

HILL TOP NEWS



1st Edition
October 2006

A Newsletter from St John's Business & Enterprise College

This year a familiar face takes over at St John's



Miss Doherty is no stranger to St John's. She has spent her last 14 years in St John's where she taught Maths and ICT as well as serving as a member of the Senior Management Team. Miss Doherty said "I am looking forward to taking on this role in this challenging time of change in education. I am particularly excited to be steering the school as it becomes a Specialist School this September. This means that as well as continuing to offer our

full complement of GCSE's we will be able to enhance the curriculum offered to our students by including unique opportunities to develop personal & life long skills.

Our vision for St John's is of a school which provides our students and our local communities with opportunities to develop Entrepreneurial Skills and Business Knowledge. Of course without the support of our parents we would achieve little. I know our parents are 100% behind us and look forward to their continued support in the future".

She concluded by saying " We at St John's are delighted to be the first and indeed the only Business and Enterprise Specialist School in Northern Ireland.

SCHOOL DETAILS

ACTING PRINCIPAL:

Miss C Doherty

SCHOOL ADDRESS:

37 Omagh Road

Dromore

Co Tyrone

BT 78 3AL

Telephone: 02882 898284

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Halloween Holidays - Mon

30th October - Wed 1st
November (incl)

Christmas Holidays - Mon

25th December - Fri 5th
January 2007 (incl)

Mid Term Break -

Fri 16th February -

Mon 19th February (incl)

ST JOHN'S WELCOMES OUR NEW YEAR 8 GROUP



Students from Left to Right

Back Row: Emma, Nadine,
Ciara, Bronach, Megan, Lisa,
Emma & Zoe.

Middle Row: Coinneach, Dale,
Lauren, Keeley, Amy, Joanne,
Dylan & Conor.

Front Row: Dean, Conan,
Cathaoir, Ruairi & Lyton



NEW FACES JOIN THE TEAM AT ST JOHNS



In St John's we now have the ideal team of new and familiar faces. This gives us the perfect team, where experience and enthusiasm work in hand in hand.

From Left to Right

Miss L Ormsby (Home Economics Dept)
Mrs F Corry (Religious Studies Dept)
Miss K Kennedy (French Dept)
Miss L Kelly (Mathematics Dept)
Miss A Beattie (Art & Design Dept)
Miss K McLaughlin (Mathematics Dept)

MATHS IS TOO KOOL FOR SKOOL!

YEAR 8

Winners of Year 8 project on Number Patterns goes to Emma McGoldrick and Bronach Sludden for their innovative caterpillar. Well done girls.

Year 8 students were given the opportunity to choose a slogan for our department, congratulations to the winner Emma Corey.

YEAR 9

Year 9 students have just completed tessellations and studies work from famous artists. Well done to all for their great effort they put into their display work.

YEAR 10

Year 10 students have just commenced the pilot of Finance Module teaching them money skills that they will need for everyday life.

YEAR 11

Students have just commenced their 1st year of Modular Maths Programme and will sit their 1st paper in March 2007.

The Maths Department have now entered week 4 of the Maths Puzzle of the week. This has generated great excitement amongst the student body at both KS3 & KS4. The winners received a prize and a Maths Homework Pass.

Congratulations to the winners to date:

Teresa McCarney - 10A1

Barry Skelton & Megan Campbell both 9A1

New signage for St John's Business & Enterprise College



St John's leads the way

The new signs which have been erected around the College mark the beginning of a new chapter in the schools history. The new name has come about as a result of the school being selected as the first specialist business & enterprise college in Northern Ireland. Other new specialist schools are to be announced shortly.

Shock road safety show for teenagers

On the 12th of October Year 12 students attended a "Road Safety Road Show" in Omagh Leisure Centre. The Importance of road safety was brought home in vivid detail to Omagh area youth through the award winning Roadsafe Roadshow.

It had been devised by the PSNI with the support of Omagh District Policing partnership (DPP) and AXA Insurance. The Roadshow depicted graphically how a night out can end in tragedy and permanent disability. The story was told by a police officer, a paramedic, a fire officer, an Accident and Emergency consultant, a representative of a victim support group and Gareth Cahoon, from the Portadown area, who was paralysed following a horrific collision.

The event educated young drivers, making them aware of the potential impact that a crash will have on themselves and their loved ones, and ultimately have a positive impact on their future driving behaviour.

FRENCH AT ST JOHN'S



Morwenna working with some of the students

The French Department would like to welcome the new French Assistant to St John's her name is Morwenna Le Moen. She comes from Brittany in the north of France and I know she will make a valuable contribution to French at St John's. Morwenna has already made an impact by judging the Poster Competition that the students took part in for the European Day of Languages on 26th September.

The winners were:
8A1 - Ciara Teague & Emma McGoldrick 8A2 - Conor McAleer & Lisa Molloy
9A1 - Corey Slevin & Niamh McConnell 9A2 - Shaun Quinn & Rory McCusker
10A1 - Cathal Teague & Shane Quinn 10A2 - Gary McGovern & Farrah McCaffrey.

I would like to congratulate all the winners and every one that took part. An excellent effort was made by everyone and the posters are displayed around the College.

There is currently a Languages Club on Mondays at 12.40pm in Room 16. All students from Years 8 to 10 are welcome. You will have the opportunity to play games, learn about the countries, culture and music of other European countries and maybe even learn a new language or two!

Miss K Kennedy

LIBRARY COMPETITION

Year 8 participated in a Library Competition organised by Mrs Una Callaghan, Classroom Assistant. Their task was to design their own book cover. There was an overwhelming response by all students.

1st - Lisa Molloy 2nd - Ciara Teague
3rd - Emma McGoldrick
4th - Nadine McClenaghan



Lisa collecting her prize from Miss Doherty (Headteacher)

PAIRED READING

Year 8 are half way through their Paired Reading Scheme, ably assisted by Year 11 volunteer peer tutors. The English inspector popped in to see them and was impressed by both groups.

LINEN DAY AT THE ULSTER AMERICAN FOLK PARK

On Friday 22nd September Year 8 students went to the Ulster American Folk Park accompanied by their teacher, Mrs M Nugent and Classroom Assistant, Mrs V McCanney.

The purpose of the visit the Linen Focus, as part of the Year 8 History Programme. The students participated in a variety of tasks from pulling flax to weaving on a hand loom. A great day was had by all.

QUIZ TIME

THE LAZY GARDENER



It takes two gardeners 8 days to mow a lawn. One is lazy and one is energetic. The energetic one would only take 12 days to mow it on his own. How many days would the lazy gardener take to mow the lawn on his own?

CIVIC LINK

On Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th November Year 11 Business Studies & ICT students and Devenish College will host Ballinode College as part of the Civic Link Programme run by Co-operation Ireland. They will be involved in many activities in St John's and Devenish College, Enniskillen as well as the Share Centre, Lisnaskea. As well as getting to know each other and learn about the others' communities, they will produce an action plan for a common project between the schools for the year.

As with previous year a fun filled few days is expected.

New sports complex due to open March 2007



Work on the new sports hall complex which is to be shared by schools and the local community is well ahead of schedule. The work is being carried out by local firm McAleer & Teague with the building being set to be handed over by the end of February. This building will signify the beginning of a new partnership between St John's Business & Enterprise College, local primary schools and the local community.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council is a committee, with representatives from each class (Years 8 -12). This creates an opportunity for students to discuss any issues/concerns within school life. Many issues raised last year by students were tended to immediately and successfully accomplished. Through the good work of the student council - a new school jersey was introduced, a new PE Kit and an enjoyable trip to Todd's Leap.

Important events such as the school formal is also organised through the student council. The student council this year are currently planning fundraising events such as the "Halloween Party" to raise money for the Common Rooms.

We wish to committee continued success with their good work.

NIGHT CLASSES

As part of our new status of Business & Enterprise—St John's is offering the people of Dromore and the wider community a variety of night classes.

Night Classes available currently include:
Tiling, Health & Beauty, Digital Camera
Creative Painting & Drawing,
Dance and Catering.

After Christmas we will be offering the above classes again plus many many more.

For further information regarding night classes and availability please contact the college office.

SCHOOL TO WORK

School To Work Scheme has commenced for yet another year.

Students are experiencing a large variety of placements, plumbing, beauty, childcare, equestrian, bricklaying, joinery, light vehicle repair, agricultural vehicle repair etc. The students spend one day per week in the placement plus four days in college studying the normal curriculum.

YEAR 8 INDUCTION NIGHT

The Year 8 Induction Night and Service was held on Thursday 5th October. Miss Doherty gave a warm welcome to the large crowd of parents and students present. There was an impressive display of Year 8's work and activities, in the entrance hall, corridor and PE Hall. Fr McEntee officiated at a short service, assisted by Year 8's under Mrs Corry's supervision. This was followed by a short play on friendship, directed by Mrs Corry. Finally after tea/coffee and a selection of traybakes provided by the college canteen parents and students retired to Room 3 to listen to a presentation on the school life of a Year 8, by Mrs McFarline.