



## St. Louis Grammar School

**Inside this Edition;** Feis Success/ Manchester Trip/ French Trip/Gaeltacht trip/ Football 'Tour of the West'/ Oisín and Tommy Stage Successes/ Art Trips/Sports Day/Primary School Tournaments

### Exam Success Herald's New Era At St. Louis



**A2 Success.....**

As we embark on a new academic year at St. Louis, a year which will see our school grow further, we are delighted to report and celebrate the efforts of our students in the recent GCSE, AS and A2 examinations.

The performance of our students at A Level has been outstanding as 97% of the grades achieved were A\*-C, with 91% getting 3+ A\*-C. We are delighted that the majority of St. Louis Class of 2018, have been accepted for their courses at their chosen university and we wish them well with the knowledge that their days at St. Louis have prepared them well for challenges and experiences that lie ahead. Similarly, at AS Level our students have performed with distinction which provides them with an excellent platform as they enter their final year and the all-important A2 examinations next May with 71% of the grades achieved were A\*-C.

Our Year 12 students have also experienced success as they opened their envelopes containing their recent GCSE examination results. Magnificently, 88% of our pupils gained 7+ A\*-C grades. With the majority of this year group returning to continue their studies at St. Louis, we welcome them and students from other schools as they embark on their sixth form studies.

2018-19 will be a significant year in the history of St. Louis as our school witnesses an expansion in numbers throughout the school. We have been preparing for this expansion and welcome the arrival of new students. It may be an anxious time for students as they adjust to their new environment, but staff will be pro-active in making this transition as smooth as possible.

Along with our expansion, there have been other developments at St. Louis in preparation for the new academic year.



**AS Success.....**



**GCSE Success.....**

### Further Arkwright Successes for St. Louis Students

St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel, has a reputation for excellence and the talent and enthusiasm of its STEM Engineering students is widely recognised by the world of industry. A trio of bright young engineering minds from St. Louis completed a series of challenging interviews and aptitude tests for the Arkwright Engineering Scholarship during the 2016/17 academic year. Year 13 students, Cormac Hardy, Sean Quinn and Rory Quinn, were recently informed of the success of their applications via letters acknowledging that they were now Affiliated Members of the Arkwright Scholarship. The trio then received their awards in lavish celebration ceremonies in London and Scotland. The success of Cormac, Sean and Rory follows on from the previous successes of Caitlin Sands (2016) currently completing her A2 studies at St. Louis and Ryan Rafferty/Steven Flood, joint winners in 2015, who have now commenced their MEng Engineering Degree programmes at Queen's University Belfast.

The trio will have a sponsor from industry for the duration of their A-Level course studies and their Engineering degree courses at universities, including include £300 p/a towards their studies.



### Important Dates!

#### August 2018

Thurs 16th	AS/2 Level Results Day Year 14 Interviews
Thurs 23rd	GCSE Results Day/Staff Day Year 13 Interviews
Mon 27th	School Closed
Tues 28th	Staff Day
Wed 29th	Year 13 Registration
Thurs 30th	Induction Day 9am-11am Years 10/11/14 Full uniform
Fri 31st	Induction Day 9am-11am Years 9/12/13 Full uniform

#### September

Mon 3rd	Induction and Mentoring Year 8 & Year 13
Tues 4th	Classes begin for all
Wed 5th	UUJ Open Day
Thurs 6th	QUB Open Day
Fri 8th	Year 8 Induction Trip
Mon 10th	Year 14 Retreats
Tues 11th	Year 14 Retreats
Wed 12th	St. Mary's Open Day
Thurs 13th	Senior Prize Night 8pm
Wed 19th	Junior Prize Giving 11am School Mass at 2.30pm
Wed 26th	European Day of Languages
Fri 28th	Staff Day

#### October

Mon 1st	Target Setting week (Years 8-14)
Wed 10th	Yr 8 Parents Welcome Service 8pm
Fri 20th	Assessment 1 (Yr 8) completed
<b>Mon 29th-Fri 2nd Nov School Closed</b>	

## Feis Success for St. Louis Irish Language Students

St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel, have once again displayed their credentials and being fine ambassadors for Irish Language. Success has once again been the outcome of the participation of students in Feis an Dúin.

Students of Irish from Years 8-13 at St. Louis have had great success at the recent Feis an Dúin competitions held in Newcastle Centre. Medals were captured in a number of disciplines including conversation and poetry, while several students won scholarships to attend Gaeltacht courses in Donegal this Summer were also secured. Ms Ciara Rogers of the Irish Department at St. Louis was delighted as her students were awarded the very prestigious 'Cupán na Buaidhe', which is awarded to the best overall Grammar School.

Feis an Dúin plays a very important role in the development of Irish language, complimenting the great work being done on promoting the Irish Language at school, local clubs and home. It also gives students a platform from which they can gain further confidence in their use of the language.



Year 10 students at St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel, were presented with the Silver Fáinne in recognition of their fluency in the Irish Language at a recent special assembly. Guiseppina Siriu Dunbar, from the local branch of Conradh na Gaeilge Boirche Íochtair, very kindly sponsored the fáinní and made the presentation to students.

The Silver Fáinne symbolises a person's link to the Irish Language, it demonstrates a person's ability and willingness to speak the Irish Language wherever they may be and therefore, are worn with a great sense of accomplishment and pride. Year 10 students at St. Louis have been studying Irish for the past three years and have been working towards this exam from September. Teacher of Irish Ms Ciara Rodgers stated, "these students have really immersed themselves in their efforts to achieve this award and its marvellous to see all their hard work being rewarded."

Conradh na Gaeilge, Boirche Íochtair works on behalf of the Irish-speaking community in the Mourne area to actively promote and develop the Irish Language through organising a number of events, running Irish classes and producing publications. It is due to the link with such organisations that the Irish Language is thriving and flourishing in St. Louis Grammar School.



## St. Louis Students Excel in Maths Club

When students need to develop further their skills, teachers at St. Louis Grammar School are always keen to look for new ways to address such needs. 2018 highlighted the needs of the young Math students which resulted in the successful return of the Maths Club to St. Louis Grammar School.

The aim of the club was to involve Year 8, 9 and 10 students in mathematics activities to support their learning in the classroom. The students also received help with revision techniques for Maths, but equally important was the concept of having fun whilst developing their knowledge and understanding of the subject!

This was an optional programme which saw pupils attending additional after school classes, every Wednesday, allowing them an opportunity to use ICT in Maths through the exploration of the schools 'MyMaths' online facility. An experienced Maths teacher was always on hand to help the students tackle Math challenges or to assist with homework queries and study techniques.

Recent feedback from the students highlighted a very positive response to this initiative. Students related their new found confidence in utilising Maths in a variety of ways.

Attendance during the course of the initiative was positively reflected with an increase in commitment by pupils. Pupils were commended for their commitment to developing their numeracy skills at a celebration at which gold, silver and bronze achievement certificates were presented by St. Louis Principal, Mr Kevin Martin.



## Silver Fáinne Presentations





## St. Louis Students at Manchester



Students from St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel have been travelling to Manchester on an annual basis for over twenty years. Many will still have fond memories of their 'Manchester trip'. In the past the visit incorporated many great occasions at Manchester United, but recent visits have involved the 'blue half' of Manchester as the St. Louis parties have attended games involving Manchester City.

This year's trip involved 47 students, accompanied by 5 teachers took place recently with the focal point being the Manchester City v Swansea City game at the Etihad stadium. Recent events in the Premiership worked out favourably for the St. Louis students as they got to experience a real party atmosphere as Manchester City were welcomed home as champions.

However, there is a lot more to this marvellous trip than just football. Bringing together students from different classes and different year groups at the school the trip creates an opportunity to generate new friendships. Gaining experience of looking after their own budgets on a trip which also involved shopping in 2 major retail parks (Cheshire Oaks and Trafford Centre), also allowed the students to develop essential life skills for the future.

Students enjoyed the Man City game. The match ended in a goal fest with Manchester City running out convincing winner with a 5-0 drubbing of their South Wales opponents. However, the Manchester United fans on the trip, may have had to endure the celebrations of the Sky Blues, yet they got some comfort as they were happy to visit Old Trafford (Theatre of Dreams), home of Manchester United, earlier in the morning. During this visit, students got to visit the 'United' dressing rooms, sitting in the technical area, as well as walking down the player tunnel to a recording of 80,000 fans screaming. This was an experience that will stay in their young minds for a long time.

The St. Louis students also enjoyed table quizzes in their hotel in Wigan and bowling, along with 'bumper cars' in the Trafford Centre. Student also got to experience some Welsh culture on their journey home as the tour party made its annual pilgrimage to Llanfair-pwllgwyngyll-gogery-chwyrn-drobwll -llan-tysilio-gogo-goch, the little Welsh village on the island of Anglesey, reputed to have the longest name for a settlement in the world.

The great memories of the 'Manchester 2018' tour by the St. Louis students will linger long in the minds of these students. As for the teachers, they are already planning 'Manchester 2019'.



### Art Success in Credit Union Competition

Congratulations to the St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel Credit Union winners who were presented with their awards by KCU representative Mrs Philomena Sloan. St. Louis have a fine tradition of success in the annual national competition. Pictured along side Mrs Jayne Grant (Head of Art) at St. Louis the winners were; 11-13 years 1st - Ariane Quinn (who also won 1st place last year at national level), 14-17 years 1st Caitlin Williams, 3rd Anna Forte and 4th Anna Graham. Well done to all.



St. Louis quartet of Emma McArdle, Erin McAlinden, Enda MaGuire and Niamh McDowell display their gael Linn awards with their Irish teacher, Miss Cirara Rodgers.

### St. Louis Success at Gael Linn Quiz



## Variety to the Fore at St. Louis Spring Concert

The annual Spring Concert at St. Louis Grammar School, Killeel was once again an opportunity for the students to display their vast array of talent on stage. In front of a packed school assembly hall, students from all year groups performed magnificently at their school's annual Spring Concert. As has been the case with concerts in previous years, the variety of talents on display incorporated the array of music, song and drama excellence, being nurtured at St. Louis. The Spring Concert was under the musical direction of Head of Music, Mrs Derbhla McDonagh, with the assistance of music tutor Mrs Linda Boucher, and was produced by Mr Tim Brown.

The show opened with a French theme to welcome students from Lycee d'Authie, Doullens in Picardie, to the concert. Two French A Level Students, Daniel Goodwin and Jill Clerkin, displayed their linguistic skills as well as their obvious musical talent to perform "La Vie en Rose".

Co-ordinated by Linda Boucher, the Junior Choir and Junior Guitar Group were up next to entertain the audience with some contemporary songs. First up was a lively rendition of Ed Sheeran's "Nancy Mulligan". This was followed by Coldplay's "The Scientist" during which the choir members were able to display some excellent harmonies.

In a change of tempo and offering a throw-back in time to celebrate a legend, Year 8 student Tommy Cunningham paid homage to 'old blue-eyes' Frank Sinatra. Displaying confidence and ability way beyond his 12 years, Tommy, who has performed in musicals in the Grand Opera House in Belfast, entertained the audience with an amazing version of "My Way".

Displaying the extent of variety of talent at St. Louis, Mrs Cunningham's Year 12 Drama class captivated the audience with their performance of "Living with Lady Macbeth". The students had delivered this same drama for their GCSE moderation the previous day.

As the interlude approached, Head of Music Mrs Dearbla McDonagh along with her Orchestral Ensemble celebrated the wonderful music of movie legend Ennio Morricone. Soon the hall was filled with classics such as the theme to the spaghetti western "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" and the beautifully haunting yet mesmerising "Gabriel's Oboe"- theme from the movie, The Mission.

After a short interlude, during which raffle tickets were sold to raise money for the St. Louis charities and refreshments were served, the audience were treated to a change of musical genres once again, as the air was filled Irish music.

Getting the feet tapping the St. Louis Trad Group offered up a number of reels and "An Droichead Slip Jig Set. However, with a change of tempo once again, two students who have excelled in national singing competitions over the past year showed why their voices are much heralded. Cathleen Garland, an All-Ireland champion in Fleadh competition, delivered a beautiful rendition of Rathlin Island, whilst All-Ireland Scor Champion, Niamh McDowell sang the much celebrated "Song for Ireland". The Irish section was completed with the Trad group playing music for "The Island" which was led by the highly talented Oisín McCann.

Changing tempo and genre once again the young musicians at the St. Louis Spring Concert delivered renditions of more modern rock songs. In what appeared to be a 'Battle of the Bands' scenario, the audience were treated to "Its all about You" (McFly) from the Year 11 Band, "Prey" (The Neighbourhood) from the Year 13 Band and "What you know/Bet you look good on the dancefloor" (Arctic Monkeys) from the Year 14 Band (Seatruck).

Now it was time for the choirs to take centre stage. St. Louis Senior Choir were first up with a wonderfully mellow rendition of Oasis's classic "Half a World Away". The Concert concluded as the Junior Choir joined forces with the Senior Choir as "Human" by the Killers was given the St. Louis treatment.





## Somme Remembered on St. Louis French Trip

The Battle of the Somme proved to be a fitting theme of focus as a party of St. Louis students journeyed to Northern France to visit their pen-pals in the town of Doullens. Organised by Jessica Koquert (Head of French) and accompanied by Steven McVeigh, 18 students recently visited the region of Picardie, primarily with the aim of further enhancing their use of French, but also to experience the French way of life.

As their French hosts are located amidst the battlefields from the Somme offensive (1916), students worked in collaboration to view this historic event and the role played by thousands of men from Ireland and in particular, Ulster, during this conflict. The St. Louis students experienced French school life as they followed their pen-pals through a typical day in Lycée de l'Authie. The St. Louis students also received the 'VIP' treatment as they were welcomed by the Mayor of Doullens in the Hotel de Ville, the scene of a historic meeting which played a significant role in determining the outcome of the war.

Along with their French hosts the St. Louis party toured the Somme museum in Albert, visited Lochnagar Crater, memorials at Thiepval, Beaumont-Hammel and of course, the Ulster Tower. Both schools paid their respects to those who had died in the conflict reciting poetry from the era whilst laying wreaths at some of the many memorials which poignantly have become a must see feature of Picardie. Significantly a member of the St. Louis was able to locate a family relative who had died during this truly global conflict. Also on the packed itinerary were visits to the cities of Amiens and Arras, where the group spent time visiting the Wellington tunnel network which played a vital role during the Battle of Arras. However, students also visited the homes of their French pen-pals, where they were treated to a typical family meal.

This annual trip by the French Department proved to yet another a huge success. The reciprocal visit by the students from Lycée de l'Authie will occur in early March, with a similar packed itinerary organised during their week long stay.



## St. Louis Irish Students visit Rann na Feirste



The annual Gaeltacht trip to Rann na Feirste Co. Donegal has become a highly anticipated event in the school calendar for students of Irish at St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel. The trip affords students the opportunity to learn and use their native language in the heart of the Gaeltacht. Of course, there is an additional bonus to such a trip. The pupils build friendships and make memories that will last a life time.

In conjunction with several other local schools, namely; Sacred Heart Grammar School, Newry, St. Mark's High School, Warrenpoint, St. Paul's High School, Bessbrook and The Abbey Vocational School from Donegal town, Irish students from year 11-13 at St. Louis embarked on a four-day, fun packed trip to Rann na Feirste.

Students took part in a range of activities all through the medium of Irish and stayed with local families. They attended Irish classes each day which were taken by local native speakers. This gave students the opportunity to immerse themselves completely in the life of the Gaeltacht while also improving their language skills in the run-up to their exams in May.

## St Louis Footballers Enjoy 'Tour of the West'

Learning experiences can come in many forms during your schooldays. Academic attainment is easily documented with the presentation of examination certificates at the prize giving ceremonies, but other experiences offered by schools are held within the memories of those who participate.

Organised by Mr Eamon McGlue, Mr Niall McAleenan and Mr Oliver Sloan, the senior footballers of St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel, recently embarked on a 'Tour of the West' and according to one participant it provided the players with marvelous experiences and created a magnificent bond between them.

Year 14 student, Peter McCreesh, highlighted the key aspects of the tour, but he was particularly impressed with a meeting with a top inter-county senior footballer. "The 'Tour of the West' gave us an insight on what the lives of the top players of the game are like. A highlight of the tour was the talk from Mayo and Castlebar Mitchell's wing half back Paddy Durcan, a player with plenty of experience in All-Ireland finals in both club and county level. He was able to tell us his daily routine and he himself being a student at DCU was able to give us guidance and advice on how to handle work and sport, it was really useful and interesting to learn about the mindset of a top quality player like Paddy."

Peter was particularly impressed with the level of commitment required to perform at such a high level. "Paddy's routine was exhausting to even listen to. Regular 5-hour drives to get to training or games as Paddy himself has to endure regular return trips from Dublin to Mayo. Paddy has had to sacrifice a lot of his social life to the sport he obviously loves."

Central to the 'Tour of the West' was to play games against two Connaught schools. Unfortunately, due to the adverse weather conditions, both games had to be cancelled. However, this set back did not deter the St. Louis squad from enjoying their trip to the West. Peter then focused on other enjoyable aspects of the experience. "We also got to experience some top-quality training sessions at the Breaffy House gym and pool. The indoor sports arena was fully utilised by our coaches Mr McAleenan, Mr Sloan and Mr McGlue."

The St. Louis party also visited the Westport Adventure Centre where they engaged in a variety of activities encouraging teamwork. Peter felt the experience will prove beneficial in their future endeavours. "The activities taught us how to work hard as a team and brought us all closer together. It also had an important life lesson in that it taught us to always support each other, no matter what obstacle we may face."

The St. Louis 'Tour of the West' was a huge success. The participating students came from a variety of year groups and for some the trip was a fine event to finish off their football days at St. Louis.

St. Louis Grammar School wish to express their gratitude for the kind sponsorship received for the 'Tour of the West'; Brian Cunningham (Cloughmore Shellfish), Holmes Poundworld, Country Fried Chicken, Grants Store Atticall, Knox's Kilkeel, AQ Engineering, JN Hire, Brickscaff (Paul Grant), Harbour Road Dentist, JN Hire, Murphy's Kilkeel, Mourne Physio Clinic (Christine Burns) and Railway Street Café (Stephen Barker), Asda Kilkeel, Rafferty's Garage Kilkeel, Hale's Newcastle.

### St. Louis Senior Football Squad 2017/18



Squad pictured with Coaches, Mr Oliver Sloan, Mr Niall McAleenan and Mr Eamon McGlue







### Traditional Music Shared at Kilkeel Schools

Traditional music which has been passed down through the generations always represents a tangible link to the cultural heritage of the communities of our area. In an initiative organised by the Music Departments of St. Louis Grammar School and Kilkeel High School, the magnificent sounds of both traditional Irish music and Ulster Scots music, could be heard from a Shared Education workshop.

One of the key aims of Shared Education Programme (SEP) is for students from different schools to find areas of common interest and develop these interests into a mutually beneficial learning experience. Year 11 music students from St. Louis and the school's traditional music group participated in a shared education workshop with students from Kilkeel High School. The aim of the workshop was to allow students from both schools to experience traditional Irish music and traditional Ulster Scots music (part of the GCSE curriculum).

One of the highlights of the workshop was offered by Ulster Scots fiddle tutor Keith Lyttle. Keith, along with some of his students demonstrated their talents by playing some wonderful Ulster Scots music. To compliment this, the Traditional Music group (or Trad Group) from St. Louis, led by Head of Music, Mrs Dearbhla McDonagh also spoke passionately of Irish Traditional Music. The 'Trad' Group then demonstrated with a variety of songs and tunes.



### St. Louis 'Beach Clean' with Kilkeel High School and 'Love Your Lough'

As St. Louis stride towards attaining the coveted 'Green Flag' status through its Eco-Schools programme, the Eco-Schools committee/working party have been involved in a number of eco-friendly initiatives over recent months. One initiative was the 'Beach Clean' project in which St. Louis students along with others from Kilkeel High School, set about improving the appearance of our beautiful Mourne coastline. The 'Beach Clean' organised in conjunction with the local 'Love Your Lough' environmental group, has now become an annual event in which our students attended a workshop focussing on the dangers of plastic in our seas and then engaged in a clean up of local tourist hot-spot, Cranfield Beach.

St. Louis students have also been improving the school environment by collecting litter, recycling as much as possible, planting flower/shrub boxes and cleaning up some of the marvellous statues at the rear of the school.

Our students have become very aware of the new (2016) Sustainable Development Goals to ensure a clean, healthy and sustainable future can be generated for everyone.

### St. Louis Students welcome Acclaimed Irish Author



Head of English, Mr Gerry Quigg, welcomed one of Ireland's most for young people. Sheena Wilkerson's first novel 'Taking Flight' won the CB! Honour Award for fiction as well as the Children's Choice Award. Sheena is a professional mentor in NUI Galway. She lives in County Down and travels extensively in Ireland and beyond talking about her inspirations behind her writing and the process of creating characters and connections in novel writing.

Sheena spent an afternoon in a workshop seminar, focussing on writing skills with a group of Year 9 and 10 students who meet regularly as the St. Louis 'Writers Club'. This event may well prove to be the spring board for some fresh literary talent to join the ranks of Joyce and Yeats in the future.

## Top Vocalist Connects with St. Louis Students

St. Louis Grammar School has a long and proud tradition of academic excellence. With a strong focus on preparing students for the needs of future labour markets, students are also encouraged to develop further their talents in performing arts. Annual Spring Concerts and periodical musicals offer students an opportunity to display their emerging talents to appreciative audiences, but many students perform on bigger stages, capturing the eyes and ears of performers already established in the world of performing arts.

Peter Corry is a leading Northern Irish singer, producer, director and actor. He has played roles in the West End, including *Les Miserables* and has worked on many television productions in the UK and USA. Peter has also displayed a keen interest in developing new talents through his role as a director at the Belfast School of Performing Arts (BSPA).

Peter Corry has recognised the potential of talents in the Mourne area through his connection with two St. Louis students, Year 14 student Oisín McCann and Year 8 student Tommy Cunningham.

Oisín McCann has become an easily recognisable face on the traditional music scene, not only in Co. Down, but all over Ireland. Son of Chris McCann and Kirsti McDonald, Oisín is a long serving member of Cuman Peadar Naofa and Comórtas Scoil-drámaíochta. Oisín's trophy collection boasts Down, Ulster and All-Ireland titles in Set and Céilí dancing as well as All-Ireland Fleadh title with the Tin Whistle.

Oisín has also dappled in the world of contemporary performing arts at St. Louis from playing a chorus role in *Grease* to excelling in the role of Fagan in the school production of *Oliver*. Oisín can also add television appearances to his resumé as he participated in the BBC production "Burns an Mair".

With ambitions to study for a degree in music at Glasgow Conservatoire, it is not surprising that Oisín has attracted the attention of Peter Corry. When assembling performers for his latest venture "Call of the Celts" channeling Celtic influences with ballads from the Scottish and Irish isles, he quickly recruited Oisín McCann. Oisín is currently performing the Holland with Peter Corry on the latest stage of the tour.

However, as director of BSPA, Peter Corry has also been playing a role in developing the talent of another young emerging St. Louis talent, Year 8 student, Tommy Cunningham. Tommy, who recently performed solo at the St. Louis Spring Concert, has been making a name for himself as a singer at a fast rate. Son of Martin and Gail Cunningham, Tommy first performed in *Ali Baba* with the Warrenpoint Pantomime Group at the age of 6 and represents his club, Longstone in Scor competitions. His passion for singing saw him move swiftly through the grading system to reach Grade 6 by the age of 12, which is unusual for one so young.

His talent was quickly recognized by production companies in Belfast as Tommy successfully auditioned for roles in *Elf* (Michael Hobbs), *Cats* (Gus) and *Music Box*. The latter two productions were produced by BSPA, with Peter Corry at the helm. Tommy readily cites Peter as being a major influence on his career to date, citing him as his role model.

Although Tommy is living a very busy life at the moment as he nears the end of his first year at St. Louis. Tommy has already secured roles in *The Wizard of Oz* (Grand Opera House) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Belvoir Studios) to be performed this summer, Tommy is also looking for a role in St. Louis production of *Beauty and the Beast*, scheduled for the Autumn term later this year.

With Oisín McCann's musical career ready for take-off and Tommy Cunningham's moving at an alarming pace, Head of Music at St. Louis, Mrs Derbhla McDonagh, views the role of such an established artist such as Peter Corry in a very positive light. "At St. Louis we can help both students further develop their obvious talents, but to be able to tap into the vast experience of such a performer like Peter, will take them further on their career paths, creating more exciting opportunities along the way." She concluded, "We are very proud of their achievements to date and look forward to the successes yet to come."







## Art Students Seek Inspiration in Belfast

As part of the ongoing SEP link between St Louis Grammar School, St. Columban's College and Kilkeel High Art Departments, GCSE, AS and A Level Art & Design students were taken to Belfast on a creative informative art trip on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Seeking inspiration to develop projects is vital for these young Art students as they drive towards attaining high grades in the respective examinations. Borrowing ideas from established artists is always a positive way forward, as was the sharing of experiences between the students of the three schools.

The GCSE students utilised the excellent first hand resources at the Ulster museum, completing first hand studies for their coursework. While AS and A Level students visited several art galleries throughout Belfast including The Mac, James Wray & Co and the Bradbury Graphics Gallery experiencing first hand work of some Irelands leading and upcoming artists.

The students and teachers also had the pleasure of having an unexpected private preview of the annual RUA Exhibition in the Museum by Denise Ferran PRUA and Mary McGaffery RUA Exhibitions Manager, where the ladies discussed the work in the exhibition, their roles and the requirements to produce such an exhibition. The prestigious exhibition showcases original works across the disciplines of the visual arts by emerging and established artists.



## Tourism Master Class for Kilkeel Schools



Tourism is the fast growing industry in the 21st century. This was the recurring theme of a Tourism Master Class hosted by St. Columban's College. A number of Year 10 Geography students participated in this Careers event along with students from St. Columban's and Kilkeel High School. Funded in part by the 'Young Enterprises NI' this seminar offered students a practical insight into the world of Tourism, with a particular focus of its growing role in the local economy. Students had the opportunity to speak to and hear from Mark Cumming, a local entrepreneur from East Coast Adventure Centre, who spoke to them about his experience in business and tourism.

## Fair Trade Celebrations



As part of Fairtrade Fortnight Eco-Schools Committee organised a quiz for Year 8's to highlight the importance of Fair Trade. The message was clear, 'support LEDC farmers by buying Fair Trade produce. Winning team;-Team 'Uganda'

Remember, Support Fair Trade!

## Team Bonding with Year 13 Students



The squeals heard coming from Mourne Park in September, were the sounds of joy as the new Year 13 group from St. Louis enjoyed a 'bonding day'. With Archery, Frisbee golf, Zip-lining, Decision making puzzle games the students had a great day of getting to know each other, especially good for students who had just arrived from other schools.





**QFT Visit by Art Students**

Year 13 and 14 Irish students had the unique opportunity of attending an Irish Film Workshop organised by NICILT at the Queen's Film Theatre Belfast. Queen's University Lecturers from the Irish and Celtic Department held workshops on a number of short Irish Films on the A-Level course. This gave the students the chance to engage with others in Irish, to converse and work with students from schools across the North and to have the opportunity of being taught by university lecturers.

## European Language Day Celebrated



The European Day of Languages once again created a 'buzz' around St. Louis as a series of events run by the Modern Languages departments supplemented the normal timetable. Irish Quizzes, French/Spanish breakfasts and a Céilí were just part of the celebrations on a day when everyone (including teachers) attempted to converse in another language.



**Carrick Primary School Win Technology Challenge**

Carrick Primary School, Burren, are this year's winners of the St. Louis Technology Challenge. Organised for local primary school children the challenge aims to promote scientific and technological awareness in primary schools. The event took place recently in the school's Technology Suite. Participants were given the opportunity to work in the school's Technology and Design Department solving practical problems with a range of materials and components. The pupils had to solve a design problem within a specific time, this involved designing and making a product. Judges were past pupil Shauna McVeigh and Darragh O'Hanlon from sponsors Newry Building Supply awarded marks for good design work, creativity and good construction ability. All participants produced very creative solutions and the judges found it difficult to select an overall winner. However, after some deliberation, St. Mary's Primary School was awarded first place. The runners up were St. Bronagh's Primary School, Rostrevor, whilst third place went to St. Joseph's Primary School, Carnacaville.



**St. Louis Camogie Team win with Team Danske**

The cost involved in running a sports team can soon spiral as all our local clubs would know. It is always very welcome to receive a financial boost to help manage the cost of delivering a fantastic sporting experience to young people.

St. Louis Grammar School camogie team received a £1,000 bursary from Danske Bank to buy a new set of jerseys for the Camogie teams in the school. Not only is Camogie the most popular sport played by girls at St. Louis, it is also one of the most successful as it can boast successes by capturing numerous Down and Ulster titles.

There has also been a number of individual successes in Camogie as numerous St. Louis girls have been awarded Colleges All-Stars. The most recent recipient was Sorcha McCartan who has received three Camogie All-Stars and two All-Stars for Ladies Football.

The bursary was part of the Bank's 'Team Danske' promotion which celebrates Danske Bank's ongoing sponsorships of Ulster Schools' Cup Rugby, Ulster Schools' GAA and U18 Schools' Football.

St. Louis was one of four schools in Northern Ireland to win a new team kit as part of the Danske Bank promotion for Danske Discovery current account holders.





Emily Kearney  
Year 8 Relay Race



Tom O'Neill seals Year 11 100m crown

## Annual Sports Day at St. Louis



Zach Trainor wins Year 8 100m

Many people will remember the hot days of late May early June during their school days as typical 'exam weather'. However, it is also the time on the school calendar that the younger students enjoy the competitiveness of the annual Sports Day event.

The recent Sports Day held at St. Louis Grammar School, Kilkeel occurred in brilliant sunshine, which added to the enjoyment of the events organised by Mrs Rosemary Colgan and Mr Niall McAleenan of the PE Department with the assistance of other members of staff. The students showed great competitiveness and excellent sportsmanship as they strived to run faster, and throw further than their colleagues.



Abi Killen off to a flyer in the  
Year 10 Girls Relay Race



Jo Tinnelly, Niamh Devlin and Danielle Rice battle in the Year 11 200m race



Orla Quinn in full flight in Year 10 long jump



Aideen Gorman competing in  
the Year 8 Shot Put



Caleb Trainor at the  
'Throw Ball' event



# Primary School Tournament at St. Louis



Once again the local primary school football and netball tournaments organised by the PE Department at St. Louis, proved to be a huge success.

Mr Kevin Martin congratulated all participants, and their teachers, for not only the level of their talents in their respective sports, but also for the sportsmanship they display throughout the day.

The football tournament turned out to be an all-Rostrevor affair as Kilbroney Integrated PS took the challenge to St. Bronagh's PS. In a closely contested derby match, it was Kilbroney who emerged victorious by the narrowest of margins.

In the Netball the Cup winners were All Children's Integrated PS from Newcastle, whilst the Shield was on by Grange PS.



Year 8 Boys, Finalists in Down Schools Blitz



Year 8 Girls, finalists in St. Paul's Blitz

Senior Ladies Gaelic Football



Year 12 Girls Ladies Gaelic Football

