



# PATRICIAN SECONDARY



*Senior Council Christmas Newsletter*



## Captain Cian Byrne



September to Christmas has been an exciting and busy time for our school community. This year began with a welcomed return to 'normal' classes, full extra-curricular activities, awareness campaigns and much more. As this years School Captain, I am honoured to represent our school, alongside my fellow members of the Student Council, at

events such as our Annual Open Night and school mass. Over the last number of weeks, I have chaired council meetings and liaised with *Meitheal* leaders on a range of topics relevant to our school, including working to raise awareness and funding for important charities in our locality. As we move towards the holidays, I'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

## Vice Captain Ross McHale



Our start of year mass provided a promising beginning to this school year. The annual carol service went really well, it was great to get to see Bishop Paul Dempsey and many retired teachers again. The hard work from our choir paid off and resulted in a beautiful service for the whole school community. We in the student council are excited

to see what else is to come in this academic year. We would like to remind all students that they have an important voice within the Patrician community. If there are any concerns or suggestions you would like to be brought up at one of our meetings don't hesitate to talk to your class prefect or a member of the senior student council. We are here to represent you and ensure you are heard.



## Sports Captains – Padraig Daly and Conor Walsh



Many of our teams are in full action in the weeks leading up to the Christmas break and we are delighted to share some of the highlights.



Our senior teams have been off to a flying start with the senior soccer team remaining unbeaten after a recent 6-0 win over KTCS. Our U17 Soccer team had a positive 3-0 win over Maynooth and are going strong in the midlands league.



Meanwhile the footballers are awaiting an opposition in the South Leinster A final and are due to play St. Mels in the round of 16 of the Brother Bosco cup. We look forward to the South Leinster League final.



Our senior rugby team suffered a recent defeat to a strong Good Counsel side down in New Ross. The first year rugby team remain unbeaten having had some great days out in Rosetown and Athy in the past weeks.



Our Junior hurlers await a date for the South Leinster final after a convincing win over Knockbeg College and we look forward to getting 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year teams out in the New Year.



The cross-country team ventured to Stradbally with Eoghan Dempsey running a strong race to take the Three Counties minor race. They followed that up with a great team showing in the Relay event in Carlow with a first and fifth place.



Congratulations to Conor Regan (1D) finishing 3rd in the Leinster CycloCross league.

We would like to take this time to encourage everyone to take part in physical activity in the New Year and extend our best wishes to all sports teams for the remainder of the year. *Ní neart go cur le chéile.*



## P.R.O – Tom Stapleton



My role as the Public Relations Officer involves publicising the ideas and initiatives of the senior council. Over the last few weeks, I have led the design and development of our Christmas Newsletter by liaising with other senior council members, setting up a shared doc, and meeting the Junior Student Council.

We are delighted to share this newsletter in print and online to all members of our school community. In the new year we look forward to a new project of creating learning videos and study tips for key concepts across subjects and sharing them with younger learners in our school.

## Inclusion Officer – Abu Jinadu



As the inclusion officer I am tasked with ensuring that everyone within our school community feel welcomed and included within the building. We are a family and all members should feel an important part of creating an inclusive school. The inclusion week was planned by the Activism club with much aid from Ms Hickey. Each year group received talks regarding inclusion and education on the *lgbtqia+*.

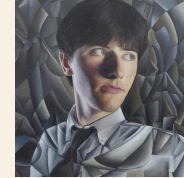




## Arts Captain – Dáire Mulraney



Our Art and Music departments began with vibrant artistic energy this year. A big congratulations to Ross Mchale in 6th year, who is not only working on a mural in the school's front hall based on the Le Cheile motto '*Ní neart go cur le chéile*', but he also recently won the U18 Zurich Portrait Prize which is on display in the *National Gallery of Ireland*.



A further congratulations to the singers and musicians of our Crotales Choir and music department, who gave outstanding performances at both our open year mass and our recent Annual Carol Service with Bishop Paul Dempsey. We look forward to a return of the Open Mic in the New Year and encourage all interested in partaking to join the *Jam Club* which takes places every Thursday at lunchtime.





## Wellbeing Officer – Adam Walsh



Wellbeing is something we are passionate about in our school. We recognise that wellbeing is a priority after the last few years. Ms. Clarke organised 1st year activities to support bonding in the first few weeks. Coffee and connect tutor group time was had by many classes. This gave classes time to get to know each other

and their tutors. To celebrate the festive season first and second years were treated to a Christmas movie. Our Wellbeing week is planned for the week starting 27th of February. There is a host of wellbeing activities being planned for all years such as yoga, meditation, mindful colouring, table tennis and a gratitude wall.

## Senior Prefects



As your senior prefects for this year, we have been trying our best to assist and aid our captains and council to achieve our goals for the year. We are extremely excited to see how this year goes and look forward to working with everyone to make the school a better place. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to all

incoming first years and new staff, and know that they will find themselves in a welcoming community and environment.

Senior Prefects - Oisín Armstrong, Scott O’Keeffe, James Loughman, Tomás Hartnett and Pijus Plankis.



## Junior Student Council

### 1st Year

We came into school excited and nervous for a new adventure. Over the last few months, we have adapted to moving around the school, organising lockers and discovered new subjects. We have also made good friends from participating in the trips like Red Hills where archery, airsoft, and foosball were really fun! At the start of the year we had a 1st Years Sports Day playing tag rugby, Gaelic football, football & hurling.



### 2nd Year

In late October, many 2nd and 3rd years went on a 4-day school tour to France which was a great success. We visited many destinations such as the Eiffel Tower, La Musée d'Orsay, the Stade de France and took a boat trip along the River Seine. It was a pleasure to go on this trip and many thanks to Ms. McCarthy and all others who helped organise the trip.



### 3rd Year

This year has been busy one for students as they took part in CAT4 testing. We recently attended TY, LCA and mainstream LC presentations. We learned about new subject choices and programmes which we can take up entering Leaving Cert. If we decide to do Transition Year we will prepare for adult life through opportunities for work experience.





## A Time of Giving in our Patrician Community

*In accordance with our ethos the Patrician Secondary school holds a special regard for the poor and less privileged. We value the sense of belonging and community that students can achieve through giving. Some projects we run are;*

### Breakfast Club



The school Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.15am during the school term with the help of teacher volunteers. We recently finished up with a whopper Christmas Breakfast Special and we would like to say a sincere thank you to all those who have generously donated including Steve's Daybreak, Aldi as well as local members of the community. It is very much appreciated. When we return in the new year we look forward to the Cheltenham Special Breakfast and encourage any students who wish to get involved to please speak to Mr. Cunnane.



## A Time of Giving in our Patrician Community

### Charities that our school support

This year our school community has supported the *Share Food Appeal*, *Shoebox Appeal*, and *The Dining Room* with the parish which distributes 120 food parcels to those who need it this Christmas. The LCA class had a crossbar challenge to raise money for the Peter McVerry trust. We have also supported St.Vincent de Paul through school civvies days. The *Stand Up Awareness Week* which was held during this term was a huge success with us raising over €1000 towards BeLong To charity.







# MERRY CHRISTMAS

*Patrician Secondary School 2022*