



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER



Ho! Ho! Ho! Merry Christmas! And a very Happy New Year!

Term 1 is over! It is now time to eat and be merry, but before we go, here's a quick round up of Term 1! So far this term, we have celebrated sporting success, academic success and had lot of visitors in with us. We've been to the Pantomime (Oh yes we have!), the Christmas markets and our footballers have been all over!

Here in St Patrick's we encourage at atmosphere of success. We want out students to feel that they can achieve and we mark those achievements with our Prize Giving ceremony on Thursday 12th December. Our celebrations started with a beautiful song from our school choir, with solos from Tara Russell (9CMG) and Jay O'Neill (8RF). We had Richard Moore, founder of Children in Crossfire, who gave an emotional and motivational recount of his life, inspiring us all to overcome any adversities we may face in life.



Thank you!

A massive thank you to all for contributing so generously to help make another child's Christmas so special. Collectively we filled over 100 boxes for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child appeal!

Congratulations to our County Cousins!

A massive congratulations to cousins, Robyn and Tony McCartan who were selected to represent the Down U14 and Minor squads, respectively. We know they will do their school and their county proud.



Keep up to date with our upcoming adventures on



Facebook
and
Twitter





Prize Giving



Celebrations





#AntiBullyingWeek2019

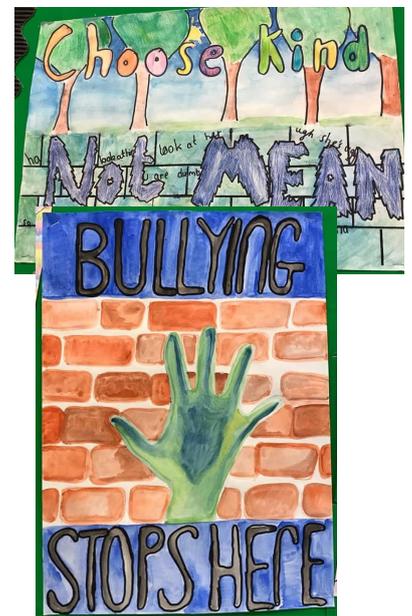
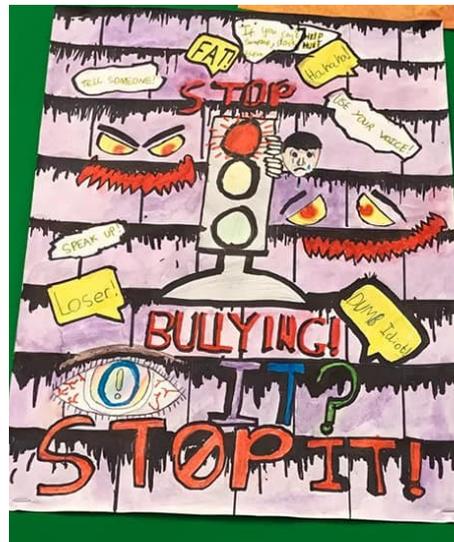
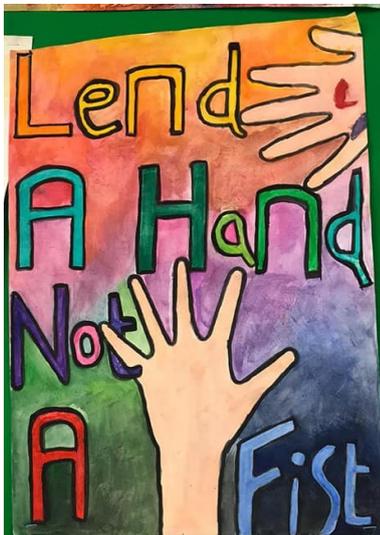
Stand Up, Speak Out.

9CMG
rocking
some
amazing
socks!



We celebrated Anti-Bullying week in style this year—mishmash style! Our students wore odd socks into school to make a statement—yes, we are different, but we will celebrate those differences!

Our wonderfully talented Year 8s designed some amazing posters around the theme of Anti-Bullying!



In October, Year 8's and 9s participated in a sponsored walk for Action MS. and some of our students were awarded certificates for their hard work fundraising. Odhran Keatings and Joanne O'Hare have been invited to special lunch for raising over £100 each for this worthy cause.

Well done guys!



"Big Climate Fightback"

Our Eco-Council has been working very hard to improve our school environment and make a positive step towards helping the planet. They managed to raise over £100 towards buying trees for our school. These will be planted to create a tree-lined avenue running from the quad to the playground—pretty and helpful!

Sing Your Hearts Out

Our amazing choir wowed staff and shoppers in Tesco recently! In just an hour they managed to raise £253 for Newry Hospice. Thank you to all who donated, and thank to our talented singers and Mr Rafferty.



Christmas Jumper Day!

Our Christmas Jumper day was a success across the school. Lots of our students donned their best Christmas jumpers (some even lit up and sang!), but Mr Forrest's light up jumper certainly caught the attention of our students! Together we raised an amazing £442!

Our overall winners were: Tommy Joe Year 8, Joseph O'Neill Year 9, Seán Gordon Year 10, Domantias Year 11 and Ben Cavanagh for Year 13&14



Fundraising News

We're a very generous bunch!

Boogie Bounce

Natalie Gorman, PIPS Hope and Support fundraiser, collected a cheque from the students of St. Patrick's College. She said, "Organising a boogie bounce in St Patrick's College was a unique fundraising idea from the students involved in the Girls Leadership and Marketing squad (GLAMS) and we are happy to hear they had a lot of fun taking part. We also want to thank the boys in the school who generously decided to do a sponsored walk that would contribute towards the total. To raise £300 from their own ideas was fantastic and we want to take this opportunity to give our sincere thanks to everyone who took part, as well as thank the staff who supported the students' endeavour."



SVP Annual Appeal to be a Christmas Elf

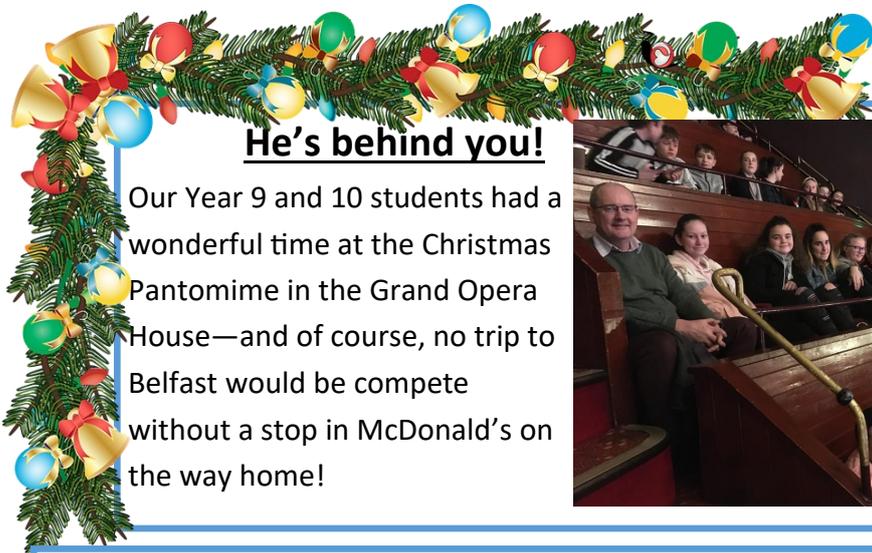


As well as our shoeboxes, Miss Havern has been busy filling up hampers for Saint Vincent de Paul. Our students dug deep once again and have been extremely generous filling up our hampers with lots of goodies

to help a family in need this festive season. These hampers bring the joy of the festive season to homes that would otherwise be without this Christmas. We exceeded our target by filling almost 50 hampers!

Thank you once again for your continued support!





He's behind you!

Our Year 9 and 10 students had a wonderful time at the Christmas Pantomime in the Grand Opera House—and of course, no trip to Belfast would be complete without a stop in McDonald's on the way home!



OVERALL TEAM PROGRAMME WINNER FOR BUSINESS

What a fantastic day for Mrs. McNeill and her Learning Support Centre students as they won 1st prize at the Young Enterprise Event in St. George's Market!!

Students were commended for their self-belief and confidence, communication skills in selling their products, financial capabilities, level of team work and their entrepreneurial skills! Over 700 students showcase their start-up businesses at this event so this success and achievement for our LSC students is just amazing! Well done to you all, you are a shining example of St. Patrick's College!



Wellbeing and Nutrition workshop with Prince's Trust

Prince's Trust have been busy in school running workshops with our LSC students to engage some valuable life skills.

Our students have been working on mental health and wellbeing, stress and depression, providing strategies to help each one of them build resilience specific to their need. This course was holistic and child-centred, considering the needs and capabilities of each individual child in the context of their family, school and social environment. Each LSC student was provided with a certificate in Mental Health and Well Being for completion of the 9 hour course!





Trick or Treat, give us a sweet!

There were treats all round for our Hallowe'en Competition entrants and winners. The standard of entries in our Hallowe'en Competition was fantastic - the English Department had some very difficult choices to make! Well done to everyone who participated and congratulations to our winners and runners-up.



Memorable Trip to meet Holocaust Survivors

As part of our Shared Education programme with Banbridge High School and New-Bridge Integrated College, some of our students were privileged to attend talks with Holocaust survivors Tomi Rechantal and Susan Pollack.. They spoke about their experiences in Bergen-Belsen and Auschwitz-Birkenau. It was a really great opportunity for our students to learn about life during the Holocaust first-hand.



Shop 'til you Drop!

A selection of our Year 11 and 12 students went on a day trip to Belfast for a spot of Christmas shopping. This was as a reward for hard work, positive attitude and consistent effort in Term 1.

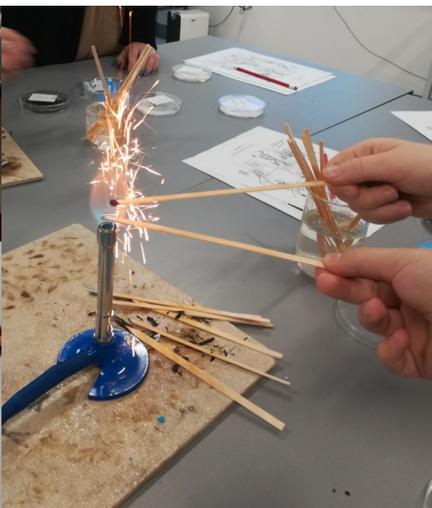
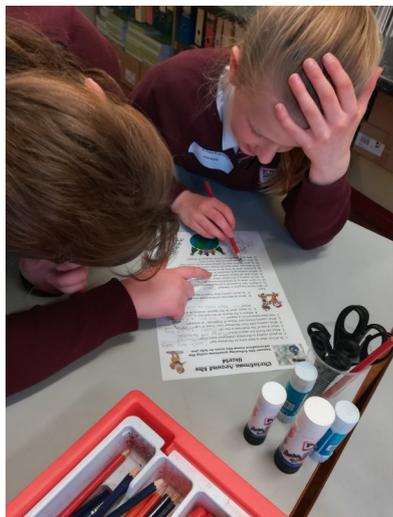
Here's looking to the next reward trip in Term 2!



Welcome to 'Big School'!

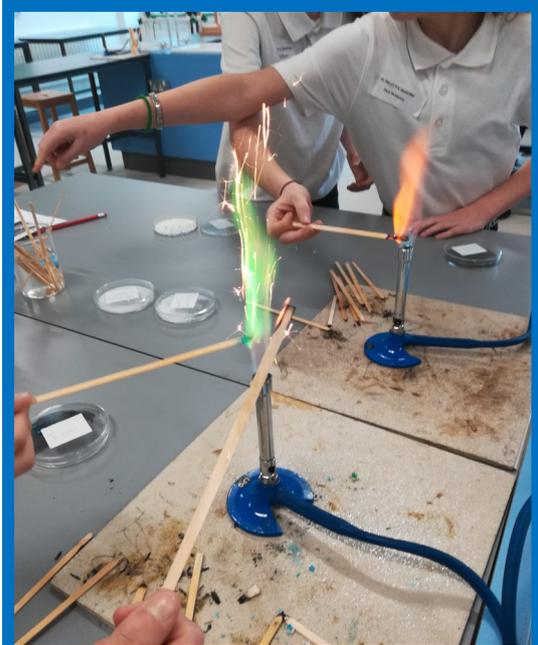
We recently invited the Primary 7 students from our local schools to visit us for a day of activities. They made nativity scenes in Technology and Art, Christmas card in Spanish, and made sparks fly in Science!

Turn over for some photos of our morning together!





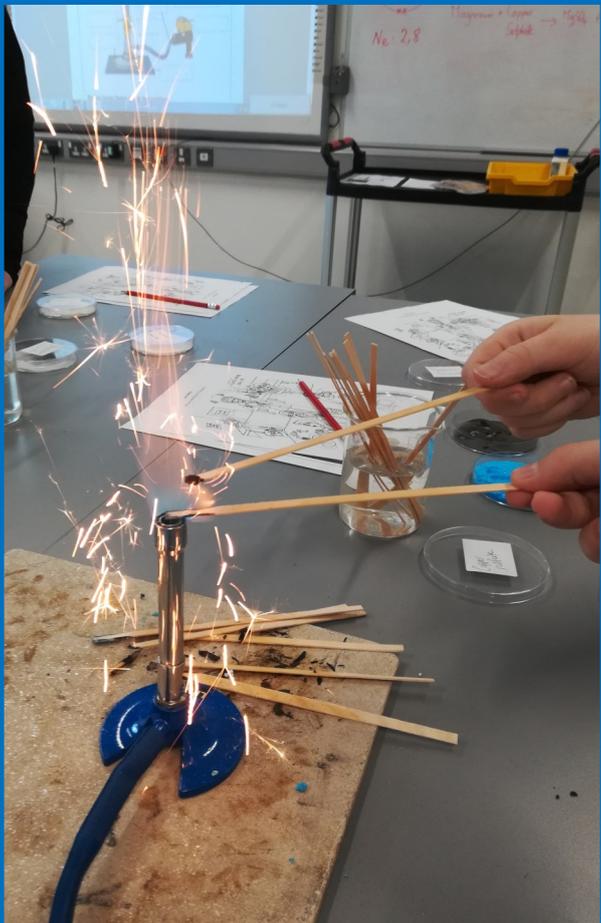
Primary 7 Taster Day





We hope you all enjoyed your morning with us!

We certainly enjoyed having you!





Sport News

Netting Success!

Our netballers finished off a very successful term with a series of Interclass Tournaments over the last week of school.

Year 8 winner: 8CMA—Fiona Norrby was top goal scorer with an impressive 14 goals!

Year 9 winner: 9CM, with 9CMG on their heels—Kate Smith was the top scorer with 16 goals.

Year 10 winners: 10OG and 10AB were joint top, with Kathy Louise Evans the top goal scorer.

Well done girls!



GLAMS

At the end of November, some of our Year 10 girls, Leah, Rosanne, Ellie, Aiobhean, Lara, Sophie, Naomi and Katie Louise, and Year 11 girls, Sarah and Maria, took part in the Girls Active Inspiration Day in Craigavon Leisure Centre. Their day focused on getting together with girls from 12 other schools to have fun exercising, coming up with ideas to promote physical activity and becoming Girls Active leaders back in their own school.

The GLAMS (Girls Leadership and Marketing Squad) had a fun filled day gaining lots of experience and brainstorming ideas to implement over the coming months. Sarah and Maria trained as peer mentors and spoke to the new GLAMS about what they have achieved since becoming girls active leaders.

We look forward to the implementation of their action plan and can't wait to see what exciting events they are planning in the year ahead.

We even made the local newspapers!



Watch out for the arrows!

Huge congratulations to Sinead Byrne who was awarded the U16 Junior National Indoor Champion for Archery!

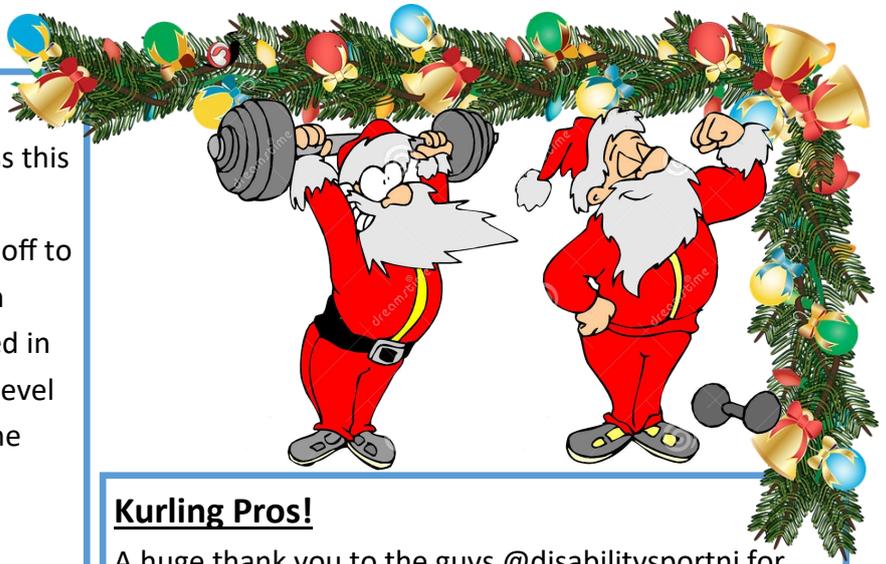
What an amazing achievement.

Well done, Sinead!



Hard Work Pays Off

Our footballers have also enjoyed success this term with a great win for our u14 boys against Shimna Integrated. The boys got off to a great start with goals from the Gorman brothers, Carter and Tyler. Shimna replied in the second half and the game was soon level at 2-2. Shimna had a chance to go into the lead but a great save from goalkeeper, Jonathan McGrath, kept the game level. Another goal from Carter Gorman put the boys back in front before Conor Lemon put us 2 up. Again, Shimna got 2 goals past our keeper, making it 4-4 going into the last few minutes! 1 minute from time, Tyler Gorman scored from a long distance to clinch the win! A great performance by all and the u14 boys now progress to the semi finals!



Kurling Pros!

A huge thank you to the guys @disabilitysportni for holding our local New Age Kurling competition in Brownlow Leisure Centre! The Learning Support pupils had a great day developing their skills of teamwork, leadership, communication and social skills.



Our Year 12 BTEC Sports class have been working very hard for the last 6 weeks with Stephen McCusker in Knowledge Fitness Gym. It has been a very educational and fun 6 week programme. They have worked hard to plan and complete a training programme as part of their BTEC course.

They finished the term with a well deserved Christmas party and a visit from Grace the cockapoo!



Thank you Stephen for your time and patience with our student, and thank you to Mr Donnelly and Miss Cunningham for organising the programme!



Craft Fair Success

Our PTA organised a craft fair in December. There were stalls selling all sorts of goodies to kick start our Christmas shopping. It was a lovely afternoon—even Santa and his elf popped in for a visit!



Everybody welcome!

Dates for your Diary



Christmas Holidays: 21st December to 3rd January

Open night: 9th January

GCSE English: Unit 1 = 14th January & Unit 4 = 16th January

GCSE Maths: M1/2/3/4—13th January & M5/6/7/8 = 15th January

Year 12 Mocks & Year 13 Work Experience: 21th—31st January

Ski Trip: 3rd—7th February

February Mid Term: 17th—21st February

See you all again on Monday 6th January!

