishing more than you could possibly imagine. Beannacht Dé oraibh go léir.

To the Board of Management: Many thanks for your support, hard work and always being on call. Your attendance at meetings, your dedication and commitment are really appreciated.

Finally, to all of us: Be resilient and never give up on the truly important things. In a world awash with constant chatter and endless noise, discover presence and stillness in your life. Take the time to know silence. Much of the world has a vested interest in keeping us restless, craving for more and the not knowing when enough is enough.

Happy and safe holiday!

ST PAUL'S WINS TRINITY ACCESS: SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION, INNOVATION AWARD

The Trinity College Schools of Distinction Award is given to schools that promote and strive for a college-going culture in their school in partnership with parents, students, staff, and the wider community. Last year, our first year participating in the Schools of Distinction programme, we were awarded in the Community Award. We are incredibly proud to announce that this year we have been awarded the Innovation Award.

The three core practices under which a school applies for the award are Pathways to College, Mentoring and Leadership in Learning. The judges commended St Paul's on our commitment to hearing staff and student voices and our dedication to delivering a quality educational experience for all.



MESSAGES FROM OUR YEARHEADS

1ST YEAR YEARHEAD - MS DENEHAN

I would like to salute Rang Doireann, Rang Dearbhla and Rang Deirdre for how they have performed this year. This year, as well as dealing with the challenges brought by a global pandemic, you started secondary school. This is an enormous adjustment at any time but to handle it as well as you have under such unusual conditions is a fantastic achievement and I am proud of you all.

I hope that you can look back at this year with a sense of accomplishment and that you got as much out of it as possible. I also hope that there were many things you enjoyed about it such as the school tour to Bray Bowl, the trip to the rediscovery centre, the pizza party in the park and the visit to Crumlin Garda Station to mention just a few of the activities that took place throughout the year. More importantly I hope you enjoyed meeting new people and making new friends.

You can now look forward to a long and well-deserved break in the summer before returning in September as 2nd Years. With this year behind you, you can step into 2nd Year with confidence and calm and also be ready to be there for any 1st Year students who might find the transition from primary to secondary education daunting.

I would like to sincerely thank the 1st Year Tutors; Mr. Devlin, Mr. Brett and Ms. Lynch for their support and kindness. It really did mean a lot. I would also like to thank the 1st Year Parents and Guardians for their assistance over the year which was hugely appreciated.

Have a wonderful summer,
Mrs. Denehan

2ND YEAR YEARHEAD - MS COLLETON

2nd years have had a busy year, from Trips to Trinity College & UCD, participating in Amazon Business in the Community programme and expanding their digital literacy skills with Maynooth College. They met with 5th year mentors, gave up their free time to participate in our annual open evening, had a wonderful opportunity to showcase their super craft and entrepreneurial skills for the Christmas Trade Show. 2nd years were found on the school basketball & athletics teams, on our under 16 Gaelic team, along with many of St. Paul's clubs and societies. Once again, your daughter has shown superb resilience.

With covid restrictions gradually easing, life in St. Paul's has settled into an old rhythm, but this rhythm is a new one for many. This term saw the return of base rooms, breakfast chats in the pavilion café and lunchtime catchups with friends, some new and some old, perhaps friends they hadn't sat with since primary school. New experiences and challenges await them next year, challenges I've no doubt they will overcome.

A special thanks to 2nd year tutors Ms. McKenna, Ms. Mooney and Mr. Wallace for helping your daughter navigate school life, and to you, parents and guardians for your continued support, it's greatly appreciated.

Ms. Colleton

MESSAGES FROM OUR YEARHEADS

3RD YEAR YEARHEAD - MS KING

Three years complete now and this was your first full year of attending classes in the school building. Another successful year of embracing the masks, sanitising and social distancing which has allowed us to overcome the pandemic and enjoy a more normal school environment.

One of the highlights of the year for many of you was the Delphi trip for three days in March. Sport was back again and many third year students enjoyed success with the Gaelic football team and Athletics in Santry. Well done to Rang Bridin who were the overall class winners of this years Sports day, a great achievement.

A lot of hard work was done throughout the year too. Homework, uploading work on Teams, class assessments and the endless list of CBA's has finally come to an end. All this hard work will be rewarded in the Junior Certificate exams in June. I wish each of you the very best of luck with the exams and have no doubt you will all succeed.

I would like to thank your form tutors Ms Byrne, Ms Farrell and Mr Patton for all their hard work this year. I would also like to thank your parents / guardians for their support and cooperation throughout the year.

Finally, all the best with the Junior Certificate exams and then I hope you all relax and enjoy the long summer days ahead. See you all in September!

Mrs. King

TRANSITION YEAR YEARHEAD - MS O'NEILL

The TYs had a very successful year as thankfully a bit of normality returned for them. They got to do many things and went to many places. Some of the events and trips they got to do were the following: Bray Head walk, Team works workshop, Bodhran playing workshop, and a visit to the Rediscovery Centre all before Christmas.

After Christmas the students has a one day retreat in school, visited Kilmainham and the Remembrance gardens. Some students visited APC Pharmaceutical an all had second trip to the Rediscovery Centre , this time to discover all about sustainable fashion. All students took part in a 2 week work experience in February.

After Easter students had an opportunity to visit Carlingford Adventure Centre and Tayto Park and many students went to DCU to visit the Newton Academy.

The highlight of the year has to be the wonderful play "Playboy of the Western World" led by Ms Masterson. It was a fantastic performance by all and the students made wonderful new friends for life and will treasure the play for many years to come.

Enjoy the Summer and I look forward to seeing you all in August!

Mrs. O'Neill

MESSAGES FROM OUR YEARHEADS

FIFTH YEAR YEARHEAD – MS STACEY

Another school year over and now you are heading into your final year in St. Paul's - seniors of the school! It was great to get back to normal towards the end of this year, It really struck me on sports day to see the great school spirit when the year group could finally get together, something we really missed with all the restrictions of Covid, going forward I hope I will see more of this next year.

Congratulations to all our new head girl DT, Deputy head girl Holly and our team of prefects who will have a leadership role in the school next year.

To all those students who took part in the Power to Progress, I hoped you reaped the benefits of this when it came to your summer exams and will continue your participation next year.

To everyone who participated on sporting teams, student council, Mentoring programme for 2nd year, future you, any curricular activities, represented the school in UCD and Le Cheile, A very big thank you, you did St. Paul's proud.

I would also like to thank the form teachers, Ms Creggy, Ms O'Toole and Ms Leslie for all they have done in looking after and supporting you during this year. Best Wishes to Ms Leslie as she takes on her new role.

I hope you all have a great summer, you will have time to work, go away, go to concerts, attend sporting events and do many other things during your time off. Enjoy your last summer as a student of St Paul's. Stay safe and I will see you all at the end of August ready for your last year.

Mrs. Stacey

6TH YEAR YEARHEAD – MS SKELLY

Dear Sixth Years,

Congratulations to all on the successful completion of your Post Primary education in St. Paul's. I would like to take this opportunity to thank your Parents / Guardians for all the support they have given you and the school over the past six years.

I wish you all success in the Leaving Certificate and in every challenge that lies ahead. Continue to develop and share your many and varied gifts and talents. Remember, life is short, so be swift to love and make haste to always act with kindness and compassion.

May you be blessed with Courage to seek life's purpose for you; Belief in yourself to make it come true; Strength to do your best and endure; And the guiding light of Faith to ensure that wherever you go, whatever you do, God's love will always see you through.

Ms Skelly

CHINATOWN IN ST PAUL'S!

The year of the Tiger has certainly been a busy one in St. Paul's. In January, the Chinese Club launched Chinese Week 2022. Inspired by the Jade Emperor's Great Race (determining the order of the 12 zodiac animals), students in all year groups, equipped with an animal mask, ran in Zodiac Relay Races. Well done to Rang Brónagh (3rd Year) and to Rang Treasa (5th Year) on winning the Junior and Senior Zodiac Races respectively.



In a first for St. Paul's, we opened St. Paul's Chinatown on Tuesday and Wednesday. Staff and students learned to write Chinese characters at the calligraphy table, they were busy making lanterns, trying out chopsticks and learning about the traits of their own zodiac animal. Our TY students showcased their Mid-Autumn themed shadow puppetry project; and our 2nd years became travel agents who pitched their best holiday packages to various Chinese cities.



It was incredible to see so many students become immersed – our Pavilion café was almost akin to a bustling Chinese market. Due to popular demand, Chinatown opened for a third day to 6th class students from Holy Spirit N.S. Their highlight was getting under the cardboard dragon and attempting the dragon dance. Tai Chi returned to St. Paul's on Thursday afternoon. Students enjoyed practicing the Tiger Stance. It was only fitting to finish with the annual St. Paul's Chinese Kahoot. We are very proud of all our volunteers who made this week a great success.

Chinatown reopened in Room 65 for our Open Evening in April to prospective students from 5th, 6th class and families. It was hard not to feed off the energy of our volunteers. Hopefully we may see some of those students in our Chinese club in the future.

On behalf of our Chinese Club, we wish you all a restful summer break.



CAREER GUIDANCE UPDATE

- **CAO Change of Mind:** Change of Mind is currently open for 6th Years CAO applications, whereby you can change the order of your course choices, add new courses or delete some course choices from your application. Closing date is 1st July 2022
- **SUSI Grant:** The SUSI Grant is open for applications and the closing date is the 7th July.
- **Students involved in the Future You Mentoring Programme** for the last two years please submit an application for the scholarship. We have had successful applicants every year.
- **REACH+:** Well done to the Transition Years on completing the REACH+ programme. This programme helps students in making informed career decisions through understanding themselves, the world of education and the world of work. All students received their certificates of achievement in this programme.
- **Leaving Certificate:** Best of luck to all our 6th year students with the Leaving Certificate. Ms King and Ms Fleming hope you will all be very happy with your offers of college courses.



FUTURE YOU MENTORING PROGRAM UCD

This programme provides a space for school and college students to share concerns and goals, explore options for after school, ask questions in a safe environment and share important information about the transition from second to third level education. It motivates students about their potential to succeed in third level and encourage them to make informed decisions about their future education.

Many of the mentors in UCD are recent past pupils of St Paul's, which is a valuable inspiration for girls.

Well done to the sixteen 6th year students who have just completed this two year programme. Twenty-five 5th year students have completed year one of the programme which concluded with a trip to UCD on the 20th May.



ST PAUL'S CELEBRATES DIVERSITY – MULTICULTURAL DAY

Le Chéile Day was celebrated across all the Le Chéile Schools on April 8th. The theme of Le Chéile Day 2022 was Inclusion and Diversity. In St Paul's, we took this opportunity to celebrate our rich diversity with Multi-Cultural Day. This was a truly wonderful occasion in St Paul's. We had twenty cultures represented at our Multi Cultural Day. We linked this celebration to the UN Sustainable Development Goals as part of our Global Citizenship Education. Students set up a stand for their country of origin. On it they showcased traditional crafts and costumes. Students wore traditional dress, created displays with facts about their heritage - such as maps, population, geography, traditions and language; played traditional music and taught others various phrases in their home languages and traditional dance.

Visiting the different stands and learning about so many cultures was wonderful - particularly when so many students (and teachers!) adorned the national costumes. Another highlight of the day was the teaching others the National dances, we were blown away by all the movers and shakers in the Sport Pavilion that morning. We simply cannot put into words the magic of Multi-Cultural Day and cannot thank the students enough for the efforts they made. The entire school was enriched and uplifted by the event.



Transition Year Legal Eagles!

THE BAR OF IRELAND'S "LOOK INTO LAW" ONLINE TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAMME 2022

This year all TY students in St. Paul's participated in this exciting initiative aimed at increasing students' awareness of the work of The Bar of Ireland and to encourage students to consider a career as a barrister. It was teacher-led remotely and in school.

Each week a new pre-recorded module was shared with teachers and students. Each Module commenced with an introductory 'Faces of the Bar', where a selection of barristers will share their career highlights and experience with students, along with talks delivered by the judiciary, the Prison Service, and other justice agencies. The five modules were:

- Beginning of a barrister's career
- Criminal Law
- Civil Law
- The media in the legal context
- Preparing for trial



Schools and students were encouraged to use the hashtag #LookIntoLaw2021 to demonstrate their engagement with the programme and to showcase their involvement. The virtual and accessible nature of the online Programme meant that this year our students were also able to participate with other students from schools across 26 counties in Ireland in the "Big Legal Q&A" live panel discussion on Thursday 28th April 2022. At that event, our students were privileged by the guest appearance of Ms. Maura McNally, Senior Counsel and Chair of the Bar Council of Ireland, to our school. Ms. McNally answered students' questions, spoke of the importance of education, and encouraged our students to pursue their academic and career goals in life.

All TY students who successfully completed the programme, which included quizzes, knowledge checks, class discussions and reflections received their certificate of participation by the Bar Council of Ireland at their graduation. Well done!



FIFTH YEAR ART STUDENTS HAD A BLAST!

The Art Department would like to thank Contemporary Fine artist Donna McGee for hosting a three-day landscape painting workshop with our 5th year art students. This was a wonderful opportunity to work alongside our Artist in Resident, awarded to us by BLAST-‘Bringing Live Artists to Students and Teachers’, funded by the Department of Education. Thanks also to Ms. Gough for facilitating this event.



POWER 2 PROGRESS – ST PAUL’S GIRLS WOW MINISTER HARRIS

On Monday 9th May, 40 Fifth Year Power2Progress Students, accompanied by Ms Gallagher and Mr Fleming made their way to UCD for an Outreach Day. Four students from St Paul’s represented St Paul’s by speaking to Minister Simon Harris about the benefits of the Power2Progress programme. Well done to Cara Brooks, Niamh Byrne, Emma Louise Curran and Latifat Asiyanni who spoke so confidently to Minister Harris.

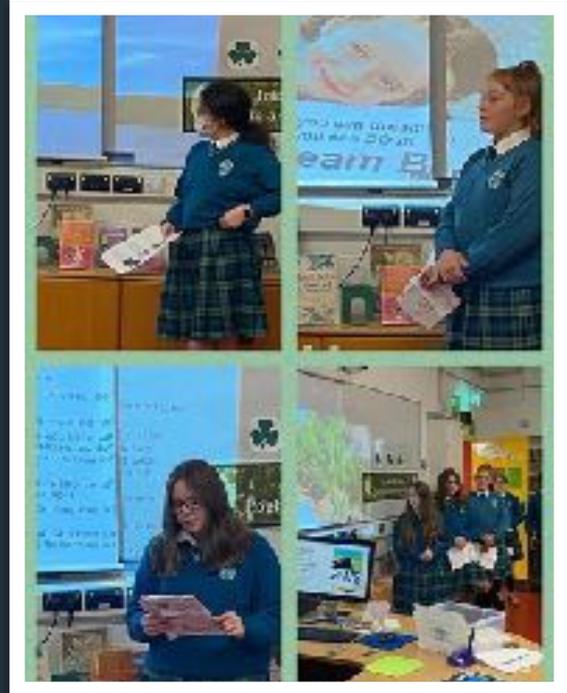
In this programme 5th Year students received a Chrome book for 5th and 6th Year, and were able to access grinds in two subjects each week for 5th and 6th Year. The opportunity this provides the students is immeasurable. The Outreach Day in UCD consisted of an address by Minister Harris, and then a series of mini lectures. It provided a great insight into College life. The students were brought on a tour of UCD by student ambassadors and were treated to lunch. It was a wonderful day enjoyed by all.



SCHOOL BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP AMAZON DELIVERS FOR ST PAUL'S!

Twenty Five of our Second Year students completed the 'World of Work' Programme with Amazon Web Services and the Business in the Community Initiative. During the programme the students met, virtually, with a number of Amazon employees and heard about their jobs and different career paths. The students were also given an opportunity to learn about the importance of various soft skills and given top tips for presentations which will be of great use for CBAs next year and into the future.

The programme finished with our own second year students presenting to Amazon staff and to Business in the Community about the impact of the programme for them. They showcased their new presentation skills and wowed everyone. They were wowed themselves with the treats that Amazon sent to St Paul's to celebrated their work. Well done to all the second years who took part!



CRUMLIN GARDA STATION CENTENARY

On Friday 20th May, our First Year students were invited to Crumlin Garda Station for a visit. The Garda Station was celebrating its' 100th Birthday. The First Years walked down to Crumlin Garda Station with Ms Gallagher, Ms King and Ms Collis.

This was a wonderful experience and a real eye opener for our students. We were delighted to meet some of our past pupils serving as Garda in Crumlin Garda Station. It was great to be able to see inside the station and have an understanding of the important work the Guards do to keep our communities safe.

SIXTH YEARS GRADUATE FROM MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY WITH STEM PASSPORT

Congratulations to our sixth year students who graduated from Maynooth University as part of the STEM Passport for Inclusion Programme. This has been a programme that our 6th Year students have participated in throughout the year. The aim has been to encourage girls into STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths) areas of study and careers. Mentoring sessions and on-site lab days in 21st century digital skills were held. The students engaged with activities in Computational Thinking, AI (Artificial Intelligence) and ethical responsibilities, Computer Science and Prototype Design.

On Thursday 28th April, we were delighted to be invited to Microsoft Dreamspace to showcase this programme with the Microsoft Leaders in Western Europe. Mr Patton and Ms Gallagher accompanied 16 of our students to this event. The Leaders observed our 6th Year students in the learning activities and engaged with them on the benefits of the Stem Passport Programme. This was an amazing opportunity for them, and we were proud to have been selected to represent the programme.

When the students have completed 3 lab days and independent learning activities, they receive a special purpose micro-award in 21st century STEM skills which they can use on their CAO to access STEM courses in Maynooth University and Munster Technological University. This is the first award of it's kind in Ireland and we believe it will pave the way for future generations of Women in STEM! We look forward to the graduation ceremony in NUI Maynooth this Tuesday 24 May, and are proud of our 16 students who have completed the programme.



SPORTS DAY 2022 - BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!!

We were delighted to host our first full Sports Day in three years. It was a major success! Each year group wore a colour to represent their year and there were trophies for the best 1st year class - won by Rang Deirdre, best overall class - awarded to Rang Brídín in 3rd year and the Miss Pettitt relay where Rang Sinead in 6th year took home the silverware.

The morning started with traditional sporting events such as sprints (100m, 200m & 400m), shot put, wellie throw, basketball shooting competition, penalty shootout, crossbar challenge and the long kick.

The middle of day consisted of fun novelty races which included the wheelbarrow race, egg & spoon, three-legged race, sack race, relay races and musical statues!

After lunch, the annual teachers vs 6th year students rounders match was played. Congratulations to students who won by 2 points! Afterwards the Inter class tug of war competition took place. It was a day to remember with plenty of smiles and fun in the sun!





STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Students taking on roles of leadership is a very important aspect of school life. In St. Paul's, we have a range of different leadership options. Students can take on the roles of Captains, Vice Captains and PE Representatives. They can also join the Student Council where they can use their voice to represent all of the students in the school.

In Transition Year, students can apply to be a TY Buddy - this involves a mentoring role by Transition Year students to our First Year Students, most of all a TY Buddy is a friendly face for our First Years and another layer of support during the transition into Secondary School.

In Sixth Year, we have our Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, and a dynamic and supportive team of Senior Prefects. The support and leadership that each of these students provide is immeasurable. A Pizza party was held on Monday 19th May at lunchtime, to acknowledge and reward the contribution of these students to our school life. All student leaders were presented with a certificate of appreciation for their leadership.

We are delighted this year to have initiated a 5th Year Mentoring programme with 2nd Year students. The positive impact an older student can have on a younger student is immense, so we look forward to growing this initiative next year.



A NEW AMBER FLAG FOR ST PAUL'S!

On the 10th of May 2022 St Paul's Secondary School was awarded a new Pieta House Amber Flag for promoting positive mental health in school.

Last November, an amber flag committee was established in the school consisting of second year and transition year students. The committee members firstly attended a meeting to create an audit of how St Paul's already promotes positive mental health and to identify areas where the school could improve. The committee meetings following this audit

were to decide on two mental health objectives and activities to support them. We decided on running a wellbeing week and a mental health awareness day.

Wellbeing week took place on the week of the 10th of January. The activities held during the week include music bingo, meditation, tree of hope competition, kindness rocks, locker lotto, mindfulness colouring, wordsearch competition, and what makes me happy photo competition.

Our second objective of a mental health awareness day took place on the 28th of March. During registration time students were handed out thank you cards to fill out to thank a close friend, a family member, or a member of staff in the school for something. Students were encouraged to give these notes to the people they would like to thank. Those who did not want to do this could anonymously hang them from the tree of hope with positive affirmations. During the week that hosted mental health awareness day at St Pauls, A mind your selfie photo competition was held for student to submit photos of something that they do to 'mind their self.'

Congratulations and Thank You to our Amber Flag Committee for all your hard-work throughout the year.



BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP

On a sunny Tuesday, May 10th, our 5th Biology classes enjoyed a trip to Airfield, where they completed their compulsory Field study. The grassland ecology option delivered by Fiona and her team at Airfield utilised the diverse field areas throughout Airfield Estate. The native trees, plants and wildlife demonstrated a diverse range of ecological opportunities allowing the students to use a variety of survey techniques. Fiona and her team helped students understand the importance of ecological surveys and how they aid the understanding of our environment and seasons.

SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE 2022

A huge comhghairdeas to gach duine who took part in Seachtain na Gaeilge 2022. Bhí SnG ar siúl in St. Pauls ó 14ú - 16ú Márta! We had cluichí, céilí, ceol, craic & comórtais!

The first & seconds years enjoyed watching SpongeBob the movie trí Ghaeilge while ag ól seamróg shakes & ag ithe milseáin! Tír gan teanga tír gan anam. Taispeáin do ghrá don Ghaeilge this summer agus bain triail as - úsáid do cúpla focail! Bíodh samhradh slán sábháilte agaibh (“)



ATHLETICS UPDATE – ST PAUL’S TAKE HOME THE SILVERWARE



This year has been a very successful year for St. Paul's. In the Cross-Country Leinster Championships Aoife McGee secured a place and ran in the 4,000 metres finals.

In early May, 20 students took part in the Leinster Track & Field Championships at Morton Stadium in Santry! Our athletes received several medals in different age categories. Iteoluwakisi Bademosi came 2nd in the Minor shot put, Joanne Sharpio came 1st in the Senior 100 metre sprint, Aoife McGee came 1st in the Senior 800 metres, our Senior relay team came 3rd in the relay (Aoife McGee, Rachel Ayeni, Joanne Sharpio & Macy Cunningham). Layla Morgan came 6th in the Junior Long, our Junior relay teams placed 4th and 6th in the finals.

FEAST OF ST. PAUL

We were delighted to have Fr Roddy with us to celebrate the Feast of St Paul in January. Thanks to Ms Weldon and our wonderful musicians and singers, our readers and those who said prayers on behalf of the whole school, we had a very rich and meaningful celebration, that we were able to stream to every classroom - Omnibus Omnia in action!



ST PAUL'S GIRLS THINK BIG AND ACT GLOBALLY!

As part of our Global Citizenship Education in conjunction with WorldWise Global Schools, the students of St Paul's get involved in many campaigns and activities. Whether it is our Multi-Cultural Day to celebrate our rich diversity, our Green Schools Team challenging us in our Care for the Earth or our 5th Years leading the way in our Period Poverty campaign locally and supporting projects in Haiti, we are very proud of our long



tradition of care and action for others. To further embed this across our curriculum, Global Action Ireland hosted a workshop for all third-year students on the topic of 'Global Citizen Education'. Students were invited to explore the concepts of justice, development, power, and relate them to their own lives, they critically explored how these concepts are presented to them on a day-to-day basis. Alex Whyatt and his team, supported a lively discussion on being an 'active citizen', highlighting ways we can take action to change the world around us. Global Citizenship Education will be a module for TY students next year - so watch this space for exciting news and developments!

A SNAPSHOT FROM PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD!



TY BUDDIES LEAD FIRST YEARS THROUGH THE TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL!

The Transition Year Buddies had a busy year with their 1st Year Buddy Groups. During September they visited all the new 1st years in class and spent time getting to know each other. They told the new 1st years all about life in St Paul's and all the fun things they can look forward to. They made them cards and gave them sweets too!

During October they all met up and did a fun quiz about life in St Paul's. It was incredible to see how much the 1st years had learned about our school in a few short weeks. They all chatted together about how school was going and the TY's gave the 1st year's tips and advice on homework, getting organised and managing their time. November was College Awareness Week and they got together again to do a quiz on careers and colleges. The 1st years interviewed the TY's about the kinds of things they would like to do when they leave school and the TY's told them all about what they are learning in Transition year and all the things the 1st years can look forward to when their turn comes. December, of course, means Christmas, so lots of fun and nice things to do. They had a little party and did a Christmas Kahoot. They listened to Christmas music and simply had a nice time together. The new year brought more visits to the classroom and chats about school life. The 1st years were well settled by then and were able to tell the TY girls all about their experiences of St Paul's!

To celebrate the end of their first year in St Paul's, the Transition Years accompanied the 1st Years to Tymon Park for pizza, games and fun in the playground. The sun shone and it was a great way to come together and celebrate all that the 1st years and TY Buddies have achieved over the school year.

The 1st years have made a great start to their life in secondary school. Moving from primary into secondary school was a huge change for them. They had to get used to a very different school and school day. They went from having only 1 teacher to having about 12 different teachers. They began new subjects they hadn't done before and instead of staying in the same classroom all day they had to move around school from room to room. These changes are not easy, but the 1st years adapted so very well and should be incredibly proud. The Transition Year Buddies did a wonderful job helping and encouraging them. They were kind and supportive, telling them all about our school and doing things that really did help to make settling in easier for them. A great big thank you to you all.

Well done to you all and wishing everyone a happy summer holiday!



THIRD YEARS SCALE THE HEIGHTS IN DELPHI!

On the morning of the 7th March, 46 very excited 3rd years boarded the bus on their first trip from St Paul's for a two night trip away. After a long journey out West to Delphi Adventure Centre, Connemara the excitement levels were still high!

The girls quickly settled into their dorm room style accommodation and were raring to go! The next three days were jam packed with activities. The girls were so involved and enthusiastic and got the chance to tackle the 'high ropes', abseiling, orienteering, archery, team building exercises and bush craft. All fear of heights were quickly forgotten about when it came time for the amazingly long zip-lining, despite the rain, this activity was a firm favourite.

In the evening, worn out from the day's adventures, the girls braved a forest walk and enjoyed some marshmallows by the campfire! It was a pleasure to bring these girls on this trip and witness them making memories that will last a life time!

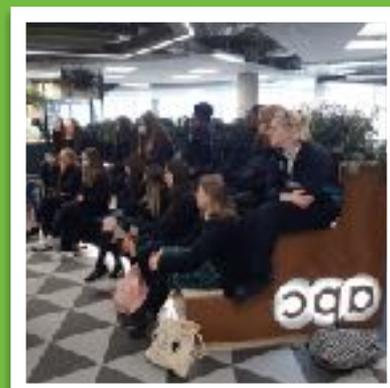


TRANSITION YEARS OUT AND ABOUT!

Our TYs have been very busy over the last few months. Here you can read about some of the various activities and trips the TY students have had the opportunity to do over the last term - you'll see they definitely haven't been idle - all while performing in the magnificent 'Playboy of the Western World' photos of which you will have seen earlier.

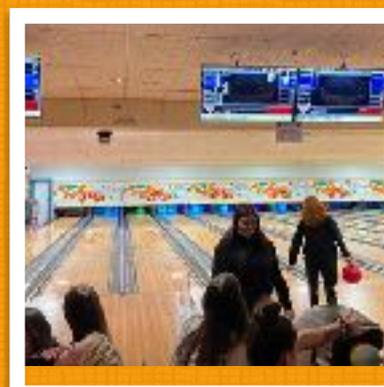
APC Pharmaceutical Company

Transition year students connected STEM in school to STEM in the workplace, as they visited APC - an Irish owned pharmaceutical company. An introductory session provided an insight into the company's history, current projects and its future goals. The students were given a tour of the company's offices, which includes two floors, several meeting rooms and state-of-the-art laboratories. Students also spoke with different staff members and witnessed the vast range of career opportunities within the STEM industry! St Paul's was the first school to visit APC and with the student's impressing so much, their learning experience extended beyond the trip, as APC sought advice from the students on a slogan that could be used to promote future school trips to their offices.



Bowling

On the 1st April they went to LeisurePlex in Tallaght and had great fun bowling for the day and playing different games in the arcade. They all had great fun and their competitive side really came out when they competed against each other in their teams. They then enjoyed a trip to McDonalds to finish off the day. Well done to Mr Wallace who was the winning teacher on the day also!



Flamenco

Straight after their Easter holidays Spanish TY students went into a Flamenco session organised in St Paul's by the Spanish department. Their initial shyness soon fell away when they met the Flamenco dance teacher Eli Jara. The students tasted the sound of a few 'palos: tangos, alegrías, etc.' and danced to the rhythm of guitars and castanets. They began by a Flamenco workout to loosen up their muscles: hand spiral movements, stamping the floor! It was also a good chance for the students to practice the language as all instructions were given in Spanish, names of body parts, dancing verbs, etc. Ms. Diez also got to try but claims she was not as good as the students!



TRANSITION YEARS OUT AND ABOUT!

Tayto Park

Their next adventure was to Tayto Park on Friday 20th May. Although the weather wasn't in their favour on the day it didn't stop them having a blast and making the most of their time. Students went on the famous Cú Chulainn rollercoaster and the dreaded rotator. Students attended a bird show, and some even got hit by their wings they were so close.



Newton Room Flight Simulator in DCU

TY Students, and some lucky 1st Year Science Club students, travelled to DCU's Newton room to experience a flight simulator in an interactive aviation classroom. Prior to the flight, the students worked in groups of four to map out their journeys. This involved reading maps, measuring angles and calculating distance, speed and time. Next, the instructor gave a briefing on the different control panels in the cockpit of an airplane. The students then gained a pilot's experience, with everyone taking a leg of a domestic flight within Norway. The flight simulators were equipped with the controls and views of a real-life journey. Each student was also given the chance to land the airplane, with some landings smoother than others! In addition, the students were also introduced to virtual reality, being posed with the challenge of following instructions to complete tasks within a virtual reality escape room. While in DCU, the students were also given a campus tour, which involved exploring lecture halls, the student union, sports facilities and the college canteen.



TRANSITION YEARS OUT AND ABOUT!

CARLINGFORD

This wasn't the end of the fun as on Monday 23rd May 30 students travelled to Carlingford adventure centre for a 2-night stay. They went rock climbing, canoeing, and laser tag on their first day. The rock climbing was a hit with all students and even though it was very tricky it was great to see so many students make it to the top. Canoeing started with a great team building activity but our canoe building skills need some work as most ended up in the water in the end. Some brave students even hung around for high tide and made the leap of faith off the pier. The students then finished their first day with laser tag in the forest and a trip to the local chipper before a well-deserved rest.

The second day started with the students testing how they coped with heights on the skyline. They took part in several more activities, but their favourite had to be the ziplining. They then all took their anger out with some axe throwing and finished the day with a beautiful hike up Slieve Foye and a blindfolded obstacle course in the forest. The final morning started earlier with breakfast and time to pack before the students enjoyed a walk on the seafront before departing back to St Paul's. The students were a credit to the school and really enjoyed their adventures!



SIXTH YEAR GRADUATION AND PRIZE-GIVING 2022

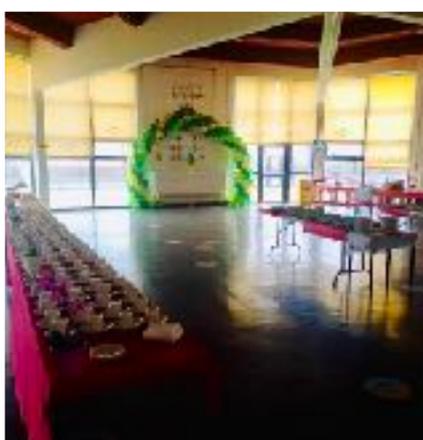
On Wednesday 26th May we marked the graduation of our Class of 2022. Our sixth year students and their families, our staff and Board of Management gathered in the school hall for a very special ceremony as we celebrated the hard work, commitment and dedication of our students.

We were thrilled to welcome Fr Michael Kilkenny, newly appointed Parish Priest of Holy Spirit Parish, to celebrate our Graduation Mass and Ceremony of Light. Mass was followed with an address from Ms Troy. Ella and Munro, Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, then brought everyone gathered on a journey through the past six years. This was followed with a handing over of the reins to our Incoming Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, DT Bademosi and Holly Riley. Our Class of 2022 were then awarded with their Graduation Certificates to our Class of 2022. This was then followed with our Prize-Giving Ceremony for sixth year students recognising students' Academic Excellence, Commitment to Studies, Merit Cup, Arts Award, Leadership Awards, Sporting Awards and Student of the Year.

Congratulations to our Class of 2022 and to all our award winners. Our graduation and prize-giving committee deserve a huge thank you for an exceptionally well-organised and beautiful celebration. It was a momentous occasion and a wonderful way to say goodbye to our sixth year students and we wish them all the best in their exams and their future endeavours.



SIXTH YEAR GRADUATION AND PRIZE-GIVING 2022



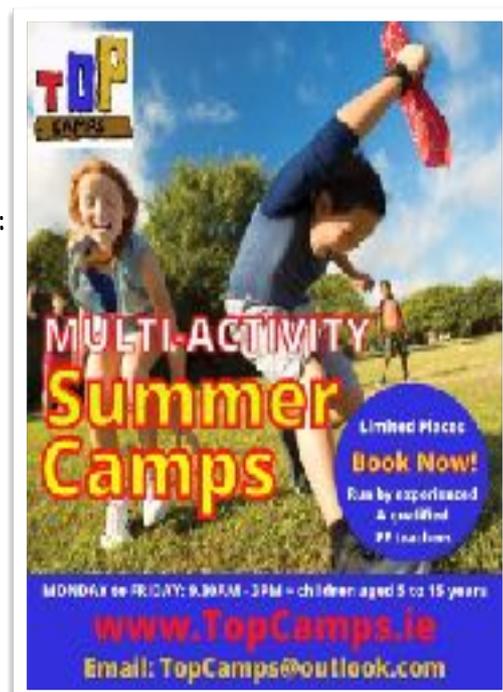
TOP CAMPS RETURNS TO ST PAUL'S

WE ARE BACK! A Multi-Activity Summer Camp will take place for another year at St. Paul's Secondary School. We are delighted to announce 3 WEEKS of Summer Camps which will take place on the:

4th-8th July (Week 1) 11th-15th July (Week 2)
18th-22nd July (Week 3)

We cater for boys and girls aged 5-15 years. We have an exhilarating programme with action packed, fun filled and educational activities to keep your child active during the summer period. Run by members of the PE Department at St. Paul's. All staff are Garda Vetted and receive extensive training.

Visit: www.topcamps.ie to secure a place as numbers are limited. For more information email topcamps@outlook.com or call 083 0133932.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The school office is closed now for holidays and will re-open on the 8th of August.

- Friday 26th August: 2nd and 5th Year Induction
- Monday 29th August: 1st and 6th Year Induction
- Tuesday 30th August: 3rd Year and TY Induction
- Wednesday 31st August: Normal School Day for all students
- Tuesday 27th - Thursday 29th September: 6th Year Trip to France
- Monday 3rd October: School Closed
- Thursday 27th - Sunday 30th October: 5th Year Trip to Spain
- Monday 31st October - Friday 4th November: Midterm Break - School Closed



*Wishing you and your family
a very safe, relaxing and
well-deserved summer break!*