

# 2ND YEAR HALLOWEEN NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 25TH 2024

## Message From The Year Head

Our 1st term in second year has come to an end it is hard to believe that it is midterm already. This term has been filled with lots of academics, sport, music and awards. Academically we are in full swing as we prepare for class tests, CBAs and next terms Christmas exams. All sporting groups are up and running and many of our second years are fully immersed in the training and match day schedules. Our trad musicians and Young SVPs have also been really busy preparing for our opening school ceremonies, bake sales and World Teacher Day.

My office is Room 145, and I am available to meet any students who need to drop in at any time.

My email address remains [tara.oloughlin@stcaimins.ie](mailto:tara.oloughlin@stcaimins.ie)

A reminder to parents that:

- 1) Absent notes need to be uploaded on VShare so that they can be authorised by us.
- 2) If a student is leaving for an appointment or returning to school from an appointment, they need to sign out and sign in at reception. It should also be recorded on VShare.
- 3) A full school uniform is important. Having two of each item is encouraged, and jackets should be put into lockers or bags when students enter the school building.
- 4) Our mobile policy for phones continues to be "Not seen, Not heard, Not taken."

Wishing you all a restful mid-term break.

Take care,

Tara O'Loughlin

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Important Calendar Dates !!

- 6th of December: School Closed; Discretionary Day.
- 16th - 20th December: 2nd Year Exams
- 20th of December to the 6th of January—Christmas Holidays. (Return to school 6th of January.)
- 3rd of February: School Closed (St. Brigid's Day).

- 4th of February: 2nd Year parent-teacher meetings.
- 13th of February: Ski Trip
- 14th-24th of February: Mid-Term Break. (Return to school on the 24th of February.).
- 17th of March: School Closed for St. Patrick's Day.
- 31st of March: School Closed for Teacher Training Day.
- 11th-28th of April: Easter Holidays. (Return to school the 28th of April.).
- 5th of May: School Closed May Bank Holiday.

## UP THE BANNER – OUR PAST PUPILS BRING LIAM MC GARTHY INTO ST. CAIMINS



### Liam McCarthy Visit

On Friday, the 27th of September, the students of St. Caimins received a lovely treat with the visit of the Liam McCarthy Cup to the school. Three former past pupils were members of the All-Ireland Senior Hurling winning panel this year, and the school was honoured to be linked with the All-Ireland winning team. Darragh Lohan, Aaron Shanagher, and Rory Hayes all received a well-deserved hero's welcome from the students and the teachers alike in what was a visit that will be long remembered, as over 700 students packed into our PE Hall to welcome back their sporting heroes.

### HOMEWORK AND STUDY

## Homework and Study

It is really important students are completing all of their homework assignments to the best of their ability. Homework is the first step in the process towards the student committing new information to long term memory. It is expected that all 2nd year students should be committed to approx. one and a half hours of homework and study each evening.

Summarizing work covered in class through, note taking mind mapping, and using flash cards are all very valuable ways to help each student learn new material and prepare for class tests as well as end of term tests - such as the Christmas Tests.

There is a wealth of resources outside of my office which are there for all 2nd year students to avail of to help with planning and studying. I would encourage all parents to talk to their student regarding the need to plan and break large amounts of information into small manageable pieces each day in the build up to class and term tests. Please use this link to peruse our Learning to Learn padlet which can be found on our school website:



### Learning to Learn and Study Skills Resources St. Caimin's Shannon

Study Skills Supports for Parents and Students

[padlet.com](https://padlet.com)

## A Visit From Thomas Barr.

On Thursday, the 19th of September, we were very fortunate to get Thomas Barr into St. Caimins to talk to our Leaving Certificate cohort and members of the school Athletics Team

Thomas, who is a three-time Olympian and multiple champion winner at the national and international level, was an excellent speaker who spoke about his many achievements and challenges that he has faced during the course of his career.

One of the highlights of the day was when Thomas passed around some of the medals he has won in major championships, including the gold medals for the 4x 400-meter European mixed relay in Rome this year, which took place just before the Olympics. Thomas was part of the team, which also included Rasidat Adeleke, Chris O'Donnell, and Sharlene Maudsley.

Thomas did some icebreakers at the start of the talk, adding with a PowerPoint presentation before finishing up with a Q&A session. Students were then able to take pictures and have a chat with Thomas before he spoke with our school's athletic squad.

Overall, a great experience for all, and thanks to Ms. Sheehan for organising Thomas to come into us.



## STUDENT COUNCIL AWARDS CEREMONY

### 2nd Year Class Reps

Our 2nd year class reps for this year are : Jenna Downes and Fionn Collins. Huge congratulations to both students whom I am sure will represent our student cohort admirably. Student voice is a very important and valued aspect in our school community and so we wish Jenna and Fionn the very best of luck for the year with their new appointments.

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### 2nd Year Awards Ceremony

The 2nd Year Awards Ceremony took place on Friday, the 27th of September. A large cohort of our students received Merit and Distinction awards for their academic achievements for the previous year, as well as their sporting and charity endeavors. A special mention must go to the 1st year student of the year, Brooke O Connell on a tremendous year last year from an all round academics, sporting and cultural perspective.



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## ALL IRELAND CAMOGIE 7'S WINNERS

Huge Congratulations to Lily Flannery, Sarah Conlon and Brooke O Connell who were members of our All Ireland winning U16.5 Sevens Team. The girls had a convincing opening round win against Rathoat from Leinster, they then went onto beat Tuam the Connaught champions and in the final they faced an excellent and well trained team from Belfast who were the Ulster representatives. We are really proud of the girls achievement and we are particularly proud of the effort and contribution made from our youngest team members - the three second year girls!



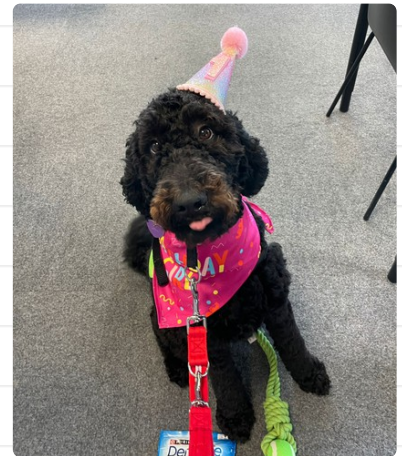
**Team and Management**

### **Student Supports.**

With the October tests just gone and the mock exams just around the corner on the 5th of February, it is an ideal time to highlight the supports that are available to students, which include:

- Access to the guidance counsellor.
- One-on-one meetings with the year head.
- Access to the school chaplain
- One-to-one tuition with the Learning to Learn programme.
- Extra tuition support with your class teachers.
- Plus a wide range of well-being supports and activities.

If any student is not feeling their very best, then they can contact any member of the pastoral support team at any time.



### **Smore Templates**

Smore is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters