



St. Michael's Times

June 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter. Friday marked the end of a very busy, exciting and productive year in St. Michael's. As always, you have been hugely supportive of our school in all its endeavours this past year and I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you all. I commend all our pupils. We are very proud of them on completing a very successful school year!

A huge thank you to all our school staff for their continued dedication and commitment to the provision of the best possible school experience for pupils.

Sincere thanks to our Parents' Association for the enormous contribution they make to school life in St. Michael's. I would like to wish our 56 graduates every success and happiness in secondary school and in the future. I hope they leave St. Michael's with many fond memories!

On behalf of the staff and the Board of Management of St. Michael's, I would like to wish you all a very happy, safe and enjoyable summer.

Mise le meas,

Bríd Gorry

Principal

Fundraising

Thank you to all who supported our staff climb of Croagh Patrick on Saturday, April 27th. The total amount raised was €14,915 which will be used to develop our playground.



Money Club

Well done to all pupils who participated in our Money Club initiative this year. This initiative, run by Drogheda Credit Union, has been a great opportunity for students to become involved in a savings and financial learning club. Pupils received various rewards throughout the year for their participation such as cinema vouchers and sweet treats. Thank you to Sharon Skeritt, Drogheda Credit Union Schools Coordinator, for all her help with the initiative this year.



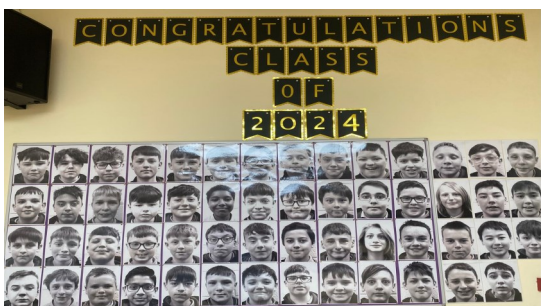
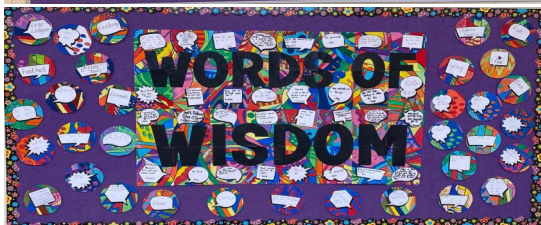
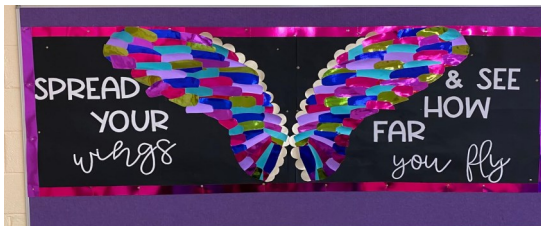
Good Work Wall

Congratulations to all pupils who have had their work displayed on our Good Work Wall throughout the school year. All of the pieces are wonderfully presented and striking as you enter the school. This wall displays the artistic and creative work completed by our pupils. Thank you to all for their great work!



Sixth Class Graduation

Our sixth class students formally graduated on Wednesday, 26th June. It was an evening filled with emotion and gratitude. The pupils showcased their singing talents with songs like 'Try Everything' and 'We Made It'. Thank you to our Parents' Association who provided refreshments after the ceremony. Thank you to all the staff who helped to prepare the pupils for this occasion and who decorated the hall so beautifully, to Fr. Paul who gave a blessing on the evening and to all the parents for their support throughout the years in St. Michael's and on the graduation evening itself. We wish the pupils the very best of luck as they move on to secondary school.



The Parents' Association wish our students, staff, parents and guardians a well-deserved and enjoyable summer break. Thank you for your continued support.

To our 6th class and special class students, congratulations on your graduation and my thanks to the parents who made themselves available to cater for the boys and their families. We acknowledge the work of our 6th class parent Rosemarie Lawlor, who steps down from the Parents' Association. Thank you for your advice and commitment over the last few years.

The student council assisted the Parents' Association during the year with the many fundraising events. Members of the Student Council were treated to a €5 BOSCA voucher from the Parents' Association. We value their support.

We are looking forward to continued work with our school, our students, and you as parents/guardians throughout the academic year 24-25.

Please consider your availability to become a member of the St. Michael's Parents' Association. A number of parents will be leaving in 2025 as our boys are in 6th class. Happy Holidays!

Christina Nestor on behalf of the P.A.



Erasmus 2024

Ms. Gorry and Ms. Van der Westhuizen had a truly enriching trip to Iceland in May as part of the Erasmus Project. The opportunity to visit different school settings, discuss best practices on inclusion and take away new ideas which, when implemented, will undoubtedly have a positive impact on all pupils and staff alike. Moreover, the connections and friendships made will likely be a valuable asset for future collaborations and professional growth.



Global Citizenship Day

Global citizenship is the umbrella term for social, political, environmental, and economic actions of globally minded individuals and communities on a worldwide scale.



To celebrate Global Citizenship Day in St. Michael's, pupils were given the opportunity to research and explore the meaning behind the Global Goals. This work was then presented at a whole school assembly where pupils could share their knowledge and their respect for the Global Goals.



Thank you to Ms. Gibbons who organised our Active Schools Week. All activities prioritised participation, inclusion and fun. In St. Michael's, all pupils enjoyed a funfilled week of activities including kayaking, pitch n putt, circuit training, GAA coaching and Zumba Dancing. Pupils participated in a whole school walk on Friday, June 28th. The highlight of the week was our annual Sports Day.

Sports Day

Sports Day 2024 proved to be a great success. All students participated in and enjoyed activities such as station training, soccer, hurdles and relays, novelty games, novelty races and penalty shoot out. The ice-pops provided on the day were very much welcomed to cool us down! Thanks to Mr. Joyce for organising the day!



Lego League Showcase

Thank you to all who attended our First Lego League showcase on Wednesday, June 19th. We were delighted last October to be successful in our application to join the Steam Meath Programme. It has given us an opportunity to develop the Steam curriculum in St. Michael's. Steam covers science, technology, engineering, the arts and maths. It is a fully funded three year programme, supported by Meta and is built around the First Lego League which encourages the students to investigate a real world theme, develop teamwork, design, critical thinking and coding skills. This was all carried out in conjunction with Learn It and Creative Hut who have provided training and support throughout the year. It was a wonderful event and a fantastic opportunity for pupils from our special classes, Ms. Burke's, Ms. Metcalfe's and Ms. Hickey's classes to display their projects based on the theme of "Masterpiece". All pupils who participated in the programme received certificates and a special Lego medal!



GAA

This year's on field activities concluded with a narrow defeat to the eventual winners, Kildalkey, in the hurling shield semi finals. Mr. Joyce would like to thank all the boys for their dedication and commitment throughout the season. They represented the school so well. A special mention to the boys in sixth class who have finished with us now. We would like to wish them every success on and off the field in future years. Attention now turns to the Autumn football competition. Training will recommence early in September.



Green Schools

It was a proud day for St. Michael's when we celebrated the awarding of our 'Green Schools Travel Flag'. Ms. Gorry, Ms. Shelly and two of our Green Schools Committee members, Riley Brew and Bogdan Videiko travelled to Dundalk for the awards ceremony.



It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work, dedication and innovative efforts made by our school in achieving our fourth 'Green Flag' this year. Well done to all our students for the fantastic work and effort they put into achieving this award. We look forward to the raising of the Travel Flag in September. Thank you to Ms. Feeney who co-ordinates this initiative.



First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our 2nd class and special class pupils who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 18th. The pupils celebrated with their parents/guardians and siblings, along with their teachers, SNAs and Ms. Gorry.



The pupils and their teachers prepared so well for this day. We are proud of the pupils for showing such enthusiasm for this step in the journey of their Catholic faith and for participating so well in the ceremony. We would like to thank the class teachers, Ms. Elaine Mc Loughlin for producing the booklets, class SNAs, Fr. Paul and Fr. John who prepared so well for this joyous occasion.

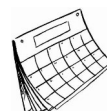
Thank you also to our Parents' Association who hosted the reception after the ceremony.

Well done to all pupils who have received Student of the Week certificates and Principal's awards this school year.



Dates for your Diary

- Return From Summer Holidays: Thursday, August 29th, 2024
- Autumn Midterm: Monday, October 28th - Friday, November 1st, 2024
- Christmas Break: Monday, December 23rd, 2024 - Friday, January 3rd, 2025
- Confirmation: Friday, January 31st, 2025
- February Bank Holiday: Monday, February 3rd, 2025
- Spring Midterm Break: Monday 17th - Friday, February 21st, 2025
- St. Patrick's Day: Monday, March 17th, 2025
- Easter Break: Monday, April 14th – Friday, April 25th, 2025
- May Bank Holiday: Monday, May 5th, 2025
- First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 24th, 2025
- June Bank Holiday: Friday, May 30th - Monday, June 2nd, 2025
- School Closes: Friday, June 27th, 2025



We wish all our school community a lovely summer. We hope it is safe and enjoyable for all! We look forward to returning for a new academic year in September and continuing the superb work in St. Michael's.