



# St Andrew's College Secondary School Annual Report June 2026

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Ms L Wiley  
Ms L Marshall, MEd (TCD), BEd (QUB) **(In attendance)**  
Mr I Schuster, BA (NUI), FCA, Secretary **(In attendance)**

## **Introduction**

This report has been prepared to cover the period from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026.

## **School enrolment**

At the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year, secondary school enrolment was 1015. Of the total, 874 were Irish nationals, 25 were US citizens, and 116 other nationalities.

## **Faculty**

In 2025/2026 there were 180 faculty members of which 164 are Irish citizens and 16 other nationalities. The mixture of nationalities adds to the international character of the College.

## **Andrew (Andy) Kavanagh**

It was with profound sadness that we learned of the death of our colleague and friend, Andy Kavanagh, on Thursday, 9 October 2025. Andy joined St Andrew's College in 1997 as a highly valued, respected and hardworking member of the Support Staff. He was deeply appreciated by everyone for his kindness, quick wit, and wonderful sense of humour. Andy was a devoted husband to Yvonne and loving father to Andrew, Lynne, Robert and past pupil Rachel (Class of 2011).

As a mark of respect to Andy and to his family, the College closed at 1.15pm on Friday, 24 October 2025 and a guard of honour was formed on Booterstown Avenue.

## **Margaret O'Sullivan**

The College community were deeply saddened to receive the news of the death of Margaret O'Sullivan, Resource Teacher, who died on 10 February 2026.

Margaret was a highly respected and greatly valued Resource and Maths Teacher since joining the College in 2016. She was held in high regard by colleagues and students alike, and her dedication, kindness and care made a meaningful difference in the lives of many. Margaret will be remembered for her courage, humour, compassion and the joy she brought to every room.

## **Group Captain John Hemingway**

A tribute in honour of the late Group Captain John Hemingway DFC (17 July 1919 – 17 March 2025) and distinguished past pupil (Class of 1937) was hosted by St Andrew's College and St Patrick's Cathedral Choir School at St Patrick's Cathedral, on Thursday 9 October 2025.

Guests were formally welcomed by Canon Peter Campion, Precentor, St Patrick's Cathedral with opening remarks delivered by Air Marshal Sean Reynolds, CB, CBE and DFC, Royal Air Force followed by Ms Louise Marshall, College Principal.

This commemorative event featured poignant readings by retired Squadron Leader Bruce Graeme Cooke RAF (Class of 1977), Ms Amelia Flanagan (Class of 2024) as well as by students from both the Junior and Senior Schools of the College. Musical interludes were performed by the choirs of St Patrick's Cathedral School and St Andrew's College, whose contributions added a reflective and dignified atmosphere to the occasion. Special guests included members of GC Hemingway's family, representatives from the British Embassy and the United States Embassy, the Royal Air Force and the Irish Air Corps, along with representatives from the PTA and SACA.

In his closing address and reflection, Mr Brian Hemingway, son of the late GC Hemingway, expressed his sincere appreciation to all who contributed to the event, acknowledging their invaluable efforts in paying a fitting and heartfelt tribute to his father.

## Facilities

The College buildings and grounds are owned by the College Patron – the Board of Governors. Facilities include 72 classrooms, 21 tutorial rooms, seven laboratories, a science garden, five art rooms, two home economics rooms, library, 20 resource rooms, two assembly halls, a dining hall, a sports hall, gym and an administration centre. Outdoor sports facilities include one rugby pitch, two hockey pitches, one water-based, the other sand-based and two basketball training hoops. The College has a dedicated Sixth Form Centre. It comprises two private study rooms and an open area for sixth year interaction and activities. The College also has a designated Guidance Suite, Study Centre and Additional Educational Needs (AEN) Centre. We have parking for approximately 120 cars.

## College Theme

The academic year began with a Whole School Opening Service on Wednesday, 10 September. Students were reminded of the school's three core values: Responsibility, Resilience and Respect. For the 2025/26 academic year **Responsibility** was chosen as the theme for the year. Ms Marshall asked students to think of responsibility in three key areas; responsibility to self, responsibility for those around us and responsibility for the school community.

## New Building Programme

The College is embarking on an ambitious building programme that is due to commence at the end of June 2026. The proposed development, which has full planning permission, will involve the construction of a four-storey teaching and learning centre with an overall floor area of 3,727 m<sup>2</sup>. The development of this facility will involve a significant financial commitment, it will be funded through a combination of existing resources, donations from fundraising and debt finance. The fundraising initiative is on track thanks to the generosity of our donors but we still have a challenging target to achieve over the next 5 years. Management of our day-to-day resources will also be critical and a number of initiatives are underway to reduce our cost base. Our objective is to deliver this major initiative both on time and on budget.

## Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to provide a liberal, balanced and comprehensive education. A programme comprising 30 academic subjects and a wide variety of sports and extra-curricular activities is offered. The majority of students take courses leading to the Junior and Leaving Certificate examinations, while others follow the International Baccalaureate programme. Support for Learning and English as an Additional Language services are provided. The Transition Year programme offers a multi-faceted course of study intended to help students choose the most suitable subjects for the Leaving Certificate. The school is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and the Council of International Schools (CIS).

The College provides the following programmes of education for its students:

- The Junior Cycle Programme (three year)
- The Transition Year Programme - compulsory for all students
- The Leaving Certificate Programme (two year)
- The International Baccalaureate – (Diploma Programme – Fifth to Sixth Year)

## Junior Cycle Programme

The Junior Cycle is a three year programme. Students with their parent/guardian have to choose the subjects which are available at Junior Cycle level.

Details of each option available are outlined in a booklet which is prepared annually. If necessary, further information can be obtained from the subject representative at the Options Meeting held in January.

All students will study the following subjects:

- CSPE (Civic, Social and Political Education)
- English
- Geography
- History
- Irish (except where officially exempted)
- Mathematics
- Physical Education
- Religious Studies
- Science
- SPHE (Social, Personal and Health Education)

In addition to the above subjects, students choose two subjects from the following list:

- Art
- Business Studies
- Classical Studies
- Home Economics
- Music
- Spanish
- Technical Graphics

And one of the following modern languages:

- French
- German
- Spanish

The range of subjects offered is in keeping with the aim of the Junior Cycle programme in that it provides a broad and balanced curriculum to all students in the first years of post-primary school.

## **Wellbeing**

In the context of Junior Cycle reform, there is an increased focus on the need to ensure that the wellbeing of our students is at the forefront of school life. Accordingly, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) have developed Wellbeing Guidelines. These guidelines govern what we, as a school, now set out to achieve. Wellbeing is present when students realise their abilities, take care of their physical wellbeing, can cope with the normal stresses of life, and have a sense of purpose and belonging to a wider community (The Guidelines for Wellbeing in Junior Cycle 2021).

The College has always placed a strong emphasis on the wellbeing of the school community. The introduction of a formal wellbeing programme complements the support structures already in place to support wellbeing. Through its policies and procedures, the College seeks to provide a safe, caring environment for all.

As part of this programme Junior Cycle students have timetabled classes in CSPE, SPHE and PE. They also partake in modules on digital literacy and nutrition.

## **Transition Year Programme**

Transition Year lays the foundation for fifth and sixth year. The aim of the year is to provide the skills and encourage the maturity necessary for the successful completion of the International Baccalaureate or the Leaving Certificate. A central theme of the year is autonomous learning. Students take responsibility for themselves and their future. They are given the opportunity to explore many subjects in areas including the arts, science and technology and the humanities. It is also possible for students to explore the possibility of new subjects prior to making their Leaving Certificate or International Baccalaureate choices. The St Andrew's College Transition Year programme facilitates students in exploring their own talents, abilities and interests beyond the confines of the timetable.

## **Leaving Certificate Programme**

Halfway through Transition Year, students, with their parents/guardians, must choose the subjects they are going to take in the Leaving Certificate. It is important to consider the implications these choices may have on future third level and career choices. There are 23 subjects to choose from within the Leaving Certificate programme in the school. Students are required to choose seven/eight of these.

It is important to make a balanced choice of subjects. This would probably include:

- Irish
- English
- Mathematics
- A Modern Foreign Language
- A Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) – **if a requirement for a college course**
- And 2/3 other subjects.

*The following subjects are available:*

Accounting	Design & Communication Graphics	Irish
Agricultural Science	Economics	Mathematics
Applied Mathematics	English	Music
Art	French	Politics and Society
Biology	Geography	Physics
Business	German	Religious Education
Chemistry	History	Spanish
Classical Studies	Home Economics	

## International Baccalaureate Programme

The IB programme has been offered in the College since 1982 and we have found it to be an excellent preparation for courses at universities and colleges all over the world in a wide variety of subject areas. We believe that it provides an ideal training for students who are moving on to further education, and produces young adults with a broad academic base, enquiring minds and diverse social interests. The IB is different to the Leaving Certificate. In the IB students focus on critical thinking, understanding and processing knowledge. Their examinations test that they understand the concepts as opposed to just learning them. The IB is viewed globally by the top universities including the Ivy League as the premier academic programme for undergraduate success.

Students entering 5IB are expected to enrol in six subjects in addition to studying Theory of Knowledge, participating in the CAS programme and writing an Extended Essay. These subjects are selected from offerings in groups one to six to ensure that all students can study at least one subject from each group. All students taking the Diploma programme must take three subjects at higher level, three subjects at standard level and complete an Extended Essay.

Subject selection at this stage in a student's life involves making important decisions and should be made in consultation with parents, teachers and the guidance counsellor. These choices must take into account each student's:

- ◆ long term education and career goals
- ◆ demonstrated skills and strengths
- ◆ current interests

## Student Progress and Reporting

Student progress is monitored on an on-going basis by teachers. Any matters of concern can be recorded by teachers in the student's school diary for signing by parents or issues can be recorded on the school's database, VShare. The College email system is also an effective tool providing a two-way communication platform between parents and teachers during term time. Additionally, the school organises a parent/teacher meeting for each year group on an annual basis, either in person or online. Below are the reporting structures. Whilst formal reports are sent at regular intervals, parents are encouraged to make contact at any point during the year with subject teachers or form teachers if they are concerned about their child's progress.

Year	First Term	Second Term	Third Term
<b>First Year</b>	Autumn (brief report) Christmas (full report)	Spring (brief report)	Summer (full report)
<b>Second Year</b>	Autumn (brief report) Christmas (full report)	Spring (brief report)	Summer (full report)
<b>Third Year</b>	Autumn (brief report) Christmas (full report)	Trial (marks)	Letter from Year Team
<b>Transition Year</b>	Autumn (marks) Christmas (full report)	February (marks)	Summer (full report)
<b>Fifth Year/IB</b>	Autumn (marks) Christmas (full report)	February (brief report) Spring (marks)	Summer (full report)
<b>Sixth Year</b>	Autumn (marks) Christmas (full report)	Trial (LC marks)	
<b>IB</b>	Trial (IB full report)	Predicted Grades (IB)	

## Examination Results

The following numbers of students took part in State Examinations in 2025:

- Junior Cycle 164
- Leaving Certificate 133
- International Baccalaureate 22

We were delighted to celebrate the wonderful, International Baccalaureate and Leaving Certificate results which saw 17 of our students achieving 625 points in the Leaving Certificate with average points being 500. The average points scored per candidate in the IB was 34.15 points.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

The following activities took place in the current academic year:

Art Portfolio Club	Badminton	Ballet
Basketball	Chess Club	Choir
Competitive Coding Club	Debating Club Senior and Junior	Drumming
Environmental Group	French Speaking Debating Club	Gaisce – The President’s Award
Grapevine (College Magazine)	Green Schools Committee	Guitar and Ukulele Group
Hockey	Intercultural Week	International Economic Olympiad
Instrumental Lessons	Jazz Ensemble	Linguistics Olympiad Club
Maths Club	Model United Nations (MUN)	Music Technology Club
Orchestra	Robotics and Coding Club/First Lego League	Rugby
Sailing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keelboat</li> <li>• Team Racing</li> <li>• Powerboat Licence Course</li> </ul>	Speech and Drama	Strength and Conditioning
Student Council	Student Literacy Committee	Traditional Irish Music Group
Wine Dark Sea	Writers Club	Young Economist of the Year
Young Scientist		

## Sports

Participation in sporting activities is regarded by the College as desirable for all students as it provides a means of complementing their academic and social development. While participation is the basic objective it must also be recognised that the pursuit and achievement of success in competitive sport is essential in maintaining the interest of the students and the morale of the teams.

It will always be necessary to strike a balance between the needs of students and teams which represent the College in local, regional or national competitions and the policy of maximising the numbers of students who can participate in the sports of their choice.

In order to accommodate the wide range of sporting interests among students, the College seeks to provide opportunities for participation in many different sports and activities.

## **Sports Highlights**

### **Boys Basketball**

The U19 boys had another successful season. They reached the quarter-final stages of the Dublin A league but lost at home to Ardscoil Rís School 74-77. In the All-Ireland competition, the boys were unlucky to meet eventual All-Ireland champions Coláiste Éanna in the quarter-final stages and lost narrowly away from home. The U16 boys reached the Dublin A quarter-final, where they lost by 10 points away to Malahide Community School.

Second year boys made it to the semi-final stages of the Dublin A league but lost to a very strong Ardscoil Rís School team away from home. Reaching this stage of the competition meant they qualified for the All-Ireland playoffs in February, where they travelled to Galway to play in the pool stages. Although they didn't progress, this achievement placed them in the top teams in the country for the year. The first year boys had an immensely successful season, reaching the Dublin A final against rivals, Presentation College Bray. This meant the boys qualified for the prestigious All-Ireland tournament which took place at the University of Limerick in April where they placed in the top ten teams in the country.

### **Representatives**

Crosby O'Connor (third year) was selected for the U15 Basketball Ireland Academy, his second consecutive year. Alistair Carter and Rory O'Connor (first year) were selected for the U14 Basketball Ireland Academy. They also represented Dublin at U14 level and won the inter-regional national championship as part of the team. Adam McCormick (fifth year) was selected for the U17 Ireland team.

### **Girls Basketball**

The U19 girls had a competitive and successful season despite not qualifying for the knockout stages of the A league. A narrow one basket loss to eventual champions Muckcross College, along with a dominant win at home against Holy Faith Clontarf were the highlights of the season. The U16 girls became the first St Andrew's College girls' basketball team to reach both the knockout stages of the A league, losing by a basket away to Castleknock College, as well as the All-Ireland quarter-final, losing out to Loreto Dalkey. They position themselves as our most successful girls' team to date in the College. The second year girls had a challenging season in terms of results, but saw massive retention and sustained participation from first year students. Our first year girls had a record breaking season which saw them win the St Andrew's College Invitational First Year Tournament at Christmas.

### **Representatives**

Valeria Valcheva (second year) represented Dublin at U14 level in the National Inter-Regional Tournament. Chigozirim Ezenwa (third year) was selected for the Basketball Ireland U15 Academy.

## **Girls Cricket**

The girls' cricket season, though short, proved to be an extremely busy and successful one, with six teams competing across the year. Participation levels were exceptionally high, with more than 150 girls involved across all squads, highlighting the continued growth and enthusiasm for girls' cricket within the College.

Several teams enjoyed notable success throughout the season. Our first year B team reached the semi-final stage, where they were narrowly defeated by Sandford Park School by just nine runs. The Senior B (Transition year social team) also progressed to a semi-final before eventually losing to Wesley College. This achievement was particularly impressive given that many members of the team were complete beginners at the start of the season and their enthusiasm has already carried forward into plans for next year. The standout achievement of the season came from our Junior A team, who completed an unbeaten campaign following impressive victories over Mount Anville School, St Columba's College, The High School and Sandford Park School. In the final, played at Railway Union Cricket Club, the team delivered an outstanding performance to defeat Wesley College by 72 runs.

## **Boys Cricket**

The senior boys had a solid season beating Belvedere College, Ardgillan School and Blackrock College on the way to the semi-final where they lost out to a very strong Wesley College side. The team was led by Toby Slye-O'Connell.

The Junior Cup team had a tough draw where they defeated Belvedere College and Gonzaga College but lost to Wesley College and Catholic University School.

The second year team lost three group games but beat Mount Temple in their last game. The first year team won two and lost two but unfortunately did not make it out of the group.

## **Golf**

Over 20 students competed in the Irish Schools qualifiers held across a number of courses throughout the province. Alex Kearney, who represented Ireland in the Home Nations over the summer qualified for the finals by winning her qualifier in Stackstown Golf Club.

## **Girls Hockey**

Over the season 21 teams have played 250 fixtures, with over 350 girls representing the school. Ten of our teams reached the semi-final stages of their respective competitions.

All four of the section A squads reached a final of either League or Cup competitions. Sadly, they were unable to convert that success into any silverware, but the players can be proud of their achievements in reaching this stage. The 1st XI squad had a fantastic season, narrowly missing out on qualification to the Kate Russell competition with a loss in the league final to Holy Child Killiney. The 1st XI squad also gained a bronze medal place in this year's Hockey Ireland indoor competition. Over 20 teams from across the country competed so whilst not the result we were hoping for, it was a great experience for the players. The Junior A squad also competed in this tournament holding their own in what was a very high standard of hockey.

The first year section enjoyed a day trip to play fixtures vs Strathearn School, Belfast and the Minor section had a fun day out in Sligo. Our pre-season trip to Cork and Waterford was a great success with fixtures vs Mount Mercy College, Bandon Grammar and Newtown School. Girls from across the

sections also enjoyed a day trip to watch the Irish ladies competing against England and Belgium in the FIH Pro-League.

### **Representatives**

Leinster U16's - Amy O'Connor (third year), Poppy Miller, Cara Moore and Charlotte Munro (second year).

Leinster U18's- Holly Farrell and Chloe Hiles (fifth year), Lienkies de Klerk and Ella Galligan (Transition year).

Leinster U21's - Chloe Hiles and Yasmin Murray (fifth year).

Irish U18's - Holly Farrell (fifth year), Daisy Ovington and Emilia Walsh (Transition year).

### **Boys Hockey**

The Senior A teams had a solid season. In the All Irelands in October, they advanced through their group with impressive wins against Newtown College, Campbell College and Banbridge Academy. In the semi-finals they unfortunately went down 2-1 to High School who converted the two chances that came their way in the match. In the Cup, they were eliminated at the semi-final stage at the hands of a strong Newpark Comprehensive School, who were again very good at taking their chances with a final score of 2-1. In the league they finished second behind Wesley College. A 3-1 win against Newpark Comprehensive School in their final league game secured their position, place and seeding in next year's All Irelands competition. The Senior B team had a great year which culminated in reaching the final of the Des Buggy Trophy. Unfortunately, they lost 4-3 in a thriller having taken a 3-0 lead in the game.

The Junior A boys had a very good season winning the Junior Cup, beating Newpark Comprehensive School 5-1 in the final. In the league they just missed out, drawing 2-2 with Wesley College in the final game. The Junior B team had a fine season finishing top of the Junior B league. They performed very well in the first half of the season and carried a good number of points through to the second phase of the league where they won three games out of three. The Junior C team had a solid season finishing a very respectable 5<sup>th</sup> place out of 11 teams.

At Minor level, the team were competitive and managed to qualify for the Minor A1 league for the second round of fixtures after Christmas. This was a great achievement and although they competed hard in that league, they finished 4<sup>th</sup> place. In the Cup they were eliminated at the quarter-final stage going out 2-1 to Newpark Comprehensive School.

At U-13 level, the team started the season with 8 v 8s up to half term. This phase culminated in tournaments being hosted around Dublin where our A and B teams won through to the final and played off against each other with our A team winning 2-0. In the B tournament our C team also won. In the 11 aside phase of the season, our A team won the Cup beating Wesley College 4-1 in the final. In the league a tight 1-0 semi-final win against Newpark Comprehensive School was backed up with a 2-1 win against The High School in the final. Our B team enjoyed a perfect season in Division B1 winning all six of their matches to top the league while our C and D teams were very competitive in Division B2 finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively, out of nine teams.

### **Representatives**

Noah Ovington (sixth year) and Nathan Gerrish (fifth year) played for Leinster U-18s and won the Interprovincials. James Gallagher and Matthew Phelan (third year) played for the Leinster U-16s and they also won the Interprovincials. At international level Toby Slye-O'Connell (fifth year) was chosen for the Irish U-21 team who travelled to India to compete in the Junior World Cup where they performed way above expectations to finish 10<sup>th</sup> place. At U-16 level, Charlie Trotter (Transition year) represented Ireland in a three-match series v England and was also chosen to play in the games in Germany over Easter.

In April, Isaac Bell, Jude Cunningham and Morgan Duignan (Transition year) travelled with the Leinster U-18 development squad to The Hague. Cameron Harty (third year) and Oran Byrne (second year) travelled with the U-16 development team to the same tournament.

## **Rugby**

The JCT and SCT moved up to a reconfigured A1 League and were competitive with both teams defeating CBC Monkstown and Temple Carrig School. They produced good performances against Gonzaga College and Kilkenny College in their pool matches. Both teams finished 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their pools, pushing them into the 1B knock out stages. The SCT reached the League semi-final before losing to Presentation College Bray, while the JCT lost out in the League final to CBC Monkstown. In the Cup the SCT reached the Vinnie Cup quarter-final losing to Temple Carrig School after a replay following a draw. The JCT reached the Fr Godfrey final for the first time in eight years defeating Castleknock College in the semi-final but losing to Wesley College 5-7 in the final. They went on to compete in the Junior Cup for the first time in eight years, losing to Terenure College in the first round. In October the JCT squad travelled to Sligo for games against Sligo Grammar School and an overnight stay. The Senior Tour to Argentina takes place in June with 41 players and five staff travelling.

There was a strong uptake from first year girls this year. In September, they took part in a 7's blitz hosted by Wesley College. They played five matches against Skerries Community College, The High School, Holy Faith School, Ardgillen Community College and De La Salle College. In March they played a 7's blitz at Wesley College, winning two of the three games. In October, the SCT played a blitz in Skerries Rugby Football Club, playing five games against teams including Mercy College and Loreto Dalkey, winning three out of their five games. They also competed in a 7's blitz at Energia Park, Donnybrook in November. The JCT's competed in a 7's blitz in November at Energia Park, Donnybrook, playing two games against Ardgillen and Coláiste Bríde. They reached the League semi-final, playing against Wilson's Hospital away and Cup quarter-final, playing Scoil Chríost Ri, Portlaoise at home.

## **Representatives**

Serge Broughton (sixth year) was involved in the Leinster U19's while James O'Toole (fifth year) played for the Leinster U18's team. Hugo Doyle (Transition year), was selected for the Leinster U18 summer squad. Charlie Clarke, Ethan Hall, Henry James (third year) and Archie Munroe (Transition year) are involved in the Leinster U17 summer squad, while Archie is also part of the Scottish Qualified U16 pathway squad. Ivy Lyons (Transition year) was selected for the Leinster U19 summer squad.

## **Swimming**

The Leinster senior schools swimming gala took place in February at the National Aquatic Centre. Our students did not disappoint, with some fantastic results in individual and relay events. In the individual events Ian Middleton (sixth year) placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 200m. Daíre Finlayson (fifth year) placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the 200m IM and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 100m breaststroke. Eva Butler (second year) placed 1<sup>st</sup> in both the 100 Butterfly and 200 IM and Leah Pinschmidt (first year) finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 100m Butterfly. The Senior Mixed

Freestyle relay team won gold and the Senior Mixed Medley relay team took bronze. The Senior Girls Medley relay team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> place with the Junior Girls Freestyle relay team finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Overall, the Junior Girls finished 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Senior Girls finished 4<sup>th</sup> place and the Senior boys finished 6<sup>th</sup> place as a team.

All of the relay teams qualified for the Irish Schools championships which were held in Blanchardstown in March with 11 of our students involved over various races. The Senior Girls Medley relay took bronze with the Mixed Medley relay going one better and taking home silver. However, the highlight of the day was the Mixed Freestyle relay who brought home a gold medal with siblings Ian, Edith and Rebecca Middleton joined by Daíre Finlayson. At the same meet the Interpros took place, where we had Eva Butler, Daíre Finlayson, Jessica Grogan, Edith Middleton, Ian Middleton and Rebecca Middleton all representing Leinster where they retained their title.

## **Sailing**

Over the past academic year, St Andrew's College sailing has gone from strength to strength, with success across participation, performance, and leadership. At junior level, the programme continued to thrive, with weekly knot sessions lead by Transition year sailors engaging up to 30 rotating students, alongside strong participation in training camps and term courses at the Royal Irish Yacht Club. This steady pathway ensures a strong pipeline of young sailors progressing into secondary school sailing.

On the competitive front, the College has delivered outstanding results. The College won the Leinster Schools Team Racing Championships for the fourth consecutive year, competing against 19 teams and qualifying all five St Andrew's College teams for the National Championships. Competing against a record number of 26 schools nationwide, podium places were achieved in the Nationals. We won silver fleet at the Fastnet International Trophy and completed the year leading the Shanahan Cup League, yet again. This level of depth and consistency across multiple teams is a significant achievement.

The programme has also received national recognition, with St Andrew's College nominated for Irish Sailing "School of the Year" for the third year in a row. In recent months, training intensity has increased to up to three sessions per week, reflecting the commitment and professionalism of the sailors. Over 30 students achieved instructor certificates and powerboat licenses leading to part time employment at major sailing events both nationally and internationally.

Overall, it has been a year defined not only by wins, but by growth, opportunity, and a strong sailing culture across the entire College.

## **Girls Tennis**

There was a record number of teams in the Leinster School Girls Tennis League, with three senior teams, two junior teams and four minor teams competing.

The Senior B, Junior B and Minor B teams all reached the final stages with the Senior B losing 1-2 to Mount Sackville School in a very tight match. The Junior B won their final against Our Lady's Terenure 2-1 and the Minor B lost 1-2 in a championship tie-break to Rathdown School.

Recognition is extended to the following sixth year students for their outstanding contribution to St Andrew's College tennis having represented the College consistently every year since joining: Jenny Marsh, Kate O'Brien, Amelia Phillips and Elizabeth Zboyan.

## **Boys Tennis**

This year we entered six teams with two teams at senior, junior and minor levels respectively.

The Senior 1 team stepped up to Division 1 having won Division 2 convincingly last year. Wins against Gonzaga College 3-2, Castleknock College 4-1 and a narrow loss against St Michael's College 2-3 saw the team advance to the semi-finals as group winners against Clonkeen College. In the semi-final they had a resounding 5-0 win which put them through to the College's first ever Division 1 final where they lost out to Blackrock College 1-4.

The Senior 2 team started off their campaign with a solid 4-1 win against Sandford Park School but were well beaten by East Glendalough School 0-5 in their second group match. The Junior 1 team competed well in Division 2. Without their top ranked player who had stepped up to play Seniors, they lost narrowly to St Fintan's High School 2-3 in their first match. A solid win against a good Temple Carrig School team 3-2 put them back in the frame to qualify. However, a defeat at the hands of Presentation College Bray 1-4 brought their campaign to an end.

The Junior 2 team had a convincing win against Sandford 5-0 to start off their campaign. A walkover against Sutton Park School was followed by a win against Drogheda Grammar School 4-1 which got them through to the semi-final against St Conleth's College.

The Minor 1 team were drawn in a tough group with St Gerard's School and Blackrock College. Back to back 1-4 losses saw them eliminated but the team bounced back well to finish off their pool matches with a hard fought 5-0 win against Sandford Park School.

## **Athletics**

In January, 33 athletes competed in the East Leinster Schools Athletics Championships. Daragh Concannon (second year), qualified for the Leinster Championships with a top 15 finish. Isabel O'Reilly (Transition year) won the inter girl's title and qualified for the Leinster Championships which she also won. In the All Ireland Championships, Isabel finished 6<sup>th</sup> place overall.

In preparation for the East Leinster Schools Athletics Championships, over 60 students travelled to the indoor arena in Abbottstown focusing on sprints and throws, long jump, pole vault, and high jump. At the East-Leinster Track and Field Championships, students produced an excellent set of results across all year groups with many athletes securing qualification for the Leinster Championships.

### **First Year**

- Scott Butler – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Javelin (Leinster qualifier)
- Erin Matthews – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Shot Put and 2nd 75m Hurdles (Leinster qualifier)
- Max Neylon – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Discus
- Sophie Coman – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, 1100m (Leinster qualifier)
- Sebastian Conway – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Long Jump (Leinster qualifier)
- Chloe Dowling – 3<sup>rd</sup> Shot Place, Put (Leinster qualifier)

### **Second Year**

- Ashling Woods – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Pole Vault (Leinster qualifier)
- Indie Ovington – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Javelin (Leinster qualifier)
- Daragh Concannon – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, 1500m (Leinster qualifier)
- Ryan Carney Crowe – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 100m

### Third Year

- Anna Sheehan – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, 200m (Leinster qualifier)
- Daniel Butler, Ross Micallef, Ryan Carney Crowe (second year) and Daniel Armitage – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the 4x300m Relay
- Harry Fiel – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Pole Vault (Leinster qualifier)
- Ellen Treacy – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Discus (Leinster qualifier)

### Transition Year

- Isabel O'Reilly – 1<sup>st</sup> Place 1500m Steeplechase and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 3000m (Leinster qualifier)
- Evan Campbell – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Discus (Leinster qualifier)

### Fifth Year

- Zoé McCarroll – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Pole Vault and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 400m Hurdles (Leinster qualifier)
- Alanna O'Neill – 1<sup>st</sup> Place Javelin and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Long Jump (Leinster qualifier)
- Joshua Kita Moloney – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Pole Vault (Leinster qualifier)
- Alex Cusack, Molly O'Suilleabhain, Emelie Vioreanu and Sarah White, (third year) – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the 4x300m Relay

Overall, it was an excellent season for the athletics squad, with strong performances across the latter half of the cross-country and track and field competitions. Numerous athletes progressed and competed at Leinster level.

## Performing Arts

### U-Live

The **2026 U-Live Concert** took place on Wednesday, 4 February 2026, showcasing performances from over 130 students across all year groups. It was a spectacular night that brought together the Transition Year student body along with a dedicated team of teaching and support staff managing front-of-house, backstage, photography, lighting, and sound. All proceeds go directly to Kisiizi Hospital, Rubirizi School and GSF Children's Home in Uganda.

### College Musical

The highly entertaining College Musical *Legally Blonde* took place over four nights in January 2026. This schoolwide production had over 200 students involved between cast, orchestra, backstage, costumes, make up, set design, art, tickets and security. With 41 intricate musical numbers and demanding choreography, the show was an outstanding success which showcased the incredible talent of our students and the calibre of our staff.

### Music and Art Festival

The 2026 Music Festival took place from Monday 28 to Wednesday 30 April and was followed by the Winners' Recital and End of Year Music and Art Department Evening on Thursday 7 May. The audience were treated to a fantastic variety of extremely high-quality performances from the Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Orchestra, Trad Group, Guitar Ensemble and Jazz Band in addition to the extraordinary performances by the prizewinners of the Music Festival. A wonderful exhibition of art was displayed by the art department showcasing the incredible talent of our art students

## Transition Year

The Transition Year programme traditionally strikes a balance between classroom based learning and experiential activities outside the classroom. The year commenced with trips to Donegal's Gartan Outdoor Education and Training Centre and Mayo's An Uisce Water Adventure Centre. During these excursions, students engaged in a variety of outdoor sports and activities, including kayaking, archery, orienteering, and climbing. These trips also provided an opportunity to meet new people and many students consider them among their favourite experiences of the year.

The year began with a structured schedule of courses and a variety of physically engaging off-campus activities every Friday afternoon. Core subjects and extended core subjects, such as accounting, business, biology, chemistry, economics, geography, history, physics, and religious education, were emphasised, with regular assessments conducted throughout the year to support teaching and learning. Additionally, the timetable included a wide range of optional subjects, including architecture, creative writing, culinary arts, film studies, journalism, philosophy, salsa dancing, web design, and yoga, among others.

In November, preparations for the Winter Fair began and it was, as always, a tremendous success. Transition Year students played a vital role in organising, running, managing, and fundraising, collaborating with staff to generate essential funds for the institutions supported by the College in Uganda. During Christmas week, the students had the chance to boost their CV's by acquiring First Aid skills, taking aptitude tests, and honing their interview techniques in discussions with their form teachers about their Transition Year experiences so far.

In January, Transition Year subject parent/teacher meetings were held over two evenings. In January, meetings were scheduled with modern foreign language, English, mathematics and Irish teachers. U-Live took place again in February, showcasing the tremendous effort students put into performing, organising acts, promoting, and producing an outstanding show. After the mid-term break, students embarked on their first work experience sessions in various companies and organisations both in Ireland and abroad. In February, they also enjoyed a week long ski trip to Madonna di Campiglio, Italy. In May, students travelled to Barcelona for an exciting and activity packed four day exploration of the Spanish city. It was delightful to witness the students' enthusiasm and enjoyment from these experiences.

In October and May, students participated in a hike and overnight camping experience in Glendalough. This event is always a highlight of the year and contributes to the Gaisce awards for participants. Transition Year concluded with a busy week of assessments, interviews, and preparations for the Transition Year Evening showcase. It was heartening to hear students describe their learning and experiences in their own words and to see them recognised for their efforts. To complete the year, 20 students, accompanied by four teachers, travelled to Uganda. Prior to the trip, they engaged in extensive fundraising to support school fees, supplies, and building initiatives during their visit.

## Charitable Activities

Students and staff actively fundraised and participated in many local and national charities throughout the year. As part of the College strategic five-year plan, it was agreed that Purple House Cancer Support would be our chosen charity for support through the year.

Charities that have been supported also in this current academic year are as follows:

Arc Cancer Support	DSPCA
Irish Red Cross	Kevin Bell Foundation
Pieta House	Seal Rescue Ireland
Third Age Foundation	World Wildlife Fund

Transition Year students have continued to fundraise for our Transition Year Uganda Project. Other Year groups also carried out a variety of fundraising events.

## Child Protection Procedures

The Board of Management annual review of The Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was conducted in April 2026. This review was conducted in accordance with the checklist set out in Appendix 2 of the Department's 'Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools'. The policy was sent to the PTA and the Student Council for their consideration as part of the review process. The policy was also emailed to all staff and parents to inform them that a review was underway, and staff and parents were asked to consider the document and revert to the College Principal with any queries or comments as appropriate. The Board of Management approved the review on 14 April 2026. The newly approved policy was sent to all staff and parents of the College. The Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment is posted in the main reception area and in the Junior School reception and Collen building.

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Relevant Person is Ms Louise Marshall, College Principal and Ms Mary Keddy, Deputy Principal is the Deputy DLP.

## Student Council

The Student Council structure in St Andrew's College consists of Year Councils and the Whole School Council (WSC). Year Councils operate in second year, third year, Transition year and fifth year. First year students join the WSC in January following an election within their year group to establish a First Year Student Council.

Each Year Council elects two representatives to serve on the Whole School Council. The Head Girl and Head Boy set the agenda and chair WSC meetings. The Year Councils and the WSC serve as vital channels of communication between students and school leadership, enabling students to actively contribute to improving the student experience. The WSC plays a key role in fostering and promoting a positive school culture that reflects the College's core values of responsibility, resilience, and respect. The WSC provides a forum in which students are heard, listened to, and valued for their ideas and contributions to enhancing their day-to-day life experience in the College.

Whole School Council (WSC) meetings were held monthly throughout the year, beginning with an initial meeting on 15 September. To strengthen communication between the Year Councils and the WSC, two Year Council Assemblies were held: one at the end of September and the other in mid-May. Students actively participated in reviewing key school policies and initiatives, including the Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and Statement, the Acceptable Usage Policy and the implementation of the College's Guiding Statements. Their review of the student-friendly version of the Bí Cineálta Policy, together with their review of the associated student survey, proved particularly valuable and insightful. High Quality Learning and a number of draft policies were also discussed during WSC meetings. In addition, significant time was devoted to addressing issues and concerns raised by students regarding their day-to-day experiences in the College. These discussions provided an important forum for student voice and helped inform ongoing improvements to student school life. Members of the Student Council also played an active role in organising the special end-of-term assemblies for the various year groups. The breadth of student participation and involvement throughout the year highlights the important role of the Student Council in enhancing student experience and fostering a positive, inclusive, and supportive College environment.

## **Bullying Awareness**

The 2025–2026 academic year has been a productive and progressive year in the continued development of whole-school anti-bullying initiatives. Key areas of focus included the further development of the St Andrew's House Cup, the implementation and strategic planning around the Bí Cineálta Policy and the strengthening of collaborative structures to support a long-term approach to bullying prevention.

The House Cup is now in its fourth year and continues to play a significant role in fostering a positive school culture, student engagement and a sense of belonging. The Christmas event was highly competitive, with House Pink emerging as overall winners. Building on feedback from previous years, House Cup Day was adjusted from a full-day back to a half-day event. This proved to be a more manageable and focused format, allowing for greater efficiency and student engagement. A notable development this year was the introduction of "hype videos" by House Heads and Deputies prior to their dance performances. This initiative was student-led and proved to be a significant success. It brought a fresh new dynamic to the event.

## **Bí Cineálta Policy and Strategic Development**

A key development this year was the establishment of a Bí Cineálta Committee. The committee includes Year Heads, the Head of SPHE, Guidance Counsellors and is designed to meet four times annually to collaboratively plan and review anti-bullying initiatives. Meetings took place during the Christmas, Trial and summer examinations. The meetings provided a valuable forum for identifying priority areas and ensuring a more strategic, long-term approach to anti-bullying practices within the College. As part of this work, the College has committed to undertaking the NEART Award. Initial discussions have also taken place regarding specific aspects of bullying that require further focus, ensuring that future initiatives are targeted and evidence-informed.

## **Mentor Programme**

The Mentor programme began as usual with the promotion and application process through the Transition Year system and form teachers. As always, there was great enthusiasm with over 105

applicants. As in previous years, most mentors recall their own experience and want to offer support while also enjoying the role of responsibility.

At the incoming first year induction day in April, it was wonderful to see the response from volunteers to come in and initiate the first contact between mentors and incoming first year students. A small number of mentors acted as receptionists, welcoming everyone in and eventually having an opportunity to meet up with groups of first year students and give them a warm welcome into the senior school. The affect was clear as many were finding their first impression of the senior school to be welcoming and positive. Mentors helped them to integrate and relax.

At the end of August, prior to our return, we held a Mentor Training morning where the role of mentor was outlined, and strategies explained and guidance as to how best to build a good relationship with their mentee. We also outlined the limits of their role and the importance of passing on any concerns or observations, up the line to the First Year Team.

With the mentors paired up with either one or two mentees, a big effort was made to give mentors a locker above their mentees, facilitating a daily chat and interaction. This is where students really got to know each other and it gave mentors an opportunity to keep a watchful eye over the younger students. The art of opening the combination lock was, at times an icebreaker in the early days. We chose themes such as finding your way around, sports and extra-curricular, organisation and books, the school digital technology system, friendships, and issues such as bullying or exclusion. Many mentors made a real effort to use this to good effect and it helped new first year students make the transition to senior school smoothly. Prior to Christmas, another initiative was organised to encourage the students and give support with organising their study and preparation for the Christmas examinations. Study plans were explained which helped reduce the worry attached to the first set of house exams. Mentors were also enrolled throughout the year to help with the organisation of other College activities related to first year.

The mentors, in their roles, are best placed to spot behaviours, friendship or exclusion, contentment or challenges of social interaction for our younger students. The mentor process enables senior students to develop their leadership skills and it encourages them to take on the mantle of responsibility, which is an important part of their development also as citizens of the College.

## **Green School/Environment Group**

The Green School/Environment Group (GS/EG) committee continued to raise awareness of all environmental and green school initiatives through weekly meetings, assemblies, posters around the College and social media platform. We currently have 343 followers on Instagram. The page has been highlighting issues around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and environmental issues. All updates and events are shared to the group via 'Teams' to ensure that all students are up to date on activities and that they have ample opportunity to get involved with action projects. This group is student led and facilitated by coordinating teachers.

We were delighted to have been recently awarded a 'Travel Flag' (2025) with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown (DLR) County Council. The students were busy conducting idling surveys, air pollution and traffic surveys over the past two years. We also had guest speakers from DLR presenting to students.

We are currently applying for a 'Biodiversity' Flag for the College. This is a two year process, and we are in the first year. We have surveyed the school for areas where we can let biodiversity exploit a foothold, bird boxes and a bird bath have been made and put up about the College. There are several

areas where signs have been placed for wildflower banks and the pond area has been replanted and had frog spawn added to it. In the summer term we surveyed students in all year groups to assess their knowledge of Biodiversity.

## Parental Involvement

### Parent Information Evenings

Parent Information Evenings were held for all year groups on the dates below. All meetings were held in person and contained a welcome from the Principal along with a presentation by the relevant Deputy Principal and a year specific induction delivered by the Year Heads. Parents had an opportunity to ask questions as the evening progressed and there was the opportunity for further questions at the end of the Year Head presentations.

Monday 18 August	5IB
Tuesday, 19 August	Third Year
Wednesday, 20 August	Sixth Year
Thursday 21 August	First Year
Thursday 21 August	Fifth Year
Monday, 25 August	Second Year
Tuesday, 26 August	Transition Year

- Options Evenings for first, Transition and fifth year students – January 2026.

## School Events

Parents were invited to attend a variety of school functions and events throughout the year. In 2025/2026 these included:

- PTA Coffee Mornings for all year groups.
- Coffee Mornings for international parents/guardians and host parents/guardians of Junior and Secondary School students.
- International Night – November 2025.
- Winter Fair – December 2025.
- Carol Service – December 2025.
- PTA Christmas Social Evening – December 2025.
- College Musical – January 2026.
- PTA Charity Lunch – January 2026.
- U-Live Concert - February 2026.
- PTA Table Quiz – April 2026.
- Music and Dance Concert – May 2026.
- Launch of *The Wine Dark Sea* – May 2026.
- Sixth-Year Valedictory Evening – May 2026.

## School Development Planning

### School Policies

All policies that make up the school plan are available on the College website: [www.sac.ie](http://www.sac.ie). The following have been the main developments in school planning in 2025/2026:

- The on-going review of St Andrew’s College policies.
- The on-going work on the Junior Cycle Curriculum Plan.
- The on-going work on the introduction of the Wellbeing Programme.
- The on-going review of Subject Development Plans in all departments.
- The on-going work on School Self-Evaluation with the continuing work of Literacy and Numeracy Core Teams, the Digital Strategy and the Assessment Strategy.
- The formal revision of the following policies:

Additional Educational Needs Policy	AI Policy
Anti-Bullying Policy for Staff	Attendance and Punctuality Policy
AUP for Staff Policy	AUP for Students Policy
Bí Cineálta Policy	Child Safeguarding and Risk Assessment Statement
Coaches’ Policy and Specialist Teachers	Code of Behaviour for Students Policy
Complaints Procedure Policy	Critical Incident Policy
Data Protection Policy	E-Safety Policy
Food and Nourishment Policy	Guiding Statements and Core Values
Garda Vetting Policy	Global Citizenship Education Policy
Harassment and Sexual Harassment for Staff	Homework Policy
Library – Policy on Acquisitions	Lockdown Management Policy
Locker Policy	Mobile Phone Policy
Policy on Reviewing Guiding Statements	Practices and Procedures in relation to the SAC Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and Statement
Protected Disclosures Policy	Senior School Admissions Policy
Student Driving to School Policy	Student Support Policy

Student Support Policy	Substitute Teacher Policy
Supporters' Policy	Sustainability Policy Statement

## School Self Evaluation (SSE)

This year School Self Evaluation focused on Teaching WalkThrus and the Neart application process.

### Teaching WalkThrus

Two groups of teachers participated in a trial of the WalkThrus programme across various subjects. The groups met to discuss pedagogy, then identify on what WalkThrus they would implement in their own weekly practice. In the first term, both groups adopted a common approach and created a cluster of WalkThrus, where all the teachers carried out the same WalkThrus within their respective group. This approach helped to build familiarity and develop a shared understanding of how WalkThrus worked. Teachers had the autonomy to select different WalkThrus from across the six series that align with a particular area or focus in their own teaching and learning.

The groups used the following cyclical process when collaborating: Teachers met to discuss teaching and learning within the larger school context, and also the individual context of their own classes. They agreed on a cluster of WalkThrus to focus on and developed an observation schedule. WalkThrus were then carried out, after which the group reconvened to share observations, reflect on practice, and discuss insights gained. These discussions were supported by using the ADAPT framework from the WalkThru programme: Attempt, Develop, Adapt, Practise, and Test, supporting teachers in reflecting on their practice and identifying next steps for further development.

### Wellbeing

Wellbeing promotion within the school develops children and young peoples' awareness of mental health difficulties and information is shared about when to seek help and who to go to when distressed.

In keeping with the effective practice as outlined in the Wellbeing Policy Statement the Wellbeing/Bí Cineálta team began work on applying for the Jigsaw Neart Wellbeing Award. The Jigsaw Neart initiative recognises the efforts of post-primary schools in Ireland that demonstrably prioritise mental health and wellbeing, developed in partnership with NEPS/Department of Education. It supports a whole-school approach, offering resources for staff, parents, and students, with registration available on [jigsaw.ie](http://jigsaw.ie). Neart was brought to the Wellbeing/Bí Cineálta Committee's attention at a meeting in December, and the school registered for the award.

### Amber Flag

The Pieta House Amber Flag is required to be renewed every two years. This will be carried out in the next academic year.

## Digital Learning

The 2025–2026 academic year marked a period of consolidation, reflection, and strategic development in digital learning at St. Andrew’s College. Building on the strong foundations established in previous years, the College continued to embed digital technologies in ways that supported student learning, staff collaboration, wellbeing, and future-focused educational practice. Particular emphasis was placed on responsible AI integration, digital literacy, student organisation, and the evolving needs of Senior Cycle education.

A significant focus this year was the continued development of student digital skills across multiple year groups. Within the Transition Year programme, students engaged with a newly introduced Digital Portfolio initiative designed to strengthen organisation, digital communication, reflective practice, and independent learning skills. Students attended an introductory session at the beginning of the year, while form teachers received guidance on the technical requirements and intended learning outcomes associated with the portfolio process. Support materials were also developed to assist students in building competency and confidence across key digital platforms and workflows. The success of the Transition Year initiative was also a key factor in the decision to expand the use of Class Notebook with second year students, helping to strengthen continuity in digital learning experiences across the junior cycle. A Digital Study Book initiative was introduced for second year students in March 2026. Students were introduced to the concept during year-group assemblies, followed by in-class sessions explaining its uses and benefits. The initiative aimed to support students in developing stronger organisational habits, reflective study practices, and greater independence in managing coursework and revision. The initiative has strong potential for further development and may benefit from earlier introduction within the academic calendar to support greater consistency of use.

The Digital Team also reviewed the First Year Digital Wellbeing programme. Following reflection on student engagement and feedback, plans were developed to extend the existing eight-week digital skills module through to the Christmas term beginning next academic year. This extension is intended to provide students with greater opportunities to develop confidence, digital responsibility, organisational skills, and sustainable technology habits during the transition into post-primary education. As part of this redevelopment process, the digital team is also preparing a pilot Digital Skills Assessment for first year students to be introduced next academic year. The assessment aims to provide clearer insight into student competencies in areas such as digital organisation, online collaboration, responsible device use, and digital literacy.

Professional learning and staff support remained a key priority throughout the year. Regular digital drop-in clinics provided opportunities for teachers to engage with emerging technologies in a practical and collaborative setting. Particular focus was placed on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education, with dedicated sessions exploring introductory AI concepts, effective prompting techniques, classroom applications, and the responsible use of generative AI tools such as Copilot and ChatGPT. A major strategic development during the year was the establishment and formal ratification of the College’s Artificial Intelligence Policy. Developed through collaboration between staff, school leadership, and the newly formed AI Oversight Committee, the policy reflects the College’s commitment to adopting a measured, ethical, and educationally focused approach to emerging technologies. The policy was designed to align with Department of Education and Youth guidance, evolving EU regulations, and the College’s broader commitment to student wellbeing, academic integrity, and reflective learning.

The establishment of the AI Oversight Committee represented an important step in ensuring ongoing review, staff support, and strategic oversight in this rapidly developing area. The committee worked closely with school leadership to explore issues relating to academic honesty, data protection, critical

engagement with AI-generated content, and the educational implications of generative AI technologies.

Preparations for ongoing Senior Cycle redevelopment also continued throughout the year. A Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programme was introduced for fifth year students as part of the College’s broader commitment to preparing students for increasingly independent and digitally integrated learning environments.

The College also undertook a review of its Digital Learning Plan. This process involved reflecting on current practices, evaluating emerging priorities, and considering the evolving role of AI, digital wellbeing, and student digital competencies within teaching and learning. Student and staff voice continued to inform strategic planning and digital development.

In conclusion, the 2025–2026 academic year reflected a balanced and future-focused approach to digital learning at St Andrew’s College. Through ongoing reflection, collaborative leadership, responsible innovation, and evidence-informed planning, the College continued to strengthen a digital culture that prioritises student wellbeing, ethical technology use, academic integrity, and meaningful learning experiences.

## Staff Development

St Andrew’s College staff have attended a wide range of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) training throughout the year. Conferences/workshops attended by staff included the following:

<b>Art</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IB Visual Art</li> <li>• Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>• Introduction to World Wide Global Schools</li> </ul>	<b>Bullying Awareness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bí Cineálta - Restorative Practice</li> <li>• Bí Cineálta Training</li> </ul>	<b>Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> </ul>
<b>Computer Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Workshop (Oide)</li> </ul>	<b>Data Protection</b> Subject Access Requests (IAHIP)	<b>English</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>• AI Literacy in the Classroom</li> <li>• English Meet 2025</li> </ul>
<b>French</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Le Theatre en classe - FESTIFLE Avignon France</li> <li>• Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>• DELF A2/B1 Training</li> </ul>	<b>Geography</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>• Professional Learning Webinar Series Spring 2026</li> </ul>	<b>Guidance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University Visit – Frankfurt</li> <li>• Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>• Higher Options Training</li> <li>• IB Maths SL HL ADMISSIONS officers</li> <li>• National Tertiary Office (NTO) new course developments</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance Counsellor Forum – Trinity Guidance Course, Blackrock Education</li> </ul>
<b>Health and Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manual Handling, Health and Safety Authority of Ireland</li> </ul>	<b>History</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> </ul>	<b>Home Economics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> </ul>
<b>Music</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DCU Choral Leadership Day 2025</li> <li>Working as Leaving Cert Written Examiner for State Examinations Commission</li> </ul>	<b>PE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>Irish Strength &amp; Conditioning Network Conference</li> <li>PEAI Annual Conference</li> <li>Rescue Emergency Care Level 2</li> <li>Online PD Networking event, ASCA (Australian Strength &amp; Conditioning association)</li> <li>Cluster Day LCPE- Oide</li> <li>LCPE video analysis and performance assessment – Oide</li> <li>CBA2 My Performance – Oide</li> <li>Teachmeet LCPE</li> <li>Enhancing Learning through video</li> <li>Planning for the new LC PE</li> </ul>	<b>Spanish</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>Spanish Teachers’ Association Conference</li> </ul>

	Specification: A Practical Guide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional Learning Webinar Series Spring 2026</li> </ul>	
<b>SPHE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive Teaching and Learning – Post Primary</li> <li>Senior Cycle SPHE – Oide</li> <li>Foróige Training</li> <li>Senior Cycle SPHE – Oide</li> </ul>	<b>Transition Year</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hiking Course</li> <li>Full Day Professional Learning Experience Day 4</li> </ul>	<b>Wellbeing in Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive Teaching and Learning (Post Primary)</li> <li>Oide training</li> </ul>

## Significant Student Achievements

### Trinity College Entrance Exhibition Award

Trinity Entrance Exhibition awards were awarded to the following Class of 2025 students: Elsie Bath, Jerome Beck, Emily Bell, Liam Cox, Patrick Fanning, Leah Garvey Drazin, Michael Keatinge, Scott Lowry, Henry McDonnell, Emily Mikkelson, Alice Pollastri McLysaght, Keelin O'Carroll, Aylin Ustuner and Ellie Walsh.

### UCD Entrance Scholars (Academic High Achievers)

UCD Entrance Exhibition awards were awarded to Class of 2025 students, Thomas Bruen, Abigail O'Connor, Chloe O'Sullivan and Leor Weissblech.

### Stripe Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2026

The Stripe Young Scientist and Technology exhibition 2026 took place in January at the RDS. Niall Hennessy (sixth year) was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in his category in the Biological and Ecological Sciences and also the Eli Lilly Award.

## Chess

The St Andrew's College Chess Club had a very busy year. They took part in various tournaments, organised their own tournament as well as weekly school activities. Chess continued to be a popular activity across all year groups with weekly attendance at lunchtime on Mondays of 20-40 students.

The student led chess committee held a tournament in the College on 26 September. The event was a tremendous success with over 400 students from over 40 schools across Leinster attending. Over 70 students volunteered to come in on their day off to assist with the running of the event which demonstrated the level of community spirit within the College. Later in the year, our students attended smaller tournaments held by neighbouring schools which gave them the opportunity to participate in competitions with local schools.

A highlight of the year was winning the Institute of Education Blitz Tournament. This was a 3+2 blitz tournament. The College was represented by Alex Quinlan, Matthew Trignano (fifth year), Ryan Brew (Transition year) and Shen qi Huang (third year).

## **Robotics Club (First Lego League)**

First Lego League is a global competition designed as an introduction to robotics for first to Transition Year students. The competition is made up of regional rounds, where teams then qualify for a National Round, which is the qualifier for the World Finals.

This year the theme was Unearthed, focusing on archaeology. Four teams emerged to represent the school in the regional rounds.

### **UCD Regional Round**

In February, all four teams participated in the UCD Regional Round. Team Brobots (Transition year) won the prize for 'Best Innovation Project'. Team Elite Excavators (third year) won the whole tournament which qualified them for a place in the All-Ireland National Finals. They also won the Robot Game Award for the highest points in the Robot Game, and at the time, had recorded the highest points tally in country for any team that had competed in the competition to date.

### **All Ireland National Finals**

The students in Brobots (third year) and Coral Coders (second year) represented the College at the All-Ireland National Finals in April which made up a total of 24 teams. Elite Excavators (third year) won the 'Best Robot Design Award'. This was one of the top three National Awards on the day and the College's second time to win the award.

The teams continued to meet on Wednesdays and Fridays, trying out new designs and tricks that they observed at the All Irelands, learning how to use different sensors and motors, all in preparation for next year.

## **Competitive Coding and Algorithmic Problem-Solving Club**

This is a student led club at the College, the club aims to promote and improve the College's STEM offering building on the coding opportunities afforded to students that partake in First Lego League and want to take their coding skills to the next level. In the competitive coding club, students aim to design fast and efficient algorithms to solve problems in a contest-based setting. In doing so, students will also begin to understand many fascinating areas in the field of computer science and mathematics that are typically reserved for university, along with teaching basic coding skills to those that want to give it a go and learn a new skill.

### **Bebras Challenge**

The Bebras Computing Challenge which is run in Ireland by the Irish Computer Society, introduces computational thinking and computer science to students from 6-18 years, by allowing them to solve interactive tasks online. The aim of Bebras is to get students all over the world excited about computing. Three of our students participated in the challenge which was held over three weeks in November. The students found it to be a good, interesting challenge and learned a lot from the experience.

## Young Economist of the Year

The Young Economist of the Year competition is an inquiry-based research competition for students of first to sixth year in the area of Economics. The sponsors of the competition are Oide, the Irish Economics Association (IEA), Maynooth University, NUI Galway, UCD, UCC, Trinity College, Limerick University, the Central Bank of Ireland, CSO and the Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service (IGEES)

St Andrew's College had nine entries this year from first to sixth year students. Projects are initially categorised as Participation, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Gold medal projects are eligible to win further awards, such as 1<sup>st</sup> place in their year, or one of the special interest prizes at the National Awards ceremony, which took place on the 5 May in the O'Reilly Hall, UCD.

Four of the seven gold medalists went on to win further prizes as follows:

### ***Trade/FDI/Migration Award: Maynooth University***

Winners: Vivaan Shrivastava and Giacomo Barberis (fifth year)

Project: "MNC's, Friend or Foe?" To what extent is Ireland's economy too dependent on foreign corporations, and how does this undermine its economic autonomy?

### **Sixth Year – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Mykyta Akimenko (6IB)**

Project: To what extent has the Irish Government's Housing Policy contributed to the rise in rental prices, and can this be reversed without destabilising the economy?"

### **Fifth Year – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Finn O'Donail**

Project: Have rent pressure zones achieved their goals in Ireland, and is there a better way forward?

### **Transition Year – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Jack Bohill and Hugo McVeigh**

Project: A new vision for renting in Ireland - How could a foreign approach to rental policy fix the Irish rental market?

## Prize Giving Ceremony

The Annual Prizegiving ceremony took place in UCD O'Reilly Hall on Monday, 17 November 2025. The evening commenced at 7.30pm with an Academic Procession, followed by an opening speech by Mr Sam Saarseiner, Chair of the Board. Reverend Dunlop delivered the Opening Prayer, followed by the College Principal's address, presentation of the Awards and an Address by special guest Minister Jennifer Carroll Mac Neill TD. Reverend Andrew Gill delivered the Concluding Prayer.

The ceremony was well attended with a mixture of 609 students, parents and staff.

## Student Spirit Awards

The Student Spirit Awards were presented during special assemblies for first, second, third, and fifth-year students at the end of the academic year. These awards recognise students who truly embody the spirit of our College. What makes the Spirit Awards unique is that they go beyond traditional measures of achievement. They honour students who live out our core values of responsibility, resilience, and respect in everyday College life. These values are reflected through acts of kindness, generosity, helpfulness, and enthusiasm, demonstrated both in and outside the classroom. The awards also celebrate students who display responsibility and respect in their outstanding behaviour

in areas such as attendance, punctuality, and pride in wearing the St Andrew's College uniform throughout the year. Through their positive contributions and active participation, these students help foster a caring, supportive, and inclusive community where everyone is valued.

## **Remembrance Service**

The annual Remembrance Ceremony took place on Tuesday, 11 November 2025. The ceremony commemorates all those who lost their lives in both World Wars and, in particular, St Andrew's College students who made the ultimate sacrifice. Guests in attendance included Rev. Alastair Dunlop and Rev. Andrew Gill (Board of Governors), Mr John Ingram (Advisor to the Board of Governors), Mr Finn Walker (President of SACCA) and Mr Tristan Wood (PTA committee). The Head Boy and Head Girl read out the roll of honour and wreaths were placed at the memorial.

## **Holocaust Memorial Day**

As part of the Holocaust Education Ireland (HEI) crocus project, the IB history students planted yellow crocuses to remember the victims of the Holocaust.

## **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Seachtain na Gaeilge 2026 took place from Monday, 9 March to Friday, 13 March, featuring a wide range of activities for each year group to enjoy throughout the week. The Irish Department was festively decorated, with vibrant posters displayed to promote the week's events. Announcements were made during assemblies to keep students informed and engaged.

The week officially began with a traditional Irish music session organised by the music department. This year, both the junior and senior schools collaborated to celebrate the occasion, with a number of cross-school events taking place. The school's traditional music band, also led by the music department, performed during a special junior school assembly held in the hall. A Sos Gaelach was held for both the junior and senior schools, with strong staff participation in the staff room.

A range of competitions and activities were organised to support student learning and participation. First-year students participated in the Comórtas Litriúcháin, and their projects were proudly exhibited as part of Comórtas Tish Parsons in House Area 1. Second year students designed visually engaging posters based on traditional Irish proverbs (seanfhocail), which were displayed outside their classrooms. A table quiz was organised for third year students, assessing both their general knowledge and their understanding of the Irish curriculum. Transition year students participated in an Ogham workshop, during which they also created their own Ogham stones using air drying clay. As part of Comórtas Scannánaíochta, fifth year students presented a selection of short films that they had written, acted in, and produced themselves. Sixth year students took part in Scóráil Sciobtha.

The annual Céilí Mór was held at lunchtime in the senior hall and attracted a lively and enthusiastic attendance. The Irish Department organised An Lá Geansaí Glas, a whole-school initiative where students and staff wore green in celebration of Seachtain na Gaeilge and raised €700 for Purple House Cancer Support.

## **Junior and Senior Debate Club**

Junior Debate Club met on Tuesday lunchtime and was open to all first to third year students. Senior Debate Club met on Thursday lunchtime and was open to all Transition to sixth year students. Both clubs continued to grow with over 25 students engaging with Senior Debate Club and 50 students engaging with Junior Debate Club. Throughout the year, the clubs met weekly, engaging in mini debates and various public speaking/debate practice exercises. In addition to this, there were numerous competitions that the students took part in throughout the year.

### **World School's Debate Competition**

The World Schools Debate Competition took place in September. Finn O'Dónaill (fifth year) qualified for the Team Ireland Training Panel.

### **Leinster Schools Debate Competition**

This is a competition run by UCD's two debating societies, Literary and Historical Society and Law Society for Transition to sixth year students. We entered four teams, one of which made it through to the semi-final held in March.

### **UCD Junior Debate Competition**

This is a competition run by UCD's two debating societies, Literary and Historical Society and Law Society for first to third year students. Second year student, Lara Hood won 'Best Individual Speaker' which was very impressive achievement.

### **St Andrews College Junior Mace**

This year, the College was honoured to host the inter-school competition in November for a second time. The National Junior Mace has three preliminary rounds, held in host schools, before a National Competition is held in UCD. The College welcomed over 100 first to third year students from schools all over Leinster and approximately 20 judges composed of Transition to sixth year students from various schools and university debaters.

### **National Junior Mace Debating Final**

The final of the Junior Schools Debating competition took place in UCD in April. The College was represented by Lara Hood and Isabella Shields (second year).

### **National Senior Mace Debating Final**

The final of the Junior Schools Debating competition took place in April. The College was represented by fifth year students, Norah Tinney, Finn O'Dónaill and Transition year students, Laura Galligan, Erin Gallimore and Sarah Beth Parker.

## **Model United Nations**

Model United Nations (MUN) ran throughout the year with meetings taking place three afternoons per week. MUN is a simulation of the United Nations where students research and debate topics of global significance from the perspective of different countries. The meetings are organised and chaired by students. A key aspect of MUN is the older students learning leadership skills and using these skills to run the meetings and to teach MUN to the younger students. St Andrew's College has been running MUN since 1983 and has hosted our own four day conference, St Andrew's International Model United Nations (SAIMUN), since 1988. This year a total of 400 students participated in SAIMUN

2026. It was held from 13 to 16 February in the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire. In recent years, many other Irish schools are hosting conferences which has led to a busy MUN calendar this year for the students. Throughout the year, students from second, third, Transition, fifth and sixth year took part in MUN.

#### **Terenure College MUN: September**

Represented by 25 students from Transition to sixth year. We had predominately new delegates, and our USA delegation were awarded the second place, Highly Commended Delegation award.

#### **Royal Russell School: October**

Represented by 40 students from fifth and sixth year. We had three committee chairs: Genevieve Costello Doherty (sixth year), Max Grogan (fifth year), and Sophie Behan (fifth year). Aran Begley (fifth year) and Jessica Moore (fifth year) officiated as Judges of the International Court of Justice. Many of our delegates came away with successes both individually and our China delegation winning the conference overall. This is a continuation of our success at this conference. St. Andrew's College had the largest number of delegates and maintains our high standard of winning this conference.

#### **Newpark MUN: November**

Represented by 23 students from third and Transition year. Our students represented three delegations: China, Denmark, and Ghana.

#### **Rathdown School: November**

Represented by 36 students from third to year fifth year. We had four committee chairs: Jessica Moore, Olivier Brama, Vivaan Shrivastava, and Aran Begley (fifth year). Russia was awarded the Highly Commended Delegation award.

#### **Belvedere College: January**

Represented by 25 students. The UK delegation was awarded the Highly Commended Delegation Award. Six of our delegates also won individual awards. Anna Tuite (fifth year) and Aran Begley (fifth year) both served as Committee Chairs.

#### **Blackrock College: January**

Represented by 13 students from third to fifth year. Represented China and Sierra Leone delegations.

#### **The Hague Model United Nations (THIMUN)**

Represented by 29 students from fifth and sixth year. The Hague MUN does not present awards. This year, we were privileged to have Zahra Nassiri (sixth year) representing the College in the position of Deputy Secretary General. Cole Thompson (fifth year) was given the position of Editor in Chief of the Press Team. Sophie Behan (fifth year) was on the Approval Panel. We had two Committee Chairs, Max Grogan (fifth year) and Freya Varian (sixth year). Both Zahra Nassiri and Cole Thompson gave speeches at the Closing Ceremony.

#### **St Andrew's College Model United Nations**

The 37<sup>th</sup> St Andrew's College Model United Nations (SAIMUN) 2026 took place from Friday 13 February to Monday 16 February. Schools travelled from many countries to Ireland including the USA, Dubai, Norway, Greece and Turkey.

The opening ceremony was led by Dara Ó Murchu (sixth year) and began with an introduction of all the esteemed speakers, including our guest speaker, Mr Sam Saarsteiner, Chair of the College Board of Governors. Our keynote speaker was Ms Gina London, Emmy-award winning former CNN news

anchor, Washington correspondent and current life coach. Musical performances were performed by Rose Foster, Giulia Doherty, Liam O'Mahony, and Breixo Agulla Perez (sixth year).

The SAIMUN executive team was led by Secretary-General, James Kirby (sixth year) and Deputy Secretaries-General, Eoin MacCarthy, Cian Sengupta, and Niall Hennessy (sixth year). Administration and IT departments ensured that everything in our paperless conference ran smoothly. The Administration team was led by Sophie Gallagher and Anne Balfe (fifth year). Student head of IT was Max Grogan (fifth year), who did a brilliant job in creating a brand new SAIMUN mobile app, which was a fantastic addition to the conference.

At the closing ceremony, which was sponsored by the PTA, the awards were presented including multiple awards for the College. The highlights were a Highly Commended Delegation award for the six students representing Bahrain and an Outstanding Delegation award for the seven students representing France.

### **Wesley College MUN: February**

Represented by 19 students from second to fifth year. Genevieve Costello-Doherty represented the College as a Committee Chair. Distinguished Delegate awards were won by four of our delegates.

### **High School MUN: March**

Represented by 18 students from third and Transition year. Our students represented the delegations of Australia, China and Panama.

### **Holy Faith Clontarf MUN: March**

Represented by 16 students. Delegation of China was awarded Best in General Assembly and two students from the delegation of China were awarded Highly Commended delegate.

### **Wicklow MUN: April**

Represented by 20 students, mainly from Transition year. Genevieve Costello-Doherty (sixth year), Norah Tinney (fifth year), and Jack Hayes (fifth year).

The end of year MUN Awards Dinner which was sponsored by the PTA, took place on Friday 8 May in the College. We had a great turnout of nearly 100 students. The evening consisted of speeches by students reflecting on all the MUNs this year, alongside some musical performances. Participation certificates were presented to students to reflect their attendance at all the MUNs this year. This was a lovely evening and a fine way to finish MUN for the year.

## **Intercultural Week**

Intercultural Week was held from Monday 11 to Friday 15 November. A large number of students participated in, and assisted with, the running of many diverse events intended to showcase our international student body and the diverse cultures of the College.

Each morning, students were welcomed to school by their peers and teachers announcing morning messages in a variety of languages over the intercom. Some of the activities held in the junior and senior halls included whole school karaoke, language kiosks (learn a few words in a new language), IB International afternoon tea, European quizzes, just dance competitions, USA and Canada games and more. It was a fun filled week with students embracing the cultures celebrated each day. Sodexo designed a very successful Intercultural Week menu for the students and staff to enjoy.

## **International Night**

The 2025 International Night took place on Wednesday, 12 November with a record number of applications this year. The evening commenced with an opening ceremony which included a welcome address from Ms Louise Marshall, College Principal. Head Boy Cian Sengupta and Head Girl Alisha Manoj co-presented the evening, which included a spectacular parade of over 50 flags representing countries from around the world. Approximately 260 students proudly took part in this record-setting parade. Before the flag ceremony, guests enjoyed lively musical and dance performances, setting the tone for an evening that continued with the ever-popular food stalls and activity booths.

Food stalls from 18 different countries displayed an amazing array of food and drink from all over the world. We had food from a wide range of countries displaying their national cuisine, which included South Africa, China, Italy, Germany, Japan, Nigeria, Portugal, Sweden, Thailand, Bulgaria, Australia, Spain, Malta, the United States, Ireland, and France, along with Mexican and Danish specialties. There was also a collaboration of a family from Uganda and a group of fifth year students who had visited Uganda last May as part of the TY Uganda Project. After the success of last year, many regular participants returned with enthusiasm and excitement and as a result, the atmosphere was electric. Over 80 parents worked together for weeks in advance to prepare their food stalls, some of them forging new relationships and many of them promising to return again next year.

The music and dance performances were truly a highlight of the evening. Over 20 students and teachers took part in the musical programme, blending fusion sounds with traditional Irish instruments to create a unique and vibrant atmosphere. Adding to the excitement, two Irish set dancers captivated the audience with lively tunes and steps. It was wonderful to experience this dynamic mix of music and dance throughout the night. This year, students and staff also managed the sound and lighting, making the event a genuine St. Andrew's College production from start to finish.

Both sound and lights technology were coordinated entirely by students and staff this year, making it a genuine St Andrew's driven event.

## **PTA**

The PTA continued their valuable support of the College throughout the year. The PTA commenced their programme of activities with a Uniform Sale on 23 August which was well supported. They hosted the Debs reception for the Class of 2025 in the College on the 10 September and this joyful occasion was appreciated and enjoyed by everyone in attendance. In August, the PTA hosted a coffee morning to welcome all new first year parents to the College which was a lovely way for parents to meet each other as their children began their journey in St Andrew's College senior school. In addition, the PTA hosted a coffee morning in September for all new and international parents.

In October, the PTA organised social evenings for the parents of first year, P3 and K1. A super time was had by all who attended, and it was another great opportunity to meet other parents in an informal setting. The PTA also hosted a Parent Talk entitled "CAO and Beyond" for fifth and sixth year parents given by Resolve Careers Coaching. The PTA hosted a Christmas Social Evening in the Royal St George Yacht Club in December which was hugely supported. The Annual Charity Lunch organised by the PTA in the InterContinental Hotel took place in January, where substantial funds were raised for PTA initiatives and for Purple House Cancer Centre in Bray. This is a highlight of the College calendar and is always well attended and supported by the College community. This was followed by a presentation in March by Mr Wayne Denner, entitled "AI Safety and Digital Health", run in conjunction with the school.

The PTA provided support to several College activities. These included SciFest, Junior School Performing Arts Festival, Intercultural week, Senior School Music and Dance Festival, Junior School P6 Class Graduation, MUN and the Junior School Sports Day. Students were treated to ice-cream in both junior and senior schools sponsored by the PTA as part of their Sports Day celebration. The staff appreciated the 'Advent Calendar Gifts' and Easter Egg prizes which the PTA arranged again this year as well as the 'staff breakfast' hosted by the PTA. The PTA Table Quiz was a most enjoyable evening in April for staff and parents with all teams contesting closely for the winning prize.

In addition, the PTA played an important role in the success of the Sixth Year Valedictory evening. They supported the event in both their generous donation and their time serving soft drinks and canapes. The committee were very grateful for the great support that they received from fifth year parent volunteers and students to make this event such a success. The PTA also helped to host the P6 graduation and received support from P5 parents which they were delighted to have. Finally, our Transition Year students recently returned from Uganda where they presented the Rubrizi School with a substantial donation from the PTA. In addition to that, the PTA were delighted to make a contribution to the 20 year anniversary magazine published by the school and students.

## **SACA**

It was a busy year for SACA and the Alumni community. Events commenced with the Annual SACA Dinner held at the Royal St George Yacht Club, Dun Laoghaire, which was a huge success. The Annual Clyde Road lunch took place in the Royal St George Yacht Club, Dun Laoghaire in May. It was a most enjoyable event which gave the past pupils of Clyde Road the opportunity to meet up and reminisce. The Annual Alumni table quiz was held at the Punch Bowl, Booterstown where a terrific sum of money was raised for the TY Uganda Project and CHEEERS Developing Healthcare Together. The table quiz was then followed by the Annual Rugby Lunch in Old Wesley Rugby Club which raised a great sum of money for its chosen charity.

SACA members attended many annual dinners hosted by a variety of other schools this year, which were greatly enjoyed and are a charming tradition between the various schools. The Alumni were also represented at the annual Prizegiving Ceremony in November, the Transition Year End of Year Ceremony, to mark the Transition Year student award winners and the Sixth Year Valedictory Night in the College; all excellent occasions.

The SACA social media presence and communications are being refined and enhanced all the time, to ensure that news and information is shared as far as possible to the Alumni community as to all of SACA's wonderful events.

## **Financial Report**

The key financial objective of the College is to ensure that the proposed building development is properly funded and that the cost of development remains within budget. It is also important that adequate funding is available to carry out our educational mission, maintain and improve existing facilities and generate sufficient funds to service existing school building loans.