

Dear Friend of Stratford,



One of the stand out moments of this year has to be the **Strike 4 Climate Change** demonstration that Stratford participated in on Friday, 14th March.

The energy and passion of our students was genuinely inspiring and the **traditional media reported** on a grass roots movement that caught everyone by surprise.

When we spoke to the Minister for the Environment, Mr Richard Bruton outside the gates of Dáil Éireann he mentioned three things: sustainability would have to be worked into school curricula, carbon tax was on the way, and a national plan to mediate the damage we are doing to our environment was in progress.

This generation of young people have made climate and **social activism core principles** like no other and their teachers and I are in awe of their passion.

That is why we are so delighted with the success of our Green Schools in attaining a 4th flag, this time for *Marine Litter*. Supported by Ryan Baker (2018) who was inspired by Attenborough's documentary on the world's

oceans and seas our **Green Schools** continued with marvellous work this year.

We will be celebrating the award next term with the whole school. Thanks to Green School members and Ms Donohoe who have inspired us all.

But a word of caution: there are up to 40 recyclable mugs in lost property, bags of unclaimed books and uniforms, and casual littering in and around the school which does none of this work justice!

*Ms Patricia Gordon*  
*Principal*

## Bus Connects Dublin: Stratford's 'Transport to School' survey

Bus Connects Dublin is a government plan to transform Dublin's bus system and to enhance Dublin's cycling infrastructure. The proposed bus route changes may affect routes servicing Stratford College and the Rathgar neighbourhood.



## Annual School Walk raises just over €1600 for Jigsaw

This year's school walk was held on Wednesday, 22nd May and students walked a 10km section of the Wicklow Way. Student Council selected Jigsaw, a Youth Mental Health charity, for all its fundraising efforts. Just over €1600 was raised by Stratford students!

## TY student shortlisted for Scéal Eile An Post Secondary School Competition

Congratulations to Aoibhe in TY who was shortlisted as a runner-up for the Scéal Eile An Post Secondary School Competition. 1st years, 2nd years and TY all entered the competition that required students to rewrite the ending of their favourite book or add in a new character.



## Green Schools receives 4th Flag for Marine Litter

On the 22nd May, four members from the Green Schools committee and myself attended the Green Flag Awards Ceremony in The Helix, DCU. This ceremony marked the achievements of schools from all over Dublin who had successfully completed a two year action plan in order to be awarded a Green Flag.

## Stratford College one of nine schools chosen to participate in DES School Excellence Fund – Step Up Project.

Stratford Teachers participating in the Step Up Project took part in a joint seminar in a Leadership for Learning series organised by support agencies of the Department of Education and Skills on Friday 17 May 2019. The project will continue next year.



## Glorious sunshine for Sports Day!

Sports Day was held on Tuesday afternoon, 14th May and it was a glorious afternoon! Admittedly it was meant to be the previous Thursday but rain stopped play ...

## Six Stratford students reach Bebras Computational Thinking National Finals

Congratulations to Joshua, Mia, Ross, Alex, Shane and Finn who all reached the Bebras Computational Thinking National Finals held in Maynooth University on 11th May. The finals kicked off this year's Tech Week.



## Stratford celebrates Wellbeing Week - 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind'!

Stratford's Summer term started with a bang with a Wellbeing celebration week called "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind" from Monday, 29th April through to Friday 3rd May.



## 3rd Year student's film premiered at the Dublin International Film Festival

A huge congratulations to Finn Ninkavel from 3Y, whose film on homelessness premiered at the 2019 Dublin International Film Festival.



## Standardised Tests & External Examining Boards

Stratford students have undertaken a variety of standardised tests and external examining board exams in the past few months.

*Standardised Tests* - 1st Years have completed their **Group Reading Test** (GRTs) in reading and **Cognitive Ability Tests** (CATs). Results of the latter will be sent home to parents/guardians.

2nd Years sat the **Drumcondra On-Line Testing System** (DOTS) in post-primary reading and maths. The results of these tests will be sent home to parents/guardians.

*Orals* - All classes have done language orals, while TY and 5th Year students participated in Irish orals for adults (**TEG**) and French (**DELF**).

*Public Speaking* - 1st Years undertook a public speaking exam run by the **Leinster School of Music and Drama**. Results will be sent home to parents/guardians.

*English as an Additional Language* (EAL) exam - EAL students completed **Preliminary English Test** (PET) and **Cambridge English First** (FCE) exams.

## Junior Cycle

From September 2019, **Phase 5 of the Junior Cycle** will see the introduction of revised curricula for the following subjects which incoming 1st Year students will take:

- **Classical Studies**
- **Jewish Studies**

## Dates for your Diary

**Leaving Certificate Results (TBC):** Tuesday, 13th August

**Viewing of Leaving Certificate scripts (TBC):** Tuesday/Wednesday, 20th - 21st August

**1st Year & TY Induction:** Monday, 26th August

**School re-opens:** Tuesday, 27th August (Half Day to 1.15pm)