



HILL TOP NEWS



95th Edition

JUNE 2023

A Newsletter from St John's Business & Enterprise College, Dromore

On Thursday the 12th of May we said farewell to our Year 12 students, "The class of 2023" We celebrated a beautiful mass with Fr Dolan, followed by refreshments in the college assembly hall. The Year 12s enjoyed a "trip down memory lane" with a video showing their time in St John's. We wish you all the best and hope you all have a great Summer.

SCHOOL DETAILS

PRINCIPAL:

Ms C Doherty

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PE KIT/SPORTS GEAR

The MFC link is now open to order St.John's sports gear. The link **closes on Friday 7th July** to guarantee orders are ready for September 2023. The PE kit is compulsory for all students from Years 8 - 11.



Food Hygiene

Congratulations to Dominika Czupis and Bernard Goodwin who worked extremely hard to complete their Level 2 Food Hygiene and Safety for Catering. We are so proud of them both for completing and passing this exam. Well done.



Earth Day 2023

On Saturday 22nd April, more than 1 billion people around the world participated in the annual Earth Day event and demonstrated their support for environmental protection. This year's theme was *Invest in Our Planet* and was focused on engaging governments, institutions, businesses and citizens to do their part. To mark this special day, our pupils planted windows boxes full of bee-friendly flowers. They also did a litter pick of the school grounds. At home, we can all do our bit by turning off lights in rooms that we are not using, use reusable water bottles or turn down our heating. Our planet depends on it!



FAIR SHARE

During this school year, we have been delighted to use funding from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to subsidise a range of different groceries from 'Fair Share'.

We have used these groceries to provide food bags to homes for all year groups, give out treats on Fridays as well as supplying food to different groups throughout the year. Many thanks to all involved.



Year 8 Swimming lessons

In May and June accompanied by Una Carney & Stephen McBride, Year 8 participated in an 8-week block of swimming lessons at Omagh Leisure Centre. These lessons were made available through the Extended Schools Programme funding.



West Tyrone Feis Art and Design Competition 2023

Congratulations to all our Year 8 and 9 pupils who took part in the in the West Tyrone Feis Art and Design Competition 2023. In Year 8, Caolan Donnelly achieved **Overall Event Winner** and had his worked displayed in Omagh Library. James Lafferty won a **Gold medal**, Sean Treanor won a **Silver medal** and Amy Williamson won a **Bronze medal**. Sophie Garrity, Ella McGrenaghan, Leah Williamson, Sean Robertson, and Ciaran Warnock were **Highly Commended**.

In Year 9, Cara Rose McCloughan won a **Gold medal**, Leona McCrory won a **Silver medal** and Molly Mullan won a **Bronze medal**. Sean McMackin, Pearce Maguire, Niall McCann and Katie McGuigan were **Highly Commended**.



YEAR 8 FEIS WINNERS



YEAR 9 FEIS WINNERS

Year 8 Make Native Seed Bombs

On 16th May, Reece England, the Education Officer with Fermanagh Omagh District Council, visited our school and spoke to Year 8 about Pollinators. The pupils also had an opportunity to make wildflower seed bombs by mixing topsoil, water and a variety of wildflower seeds. They then had to roll the mixture into small balls. Outside, the students took the seed bombs and threw them onto bare ground in our school garden.

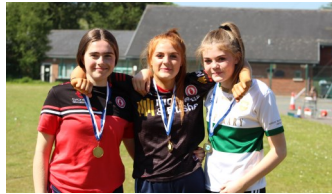
The seed bombs are made from Pure All Ireland Pollinator Mix sourced from Eco Seeds such as poppies, foxglove and red clover. Using native plant species is important to help wildlife by protecting our natural local habitats from non-native invasives which can damage the local environment. These seed bombs will allow native pollinators and other wildlife to thrive. We hope to see more native wildflowers in our garden.



GCSE Art & Design Exhibition 2023

Parents and family were invited into the school to view this year's fantastic GCSE Art and Design work. In addition students from Years 5, 6 and 7 from St Dympna's PS enjoyed their visit to the Art show.





SPORTS DAY

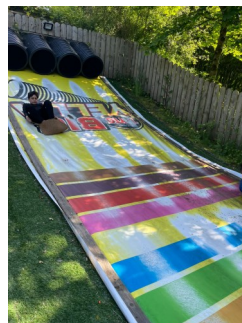


We held our annual Sports Day on Wednesday 31st May. It was an incredibly enjoyable day with lots of impressive performances. We were delighted to see our talented students showcase their abilities across a range of events. Well done to everyone.



TODD'S LEAP

On Monday 12th June our Year 8 students and some of our staff had the pleasure of spending the day with our New Year 8 pupils who will be joining us in September. It was a beautiful sunny day spent at Todd's Leap activity centre where we enjoyed a range of team-building activities. We look forward to seeing all our new Year 8 students again after the summer break.



PATHWAYS PROGRAMME FOR KEY STAGE 3

Louise McCullagh, Youth Support Worker in charge at Pathways delivered some inspiring workshops with all Key Stage 3 students throughout the year.

Year 8 looked at 'Peer Pressure'. The programme was designed to enable young people to develop an understanding of what peer pressure is and how they can support themselves and others. They were encouraged to develop coping strategies in a variety of situations and enhance their skills in understanding the difference in positive and negative peer pressure.

Year 9 looked at 'Self-Care, Self-Aware'. Here all young people were encouraged to enhance their self-awareness and increase their levels of confidence and self-esteem. It focused on individual and group work activities to develop young people's knowledge and learning of the importance of self-esteem and how they can support themselves and others.

Year 10 focused on 'Live More, Stress Less'. The programme aimed to increase the young people's self-awareness by understanding how stress can affect them directly and others around them. They explored strategies to manage stress in school, home and social situations. Group work and individual activities provided the young people with the opportunity to discuss and examine their feelings and raise awareness of their own skills and qualities to help and support others.

The students thoroughly enjoyed these interactive workshops that covered many areas, which were aimed at understanding and improving their mental health.



Community Lifesavers Programme

Well done to Dominika Czupis,
Niamh Gallagher &
Alisha McAteer on raising enough
funds to purchase a
training defibrillator
for the school.

The training defibrillator will be
used to teach students in the
school emergency life-saving
skills.

Well done girls!





MORE SPORTS DAY PICTURES



Year 11 at Belfast School of Art

On Monday 12th June, the Year 11 GCSE Art and Design pupils travelled with their teacher, Miss Beattie, to Belfast to view this year's University of Ulster, Belfast School of Art degree show. The artwork was created by final year and masters level students from across the many disciplines including illustration, graphic design, fine art, photography and video, product design, silversmithing, ceramics, textiles and fashion, animation and games design. This was the first fully open degree showcase in five years. It was definitely a valuable experience for our aspiring future artists.

