

Dear Friend of Stratford,

Casting our eye beyond Stratford, it is important to note the radical changes to the Leaving Certificate grading system and the CAO points system which Jan O'Sullivan, Minister for Education and Skills (DES) announced on Wednesday, 29th April - the biggest changes to these systems in 20 years.

These changes will apply to students sitting their Leaving Certificate in 2017. Information will be made available to parents and students at the Careers Information Evening in the autumn. See **transition.ie** for more details.

The main changes are:

- A new grading system for the Leaving Certificate reducing the number of grades from the current 14 to 8
- Proposals for a revised common points scale for entry into higher education
- Broader undergraduate entry to high education programmes
- An analysis of predictability in the Leaving Certificate

For further reading see the report published by the DES on 'Supporting a Better Transition from Second Level to Higher Education: Implementation and Next Steps'.

Ms. Patricia Gordon Principal

The importance of having individual and team sports for young people

Posted on 20 May, 2015

The strategy for sport in Stratford College, as developed by Ms. Finnegan, is based on a mixture of team and individual sports. Recent research from the ESRI has shown that giving students the opportunity to participate in individual sports gives them the



best chance of incorporating physical activity through their lives, as well as improving the likelihood of students continuing in education upon leaving secondary school.



8 Steps to take (now!) for the big move to Secondary School

Posted on 19 May, 2015

Recently we posted a blog to the school website about moving from Primary to Post Primary schools, now in a further update Principal, Ms. Gordon, gives more advice on this change on herfamily.ie.

Dublin City Council Biodiversity representative meets Junior students

Posted on 15 May, 2015

Stratford College are taking part in a Biodiversityproject as part of the Rathgar Village Improvement Plan supported by Dublin City Council. On Thursday, 14th May the Biodiversity representative from Dublin City Council met 1st and 2nd year students. 2nd Year student, Ana Jovanovic, reflects on this talk.





Assessment for Learning Policy.

Irish Independent features Stratford College in Peer Assessment article

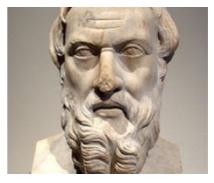
Posted on 13 May, 2015

Kim Bielenberg, journalist, published a feature in the Education section of the Irish Independent on Wednesday, 13th May about how students in Stratford College assess each other in their classes as part of the implementation of Stratford's

TY Classics student to give 10 minute Classics talks on The John Murray Show

Posted on 6 May, 2015

Such was the general public response to Oscar McHale's interview with John Murray on RTE Radio 1 on Friday, 24th April, that over the coming number of Friday mornings Oscar is giving a 10 minute talk live again on The John Murray Show, starting 8th May.





Diamond Jubilee book, '60 Years A Growing' now available as eBook

Posted on 30 April, 2015

As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebration concert in November, students, past pupils and staff (both former and current) worked intensively together from August to November 2014 to produce a beautiful book called '60 Years A Growing'. It

was presented to President Michael D. Higgins in Áras an Uachtaráin on Thursday, 12th February 2015. It is now available on our website as an eBook.

Stratford College to be awarded second Green Schools Flag for Energy in May

Posted on 28 April, 2015

5th Year Student, Carmel Grey, spearheaded the phenomenal work done by the Green Schools Committee for their recent inspection on Wednesday, 25th March. The result of this



inspection is that Stratford College is to be awarded its second Green Schools Flag for Energy on May! Carmel explains in detail the work that was involved in getting an Energy Flag.



2015 Access Science Investigations For Primary School Pupils

Posted on 27 April, 2015

Stratford College is hosting its annual two-day Access Science Investigations days for Primary School Pupils on Tuesday, 2nd June and Wednesday, 3rd June from 10am - 2pm.

Briefs

Parents Association Uniform and School Book Fair: This will be held on the morning of Tuesday, 2nd June in the Hall. Students and parents are all welcome.

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