

HILL TOP NEWS



41st Edition
JUNE 2013

A Newsletter from St John's Business & Enterprise College

GCSE ART & DESIGN EXHIBITION 2013

The GCSE Art & Design Exhibition took place in the Art room on Monday, 10th June. Parents and family members got to see the artistic talents of our pupils here in St John's.



SCHOOL DETAILS

PRINCIPAL:

Ms C Doherty

SCHOOL ADDRESS:

37 Omagh Road

Dromore

Co Tyrone

BT 78 3AL

Telephone: 02882 898284

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

School finishes
Thursday 27th June



ATHLETICS

Congratulations to Padraig Quinn who came 3rd in the Junior Boys High Jump at the E.District Athletics in Antrim Forum on the 10th May. Also congratulations to Matthew O'Neill who won bronze in the Year 9 Boys Javelin in Campsie Playing Fields, Omagh.



JOHN PRIDMORE, DROMORE MISSION

Dromore Parish held their Mission in May and John Pridmore, author of "From Gangland to Promised Land" gave a talk to the pupils on 28th May. The pupils really enjoyed his presentation and found it so interesting. They heard about what life is really like in the gangland areas of East London. It showed the pupils how the power of Jesus Christ helped change a person on to a good path. As one pupil said "He was a Giant".



SPORTS DAY

St John's Sports Day took place on Friday, 7th June. It was a fabulous day in terms of weather as well as outstanding performances in the athletics events. Some of the highlights of the day were Callan Peace jumping 1.80m in the High Jump and Shane Pratt running the 200m in 29.80. In junior events there were excellent performances from Megan Logue and Daniel Logue and in intermediate events Pdraig Quinn and Dawid Nowak displayed brilliant running ability. Damien McQuaid, Peter Teague and Killian Doherty were excellent in Senior Boys events. Sports day was a big success with a large number of pupils being presented with medals at the end of the day. A special thanks to Mr David Mooney, (Spar) for sponsoring a large box of fresh oranges for the pupils on Sports Day. These were a lovely refreshing treat on a hot summer's day. Many thanks David !!!!



KEY TO THE FUTURE

At the beginning of this academic year, Year 11 pupils from St John's Business and Enterprise College completed four residential camps involved in the KEY Programme. Together with pupils from Erne Integrated College, Enniskillen and Errigal College, Letterkenny, they participated in a range of enterprise training and outdoor activities. The KEY (Knowledge through Enterprise for Youth) Programme is devised by Young Enterprise and is a cross-border and cross-community project to encourage young adults to discover and explore their own talents. It is funded by The International Fund for Ireland (IFI) in an effort to promote peace and reconciliation in the North and South of Ireland and improve employability among youth. St John's College has been involved with the Key Programme for many years. Pupils are chosen to participate in KEY because they have shown ability and desire to reach their full potential. These Yr 11 pupils have had the privilege to participate in the last ever KEY programme. Over the year, pupils attended four residential camps where they participated in workshops and completed modules which focused on building motivation and confidence, career planning, interview skills and entrepreneurship. All residential camps offered a balance between Enterprise and Training and outdoor activities. The enterprise activities involved training and career prospects research,



budgetary and numerical exercises, CV preparation, interview techniques and a mock interview. In the final residential, pupils worked in groups to set up their own business. Each pupil took on different roles within the company from marketing to sales person. Pupils had to buy in materials and design and make products which were taken to a local shopping centre and sold to the general public. Outdoor activities included surfing, canoeing, survival skills such as shelter building and safe fire building and much more. All pupils graduated in May and received a certificate endorsed by the Northern Ireland Council for Curriculum Assessment (CCEA) and the National Council for Curriculum Assessment (NCCA). The pupils really enjoyed this unique opportunity of working with other young adults from different backgrounds, gaining new found confidences and a better understanding of the world of work.

YEAR 8 HURLING BLITZ

The year 8 boys participated in the annual Hurling Blitz which this year was held at Garvaghey, the new Tyrone GAA Head quarters. The boys were accompanied by Mr Mc Carron, Jimmy McCloughan and Shane Knox. The competition was very strong but the boys acquitted themselves well and managed to secure one win and two draws while being beaten in two of their games. There were promising performances on the day from Caolan McCusker in attack, Ruairi Slevin midfield and Darragh Mc Girr in goals.



ALL IRELAND FEILE 2013

A number of St John's pupils, along with Master McCarron as Mentor, are part of the successful Dromore U14 team who are Derry-bound to take part in the All Ireland Feile from 28th – 30th June. We wish them well in their quest for All Ireland glory.



BALMORAL SHOW 2013

A number of St John's pupils, along with Master McCarron, Barry McCann and Philippe Fretigny, attended Balmoral Show which this year was held on the new Maze site. The weather was excellent and the pupils had a very enjoyable day.



HEARTSTART ASSESSOR FACILITATOR TRAINING

On Thursday, 20th June Year 13 students took part in Heartstart Training, run by Heartstart Co-ordinator Ms Betty Dolan. The students completed a full day of First Aid Training covering topics such as bleeding, choking and CPR. The students are now qualified to assist teachers trained in Heartstart in delivering the programme to younger school students. The Year 13 pupils in September will work with our own Year 8 students and also the students in local primary schools.



MIDSUMMER CARNIVAL

In June, Streetwise Circus Company, based in Belfast, worked along with Miss Beattie and Year 8 pupils on props for the Omagh Midsummer Carnival. Over two days pupils made three dimensional birds from cardboard cones, plastic tubes and tissue paper. On the 22nd June Ciara McCarney and Sarah McCusker joined a whole host of other groups and participants in a colourful parade through the town. Thanks to Una Carney and her children, Colin, Niamh and Ciaran and also to Roisin Bogue and Tess who braved the elements and joined us on the parade. Well done everyone and hope to see you all out again next year!



NIGHT AT THE RACES

A Night at the Races was held in St John's Friday, 21st June to raise money for the All-Ireland Feile team. In all, approximately 100 people attended on the night, helping to raise a grand total of £3400.



THE LION KING MUSICAL

On Thursday, 13th June a group of students travelled to The Bord Gais Theatre in Dublin to see the musical 'The Lion King'. Set against the majesty of the Serengeti Plains to the evocative rhythms of Africa, this spectacular production exploded with glorious colours, stunning effects and enchanting music to tell the timeless story of Simba and his epic journey to fulfil his destiny as King of the Prideland. The overall consensus on the show was, and I quote, 'out of this world'.



TASTE AND SEE

What is 'Taste and See'?

'Taste and See' days or 'samplers days' are for Year 9/10 pupils at the local colleges. CCEA co-ordinate with schools and colleges, planning and overseeing the events in May and June of the summer term. The aim of the events is to expose pupils to opportunities for life and work in an age-appropriate environment. The feedback from the evaluations is very positive from the pupil, teacher, school and college viewpoint. This year, our Year 10 students had the pleasure of attending a 'Taste and See' day at the South West College in Omagh. This gave the school pupils a sample of various sectors of work. The aim of 'Taste and See' is not to try to get pupils to make a career or vocational choice at Year 9/10, but rather to expose our young people to the sectors and opportunities that exist, to open their minds and allow them to enjoy a multi-sensory experience of a variety of sectors in an age-appropriate environment. At the South West College, pupils were given the opportunity of 'hands-on' experiences. The day proved to be a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



TODDS LEAP

On Thursday 13th June the Year 8's along with the prospective Year 8's for next year, attended a fun day at Todds Leap. Pupils took part in activities such as archery, zipline, giant swing, body zorbing and finished the day off with a hill rally in one of the jeeps. The day proved to be a thoroughly entertaining day, fully enjoyed by all pupils and staff.



HILLWALKING

St John's and St Mary's Year 11 GCSE P.E. students took part in three days hillwalking assessments from the 17th to the 20th June. The assessments took place in Castle Archdale where students carried out orienteering tasks and in Gortin Glens with the students completing a hike over Mullaghcarn. All St John's students achieved range 5 grades for this practical. Well done to them all!



YEAR 12 LEAVERS' MASS

The Year 12 Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated by Fr MacEntee on Monday, 17th June. The mass was attended by Fr MacEntee, pupils, parents and staff. The Year 12 pupils took part in the Liturgy and the offertory procession. The choir was beautiful and provided us with a range of lovely hymns and instrumental music. The celebrations continued after the mass with a buffet and a wide selection of delicious home-made desserts. Students and parents then took an emotional trip down memory lane viewing a slideshow of photos taken over the five years. The morning ended with a surprise presentation to all Year 12 students with a 'Class of 2013' t-shirt as a keepsake, along with their Records of Achievement. This was a memorable morning, thoroughly enjoyed by all.



ST JOHN'S 200 CLUB (TEN WEEK DRAW)

The tenth and final draw took place on the 31st May 2013. The winners were as follows:

Week 10 – Winners – 31st May 2013

1st Prize £500

Paula Mullan sold by Kirby Mullan

2nd Prize £100

P J Kelly sold by Ann-Marie Clare-Kelly

3rd Prize £50

Dympna Barrett sold by Ciara McCarney

All the staff at St John's would like to thank everyone who contributed to the draw.

END OF YEAR SCHOOL TRIP

The end of year trip for all pupils took place on the 20th June to Lisburn. It was a fun-filled day with plenty for everyone to enjoy! We began the morning with an enjoyable shopping tour of Bow Street Mall which had over 70 stores to visit. This was followed by lunch. In the afternoon the pupils visited the Lisburn Leisure Park just outside the city centre, where they had the option of either a relaxing afternoon at the cinema to see the film 'Epic', while those looking for a more active afternoon opted for the swimming pool. The Leisureplex boasts the largest leisure pool of its kind in the North of Ireland, with some of the fastest, longest and wettest water rides in Ireland. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff.