

Stratford Schools

Senior and Primary School News

Vol 2. No. 2 May 2013



Stratford College News

CoderDojo Stratford

Since April some students have been using "Scratch" to learn how to do computer programming in the school's newest club.

School Walk

€2,100 was raised for The Children's Medical & Research Foundation (Crumlin Children's Hospital).

European Youth Parliament (EYP)

Congratulations to Diarmaid Kelly (5th Year) who represented Ireland recently at the 72nd International EYP session.

"Blood Brothers"—TY—Superb!



The TY musical opening night was 25th April. Congratulations are in order for all the cast of "Blood Brothers". The evening was a huge success. The students involved were the most professional, co-operative group ready to work after school to rehearse. Even over their holidays the whole class attended a rehearsal for

the day. Now, that is commitment! The positive reaction from the audience really encouraged students on night to perform their best. Backstage the props team were hard at work, while the actors exercised calm in preparation for their next moment on stage. The sets themselves were beautiful.

Thank you to all students on the night who volunteered their time: for lights and sound and to the cast involved in producing the programme, organising sponsors, and selling tickets; to the 5th Year Music students who accompanied myself and the cast on the night, and whom also performed on stage.

Ms. Conlon

Photo: Ms. O'Kelly

Junior Girls team win Terenure 5 Mile Run

Since January Ms. Finnegan, Ms. Reynolds, Ms. Kenny, Mr. Desmond and up to 20 students have run miles around Bushy Park as part of the weekly school **Running Club**. It certainly paid off when the Junior Girls team won 1st Prize for the Schools Challenge at the Terenure 5 Mile Run on Sunday, 19th May. Well done!



Photos: Ms. Reynolds

Modern History Trip to Berlin



On Monday, 11th March, History students from 5th and 6th Year met in Dublin Airport to go to Berlin. The highlights of the trip for me were seeing the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag and the Berlin TV Tower.

The main highlight was visiting

Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp which was the first camp established which held political prisoners of war. The main watch tower had a mounted machine gun which surveyed the whole camp. Sachsenhausen was expanded three times and had an army barracks where soldiers were trained. Josef Fischer, who was in charge of Auschwitz extermination camp, was also trained here. When we visited the camp it was covered in snow and it was very cold. Everyone was wrapped in layers and it is hard to believe prisoners wore only light material as clothing and that was all.
Jonathan Sweeney (5th Year)

Photo: Ms. Kenny

Drama wins at Feis Maitiu '13



The drama class who took part in

Improvisation competitions at Feis Maitiu 2013 at The Mill Theatre on 14th May. The U14 group's title was The New Neighbour and they came in **2nd place**. The U18 group stole the show, coming **1st place**. Their title was The Therapist. Alice Murphy took part in the U18 Solo Drama competition on 16th May. Well done to all!

Emma Coogan

Photo: Ms. O'Kelly

Classics Quiz—2nd to 5th!



Congratulations to the 17 students from Stratford College who participated in the annual Ides of March

Classical Studies quiz on Thursday, 21st March 2013. Stratford entered four teams and our success was remarkable. **Stratford came second, third, fourth and fifth.** Our team captained by Rory Murphy (3rd Year) came very close to winning first place. They scored 53/60 points, only one point behind the top spot.

Ms. Donohoe

Photo: Ms. Donohoe

Bingo Night a great success



On Wednesday, 24th April, Stratford N.S. Parents Association presented a Bingo night in the Secondary School Hall, as a fund-raising event.

It was a fantastic night with a huge array of prizes—the stage was loaded!

There was a tremendous buzz in the hall as everyone got involved in trying to win.

A big thank-you to all those who donated prizes and for the N.S. Parents Association for organizing it.



Photos: Michael Turley

"Write-A-Book" Winners

Congratulations to Kayla (5th Class) and Emily (2nd Class) who were both awarded **Merits** for their books in the "Write-A-Book" competition, on Monday, 22nd



April by the Blackrock Education Centre. The judges

also gave **Highly Commended** to Jake (6th Class), Adam (5th Class) and Jakob (5th Class).



Well done to all the students who entered books in this competition. *Mr. Murphy*

Photos: Taken by parents

Visit by TY Baseball player

On Wednesday, 8th May, Stratford College Transition Year student, Jake, visited 3rd and 4th class to teach them all about how to play baseball. **Jake represents Ireland at Baseball** so he was in a great position to answer all the incisive questions that the 3rd and 4th class pupils asked him.



At the end Jake signed autographs for all the pupils—something

he said he's never done before!

Photo: Ms. Finnegan

Sarah Webb visit to Stratford



Sarah Webb, author of the very popular "Ask Amy Green" books, visited Stratford National School and Stratford College, through the "Writers-in-Schools" scheme, sponsored by Poetry Ireland on Thursday, 25th April.

She visited the National School first and spoke about the things that influenced her writing—she had a suitcase of memorable objects which she showed to the 5th and 6th Class pupils. The pupils then spoke to her about their writing, what they like to read and asking questions about how you write a book.

Sarah Webb then visited the 1st and 2nd Year English classes. Again she spoke about her writing influences to them. They asked incisive questions about what you have to do to publish a book and how many words you have to write each day. An insightful morning!

Photo: Ms Reynolds

How is education changing?

On Wednesday, 22nd May at 8pm, **Annette Honan**, Educational Consultant with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA), visited Stratford Schools to explain Government policy and its practical implementation. Annette and the two Principals provided insight on issues such as:

- How is education changing in Ireland?

- How are Stratford Schools working to address these changes?
- As parents how can you support your children through this process?

As we move towards the 60th anniversary of the foundation of Stratford College the two Boards of Management provided some insight into the financial workings of the schools which continue to be run prudently.

Briefs

Congratulations to **Ziv Ytshak** (4th Class) who won the Rathmines Public Library, World Book Day Prize for the **Book Marker competition**. Ms. Greer is very proud of her and all her pupils who entered.

Stratford College has recently uploaded its **Literacy and Numeracy Policy** for parents/guardians to read. In the **Parents Association**

blog, there are also links which advise you what to do on a daily basis to implement Literacy and Numeracy at home.

On Tuesday, 4th June from 9am—11am, the Stratford College Parents Association are holding a **secondhand uniform giveaway**. There is also a **secondhand book sale**. See **Parents Association blog** for details.