



St Andrew's College

Secondary School

Annual Report June 2022

Board of Management Members

Mrs Hilary McCowen Rabbette, B.Comm (NUI) FCA (Chair)

Mr Neil Collen

Mr David Ingram, BBS (DCU)

Mr Nigel Meredith, BBS (Dubl)

Mr David Varian, BBS (Dubl) FCA

Ms Lynn Wiley

Mr W Hehir, BSc (Hons) (NUI) MEd

Dr Krysia Lynch, BSc (Hons) (Dunelm), MA (TCD), PhD (Dunelm)

Mr D McCann, BA (Moderator) (Dubl) HDipEd

Mrs Sandra Tiernan BA (Hons) (TCD), HDipEd

Ms Louise Marshall, MEd (TCD), BEd (QUB) (Headmistress)

Mr Ivan Schuster, BA (NUI), FCA (Secretary to the Board)

Introduction

This report has been prepared to cover the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022.

School enrolment

At the beginning of the 2021–2022 school year, secondary school enrolment was 1010 (512 boys and 498 girls). Of the total, 864 were Irish nationals, 24 were US citizens, and 131 other nationalities.

Faculty

In 2021/22 there were 146 full-time and 37 part-time faculty members of which 165 are Irish citizens and 18 other nationalities. The mixture of nationalities adds to the international character of the College.

Facilities

The school buildings and grounds are owned by the College Patron – the Board of Governors. Facilities include 63 classrooms, 21 tutorial rooms, 7 laboratories, a science garden, 4 art rooms, 2 home economics rooms, 2 libraries, 20 resource rooms, 2 computer design laboratories, 2 assembly halls, 2 pop up outdoor canteens, a sports hall, gym and an administration centre. Outdoor sports facilities include 1 rugby pitch, 2 hockey pitches, one water-based, the other sand-based and 2 basketball training hoops and a basketball shooting machine. We have parking for approximately 160 – 170 cars.

Motto

The academic year began with an online Whole School Opening Service on Wednesday, 15 September where the College motto *Ardens Sed Virens*, burning but flourishing was shared with the students as the theme for the year. The importance of perseverance and striving in the face of adversity as the College community continued to navigate its way through the Covid-19 pandemic was emphasised with the students throughout the year in assemblies and among year groups. In keeping with our philosophy and ethos, we constantly strive to instil the need for hard work and a determined effort with the students.

Child Protection Procedures

The Board of Management annual review of The Child Protection Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment was conducted in March 2022. 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 Headmistress with any queries or comments as appropriate. The Board of Management approved the review on 22 March 2022. 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) is Ms Louise Marshall, Headmistress. Ms Mary Keddy, Deputy Principal is the Deputy DLP.

COVID-19 Return to School

The Department of Education and Skills instructed schools that all precautions instituted for the academic year (2020/21) were to be carried forward into this year (2021/22). As such, all our students and staff were required to wear face masks and continued to operate the 'Bubbles' system and the 1-meter distancing rule in all classrooms. The Covid-19 Response Plan for 2021-2022, which is a live document, was updated and shared with all parents/guardians in August before the new school year commenced. Covid-19 training for all staff took place during the staff conference on 26 August 2021.

With the easing of Covid-19 restrictions at the end February everyone was delighted to be able to return to curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities more fully for the latter part of the academic year.

CIS-NEASC Accreditation

As part of our re-accreditation process with the Council of International Schools and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, St Andrew's College hosted a Virtual Team Evaluation visit in November 2021. The Team Evaluation Virtual Visit was conducted remotely by six CIS-NEASC evaluators, carrying out video/audio interviews, viewing recorded and live video of the College premises, its teaching and operation, according to an established schedule agreed between the College and CIS-NEASC.

Following the Team Evaluation virtual visit, we were granted full re-accreditation status by both CIS and NEASC.

Council of International Schools (CIS)

The award of CIS accreditation recognised 'our commitment to student well-being and high- quality learning and teaching as well as to global citizenship and intercultural learning'. In granting the award of

accreditation, CIS stated that the 'strengths of the college far outweigh the areas for development'. CIS stated that 'these strengths should be celebrated by the school community'.

The next stage of the accreditation cycle with CIS for the College will be the Accreditation Check-in. This takes place approximately 12 and 24 months after a Team Evaluation. This pre-booked, virtual Check-in will take place between the leadership team of the College and the CIS School Support and Evaluation Officer.

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

NEASC congratulated our 'entire learning community' on our re-accreditation which they stated was 'the result of significant effort by many individuals, amid especially challenging circumstances'.

We will be asked by NEASC to provide an update on an annual basis. The Annual Update (due 15 December 15) requests information from the College regarding enrolment, staffing and alignment with NEASC Foundation Standards.

The next joint CIS-NEASC Preparatory Visit to the College will likely occur in Spring 2026.

New Building Programme

Planning permission was granted on 6 March 2019 for our new building programme. The plans include a new Junior School, a Strength and Conditioning Centre, new changing rooms, a new classroom block, new science laboratories, a Library and Study Centre and extensive refurbishment of the existing school. We had begun to plan for the start of the building programme in June 2020 but when schools were instructed to close in March 2020 due to Covid-19, we put a temporary stay on the logistical planning. At a Board of Management meeting on Thursday 2 April 2020, the Board of Management decided to pause work on the development. This continued through the academic year 2020-2021.

During this academic year, 2021-2022, we have recommenced the building programme and our architects, ABK, have been working on the detailed design drawings. It is our intention to proceed with the first phase of construction in the coming academic year, beginning with the new Junior School.

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 (3 years)
- The Transition Year Programme -compulsory for all students
- The Leaving Certificate Programme (2 years)
- The International Baccalaureate – (Diploma Programme – Fifth to Sixth Year)

Junior Cycle Programme

The Junior Cycle is a 3-year programme. Students with their parent(s)/guardian(s) 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:

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

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 Certificate 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 NCCA (National Council for Curriculum and Assessment) 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 2017).

The College has always placed a strong emphasis on the wellbeing of the school community. The introduction of a formal wellbeing programme will now complement 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 will have timetabled classes in CSPE, SPHE and PE. They will also partake in modules on digital literacy, morality, and nutrition. They will also get involved in activities that address the wellbeing indicators.

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 your college course**
- And 2/3 other subjects.

The following subjects are available:

Irish	English	Mathematics
Physics	Chemistry	Biology
Agricultural Science	French	German
Spanish	Accounting	Business
Economics	Music	Art
Design & Communication Graphics	Classical Studies	Geography
History	Home Economics	Religious Education
Applied Mathematics	<i>Politics and Society (From 22/23)</i>	

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 1 to 6 to ensure that all students are able to study at least one subject from each group. All students taking the Diploma programme must take 3 subjects at higher level, 3 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.

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/ren's progress.

Year	First Term	Second Term	Third Term
First Year	Autumn (brief report)	Spring (brief report)	Summer (full report)
Second Year	Christmas (full report)		
Third Year	Autumn (brief report) Christmas (full report)	Trial Junior Cycle (marks)	Letter from Year Team
Transition Year	Autumn (marks)	February (marks)	Summer (full report)
Fifth Year/IB	Christmas (full report)	Spring (marks)	
Sixth Year/IB	Autumn (marks) Christmas (full report) Trial (IB–full report)	Trial Leaving Certificate (marks) Predicted Grades (IB)	

Examination Results

The following numbers of students took part in State Examinations in 2021:

- Leaving Certificate 133
- International Baccalaureate 20

Leaving Certificate Accredited Grades

- Results of written examinations and Accredited Grades for the Class of 2021 were published online on Friday, 3 September 2021.
- The average points for the 136 students registered for Leaving Certificate 2021 was 502. 86.6% of students achieved 400 points or greater, 58.2% of students achieved 500 points or greater, 35.1 of students achieved 550 points or greater, 26.1 of students achieved 570 points or greater and 14.2% of

students achieved 600 points or greater. We extended particular congratulations to seven students who achieved the maximum 625 points; Aisling Beecham, Natacha Byrne, Claire Holahan, Clodagh O'Brien, Rachel O'Kelly, Romy Ryan and Konstantin Ryazanov.

International Baccalaureate

- Following the cancellation of the 2021 IB examinations, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 20 students were awarded the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Following an appeals process, 4 students were upgraded. Noémie Leeder and Karlo Vidovic were awarded the maximum 45 points.

Extra-curricular Activities

The following activities, with some modifications in order to comply with Covid-19 took place in the current academic year:

Art Drawing Class	Attenborough Club	Guitar/Ukulele
Basketball	Badminton	Chess Club
Choir	Circuit Training	Christian Union
Debating	French Speaking and Debating Club	Fitness
Grapevine (College Magazine)	Green Committee	Hockey
Intercultural Week	Instrumental Lessons	Lego Club
Literacy Committee	Orchestra	Model United Nations (MUN)
Reading Club	Rugby	Sailing
Student Council	The President's Award (An Gaisce)	Wine Dark Sea
Writers Club	Young Economist	Young Scientist
Music Technology Club		

Sports

Participation in sporting activities is regarded by the College as desirable for all pupils 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 pupils 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.

The highlight of this year was the return to a pre-covid-19 training schedule and the return of competitive games with some competitions coming back in slightly different forms.

Sports Highlights 2021-2022

Girls Cricket

The Senior Girls reached the final of the Cup where they lost to Mount Sackville. They bowled first and were set a total of 85 runs to beat. They unfortunately came up short on 69 runs in a game that was certainly there to win. Our Senior B Team competed well but were unsuccessful in progressing out of their group.

Our Junior Girls also reached the final of the Cup. In the final they played against a strong Mount Temple side who ran out winners by 10 runs. Our Junior B Team competed well but were unsuccessful in progressing out of their group.

Both of our First Year teams had good seasons with the First Year A team reaching their respective Cup final in which they were well beaten by Sandford Park. The First Year B Team also had a great season but bowed out at the semi-final stage to Loreto on the Green.

Louise Little, our Senior A Girls Captain, represented Ireland in the T20 World Cup qualifiers in Spain at the end of August. The team finished second and failed to qualify directly but got through subsequently.

Boys Cricket

Unfortunately, we had no provincial competition success in boys' cricket this year. The inability to play our matches at home meant that the game was not visible in the school. In addition, due to Covid-19 we have three, year groups who have had very little exposure to the game.

At First Year level, we had twenty-two players on average across the eleven training sessions which enabled us to have one team only for competition. The First Year A Team performed well and were unfortunate to lose in the semi-finals to eventual winners, The High School.

The Second Year boys were a committed group with raw talent and very little cricketing experience. Unfortunately, they lost their three league games in their section. Attendance at all of Friday's training sessions was good and it is expected that moving forward this group will improve.

The Junior Boys won two, tied one and lost one match in their section. Indeed, it could have been an excellent season as they tied with Catholic University School (CUS) who eventually won the Junior Cup. However, losing against Clongowes Wood College SJ, meant they did not qualify from our section.

Unfortunately, we had no Senior Boys cricket team representing the College this year. The boys were enthusiastic to play 'non-committal' cricket, however, their academic workload deterred them from committing to a full league structure.

In January, Jamie Forbes travelled to the West Indies with the Irish U-19 Team to play in the World Cup. David Vincent (class of 2021) was also in the squad. Toby Slye O'Connell was selected as part of the Irish U-13 squad.

Boys Tennis

We entered five teams in boys tennis this year with one Senior side, two at Junior level and two at Minor level.

Our Senior Team battled hard to reach the semi-finals of the league where they lost 4-1 to a very impressive Castleknock Community College side. However, with the full side back again next year as well as a strong player returning from France, we look forward to having a stronger team next season. Our Junior A Team had mixed success winning their opening pool game before going down to Kilkenny College and a strong St Mary's side.

Our Junior B Team made up exclusively of Second Year students reached the final division three where they played against Donabate Community College. It was a tight match but they lost 3-2. Our Minor A Team won Leinster Division Two with a 3-2 win against St Fintan's College. The match ended early with our doubles pairing and our third singles getting the three points required with convincing wins. Our Minor B Team lost out 5-0 to Clonkeen College in what was effectively a quarter final.

Girls Tennis

The girls had fantastic numbers out to training and entered seven teams across the leagues. Our Senior Team had a great run in the leagues making it through to the semi-finals of Division Two where they were beaten by the eventual winners of the League, Mount Anville.

Our three Junior Teams all had wins but failed to progress through their sections to the knock out stages, with our three sides at Minor level again enjoying success but not enough to progress through their pools.

The standard of tennis was very high across the province this year and our girls competed very well.

Boys Hockey

The Senior Boys had a difficult season hampered by long term injuries to key players and Covid-19 at various points in the year. They finished third in the A League which qualifies them automatically for the All-Irelands next year. In the Cup they were eliminated by The King's Hospital in the first round, going down 2-0. In the All-Irelands, a disappointing loss to The King's Hospital in the opening game left them with too much to do. Wins against Sullivan Upper School and Ashton School saw them finish second in the pool and qualify for the Herbis Sharman Trophy where they went on to beat The High School 2-1 in the semi-final and lose 4-3 on the fourth round of sudden death 1 v 1's against Wesley College. The Senior B Team made it through to the Senior Trophy final this season where they were beaten 1-0 by The High School B's. The Junior A Boys finished 2nd place in the A League and were knocked out by The High School in the semi-final of the Cup.

The Minor A Team enjoyed a good season finishing second in the A league and losing to Wesley College on the second round of sudden death 1 v 1's in the Cup. They qualified for the John Waring Trophy and finished 4th out of 6 teams in the end of season tournament.

The U-13 A Team again finished 2nd place in their league and lost out to Wesley in the Cup final.

All of our other teams competed well in their leagues with lots of good hockey played. Jacob Davy, Jack Fairmaner, Callum Keeley, William Knatchbull and Zach Silverman have all been named in the Leinster U-16 Squad. Rhys Armah-Kwantreng, Sam Hickmott, Christopher Knatchbull and Ethan Sutton were named in the Leinster U-18's. The Inter-Pro's ran over a series of weekends throughout the year. Callum Hewat and Mathew Johnson were named in the Leinster U-21 squad.

Girls Hockey

The Senior A Girls went out of the Cup 1-0 to the eventual winner Holy Child Killiney. In the league they advanced through to the semi-final where they came up against a very strong Wesley College side. The girls fought hard but went out on a 3-0 score line. Senior 2's enjoyed a good season eventually losing their league semi-final, 2-0 to Mount Anville, the eventual league winners. The Junior A Girls endured a lot of heartache this year. After great wins against High School and Mount Anville, they were eliminated at the semi-final stage by Loreto Beaufort on 1 v 1's following a game they had dominated. In the league semi-final against Wesley College, they were leading 3-0 with ten minutes to go. They ended up drawing the game 3-3 and again going out on 1 v 1's. The Junior C Team made it all the way to the league final where they lost to Templecarrig on 1 v 1's following a game that finished 0-0.

The Minor A Team enjoyed a good season but went out of the Cup in the early rounds. They went on to win the Plate final 1-0 v Alexandra College. The Minor B Team made it to the league final where they lost 4-0 to a strong Mount Anville side.

We entered four First Year eleven a-side teams. None of whom progressed to the final stages of their respective competitions.

Natasha Armah-Kwantreng, Ruby Mullen and Emilie O'Brien were all part of the Leinster U-16 panel that played in the Inter-Pro's. After a season that ran throughout the year they qualified for the final and lost out to Ulster 2-1. Emilie O'Brien was selected for the Irish U-16 and travelled to Holland over Easter for a 4-nation tournament. Izzy Duggan represented Leinster South in the Inter Provincials which finished 4th place out of the five teams taking part. This year, Martha Duignan and Charlotte O'Neill were our U-18 Leinster representatives who, at the Inter-Pro finals, were defeated by Leinster South for a 3rd place finish. Martha travelled to Lilleshall in England over Easter with the Irish U-18 squad to play a four-nation tournament as they continued their preparations for the Home Nations.

Rugby

The SCT, despite injuries to the team's captain and vice-captain made it through to the league final where they lost out to St Fintan's College. A last minute converted try sealed the victory for St Fintan's in a close encounter. In the Vinnie Murray Cup, our first-round match against Templecarrig went to a replay. The first match had ended 18-18 but in the second game Templecarrig ran out a comfortable winner on a score line of 24-8.

In the plate, a young side travelled to Wilson's Hospital School where they lost 29-14 in the semi-finals. We fielded a TY team this year which we haven't managed for a long time. They competed in the deferred Father Godfrey Cup on their return to school in September.

Our JCT team had a mixed season. In the Father Godfrey Cup, they got through the first round beating CUS 20-10. However, they were eliminated in the quarter final going down 33-20 against St. Patrick's Navan in a match that hung in the balance for a prolonged period. Our Second Year students have shown great promise this year with a few outstanding players stepping up into the JCT squad at the end of the season to supplement the side. If this group stay together going into Third Year, there is hope that they will compete well in the coming year.

At First Year level, we managed to field two sides and are hopeful of holding onto those players and doing the same again next year.

SCT players Francis Manzocchi and Josh Perrem attended Leinster screenings over February mid-term.

Equestrian

Freya Alken, (4th Year) at the recent Kildare North Leinster Area of the Irish Pony Society was awarded Equitation Rider and Young Handler of the Year. She was also Connemara Working Hunter Champion riding her horse Glasson Shadow at the recent Northern Ireland Festival.

Golf

The Senior Boys played in very tough conditions at Woodenbridge Golf Club in the All-Ireland School regional qualifiers. Dylan Holmes, James McGrath, George O'Brien, Ethan Sutton and Sam Varian battled well but missed out on qualifying by ten shots.

The Junior Boys were very unlucky not to qualify from their event in Greystones. Dylan Holmes, Theo Phelan, and Rory Vaughan missed out on qualification by a single point. Our Senior Girls, Evanna Hoey, Martha McCutcheon and Ruby Smart finished 3rd place out of twelve teams in Rathfarnham Golf Club. Sarah Emerson in the individual event had a fantastic 41 points and lost out on winning her event on count back.

The Junior Girls, Rachel Connolly, Rebecca Duffy and Abbie O'Connor played some excellent golf to finish 6th place out of fourteen teams in their qualifier in a day where the scoring was exceptionally high. Emilie Duffy and Alex Kearney competed in the individual event and gained invaluable experience.

Cross Country

Cross-country training began on Mondays and Tuesdays in January of this year as an option for all year groups. The programme was coordinated by Ms Dooley and assisted by Mr Gerry Cheung who has a long association with Blackrock Athletics Club and the school as a parent.

At the East Leinster Schools Athletics competition, several individual students and teams managed to qualify for the Leinster Cross Country Championships. The Inter Girls, Holly O'Brien (1st), Ruby Mullen (10th), Rosanna Hickey (11th), Natasha Armah-Kwantreng (14th), Emilie Duffy and Isabel Lydon won the team event with Holly O'Brien winning the Inter Girls event. Holly, along with Ruby, Rosanna and Natasha all qualified as a team and as Individuals for the Leinsters with top fifteen finishes.

The Minor A Girls team of Zoé McCarroll (4th), Emelie Vioreanu (13th), Alanna O'Neill, Amy Wood, Caoilinn McDonnell finished 2nd place as a team and went through to the Leinsters. Zoé and Emelie also qualified as individuals with top fifteen finishes. Also, in the East Leinsters, a 4th place finish for Oscar Legge in the Inter Boys Race and a 10th place finish for Andrew McGilton in the Senior Boys race saw both through to the Leinsters. In the B races, Eva Spain came 3rd place in the Junior Girls race with Sarah Kirby coming home close behind her in 5th place. Timofei Hrapelman ran well to come 4th place in the Minor B Boys race. In the Leinsters, despite awful weather, Oscar Legge (10th Inter Boys), Zoé McCarroll (13th Minor Girls) and Holly O'Brien (3rd Inter Girls) all qualified as individuals for the All-Irelands. The Inter Girls team of Natasha Armah Kwantreng, Emilie Duffy, Rosanna Hickey, Isabel Lydon, Ruby Mullen and Holly O'Brien won the Leinsters and qualified for the All-Irelands. Although they didn't qualify, the Minor Girls Team of Zoé McCarroll, Caoilinn McDonnell, Allana O'Neill, Emelie Vioreanu and Amy Wood came 5th place.

Mallusk Playing Fields in Belfast hosted the Irish Schools Championships. Zoé McCarroll, who was competing in the Girls Minor 2000m finished in 9th place overall. The Inter Girls Team of Natasha Armah-

Kwantreng, Emilie Duffy, Rosanna Hickey, Isabel Lydon, Ruby Mullen and Holly O'Brien came 5th place overall with Holly O'Brien finishing in 11th place. Holly also secured selection for the Irish 4 x 1 XC relay squad at the Schools Internationals in Wales. Oscar Legge in his third ever competitive race finished in 13th place and also qualified for the 4 x 1k Irish relay squad at the Schools Internationals in Wales. We were the only school to have two representatives on the team.

In Wales, a team of forty Irish students competed with Holly O'Brien running in the Inter Girls, and Oscar Legge in the Inter Boys. Holly and Oscar were taking on the top cross-country runners from English, Scottish and Welsh schools. Oscar's relay medley team were awarded silver, while Holly's Inter Girls Team were awarded bronze.

Sailing

In the middle of March, St Andrew's College Sailing teams came 2nd and 3rd in the Leinster Inter Schools Team Racing Championships at the Royal St George Yacht Club. It came down to a sudden death final against Gonzaga who won the event. Both of St Andrew's College Sailing teams qualified for the Inter Schools Team Racing National Championships which were hosted at the Royal St George Yacht Club.

In the Nationals, a third team from the school competed as part of fourteen teams from all over Ireland. Due to light/no wind, the competition had to be cut short on the Sunday giving a sudden death result. St Andrew's College teams 1 and 2, finished 4th place and 5th place respectively with team 3 finishing in 8th place overall.

Over the Easter break, Kate Flood, Caoilinn McDonnell and Emma Hanna, along with Alexander Gallagher, Fiachra McDonnell, Oisín Hughes, Sam Ledoux and Seth Walker competed in the ISA Youth National Championships which took place in Ballyholme Yacht Club across three different sailing classes (Optimist, Laser 4.7 and Laser Radial). Overall, they achieved five top ten finishes and two podium places.

Track and Field

A strong track and field team entered in the East Leinsters in Santry at the beginning of the summer term. Philip Doyle (U-16 200m) Jack Fairmaner (Inter Javelin), Eva Lynch (Junior 100m) and Ella May Spain (U-16 Mile) all won their events. We had 2nd place finishes for Leo Dailey (U-16 & Inter 200m) Oscar Dowdall (Minor 500m), Gavin Hefferon (Senior High Jump), Zoé McCarroll (Minor 500m) and Andrew McGilton (Senior 1500m) as well as the U-16 girls 4 x 300m relay team of Natasha Armah-Kwantreng, Rosanna Hickey,

Ruby Mullen and Holly O'Brien. Natasha Armah-Kwantreng (Inter 800m) Oscar Legge (Senior 1500m) and Holly O'Brien (Inter 3000m) all finished 3rd place in their events and qualified for the Leinsters.

In the Leinster Championships, Holly O'Brien finished 3rd place in the Inter Girls 3000m to qualify for the All-Irelands in Tullamore in June. The rest of our athletes all competed well but with many of them competing in the same age group again next year, we look forward to seeing how they get on.

Boys Basketball

The Senior Boys Team advanced to the All-Ireland Quarter Finals with a win against Coláiste Éanna in the last sixteen of the competition. They travelled to play St Malachy's College in Belfast who proved too strong for our boys on the day. However, this does not take away from the achievement of reaching the last eight of this competition. In the league, the boys bowed out at the quarter-final stages, losing a tight game against Malahide Community School. Our U-16 boys received a walkover in the last 16 of the Cup but lost to St Patrick's, Castleisland in the quarter-finals. They had a mixed league campaign but did manage to advance through to the Plate Final where they beat Adamstown by 10 points, finishing their season on a high. The U-15 boys beat Templeogue in the quarter-finals of the All-Ireland A Cup, 52-41 before getting knocked out by Calasanctius College, Oranmore in the semi-finals in the National Basketball Arena on a score 62-50. The Second Year boys lost to Coláiste Éanna 60-44 in the semi-finals of the Dublin league and beat Malahide Community School by a point in the 3rd placed play-off, advancing to the All-Ireland play-offs. There, they lost out to St Malachy's College 64-50 in the All-Ireland A Play-offs Last sixteen stage. This is the first time a Second Year boys' team made it that far in the 'A' competition. The First Year boys lost narrowly to Coláiste Éanna in the semi-finals of the Dublin A league on a score line of 51-47. In the play-off for third place, they beat Malahide Community School by 15 points to advance to the All-Irelands. There, they battled hard but lost out to a very strong St Malachy's College side 59-41 in Belfast. This was the first time a First Year boys' team has made it this far in the 'A' competition.

Girls Basketball

The U-19 girls had a mixed season in the league moving up a division from last year. In the All-Ireland Cup, they lost against St Joseph's Ballybunion, 49-31. This is the first time we have played at B level in the Cup.

The U-16 Girls U16 won their All-Ireland quarter-final against Coláiste Bhaile Chláir, Galway by a convincing 16 points but were well beaten by Gael Coláiste Bhaile Chláir by 49 points. It was very disappointing for the girls, however, it opened their eyes to the standard which is required to compete in the B division.

Our U-14 girls had a great league campaign and narrowly lost to The Teresians School in the semi-final of the Dublin B League.

Our First Year team lost to Loreto on the Green also in semi-final of the Dublin B League by a 10 point margin. This was a year of readjustment for the girls as they competed in a higher division and overall, they performed well in this division.

In summary, it has been great to see the return of sport this year. Students have shown commitment and perseverance in their participation across the various disciplines. Unfortunately, we did not have as much success as we would have liked however, we look forward to a better season next year.

Music Performances

Music plays an integral role in many curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular events and activities held throughout the College calendar year. Music enhances our College events and promotes creativity, innovation and fosters a commitment to inclusion. Students learn about fairness and experience a more holistic education through their participation in music. They learn the importance of being accountable, responsible, and professional while they rehearse and perform for events. Students become more empathetic, courageous, and resilient through performing.

During Covid-19 restrictions the music groups in the College were made up of six choirs and four orchestral ensembles. As restrictions were eased at the end of February it was wonderful to be able to combine year groups into a Junior Choir, Senior Choir, the College Orchestra and Traditional Music Group. Performing at events provides the students with a wonderful opportunity of building on their talents and also displaying their talent and skills.

College Musical

The biannual college musical took place from Wednesday 23 to Friday 25 March.

The music department were tasked with the immense challenge of creating a production that respected Covid-19 rules and restrictions. Ms Ciara Sawyer, Ms Aisling Noone and Mr Matthew Williams created the theme of 'For the first time in forever' which comprised a variety of songs and scenes from 16 different musicals.

This unique event was the product of seven months of hard work from over 200 students and staff, a creative medley designed to account for the bubble restrictions that were a hard reality when rehearsals commenced. Rehearsals took place with masked singers and distanced cast members.

Music and Dance Festival

The Music and Dance Festival took place from Wednesday 4 to Friday 6 May, adjudicated by Ms Aine Balfe. The Music and Art Department Concert took place on Tuesday 10 May. The concert was an uplifting and moving event enjoyed by all present and also featured art work by the art department students.

U-Live

The 2022 U-Live concert in aid of the Uganda Project took place (in person) on Thursday 12 May. 28 acts participated in this wonderful display of the talent and diversity of our students from 1st Year to 6th Year.

Transition Year

The Transition Year programme is traditionally all about a balance between classroom based learning and outside classroom experiences. This year has been a very varied year for students, as at the start of the year this balance was challenged by Covid-19 restrictions but as the year progressed many of these restrictions were eased which allowed for more of the usual Transition Year activities to take place.

During the summer and in early August, we were constantly assessing which aspects of the planned programme were viable and which were not. Unfortunately, the start of the year, trip to Donegal (Gartan Outdoor Education and Training Centre) and Mayo (An Uisce Water Adventure Centre) were not possible. However, there were a couple of days of activities around Dublin visiting several museums and a paintballing outing in Wicklow. The year commenced with timetable-based courses but did include an extensive Friday afternoon set of physically active 'off campus' activities. Core subjects and extended core subjects (Accounting, Business, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Geography, History, Physics, Religious Education) featured strongly with regular assessment periods throughout the year underpinning the teaching and learning. In addition, large sections of the timetable consisted of 'option subjects' which included, for example, Architecture, Creative Writing, Culinary Arts, ECDL, Film Studies, Journalism, Philosophy, Salsa Dancing, Web Design and Yoga to name but a few. Many of these required rethinking, but almost all planned courses were successfully implemented. As restrictions lifted at the end of January, plans were put in place for the students to undertake a number of different trips. In February half of the students went to Krakow, the other half travelled to Barcelona at the end of April for a packed four-day experience of the Spanish city. In March, the whole year group travelled to Gartan Outdoor Education and

Training Centre in Donegal for three days of outdoor activities. It was great to see the students take such enjoyment from these experiences.

The Transition Year programme came to a close with a hugely successful student led U-Live concert. There was immense effort put in from students performing, involved in organising acts, promotion and producing a great show on the night. It was wonderful to see the students using many of the skills that they had developed over the year, take ownership of the event.

The Transition Year programme this year has not been completely what we would have wished but between students, teachers, coordinators and management and of course supported by parents, what has occurred has been incredibly positive.

Department of Education Incidental Inspection

A Department of Education Incidental Inspection conducted by Ms Sinead Green took place on Monday, 7 March 2022. Incidental inspections do not have a formal report and are used by schools to reflect on practices which can then inform future planning.

Charitable Activities

Students and staff have been active fundraisers for, and participants in, many local and national charities this year. These have included:

The Salvation Army	St Vincent de Paul
--------------------	--------------------

In addition, the proceeds from this year's non-uniform days have been distributed to the following charities:

Down Syndrome Ireland	Operation Smile
The Morning Star Hostel	Children Health Foundation Crumlin
Medecins Sans Frontieres	Breast Cancer Ireland
GOAL	Merchants Quay Ireland
Focus Ireland	Children Health Foundation, Temple Street

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

Christian Union

Christian Union (CU) in St Andrew's College is a student led group that meets weekly and provides students with an opportunity to explore questions of faith and spend time looking at different aspects of the Christian faith in an open and welcoming environment. Initially, this year, we were restricted by a Covid bubble system, and CU meetings focused on our Fifth Year students. Ms Helen Groves, Ms Rhonda Jenkinson and Ms Hannah Woods facilitated a short Bible series from Christ in Youth (CIY) with the students. As the Covid-19 restrictions were eased, we were able to mix year groups again and we had opportunities to meet a few times, play some games, enjoy a short talk and spend some time in prayer in the latter part of the year. We look forward to holding our Christian Union meetings in a dedicated spiritual space next year which will enable us to have greater participation across all year groups.

Student Council

The Student Council structure in St Andrew's College comprises Year Councils and a Whole School Council (WSC). Year Councils are in operation in Second Year, Third Year, Transition Year and Fifth Year. Elections for student representatives are held in May for the upcoming year. Students from First Year to Transition Year vote to elect two representatives from each form to the relevant Year Council. These councils then elect two representatives to sit on the Whole School Council. First Year students joined the Whole School Council in March this year. The Head Girl and Head Boy set the agenda and chair the WSC meetings. Minutes of the WSC meetings are retained in files on the WSC Teams Page for the attention of Year Heads, and the Senior Leadership Team.

The Year Councils and the Whole School Council endeavour to maintain a positive line of communication between the school body and the leadership team with the aim of improving the day-to-day running of the College in many important ways. These councils are in a unique position to inform the school leadership team of a student's perspective of life in the College.

This year, due to continued Covid-19 restrictions in the first term, WSC meetings took place on MS Teams at least once a month. Students were very pleased to be able to meet in person for the latter part of the academic year. An initial meeting took place on 11th October during which the council members discussed their aims and aspirations for the year. Students were also busy in their first term planning and organising a Midterm Halloween Mask competition for First and Second Year students. The WSC students made invaluable contributions at times during the year. They provided student input and opinion during the strategic planning process for the College and in the more recent review of uniform items. Students reviewed The Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and Statement. Students represented the College and student body in their meetings with the accreditors during the Accreditation Visit in November and in the more recent visits of the Ambassador of the United States, Claire Cronin and US Regional Education Officer, Dr Christine Brown.

In conclusion, the year 2021-22 continued to pose many challenges for the WSC during Covid-19 times. However, the WSC representatives continued to show great resilience and determination in contributing to the promotion of a positive, inclusive learning environment as they represented the student voice in the College and lived out the College motto of *Ardens Sed Virens* in all their contributions.

Bullying Awareness

The first initiated plan of action for the anti-bullying committee was a celebration of Valentine's Day for the First Year students. With the help of the Fifth Year volunteers as well as the Sixth Year anti-bullying prefects we were able to write out over 150 different messages to spread goodwill and positivity amongst First Year students. Individual notes for each student were written and left on their desk with a chocolate. We also decorated the First-Year house area. It was a tremendous success and the first real interaction that the First Years had from outside their own year. Next year, we plan to extend this goodwill activity to other year groups.

Another plan that is in motion is the idea of using key phrases that pertain to empathy and tolerance and getting them printed on proper signs and posting them around the school. The phrases will be chosen by the students and will help physically reflect the values of the school community in creating a learning environment where everyone has a place to belong and feel secure.

Tea and Chats was set up again and was a huge success. Last year, Tea and Chats was limited to First Year students but this year Second Year students also attended. With the exception of one to two teachers being present, the initiative is student run. It continues to be a wonderful opportunity for those who have not

found their friend group to find kindred spirits and get to know the older years and see them in a position of responsibility.

The summer term continued with Stand-Up Week. A series of events were organised to help promote awareness of tolerance and unity amongst the school. This involved a whole school Karaoke to promote the school's identity and was one of the first times the school had an opportunity to come together and interact with other year groups. Another initiative was 'kindness day' where students were encouraged to go out of their way to help someone who was not their direct friend.

Following several meetings with the students, a key message that arose was the idea of promoting more school wide initiatives that involve year groups working with other year groups. We wholeheartedly agreed with this as the effects of year groups being kept to their own bubbles has clearly been felt. As a result, we think it is important that the anti-bullying committee help to promote events that embody this message.

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 for the roles with over 100 applicants. As in previous years, most mentors recall their own experience and want to offer a support while also enjoying the responsibility role.

At the first induction day it was wonderful to see the response from volunteers to come in and initiate the first contact with Mentor and First Years. First Year students were in form groups on the hockey pitch with two or three mentors explaining how the school operates on a day-to-day basis and giving them a warm welcome into senior school. At the end of August, prior to our return, we had a Teams Mentor Training morning where the role of mentor was outlined, and strategies explained. 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 or to Mr Derek Walshe, the coordinator for Student Mentors.

We were determined to combine a mixture of contact both on-line and physical so the link could be established. Most mentors had two charges as this was a particularly big year with eight form groups in First Year.

A plan was put in place to bring the students outside, form by form, in the first few weeks of term to set up introductions. This was a very positive experience for the students, and it highlighted the importance of

meeting in person for the students in building relationships. Along with this, we set up email contact between the mentee and their mentor which helped to give the First Year students an opportunity to use the email system and set up their own details. We were still without a locker system and therefore there was no casual contact as was the norm, pre-Covid-19. We chose 'Themes' to the email contact, such as finding your way around, sports and extra-curricular, organisation and books, the school digital system, friendships and issues such as bullying or exclusion. The limitations of this year were apparent, and we realised that despite students' best efforts, it was not easy to build a connection without regular contact. Many mentors made a real effort to stay in touch.

Prior to Christmas another initiative was organised to encourage the students and give support with organising their study and preparation for the Christmas examinations. This was the extent of what was possible this year and some mentors were drafted into helping with organisation of other College activities throughout the year.

We took the opportunity in February to organise an online Mentor Quiz, run by the mentors and Ms Teehan. It was very successful and a lot of fun for all the students prior to mid-term.

In March, there was great excitement among students when lockers were re-instated into the College. We were grateful to Mr. Hehir who made a concerted effort to position the First Year students with their mentors. The mentor process and 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. Finally, as we begin the process again it must be pointed out that the next set of mentors, coming into Fifth Year are the last group of students to have had 'full' contact with a mentor regularly meeting them at their locker and getting to know them well in their first year. We hope to return to this custom from the start of next year. Such has been the impact of the pandemic. A great programme for both First Year students and mentors alike.

Green School/Environment Group

The Green School/Environment Group (GS/EG) committee continued to meet up online throughout lockdown and during Covid restrictions. We continued to raise awareness through our social media platforms by advertising the Instagram page on SAC formal Twitter and Instagram pages. We currently have 272 followers. The page has been highlighting issues around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Environmental issues. The project has been supported through Instagram and some students have given a presentation to the Transition Year sustainable development classes. The students also presented

their project online to Fifth and Sixth class students in Kill O’The Grange National School. There are, currently, 50 members in the group and it meets regularly now post-Covid. All updates and events are shared on an email to the group to ensure that all students are up to date on activities and that they have ample opportunity to get involved with projects to take action. Students have engaged with climate strike initiatives by making posters and posting them online. This group is student led and facilitated by Mr Simon Moore, Ms Grace Garde, Ms Sile O’Callaghan and Mr Matthew Williams.

The GS/EG plan for the academic year was to achieve the following:

1. 1000 Tree Project – we looked to plant 'Pocket Forests' with a total of 1000 trees. We reached out to the school community with the possibility of planting trees in areas of land that they own (or some of the smaller spaces in the school).
2. To develop biodiversity in the school grounds – e.g. to cover some of the roof areas.
3. To develop a Green Policy for the school.
4. We took part in the 'Global Air Project' (<https://www.globe.gov/about/overview>), see website for information. We installed a NOx meter at the school gate.
5. A donation to the Seal Sanctuary in Courtown, Co. Wexford totalling €250.
6. Various beach and park clean ups occur on an ongoing basis.
7. To create a plastic Art installation of plastic waste in conjunction with the Art department.
8. Encourage students to cycle/walk to school. DLR have put in many cycle lanes and students have responded in numbers to them by opting for the bike.
9. WOW/COW (Walk on Wednesdays/Cycle on Wednesdays) for students from Blackrock DART station.
10. Clothes Swap Shop.
11. Bike to school for summer term campaign.

Plans for next academic year:

1. Geodesic Dome - plant with vegetables for the summer.
2. Distribute 1000 Trees.
3. Organise a 'powerdown' day.
4. Boxes for planters - to be constructed.
5. Book Sale/Swap Day at the end of term.
6. To cover school walls with ivy and plants.
7. Biodiversity Template.

SAC still Plastic-Free

The plastic-free SAC project continued from last year. Building on the success of eradicating plastic bottles from school the students continued to raise awareness virtually and selling the remainder of the school bottles. Environmental awareness was also raised through the school television screens, in the newsletter and through the environmental notice boards and posters. Support for SAC plastic free school continues through online awareness. Widespread use of reusable bottles is evident especially with new water fountains in the house areas.

Parental Involvement

Parent Information Evenings

Parent Information Evenings were held for all year groups on the dates below. All meetings were held on Zoom and contained a welcome from the Headmistress plus a COVID-19 Induction presentation by the relevant Deputy Principal and a year specific induction delivered by the Year Head. Parents had an opportunity to ask questions in the 'chat' function as the evening progressed and there was the opportunity for further questions at the end of the Year Head presentations.

Tuesday, 24 August	First Year
Tuesday, 24 August	5IB
Wednesday, 25 August	Sixth Year
Thursday, 26 August	Fifth Year
Thursday, 26 August	6IB
Tuesday, 31 August	Third Year
Monday, 6 September	Transition Year
Tuesday, 7 September	Second Year

- First Year Parent and Form Teacher Meeting – October 2021
- Information Meeting for parents of incoming First Year Students (2022) – November 2021
- Information Meeting for parents of incoming First Year Students (2021) – January 2022
- IB Information Evening – January 2022
- Options Evenings for First, Transition and Fifth Year students – January 2022
- Sixth Year Information Evening – January and February 2022

School Events

Parents were invited to attend a variety of online school functions and events throughout the year. In 2021/2022 these included:

- PTA Coffee Mornings for all year groups

- Coffee Mornings for international parents and host parents of Junior and Secondary School students
- College Musical – March 2022
- Rugby Awards Evening – April 2022
- Music and Dance Concert – May 2022
- PTA Second Hand Uniform Sale – May 2022
- U-Live – May 2022
- Basketball Awards Evening – May 2022

School Development Planning

School Policies

All policies that make up the school plan are available on the College website: www.sac.ie The following have been the main developments in school planning in 2021/2022:

- The on-going review of SAC policies
- The on-going work on the Junior Cycle Curriculum Plan
- The on-going work on the introduction of the Well-Being 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:

Policy on Reviewing Guiding Statements	Review of Guiding Statements
St Andrew's College Mission Statement	Philosophy and Learner Profile
Anaphylaxis and Use of Adrenaline Pen	Final Covid-19 Response Plan
Equal Opportunities Policy	Employment Checklist Policy
Senior School Admissions Policy	Attendance and Punctuality Policy
Gifted Children Policy	Concussion Policy
Garda Vetting Policy	Irish Language Policy

Prefect Policy	Staff Development Policy
Locker Policy	Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and Statement
Code of Behaviour for Students	Practices and Procedures in relation to the SAC Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment and Statement
Electronic Device Policy	Staff Handbook

School Self Evaluation

Early in 2022 the new School Self Evaluation (SSE) coordinator, Dr Nikki Carter, was appointed. A new committee was formed with a staff member in charge of literacy, numeracy and Assessment for Learning. This committee will form the basis of the committee on Wellness in the new strand in August.

Teaching and Learning – Assessment for Learning

During this academic year, the School Self-Evaluation committee continued with Assessment for Learning for year three of the three-year strand. This had to be curtailed due to Covid-19 and so we focused on different strategies each department used in the department meetings of August 2021. These strategies were shared with other departments. As part of year one we handed out traffic light smileys to the First Year students but in October 2020 we suggested that staff change this to a thumbs up, thumbs in the middle and thumbs down. We continued this throughout the year. When the DES inspector, Ms Sinead Green, visited the College, she met with Dr Carter (SSE Coordinator) and discussed strategies for Assessment for Learning and in particular Success criteria.

Teaching and Learning - Oral communications

We are in the final year of this three-year strand working with the current Second Year students. Staff were encouraged to keep oral communication front and centre with particular emphasis on preparation for Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs).

Literacy

This year the committee were committed to the continued implementation of the College's literacy strategies. Staff and students promoted books, from a variety of different genres that they loved and wanted to recommend to the school community. The staff have set up a 'bring a book take a book' shelf in

the staff room. The librarian, Ms Katharine Ryan, continues to promote literacy through email and wellbeing classes. Ms Ruth Devane and the Student Literacy Committee met on a regular basis to come up with student-led ideas for promoting literacy throughout the school. The embedded literacy strategies in each subject plan are also ongoing.

The closure of the Library in September 2020 and school closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic has affected literacy and the promotion of the school library (identified as a priority in the previous literacy cycle). However, this year saw the return of in person-World Book Day - DEAR (drop everything and read). A 'Welcome to the Library' video was produced for incoming First Year students, the text of which was put on the library section of the school website and continues to be used.

Numeracy

This year marked the sixth year of promoting numeracy at St Andrew’s College. The key focus has been on visual promotion of numeracy. TY classes are in the process of preparing ‘distance to’ posters around the school. Departments are still using numeracy embedded in their daily teaching.

Success Criteria

The SSE committee has been involved in the planning, co-ordination and implementation of success criteria templates for oral communication, research skill, essay writing and graphs.

Digital Learning

The Digital Learning Team (DLT) continues to work in line with the Digital Learning Framework to create the Digital Learning Plan (DLP) for St Andrew's, which is reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

The DLT made the decision to extend and continue the focus of Domain 2, chosen for the DLP 2020/2021, into the DLP 2021/2022 due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions. Therefore the 2021/2022 DLP focused on the following:

<p>Domain 2 of Teaching & Learning: Learner Experiences Standard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students reflect on their progress as learners and develop a sense of ownership of and responsibility for their learning 	<p>Introduced in 2020/2021 * due to the impact of Covid-19 on this academic year, this standard was carried through to the 2021/2022 DLP</p>
---	---

<p>Domain 1 of Teaching and Learning: Learner Outcomes</p> <p>Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students have the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes required to understand themselves and their relationships 	<p>Introduced in 2021/2022</p>
--	--------------------------------

The Digital Leaders Team, the team that focuses on upskilling and training staff on their use of digital technology in teaching and learning, and the Digital Learning Team, the committee that reviews and evaluates the DLP on an annual basis, have been combined last year to form one team known as the Digital Learning Team. This has been an ongoing success with many staff across all subjects contributing expertise and knowledge to implement our DLP.

This year the staff have become more competent in their use of Microsoft 365 and Teams for both in-school learning and distance learning. As part of our three-year rollout plan for updating staff devices, twenty-eight staff devices were distributed this year 2021/2022.

All new staff had an induction on how to use the school platform and VSware at the beginning of the year and were offered further guidance and training when live streaming of classes was introduced in January 2022 as an emergency teaching and learning measure to respond to the high levels of students in isolation, as per the government guidelines of the time. The Digital Learning Team provided ongoing individual and group training to colleagues by hosting weekly drop-in sessions on many topics such as Class Notebook, Teams, OneDrive and how to share your screen in the classroom. Furthermore, individual meetings were organised on a need-by-need basis throughout the year, and the catalogue of instructional videos and instructional documents on the use of Teams and Class notebook, as well as other useful apps for teaching and learning, compiled by the Digital Learning Team in 2020/2021 was highlighted once more.

The virtual staffroom on Teams continued to develop this year to provide clear communication on all areas of school business to all staff through designated channels e.g., wellbeing, Covid-19 updates, examination support, headmistress noticeboard, etc. The channel for digital technology support is constantly monitored where any issues or concerns are dealt with as soon as possible. This provided an ongoing support to all colleagues and has also encouraged an informal and collaborative sharing of expertise.

Furthermore, First Year students were provided with an induction on the use of the school platform at the beginning of the year. The interactive presentation delivered during student induction is being redesigned

for 2022/2023 to complement a new 6-week Digital Skills module, delivered during our Wellbeing classes. In order to successfully design the module and ensure it is needs-based for our particular cohort of students, a survey was carried out with all First Year students to determine areas of proficiency and areas for improvement in students' digital skills. The DLT also surveyed First Year students on online wellbeing and e-safety. The data is being compiled and will aid the facilitation of the 2022/2023 Digital Skills module, as well as guide the newly created Student E-safety Committee in their role to support and influence students to act responsibly online.

The DLT has continued to upskill, attending webinars and in-person conferences on TikTok E-Safety, the impact of social media on wellbeing, and Google Classroom. The DLT also collaborated with the Junior Cycle Coordinator and SSE Coordinator to support the facilitation of a combined Junior Cycle Training and school-led CPD day, focusing on shared success criteria and assessment linked to the Junior Cycle learner outcomes.

With the return of CBA's in this academic year, and the natural pressure placed on the school's digital resources, the DLT welcome the opportunity to move to the 1-1 programme for students. Planning has commenced with a staff survey to review the benefits of such a system, as well as address any issues that may arise. The continued development of staff and students' digital skills will be the DLT's priority in 2022/2023 to support the move to the 1-1 programme.

Staff Development

St Andrew's College staff has attended a wide range of CPD training throughout the year. Conferences/workshops attended by staff included the following:

ISTA Dublin Branch Leaving Certificate Biology CPD Evening	Agricultural Science Phase 2 – National Workshop 1	Digital Citizenship and How to teach it
English – Virtual Summer Festival of Learning	SFL – Individual Pupil Planning: A focus on the Student Support Plan	Introduction to SPHE
SPHE Introduction to SPHE	Bodyright – Dublin Rape Crisis Centre	English - Teaching English – Early Career Teachers/The Education Centre
ABE Programme - Amgen Biotech Experience	Geography - Developing Schemes for Junior and Senior Geography	English - Practical Ideas for Approaching Personal Writing at Senior Cycle

Planning Made Simple: A Straightforward Approach to Planning for Junior Cycle English	Introduction to SPHE	English - Leaving Cert Comprehension Strategies
Teachers Webinar Series: Cyberbullying Post-Primary	English - Non-Fiction Texts: Podcasts and Documentaries in the LC Classroom	English - Leaving Cert Comprehension Strategies
Classics JCT Training	First Aid School First Aid Seminar	Applied Mathematics National Seminar
Design Circle An online community of practice comprising of a total of 7 engagements 'Arts in J Cycle initiative' D & Craft Council	English - Single Text Macbeth	Practical Retrieval Exercises for the JC Classroom
IB Language Ab Inito	Táinaiste 2	Post Primary Wellbeing in Education Seminar

Significant Student Achievements

Academic Achievements

Trinity College Entrance Exhibition Award

The following students from the Class of 2021, Natacha Byrne, Claire Holahan, Clodagh O'Brien, Romy Ryan and Karlo Vidovic were awarded the TCD Entrance Exhibition Award at an online award ceremony.

UCD Ad Astra Award was awarded to Gaby Lewis (Class of 2019) and Samuel Walker (Class of 2020).

International Mathematics Olympiad Challenge

The title of **International Mathematics Olympiad Champion** was awarded to Sixth Year student Isaiah Lam at the 2021 Olympiad which concluded in December 2021. Isaiah scored a superb 97.11%.

BT Young Scientist 2022

The BT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition 2022 was exhibited online in January with our school having much success.

Weichen Huang (3KMCA) won two awards for his project titled *“Climate-Net: can AI help fight against climate change?”*. Weichen came 1st place in the Intermediate Individual Technology Category and also won the Met Éireann Award. Weichen went on to have virtual call with Met Éireann whereby he showcased his project to them. He also went into Iveagh House to showcase his project to Self-Help Africa, Irish Aid and Minister Colm Brophy.

Carter Horner (5McD) came 3rd place in the Senior Individual Biological and Ecological Category with his project titled *“Noise Pollution's Effect on the Migration of Insects”*.

The following students were highly commended:

Alois Plissonneau (2ME) with his project titled: *“How Would Using Non-Euclidean Paper Moulded from a Pseudosphere Transform Origami Tessellations?”*

Ellie Walsh (3MN) with her project titled: *“Can seaweed help to combat acid reflux?”*

Matthew O'Regan (4GE) with his project titled: *“A study into how modelling the growth of Physarum polycephalum can help design smart food logistics systems”*

Chess

The St Andrew's College Chess Club had a very busy year, even with the challenges presented by Covid-19 restrictions. Unfortunately, many of the regular chess events, such as the St Andrew's College Chess Classic, the Millfield International Chess Tournament, the LSCA Leinster Chess Leagues, and Chess Z Chess Events, as well as our own Monday lunch time chess tournaments couldn't take place in the traditional face-to-face manner. However, the chess club did go online, with great success. Every Thursday evening, since the start of academic year, the club had a chess tournament at 7.30pm. In the last term we also returned to face-to-face chess during Monday lunch times, in addition to the online chess on Thursday evenings. The tournaments were held using a platform called lichess.org and Microsoft Teams. Our students joined a Chess Club Microsoft Teams page and there we shared a link to our private 'lichess' tournament. Simultaneously we were 'live' on Microsoft Teams, so the students were able to talk to each other while playing each other in chess. The tournaments were organised by our chess captains Eoghan O'Mahony (Sixth Year), Ben Holman and Oscar Sun (Fifth Year) and the chess co-ordinator, Mr James Doyle. In 2021/2022, the club hosted 29 tournaments, with 943 games and 50,353 moves being played and 46 students participating online at various times throughout the year. Whilst the face-to-face tournaments between schools did not take place this year, some of them did move online.

LSCA Leinster Chess Leagues

The LSCA (Leinster Schools Chess Association) held three trial tournaments on LiChess in November/December 2021. We came 1st place in the first tournament, 3rd place in the second tournament and 4th place in the third tournament. Unfortunately, face-to face-tournaments had not resumed by the end of the school year.

Chessosity National Chess Competition

Chessosity also held three tournaments in March 2022. We finished 2nd place overall in this tournament. These results represent an incredible improvement in the College's Chess Club performance in inter-school tournaments. We look forward to continuing this improvement in 2022/23 when the tournaments return in person.

Robotics and Coding Club

The Robotics and Coding Club, more commonly known as First Lego League was formed before the Easter break. The College signed up to a UCD School of Education Outreach project promoting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in STEM. The specific project we signed up to was to participate in a sprint programme of First Lego League. UCD funded €1000 worth of Lego and Robotics equipment for us to participate. First Lego League is open to students from First Year to Transition Year. As this was a pilot year for the school, and resources were limited, a small number of students were invited to participate.

First Lego League is a tournament where students are required to use coding, robotics, engineering and Lego to build a robot, code it to complete missions to score as many points as they can in two minutes and thirty 30 seconds. The students also have to identify a problem and solution, based on the theme of the year, which was 'Cargo Connects' (all about global supply chains) which is known as the Innovation Project. As well as the robot game the students also have to do a thirty-minute presentation, and Question/Answers session in front of a panel of judges with industry and academic backgrounds on their innovation project, their robot design, and Core Values that underpin First Lego League (discovery, innovation, fun, impact, inclusion and teamwork).

St Andrew's College had two teams this year, one made up of First to Third year students called 'Error 404'. The second team was made up of Transition Year students called 'Nerds in Navy'.

The students involved invested a huge amount of their personal time over the Easter break, Wednesday afternoons and weekends working on their robots/projects. On 6 May, our teams went to UCD to compete

against the other schools that took part in this initiative from around the country. The event was officially opened by Minister of State, Ossian Smyth. The students had a thoroughly enjoyable day. Our Transition Year team, 'Nerds in Navy' did extremely well, winning the prize for the best 'Core Values' presentation, as well as winning the overall tournament.

In 2022/2023, we plan to offer this to all First Year to Transition Year students that are interested in taking part. The Transition Year students that took part this year will not be able to partake in the tournament but have all asked to come back and help mentor the younger teams, creating a wonderful precedent, ensuring this is a student led event and promoting student leadership and empowerment. Next year this activity will be co-ordinated by Mr Doyle and Mr Williams.

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 competition is sponsored by the PDST in association with the Irish Economics Association (IEA), Maynooth University, NUI Galway, UCD, UCC, Trinity College, Limerick University, the Central Bank of Ireland, and the Irish Government Economic and Evaluation Service (IGEES)

St Andrew's College had twenty-one entries this year from Second Year, Transition Year, Fifth and Sixth Year, co-ordinated and mentored by Mr. Doyle. Projects are initially categorised as Participation, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Gold medal projects are eligible to win further awards, such 1st place in their year or one of the special interest prizes at the national awards ceremony, which took place on the 28th April.

Our medal results were as follows:

- 0 Participation Awards.
- 6 Bronze Medal Awards.
- 5 Silver Medal Awards.
- 10 Gold Medal Awards.

Ten of the sixteen gold medallists went on to win further prizes, including four 1st places. They were as follows:

Best Female Entry/Women in Economics Award: Sponsored by the University of Limerick

Zi Qi Ma (4ON) with project, *The Metaverse Economy & How the Metaverse Affects the Real-World Economy?*

Best Covid-19 Related Project: Sponsored by Maynooth University

Jeremy Browett (6IB) with project, *An investigation of the Irish tourism sector's vulnerability to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Best Environmental Economics Project: Sponsored by UCD

Timothy Celano (5SY) with project, *The Economic Viability of Small Modular Reactors for Ireland*

Sophie O'Connor (2MR) with project, *The impact of Covid-19 on the Global Supply Chain crisis in Ireland.*

Junior Creativity in Economics Award: Hannah Poynton (2ZA) with project, *Covid-19's impact on Global Financial Markets.*

More information about the event, including the programme, and a recording of the prizegiving can be found on the official website www.youngeconomist.ie .

International Economic Olympiad

International Economics Olympiad is an annual international competition for high school students in the areas of Economics and Finance. Students, in teams representing their country from all over the world compete in areas such as financial literacy, economics and case studies. There are two qualification rounds to join the Irish Panel for the Irish Team selection. From this, a shortlist of ten students will be selected. These students will take part in a range of training activities over the summer months. Five of these students will represent Ireland in the main International Economic Olympiad.

St Andrews College had one student that progressed to the 2nd round of the Irish Qualifiers, after successfully completing the exam in Round 1, Zi Qi Ma, (4ON). Zi Qi finished Round 1 in 20th place, and 2nd place out of the Transition Year students that entered. The second round was a financial literacy game which assessed the student's aptitude to financial and economic matters. Zi Qi did not qualify for the Irish panel this year but hopefully this experience will stand to her in future years.

Prize Giving Ceremony

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we were unable to hold our Prize Giving Ceremony in the O'Reilly Hall in UCD. We would ordinarily have an attendance of over 800 people for this ceremony and it holds a special place in our annual diary. We decided to replicate the proceedings as far as possible and livestream the event from the College for parents and guardians. All social distancing requirements were adhered to while the students received their prizes and speakers delivered their addresses.

The Guest of Honour was Dr Colin Black, Consultant Paediatric Anaesthesiologist at Our Lady's Children's Hospital and past pupil of the College from the class of 2002. Colin spoke about what success should mean for a student on leaving school. He highlighted that success should not be measured by wealth or status. He referred to success as achieving personal satisfaction in life. He commented that success should include having free time to pursue interests and hobbies and spending time with family and friends. He emphasised the importance of keeping up sports and hobbies throughout life. He commented on the importance of putting in hard work to succeed in the future and he quoted one of the Stoic philosophers Seneca, who said that luck is when preparation meets opportunity. He advised students on the importance of good sleep patterns and not getting stressed and anxious about things out of their control when looking after their physical and mental wellbeing. Ms Maeve Costigan (Deputy Principal) delivered Ms Marshall's address in her absence. In her address, Ms Costigan spoke about how the school had adapted to the pandemic and she commended all the work which had been done to reorganise the physical space for staff and students. She reflected that, most importantly, the ethos and spirit of the school remains unchanged and that the essential business of teaching and learning, alongside all the extra-curricular activities continues albeit with some adaptations. She noted that this 'altered' prize giving symbolised 'our collective desire to persevere as a school community'.

Although the Class of 2021 could not attend to accept their prizes, they were acknowledged, and every winner's name was called out. All prizes for the Leaving Certificate class of 2021 awarded to students who achieved Grade H1 or H2 in Higher Level Leaving Certificate or Grade 7 or 6 (Higher Level) or Grade 7 (Standard Level) in the International Baccalaureate. The Academic Medals for 2021 were awarded to the students who had received the highest grades (6 subjects) in the Leaving Certificate and the best mark in the International Baccalaureate. The winners this year were Aisling Beecham, Natacha Byrne, Claire Holahan, Saskia Kirkland, Noémie Leeder, Clodagh O'Brien, Rachel O'Kelly, Romy Ryan, Konstantin Ryazanov and Karlo Vidovic.

Remembrance Service

This year the annual Remembrance Service was held in person and livestreamed on Thursday, 11 November 2021. 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. Wreaths were laid at the war memorial by the Headmistress, Ms Louise Marshall, Mr Graham Weir, President of SACA, Lana Kaminska-Knight (Head Girl) and Callum Hewat (Head Boy). The Rolls of Honour were read by the Head Boy and Head Girl. The Rolls detailed the names of the 91 past pupils who died in World War I and the 36 who lost their lives in World War II. Their sacrifice and the sacrifice of all those who lost their lives in these two wars is

commemorated annually at this important ceremony. A plaque to commemorate those missing from the memorial was unveiled and organised by history teacher, Dr Nikki Carter with the assistance of John Ingram.

The names of those engraved are Lt. Alfred George Simms - Connaught Rangers, died 30th December 1917, Lt. Mervyn Kebble Anderson, R Irish Regiment, died 11 May 1915, Lt John Collen, R. Munster Fus. 25 October 1916.

The wreaths were placed by Head Boy, Head Girl and Graham Weir, President of SACA.

Holocaust Memorial Day

As part of the HETI crocus project Dr Nikki Carter, Lana Kaminska-Knight (Head Girl) and Jeremy Bacigalupi (IB), together with a group of Sixth Year students planted yellow crocuses to remember the victims of the Holocaust. Mr Dara Keddy's First Year CSPE class also took part in the project.

In November We Remember

The annual Remembrance Service for the College community took place online on Thursday, 25 November during period one. In the month of November, we take time to remember those whom we've met on life's journey and who have now passed on to eternal life. We may be remembering someone very dear to us – a mother, father, brother or sister, a grandparent, a dear friend or relation, - and we may also call to mind people who walked alongside us in life's journey for only a brief time, but who touched our lives deeply. We remember those who have died during the past year, and all our loved ones who passed on to their eternal reward. Students were given an opportunity for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Carol Service

The annual Carol Service took place online on Thursday, 16 December. The service was a remarkable and joyous mix of traditional carols and songs of celebration. The choir and orchestra, led by Ms Ciara Sawyer and Ms Aisling Noone performed many beautiful carols and viewers were treated to a wonderful display of year group artwork displayed onscreen between readings. The readers, drawn from many different sections of the school community, were organised by Mr Derek Bohan. Reverend Alastair Dunlop opened and closed the service with prayer.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge was held from 14 to 16 March. The Irish department was decorated and posters were hung up to promote the events of the week. Announcements were made at assemblies to remind students of the events taking place. On Monday 14 March, all Second Year Irish classes took part in a Comórtas na bPostaer competition based on their favourite seanfhocal (proverb). Zahra Nassiri was the winner of our Comórtas na bPostaer. Transition Year students also took part in a tráth na gceist (quiz) during their Irish class time. First Year students took part in a Spelling Bee competition in their classes at the beginning of the week, with two students from each class going forward to the final on Wednesday, 16 March. Ms Siobhán O’hUadhaigh facilitated the final of the Spelling Bee, and our First Year winner was Jessica Moore.

Fifth Year students watched a new Irish language film ‘Arracht’ during Irish classes. This is a film set during the Great Famine of Ireland. On Tuesday 15 March, First and Fifth Year students gathered in the sports hall for our Céilí Mór. Students danced to Ballaí Luimnigh, Ionsaí na hInse and An Dreoilín. Prizes were handed out for our best dancing teachers and those who participated in the event. Ms Gillian Wallace and Ms Shadwa Khaled were our staff prize winners. A ‘sos Gaelach’ was held in the staff rooms for all staff on Wednesday, 16 March. The staff rooms had been decorated and refreshments were made available.

Model United Nations

Model United Nations resumed in person this year. The Senior Hall was used after school as it is a large space with sufficient seating. MUN took place three afternoons each week: Tuesday for Transition Year students, Thursday for Fifth Year students and Friday for Third Year students. There were between 30-40 students from each year group at their meetings. The meetings were chaired by Sixth Year students. Due to mask wearing and the size of the room, microphones were used throughout the debate. An Operations Team from Fifth Year set these up for every meeting. Ideally, the year groups would have been mixed for MUN as they could learn from the older students, but with Covid-19 this year, they were kept separate.

Boston MUN

On Friday, 29 October, sixteen of our students participated in the online United Association of Boston MUN conference. This was organised by past pupil, Alexander Beatty (Class of 2015), who now works for this organisation. We had new Third Year delegates participate for the first time and five committee chairs from Fifth Year.

THIMUN Singapore Admin

St Andrew's students provided the administration team for the virtual THIMUN Singapore MUN conference from 15 to 19 November. Due to a time difference of 8 hours, the students arrived at school at 4.30am. The students took leadership roles in the committee rooms and learnt more about MUN procedure which was great practice before THIMUN at the end of January.

THIMUN The Hague

The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) conference took place from 24 to 28 January. Students spent afternoons lobbying and debating virtually with delegates from around the world from the Music Building. SAC had extensive involvement with 47 delegates from Transition Year and Fifth Year representing the USA, Congo and Bahrain. We also had four Fifth Year students that took part as committee chairs. These students wrote research reports on their committee issues and coordinated and managed the debate throughout the conference. In addition, we had six Transition Year students who organised the Approval Panel system for resolutions. Throughout the week, we learnt how to support one another and work together as a team, and we all look forward to next year's in-person conference.

Blackrock College MUN

On Friday 18 and Saturday 19 February, 40 students from Third Year, Transition Year and Fifth Year attended Blackrock College to debate on a wide range of topics, from The Question of Ukraine to the rights of indigenous people. This was the first in person conference MUN since January 2020. St Andrew's College represented Brazil, France, Pakistan, Yemen and DPRK across the seven committees and won numerous committee awards. In addition, the students had three committee chairs. ROCKMUN, for all new and returning delegates, was a wonderful return to MUN.

Wesley College MUN

On Friday, 11 and Saturday 12 March, 30 students across Third Year, Transition Year and Fifth Year attended Wesley College MUN representing Australia, China, Iran and Pakistan across six committees and in General assembly, as well as four committee chairs. It was an incredibly successful MUN for St Andrew's delegates with many committee awards won and the delegation of China winning best delegation in GA.

St Andrew's College Model United Nations

The 33rd St Andrew's College Model United Nations (SAIMUN) 2022, took place from Friday 1 April to Sunday 3 April. Four hundred students and advisors attended St Andrew's College for the first ever in-person MUN held in the school, hosting a total of seventeen schools with forty-five different delegations

and over two hundred and fifty delegates including eighteen in-person delegates from an international school in Switzerland. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, SAIMUN could not be held in our usual location of the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire.

The Sixth Year student officers for SAIMUN were:
Grace Wilson: Secretary General
Lana Kaminska Knight: President of the General Assembly
Eabha McKeown: President of the General Assembly
Heather McCutcheon
Luke Micallef
Eoghan O'Mahony
Marianne Scully

Mr William Hehir welcomed all participants to the event. He talked about the many reasons for participating in MUN including learning about diplomacy practiced in lobbying today. Ms Marshall described the challenges faced by today's society including Covid-19, the war in Ukraine and humanitarian crises, inflation in fuel prices, and the rise in the cost of living. Our Guest Speaker, Deputy Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, TD addressed the hall speaking about her own experience as an MUN delegate. Fifth Year students, Sarah Brownlee and Holly Gilmer, accompanied on piano by Sofia Herranz-Harmen performed "In your eyes" from the musical Jekyll and Hyde. Sixth Year students Luke Micallef and Eabha McKeown accompanied by Head Girl; Lana Kaminska-Knight performed "Iris" by the Goo Goo Dolls.

SAIMUN was an incredibly successful conference with over two hundred St Andrew's students involved in all aspects of the conference, including delegates, chairs, and a very important administration and ICT team. The Sodexo team provided catering feeding over four hundred people with morning beverages, lunch, sandwiches and dinner, along with providing stock for the tuck shop.

St Andrew's delegates represented USA, UK, UAE, Fiji, Monaco, Botswana, Bahrain, Czech Republic, Poland, Lebanon, and Malta, many committee awards were won, as-well as USA winning a best delegates award.

Highly Commended Delegation award was awarded to Rathdown School, Terenure College and St Andrew's College with delegation Brazil, China and United Kingdom. Outstanding Delegation award was awarded to Blackrock College, Wesley College and St Andrew's College with delegation, France, Japan and United Kingdom.

Overall, this was a very successful year for MUN. Despite the restrictions caused by Covid-19, students still managed to fully participate in MUN, and it remains one of the largest extra-curricular activities in the College. We will have fifty students travel to Royal Russell next October and THIMUN The Hague is back in

person next year. We plan to be back in the Royal Marine next Easter. The MUN staff this year were: Mr William Hehir (MUN Director), Mr Derek Bohan, Ms Ellen Boyd, Dr Nikki Carter, Ms Alice O'Shea, Mr Gary Quinn and Ms Poonam Rana.

International Night

International Night and Intercultural Week in their usual formats were unfortunately not possible this year due to Covid-19 and the current restrictions prohibiting large gatherings. Nonetheless, we decided to focus on promoting the theme of tolerance and international-mindedness for Intercultural Week and a student-led committee, co-ordinated by Ms Shauna O'Reilly and Ms Ruth Devane, was created to organise the events celebrating our school's multiculturalism and diversity.

Our primary aim was to celebrate the international minded spirit of St Andrew's College while adhering to the school policy and current public health guidelines. The student-led committee organised a plethora of events for all year groups, some of which were carried over from previous years, while some were entirely new initiatives. Once again, we had the incredible support of the PTA which allowed us to decorate the school with some colourful flags and garlands, as well as offer a host of prizes for the numerous events on offer.

The International Photography Competition open to all parents/guardians, students and staff was a great success again, with many beautiful entries submitted (all displayed on the school website). The theme this year reflected the powerful activism and culturally-minded attitude we have seen in our students and wider school community: "Tolerance". The PTA generously donated a budget for printing and displaying these photos, as well as prizes for our winner and runner up entries. The full list of prize winners is available on the SAC website. We also distributed three amazing bookmarks to every year, designed and produced by 6IB students, to connect with the student-led Literacy Committee's Intercultural Week involvement. Posters encouraging the school community to read international activists' biographies were created by the committee, while artistic reimagining's of internationally-renowned book covers were displayed all around the school. Furthermore, the English, MFL and Geography departments ran three separate initiatives (a literature competition; international greetings displayed across the school; mapping our school community on large world maps in every House Area, respectively) to encourage students to reflect on their cultural heritage and what "tolerance" means to them. Furthermore, the theme of tolerance was built into lessons throughout the week, across every subject, and each morning in registration or assembly, a video or handout was circulated to prompt discussion regarding the term "tolerance" and its importance in our everyday lives.

The Intercultural Committee also ran their very first international scavenger hunt, which invited students from every year to scan a QR code, search for the hidden international words around the school and submit their answers. The PTA's donation of a wonderful international food hamper was an amazing incentive and we had over a hundred entries for the competition, across all six-year groups. Finally, our 5IB class organised an international-themed bake sale, raising €340 for *Concern*.

Overall, we had a fantastic week celebrating the diverse culture that exists in our school community, supported continuously by the PTA, Board and SAC staff and management.

PTA

The PTA continued their valuable support of the College throughout the year. As parents/guardians were unable to visit the school, the PTA sought ways to reimagine how to provide support to both the College and the parent body.

As soon as it was possible, the PTA organised individual year group coffee mornings in the Radisson. This gave the parents the opportunity to meet others in the year group and to touch-base with the Year Heads, Deputy Principals and Headmistress in an informal way.

On 11 November the PTA hosted a webinar by Dr Colman Noctor on Building resilience in our children and young people. This was followed in February by Dr Siobhán O'Higgins who discussed the question of how to address parental anxieties about consent and speaking with children about sexuality and intimacy. They were joined by Ms Eimear Sloan and Ms Helen Groves who discussed the ways in which the Colleges' SPHE curriculum addresses these key areas.

In May, the PTA hosted its annual fundraiser, the Golf Classic at Elm Park Golf Club which included golf and dining. The occasion was well attended by staff and parents alike. The PTA also provided support to a number of school activities. These included Scifest, Junior School Performing Arts Festival, Intercultural week, Junior School Christmas Cards, Senior School Music and Dance Festival, Junior School P6 Class Graduation and the Junior School Sports Day. They also provided teas and coffees during the interval of the College musical, 'The First Time in Forever'.

In October the PTA held a second-hand uniform sale in the car park. This allowed the valuable second-hand uniform sale to go ahead while allowing for Covid-19 regulations to be maintained. A second uniform sale was held in May to coincide with the First Year College Day. These events were both very well attended.

The staff were delighted to have the 'staff breakfast' back again, this was hosted by the PTA and appreciated by all. 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 hors d'oeuvres.

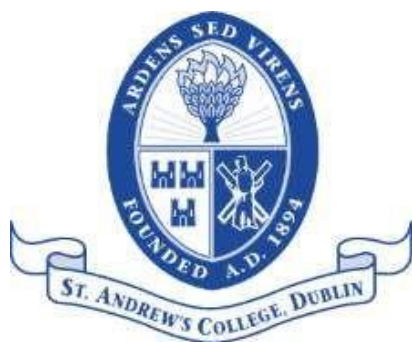
SACA

Thankfully we have been able to have some in person activities this year. It was great to be able to meet as a SACA committee face to face in order to start planning the activities for the year! We have had a mix of online and in person events. The AGM was held via zoom, but we were able to hold the Rugby lunch in person and it was a great success due to the hard work of Paul McClatchie and Wesley Hudson. We were able to attend the Annual Dinners of some of the other Schools and we aim to hold our own Dinner later this year. The Clyde Road Lunch will go ahead in September under a slightly new format. The Alumni were also represented in person at the Remembrance Service, the Transition Year End of Year ceremony the Sixth Year Graduation event in the College. The annual SACA Table Quiz went ahead online and was a huge success. We are currently facing a challenge in relation to the SACA online presence via social media but we are seeking solutions to this challenge. We look forward to the opportunity to arrange more events in the real world and bringing SACA from strength to strength.

Financial Report

The key financial objective of the College is to ensure that adequate funding is available to carry out its educational mission, maintain and improve its existing facilities and generate sufficient funds to service existing school building loans. The financial environment is extremely challenging, there has been a significant increase in energy costs, inflation is also evident across most goods and services purchased by the College and, is also likely to give rise to salary increases in the future. The College is fully aware of the financial pressures that parents are experiencing. As a consequence, any increase in fees in the academic year 2022/23 will, insofar as possible, be minimised whilst maintaining services to our students.

A major redevelopment of the campus is planned in the coming year, and this will present new funding challenges for the College. While our school is well managed and in a financially sound position, a major project such as this will not be possible on annual surpluses alone. The scale and timing of our plans will be dependent on the generosity of the St Andrew's College community and the broader educational environment. Our aim is to commence this phased undertaking by the fourth quarter of 2022.



St Andrew's College Junior School

**Annual Report Academic Year
2021-2022**

School Enrolment

At the beginning of the 2021–22 school year, enrolment in St Andrew’s College Junior School (SACJS) was 261. We have 12 classes across K1 – P6 and are two-form entry from P3-P6. Class sizes are between 15 – 25 pupils, with an equal mix of boys and girls (where possible).

Faculty

In 2021-22, there were 12 full-time class teachers; 2 full time teachers in our Support for Learning team; 1 full time teacher teaching Irish and Support for Learning; 2 full time PE teachers and 6 part time specialist teachers (across music, drama, art and modern languages and US studies). Additionally, we have 2 full time classroom assistants in K1-P2, one who works with EAL pupils and one who focuses on SFL for infant classes. We also work with a host of music teachers who provide one on one music tuition. The Junior School is led and managed by Ms Denise Buckley.

Teaching and Learning in the Junior School

Curriculum

The SACJS curriculum is designed to provide a balanced and rigorous education. For the majority of subjects we follow the Primary School Curriculum (1999), whilst offering bespoke programmes in Art, Music, Modern Languages and ICT. Support for Learning, English as an Additional Language and American Studies programmes are provided, and we offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities. The school is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) and the Council of International Schools (CIS). It is part of the Association of Independent Junior Schools (AIJS) in Ireland.

Student Assessment

We use a variety of formative and summative assessment strategies to ensure all children make excellent levels of progress during their time in SACJS. In the early years, assessment is mostly formative, however we use PM and Jolly Phonics benchmarking to support reading acquisition and MIST testing at the end of K2.

Across P1 – P6, pupils take annual Drumcondra assessments in Maths and English, and at the end of P4 and P6 pupils take the Irish Drumcondra assessment. These national standardised assessments provide pupils and parents with an indication of how well they are performing against national averages and enable school improvement planning. In addition, P4 – P6 pupils take the CAT 4 test annually.

We also carry out PASS testing on P5 and P6, in the first term, to determine social and emotional needs.

Reporting

Two comprehensive school reports are produced annually, and parents have the opportunity to meet with teachers twice a year. Pupils set their own academic and personal goals twice during the academic year.

Curriculum Highlights

World Peace Day

In September, we celebrated World Peace Day. The pupils came to school dressed in their favourite 1970's clothes and we turned our thoughts to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Climate Action Week

The whole school took part in various eco activities and lessons throughout the week.

Science Week

Science Week was celebrated in November and children enjoyed in-class science experiments and activities.

International Week

International Week was celebrated in November. Activities in the Junior School included a dress up day and learning about other cultures.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

We celebrated our annual Seachtain na Gaeilge in March. Junior School activities included a door decorating competition; a non-uniform day and PE lessons which included Irish dancing. We had a whole school céilí in the hall.

World Book Day Ireland

The children engaged in a number of activities in March to celebrate World Book Day Ireland. Activities ranged from collaborative reading, quizzes and competitions. Staff and students attended school dressed as our favourite book character.

World Recycling Week

World Recycling Week in March 2022 was linked with National Spring Clean Day and World Recycling Day. The Green Team organised many lessons and activities throughout the week with whole school participation.

Music

The instrument programme returned in September with face-to-face lessons in the school and 125 individual music lessons taking place every week. The string programme was also able to recommence where all children from P1-P6 were learning either the violin, cello or double bass.

The Performing Arts Festival took place in March with live performances to a Junior School audience and a recorded prize-winners concert.

Choir recommenced in September and the orchestra returned after Easter.

The P6 musical '*Matilda*' began with auditions and rehearsals in September. Students delivered two performances in the Civic Theatre in May.

In May we held a K1-K2 summer concert, a P1 musical, and a P2 musical, and a P3-P6 summer performance including choir, orchestra, guitar and drum students and Performing Arts prize-winners.

The year ended with the P6 graduation where P6 wrote and performed their own song.

Sport

- All classes had one PE and one games class each week during the school timetable.
- Early morning hockey and basketball on Wednesdays and Thursdays were both popular and busy.
- We entered 3 boys and 2 girls' teams into the Leinster Primary Schools Hockey Leagues. 4 out of 5 teams reached the finals day. Boys A and Girls B teams won their leagues. Boys B team lost out by a point.
- We entered 8 teams into Wicklow Invitational Cross Country Relay event and won 4 gold, 2 silver and one bronze.
- We entered a boys' and a girls' team into the Leinster Primary Schools Tennis Leagues. Boys lost in the final to St Gerard's.
- We entered 2 boys and 2 girls' teams into AJS Soccer Competition. Girls A team lost in the final to St

Gerard's.

- We entered a Boys and a Girls team into AIJS Tennis Tournament hosted by Rathdown. Teams selected from P5 as P6 were unavailable as they were on an induction day.
- Sports Day was a great day out, with parents back for first time since Covid.
- P5/P6 Fitness games delivered another great day for the children.

Art

This year the visual art programme explored learning, delivering learning content structured around the six strands of the NCCA visual arts curriculum.

Due to Covid restrictions, the early part of the year saw a focus on dry drawing media, collage, air dough sculpting with collage making being explored in the pupils' classes. On the ease of restrictions, the art room became more available, and we were able to explore more craft-based practices such as painting, print, construction and clay.

Pupils from K1 to P6 inclusive met all curriculum requirements and achieved a great deal this academic year.

P6 enrichment programme was realised through the art department, exploring extra crafts from tie dye, soap making, wood crafts, gardening and food preparation. Pupils also planted some vegetables in the school garden, linking with a project on minibeasts.

Pupils entered many competitions including:

- Texaco Children's art competition, awaiting results.
- Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown poster competition
- Credit union competition, first place and going on to a Nationwide competition
- We won four First place prizes in the AIJS art competition.

Pastoral Programmes

Junior School Values

We continued to celebrate our core values of kindness, responsibility and courage as a reflection of the school's mission and vision. This year, our values continued to incorporate our key safety messages; Be

Kind – keep your distance; Be courageous – cover coughs and sneezes; Be responsible – remember to keep your distance.

Wellbeing Initiatives

This year in SACJS for Wellbeing, it was an active year. Wellbeing remained a priority area for our school and a pillar of our reopening plan.

We started out the school year coming back in pods and with social distancing which meant that some of our initiatives in our action plan had to be pushed back to later in the year. Ms Kennedy started a wellbeing afterschool club for the younger years, which included mindfulness, yoga and self-reflection. We are hoping to bring this in next year for P3-P6 also.

In September/October, we explored the UNESCO Rights of the Child, and the pupils created a class charter, and completed projects on it. This made the children more empathetic and understanding when the war in Ukraine broke out and they wanted to do what they could to help the children affected.

In the spring, Mr Cousins re-introduced his gardening programme with all of the classes. Every class was given the opportunity to plant some bulbs and seeds and watch them grow – this was incorporated with Geography.

There were many nature walks, fun runs and days that were given to improving and incorporating our wellbeing – many of which we will be repeating next year, as well as introducing some new initiatives now that all restrictions have been lifted.

Relationships and Sexuality (RSE)

Our RSE curriculum was revised before Christmas, and coming back after the holidays, the whole school embarked on introducing the Kapow SPHE and RSE curriculum which proved to be much more interactive, modern and child friendly.

In May, students in P5 and P6 participated in the HSE ‘Busy Bodies’ RSE Programme which is a key component of the Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum in junior schools.

Charitable Activities

This year, we chose to support Aoibheann’s Pink Tie as our main charity. We have raised €7073 for Aoibheann’s Pink Tie charity through a range of fundraising events. We are still fundraising for the Ukraine;

we have raised €7280 so far. In addition, we supported St Vincent de Paul with a hamper donation at Christmas time.

The Green Team

This year's Green Team has, once again, been extremely busy. The team planned many events throughout the year, some of which tied in with our Green Flag application and others that focused on various global events. The Green Team consists of ten students from P3 to P6, who work with Mr Adair to promote environmental awareness and making our school more "Green."

Our first event of the year was Climate Action Week. The Green Team representatives went around their classroom to see what everyone had in their lunchboxes and see the diverse types of packaging in lunchboxes. We also looked at what could and couldn't be recycled. Everyone in each class made a short video about a different topic in a fun, entertaining way, then the rest of the school watched the video. Some of the themes we looked at were; repairing and re-using; walking and using public transport more; driving less and using cars less often; buying local and seasonal goods; palm oil and deforestation and eating less meat. We also took a daily transport survey, with P5OH the best class for using green methods of transport across the week. Each class had a lot of fun during climate action week.

In December, the Green Team organized a Litter Audit. This was extremely important to understand how much litter we drop and not pick up. Each day, the Team worked in pairs to collect and record any litter. We made a note of where we found the litter and we weighed our bags of litter. Mainly there was litter in the lower yard, but the upper yard also had a lot of litter. There was very little in the sheltered area and in the hallways and behind the tree.

Next, we organized a Christmas decoration competition to see how creative everyone could be with recycled household materials. All pupils had to do to enter was to take a photo of their decoration and send it to their teacher. One winner from each class was then entered into the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown competition and Oliver from P6A won a Special Merit prize.

At the end of March, we completed a Waste Review, which was similar to the Litter Audit. Pairs of Green Team representatives went into different classes twice a day to check the recycle bins and normal bins, to see how well they are used. Overall, most classes were very good at putting the correct materials into our classroom green bin, but we found a substantial number of recyclable objects in the normal waste bins. The Green Team are working to inform every one of what to do and why this is important.

During April, the Green Team marked World Recycling Day with different activities for each class to enjoy and to learn more about recycling. K1 and K2 learnt recycling songs about using less plastic, P1 and P2 learnt about the life of a plastic bottle, P3 investigated landfill and our eco-footprint, P4 covered deforestation and reforestation, whilst P5 and P6 studied electronic waste and fast fashion. P6 students performed their own songs using the tunes to “Vogue” and “Material Girl” by Madonna. The whole school was also encouraged to complete an Eco interview where children interviewed parents or grandparents about how attitudes to, and awareness of, reducing, reusing and recycling have changed since they were in primary school. A cool mixtape of all the videos was made for everyone to watch in class.

School Garden

Our school garden continues to be a hive of activity and focal point for the Junior School. Now in its fourth year, the garden is reaching maturity, and, alongside Mr Liam Cousins, the pupils thoroughly enjoyed activities in the garden.

The Student Council

Although Student Council representatives were nominated to posts, initiatives were hampered by restrictions on students mixing across classes.

Pupil Workshops and Trips

Throughout the year, our pupils availed themselves of many online pupil workshops. For example, in October, P4B and P4OR celebrated Space Week with a virtual workshop presented by Epic Museum.

It was difficult to go on trips the first half of the year, but all classes went on at least one trip this year. P3 went to the Bord Gáis Theatre to watch ‘The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe’, P6 went to Hellfire, P4 and P5 went to the beach, K1 and K2 had a Teddy Bear’s Picnic. K1 and K2 visited Pine Forest Arts Centre, P4 visited Kilruddery, P1 went to the cinema, P1 and P2 visited Let’s Go at UCD, P3 visited Tayto Park, P4 visited Dublinia, P5 visited Alive Outside and P6 visited Carlingford for an overnight stay.

P6 Enrichment Programme

Starting in November, our P6 pupils commenced a new 8-week enrichment program. P6 students were offered a choice of a cycling proficiency course or a modern-day survival course. These courses were offered in the space of other leadership and curriculum opportunities lost due to social distancing guidelines.

Anti-Bullying

In November, we participated in anti-bullying week. Webinars, circle times and lessons were held based around anti-bullying in addition to a whole school house poster competition. We participated in Safer Internet Day in February. We spent the day focusing on how to stay safe online.

Our Community

Supporting Staff

Staff happiness remained a priority and more traditional CPD opportunities were replaced by activities that supported wellbeing and community with various staff events held throughout the year. Weekly staff briefings were held on Monday mornings and staff meetings were held for CPD on Tuesdays after school.

Junior School Staff Handbook

The Junior School Staff Handbook was updated and distributed to all Junior School staff during academic year 2021/22.

Departures

At the end of the year, we said goodbye to the following:

- Mr Scott Lowrie, who was covering a PE career break in place of Mr Stephen Ellis. Mr Ellis will return to school in August 2022.
- Ms Fiona Kennedy who was covering a Maternity Leave for Ms Angie Westbrooks, who has returned to school.
- Ms Katherine Whittam, who was covering a SFL role, which will now be taken over by Ms Marian Blaney.

Parental Involvement

Parent Events

The Junior School organised the following:

- 'Back to school' parent seminar in August (virtual)
- Meetings with Parent Representatives throughout the year (hybrid)
- Parent-Teacher meetings in October for all classes (virtual)
- Parent-Teacher meetings for all classes were in April (hybrid – virtual and face-to-face)

- PTA coffee mornings in the Radisson for international parents and JS parents
- Induction meetings for incoming pupils in K1, P3 and other classes in May
- Transition morning for new K1 parents and pupils in May
- Various events in Term 3 including Parent Book Look, Art Exhibition, Performance Arts Concert, Sports Day, Pupil Drama Performances and Teddy Bears' picnic

Home-School Communication

Two key documents help connect our parents to school life:

- The weekly '*At a Glance*' document produced by each class teacher provides parents with detailed information on what is being covered in each subject area and homework tasks.
- The weekly Junior School newsletter '*The Scoop*'.

The Parent Handbook was updated for the year 2021-22 and sent digitally to all parents.

PTA

The PTA supported the Junior School with a number of events and initiatives, including the International Parents Coffee Morning and JS parents coffee morning and by designing class Christmas cards.

The PTA also worked alongside Ms Buckley to organise the BBQ at Sports Day and the P6 graduation.

Accountability

School Policies

The Junior School shares a number of whole school College policies as well as its own set of bespoke policies, which ensure smooth administration and successful teaching and learning.

Council of International Schools (CIS) Inspection and Preparatory Report

In the year 2021/22 the Junior School team reflected on the commendations and recommendations of the above inspection and report from November 2021. The recommendations will form part of the August Training Days 2022.