



## Believe & you will achieve

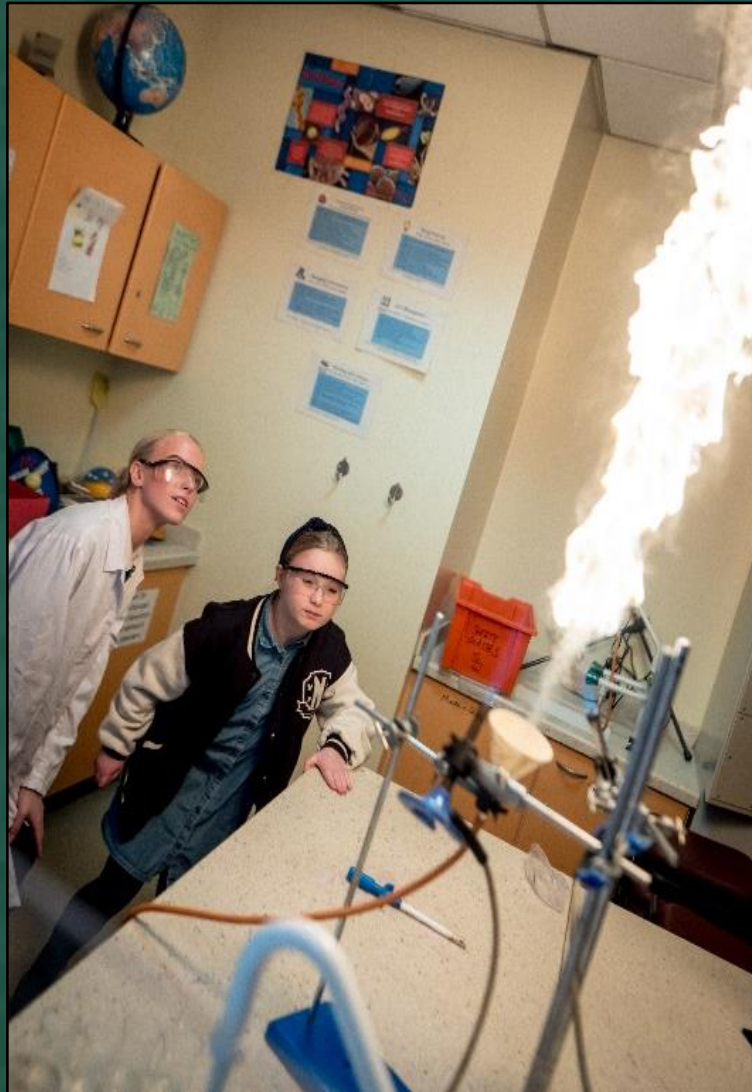
Issue 35: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### Open Night 2024

We were delighted to welcome Primary 6 and 7 girls from our feeder Primary Schools along with their parents to our Open Night on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024. It was wonderful to share with them a flavour of our vibrant and high achieving school community. Our thanks go to all our students and staff who made the evening such an enjoyable occasion and great success.











## Year 12 Special Careers Day

Our thanks go to Mrs Hunter for co-ordinating the Year 12 Special Careers Day which took place on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. It was a great success opening our students' eyes to a wide range of career paths as well as giving them an insight into the new subjects on offer at GCSE.

It was great to see a number of past pupils in particular, returning to us to share the story of their career progression.

A final word of thanks to our Year 12 students who conducted themselves impeccably throughout the day we hope you found the day to be of great value to you.





BONJOUR

## Year 10 Languages Visit to St. Columb's College

HOLA

A group of 30 Year 10 Modern Languages students attended a 'Languages: Becoming future ready' seminar in St. Columb's College. The information session was led by Dr Isabel Torres (Head of Spanish at QUB) and Dr Maeve McCusker (Head of French at QUB). Students were reminded of some of the valid reasons for continuing the study of a language and discovered some interesting aspects that perhaps they had not thought of before.

Ireland is currently the only English speaking country in Europe and as such someone with Irish citizenship and the ability to speak French is currently the most sought after candidate on the European job market. Employers are increasingly searching for skills and qualities rather than a particular degree and the ability to speak a foreign language is a skill that they will ALWAYS prioritise among candidates. Studying a language to at least GCSE level gives you a USP that means you will stand out from the rest when applying to university and when looking for a job later in life. A large number of universities have active links in courses other than languages, e.g. Engineering, with other countries and offer placements to students. However, often, these placements are only offered to students who already have a qualification in a language. Other students who opt not to study at least GCSE languages are often not offered these opportunities. All those who attended agreed that there is plenty of 'food for thought' when it comes to deciding whether or not to study a language at GCSE level and it is a decision that will impact on both your personal and professional life in the future.



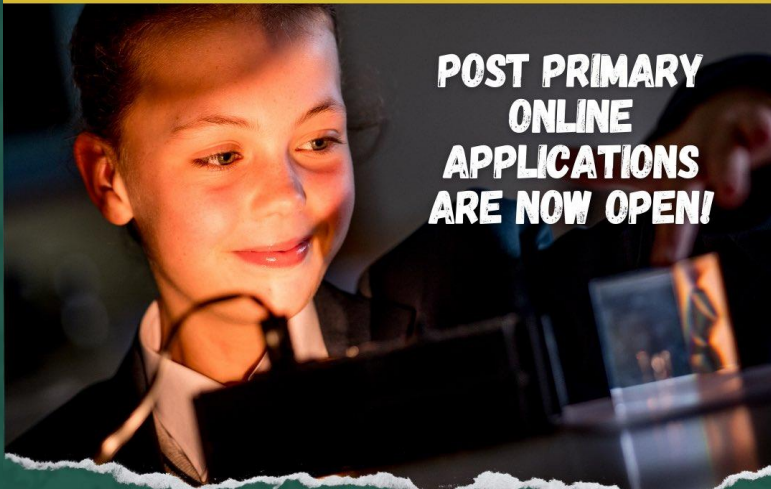
Good Luck!

The very best of luck to Ella and LMS Musical Society @lderrymusic with their upcoming production of Oliver in March.

We have no doubt it will be a wonderful show.

Tickets are available at the Millennium Forum box office 02871 264455.





**POST PRIMARY  
ONLINE  
APPLICATIONS  
ARE NOW OPEN!**

Post Primary online Year 8 applications for September 2024 are now open via EA Connect.

<https://connect.eani.org.uk/parent/>

Applications close 22nd February 2024



**Congratulations Rosena!**



Our congratulations go to Rosena King 9D who last January made a New Years resolution to run Park Run every Saturday for a year. We are delighted to report that on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of February, Rosena completed her 50<sup>th</sup> Park Run at the Derry City Park Run with her Dad.

Congratulations Rosena, you are truly inspirational!



**Year 13 Eco-Ambassadors**



Our Year 13 Eco-Ambassadors recently had the pleasure of working with Gareth Lamrock from Ecoschools NI and Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful to complete a beach audit along Culmore Fort. This was a great hands-on experience gathering primary data to help inform decision making in our local community.





## Congratulations Olivia!

Our Year Congratulations to Olivia Sargent 9F who delivered two brilliant literary presentations to Year 14 classes. Olivia is a fantastic reader and her knowledge of literature is outstanding. The Year 14 classes were really impressed with her knowledge of Rosetti and King Lear!



## Visitors from James Madison University



Our Senior Leadership Team were delighted to recently welcome visitors from James Madison University and St Mary's University College Belfast to Thornhill to exchange thoughts and experiences of education. It was a thoroughly enjoyable morning and great opportunity to engage in professional dialogue.



## Well done!

### Mercy Moment Awards

## Well done!

The Mercy Moment Award is awarded to pupils demonstrating and living out our Mercy values of: Compassion, Respect, Integrity, Justice, Hope and Joy.

Congratulations to our winners: Year 8 – Amelia, Caislin and Grace and in Year 9 - Sarah





## Year 13 Nutrition Ambassadors



Well done to our Year 13 Nutrition Ambassadors who worked alongside Mrs McCarry and Ciara and Ciaran from the Bogside and Brandywell Health Forum to deliver a variety of educational activities with our Year 8 students on the theme of 'Be Sugar Smart'. This included:

- 'Guess the Sugar Content' Quiz of various foods and drinks
- Poster Competition
- Drama
- Alternative Foods Quiz
- Kahoot Quiz



Our ambassadors have also created a 'Be Sugar Smart' display highlighting the dangers of sugars and healthy alternatives.





**DO YOUR BIT!  
UNICYCLE IT!**

**THORNHILL  
COLLEGE**

**UNIFORM STORE**



**IN THORNHILL COLLEGE WE HAVE A FULLY STOCKED UNIFORM STORE CONTAINING ITEMS IN A WIDE VARIETY OF SIZES.**

**IF YOUR CHILD HAS OUTGROWN A SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEM OR INDEED MISPLACED IT SHE CAN SPEAK WITH HER FORM TEACHER OR OUR HOUSEKEEPER JOANNA WHO WILL PROVIDE A REPLACEMENT.**



## Rights Respecting Ambassadors

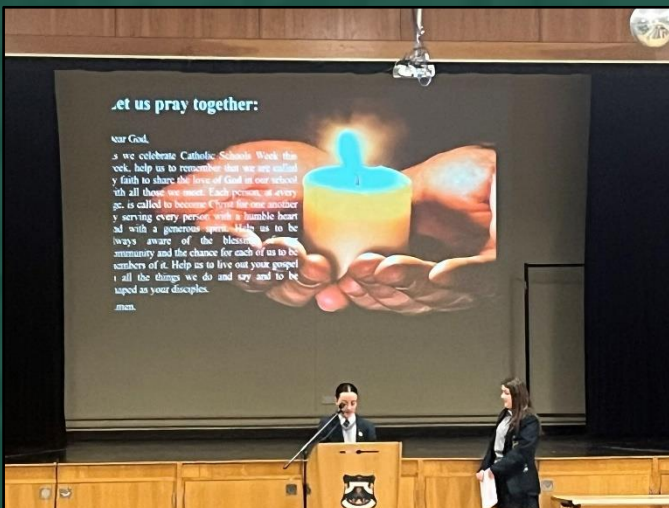
Our Rights Respecting Ambassadors we're delighted to receive their badges recently. Well done to Natalia 10G for the fantastic design.



*Catholic Schools Week 2024*



Many thanks to our RE Department for the wonderful celebrations they co-ordinated to mark Catholic Schools Week, including a lovely family mass with our junior students.



**CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS**  
*Week*





## Human Library Project



A number of our Year 13 Pupils recently participated in the Human Library Project ran by R.E.A.C.H. Across with the help of volunteers from the Bloody Sunday Trust. Our sincere thanks to John, Jean and Jimmy for sharing their incredibly moving stories and to Barney from R.E.A.C.H. Across and Mr Deane for co-ordinating the event.





*congratulations*

Congratulations Charlotte

*congratulations*

Our congratulations go Charlotte Walsh who has been awarded Joint Merit in the 11 to 13 years (General) category in the ILCU National Art Competition. Charlotte's achievements will be acknowledged in the National Prizegiving Ceremony taking place in Croke Park on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Well done Charlotte on such a fantastic achievement!

*Well done!*

Thornhill PE Department Lead the way!

*Well done!*

Over the past month a wide range of our students have seen great success across a range of sporting areas. So our congratulations got to all the students involved and of course the PE Department who continued to nurture their talents!



### Year 9 Netball

Congratulations to our Year 9 Netball team on their win against Regent House in the NI schools competition recently.





### Year 8 Football Team

Well done to our Year 8 Football team on their recent convincing win over Oakgrove Integrated College.

Our thanks also go to MFC Sports for designing the teams new football kit.



*congratulations*

Year 8 Gaelic Team

*congratulations*

Well done to our Year 8 Gaelic team on their recent performance against St Mary's College. A fantastic match ladies, which demonstrated excellent teamwork!



*congratulations*

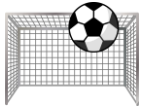
Ulster Cross Country Championships

*congratulations*

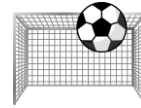
Congratulations to our Senior Team who secured their place as Ulster Champions at the recent Ulster Cross Country Championships in Mallusk. They have now qualified to take part in the All-Irelands in March!

It was fantastic news to also hear that our Year 13 student Hannah Wade has been selected for the u17 NI team for the 2024 London Mini Marathon. Well done Hannah!





### Junior Cup Team



Congratulations to our Junior Cup team on progressing to the quarter finals after an impressive victory recently against Lagan College.



### First Aid Training



Congratulations to our Year 13 Enrichment students who completed their Pro Trainings First Aid course this week. They took part in online training and hands on practical skills and are now proficient in how to respond to a wide variety of emergency situations. Well done everyone!

