



# Stratford College

Co-educational Secondary School

Dear Friend of Stratford,

## *Student Voice*

As part of School Development Planning this year Stratford College is looking at Student Voice with particular reference to the new area of Learning called **Wellbeing**.

Last year we conducted a survey of students and parents on the indicators of student **Wellbeing** in order to identify areas for development. Along with focusing students on important work habits under the umbrella term of 'Learning to Learn' and the findings of national and international studies we plan to use these findings to plan ways for students to have more meaningful engagement in teaching and learning in our school. In addition I will be attending an important national conference in December in Dublin Castle organised by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). All of this will build on the important role that our Student Council already has in our school community and lead to an embracing of the spirit of the proposed Parent Student Charter for all schools.

We also plan to share some of this with you at our Annual Curriculum Evening on Thursday 23rd November next.

For parents who are interested in these exciting new developments in Irish Education please see links in this article marked in bold. The most recent is **Comhairle na nOg's report** published in November which looks at students views on the education they are getting.

*Ms. Patricia Gordon,  
Principal*

## Arts Week 2017: Culture for Wellbeing Week

Monday, 6th November is the kick off for this year's Arts Week in Stratford College and the emphasis is on nurturing a culture of wellbeing. Highlights include visits from Donna Ray (Singer/Songwriter), Melissa Doran (Illustrator), Stephen James Smith (Slam Poet), Brian Conaghan (award-winning author) and Robert Downes (actor).





## TYs enter AIB's Build A Bank Challenge

On Friday, 22nd October Ms Brouder and the TY Business class visited AIB in Rathgar to be interviewed for the Build A Bank competition. Greg Brenner and Laura Kelly write in detail about this involves and who was selected from the class to represent Stratford College.

## After-school tennis in Rathgar Tennis Club

TY students Aidan Mulligan and Nisha Siung write about the after-school tennis classes that take place every Thursday in Rathgar tennis club. Ms. Brouder who organises tennis encourages everyone to join - whatever their level of experience.

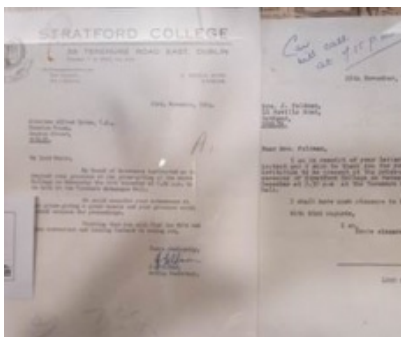


## Stratford College Open Day - Sunday 12th November 2017

Prospective second level students and parents interested in finding out more about Stratford College in Rathgar are invited to attend the school's Open Day on Sunday, 12th November 2017 from 2 - 3.30pm.

## Stratford raises third Green Flag for Water at Awards Ceremony

On Friday, 27th October, Ciara Norton from An Taisce was the Guest Speaker at the annual Stratford Awards Ceremony. The main highlight was the raising of the third Green Flag for Water after the Awards Ceremony was over.



## Stratford College featured in Alfie Byrne memos on display in Easons

Trevor White's biography on Dublin's First Lord Mayor - Alfie Byrne - is currently on display in Easons. In some of the memos on display to promote the book called "Alfie", correspondence from Stratford College is on display.

## Stratford fields U15 boys Football team in FAI league

Mr. Priestley has entered a Stratford U15 boys football team into this season's FAI competition. Their first match was against St. Kevin's on Monday, 23rd October. While losing 4-2, it was a well contested match.



## Stratford celebrates Maths Week and EU Code Week

Despite Hurricane Ophelia. Maths Week (18th - 20th October) was celebrated in class, during form time and around the school. EU Code Week (also the same week) was celebrated in an "unplugged" manner - no computers needed!

## Stratford College awarded title of Model School for Green Schools 2017

First off, congratulations to Stratford College for becoming the Model School for Green Schools 2017! Because of this the Green Schools Annual Water Forum was held in Stratford on Wednesday, 18th of October. 3rd Year student, Valery Goulakova writes in detail about the day.



## 5th Year student visits Ethiopia

5th Year student, Tim Murphy, spent a week in Ethiopia in October and writes in some detail about this extraordinary trip.

## ESRI Report: Primary School Experiences and the Transition to Second-Level Education

Emer Smyth, from the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) is the author of the 5th Report which examines the data collected as part of the National Longitudinal Study of Ireland. In this report the author examines various aspects on children in what is a major milestone in their lives - moving from primary to secondary level education.





## TY Stratford Music Sessions showcased at Féilte 2017

Mr Priestley's work with last year's TY students, in arranging a series of lunchtime music sessions with up and coming musicians, was showcased at Féilte 2017 on 7th October.

## Space Week: 2nd Year Science students talk with an Irish engineer at the European Space Agency

Ms. O'Sullivan and Mr. Fennell organised a very exciting phonecall with an Irish engineer, Aisling Shannon, at the European Space Agency.



### Key Skills



B.I.B. Department of Education NOCA

## Wellbeing: Student Voice

It is acknowledged that the Wellbeing of young people is enhanced when their views and suggestions are sought and there is a meaningful response to them (Flynn, 2014). Listen to two Stratford College students give informed feedback on their experience with Digital Portfolios and their Digital Grade Profile as part of their Junior Cycle English learning.

## Dates for Your Diary

Thursday, 23rd November, **Curriculum Evening**, 7pm

Thursday, 30th November: School closed for **Junior Cycle Training**

Wednesday, 6th December: Half-day for **Junior Cycle Training**

Wednesday, 20th December: **School Musical**, "Matilda"

25th - 28th February 2018: **Classical Studies/Art Trip to Rome**

## Parent Teacher Meetings

1st Years: Wednesday, 29th November, 4.15pm

2nd Years: Tuesday, 5th December, 4.15pm

3rd Years: Thursday, 11th January, 4.15pm

TYs & 5th Years: Monday, 11th December, 4.15pm

6th Years: Monday, 15th January, 4.15pm