

# Year 12 Formal!



The school year finished in incredibly stylish fashion for our outgoing Year 12s as they attended a formal dinner and dance at Temple Golf Club. Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – coincidentally, the same date as the final GCSE examination of the year – saw our young men and woman don their glitziest glad rags and dance the night away. It was a truly memorable and thoroughly well-deserved way to mark five years at Saintfield High School for these pupils.



## SAINTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reflect back over this last year, it really is a time to acknowledge and say thank you for our many blessings. As we all know and recognise, real and lasting successes and achievements are accomplished together, as part of a strong team. Members of staff, pupils, parents and carers, and the local and wider community – everyone has played their own special part during this last year to ensure that Saintfield High School has continued to thrive. Team-work can often be hard work – but we will always reap the rewards of working together with mutual respect, kindness and a desire to do our very best.

The greatest gifts we all share at Saintfield High School are the foundations of that same team-work; a spirit of openness and mutual respect is the glue that binds us together.

I am truly looking forward to everything that we can accomplish together in 2022-2023. We have already secured an extra class next year for Year 8, increasing our enrolment to 104 new pupils! More often than not we all forget to be thankful for the little things, or see the good in every situation – but when we look back on a school year, and everything that has been achieved, it is important to be grateful and appreciative of all the help and support that our friends, teachers, and work colleagues have so freely given us. I want to thank each and every one of you, pupils and members of staff, for all your support, and your continued dedication to our culture of team-work.

I want to wish everyone within our school community a safe and happy summer break, and a new academic year full of promise and contentment. I look forward to seeing you all when we return to school in August.

*Miss S-L Hynds, Principal*

### RETURN TO SCHOOL—KEY DATES

**24th August 2022** - Year 8 SEN pupils  
**25th August & 26th August 2022** - Year 12 only  
**30th August 2022** - Year 8 (1/2 day)  
**31st August 2022** - Year 11  
**1st September 2022** - Year 9 and 10

# Congratulations, Mrs Campbell!

Congratulations to Mrs Annie Campbell on reaching her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday recently. Mrs Campbell was very honoured to receive a birthday card from the Queen.

Mrs Campbell has strong links to Saintfield High School. Her daughter-in-law, Mrs Campbell, is on the Board of Governors, her daughter, Mrs Fletcher, is our school bursar, and her grandchildren Lucy and Isaac Campbell and great-granddaughter Hannah McKibben are all current pupils.

Saintfield High School would like to extend our warmest wishes to Mrs Campbell on reaching this incredible milestone.



*Proud grandchildren, Lucy, Isaac and Hannah, pose with Mrs Campbell's special delivery from Buckingham Palace!*

# Jubilee Bake-Off!



Queen Elizabeth II's own special recent milestone was marked in delicious style by the keen bakers of Saintfield High School. Mrs Derby organised a special 'Jubilee Bake Off' to mark the Platinum Jubilee at the start of June, with pupils from throughout the school contributing with a range of tasty confections!



# Theatre Trips



The English Department were delighted to make two exciting trips to the theatre this term. Our GCSE English Literature classes visited the Grand Opera House back in January for a glitzy West End production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*. This was followed in April with a trip to the Lyric Theatre for a tremendous production of Brian Friel's *Translations*, a classic of the Irish stage. After several years without a trip to the theatre, it has been a real joy to resume our theatre visits; here's to many more in the future!

Additionally, Maddison Stewart (9MC) and Ellie Tate (8MY) trod the boards themselves in April, when they appeared in the MAC Theatre's exciting production of *Matilda*. Well done to both girls on a magnificent achievement!

# Living History Event



Pupils from Years 8-10 took part in a fantastic 'Living History' event at the start of June. The event was part of the Education Outreach Programme organised by Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council. Our eager young historians went to the Sports Hall, where a group of actors introduced them to personalities from the time of the Norman Conquest, the Ulster Plantation and even a group of soldiers from the First World War! Jude Cunningham (9MC) said "It was a lot of fun interacting with the characters from history!"

# Read-On Bonanza!



For many years now, Year 8 and 9 pupils at Saintfield High School have been raising money for the Cancer Fund for Children as part of their magnificent *Read On!* programme. This year, the pupils have outdone themselves, raising a phenomenal **£3,804!** This is a truly spectacular amount of money, more than £1,000 more than any previous total raised by the school. A huge well done to all pupils involved and to Mrs Teague for organising the event each year.

# POP-UP UNIFORM SHOP

Parents and carers are invited to visit our school uniform pop-up shop on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July, as well as Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, between 10am and 2pm. A full range of uniform essentials in a variety of sizes will be available to purchase in the school Assembly Hall at this time. The suggested donation per item is £5; however, each family is invited to contribute what they can at this time.

# French Roadshow!



In March 2022, our very own Mrs Cullen took her French lessons on the road, delivering workshops to pupils in our local Primary Schools. Primary 5-7 pupils in Academy PS, Alexander Dickson PS, Carrickmannon Primary, Derryboy PS, Moneyrea PS and Carryduff PS all enjoyed the enthusiastic teachings of Mrs Cullen over a four-week long programme. Budding linguists in each school were guided through a range of topics including numbers, colours, surroundings and greetings. Mrs Cullen was extremely impressed by the fervour and hard work of each of the pupils who took part, and the promise that the boys and girls demonstrated in learning a new language. It truly was a joy for Saintfield High School to be able to provide this enriching experience, after what has been a tough few years for these wonderful children.

# Pastoral Programme

As always, it has been a busy term for our school's pastoral programme. Highlights have included weekly visits from the outreach team at Moneyreagh Community Church, Study Skills workshops led by our own Mrs Hume and Mrs Artt, and further well-being sessions for all pupils, organised by Action Mental Health NI. Several pupils have also taken part in Adventure Therapy sessions, whilst our incoming Year 8s and their families were hosted for an informative and incredibly useful Induction Evening. The highlight of the term's pastoral programme, however, was the extensive 'Enrichment Programme' laid on for all pupils in the final week of term. Events included kayaking, horticulture, special Art classes, film club, keep fit, baking, nail art and woodwork projects – truly something for everyone to enjoy after a long and busy academic year!



*Art and Horticulture (above) were just two of the many activities pupils could choose to take part in as part of our final week Enrichment Programme*

# Agriculture Outings!

Our GCSE Agriculture & Land Use classes have been on a number of enjoyable and educational visits in recent weeks. Firstly, our Year 12 class visited a local sheep farm to learn more about biosecurity, before our Year 11 class made the trip to CAFRE at Greenmount. Pupils were given a presentation on the careers available in CAFRE, before taking a tour of the dairy centre (pictured), a look at the greenhouses for Horticulture and the Land Based Engineering where, much to our pupils' delight, they were able to get into harvesters and tractors!



# SPORTS DAY '22

Sports Day was a tremendous success this year, taking place on what would prove to be a rare dry day this June. Events took place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June and all involved had a fantastic time at the school's Sports Pavilion. True sportsmanship was shown by all competitors, who were supported by their enthusiastic peers on the spectators' bank. Even those who weren't competing enjoyed their time at the pavilion, with Mrs Roy's hot dogs proving to be the true lunch of champions!

Mr Elliott, who organised the day, praised the fantastic sportsmanship and high standard of athleticism shown by all pupils throughout the day's events. "The pupils were such a credit to the school today. There was a real atmosphere of support and enthusiasm up at the pitches, with competitors and spectators throwing themselves into the spirit of things. It was a wonderful day for everybody involved."

The event was followed by a special Sports Prize Day held back in our school Sports Hall. Prize winners included Rachel Beattie (the Abbie McCartney Cup for Hockey), Adam Bassett (the Brian Adams Cup for Football), Jason Craig (the Elaine Irwin Prize for Excellence in an Individual Sport), whilst Justin Megarry and Sophie Rossiter were named best overall sportsman and sportswoman respectively. The hotly contested and highly coveted House Cup was won this year by Lisowen, much to Mrs Cullen's delight.

*Some snaps from a memorable day for sport in Saintfield High School!*



## Mr Elliott's Sports Round-up!

**OUTDOOR PURSUITS:** The more intrepid and rugged members of our Year 11 classes spent several nights camping in the wilds of the Mourne Mountains towards the end of term. Our Duke of Edinburgh group enjoyed two overnight expeditions, accompanied, of course, by Mr Chisholm – Saintfield High School's own Bear Grylls wannabe! This was followed by Mr Elliott and Mr Chisholm (naturally) leading our GCSE PE class for a two-day hill-walking trip in the glorious June sunshine.



**ATHLETICS:** It has been brilliant to see the return of inter-school athletics competitions this year, with a number of our pupils excelling in a variety of disciplines. Jason Craig (12EL) placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the javelin in the Ulster Schools' Championship, qualifying for the Irish Schools' Championship in the process. 11HE were well represented at the Down District athletics event back in April, with both Catherine Crawford and Sophie Rossiter running very strong races. Sophie also finished in an impressive 14<sup>th</sup> place in the Down District cross-country event back in January, alongside a 25<sup>th</sup> place finish (from a field of nearly 150) for Year 8 pupil Tyler McMaster.

## Year 9 Synagogue Trip

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, the RE Department welcomed the return of school trips, with our Year 9 pupils embarking on a wonderfully educational visit to the Belfast Synagogue. Accompanied by Miss Henderson and Mrs Derby, pupils were invited to further their study of the Jewish religion with a tour of the revered building and the opportunity to participate in a question and answer session with the synagogue leaders. This was an eye-opening and informative trip, offering our Year 9 pupils the chance to expand their knowledge of world faiths beyond the classroom. Alex Fawcett, 9MU, thoroughly enjoyed the outing, commenting that "it was really interesting learning all about the Jewish Sabbath and getting to ask questions of the real experts." An incredibly valuable learning experience for all involved.

