



HILL TOP NEWS



53rd Edition

June 2015

A newsletter from St John's Business & Enterprise College

YEAR 12 LEAVERS 2015

We recently held our Leavers' Mass on Thursday 21st May. It was celebrated by Fr MacEntee and attended by Year 12 and 14 students and their parents. The liturgy was enhanced by the beautiful school choir. After the Mass, we had refreshments and a 'Trip down memory lane', courtesy of a selection of photos from their time at St. John's.



Back Row: Padraig Quinn, Shane Pratt, Pearse O'Neill, Ruairi Teague, Stephen McBride, Conall McCann, Ross Hunter, Stephen Maguire & Caolan Starrs.

Middle Row: Dawid Nowak, Blake Palmer, Ronan Slevin, Des McLaughlin, Ciara Sheridan, Hannah Quinn, Colm Corry, Petra Mitnyikova & Darragh Campbell.

Front Row: Malise McKenna, Emma McDonnell, Aine McQuaid, Ellen McGowan, Caoimhe McGread, Mairead Gallen, Paige Watts and Naomi Harkin.

SCHOOL DETAILS

PRINCIPAL:

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Colm Corry and Des McLaughlin pictured at the Leavers' Mass with Jimmy McCloughan.



GCSE ART EXHIBITION

P6 and P7 students from St Dymphna's Primary School visited the GCSE Art exhibition displayed in the school. They really enjoyed viewing the different types of art work from gigantic three dimensional jellyfish to scary werewolves. Well done to all the Year 12 pupils who worked so hard to produce their fantastic art pieces.



BTEC Sport Outdoor and Adventure Activities

As part of the BTEC Sport course the pupils had to participate in Outdoor and Adventure activities. This was a wonderful opportunity to test their navigating skills, along with map reading, pacing and camp craft skills. They also had the chance to practice canoeing skills. It was an educational programme that also brought lots of fun. Special thanks goes to Gordon Thompson and Robin Ferguson for all their help during the year.



Amazing Brains

Mindset is Everything

Ever heard of the Growth Mindset? It's the concept at the heart of everything we do. We don't think intelligence is fixed, we believe it's malleable and therefore every student, through effort and hard work, can achieve great things. Our mission is to nurture students' intrinsic motivation for learning and help them understand that they truly have an Amazing Brain...

On Monday 13th April, we had the pleasure of 'Amazing Brains' visiting the school to deliver programmes to Year 11 and 12 students. The Drive for Results seminar and The 5 Steps to Exam Success seminar were highly successful, engaging the students throughout. The aim of these programmes are to 'Create, motivate, successful learners'.

Through practical, meaningful and relevant activities, students will develop the study techniques and strategies essential for success at GCSE.

These inspiring 3 hour programmes are designed specifically to help improve grades.

We look forward to having 'Amazing Brains' returning in September. Our new Year 8 students will have the pleasure of participating in the Blast Off Programme and Our Post 16 students experience 'The Next Level' Programme.

Fintona Library Exhibition

Much to our delight our Year 12 & Year 14 students art work is displayed in the newly refurbished Fintona Library until the end of August. If you have time over the summer it is well worth a pop in to have a look at the wonderful pieces of work that the students have produced for GCSE & A-Level.

RETURNING DATES FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

Tuesday 1st September

Year 9 & 10 only

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Wednesday 2nd September

Year 11 & 12 only

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Thursday 3rd September

Year 8, 13 & 14 only

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Friday 4th September

All students attend

## ECOBARN GARDEN TRIP

On the 18th June Year 8 & 9 with Ms Bogue & Veronica McCanny (Head Gardener!) went to the Ecobarn Farm in Irvinestown. On arrival the students had homemade scones and tea. Then Teresa O'Hare the owner gave them a guided tour of the farm and the vegetable garden. The students were very impressed and brought back ideas for their own school garden.



## VISIT FROM LOCAL RALLY DRIVER FRANK KELLY

On the last week of school the students were treated to a visit from rally driver Frank Kelly. On the day Frank, back from his success in the Donegal International Rally, brought along his Mark 2 escort much to the delight of all the students and staff! Frank signed posters for the students and posed for photographs before taking Ms Doherty (Principal) for a leisurely spin around the gravel pitch! Frank's daughter Lauren also brought along her drone which fascinated all the students. She was able to take aerial photographs and videos from the sky of all the events of the day. Many thanks to both of them for taking time out to come to the school on the day.



## Year 11 Geography Field Trip

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June the year 11 Geography Class carried out a study on their local river as part of their GCSE controlled assessment. The midges on the day were horrendous from the warm clammy weather but all tests were completed. The midges were having a field day eating us – explaining why on a warm day the hoods are up!



All booted up and ready to go!



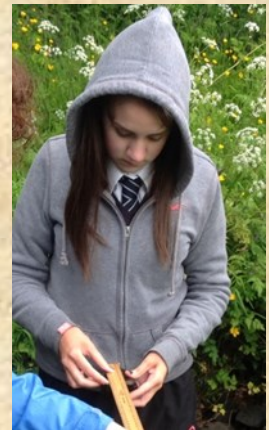
Colm Teague, Niall McCann & Frank McDonnell measuring the water levels.



Ducking for rocks to measure length and size



Is it there Jodie?



Rosie measuring the midges!

## Irish Open @ Royal County Down Golf Club, Newcastle

A group of students attended the opening day of this year Irish Open. It was an amazing opportunity and one they will remember for a very long time. The course was in great condition and the scenery added to the occasion. The students got to witness some of the top golfers in the world, namely; Rory McElroy, Rickie Fowler, Graeme McDowell, Lee Westwood, Sergio Garcia, Stephen Gallagher, Shane Lowry, Martin Kaymer and many more. They hope to return to the Irish Open in 2017 when it will be held at Lough Erne Golf Resort.



# SPORTS DAY

St John's Sports Day took place this year over 2 days, Wednesday 17th & Thursday 18th June. The weather was just right for all the events. The day was a great success with all students being presented with their winning medals on Thursday evening.



Danny, Darragh, Danny, Oisin, Odhran & Barry enjoying the day.



Eoin, Michael, Tommy & Antonio getting to grips with the tyre pushing.



Shauna Dillon aiming high on the long jump.



Pauric Maguire aims high in the high jump.



Year 9 boys - Stephen, Ronan, Tiernan & Darragh completing in a close race.



Colum McCaffrey taking part in the tyre pushing.



Clodagh McNulty taking lead of Sinead Slevin and Anita McCoolle in the 500m race.



Conor McGovern, Daniel Patterson & Matthew O'Neill enjoying sports day.



Naomi McDonagh taking part in the shot put.



Year 8 boys getting ready for the wheelbarrow race.



Mollie McGowan taking on the high jump.



Dionisios, Matthew & Kamil taking part in the 500 metres.





## END OF YEAR TRIP TO LISBURN

The end of year trip for all students took place on Friday 20th June to Lisburn. It was a fun filled day with plenty for everyone to enjoy. We began the morning with an enjoyable shopping trip to Bow Street Mall which had over 70 stores to visit. This was followed by lunch. In the afternoon the students visited the Lisburn Leisure Plex just outside the city centre, where they had the option of either a relaxing afternoon at the cinema to see the film "Jurassic World" while those looking for a more active afternoon opted for the swimming pool. The Leisure Centre 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 all students and staff.

## GCSE ART & DESIGN EXHIBITION

Year 12 students had a very enjoyable evening presenting their Art & Design pieces to parents and family members. As you can see from the photographs they produced outstanding final pieces of art work and should be very proud of themselves.



## Bubble Football – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015

Our Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 pupils took part in a fun day involving Bubble football. All pupils thought it was great fun, and an excellent alternative to playing football.... I don't think too many pupils were worried about the football!!!!

Thanks to Liam O'Neill for providing the equipment and supervising an entertaining day!



## A-LEVEL ART EXHIBITION

Pictured below are some of the pieces of art work by A2 Level pupils Kirby Mullan, Damien McQuaid and AS Level pupils Shannon Tunney and Zoe Murray.



## Parent Teacher Association Corner

On Friday 12th June the PTA held it's "Lovely Ladies Night" which was a huge success. The event was organised to raise money for "The Tara Centre" in Omagh to support teenagers with depression/suicide issues & St John's PTA.

The 140 ladies who attended were greeted at the entrance with a glass of bubbly and then escorted upstairs to view the beautiful array of stalls. Later the ladies were treated with individual free "goody bags" filled with beautiful beauty products, a 3-course meal and a fashion show with clothes from Asda in Enniskillen & Klass in Irvinestown modelled by staff, parents and other members of the community. The night ended with a huge raffle consisting of prizes donated by the local community and a disco provided by Gerry McGrade.

The committee members would like to thank everyone who came and made the night so memorable. The total amount raised on the night was £1645. £1100 was donated to "The Tara Centre".



# St John's Staff v Pupils Game - 12 June 2015

This was a highly anticipated game that had been talked about for weeks in advance. The tensions were high and the fact neither staff or pupils wanted to be on the losing side added to this. The atmosphere was electric at St. John's playing fields. It was a very competitive game played in the best spirits even though there were 2 very dubious sending offs. (Namely Brian McCarron and Emmet McNabb). The game went right to the wire and it took an injury time free kick from David Nelson to level the scores and bring an end to this wonderful occasion.

All proceeds from this event went to Shane Keenan, our Caretaker and Kathy McCann for their participation in the upcoming 'Strictly Red Dancing'. We wish them both the best of luck and look forward to seeing their routine in August!!

