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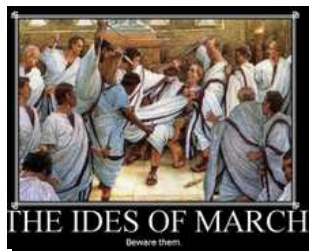
Art Gallery



Stratford College News

Beware of Stratford College

Winners of Ides of March Quiz



BY MS. DONOHOE,
Classical Studies Teacher

Well done to the 16 students who participated in the Ides of March Classical Studies quiz. 27 teams took part in the quiz from secondary schools nationwide. The quiz comprised of 10 rounds.

Questions were based on the Junior and Leaving Certificate syllabus. Four teams entered, all coming in the top 10. Fortune shone on us, winning first place with a remarkable 55/60.

Our team captained by Oscar McHale (3rd YR) took the top prize. Team members included Rory Murphy (TY), Alice Murphy (6th year) and Rachel Jones (6th year).

It was a joy to see such enthusiasm, passion and enjoyment. A note of congratulations to Oscar McHale and Moya

Richardson McCrea who won the Junior Certificate spot prize. Well done!

Battle of The Bands



MS. O'KELLY
Librarian

The Battle of the Bands competition, held 5th March, was a slick affair. TY students, Leanna Morgan, Emer Downes & Stefan Cullinan were some of the members of the TY mini-company who organised it.

"It was a very educational experience. The highlight for me was listening to the bands themselves playing & seeing them backstage", said Leanna Morgan.

"It was a lot of work - making sure we knew what bands wanted. I liked planning the event", said Emer Downes.

Stratford College Celebrates 60 Years



BY MS. GORDON
Principal

Stratford College celebrates 60 years since its foundation next year. To mark this milestone we will publish a book of memoirs & anecdotes from students and staff, past & present from the last 60 years. The launch of our book will take place on Sunday 16th November 2014 and all are invited to attend.

Please send contributions to our Librarian, Ms. Helen O'Kelly at hokelly@stratfordcollege.ie.

Talent Show



BY HANNAH KEARNS
Student Council

On the last day of term, Student Council & Prefects organised a Talent Show to finish a busy school term. Watch excerpts on Stratford's YouTube.

Rome Trip, 2014



BY MS. MAHON
Art teacher

In February, 6th Year Classical Studies students savoured the stunning beauty of Rome and Ostia Antica from a Classical perspective.

Ms. Donohoe and Ms. Mahon were delighted to be with such an enthusiastic group of students.

For more photos go to the 2013-2014 Gallery.

"The trip to Rome was no doubt the most amazing, spectacular, extraordinary and magnificent experience that anyone would have the great fortune of having." Turlough Eccles (5th Year)

"Around every corner, there was something new to see. Be it the Forum, the Colosseum, the Pantheon or a different gelato shop." Alice Murphy, (6th Year)

"We were always finding something new and amazing around every corner.

For me the highlight was forgetting my shirt for the formal dinner and having to buy a priest's shirt outside the Vatican City and then wear it to our formal dinner." Tim Cullen, (5th Year)

"One of the best times of my life. Going to a place I've wanted to be since I was small, with my friends and teachers.

Had a blast, learned plenty and have many memories." Jake Long, (5th Year).

Sci-Fest@Stratford—A First

Scratch programming projects featured



BY MS. O'KELLY
Librarian

On 29 April, Stratford College hosted SciFest@Stratford. A SciFest is like a mini 'Young Scientist' competition but held in the school. Students enter SciFest and the rest of the school gets to see their work. External SciFest judges visit the school to choose prizewinners. Photos of the judging were tweeted in real-time to SciFest4stem twitter account.

The TY students exhibited their Scratch programming projects to three of the SciFest@Schools judges and to the whole school. Not only was it a first for Stratford but also the first SciFest@School to feature Scratch programming projects in Ireland! Thank you to judges, Sheila Porter, CEO of SciFest; Brian Gillespie, Lecturer in the School of Computing, DIT and Dee Slattery, Lecturer in Scratch and other technologies, Blackrock Education Centre. Judges were really impressed by all the programming work done by the students. Everyone who participated on the day received a

SciFest certificate. Well done to the prizewinners! Andrew and Rory placed 1st, Svetlana and Jessica placed 2nd. Kate & Nicole were joint-3rd. SciFest was arranged by Mr. Desmond and Ms. O'Kelly.

Leanna Morgan writes about her experience of the competition:

"On the 29th of April judges came to our school to judge us on our computer programming. For the past few months we have been working on games/stories and walk-throughs in a class called Scratch. I found it a very interesting experience as we got judged by people outside our school on work. I found that it was very educational and taught us several life skills.

I believe that people in TY have a really good future in computer programming and I believe that they would be really good at it. I myself don't think I would have a good career in computer programming as I feel mine would not be successful as I can't programme as I find it very difficult. I believed that it was a very challenging task."

Annual School Walk



BY MR. DESMOND
Business / LCVF teacher

On an overcast morning on 1st May, the school set off from Crone Wood car park, to walk a part of the Wicklow Way which skirts Djouce Mountain.

After a few food and drinks breaks and a deluge of rain the 10km walk ended above Lough Tay on the Roundwood-Glendalough road.

Thanks to the 5th Year LCVF class and Mr. Desmond for organising a day of two halves (on the weather-front)! All monies raised were in aid of the Irish Heart Foundation. For more photos see the 2013-2014 Gallery.

"I loved getting to know all of the younger years because I never really have time to stop and chat to them... and the exercise did me good!", said Joy Malone.

Whole School Inspection

BY MS GORDON
Principal

In January / February 2014, Stratford College underwent a MLL inspection. The report is pending from the Department of Education

School Sports Day



BY MS. FINNEGAN
PE teacher

Sports Day 2014 - Tuesday, 6th May - dawned to a sunny morning with lots of white clouds high in the sky. With just a few showers forecast for the afternoon, the weather was perfect for all the activities organised by Ms. Finnegan.

Sports Day kicked off at 11:15am with Basketball and Football, while there was ongoing amusement with the Sumo Suits and the blow-up Obstacle Course.

The Three-Legged race finished off the morning's activities. After lunch, sprints, tug-of-war and more basketball and football matches were held. It was a very chilled day with musical entertainment provided by the 5th Year students. Well done to Ms. Finnegan and to all the students who help her make it a great day!

Private Members Draw

BY ADMINISTRATION
Stratford college

The last draw for 2013-2014 will be held in June. This draw raises much-needed funds for Stratford Schools.

Bring Your Own Devices to School

E-Learning Programme



Image:
www.digitalinformationworld.com

BY MS. GORDON
Principal

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is central to Stratford's vision for e-Learning Programme. The investment in IT infrastructure that Stratford College committed to during the summer of 2013, the roll-out of 100MB Broadband access in January 2014 and student Wi-Fi access in April 2014, has enabled Stratford to implement this cutting-edge technical strategy.

It means that Stratford College students and staff can bring in any type of Android or Apple mobile device, Windows laptop, ChromeBook or Apple MacBook and connect to the school Wi-Fi. Stratford's e-Learning vision is that the use of mobile devices in the classroom is teacher-led and when they are used in the class it is for research purposes or the creation of digital projects. Students can print wirelessly from their devices.

Weight of schoolbags is an ongoing issue and currently a number of teachers display e-Books in the classroom, enabling students to leave their books at home. With the in-

roduction of this BYOD strategy, e-Books are an important consideration but until the cost of them is significantly cheaper than printed text books, Stratford College allows parents and guardians to choose whether or not they want to buy them, as directed on annual school booklists.

Classroom management of mobile devices is a critical aspect in the success of this strategy we are currently piloting various software applications.

Anti-bullying Form On School Website

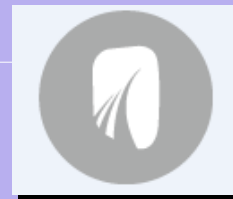


BY MS. REYNOLDS
Deputy Principal

Stratford has installed an ISPC anti-bullying form on the homepage of the school website. The ISPC link is under the "Connect with Stratford" column.

It allows students, parents and bystanders to report bullying issues which affect our school community and might otherwise go unreported, directly to Stratford College. The reporting mechanism is confidential & the report will be seen by person(s) nominated by the school (Deputy Principal, Ms. Reynolds).

Gaisce Medals



BY MS FINNEGAN
PE teacher

Congratulations to 6th Year students, Gabi Eppel, Alice Murphy and Rachel Jones who are the first Stratford College students in 8 years to be awarded Gaisce Silver Medals. Gabi Eppel, explains in detail what was involved to get this award.

In June 2013, three Sixth Year students - Alice, Rachel and myself - too part in an adventure journey in Glendalough for one night and two days.

Although it was exhausting, it was an incredible experience! We also did 23 weeks of Community work, 23 weeks of a personal skill and 23 weeks of a sport.

Along with all of that and trying to put all in the information into diary entries on the An Gaisce website, we are very pleased to be receiving our Silver Gaisce awards in Trinity College in December from the President, Michael D. Higgins.

Feis Maitiu

BY MS. COOGAN
Drama teacher

Congratulations to Cormac Kelly and Ryan Baker, Second Year who came third in the under-18 category at the 2014 Feis Maitiu, held in the Mill Theatre Dundrum.

Other participants included Joy Malone and Ciara Harrison. Well done to all.

NS Gallery of Artwork

BY NS STUDENTS



1st and 2nd Class Winners

David Lloyd Kids Art Competition



BY MS O BYRNE
Teacher

Well done to the 1st and 2nd Class pupils who recently won the David Lloyd Kids Art Competition. The pupils went to visit the David Lloyd complex.



The prize also included a visit from a David Lloyd representative who spent a fun and sporting 30 minute session with each class in the school, from Junior Infants to 6th class. A range of extra-



Extra-Curricular

curricular activities is held in the school. These activities very much depend on the availability of suitable personnel and levels of demand. The



activities offered include: Swimming, Art, Music, Football, Group Guitar, Group Singing, Basketball, Individual Piano and Chess.



The programme for the coming year will be reviewed in September. At that time Parents will receive an option sheet on which they should indicate the activities their child wishes to participate in.



Stratford NS Chosen For P-Pod Pilot

BY MR. MURPHY
Principal

Stratford N.S. was one of the schools selected to be involved in the P-Pod Pilot Scheme. P-Pod is the system used by the Department of Education for data collection. Parents/guardians had to complete information online as directed by the Department of Education. After the P-Pod pilot scheme is completed and tested, it is intended to be the method of data collection for National Schools nationwide.

Preparations for 6th Class Graduation

BY MR. MURPHY
Principal

Ms. Dunne and her 6th Class pupils are currently preparing for their 6th Class Graduation which will be held in late June.

Annual Sports Day Preparations

MR. MURPHY
Principal

Preparations are well under way for Sports Day which will be held in early June.

A Fond Farewell

We would like to wish all of those families who are leaving us for far shores, every best wish for the future.