



## Believe & you will achieve

Issue 20: 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### Sports Day & Summer Break

Our thanks go to the PE Department and all the staff and students who made our Sports Day such a success this year. It was fantastic to see our school community come together for such an enjoyable event at the end of the school year with not only some superb athletics performances but also great fun being had across our novelty events. The perfect way to end a busy school year!

We wish all our students, their families and our staff, a well-deserved and relaxing summer break and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the new school year.





### Retirement of Fr Clerkin (Chaplain) & Mrs Hodgins (Head of RE Department)

We were honoured to celebrate the retirement of Fr Clerkin as School Chaplain to Thornhill College on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Fr Clerkin has given so generously of his time to the school community for over 10 years. We have been blessed with his wisdom, prayerfulness and kindness during the many liturgical services, school Masses, Christmas and Easter services over the years.

We began his celebrations by planting a tree in which representatives of Year 10 and members of staff were present. The blessing was inspired by the words of St Columba, the Patron Saint of Derry, who compels us to remember how *"The Path I Walk, Christ walks it."* These poignant words are a reminder that each of us are not alone in our journey of life. At the end of the service, we presented a plaque to Fr Clerkin to plant in the ground beside his tree as a commemoration of all his guidance as school chaplain. The plaque included a quotation from sacred scripture which reads *"The Lord will bless and keep you"*.

We also surprised Mrs Hodgins on her imminent retirement with her own planting of a yellow rose bush which symbolises the mercy ethos. Mrs Hodgins has been a true inspiration of faith and lived mercy and has exemplified the words of Catherine McAuley throughout her time in Thornhill College; *"The tender Mercy of God has given us one another."* Our celebrations continued with an afternoon tea and the presentation of a plaque designed by the Design and Technology Department.



## SistersIN Programme

We are delighted to announce the involvement of Thornhill College from September 2022, as a partner school, in the SistersIN Female Leadership Programme.

The programme is aimed at nurturing aspiring female leaders of the future within our sixth form cohort of students, empowering them to discover their full potential and open new possibilities for their future professional journeys by building leadership capability and confidence. The Year 13 girls who participate in the programme next year will be mentored by leading females in industry and we are proud to announce, AXA and Alchemy as two of our partner businesses who will be supporting us in this work.

In preparation for the roll out of the programme in September we are reaching out to those industries who are passionate about female empowerment. If you are a senior female in your industry or if you work with inspirational females in your place of work who like to get involved as mentors, then please let us know.

For more information, please access [www.sisters-in.org](http://www.sisters-in.org) and if your organisation is interested in engaging with SistersIN then email [info@sisters-in.org](mailto:info@sisters-in.org) directly.

Follow Thornhill College SistersIN on our journey through the programme at: [@SistersIN\\_THC](https://twitter.com/SistersIN_THC)



### Foyle Hospice Fundraiser

A huge well done to 10A and 10H on their fantastic and enthusiastic fundraising for Foyle Hospice with Mrs McCarry over the last two weeks, through ticket sales for a beauty hamper and a sweet hamper. They have raised over £700 so far.

Congratulations go to Mia Connolly 8H and Kayla Anderson 10A on winning our two hampers and also to the other prize winners for a few bonus prizes. Brilliant work for such a worthy cause!



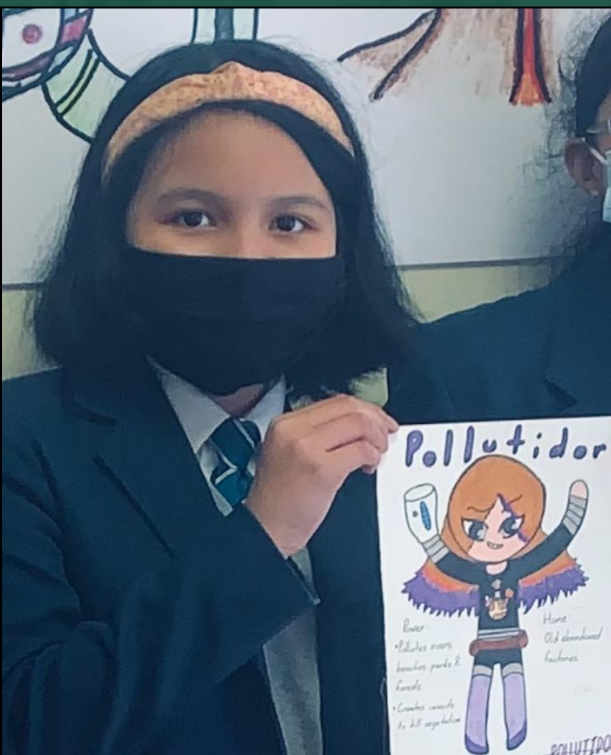


## Well Done Kate & Sophie

A group of our Year 13 pupils attended a competition in the Playhouse on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June organised by the Bloody Sunday Trust as part of their Enrichment programme called Creative Local History.

This programme was established in September 2021 as part of a long series of events devised this year to commemorate 50 years from the tragedy that was Bloody Sunday.

As part of the programme, pupils produced a final art piece around the theme of Bloody Sunday. They presented their work to judges on Friday and Kate and Sophia won second place beating off tough competition from entries from other local schools around Derry.



## Congratulations Natalia

Congratulations to Natalia Effirul in 8G who recently won the 'Design an Eco Villain' Eco Schools competition.

Natalia's entry was awarded first place from a total of 1700 entries in the competition.

At a prize-giving event in the Foyle Arena on the 21<sup>st</sup> June, Natalia was presented with not only a laptop worth £1500 for herself, but also £500 for the Geography Department's Eco-Club which Natalia is a very proactive member of.

Well done Natalia!



## Róinn na Gaeilge

Comhghairdeas! Congratulations to all those Year 8 students in 8C, 8D, 8E and 8F who passed their Fáinne Cúpla Focal examination recently. The examiner was very impressed by your fluency and pronunciation! Maith sibh!!



## Holocaust Educational Trust Project

Hello! We are two A level history students and have recently completed the Lessons from Auschwitz course with the Holocaust Educational Trust. Through talking directly to survivors, conversing with experts in the history of genocide, and have gaining direct access to sources and accounts form WWII itself, we have gained a much more intimate and special connection with the past.

For our final project of the course to become 'HET Ambassadors' we completed a presentation investigating and outlining the role of the Sonderkommando within Auschwitz. We were incredibly moved by their story and felt compelled to complete our project in dedication to their actions and bravery. For this we investigated diary entries and letters of the Sonderkommando and the actions of women inside the camps assisting in the revolt.

Our presentation is made up of two parts; the first outlines the role of the Sonderkommando, who they were, what they did and why they are important. The second, provides a definition of the holocaust and why it is vital we remember it always.

This has been an utterly enriching experience, and we cannot thank The Holocaust Educational Trust enough for providing us with this opportunity to gain a deeper and more personal understanding of the past. We hope to continue to learn and share our experiences with from the programme in the hopes of creating an environment fully aware of the atrocities of the past, of individuals conscious of the present and hopeful for a changing future.

*Aoife Sargent & Rachel Logue*  
(Year 13)





Irish Schools' Track & Field Championships  
Tullamore - Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022



The Irish Schools' Track and Field Championships is the top level competition for athletes. Our athletes did Thornhill proud with great performances on the day.



Cara Laverty won the silver medal in the senior girls' 800m with a time of 2:11.48. This was Cara's final performance in a Thornhill vest. She has been a fantastic ambassador for sport throughout her seven years in Thornhill. We wish her the very best of luck as she heads off on athletics scholarship to Providence College, Rhode Island.

Sophie Parlour won the silver medal in the senior girls' 100m with a time of 12.44 seconds.

Sophie has now been selected for the **Ireland U20 4 x 100m relay squad**. A massive achievement. Well done Sophie!



Hannah Wade finished 10th in the Intermediate Girls' 3000m, with a time of 10:45.47, a new personal best time. Hannah was also selected for the Ulster Team to compete in the Tailteann Schools Interprovincial Games where she came 8<sup>th</sup> in the 3000m.



The Year 9 relay team ran a great race and just missed out on the bronze medal, finishing 4th in the minor girls 4 x 100m relay. Team members are Leonelle Atoge, Cara Phillips, Molly McCullagh and Ava Curran.



Unfortunately, injury prevented Veronica O'Neill from competing in Ulster and Irish Schools' Championships, however, Veronica was selected for the Ulster Team to compete in the Tailteann Schools Interprovincial Games where she won silver in the 80m Hurdles.



# Home Economics

Well done to Miss Doherty's KS3 Home Economics classes who enjoyed the challenge of solving problems and cracking codes using the knowledge they have acquired in class this year, to break out of the Home Economics OneNote Escape Room!

## ONENOTE Breakout

WILL YOU ESCAPE IN TIME?



Welcome to the Home Economics Escape Room.

There are 7 doors in the home you will now enter which you have to unlock, however there is a special code required for each door. Answer the questions in each room to access the code.

Good Luck!

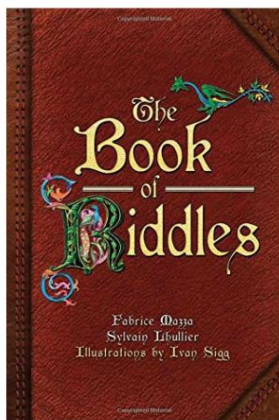


To unlock door number 1 can you identify the vitamin in the image below?



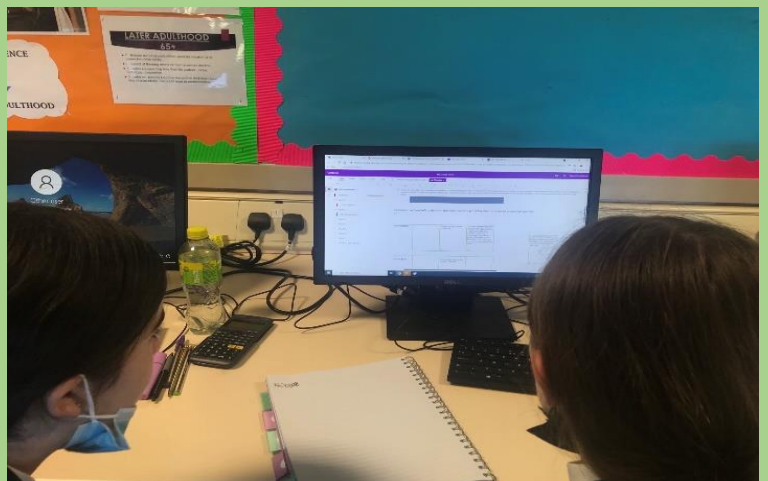
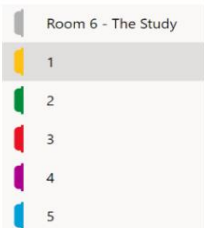
[Enter room 1](#)

\*passwords do not contain spaces or capital letters



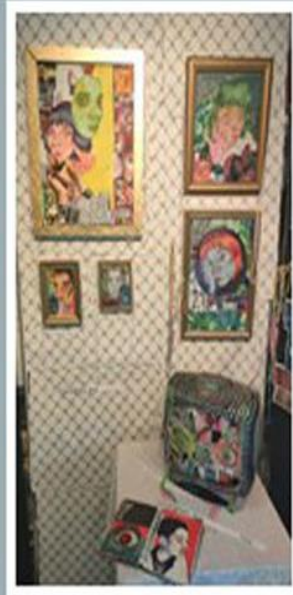
Open the book of riddles to find your clue, reading carefully is something you must do.

Code to riddle 1 is 'riddles'

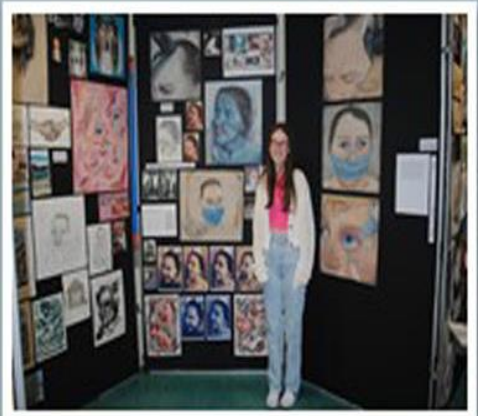


8C had their thinking caps on whilst trying to figure out riddles in the library to gain access to the study.

# AS & A2 ART EXHIBITION







WED 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2022

## Technology & Design – Helicopter Trip

The Technology and Design Department enjoyed celebrating with our Year 9 Amelia Earhart winners on their recent visit to the City of Derry Airport. The students had a fantastic experience that they will cherish for a long time. We would like to say a big thank you to RA Engineering (Mrs Doherty), the City of Derry Airport and Cutting Edge Helicopters for making it all possible.



# Amelia Earhart Helicopter Trip

PIC•COLLAGE



Please scan the QR Code above to watch our Year 9 Amelia Earhart Stem Competition Journey

## Year 13 Seating Matters Visit

Our Year 13 students had the opportunity to visit Seating Matters on Tuesday 21 June 2022. This educational visit enabled the students to apply their Technology and Design theory in an industrial setting. The students had an early morning start to make sure they made the unique staff meeting that included stretching exercises and shout outs to the staff. This was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone that attended.



PIC•COLLAGE

PIC•COLLAGE

## Year 10 Technology & Design

Year 10 have produced some excellent amplifier designs just in time for summer. Some lovely designs and personalisation have been carried out not to mention the skill development using the Milling Machine, Band facer and a range of hand tools. Excellent work Year 10!



Please scan the QR Code to watch a video of our Year 10 students work



## Year 8 Technology & Design

Our Year 8 students have completed a Mobile Phone holder at the end of this term.

This project has given the students the opportunity to work with a different type of material and develop their skills using tools and machinery in the work shop. Some great outcomes, well done!



Please scan the QR Code to watch a video of our Year 8 students work



# STEM Women



## Sign Language Certificates

Well done to our Year 13 pupils who recently received their British Sign Language Course certificates. Our thanks go to Mrs Hutton and Mrs Mailey who facilitated these classes in our Year 13 enrichment provision this year.



## Congratulations Lileannah

Congratulations to Lileannah Feehan, Year 13, for winning the Third Prize in the Ulster University's Poetry Competition.

The competition was open to all years 8-14 pupils across Northern Ireland. Pupils were asked to write a poem about what their Homeplace meant to them. Over 400 entries were received and the standard was very high. The judges were very impressed with Lileannah's poem and their comments reflect the beauty of the poem.

### Judges' Comments:

This poem is rich in imagery and language as it starts with the relatively happy childhood memories. It engages the reader with different imageries, auditory, olfactory and visual. The poem offers a child's past memories and observations at a time that he or she is more mature and can look back and have a better perspective on things; evident in the description of giraffes on the cutting board and how the poet notices the odd lie in that image. The poet equals childhood with the connection of mum and dad in the third stanza and goes on to state that because this connection is lost, he has no longer a single home, but homes, or rather no home at all. A unique structure and narrative that sustain you till the end. I loved the use of "home becomes homes."

## KS3

### Prize-Giving

Congratulations to all the prize winners in our KS3 End of Year Prize-Giving ceremonies this week.

It was wonderful to see the wide range students being recognised for the fantastic contribution they have made this year to our school community.





