

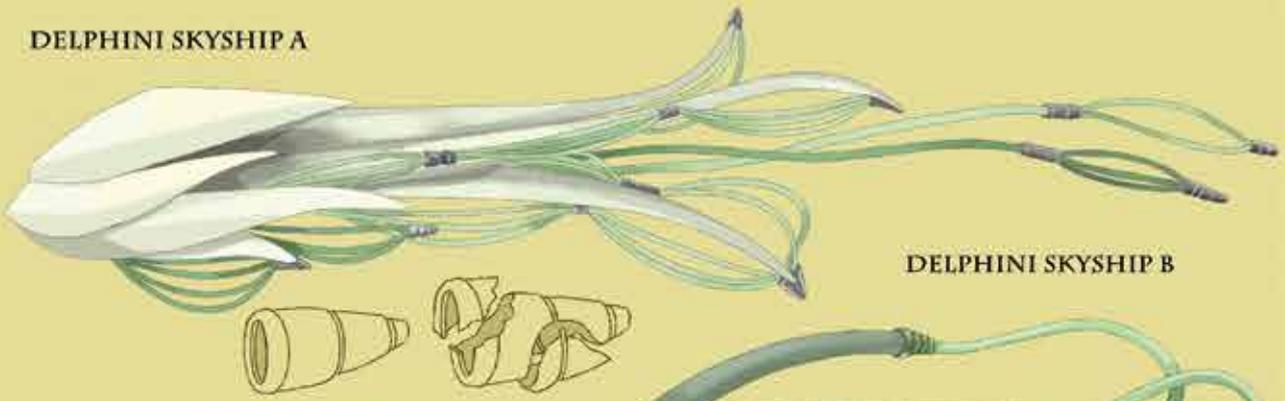
A painting of a forest path. The path is made of dirt and leads into the distance. On the right side, there is a large, dark tree trunk. The forest is filled with green foliage and tall grasses. The overall tone is dark and moody.

STRATHEARN SCHOOL.

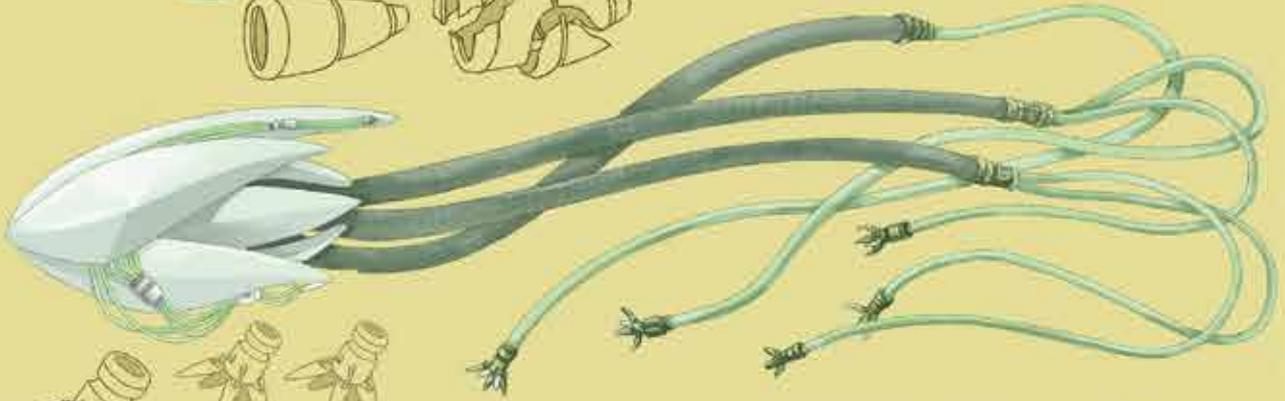
2020.

18 DELPHINI B - ARION SPACECRAFT

DELPHINI SKYSHIP A



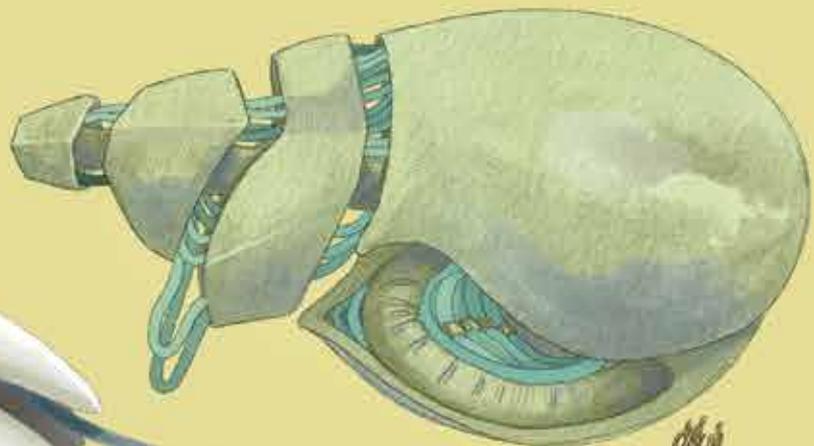
DELPHINI SKYSHIP B



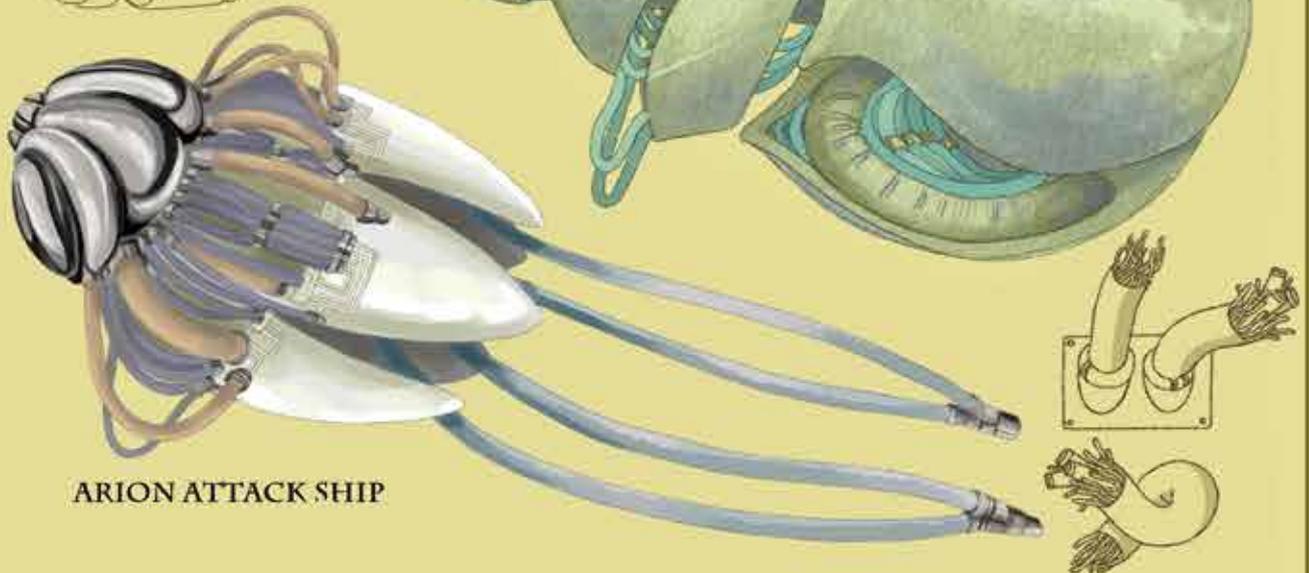
DELPHINI ATMOSPHERIC



ARION GROUND SHIP



ARION ATTACK SHIP



inside STRATHEARN SCHOOL magazine.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME	. 5
BOARD OF GOVERNORS	. 6
SCHOOL STAFF	. 7
FORM ONE	. 8-15
HEAD GIRL	. 16-17
SIXTH FORM	. 18-19
PRIZE NIGHT	. 20-29
CLUBS, EVENTS, SOCIETIES & ART	. 30-63
TALENT SHOW & HOUSE REPORTS	. 64-69
SPORT	. 70-91
PENRHYN	. 92-115
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION	. 116







PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME.

As I sit down to write this foreword to our annual school magazine, my thoughts inevitably turn to the unprecedented situation we are all living through. As we all know, school closed for most students this year on 20 March. Despite this shortened school year, I felt strongly that we should go ahead and publish the 2020 Strathearn School Magazine.

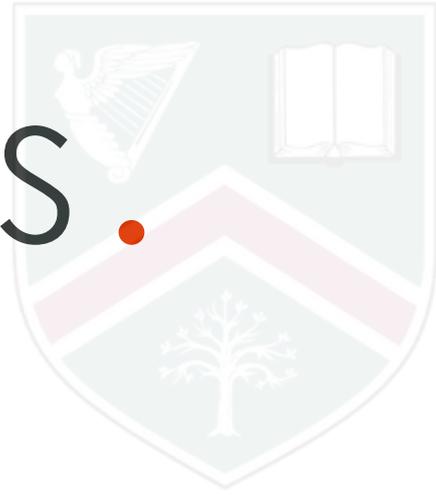
Our magazine's front cover this year is Amy Long's excellent piece 'Escape'. In her comments on the piece (which you can read on the back cover), Amy talks about how the opening of a new pathway in Greyabbey allowed her to see new views of the village she had lived in for most of her life. I thought that this was so appropriate for this year's magazine, because in a way that is what we are all doing at the minute. We are now back at school so there is some familiarity, but we are having to take a new view of everything because of the current situation. In 'Escape', the path looks inviting but we cannot be sure what lies ahead because it curves into the forest. This is such a meaningful image for us all right now. So much has changed over the last six months, and the reality is that we cannot see exactly what lies ahead. At this point, I would like to speak directly to our brilliant pupils, and to tell you some things that we *can* know for certain. Girls, we are here for you and we always will be. To those of you who are preparing for assessments, we are here to help you achieve success so that you can move on to the next stage of your lives. In the future, when you think back to your schooldays, it is probably inevitable that you will remember the challenges and changes of this period in time. My hope is that you will also look back on your time at Strathearn School and remember that you were part of a community that cared for you as you made your way along that path.

2019-20 provided many leadership and other opportunities for the girls in Strathearn. Thank you to our Office Bearer team and to the School Council for all that they have contributed to the life of the school. I do hope that Form One will enjoy their first appearance in the magazine, and that my Upper Sixth enjoy the memories of their final year at Strathearn.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our magazine this year - the articles and photographs are all looking splendid. My final thanks go to Dr McBride and Mrs Black for constructing this detailed record in these challenging times. I wish everyone well, and I hope you enjoy the 2020 Strathearn School Magazine.

N. Corneely

BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Chair of the Board

Mrs L Mallon LLB

Vice Chairs

Mrs R Bailie BA MSW MBA

Mrs P Stewart

Mrs E Andrews BEd CertEd LNEA PQH

Mr A Atkinson BEd

Mrs C Auchmuty BA

Mr R Brown BA

Mrs N Connery MA PGCE PQH

Mr TWW Forde MBE FCA

Mr J Ireland BMus MCIPR

Mr J Mallon BSc

Mr GR McGowan FRICS

Mr N McKeown BSc (Econ) FCA

Mr R Masefield CBE MA (Cantab)

Mrs D Nield

Mr IC Noad MA (Cantab)

Mr S Rodham-Boyd BSc CMgr MCMI

Mr C Wallace LLB LLM

Mr PA White MA (Cantab)

PRINCIPAL .

Mrs N Connery MA PGCE PQH

VICE PRINCIPALS .

Mrs L Myers MBE BEd PQH
Mr A Anderson MEd BD PGCE
Mrs N Sinnerton BA PGCE PGDH

SENIOR STAFF .

Mr A Atkinson BEd
Mr M Stevenson BSc PGCE

ART .

Miss S Whitla MA PGCE
Mrs C Rea MA PGCE
Miss E Woods BA PGCE

BUSINESS STUDIES .

Mrs J White BSc PGCE

ENGLISH .

Ms W Erskine MA PGCE
Ms J Ferris BA PGCE
Mr C Heaney BA PGCE
Mrs D Ingram MA BA PGCE
Miss E McClure BA PGCE DipLCM
Dr J McBride MA PGCE
Mr A Scott BA PGCE

GEOGRAPHY .

Mr M Stevenson BSc PGCE
Miss Morrison BSc PGCE
Mrs L Staples BSc PGCE

HISTORY .

Mr P Bradley BA MSc MEd PGCE
Miss JS Gibson MA BEd
Miss J Sturgeon BA MA PGCE

HOME ECONOMICS .

Mrs A Blayney BSc PGCE
Mrs A Lennox BSc PGCE

ICT .

Mrs R Armstrong BSc PGCE

MATHEMATICS .

Mrs J Anderson BSc PGCE
Mrs R Aiken BSc PGCE
Miss Rebecca Arthur BSc PGCE
Mrs FE Cochrane BSc PGCE
Mrs L Cozzo BSc PGCE
Mrs P Foye BSc PGCE
Mrs R McKeown BSc PGCE
Ms L Wallace MPhys PGCE

MODERN LANGUAGES .

Mrs J Fielding BA PGCE Ad CertEd,
Dip CGD
Mrs S Morrow BA PGCE
Mrs J Muldrew MA PGCE
Mrs J Thompson BA PGCE
Miss L Vincent BA PGCE
Mrs N Wilson
Miss A Turner BA PGCE

Mrs E McAllister BA PGCE

MUSIC .

Ms J Kimber MA BA ARCM MTD CRE
LIPF DPAGB

Miss R Armstrong BMus, PGCE

PHYSICAL EDUCATION .

Ms S Young BA PGCE DIS MEd
Mrs N Grundie BA PGCE
Mrs B Crawford BEd
Mrs R Hewitt BSc Hons

RELIGIOUS STUDIES .

Mr C Jellie BEd MTeach
Mr A Anderson MEd BD PGCE
Mrs R Browne BEd
Mr P Mulligan BA PGCE

SCIENCE .

Miss J Stewart BSc PGCE PQH
Miss E Foster BSc MSc PGCE
Mrs J D Gray MTeach BSc PGCE
Miss MA Grier BSc PGCE
Miss AM Griffith BSc PGCE
Mrs A McCracken MEd BSc PGCE
Mrs J Power BSc PGCE
Dr KA Ross BSc PGCE

Ms L Wallace MPhys PGCE

Miss R Newburn BEd

TECHNOLOGY & DESIGN .

Mr A Atkinson BEd PGDH
Miss R Newburn BEd

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT .

Mrs B Mawhinney BEd
Mrs E Andrews BEd CertEd PQH LNEA
Miss GM Boyd BA PGCE
Mrs P Devlin BEd ALCM
Miss C Hunter BEd
Mrs D Hyndman BA PGCE Cert Ed

Mrs A McKeown BEd

Mrs V McKinney BEd

Mrs J Walls BEd (Cantab)

Miss A Ramsey BA

FINANCE MANAGER .

Mrs A Flannigan BA FCA

FACILITIES MANAGER .

Mrs L Foster BEng

ADMINISTRATION STAFF .

Mrs J Griffin
Mrs G Hanna Asc IM
Mrs A Lynn
Mrs R Moore
Mrs C Norris MSc BSc
Mrs C Quee
Mrs A White
Mrs L Wright

LIBRARIAN .

Dr E Haire BA MA PGCE

CAREERS ADVISORS .

Miss AM Griffith BSc PGCE

Mrs L Staples BSc PGCE

Mrs D Ingram MA BA PGCE

Ms J Kimber MA BA ARCM MTD CRE
LIPF DPAGB

SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE .

Mrs C Boyd

Miss A Jordan BSc

SIXTH FORM SUPERVISOR .

Miss L Stevenson LLB

SENCO .

Mrs L Myers MBE BEd PQH

Mrs N Sinnerton

Mrs J Atkinson BEd

Mrs R Browne BSc PGCE Dip PD

TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF .

Mrs L Allen

Mrs M Black BA

Miss G Campbell BSc

Miss M McLaglan

Mr S Millar HND BSc

Mrs J Shaw BSc DIS

CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS .

Mrs K Black BSc MSc PGCE

Mrs M Butters

Ms N Ditty

Mrs S Doyle BSc

Ms M Edgar BSocSci

Ms I Jess

Miss A Jordan BSc

Miss D Larkham

Miss O McParland BA MA

Miss M Palmer

Mrs R Shaw PGATC

Mrs S Vollands

Mrs D Welsh BA Dip IS

PREMISES STAFF .

Mr J Algie

Mr M Paxton

Mr J Gibson

CATERING STAFF .

Mrs V Crymble

Ms T Gibson

Mrs L Gillespie

Mrs E Madden

Mr J Martin

Mrs W McCluskey

Mrs J McConnell

Ms M Mellon

Mrs C Nesbitt

Mrs N O'Brien

Miss C Stewart

Welcome to Strathearn School



FORM ONE.

The start of a new year is always an exciting time for everyone. In particular, we recognise that our Form 1 pupils have to manage a big change in their lives as they move from primary school into 'big school'. This year we were delighted to set aside a day at the start of term just for Form 1 pupils. The day began with a special assembly in which Mrs Connery gave them a special welcome and the Head Girl team shared memories of their first few days in the school and gave some useful advice for the weeks ahead. Feedback from Form 1 about this special start to the term was very encouraging and we plan to run the same format again. Form 1 were delighted to have a day out to the Folk Museum, and as usual many friendships were made, lots of delicious picnics were consumed and the sweet shop at the museum made its yearly profit in one afternoon!

This year, we were very pleased to be able to bring our sixth form peer mentor team with us. All credit must be given to the sixth form girls who were a great help on the day, looking out for the younger girls and helping everyone to navigate their way around the museum. All the girls were so well behaved and really entered into the spirit of the day with great enthusiasm. This early bonding activity always helps the girls to develop new friendships and get to know both staff and pupils alike.

We were also very pleased to be able to run a Form 1 information evening for parents in early September. This gave us all a great opportunity to share advice and allowed the parents an insight into the daily life of a new Form 1 pupil.

Every year Form 1 take part in fundraising for a local charity. This year we were very pleased to be able

to help Compassion Belfast. This charity helps the most vulnerable in our society to access food, shelter and care. The team from Compassion Belfast came in to speak to our girls to raise awareness of their work and they were very impressed by the mature and compassionate attitude displayed by our pupils. Our girls managed to raise a huge £2031.15 for Compassion Belfast. We presented the cheque to the team just before Christmas and they were genuinely moved by the generosity displayed by the Strathearn community; on behalf of Compassion Belfast I would like to thank you all for your kindness in supporting this worthy cause.

As we all know the school year was interrupted abruptly in March, and sadly school life had to be temporarily put on hold. In the weeks leading up to the lockdown I was so impressed by how our Form 1 girls remained calm and thoughtful towards each other. As I write this, we are still unable to attend school in the normal way and I would like to pay tribute to all the girls in Form 1 who behaved so maturely in getting used to remote learning. It is clear that the Form 1 girls have a great sense of community and understand the need to help others, as well as valuing their education whether online or in the classroom.

It is my hope that we will all be together again very soon!

Thank you girls for being a great year group, and I wish you well as you embark on your Form 2 year.

Miss Stewart, Head of Form 1





Back Row: Tara McNeill, Summer-Rose Archer, Sophie Castles, Krista Jones, Saffron Bennett, Anna Matthews, Grace Hanna

Middle Row: Emily Barry, Imogen O'Mahony-Truesdale, Monica Mounce, Neve McAlorum, Eve Armstrong, Maya Lillie, Ruby Huth, Olivia Strahan, Mrs McKeown

Front Row: Amelia Magowan, Matilda Brown, Tabitha Morris-Dickson, Francesca Holmes, Charlotte Cairns, Molly Boomer, Tiffany McGowan, Olivia Kane, Saoirse Hinds.

Absent: Connie Waterworth

FORM 1A ●



Back row: Cassie Stewart, Rianna Redfern, Daisy Dorrian, Poppy Shaw,
Grace Davison, Francesca Brundle, Jamillah Toriola

Middle row: Imogen Graham, Imogen Lyden, Alice Gardner, Lily Roden, Chloe Nelson,
Taylor Brown, Mya Dunne, Lillybella Burrows, Miss J Stewart

Front row: Isla Stewart, Gemma Nugent, Lucy Andrews, Sophie McMullan,
Rachel Young, Ella Sloan, Aimee Broadhurst

FORM 1T



Back Row: Maddie Leathem, Olivia Doyle, Megan Getgood, Sophie Gordon, Sophie McAdam, Hazel Macpherson and Evie Magowan.

Middle Row: Olivia Geary, Kate Farmer, Hannah Jackson, Sophie-Mae Holmes, Brooke Morgan, Charlotte Gorman, Ellie Mardell-Porter, Eva Mooney, Hollie Stitt and Aurelia Mayne, Miss Sturgeon

Front Row: Holly Millership, Lydia McCloskey, Victoria Leitch, Charlotte Howell, Isabella Hasan, Lily Keane and Eloise Keers.

FORM 1R.



Back row: Hannah Minford, Eva McGimpsey, Anjali Singh, Ellie Johnston,
Megan Gibson, Charlotte Eighteen, Amelie McCord

Middle Row: Megan McCreesh, Naomi Boyce, Zoe Friend, Eve Downey, Aoife Rankin,
Zarina Khan, Lucy Meara, Abigail McCutcheon, Abi McCreedy

Front Row: Charis Mills, Grace McCracken, Lily-Rose Wigham, Kami Harkness, Lucy Hanna,
Aleena Wasim, Rachel Bryson, Honey Bridges, Ella Douglas

FORM 1S



Back row: Emma Hamilton, Bea Bell, Grace Johnston, Tasha Noble, Ciara Johnston, Paige Hamilton, Alimah Ajala and Ella Riddell.

Middle row: Rosey Magown, Katie Hill, Erin McKee, Grace Blackmore, Poppy Chapman, Abigail Kennedy, Eva Irons, Kirsty Gregg and Mrs Cochrane.

Front row: Susanna Villar, Darcy Shields, Johanna Hegan, Libby Gorman, Katie Brow, Kate Cunningham, Sophie Jess.

Absent: Eleanor Evans

FORM 1H.



Form One bonding day at the Ulster Folk Museum



an interview
with the
**HEAD
GIRL.**

Katherine Hunter

Q. What is your favourite memory from primary school?

A. I have so many fond memories of my time at Comber Primary School. One of the memories that stands out for me has to be taking part in our School Production of Bugsy Malone in P7. I got to be part of Dandy Dan's gang which meant I was able to spray characters with silly string and throw cream filled pies at them like they did in the movie. I really enjoyed all the rehearsals, dressing up and performing. Another amazing memory I have was our P7 trip to Holland at the end of the year. We visited the caves, historical sights and shops of Valkenburg.

On another day we took a day trip to Efteling, the largest theme park in the Netherlands and one of the oldest theme parks in the world. But in a smaller theme park, my friend Alice and I were riding on swans (a bit like Pickie Park in Bangor) and when we got out, I walked too close to the edge and one of my legs ended up in the lake! Which meant I had to walk around the rest of

the day with one wet trainer. This was one of the most embarrassing but funny moments of the trip!

Q. What is your favourite memory from your time at Strathearn?

A. Honestly, this was the most difficult question for me to answer as I have made so many incredible memories over my seven years at Strathearn. I have to say that the Berlin trip in fourth year has to be one of the best trips I have been on. Berlin was an incredible city to visit and as a massive history enthusiast, the cultural and historical significance of the city was right up my street. Indulging in “Kaffee und Kucken” with my friends on top of the TV Tower and visiting incredible historical sites such as the Berlin Olympic Stadium, the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag have to be among the highlights of the trip.

My last day of school was not as we would have hoped, but our health and wellbeing during the outbreak and spread of Coronavirus had to come above everything else. Yet it was the last day of school that made me realise that all my experiences and memories were made because of the amazing people I have had the privilege of spending time with. This is why it is so difficult to choose just one experience to talk about. My favourite memories will simply be getting to know my friends in class, clubs or the common room, who I look forward to creating more memories with in the years to come.

Q. What are your extracurricular interests?

A. Music has always been a big part of my life since I was little as my parents would always sing with me and encourage me to take up musical instruments such as the violin and the accordion. When I arrived at Strathearn I joined the junior choir and I thoroughly enjoyed performing in the school Carol Services and Spring Musical Evenings. In Senior School I joined the Senior Choir and School Orchestra. Through both these groups I have performed amazing pieces of music such as the *Incredibles* and *Dear Evan Hansen*. Scripture Union has also been a huge part of my time at Strathearn. I have thoroughly enjoyed building friendships with girls from all different year groups in the SU sessions on Fridays or our smaller groups that met on Mondays. I loved giving up my lunchtimes to spend time building these lifelong friendships with others.

Q. What do you like to do in your spare time?

A. Most of my free time is taken up by volunteering. I am a people person so when I have no school work to do I enjoy going out and spending time with others. I do a lot of volunteering with my Church in Youth Groups. My favourite thing to do is catch up with friends over coffee and doughnuts (or a McDonalds!). However, during the busy school year it is important to leave time simply for your own health and well being. There are many things I like to do to relax and de-stress by myself.

I like to read; I like crime novels, especially Peter May's novels! My love of the crime genre also carries over into the programs I like to watch, such as *Silent Witness* and *Line of Duty*.

Q. What would you say is the biggest challenge involved in the role of Head Girl?

A. The biggest challenge involved in the role of Head Girl for me was trying to juggle all the tasks involved in it. This role gave me some of the most amazing opportunities such as meeting the Former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Karen Bradley, making speeches at different events and organising the school formal! There were so many amazing opportunities coming my way I did not want to miss one of them. But there are only 24 hours in a day so trying to fit in these duties alongside working for my A levels, my job, my extra circular interests and volunteering, I did sometimes find it all a bit difficult to juggle. That's why I am forever grateful that I was only one of a team of three. Megan and Ellie, the Deputy Head Girls, were always there to support me and they never complained when I came to them for help over and over again! Thank you, Megan and Ellie - I'm so grateful we had these experiences together.

Q. Do you have any advice for new pupils in Strathearn?

A. Hello, new pupils of Strathearn! From my experience I have two key pieces of advice that I'd like to pass onto you as you embark on your Strathearn journey. The first piece of advice would be to make use of the resources available to you. From textbooks to iPads, you have access to a wealth of knowledge at your fingertips, but you also have access to something even greater – the teachers of Strathearn. Each of them loves their subject and understands when you are struggling to grasp certain things. They are always more than willing to help you so make use of them. Secondly, don't be afraid to make new friends. When I came to Strathearn all the way back in 2013 the one thing I felt about this school was that it was a community and each of the girls genuinely cared about each other. This fact has not changed over the seven years since then. In classes, extra-curricular activities and House events, you will make friends with so many different people. The friendships you make here in Strathearn will last a lifetime – so make plenty!

Q. What are your plans for next year?

A. I am still not 100% sure as to where I will be this upcoming academic year. However, I do know that the year will be put to good use to further develop my skills and qualities to become a Youth Worker as that is where I hope to see myself in the future.



SIXTH FORM.

Front Row (from L to R)

Jill Nelis, Beth Strahan, Emma Lynch, Charlotte Crawford, Kaitlyn Smith, Grace Hutchinson, Heidi McMillen, Emma Craig, Ellie Davis, Katherine Hunter, Megan Adair, Eve Elliott, Phoebe Spratt, Amy Cooper, Anna Kenny, Emma Carson, Rosie Park, Laura Killiner, Murphy Miller, Miriam O'Reilly

Second Row

Emma Caldwell, Beth Buchanan, Aleena Joby, Chloe Armstrong, Kate Bell, Lucy Mashford, Daisy Moore, Rebekah Spence, Eva Aston, Tori Jackson, Sophia Hamilton, Harriet Platt, Grace Ruding, Hannah Morrison, Amy Bole, Rebecca Welsh, Rachel Forsythe, Rhiannon Brady, Zara Barbour

Third Row

Lauren Armstrong, Riona Florence, Brooke Robinson, Zoë Robinson, Zara Hamilton, Grace Connor, Sophie Mitchell, Emma McGugan, Spencer Abraham, Erin Stewart, Rebecca McDowell, Zoë Carvill, Lauren Gibson, Emma McCaughan, Sarah Baker, Jenny Bullman, Evie Wilson, Rachel Caughers

Fourth Row

Lauren White, Larissa Young, Cara Tan, Nina Reid, Jana McCabe, Helen Dunn, Ruth Gregg, Rachel McClintock, Aimee Stitt, Alex Fawcett, Scarlett Reid, Andrea Weinert, Anna Diekemper

Back Row

Faye Donaghy, Zara Hepworth, Tara Campbell, Lauren MacAirt, Lynzi Kennedy, Laura Cabecinha, Kate Wilson, Alex Armstrong, Leah Beattie, Freya Axten, Florence Tinsley



OFFICE BEARERS .

Front Row (left to right): Lucy Mashford, Grace Ruding, Harriet Platt, Ellie Davis, Katherine Hunter, Megan Adair, Rebekah Spence, Daisy Moore, Hannah Morrison

Second Row (left to right): Tori Jackson, Beth Strahan, Murphy Miller, Emma Lynch, Laura Killiner, Miriam O'Reilly, Eva Aston, Sophia Hamilton

Third Row (left to right): Emma Carson, Charlotte Crawford, Amy Cooper, Grace Hutchinson, Anna Kenny, Kaitlyn Smith, Rosie Park

Back Row (left to right): Heidi McMillen, Emma Craig, Eve Elliott, Phoebe Spratt

6th FORM .

PRINCIPAL'S SPEECH

at Prize Night 2019 .

Madam Chairman, Professor Marshall, ladies and gentlemen, girls. It gives me great pleasure to add my welcome to that of the chairman. It is wonderful to have a former pupil of such note returning to speak in our 90th anniversary year. In reflecting on our past year, I have been reminded of just how much we have to be proud of in Strathearn and how this one school in East Belfast has influenced so much of Northern Ireland and beyond.

Strathearn opened its doors in 1929 with the Old Miskelly House and at this time was equipped with tennis courts, a conservatory and a porter's lodge. This is very different from the school today with its fifty-five classrooms, six tennis courts and our many wonderful sporting facilities. In 1929 it opened its doors to sixty-three pupils. Miss Miskelly, a Classics Teacher at Victoria College was the first Headmistress. In 1950, a separate Strathearn Committee was established and the uniform became a green tunic, fawn socks and shirt with a wine strip on the tie and scarf to remember the founder school. Our uniform has not altered much to this day, holding onto the same colour in the skirt and blazer.

Throughout the decades, girls from Strathearn have excelled in whatever they have chosen to do and in my third annual report as Principal of Strathearn I am pleased to report that this year is no exception. Tonight, we take time to publicly celebrate the efforts and successes of the Strathearn community; you will hear of the tremendous academic successes and also of the vibrant and successful extra-curricular programme. We will be rewarding year prizes in Forms 1-4, and these prizes are based on the girls' performances in our summer examinations. We will also celebrate the performance of F5, L6 and U6 in public examinations. Girls, we recognise your hard work and that of those who are being awarded other cups and trophies. Well done to you all!

So, let's begin by celebrating our GCSE results. The staff and girls in this year group were more nervous than usual this year due to changes in the examination system. We had the loss of controlled assessment in a number of subjects as well as the introduction of a C* grade, and we had been cautioned that there would be a smaller number of A* and B grades awarded. I am pleased to say, however, that our girls in Strathearn completely defied this prediction with their superb results.

This year, 97.2 % of our pupils achieved 7 Subjects at A* – C and 100% of our girls passed their English and Maths. Perhaps our most impressive statistic, however, is that 74.5% out of the 954 grades awarded - that is 708 grades- attained an A* or A grade. This is against a CCEA average of 31.4%. 91.2 % - that is 870 out of the 954 grades awarded- were with A*, A or B grades. We had 54 C* grades and only 15 C grades. I am sure you would agree that this is a truly outstanding performance.

Those are the statistics but behind each grade there has been a tremendous amount of hard work and dedication to their studies to achieve this amazing success. And tonight, we will read out the names of those pupils who have achieved these grades and watch with pride as they cross this stage to collect their certificates and awards.

However, four pupils must have an individual mention this evening. The following pupils have achieved nine GCSEs at grade A*. Those girls are Abbey Connor, Aimee Connor, Darcey Jamison and Jemima Thomas. As recognition of this brilliant achievement these girls have been awarded the Eileen Hamilton prize for the top performance in the school at GCSE.

At AS level we were delighted with the strength of achievement attained by the girls. 71% of the grades awarded were either an A or B grade. Prizes are awarded to pupils in last year's L6 who have achieved 3 or 4 A grades in their AS examinations. Tonight we reward 29 girls who have achieved this top level of performance, with 13 pupils gaining A grades in four subjects. This is a super level of performance and a great base from which to secure success in A-levels next year.

Our A2 results were our best ever, with a 7% rise from last year of grades in the category A*-C at in A Levels.

88.4 % of the girls achieved 3 subjects at grades A*-C, and over 51.4% of all the grades awarded were either A* or A grades. Well done girls - these are tremendous results.

All the girls in the room tonight deserve great praise for their dedication and commitment to all aspects of school life. You never fail to amaze me with how you manage to fit everything into your tremendously busy lives. But girls I am sure you would also agree with me when I say that your parents, with their interest, support and even their essential taxiing services, have also contributed to the successes we are celebrating this evening. Mums and Dads I am sure that you are very proud of your daughter's achievements; whether she is in Form 2 or in first year at university. Another group of people who have contributed significantly to the successes we will see this evening is the Strathearn staff. Their hard work, dedication, and support of the girls knows no bounds.

There are many missed lunch times for pupil discussions and encouragement, as well as numerous extra-curricular activities that empower our girls to develop their interpersonal skills which are so vital in today's dynamic world.

The work, dedication and expertise of our teachers, in the classroom and in many other activities, are the foundation of the education and development of our pupils. I pay tribute to them, and thank them for their part in the successful outcomes which we celebrate this evening. My thanks too, to the great team of support staff, who work hard behind the scenes to provide materials and assistance to the teachers, and to keep the fabric and administration of the school running smoothly. I really appreciate the professionalism of the staff of Strathearn and what they do, and all that they achieve each day. On this occasion, I would ask you to join me in showing our appreciation for their work.

In East Belfast we are so fortunate so have such a rich tapestry of schools that enhance our pupils' learning experiences. In Sixth Form, our pupils benefit from educational experiences in Campbell, Bloomfield and Ashfield Girls. This year we have also embarked on our first sharing of an extra-curricular activity with one quarter of Form 3 pupils now participating in CCF with Campbell College. Therefore, I record my thanks to the Principals and colleagues in East Belfast who strive to bring excellence and opportunity to all the pupils in this area.

As time moves on and things change, so do the staff in Strathearn. This year we said goodbye to some long serving members of the teaching staff. Ms Murphy, Head of History, served here from 1982. She imparted her love for History (and Everton!) to generations of girls and many also benefited from her expertise on the hockey field. Gillian, we thank you for your unfailing dedication to Strathearn and wish you well in your retirement. Mrs Martin, Head of ICT, saw many changes in the technology in Strathearn School. Her advice and guidance was invaluable as we developed our ICT strategy across the school and introduced new e-technologies across the curriculum. She was always at the fore when we were introducing new technologies and encouraging her pupils to embark on careers in IT. Debbie, we wish you a very happy retirement. Mrs Eakin, Head of Modern Languages, joined us from Friends' School, Lisburn in 2007. Diane instilled in her pupils a love of languages and was instrumental in introducing international languages courses in France and Spain. She also left a very important legacy with the now famous French breakfast in Form One. Diane, we thank you for your dedicated service to Strathearn and wish you well for your future plans. Mrs Millar worked as teacher of Geography and Careers in Strathearn for 11 years. Mrs Millar never shied away

from a challenge whether it be on a Geography field trip encouraging the girls to go just one step further, or in the classroom with her innovative and encouraging teaching. She knew her pupils well and always strived to ensure they reached their full potential. Doreen, we wish you a very happy retirement. Others left us to take up promotional opportunities and posts in other schools. Mrs McIvor, Miss McGahon, Mrs Kernaghan - we wish them all well.

Our support team has also seen a number of changes this year with our SENCOs Mrs Browne and Mrs Atkinson leaving after 12 and 11 years' service to the school respectively. We thank them for the number of young people's lives that they influenced during those years and for the individual assistance they gave to help the girls achieve their personal goals. We wish them well for the future. Mrs Hearst left after 15 years as Careers Advisor in the school. Her vast array of knowledge about university courses and her empathy with the pupils as they made critical decisions about their future was amazing; her true professionalism knew no bounds. Mrs Carson, Mr McConnell and Mrs Patterson all retired from support areas of school life and we thank them for their tireless service to the school and the support they gave to the pupils and teachers on a daily basis.

Of course we must welcome new arrivals. Mr Jellie joined us from Belfast High School as Head of RS, Mrs Fielding from Ballymena Academy as HOD of Modern Languages. We also welcomed Miss Turner, Miss Woods, Miss Armstrong, Miss Hewitt, Miss McClure and Mr Mulligan. Finally, we also had the appointment of Mr Anderson as our Vice Principal for Teaching and Learning. Since taking up this post, Mr Anderson has worked tirelessly to ensure that the pupils' teaching and learning experiences are of the highest standard. Mr Anderson, we welcome you as VP to the Senior Staff team and wish every success in your new role.

There are other sectors of the Strathearn community which play an increasingly important role in the functioning and development of Strathearn. One such body is the Board of Governors. Strathearn has an exceptionally well informed and dedicated governing body. I wish to thank you for the hours of meetings and the invaluable support and advice you give to the school. Your vision is always to ensure that pupils in Strathearn can avail of every opportunity to reach their potential and for that I thank you.

Our Parents' Association do a wonderful job, mobilising support and assisting at events in the Preparatory Department and the Senior School. Thank you for your tireless dedication to organising a range of activities for pupils and parents - although the discos still remain our number one attraction! Last year they raised a total of

£6000 for the Secondary and Preparatory departments, which in the current economic climate is tremendous. We are in the process of using a proportion of the money to purchase new school materials. Please, on behalf of the school, do continue to support the work of the Parents' Association.

This year has undoubtedly been one of the most memorable in Strathearn's history. The girls have certainly embodied the school's new motto – encourage, empower and excel - in numerous ways. As I have already said, the girls never fail to amaze me and astound me at how they manage their academic studies alongside such a vast array of extra-curricular pursuits. I only wish that we could show a week by week diary to display their achievements, but unfortunately that is not possible due to time constraints this evening.

However, I would like to begin the review by calling forward Grace Hutchinson who is our current Games Captain to tell you about the enormous success of our sports programme over the past year. Welcome Grace.

Grace Hutchinson - Sports

Long before the first signs of life return to the classroom after the summer holidays, girls are out on the hockey pitches training and practising for the season to come. This hard work and dedication allowed the 2018/19 season to be an exceptional hockey year for all teams throughout the school, reaching one cup final and three semi-finals.

Going into the season the 1st 11 hockey team had one goal; to reach the Schools' Cup final. And we nearly did. The semi-final draw pitched us against Banbridge Academy, the reigning champions, in Strathearn's first Schools' Cup semi-final since 2012. From the starting whistle, in front of fantastic support, the team gave 100% but were unlucky to concede an early goal. We then thought we had equalised when Erin Stewart scored from a penalty corner. But as quickly as the celebrations began they were halted when the goal was, controversially some may say, disallowed.

The team continued to outperform Banbridge right to the end but just couldn't get the goal we so desperately needed. And so, the final whistle went with 1-0 on the scoreboard, and Banbridge went on to win the Schools' Cup.

The 2nd 11 similarly put on an excellent display of hockey throughout the season helping them to reach the final of the McDowell Cup. The final was played just around the corner at Civil Service against Friends@, and our girls put on a fine performance, absorbing intense pressure, matching their opponents with the scoreboard at 2-2 going into the final five minutes. Unfortunately, Friends'

managed to score a vital goal, with minutes to go winning the cup. We were all extremely proud of how the girls played and know that a silver medal in a Schools' Cup is an excellent achievement.

Both the 3rd and the 4th 11 teams also had excellent seasons. The 3rd 11 met BRA in their Gibson cup semi-final and at full time the final score was still 0-0, leading the match into penalty runs where our girls lost 3-2. Unfortunately for the 4th 11 an excellent performance couldn't stop a strong Ballyclare side keeping the score line level, and sadly the team were narrowly beaten yet again on penalty runs. Even so, the girls ended their cup run with heads held high.

Our 5th 11 team also had an impressive year competing on a regular basis and demonstrating the school's strength and depth at senior hockey and the number of girls who just love to play at all levels.

Whilst the senior hockey achievements were amazing, I must also mention the excellent season the junior U14 team had. They reached the semi-final of the Junior cup against local rivals Methody, a game which had everyone on the edge of their seat. With the final score at 1-1 the dreaded penalty runs began, eventually ending in sudden death which saw Methody sneak into the final. This was heart-breaking for our team but nevertheless reaching the Junior Cup semi-final is a super achievement.

Moving away from the manicured astro turf of the hockey pitch and onto the muddy grass, our cross-country teams had a superb season, excelling in the Co Down, Ulster and Irish Schools' Championships.

The Co Down District Championships took place on a cold day in January this year. Despite it being an extremely demanding course, the Mini and Senior teams came away as District champions and qualified for the Ulster championships along with the junior and minor teams.

For the Ulster championships, the girls headed off to Mallusk with a reputation to uphold and expectations high. The course was familiar to many of the girls and so they literally took it in their stride with all teams running exceptionally well. The junior team finished as runners-up, and the senior team came third, both qualifying for the Irish school's championships.

Due to the exceptional collective performance of all the Strathearn teams we were crowned overall Ulster champions for the third consecutive year - an amazing achievement.

At the Irish schools' championships, both the Junior and senior teams showed grit and determination on a difficult course, with the junior team finishing in 3rd place making this the second year on the podium for this team of girls as

they had finished 1st in the previous year.

Another sporting arena which consistently puts the Strathearn name on the map is the swimming pool and this year was no different. The swimming season started with the Swim Ulster Schools' Cup and Championships where there were exceptional performances across the board.

The minor relay team performed outstandingly in the 4x50m Freestyle and 4x50m Medley relays, winning gold in both. Furthermore the excellent performance of the intermediate team led them to gold in both of their relays and they were crowned overall intermediate champions and took home the Ulster McMahan cup for the second successive year - an outstanding achievement.

The junior and senior teams also performed very well against strong opposition. The minor team then travelled down to Dublin to compete in the Irish Minor Schools' Championships where they continued their winning streak, taking home gold again in both relays. Another exceptional year for Strathearn swimming across the board.

As the summer term arrived, we left behind the cold, wet dark after school practices and welcomed the slightly drier, slightly warmer, slightly brighter athletics season, another area where our talented teams consistently achieve. The season began, as always, with the County Down Athletics Championships held at the Mary Peters track.

Our minor, junior, intermediate and senior teams all came first overall in their individual age groups with our mini team finishing as runners up. Excellent individual performances allowed many girls to qualify for the Ulster Schools' Athletics Championships, which always take place during the exam season, meaning that some of the girls had to reluctantly pry themselves away from their desks to compete.

This year the championships were extremely successful with the mini and senior teams becoming Ulster Schools' champions, and excellent performances throughout the age groups saw Strathearn being crowned overall Ulster Schools' athletics champions - an amazing title to hold. Displays of athletic excellence at the Ulsters meant that some girls qualified for the Irish Schools' Championships where Sophie Hoey was the Irish junior triple jump champion, Anna Mckinty came runner-up in the intermediate triple jump, and the senior team placed 2nd overall in Ireland, contributed to by the 4x100m relay placing 2nd and the 4x300m relay placing 3rd. Another set of excellent achievements all round.

With the tennis season also coming hand in hand with exam season, the excellent performances of all the teams are even more impressive as the tennis matches are balanced with studying. This year in schools' cup competitions Strathearn

was represented at minor, junior, intermediate and senior levels. Both our minor and junior teams put on excellent displays of tennis throughout all of their matches with both teams being crowned Ulster Schools' Cup champions.

Our senior tennis team were not far behind, reaching the final of the cup where they played a hard fought match against Victoria College who claimed the trophy.

A less mainstream racquet sport these days is squash but at Strathearn it remains very popular and we're very lucky to have some of the best players in Ireland. This year the U17 and U19 squash teams consisting of Emma McGugan, Jemima Thomas, Sophie Thomas and Hannah McGugan were crowned Irish Champions, an absolutely amazing achievement.

Perhaps even more impressive is that each member of this team represented Ireland and/or Ulster in their respective age groups with Emma McGugan on the Ireland U19 team, Hannah McGugan on the Ireland and Ulster U17 team, Jemima Thomas on the Ulster U17 team and Sophie Thomas on the Ireland and Ulster U15 team.

As a result of these representative honours, Sophie and Hannah travelled to the Netherlands and Emma to the Czech Republic to compete in the European Championships which is an amazing achievement in and of itself.

Emma then went one step further, travelling with the U19 Irish team to Malaysia this summer to compete in the Squash World Championships where she performed exceptionally well against the best in the world, an unforgettable experience and an achievement to be extremely proud of.

As well as having countless exceptional team performances in sports across the board I would also like to mention some of the other individual sporting achievements and representative honours that the girls at Strathearn have achieved. In swimming both Amelia Kane and Mia Davison competed for the Ulster U17 team. Amelia then continued her winning streak and went on to the Irish Championships where she became the Irish Open 1500m champion.

Following these excellent performances Amelia went on to compete at the European Junior Championships in Kazan, Russia where she finished in an exceptional 10th place. She also qualified for the world junior championships in Hungary over the summer - an incredible achievement.

In athletics Anna Mckinty was chosen for the Ulster Schools' U17 team, allowing her to show off her triple jump skills becoming Ulster Schools Junior and Northern Ireland U16 triple jump champion.

In Irish dancing, Anna McKibbin was crowned Northern Ireland U19 and Ulster U17 Champion, with Cara Tan not

far behind being crowned Northern Ireland U17 and Ulster U16 champion.

Strathearn girls also obtained representative honours in a huge range of sports including, sailing, water polo, equestrian, football and many more. The sporting talents of the girls at Strathearn continues to be exceptional and something the school is very proud of. But as everyone who has ever played sport knows, it's not all about the competitions and impressive array of shiny silverware on display in the school corridors. It is more about the enjoyment which sport brings to the girls who take part and the fantastic friendships which sport helps to bond.

Representing the school, province or even country is an honour, but ask anyone and they will tell you that some of the most keenly fought sporting events here at Strathearn are the house competitions. From dodgeball with the teachers to rounders on the pitches, these events show the true inclusive and competitive side to the Strathearn girls, proving that sport is for everyone, no matter their ability.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who have given up their time to coach sports at Strathearn.

Special thanks to Ms Young, Mrs Crawford, Mrs Grundie and Mrs Hewitt for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year making so many sporting achievements possible and without which this speech would have been so much shorter.

Thank you for listening

Mrs Connery continued her report.

Grace is currently one of our Upper Sixth pupils who is studying Chemistry, Spanish and Biology and wishes to follow a career in medicine. She currently holds the position of Games Captain in Strathearn. This involves her being heavily involved in the organisation of the sports programme with special emphasis on motivating pupils to participate. We thank you Grace for all your efforts and all that you have contributed to Strathearn School.

Another area of extra-curricular life which has had an outstanding and very impressive year are the girls who work alongside Dr Haire and Miss Stevenson in the Bar Mock Trial events. These events allow pupils to observe the legal process in action, but this was even more special when the girls were asked to participate in a House of Lords debate. At this point I would like to call upon Erin Stewart and Clara Potts to give us their fascinating report on this area of Strathearn life.

Bar Mock Trial - Erin Stewart

For a while, I wasn't sure what I wanted to study after school. I always knew I was great at arguing so when the opportunity emerged to participate in the Bar Mock Trial, I thought I'd audition for the role of a barrister and maybe it would help me to explore what I really wanted to pursue after school. As it turns out this was in fact the case.

The Bar Mock Trial competition is a unique opportunity for students aged 15-18 from all over the UK to gain unparalleled insight into the justice system. The competition immerses students in all aspects of a criminal trial, as they take on the roles of barristers, witnesses, clerks, ushers and jury members. For myself, I took on the role of a defence barrister. I had to cross-examine witnesses, prepare an opening and closing statement and think on my feet depending on what the prosecution brought before us.

I appeared in Belfast in a real crown court in front of a real judge and my research and preparation for the two cases the defence team had to present was assisted by professional barristers.

During this experience I gained knowledge of certain laws and how they can be interpreted and applied in the justice system. I also developed my skills in logical reasoning, clear communication and teamwork. During the Bar Mock Trial, we participated with students from various year groups which I thought was particularly important as I developed relationships with students I hadn't met before.

This experience has taught me a lot, given me confidence and helped me develop skills I wouldn't have necessarily known were there. When I leave school I will be applying to study Law. This decision was mainly due to the experience and enjoyment of the Bar Mock Trial as a whole, and I would urge anyone with an interest to give it a go and audition, as I know for myself it really helped to build my confidence and assisted in the decision to study law in the future.

House of Lords Debate - Clara Potts

Last November, 15 girls from Strathearn had the privilege of participating in a Chamber Debate in the House of Lords. One day each year, the Lords Chamber is filled with young people, and last autumn we learned that Strathearn had been selected from Northern Ireland to speak in the Girls Breaking Barriers Debate. In preparation for the debate, we worked hard on our public speaking skills, and were visited by representatives from Plan International, the debate partner's charity, and the English Speaking Union, which runs the event. They introduced us to the issues up for discussion, offering us encouragement when we shared our ideas. Four pupils were selected by the organisers to deliver

prepared speeches at the debate.

We travelled to London after school on a Thursday afternoon with Mrs Connery and the other staff. We travelled into central London bright and early on Friday morning; seeing the Palace of Westminster was overwhelming! Before the debate got underway, we had the chance to take a tour of the historic buildings, before attending a question and answer session with a panel of inspirational women in one of the Committee Rooms. We met the Chelsea FC ambassador, Katie Chapman, scientist Magee Aderin-Pocock and Editor in Chief of Marie Claire UK, Trish Halpin, who talked to us about their careers and gave us advice. After an amazing lunch in the Long Gallery, the main business of the day got underway.

Ellie Massey opened the whole debate, and addressed the damage that persistent stereotypes can cause girls as they pursue their education. Other issues raised included street harassment and the lack of female role models in public life. A number of pupils including myself were called upon by the Deputy Speaker to add to the debate. Giving an impromptu speech to the chamber was both nerve-wracking and enjoyable.

All in all, it was an unforgettable experience. Our words are now a matter for the public record as the debate was recorded by Hansard. Speaking in Parliament was amazing. The experience improved our confidence, developed our public speaking skills and enhanced our ability to think on our feet. I came away with the sense that there are solutions to problems that young women face and I will never forget being at the House of Lords with Strathearn. It might have been a once in a lifetime experience for most of us- but on the other hand, perhaps some of us will one day find ourselves back in the Chamber addressing new issues and thinking of new solutions. Thank you.

Mrs Connery continued her report.

I am sure you would agree that these have been amazing opportunities for the girls. Clara and Erin are both sixth form students. Erin is in Upper Sixth and hopes to use the experiences she has gained to go onto university and study Law. Girls we wish you well for the Bar Mock Trial this year and thank you for encouraging the younger pupils to become part of this fascinating part of Strathearn Life.

My final area to expand upon this year is that of music. The department has an 'everyone welcome' policy and anyone, from those with no previous formal musical experience, to those with a high grade certificate, is encouraged to enjoy and appreciate music and all of its associated benefits.

I would now like to call on Miriam O'Reilly, our music prefect, to the stage to outline the tremendous year the Music Department and its pupils has had.

Miriam O'Reilly - Music

In 2019 our Music Department was honoured to be at the forefront of celebrating Strathearn's 90th Anniversary. On the 27th March, we had a musical evening in the Ulster Hall. This was an exciting and unusual occurrence for Strathearn, as we normally have our Spring Concert here in this sports hall. Around 800 of our friends, family and teachers attended, as well as our sponsors and distinguished guests.

Throughout the night we had various performances from current Strathearn pupils across all year groups, as well as Penhryn pupils and past pupils. The concert opened with the orchestra playing the theme tune from **The Incredibles**, which set the tone beautifully for the enjoyable and lively occasion that it turned out to be. A wide range of talent was shown through the diversity of the performances, showing that whether you play euphonium or saxophone, if you're a singer or a drummer, there is always a group in Strathearn that you can get involved in. On stage that night we showcased our orchestra, chamber orchestra, traditional group, junior choir, senior choir, chamber choir as well as soloists.

A highlight for me was watching the Upper Sixth soloists perform individually. Orla Bannister, Joanne Allen and Naomi Cochrane each performed pieces which presented their high level of musical accomplishment (as well as remarkable composure, it's no mean thing to perform in such an illustrious venue!). This must surely have been a great inspiration to the younger musicians in our school.

Another of the many highlights of the evening was the premiere of a choral piece specially commissioned for our Chamber Choir entitled "Still". This piece, written by past pupil, Stephanie Devlin, with lyrics by Music A-level student, Íde Simpson, really showcased the range and versatility of our Chamber Choir. We really enjoyed working together on this landmark piece and, we hope, doing justice to the composers. We're proud to say this was yet another high after winning the BBC Songs of Praise Young Choir of the Year Competition in 2018.

A moment which made me especially appreciate Strathearn and its Music Department, and which really warmed everyone's hearts, was when our choir of 170 girls sang the Abba medley. This piece was the final performance of the night and included pupils from Form 1 all the way to Upper Sixth. I think this performance reflected the real sense of joy and togetherness which comes from singing together and music making. This was a rousing and spirited finale to a memorable evening which reminds us all, if we need reminded, of the importance of maintaining our musical

traditions at Strathearn. We felt as a group that we had succeeded in our goal to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of our school in style.

On a sad note we were very sorry to see one of our music teachers, Mrs McIvor, leave at the end of May. She had built such positive relationships with pupils over many years of teaching, taking school orchestra and, of course, Chamber Choir, where she helped to achieve great success. We wish her all the very best for the future. However, we realise how fortunate we are to still have our wonderful Head of Department, Miss Kimber, who is a daily inspiration. We are also delighted to welcome our new music teacher, Miss Armstrong. A lot of work is going on behind the scenes leading up to our Autumn Musical evening in November and Christmas Carol service, not forgetting our musical production of **The Wizard of Oz** in the last week of November, which is a joint production with Campbell College. This will feature some of our best musical theatre performers together with our pit orchestra and is being produced by Miss Armstrong. I can assure you this will be a night to remember and hope to see you all there!

I hope this gives you a feel for the commitment and dedication of our music makers throughout the year as well as some of our achievements. I'm sure you'll agree that music plays an important part in Strathearn school life and hope it will continue to do so in the years to come.

Mrs Connery continued her report.

Thank you Miriam. We do appreciate all the efforts that go into rehearsals and practice that go on inside school and at home. Miriam is currently in Upper Sixth and is studying Music, English and Business Studies and she hopes to further her studies in the realm of Business Management next year. We wish her every success.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I conclude my third Prize Night report, I am humbled by the amazing body of pupils, staff and extended community who all hold Strathearn so tightly in their hearts and are always showing us strong support.

One of the unique areas that we introduced in our 90th year is our 90 Acts of Kindness mission. This has been coordinated by Mrs Myers and Miss Gibson and has involved girls completing one good act to another person, either as a group or as an individual. This has been a tremendous success as girls have completed lots of acts of kindness - from collecting schoolbags for children in Syria to tending locals' gardens. We have been truly moved by the response. I thank you, girls and staff, for embracing this and strengthening our links with the community.

Strathearn has and always will be about people. While we do not fail to appreciate these wonderful buildings which are the envy of others, it is the girls who come through the doors that make the difference. For over 90 years Strathearn has been making its mark on East Belfast and beyond, forming and equipping the leaders of tomorrow with skills and fortitude for the wider world.

Madam Chairman, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am delighted to conclude my report on a wonderful 90th anniversary year for Strathearn School.



Leavers Return for PRIZE NIGHT

. Celebrations



Good luck to all of our girls moving on to pastures new. Exciting times lie ahead for them all! We look forward to hearing all about their new adventures.



HEAD GIRL'S SPEECH

at Prize Night.

Ladies, gentlemen and fellow pupils, good evening and welcome to Strathearn School's annual Prize Night. My name is Katherine Hunter and I am absolutely honoured to be the 56th Head Girl of Strathearn School.

Tonight is a night to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our entire school over the past year. This includes the academic achievements of those sitting in front of me, but also the other achievements that helped to shape Strathearn this year. Tonight also allows me to reflect on the past seven years of my journey at Strathearn and hopefully to inspire some of you for the upcoming year.

When sitting down to write this speech I had many different ideas floating around my head as to how I

wanted to approach it. However, the same idea kept coming back to me - if my four year-old sister was about to embark on her journey at Strathearn, what advice would I give to her from my experience? Tonight, this speech is dedicated to my sister Rebekah but hopefully, fellow pupils, you can learn something from my experience too.

When I started in Form 1 all the way back in 2013, I was extremely nervous but also very excited to make new friends - I am a people person. As I walked through the door of Mrs Cochrane's mobile classroom on the first day, I remember thinking two things. Firstly, it really was cold in these mobiles! The second was, wow I can remember so many faces from our induction evening. This really put me at ease and I made new friends in no time. This was helped by the fact I was more than happy to help direct and choreograph Video Stars and iMovies, or challenge my new classmates to a game of Flappy Bird. In my time at Strathearn I have met some of my best friends in the weirdest of situations, such as meeting Tori on the aeroplane to Belgium on the 2016 France Trip. As I went up the school the opportunities to make new friends did not stop. The mixing of classes in Form Four meant I had to start all over again in making friends. This was a great experience for me, as many of these girls who I simply sat beside in classes are now friends that I still really enjoy chatting with over a cup of tea in the common room or spending a lot of time with outside of school; I hope to remain in contact with them for many years to come as I honestly couldn't have asked for a better year group to be part of. Make friends that are going to last a lifetime.

In Forms 2 and 3 things started to change. I overbought on multipacks of coloured pens and highlighters alongside those big lever arch files. It was also at this stage that I started to realise it didn't matter what coloured highlighter or pen I used in order to create my revision notes but that I actually had to have the right information on them to get the marks! There is every opportunity to study a wide range of subjects here in Strathearn. When I came to the Open Morning, I was blown away by the fact you could make a key ring in technology, felt in Art, and study the structure of volcanoes in Geography. I enjoyed the wide range of subjects so much that it made both my decisions of choosing my GCSEs and A levels difficult. I came to my decision in the end, thanks to the help of my parents. Even though I enjoyed a wide range of subjects, the one that always sat very close to my heart due to the influence of Ms Murphy was History, which even inspired me to volunteer as a tour guide at the Somme Heritage Museum on Saturdays which has been one of the best experiences of my life. I learnt that when making your big subject decisions, you should choose subjects you are passionate about and enjoy, as that will make learning those beautiful revision notes you've made a little bit easier to learn.

But do you realise what the most useful resource for your

studying is? No, it's not textbooks, and surprisingly it's not even Google. I have come to realise it's the expertise and commitment of the excellent teaching staff we have here in Strathearn that can help you improve and achieve what you want to. Every single one of them is doing what they do because they love to see us achieve our best and they want to inspire us to reach the targets that we set for ourselves. Many of them have spent time with me outside of class helping me with work I didn't understand or giving me useful guidance on my personal statement. Most importantly, the teachers have never failed to make my time here at Strathearn enjoyable, whether it's a few jokes and a funny story in class from Ms Murphy or more recently a full rap performed by Mr Jellie in SU, the teachers really brighten up my days. The passion I have witnessed from each of my teachers has inspired me to want a career working with young people so that I can mirror their actions and I want to take this opportunity to thank them all for their influence. Please be inspired by your teachers and go to them about anything; they really are there to help you with anything you may be struggling with.

If you speak to my friends and family sitting here tonight, they will not hesitate to confirm that I am very committed to everything I do. That's why I have been involved in possibly every club and activity available in school. From Hockey to Choir, School Productions to SU - my parents have been my own personal Value Cabs as they have allowed me to fit into my life everything that I want to be part of. It's great that our school has so many different societies that appeal to all, but the House events are my particular favourites. I am secretly very competitive especially when it comes to quizzes so the House Quiz never fails to bring out my competitive side even though I have no general knowledge whatsoever. The House Bake Off was an amazing experience and one of my favourite memories of my time in school. Alice and I even came second with our Easter themed cupcakes so perhaps I'll send an application off to Prue and Paul for Next Year's Bake Off. However, another one of the highlights for me has to be the Strathearn Discos - I reckon I was more stressed picking an outfit for those evenings than I was for our School Formal. When it came to extracurricular activities, I just threw myself into every single one of them. I was never brilliant at them all, but you will make new friends, develop new skills and come out with some of the most incredible memories from each.

As I stand here tonight in front of the many faces that have helped to shape my Strathearn career over the past seven years, I want to thank you all. Teachers and fellow classmates, you have helped me to carve myself into the person I am today. I will always remain incredibly humbled for every opportunity I have been offered and will look back for years to come with very fond memories of Strathearn and I hope you all will too.

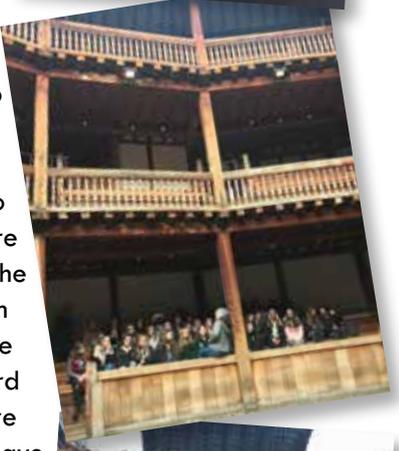
Thank you.

LONDON DRAMA TRIP.

In the early hours of the morning of Thursday 13th February, an army of green-fleeced GCSE drama students gathered at Belfast International Airport. There was an air of excitement among everyone, apart from perhaps Ms Ferris, Ms Ditty, Ms Erskine and Mrs Atkinson who had the arduous task of getting us all successfully through security, to the gate and on the plane on time. Due to Ms Ferris' excellent efficiency, co ordination and time management skills, we even had time for an iced coffee stop at Starbucks before boarding the plane and arriving at Stansted Airport a short time later. After a short coach ride, we finally arrived at the National Gallery and had a chance to look around some of the great masterpieces there - and also to spend our holiday money in the gift shop! After a few hours in the National Gallery we assembled in the foyer and made our way to the Rainforest Cafe for lunch, which was an experience not to be forgotten, considering the tropical leaves, water and wildlife sounds around us! After lunch and a trip to the M&M factory, we made our way to St Martin's theatre for the matinee performance of *The Mousetrap*, the longest-running play in West End history, which was my personal highlight of the trip. After I had a quick nap in the interval (much to the amusement of my peers and drama teacher), I was able to fully take in the second half of the play. This wasn't the only play we saw, for after a quick burger and milkshake at Shake Shake we made our way to the Apollo Victoria Theatre. As a staunch classical musical fan, I was not expecting it to be entirely my cup of tea, but I have to admit I was blown away and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of seeing my first ever musical in the West End. After a long day we were relieved to get to our hotel, and I dare say that as soon as our heads hit the pillows we were

all asleep. After a refreshing rest, we boarded the bus the next morning to make the journey to the Globe Theatre. Our tour guide told us all about the history of the theatre, highlighting the differences between it and modern venues and showing us how it would have been used by Shakespeare. We even got a look backstage and were allowed to get up onto the stage (another of my personal trip highlights!) before we made our way to our drama workshop. Before we made our way back to the airport, we got on the coach once more to make a trip we had all been looking forward to: Covent Garden! We were given a couple of hours to have lunch and look around (although many of us spent most of our time in the Brandy Melville shop!) before heading back to the coach to make our way to the airport. As we walked into the terminal in Belfast, we all felt a mix of emotions - we were disappointed the trip was over, happy to be back in our home city, and most of all... we were all absolutely exhausted!

Emma Owens 4H



UK-GERMAN CONNECTION YOUTH SEMINAR

At the start of November in 2019, I was given the incredible opportunity to travel to Leipzig, in East Germany, for a youth seminar with UK German Connection. I travelled with a group of 20 other Northern Irish young people to talk about the progression and development of peace in Ireland and Germany in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall (celebrated on the 9th November). It was truly amazing to stay in such a significant city where the peaceful protests began. We stayed with some of our German peers, taking part in workshops that pushed us to really look into the impact that the past has on our societal progression and take responsibility for the future we can create together. Throughout the four days, we saw the cities of Leipzig and Berlin, taking in the colossal history of these iconic places, and even stopping off at one of the remaining parts of the Berlin Wall - a very surreal moment for all of us.

I'm very grateful for the help of my German teacher to attend this course and the chance to meet some incredible people, develop my understanding of German culture and I may have even improved my language skills. This experience has really opened my mind to consider perspectives from all angles and forced me to step out of my comfort zone - something I would recommend you strive to do now and again. It is always worth it!

Freya Beers 5S



PARIS TRIP.

On the 17th of October 2019, thirty-three very excited pupils from F4 to U6 and five teachers travelled from Belfast to Paris. On the first evening we went up the Montparnasse Tower. The views from the top were incredible - we were so lucky to see the Eiffel tower light up on the hour. The next day we had classes at a language school in the morning which were really useful and fun. In the afternoon we had the chance to visit a French lycée. This was my favourite part of the trip because it was so enlightening finding out about school life in France and also learning about the lives of young people. The school building was really fancy and we even got a tour of the underground catacombs which were used during World War II. On the Saturday we did lots of sightseeing around Paris including Montmartre, the Musée d'Orsay, a Seine boat trip and a walking tour of the city which was really interesting. Then, on Sunday, we visited Parc Astérix, a theme park based around the Astérix comics. Even though it was a wet day, we all thoroughly enjoyed the rides and also the haunted houses, although these were not for the faint hearted. Finally, on the Monday morning, we all reluctantly packed our cases and went to our final lesson at the language school before setting off to the airport.

Katie Robinson L6T



This was a trip of a lifetime which I'm sure none of us will ever forget. C'était extra!



90TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER



Strathearn Gala Ball Committee



School Governor Jonathan Ireland and parent Denise Strahan



Parents' Association Chairs, Claire Ritchie and Zoe Wilcox

The Strathearn School Parents' Association recently hosted a 90th Anniversary Gala Dinner at the Stormont Hotel. Compered by former pupil Rebecca McKinney, the event celebrated 90 years of outstanding academic and extra-curricular excellence at Strathearn. Mrs Connery said:

The past 90 years have been remarkable in so many ways, but we're on a journey. Every year we set the bar higher and higher, and we will continue to do so. I have every confidence that the next 90 years will be just as remarkable as the first for our school community.



Mrs Myers, Mr Anderson & Mrs Connery



Chamber Choir with Miss T Devlin and Miss R Armstrong



Strathearn Parents enjoying the Ball

CCF: COMBINED CADET FORCE

In September, we officially launched our first ever Cadet Force in partnership with Campbell College. CCF combines cadets from Army, RAF and Navy sections. Campbell have had an established CCF for a number of years now and in Strathearn, we thought it would be good to get some of our girls involved too!! We have a group of 28 committed cadets who join us each week for sessions.

The CCF is a fantastic organisation where young cadets involved are offered opportunities they may not otherwise get through other extra-curricular activities. Cadets can gain qualifications in things like field craft, assault courses, first aid, shooting and in many other

areas. They also learn the value of teamwork, self-discipline and perseverance.

We decided to offer pupils going into Form 3 the opportunity to join in September and had a special 'trial day' in June which involved an organisation called Pathways coming in to give the Form 2 pupils a chance to experience some of the activities offered through the CCF.

We thought you would like to have an opportunity to hear first-hand from some of our cadets (and leaders) about how they have enjoyed their first year involved in CCF:



As one of the pupils who has been privileged to be involved in the inaugural year of the Combined Cadet Force in Strathearn, which is run in conjunction with Campbell College, I have had the opportunity to try a wide range of new activities.

The first year in CCF is known as a pioneer year to allow you to receive training in the three elements of the forces, i.e. Army, Navy and Airforce as well as the associated Pipe Band. The training included map reading, compass work, camouflage, shooting, drill work and first aid.

In order to put some of our new-found skills to the test, we were entered into an orienteering competition which took place on a wet (and muddy) day in February. My abiding memory of that day is scrambling, or rather sliding, down a very steep bank in search of an elusive control point. It is fair to say that the leggings which I was wearing that day have never been the same again but . . . we had great fun.

I also took up tenor drumming in the Pipe Band (which is the type of drumming which involves a combination of both flourishing and rhythmic playing) and attended the annual Burns Night celebration in January. I had also been asked to take part with the Band at an event in Parliament Buildings in March and in the VE Day commemorations in May. I had signed up for Easter Camp which was due to take place in Magilligan where I would have been doing assault courses, field work and a 24 hour exercise. However, unfortunately this had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 outbreak. CCF meets after school on Wednesday afternoons and normally the girls from Strathearn are transported by minibus to Campbell College although sometimes it meets in Strathearn. Through CCF, I have improved skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving and leadership and have also made other friends both in Strathearn and Campbell.

My thanks go to Mr Heaney, Miss Newburn, Mrs Anderson and Ms Wallace who were willing to undertake training themselves so that they could establish and run the CCF in Strathearn and also to Contingent Commander Robert Gordon and the pupils from Campbell College who have organised training and activities.

Emily Wilson 3S

I joined cadets thinking it was all marching, army training and firing practice but I realised there was so much more to it like reading maps, basic first aid and practical skills like outdoor cooking. I really enjoyed first aid due to its importance in our daily life. I'm really looking forward to going on cadet camps in the future.

Anna Mounstephen 3R

Through cadets we have been able to do many things which we would not normally be able to do, such as visiting Palace Barracks in November. We did several new and exciting things. We got to try out a shooting simulation; it was like being in a vast, immersive video game. We also participated in team-building games and leadership exercises. They turned out to be quite difficult! We sampled army rations which was an unusual and tasty experience. There were some odd sweet drinks. My group accidentally made hot cola instead of hot chocolate, a very peculiar taste!

Grace Steed 3T



When I first joined Cadets, I didn't know what to expect. I initially joined because of how much fun I had at the trial doing shooting and archery, but I knew that we wouldn't spend every week doing an inflatable assault course. My favourite part of Cadets is definitely shooting; the excitement of being in the shooting range and the friendly competition is a great experience. I also enjoyed learning about first aid as it made me feel more prepared in case I ever come across an emergency. I was quite disappointed that I could no longer attend Easter Camp with Cadets because of lockdown but I do hope that I can spend a week camping with Cadets in the future.

Ria Cimic 3T

LIBRARY REPORT.

Whether they're borrowing books, offering recommendations or helping to run the loan desk, pupils are at the heart of the library here at Strathearn. Our library was as busy as ever this year. Juniors enjoyed their regular library periods this year, and as part of our ebook initiative, some were even reading on their school iPads using NI Libraries' Libby app. At break and lunch, the library was regularly filled to capacity with pupils studying, reading, or getting involved in library life.

Our first year bookmark craft session, run by the Library Committee, was a great success and focused on welcoming our new pupils. We had invited incoming first formers to write postcards to us about their summer reading, and they were able to find their cards up on display when they arrived at the library in September. The Library Team gained lots of new members this year, and our Staff Coffee Morning raised £250, which was split between Friends of the Cancer Centre and Youth of Uganda. Book lovers represented the school at the Northern Ireland heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz, and were even awarded books for winning one of the rounds. The Scholastic Book Fair was a great success again this year, in no small part due to the diligent efforts of

those members of the library team who helped to run it. Pupils had the opportunity to win vouchers to spend at the competition, by matching still scenes from adaptations of books to their corresponding book covers. The school received £100s in commission for adding new books to our shelves. A craft project in December saw pupils turn old copies of *A Christmas Carol* into striking greetings cards, which were sold to raise £80 for the Ellen MacArthur Trust. Students also entered creative writing competitions, including BBC's 500 Words and the National Youth Flash Fiction Competition. World Book Day celebrations this year included the Cancer Fund for Children ReadOn, which raised more than £1600 for this important local charity.

Our Book Club has been particularly vibrant this year, and it's lovely to hear from pupils about the books they have been reading. Though our year was shorter than expected, it was possible to shift some of our library activities into the digital realm. Through our video reviews and digital displays, pupils adapted admirably to the changed circumstances.

Thanks to Charlotte, this year's Library Prefect for her work, and to all of the pupils who have given so much time and energy to the Library.

Dr Haire

MOCK TRIALS.

In November, Strathearn's Bar Mock Trial team competed in the Northern Ireland heat of the Young Citizen's competition at the Royal Courts of Justice on a bright Saturday morning. Despite months of hard work,

which included a visit to Laganside to observe real legal proceedings, the pupils did not qualify for the National Final. Students took on roles of barristers, witnesses and court staff to run two cases against schools from across Northern Ireland. Special mention to Charlotte Keers for her poised delivery of her case and to Sarah Black who



performed very well under cross-examination. Well done to everyone on the team who gained a great insight into the legal system and enjoyed running these cases against other schools.

The Magistrates' Court Mock Trial team had made significant preparations for their Northern Ireland heat, which was this year to be held at Laganside Courts. They thoroughly enjoyed their practice sessions even though they did not get to run their cases against other schools.

Representing Strathearn through the Mock Trials is a great way to develop pupils' presentation skills, as well as their critical thinking skills and it's great fun!

Dr Haire



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Emma Craig and Hannah Morrison were this year's School Council Chair and Vice-Chair. Together, they ran regular council meetings with poise, chairing productive discussions which were had on the issues raised by pupils. This year these included proposals to reduce the number of single-use plastics at Strathearn, requests for expanded extracurricular provision and questions about homework.



Members of the School Council were afforded a number of opportunities. Belfast City Council visited

the school, and delivered a really engaging debating workshop, called 'Let's Talk Rubbish.' The Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People hosted a celebration at W5 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Pupils gained important team working and communication skills from participating in these activities.

In March, Strathearn hosted the inaugural East Belfast Area Learning Community School Council Meet. Emma and Hannah welcomed pupils and staff from schools in the local area, where a shared forum gave pupils a chance to learn from each other about how their school councils work, to help them appreciate similarities and difference as well as find areas for improvement. They participated in leadership and team-building activities, and in the afternoon heard from a representative of the Education Authority's Youth Service and the office of the NICCY.

Mixed groups of pupils discussed three areas: tackling poverty, building resilience and looking after the environment. Feedback received from staff



and delegates was positive, stating that it was a great opportunity to come together and have their voices heard. This has been a very successful year for Strathearn's School Council. Emma and Hannah have left a legacy of an open and productive School Council, and they and all the reps who sat on this year's School Council should be commended for their efforts in making the pupil voice heard at Strathearn.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITIONS

Six pupils from Strathearn spoke at the Soroptimist Public Speaking Competition in Bangor in November. Congratulations to Ellie Massey, Hannah Stanfield, Hannah McCartney, Madeleine Ievers and Clara Potts who received certificates in recognition of their participation. Judges commented on the exceptionally high standard on display. Special congratulations to Andra Vladu who won the heat, with her impassioned talk on the importance of bees, and who represented the school at the NI final in February.

The BPW Public Speaking Competition saw Catherine Welsh deliver a speech about cyberbullying while Hannah Stanfield and Ellie Massey ran a public meeting.

Catherine's impassioned speech was very well-received, and Hannah and Ellie oversaw the proceedings with warmth and flair. Though they did not progress, we are able to give them certificates in recognition of their efforts in this competition.

Maddie Twamley successfully applied to speak at a special summit in celebration of thirty years' since the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child. She spoke about the national identity debate in the province to a group of local politicians at a special event at W5.

Dr Haire



In November 2019, our L6 politics class went to Stormont to learn about the inner workings of our government. We met up with our tour guide in the Great Hall. First stop on our tour was the Assembly Chamber, where we took part in a mock debate about school uniforms, and learnt about the positions of the First Ministers and Chief Whip. Next, we were taken to the Senate Chamber and were briefed by our tour guide on how the chamber operated and who would have sat there in the early days of the assembly. We were then taken to a meeting room where we took part in a Q&A with Robbie Butler who had been appointed to the position of chief whip for the UUP.

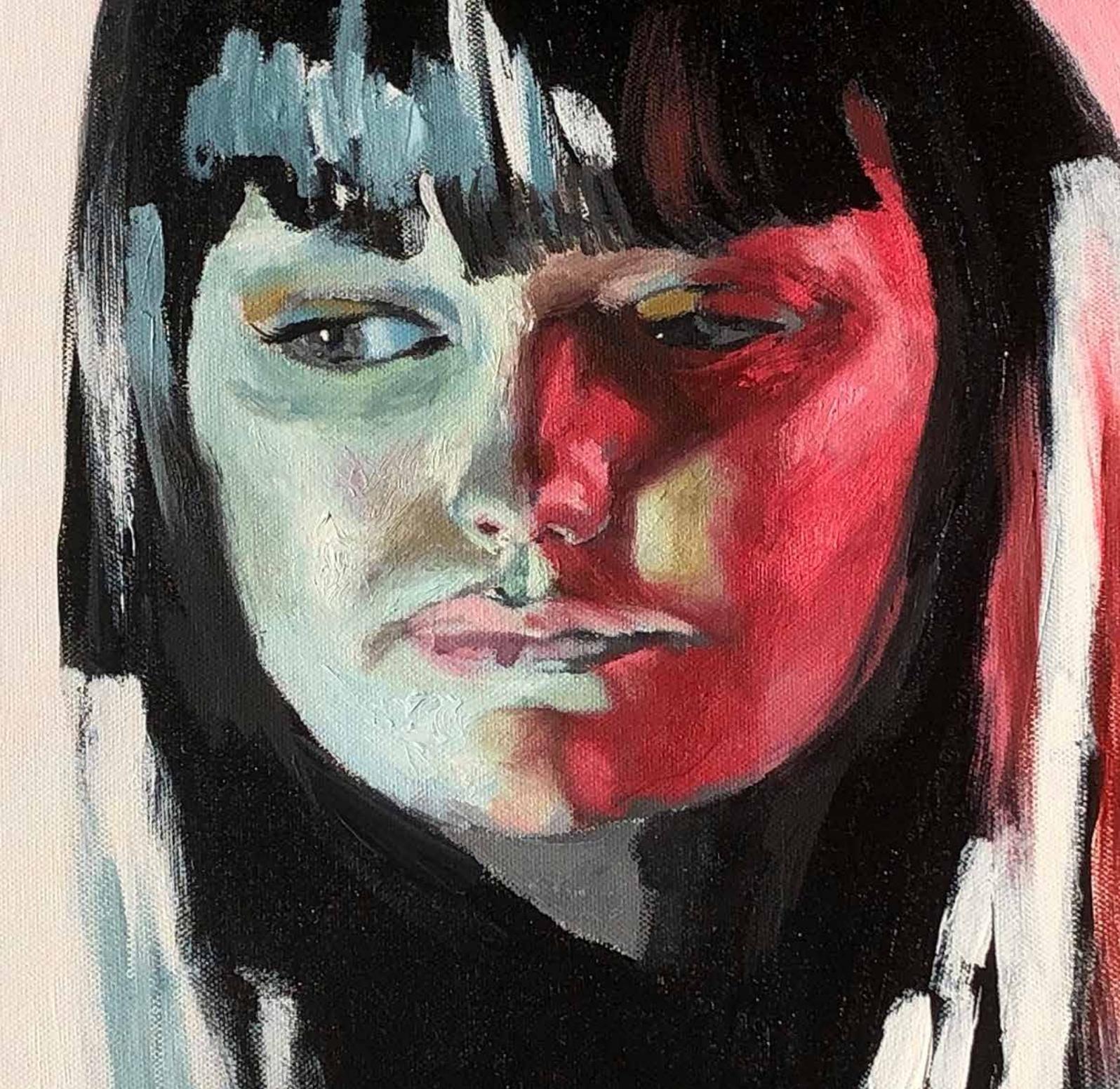
former leader of the UUP, who came into our class one lunchtime. Here, we asked him questions on his career in UTV and as leader of the UUP.

Gavin Robinson, MP for East Belfast, was another politician we met with. Each of us had the chance to ask him questions on several topics such as why the DUP lost seats in the election of December 2019, the life of an MP and possible reforms of the House of Lords. We also discussed pay increases for nurses and firefighters and MPs. These experiences provided us with invaluable insight into the workings of our country and brought depth to what we have learnt over the past year.

We have also had the opportunity to interview local politicians. One of these politicians was Mike Nesbitt,

**Rhiannon Dowie
and Alex Agar L6A**





ART .

Beth Buchanan A level
Portrait in Oils

The 2019-20 Art & Design Department year started off just like any other year. We had our annual Art Trip to Dublin in the autumn, visiting the Sculpture in Context at the National Botanic Gardens, IMMA, the National Gallery and the RHA to help our A-level students gain inspiration for their personal projects. In January, Form Five students visited the annual prestigious True Colours show at the Ulster Museum, sampling the diversity of artistic talent from students in Northern Ireland.



Sculpture in Context at the National Botanic Gardens, Dublin

Particular congratulations are due to our own students Ellie Mackey(A2) and Elizabeth Walker (AS), whose work was selected for exhibition at True Colours.

Miss Whitla, Mrs Rea & Ellie Mackey



Elizabeth Walker

Our lunchtime “Meet the Artist” series this year featured visits from a number of prominent local artists such as Ciara Gilmore (painting and textile art), Joel Simon (animator and portrait painter), Katie Noble (concept artist), Stuart Cairns (sculptor), Trevor Woods (ceramic artist), Rory Jeffers (graphic designer and illustrator) and

our own Ms Kimber (photographer). These professional artists shared their artwork and experiences with the students, giving real insight into creative career opportunities and pathways available to students of Art & Design, and inspiring students with their own project work at GCSE and A-level. The work of former Strathearn student Katie Noble was particularly inspiring for the students.

The after-school Art & Craft Club, organised and led by AS level students and Miss Woods, continued to enjoy very strong attendance and created a range of exciting activities for junior school pupils. Club members worked hard to create colourful props and scenery for the school Wizard of Oz production, and also produced a beautiful range of ceramic Christmas decorations for sale. Along with a third form class, they had been working to produce upcycled fashion pieces for exhibition at a local sustainable fashion event when the schools closed.



The school closure, of course, had a huge impact on the Art Department, where the GCSE and A-level students had been just about to produce their final exam pieces. These unfortunately had to be abandoned, which was greatly disappointing to the students who had worked so hard to prepare. Our annual end-of-year show was sadly not to be in 2020 - at least not in its traditional format - but we did celebrate the success and talents of our senior school artists through an online exhibition of their work in June. During the lockdown period, the Art Department organised a whole school competition entitled “Life in Lockdown” where students and staff were invited to share their experiences of lockdown through art. We received many entries to this and the artworks produced show real insight into the experiences and responses of our school community to this unprecedented period in history.

Miss Whitla

AS LEVEL.

Emma Rutherford



Eva Blakely-Hewitt

Abbi Norris



Anna Huhtchinson



Amy Long



Elizabeth Walker



Emily McConnell



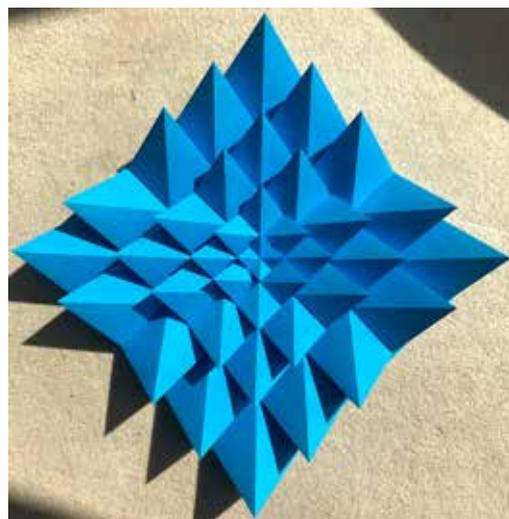


Heidi McMillen

Rebecca McDowell



Megan Ashcroft



Tara Campbell



Lauryn Hanson

GCSE.



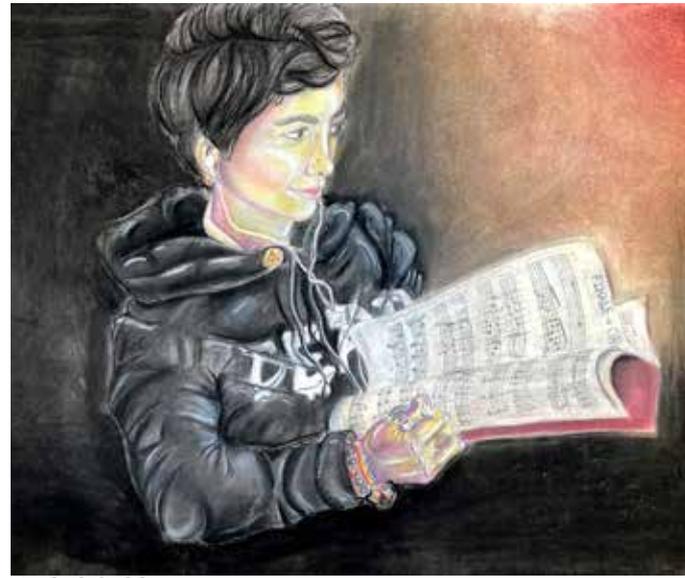
Rachel McDonald



Mia Montgomery



Amy Ellison



Rachel Golden



Taylor McCullough



Jodie Morgan



Lara Finlay



Zoitsa Leliveld



Sarah Lowry



Lily Oxborrow



Lilli Boyd



Sarah Ellison

Issy Todd



Lauren Nesbitt



Hannah McCartney



Annie Heavern



Amy Mawhinney



Joanna Carson



Amy Major



Rebecca Moore



Grace Bowman

90 ACTS OF KINDNESS

As part of our 90 Acts of Kindness programme, we wanted to include a number of whole school activities and these accounts give details of two of them.



Supporting the Syrian Refugee Programme

Over the past few years, my mum has been involved with teaching English to Syrian refugee children who arrive here with very, very little, as a part of The Syrian Refugee Resettlement Programme. As a family, we have been involved in collecting essential items for their arrival and we knew that with the generosity of our pupils, we would be able to help many more Syrian children by asking Strathearn pupils to collect some 'Pre-loved' school bags and stationery for the children, in partnership with Bryson House

Bryson House is a Belfast-based charity aiming to tackle "major social and economic challenges" and to "build better futures" for refugees. They have provided countless starter packages with essential items for the families arriving in Northern Ireland.

We set the ambitious target of collecting 90 schoolbags with 90 filled pencil cases and incredibly, over 100 school bags were brought into school by pupils and staff. Thanks to all of Form Two and indeed other pupils, every



FUNDRAISING

schoolbag had a filled pencil case full of highlighters, pens, a Strathearn pencil and more.

This means that Syrian children who have next to nothing and are arriving here from refugee camps at least have the smoothest start possible to their new schools. It was a proud morning in Strathearn when we passed over all the schoolbags and pencil cases to Brendan Quail, the Regional Project Manager of the Syrian Refugee Consortium. I'd like to give a huge thank you to Miss Gibson for helping to coordinate the collection and to everyone who brought in a schoolbag or items for the pencil cases – it was an amazing contribution to help so many families who need our support!

Supporting the Neighbours in Need Programme – the Charities Committee

At Christmas the East Belfast Mission set the target of supporting at least 1,000 local families in need by offering Christmas Hampers through their annual Neighbours in Need Appeal - this was definitely something we wanted to support. Christmas can be a very difficult and expensive time of year for many local families. Each year, EBM's hampers are a lifeline to many families - maybe their only hope of having a family Christmas dinner.



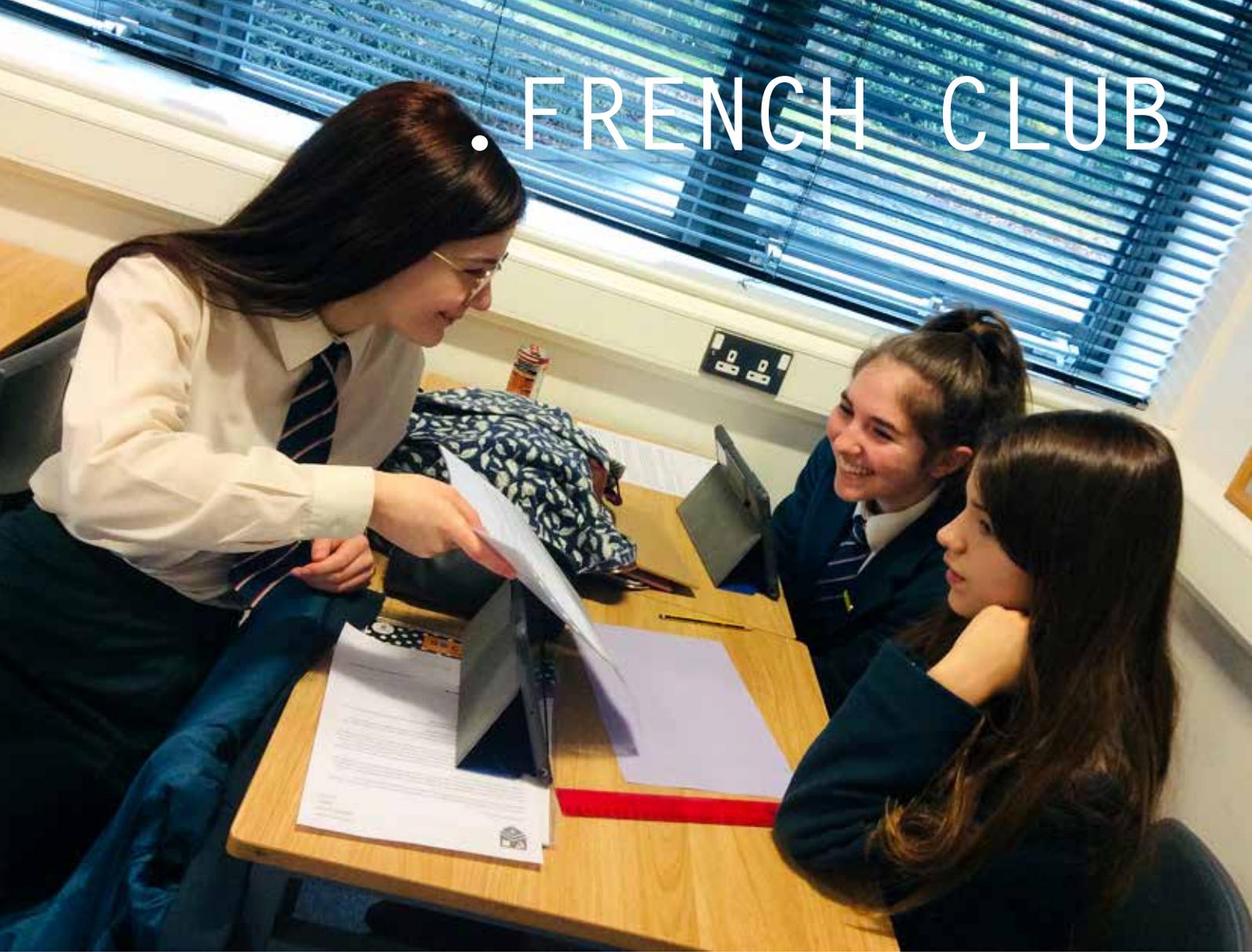
Shopping lists were issued to classes and as a committee we co-ordinated the collection of food items for the

hampers. We were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the entire school community and these photographs show the results. What a response! We were also delighted to present EBM with a cheque from our non-uniform money to assist with their Neighbours in Need programme. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this very worthwhile local cause.



Issy Todd 5H

• FRENCH CLUB



Bonjour! My name is Anna and I am currently in my first year at Strathearn. Languages fascinate me and I adore studying French! Starting French in Form 1 has been my first real experience of learning a new language but I embraced the challenge and jumped at the opportunity to become a member of our school French Club. At French Club, all the members are given a pen pal from the school where Miss Turner used to work in France, with whom we correspond via letters and email. My pen pal is called Clélia and I have loved being able to write to a new friend in a different language! As well as gaining confidence in communicating in French and practising our language skills, French Club has also provided a great opportunity to learn more about French culture. I have also found the club's social aspect to be very rewarding and have made some new friends within the school community as a result. So far, my personal highlights have included sending and receiving Christmas presents and having the chance to video chat with our French pen pals. I love being a member of French Club and I hope that

the same opportunities will be available in Strathearn's Modern Languages Department, for the benefit of all future Strathearn girls, for many years to come.

Anna Matthews 1A



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

iHola! My name is Zophia and am currently in my second year at Strathearn. This year, for European Day of Languages, I was given the opportunity to enter the NICILT Year 9 Poetry Competition at Queen's University Belfast. I decided to enter the competition as I knew it would offer a good way of improving my knowledge of Spanish, given that I am very passionate about languages.

My entry, 'Un minuto hasta la medianoche' ('One minute to midnight'), was a take on the competition theme of 'New Beginnings'. I decided to focus on the finality of midnight, as the theme made me consider how each day is a new beginning. Thanks to the time spent working on my poem, both individually and with my Languages teacher, Miss Turner, I became familiar with new vocabulary and phrases, as well as pronunciation and the rhythmic techniques used in Spanish poetry. Originally, this seemed like an impossible task. However,

I was extremely pleased with the outcome of the competition and ended up receiving 1st prize in the 'Best Use of Language' category. I received a certificate and Amazon vouchers from Queen's University Belfast, as well as a letter from the manager of NICILT, who congratulated me and explained the value of language learning and the skills I will develop as a result. I really enjoyed working on my poem and would definitely consider doing something similar the next time I have the opportunity to put my language skills to the test!

Zophia Quigley 2R

GERMAN DEBATE.

Kate Bell, Sarah Baker and I are Upper Sixth students studying German. On 14th February we were one of six schools to participate in the NICILT German debate. The motions were announced two weeks before the debate and we were shocked to find out that the motion was, "Brexit is beneficial for everyone in Northern Ireland". We had to argue against the motion. The terrifying B-word is difficult to discuss even in English! Friends' School Lisburn had the task of speaking in favour of the motion. We immediately got to work on preparing our arguments with help from our language assistant Sara, a native speaker from Austria.

At the debate Strathearn's team was supported by the rest of the German A-level students. Each team member spoke confidently and fluently in front of the two native German-speaking judges. We argued passionately and had personal stories of how Brexit has affected jobs, Erasmus and border communities. Our opponents made strong arguments when having to argue for Brexit. However Kate Bell, the team captain, made strong counter arguments. As a result we won our individual debate. The issue was complex so we are very proud to have won our debate. Additionally Kate was awarded the Best Speaker prize for our debate. The overall winners were Enniskillen Royal Grammar and Strathearn were runners up! Competing in the debate gave us invaluable public-speaking experience and it increased our confidence in speaking German.

Anna Kenny U6R
STRATHEARN SCHOOL. 49



CAREERS.

• YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Throughout our seven years at Strathearn, careers advice has been very helpful to us all. At the start of this year Upper Sixth had the opportunity to attend open days at UJJ and QUB. Throughout September different talks were held, such as Project Trust (gap year organisation). In November mock interviews were held for university applicants and in February Lower Sixth went to the UCAS Higher Education Convention at the Eikon Exhibition Centre to learn more about their options after sixth form.

Throughout the year there were many good talks for students including, GCSE advice talks for Form Three, A Level Subject choice talks and individual Careers Interviews for Form Five. We also had university applicant talks about personal statements and courses such as Nursing, Law and student finance.

Junior school also did a lot with careers this year. Forms Two and Four completed a Young Enterprise activity, and Form One took part in a Robotics Roadshow. Ten Form Four girls were able to attend a Young Enterprise Digital Masterclass in January and all Form Four attended a Motivational Talk.

The Careers Committee



UCAS CONFERENCE.



CREATIVE WRITING

This year during lockdown, we asked our pupils to write about a place they would like to be.

I have been to quite a few places on holiday and they were amazing, with their culture, food and languages. Even so, there is something nice about coming home after everything. I just like the fact I don't need to worry about where things are or what I'm supposed to use and what I'm not, because it's always going to be autopilot kicking in. They aren't wrong when they say 'home is where the heart is'. Home is the place that you can always come back to no matter what. The familiar smell that hits me when the door opens. The calls to me when people are home. The cat that always brushes up against my legs and follows me until I give her what she wants (usually food). The laugh we all share at the slightly cruel jokes about the roundness of her, while she stands oblivious, calling at us. It never fails to bring a smile to our faces at how completely normal it is. All of us sitting around the table just talking - never about anything in particular, just talking.

The mutual agreement in doing our separate things certain evenings, splitting to different rooms, or maybe the same one, concentrating on our own studies. Dad upstairs working, gaming, or watching football highlights, silent apart from the occasional outburst of exasperation in whatever it is he is doing. Shauna and I sitting in the living room, her reading and me playing the piano accompanied by the crackling of the fire, both taking a break to look at each other and giggle at how easy it is to work up my father.

Holly Humphreys 2S, on the joys of home

I miss what would have been and long to be there now. Gran Canaria, where the sun is shining all day and the warm breeze blows the sand granules across the beautiful beaches. The azure blue sky meeting at the horizon with the emerald green sea. Sitting on the beach watching the sun go down, while the waves make small ripples upon the sea shore. The palm trees swaying calmly in the wind and on the pavements the street vendors trying to sell their fake goods. I can but dream of tourists having dinner along the promenade. I should have been one of those tourists. But I'm not.

Eva Wilson 2R, on Gran Canaria

One of the things I enjoy the most is going to las ferias (the fair), where they set up a temporary fairground with lots of rides and other things to do. As it is normally very hot during the day, people generally go to the fair at night. I think that it is much more exciting then, because it is all lit up and when you are up on the attractions you can see the whole town. One of the weirdest stalls at the fair is probably la tombola (the raffle), where you can enter to win a leg of cured ham. There is a traditional song of the festival:

**San Lorenzo, San Lorenzo,
En que buen tiempo has venido
En el tiempo de la siega
Que todos tenemos trigo.**

This means:

**St Lawrence, St Lawrence,
You've come at a very good time
In the time of the harvest
When we all have wheat.**

In Spain the harvest for cereals takes place during the summer months and this jovial song is sung to thank the Saint for a plentiful harvest.

Sophia Cochrane 3T, on the festival of San Lorenzo in Huesca, Spain

There are many reasons I would like to go back to Yosemite. The first reason is that I loved the grey painted cute cottage we rented for our time there. It was located a few miles outside the main entrance to Yosemite. It had a lovely front porch with two wooden rocking chairs and a spacious back deck complete with a barbecue and wonderful views of the surrounding countryside with majestic Cedars and Ponderosa Pines. In the garden there were blackberry bushes with deliciously sweet blackberries to pick. One evening, as night was drawing in, we were driving back up from the valley floor to our cottage. It took about two hours as the valley floor is right at the centre of Yosemite. It was exciting and scary driving through the darkness with towering trees and mountains looming all around. At one point a deer jumped across the road and vanished into the trees. We could smell smoke as part of Yosemite was on fire. That also made the journey a little bit frightening but the fire was miles away.

Amelie McCord 1S, on Yosemite National Park, California

CREATIVE WRITING.

Beyond the back gate of the site a path stretches far away in both directions, cutting through the forest. It is an old railway line that brought people from Glasgow and Edinburgh to Killin so they could get the steamer to go up Loch Tay to Kenmore for their holidays, but it closed nearly 60 years ago. If you follow it to the right it goes through bogland and forest, with lots of fallen trees and long grasses. To the left, you walk down a sandy-coloured tree-lined lane to a small road. On one side of the road are some houses and on the other a low grey wall. Over the wall is the Falls of Dochart. You can climb over enormous flat rocks or lie in the sun (when there is any). The Bridge of Dochart crosses the river. Just before the middle of the bridge, a gate leads down to a little island called Innis Bhuidhe which is the burial site of some of the MacNab clan. Further down the road you head to the centre of the village, where there are different shops, a school, a church hall, a Co-op and a few other buildings.

Even though it is quite an isolated place, it's not like quarantine. This isolation is quiet and peaceful, where you are free, with no WiFi or schoolwork. I'd like to visit the log cabin because I need somewhere to switch off and just do my thing with my people for a little while.

Aoife Rankin 1S, on Killin, Scotland

As I draw back the curtains, a sea of light blinds me. Glimpsing the turquoise blue ocean, it beckons me and a wave of delight washes over me. I behold the foaming waves crash upon the soft, golden sand and become instantly mesmerised by the rhythmic roll of the tide onto the beach. Filled with excitement, many fond memories of times on the French seaside come flooding back to me. Pulling on my salt-smelling swimming costume, I also grab a pair of blue denim shorts and head for the door. Sliding my feet into my ever-sandy flip flops, I grab my freshly waxed surfboard. The familiar clip-clop sound of the soles of my sandals striking my feet fills the corridor as I head down the stairs and out of the door. The surfboard weighs on my shoulders, but it is not a chore to carry it, as I know of all the enjoyment that it will bring me when I finally reach the shore. Reaching the seaside, the joyous cries of children ring in my ears. Removing my flip flops, I sink into the sand. Velvety powder covers my toes and I begin my journey across the beach. Every step, my feet are engulfed by the shimmering mass. Sighting the vivid green flags fluttering in the slight breeze, I grin widely when spotting the radiant faces of many gleeful children, diving in and out of the glorious waves. Laying down a towel and get ready to jump into the glistening expanse.

Amy Boyle 2S, on Bidart, France

I miss jumping in to the turquoise, crystal clear, saltwater. I miss running on the golden sandy beach with my friends under the bright blue cloudless sky. I miss going on lovely scenic bike rides with the breeze on my face. I miss going to get refreshing, sweet, ice cream in the baking, warm, sun. I miss having that feeling when I have butterflies in my stomach on the journey up to the caravan site. I miss waking up to the sun flooding through my curtains knowing that it's going to be a long, fun, sunny day.

Hannah Minford 1S, on her caravan in Portballintrae

I recall the fragrances of the bunches of bright flowers as we walked by them and how my mother never missed a chance to buy a bunch of these vivid and delightful plants. Another thing about Seattle is that because I was so young, it was also a place where I tried many new things I hadn't even heard of before, one of them being when I indulged in one of my first ever Frappuccinos from the original Starbucks store opposite Pike Place Market. The only downside of being able to go to this coffee shop was how there was always a substantial line outside of the store at all times.

Tara McNeill 1A, on Seattle

My special place is situated on the amazing, clear and cold Atlantic coast. It is about thirty miles from Tralee and forty miles from Killarney. It is well worth the terrifying, cramped, eight-hour van journey to get to it. It is called by many, "the most beautiful place on earth" and I would agree. My family particularly enjoy a trip to the excellent ice cream shop, Murphy's. My dad, my sister and I go into town just to get some of their amazing, flavourful ice-cream chocolate. It's literally to die for!

Connie Waterworth 1A, on Dingle, Co. Kerry

WORKING FROM HOME.

Katie Brow 1H



Tiffany McGowan 1A



Anna Matthews 1A



Miss Sturgeon's History classes in Forms One, Two and Three were given the option to create a historical figure out of a boiled egg. They were all egg-scellent!

Emma Hamilton 1H



Eva Wilson 2R



Libby Gorman 1H



Emily Barry 1A



Maeve MacAirt 2H



Catherine Friend 2R

Evie Rutherford 3R



Sophie Johnston 3R



Carys Jones 3R



Maeve MacAirt 2H



Albert Eggstein

Jodie Hall 3H



Bethany Johnston 3A



Elena Gourley 3H



Ruby Moore 3R



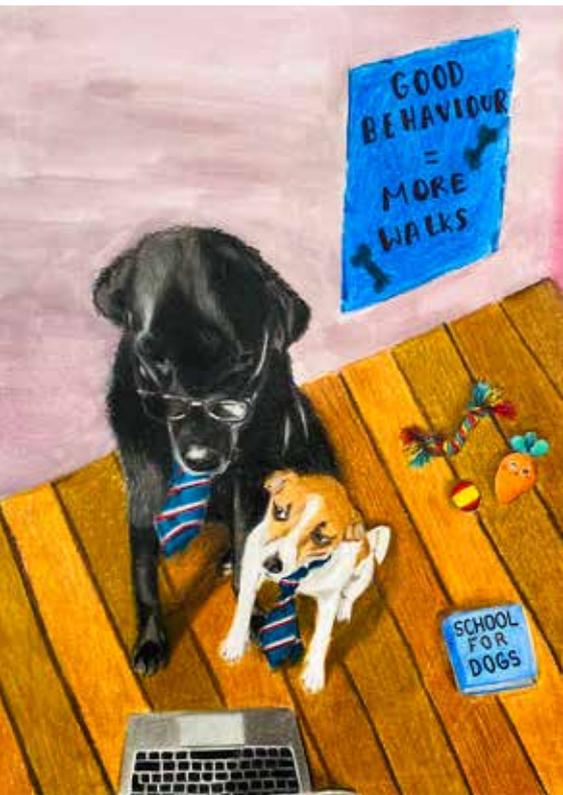
Annabel Harron 3R

WORKING FROM HOME.

LIFE IN LOCKDOWN

COMPETITION WINNERS

Junior School



Evie Pringle 2H



Rebecca Shannon 2T



Naomi Boyce 1S



Evelyn Stanfield 3S



Matilda Brown 1A



Jiyun Park 3H



Aoife Rankin 1S



Zoe Hill 2A



Connie Waterworth 1A



Clara Waterworth 3A



Kinga Kloskowska 3T



Grace Johnston 1H



Isla Mitchelson 3T

Also a mention to Maya Dohkia F2 and Sara Murray F2 who are prizewinners for their videos.

Well done to everyone who took part and shared their experiences of 'Life in Lockdown'.

Senior School



Anna Hughes 5S



Lauren Nesbitt 5R



Amy Major 5S



Eva Blakely-Hewitt L6S

Beth Buchanan U6T





HARPISTS NAMES

Sophia Hamilton

Amy Bole

Emily Wilson

DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD AWARD

PRESENTED BY
PRINCE EDWARD

MUSIC.

.CHAMBER CHOIR



It was another busy year for the Chamber Choir. After saying our goodbyes to Mrs McIvor, in September we were so fortunate to have Mrs Devlin take over. We quickly started working for our first event, Prize Night, where we sang two pieces: 'Gartan Mother's Lullaby' and Dan Forrest's arrangement of 'Be Thou My Vision'. In November, we were invited to sing at the PTA Gala Dinner in the Stormont Hotel for Strathearn's 90th Anniversary. We were welcomed by the compère for the night, past pupil Rebecca McKinney, before singing 'Be Thou My Vision' and John Rutter's 'Gaelic Blessing'. December was a very busy time for us. We turned our focus to the Carol Service and prepared three pieces: 'An Earthly Blessing', by Will Todd, Philip Stopford's 'A Christmas Blessing' and John Rutter's 'What Sweeter Music', all of which we thoroughly enjoyed learning. As well as this, in the run-up to the holidays we visited Strathearn Court Care Home and sang a range of carols to the residents, with many of them choosing to join in and sing along with us, which was lovely. On the final

day of term before Christmas, in a special assembly, we sang 'Gaelic Blessing' as a farewell to Mrs Myers on her last day at Strathearn. After over 35 years, it was an emotional send-off which we were privileged to take part in. Amidst the excitement of everything a new year brings, from mocks to interviews and all our other individual commitments, 2020 saw our Chamber Choir rehearsals continue as ever twice a week. On the first Sunday in March we sang at the Campbell College Family Service. We performed 'Be Thou My Vision' ourselves and sang an SATB arrangement by Rollo Dilworth of 'Give Me Jesus' with the Campbell choir, along with three congregational hymns. We were all absolutely gutted, especially those of us in Upper Sixth, that due to the Coronavirus we were unable to have our usual Spring Concert. However, I know I speak on behalf of others when I say that we will look back on our years in the Chamber Choir with fond memories, and I can say what a truly great musical experience it has been, all thanks to the wonderful music department that Strathearn is so blessed to have.

Amy Bole U6S

Back row: Megan Adair, Lauren White, Tara Kerr, Eve Elliott, Phoebe Spratt, Charlotte Crawford, Emma Carson

Second row: Lucy Bole, Natalya Ricketts, Anna Hughes, Sophie Longstaff, Rosie Park, Lauren Mooney, Cheryl Watson, Tori Jackson

Front row: Catherine Welsh, Amy Bole, Miriam O'Reilly, Beth Strahan, Íde Simpson, Rosie Elwood, Halah Irvine

ORCHESTRA.

This year the School Orchestra met every Wednesday afternoon after school for rehearsals led by our new music teacher, Miss Armstrong. The orchestra welcomes pupils right the way from Form 1 to U6, and this allows for a wide range of abilities in various orchestral instruments, as well as encouraging friendships to be formed across different year groups. This year the orchestra got to showcase their hard work at the Autumn Musical Evening in November. We entertained our audience with an arrangement of Schubert's *Marche Militaire*, John Williams's *Hedwig's Theme*, known from the Harry Potter movies, and 'Can You Feel the Love Tonight' by Elton John. We were also excited to play some other well-known and lively pieces for the planned Spring Concert, including an arrangement of Haydn's 'Surprise Symphony', the Finale from the Organ Symphony by Saint-Saëns, and ABBA's 'Money, Money, Money'. We are devastated that this concert will not be going ahead due to the current circumstances! Despite this, we all thoroughly enjoyed orchestra rehearsals this year and are very grateful to Miss Armstrong for all her hard work!

Miriam O'Reilly U6T

Back row: Martha Gooding, Sophie Thomas, Elly Ryan, Amy Major, Sarah West, Lois Whiteside

Third row: Jemima Thomas, Zara Conroy, Lilli Boyd, Anna McKinty, Jodie Morgan, Ella Keane, Daisy Johnston, Madeleine Heawood, Lauren White, Rachel Neilly, Rebecca Shannon

Second row: Rachel Brett, Emily Hanna, Amy Bole, Zara Hanna, Sophia Hamilton, Laura Gordon, Lauren Mooney, Kathryn Finlay, Anna Hughes, Faith Heyburn, Tori Jackson, Lucy Bole, Miriam O'Reilly, Stella Moore

Front row: Abi Patton, Caitlyn Watson, Lauren Wright, Anna Matthews, Rebekah Devlin, Francesca Hamilton, Rebecca Hill, Rosie Elwood, Sophie Hagan, Kristanna Clegg, Bea Bell, Amélie Euler, Hannah Watson, Ciara Moore, Catherine Welsh





This year Traditional Group was made up of seven members and was open to any pupil from Form 1 to U6 who plays a traditional Irish instrument. Our group, which consisted of fiddles, flutes and a harp, rehearsed every Monday lunchtime, led by Miss McClure. During the first term we worked hard at our pieces for our performance in the Autumn Musical Evening. Then in the following term we focused on ornamentation and developed our playing in the traditional Irish style, which is freer than classical music. We also began to learn music by ear – without any sheet music, which was a real challenge for some of our newer members. Unfortunately, we were unable to showcase our new pieces as the Spring Concert was cancelled due to the Coronavirus situation; hopefully we will get the opportunity to perform them next year. I really enjoy Traditional Group and would encourage any new members to come along as it is a great way to improve your playing and learn a new style.

Lauren Mooney 5S

Back Row: Emily Hanna, Laura Gordon, Zara Hanna

Front Row: Lauren Wright, Emily Wilson, Lauren Mooney, Faith Heyburn

TRADITIONAL GROUP

SENIOR CHOIR.

This year has been an exciting and memorable year for the Senior Choir, and we have completed pieces that we are proud of and really pleased with. We met every Monday after school and the rehearsals were engaging for everyone, no matter what their singing background. The Carol Service was a huge success, with the Senior Choir singing 'The Lord is my Shepherd' by Will Todd, which was a beautiful, calming piece, paired with the more upbeat and lively 'Cantata Domino, Alleluia' by Cristi Cary Miller, which the choir really enjoyed performing. In the anticipated Spring Concert we would have performed 'Seasons of Love' by Jonathan Larson and a collection of songs from the musical 'Les Misérables' by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg, which would have been sung collectively with the Junior Choir. We're disappointed we couldn't perform at the concert, however the memories and skills we took away from this year of Senior Choir makes the hard work all worthwhile! I've really enjoyed my seven years of choir and being part of such an amazing and dedicated team, both pupils and staff.

Tori Jackson U6R

Back row: Jessica Pennick, Katherine Hunter, Eloise McKnight, Eve Elliott, Madeline Best, Madalaine Wilson, Phoebe Spratt, Amy Hanna, Ella Keane

Fourth row: Lauren White, Sarah Blackmore, Lauren Nesbitt, Sophie Jordan, Martha Gooding, Emmerald Emerson, Alexandra Coetzee, Ellie Dornan, Molly Leeb, Madeleine Heawood, Megan Allen, Catrina Martin, Nicole Gallagher, Grace Bowman, Annabel Holden, Sarah Lowry, Tara Kerr, Emily Parker

Third row: Leah Orr, Rosie Hardy, Kathryn Finlay, Megan Adair, Ellie Van Giesen, Sarah Clarke, Joanna Carson, Ellie Johnston, Aoife Moore, Charlotte Crawford, Zara Rintoul, Natalya Ricketts, Alex Graham, Rachel Constant, Abi Stevenson, Emma Carson, Rosie Park, Heather Dunn, Tara Winton

Second row: Madeline Doherty, Maddie Twamley, Íde Simpson, Miriam O'Reilly, Grace Ruding, Tori Jackson, Zara Hamilton, Beth Strahan, Laura Gordon, Lauren Mooney, Cheryl Watson, Anna Hughes, Emily Hanna, Sophie Longstaff, Sophia Hamilton, Eva Aston, Lucy Bole, Amy Bole, Rebecca Welsh, Rebecca Hill

Front row: Isabella Anderson, Catherine Welsh, Ciara Moore, Sarah McIvor, Freya Beers, Beth Gallagher, Alice Sloan, Catherine O'Reilly, Eva Pagels, Caitlyn Corbett, Katie Darley, Rebekah Devlin, Rosie Elwood, Ellie Massey, Lauren Wilson, Rachel Brett, Lauren Farmer, Hannah Watson, Halah Irvine, Zoe Boyce, Alice McIvor



JUNIOR CHOIR

Junior Choir is attended by girls from Forms 1 to 3 and is directed by Ms Kimber. We meet on Tuesday lunchtimes in the Manning Hall. I fully recommend Junior Choir as it is an amazing opportunity to have fun and improve your singing. In the first term we began learning our piece for the Carol Service. We sang 'A Star Dances, an Angel Sings' by Greg Gilpin, an exquisite melody! We laboured long and hard on getting the harmonies just right. The Carol Service was also a great opportunity to listen to the senior girls and Penrhyn pupils sing their beautiful pieces. I thoroughly enjoyed the Carol Service, as we all sang beautiful carols, listened to readings, and celebrated Jesus's birth and the spirit of Christmas.

In the spring term we rehearsed for the Spring Concert.

We started learning 'Shallow' and a medley from Les Misérables which we were to perform with the Senior Choir: two magnificent pieces! Although there were a lot of words to learn for both pieces, we eventually conquered them and had both pieces word perfect!

This year has been my favourite year in Junior Choir. The music has been fantastic. I would have thought it hard to find even more beautiful music than last year (as we sang an ABBA medley) but Ms Kimber succeeded. My favourite was the 'Les Misérables' medley as the music is superb. My preferred song in the medley is the Finale as it is uplifting and looks to a better and brighter tomorrow!

Grace Steed 3T

DRAMA REVIEWS.

'Shirley Valentine' acting review

A performance of 'Shirley Valentine' at the Lyric Theatre Belfast in March 2020 proved to me that, despite being in an age of 'Total Theatre' in the 21st Century, acting is still an important constituent of the stage that can single-handedly captivate an audience. On paper the play can seem limited, as it consists of nearly 2 hours of constant one handed monologue. Pairing this with the fact that the play itself is 30 years old and the protagonist is a middle-aged woman, I thought that as a teenage student I would be unable to relate and engage with what was onstage. Design was also limited, with a composite set of a kitchen scene acting as a mere backdrop to Shirley's rapid dialogue. However, the warm delivery of Tara Lynne O'Neill, whose professional discipline shone through in her expert handling of a one woman show, allowed me to connect deeply with Shirley's personal journey of self-discovery – a message even a teenage audience can relate to. O'Neill flawlessly navigated her way through writer Willy Russell's sharp, self-deprecating humour, the comedy of which was heightened through her constant direct address, making the relationship between actor and audience colloquial and relaxed. Due to the nature of the one handed monologue the play was fast moving and emotionally charged, meaning wit and humour could quickly be undercut with desperation and vulnerability. During these moments O'Neill would jarringly contrast her light-hearted characterisation with expert sincerity, delivering Shirley's inner conflicting thoughts and her longing to cut loose from the familiar daily path around her kitchen and rediscover herself once more. The plethora of emotions and reactions I as an audience member experienced, from laughter to silent sympathy, had me on a rollercoaster based on acting alone.

'Bouncers' directing review

A performance of 'Bouncers' at the MAC Theatre Belfast in October 2019 captured my interest in the way it was directed. Director Zoe Seaton opted for a physical theatre style which aided writer John Godber's humorous dialogue and fast paced storyline. However, although from the outside 'Bouncers' looks like a light-hearted insight into the lives of four bouncers and the customers at their nightclub, I appreciated the balance that Seaton struck between physical comedy and the darker, wider themes of society and the mistreatment of women at the hands of men. This balance took her audience of mostly teenage drama students on an emotional journey that kept us entirely engaged. In her direction, Seaton recognised the more modern, stylised approach to theatre that is emerging in the 21st century. Her use of rapid multi-rolling aided the humour associated with the portrayal of exaggerated Northern Irish stereotypes, as for example at times the four men onstage delivered performances as drunk, excitable teenage girls. This meant that, despite the slightly dated era and accompanying 80s soundtrack that appealed to older generations in the audience, I was able to relate and engage with the characters onstage. This is evidence of a tuned in director who is aware of their diverse audience and the social norms they can relate to. Alongside the light-hearted humour Seaton kept a focus on Godber's wider social message, with this being most poignant during the character 'Lucky Eric's' monologues. During these moments there was an obvious conscious directorial decision made by Seaton to contrast the familiar chaotic stage action that consisted of song and dance, multi-rolling and physical theatre with a more sincere, natural delivery whereby Eric was onstage by himself, directly addressing the audience with his experience of disrespect towards women. This allowed me as a female audience member to reflect on the reality of such important issues in Northern Ireland. Seaton's overall directorial aim reminded me of Brecht and his ideology of 'Epic Theatre' - theatre should educate, not merely entertain.

Beth Strahan U6S

WIZARD OF OZ.

A Strathearn
Production





When it was announced that the school musical for 2019 was to be 'The Wizard of Oz', instant excitement ensued. For weeks the corridors were filled with hopeful girls perfecting their renditions of 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' and attempting the Kansas accent, me being one of them. When the cast list was finally announced my little girl dreams of being Dorothy came true, and I was so excited to be given the chance of playing such an iconic role in my last year of Strathearn. I also was delighted to see that I would be sharing the stage with some of my closest friends, with Íde Simpson as the Scarecrow, Eve Elliott as the Tinman, and Emma Carson as the Lion. Our friendship offstage allowed us to portray a genuine chemistry onstage, the memories of which I will keep with me for a very long time. Making the experience even more special, and a lot funnier, was having my little sister, Olivia Strahan in first year, play the role of Toto. I know for my Mum it was very emotional seeing two of her daughters, one at the start of her Strathearn journey and one at the end, onstage together as a duo.

However, the finished, polished product did not come overnight. From the start of September to the end of November the cast were put through their paces, with rehearsals on Thursday and Friday after school and all day Saturday. No mercy was given, with us U6 pupils even having to drag ourselves to Manning Hall the morning after formal, a photo of which was included in the programme that perfectly captured our very high spirits. A huge thank you has to be given to Ms Armstrong, who really was thrown into the deep end, as she was given the large task of Musical Director despite this being her first year teaching at Strathearn. Her professionalism and dedication, alongside her laid back nature and sense of humour, made her a great addition to the Strathearn Music Department and a joy to work with, even if the memory of drilling harmonies is still forever stuck in the back of my head. Another vision that definitely will not be easily forgotten is that of Campbell boys dressed up as flying monkeys, waistcoat, hat and all. I would like to thank Campbell for being a part of the production and creating another successful Strathearn-Campbell school musical.

Our ensemble of girls from all year groups who took part in the production reflected the community of Strathearn as a whole, as it was a team effort the whole way through, from the first cast meeting to the final bows. I would like to personally thank the whole cast for the time and dedication they put into the production, all of which evidently paid off based on audience reaction alone. As the curtain closed literally on the last performance and metaphorically on a lot of the girls' time on the Strathearn stage, one person was left to thank. And that is Ms Ferris. Right throughout my time at Strathearn, she has never failed to support and encourage me. I know that I talk for the whole cast when I say this production could never have been done without her. She perfectly grasped the message of the show, a message which was beautifully relayed on stage every night- there's no place like home, or rather, Strathearn.

Beth Strahan U6S



STRATHEARN'S GOT TALENT.

JUDGES.

Mrs Anderson, Mrs Butters, Mrs Power,
Mrs White

STAFF GROUP.

The Four Behaviour Points

Mr Jellie (vocalist), Mr Lindsay (base
guitar), Mr Mulligan (guitar), Mr Scott
(drummer)

BARBOUR.

Emma Smyth (2A)
Catherine Friend (2R) and Zoe
Friend (1S)

BOUCHER.

Eva Lappin (3T)

Boucher Hype House (Form 1 Pupils)

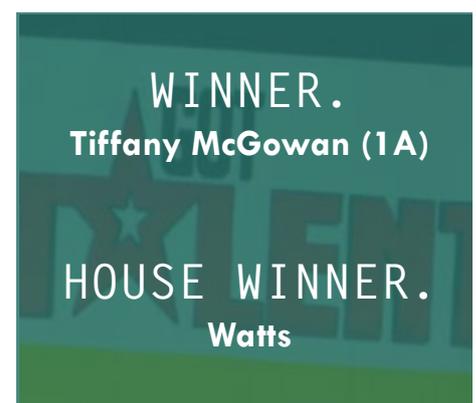
Ellie Johnston (1S), Grace McCracken
(1S), Hannah Minford (1S), Jamillah
Toriola (1T), Johanna Hegan (1H),
Eve Armstrong (1A), Emma Hamilton
(1H), Matilda Brown (1A), Charlotte
Gorman (1R), Eva Mooney (1R), Mya
Dunne (1T)

MCCAUGHEY.

Charli Graham-Ogg (2A), Clara Wa-
terworth (3A) & Lucie Spence (3A)
Charis Mills (1S)

WATTS.

Orla Millard (3T) and Katherine
Boyle (3T)
Tiffany McGowan (1A)





Laura Killiner

Beth Strahan

Jenny Wilson (pictured below)



Throughout our seven years at Strathearn, Laura, Jenny and I have been integral parts of the Barbour House community, therefore when we were given the opportunity to uphold House Captain roles we were delighted. Jumping straight into our duties we had to begin thinking about one of the most anticipated events in the Strathearn calendar- the House Plays. Working as a team of three we began to brainstorm ideas and eventually, through months of scripting, auditioning, casting and directing, we proudly presented our play 'House Heroes'. We would like to thank all of our dedicated cast and backstage crew for making the experience so special. All of the commitment evidently paid off, as Barbour House was awarded Best Technical and Best Director. This success for Barbour set the tone for the rest of the busy year.

The enthusiasm and participation of all members of Barbour shone through in the plethora of indoor and outdoor sporting activities throughout the year, including House Dodgeball and House Cross-Country. Sports Day 2019 also exemplified the fun, competitive spirit of Barbour, with the girls participating in a range of sporting events, all whilst keeping the House Spirit up through their multiple chants and our iconic House song 'I'm Walking on Sunshine'. Our success in House events was definitely not confined to the PE department, as many of our members excelled in the House Quiz and Debating events. We also received third and fourth place in Strathearn's Got Talent for Emma Smyth's Irish Dancing and the Friend sisters' rendition

of 'Don't Stop Believing'. I would like to personally thank all members of Barbour for showcasing their talents in all of the House events this year. Throughout the year we used every opportunity to encourage our House members to donate to our chosen House charity Marie Curie. In our busy school lives fund-raising can often be forgotten about, therefore at every house event we encouraged the girls to donate whatever they had. The girls' generosity shone through, and this money will go towards supporting Marie Curie and families affected by terminal illness.



As we say goodbye to our roles as House Captains, Jenny, Laura and I would like to thank all members of Barbour for making this year so enjoyable. I know I will carry the memories I have made as House Captain of Barbour well into my adult life. A massive thanks also has to be given to Ms Wallace and Ms Young for organising all House events and ensuring the year ran as smoothly as possible. To the girls who have the privilege of being House Captains of Barbour next year- keep the house spirit going! Go Barbour!

Beth Strahan U6S

Grace Ruding
Eva Aston
Rebekah Spence

BOUCHER.

HOUSE REPORTS



Last April when Grace, Rebekah and I were appointed House Captains we had no idea what to expect. Looking back on it, we can certainly say that it has been an absolute pleasure, and we have formed friendships and made memories we will never forget.

Our first event in the house calendar was the Day of Sport, which saw marvellous athletic achievements from pupils and teachers alike! Following varied degrees of success in inter-house dodgeball, tennis and debating we faced the next highly anticipated house event - the House plays. We got to work writing a script over summer, and being up against the other drama student House captains imposed a certain pressure on us. We decided on an end-of-year graduation idea, and with a good soundtrack and an intensely choreographed version of 'Greased Lightning', we felt confident! We would like to say a special thanks to our amazing cast that ranged from First form to Upper sixth who really helped pull the whole thing together, as well as the backstage and technical crew who helped it all run smoothly. Special congratulations go to Megan Adair and Evie Hempstead who won both Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress for their roles.

As the year continued, Strathearn's Got Talent saw Grace, Rebekah and I scouring for talent and we were not disappointed. The first form 'Boucher Hype House' dancers performed a variety of dances with great verve, and Eva

Lappin placed second after singing an original song - we are sure she has great musical success ahead of her! Although we did not always place first in everything, the level of participation and house spirit never failed to amaze me. So many girls were passionate and enthusiastic competing in house hockey, netball and badminton and the sporting success of Boucher shone through time after time. The charity that we chose to sponsor this year was 'Go Make A Difference', a charity very close to our hearts following a charity trip to Tanzania in the previous year. They focus on aiding East Africa and send volunteers out to help build schools, clean water supplies and provide medical and social care to those in need.

I have been so grateful to work alongside Grace and Rebekah, who have been so dedicated and passionate about working as a team. It goes without saying that Ms Young and Ms Wallace deserve a great deal of credit for all their work in supporting the houses, from organising the events to replying to last-minute emails from three very stressed girls. We were very sad to hear that Ms Young was stepping down from her role as head of the House system in school, as she has always been so committed to each and every one of us. Whilst she set the bar very high, Ms Wallace has taken it in her stride and we are grateful to have worked alongside both of them. To the upcoming House Captains, I wish you all the best of luck and hope you enjoy every minute of it!

Eva Aston U6T



Last April, when we were given the privilege of becoming House Captains of McCaughey, we couldn't wait to get involved. Unsurprisingly, this has been one of the most fulfilling, rewarding and fun experiences of our school life to date. Our duties began last June with the first house event which was the day of sport. Everyone got stuck in from first year pupils to a few very enthusiastic teachers. It was encouraging to see the pride and enthusiasm for all involved in McCaughey house. From the outset we knew that we would have a fantastic year.

As keen drama enthusiasts, the prospect of the upcoming house play was something we were very much looking forward to, especially because all three of us have been involved in house plays since we were in first year. House plays have been an integral part of our school life, so we strived to ensure that we provided a fun and memorable experience for all involved. After much brainstorming and hard graft over the summer holidays to come up with a plot for our play, we finally decided on the idea of a school lock down. We had a diverse range of characters to cast, from members of the elderly community to boys from a neighbouring school. Our audition process was difficult to say the least! The sheer amount of talent from all those who auditioned made it possible for us to have an incredibly strong cast. Our play was a great success and on adjudication day, saw us being awarded first place. Regardless of the result we were filled with pride of the cast who put

in a lot of work over many a lunchtime to bring our script successfully from page to stage.

Throughout the school year, we saw house events as opportunities to contribute to the community by raising charity funds. Our chosen charity was Action Mental Health NI. We are very grateful to be leaders of such a generous house who donated at every event through the year.

Heated debating competitions, mindboggling quizzes and overtly competitive netball competitions, all showed that McCaughey house was full of headstrong, spirited and determined girls who always worked well as a team. Their efforts were recognised when we won Dodgeball. The range of talent was further shown in 'Strathearn's got talent'. Although they did not place, we were so proud of our acts who showcased their talent to the whole school.

Overall, as house captains we would just like to say a huge thank you for making this year so enjoyable for us. We have been so lucky to lead a house as enthusiastic, good-spirited and fun as McCaughey, and wish the new house captains the best of luck for the upcoming year!

Eve Elliott U6R

Rosie Park
Heidi McMillen
Amy Cooper (pictured below)

WATTS



Amy, Rosie and I have loved being part of our House ever since first year, and so we were delighted to be appointed Watts house captains last April. We couldn't wait to get started, with our first responsibility being the annual Day of Sport before the summer. Watts was set up well for the upcoming year as our house were victorious for the second year in a row and we were determined to do our best to continue this! Throughout the new school year many inter-house sports events continued such as netball, badminton, cross country, dodge-ball and hockey. The enthusiasm of Watts House continued to amaze us and we were extremely proud of each girl's efforts and participation. For us the highlight of the house calendar was the house plays. The tedious task of writing our play, 'Work Experience' over the summer was quickly forgotten when we performed in the Manning Hall in October, with each girl from Form 1 to U6 giving it their all and making us extremely proud. A massive thank you to our amazing cast and everyone else involved, from hair and makeup to backstage for making the process so enjoyable. Special congratulations to Sarah McDonald who was awarded best cameo for her amazing and hilarious performance. I also want to thank Rosie and Amy for all their hard work and effort. From producing the script to organising tech and lighting, it has been so much fun working alongside you both this year. My memories from various house plays are one of many things that I will cherish from my time at Strathearn.

Other highlights of the house year included the House Quiz, held by the fantastic quiz-master Mrs Gray, and the house

debates, through which the brainpower of Watts was showcased! In our annual talent show, we were amazed at the incredible talent that Watts House had to offer but we were sadly only able to choose two acts to perform in front of the school. A massive well done to Orla and Katherine for their performance of "Dancing through the decades" and congratulations to Tiffany McGowan who was able to win the trophy for Watts with her incredible performance!



This year we chose to support the Northern Ireland Children's Hospice, which is a fantastic cause that we are proud to raise money for. A big thank you to everyone who contributed throughout the year. Sadly, this year we saw Ms Young step down from her responsibility of running House events after many years of incredible work. However, this meant we got the support of both Ms Young and Ms Wallace. The house system wouldn't be the same without the effort and time that both of these teachers put into it, and we are so thankful for their hard work.

GO WATTS!

Heidi McMillen U6A





● SPORT

GAMES CAPTAIN'S REPORT.



Harriet Platt (*Deputy Games Captain*), Grace Hutchinson (*Games Captain*), Anna McKibbin (*Deputy Games Captain*)

Another extremely successful year of sport for Strathearn has flown by, one which everyone should be very proud of. It was a sporting year filled with countless achievements, titles and enjoyment. These are some of the highlights of the past year.

Keeping to the trend set by previous years, in the summer of 2019 the athletics season brought brilliant success to Strathearn. Many girls competed in the Co Down District Athletics Championships with our Junior and Senior teams coming first overall in their respective age groups and our Mini, Minor and Intermediate teams finishing as runners up. Excellent individual performances allowed many girls to qualify for the Ulster Schools' Athletics Championships, where our Mini and Senior teams became Ulster Schools' Champions, and excellent performances throughout the age groups saw Strathearn being crowned overall Ulster Schools' Champions for the second successive year. Displays of athletic excellence at the Ulsters meant that some girls qualified for the Irish Schools' Championships, something to be extremely proud of. At this event, the Senior team placed 2nd overall in Ireland!

The summer term was rounded off with another outstanding tennis season. This year in Ulster Schools' Cup Competitions, Strathearn was represented at Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels. Both our Minor and Junior teams put on excellent displays of tennis throughout their matches, with both teams being crowned Ulster Schools' Cup Champions. Our Senior tennis team were not far behind, finishing runners up in the Ulster Schools' Cup competition.

Sadly, my final hockey season at Strathearn came to an end this year but I am thankful to be able to take away so many amazing memories from each of my seven years of hockey. Throughout the 2019/20 season all of the teams played at a very high standard and we made it to three finals this year- an amazing achievement! Unfortunately the 1st XI didn't get the cup run they had hoped for as they were knocked out of the Belfast Telegraph Schools' Cup in the 3rd round by a very strong Friends' side, the eventual Schools' Cup runners up. Both the 2nd and 3rd XI teams made it to their own respective finals, with the 2nd XI finishing as runners up in the McDowell Shield, and the 3rd XI playing excellent hockey to come away with the Gibson Cup. The U14A team also had a very successful season, finishing as runners up in the Junior Cup.

Cross country is always a very successful sporting area within Strathearn and this year was no different. At the Co Down Districts, there were many successes for Strathearn with excellent individual and team performances leading our Junior, Inter and Senior teams to qualify for the Ulster Schools' Championships. There, the Inters came 2nd, the Seniors placed 3rd and the Juniors finished in 5th. This meant that the Inters and Seniors qualified for the Irish Championships where they finished in 4th and 5th place!

Netball is another extracurricular activity which always proves to be very popular with the girls at Strathearn. This year the Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior teams all played in the Northern Ireland Schools' Netball



Cara Tan,
Harriet Platt,
Aimee Stitt

League competing in various matches throughout the season. There were many great netball achievements in the 2019/20 season, particularly our Junior netball team reaching the semi-final of the NI Schools' Junior League and our Minor netball team finishing as runners up in the NI Schools' Minor League.

Swimming is an area of sport in Strathearn which proves to be very strong year after year. This year Strathearn took away the titles of Junior and Senior Ulster Schools' Champions thanks to some very impressive individual and team performances. During the 2019/20 season there were countless individual achievements for Strathearn girls, but I would like to mention in particular Amelia Kane who represented Ireland at the European Short Course Swimming Championships at aged only 16. Here, she achieved three new personal bests in her three races!

Here at Strathearn we are very lucky to have such a wide range of sports which girls are involved in at both recreational and competitive levels, including badminton, table tennis, gymnastics, cricket, dance, showjumping and squash. Regarding squash, I would like to mention Sophie Thomas and Hannah McGugan who were crowned Irish Under 17 and Under 19 National Champions respectively. Both were selected to play for Ireland at the European Championships. Emma McGugan was also selected for the Irish Senior team - these are outstanding achievements.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the staff who have been involved in sport at Strathearn over the years and to the parents who support us in our chosen sports because you make all of the achievements above possible. Special thanks to the PE department here at Strathearn, which looked a little bit different with Mrs Harvey coming out of retirement to teach again and with the arrival of Miss Hewitt. In particular I would like to thank Ms Young who is at the heart of sport at Strathearn and whose dedication and love for sport, we will always remember.

Grace Hutchinson U6T



HOCKEY .

Strathearn hockey has had another exciting and positive season for all age groups. The 1st XI team, captained by Harriet Platt, started off their season with a successful Ulster Schools' Super League run. This year the team once again made it through the group stage but then went one step further when they beat Methodist College Belfast in the quarter final, which lead them to the semi-final against Rainey at Stormont. Rainey, however, proved to be the better side on the day. Moving away from the Super League and onto the Belfast Telegraph Schools' Cup, the 1st XI unfortunately did not get the long cup run they had wanted as a very strong Friends' School Lisburn side knocked them out in the 3rd Round which lead them into the Senior Shield. Here, they drew Portadown College in the quarter finals. Depsite putting in a great effort the girls could not get the result they needed, bringing their 2019/20 season to an abrupt end.

The 2nd XI, captained by Grace Ruding, started their season winning 2-0 against Omagh Academy in the 2nd round of the McDowell Cup but their cup run came to an end when Ballyclare HS beat them in the next round. As a result, the 2nd XI entered the McDowell Shield where they started to play their own game of hockey beating

Portadown College in the quarter final. Following this, a tight match against Royal School Armagh lead them to the final of the McDowell Shield. This was a third final in a row for some of the Upper Sixth pupils on the team. Unfortunately, after the terrible weather conditions and a scoreless game, the girls were extremely unlucky not to win against Methody in the penalty runs, but nonetheless had an excellent season of hockey. We would like to thank Mrs Hatfield for organising sponsorship by George Best City Airport for the 1st and 2nd XI shirts this season.

The 3rd XI, captained by Elly Ryan, had an extremely successful season which started off with a 5-0 win against Lagan College in the Gibson Cup. They played excellent hockey to finish top of their group, which led them through to the quarter finals. Continuing to show their strength the 3rd XI qualified for the semi-final of the Gibson Cup after beating Wallace High School 1-0, and then went on to beat Belfast Royal Academy 1-0 in a very competitive semi-final. After a brilliant performance from all the 3rd XI players and support from their coaches, Strathearn became Gibson Cup Champions beating Ballyclare High School 3 – 1 in the final. These girls should be exceptionally proud of themselves for their commitment throughout the year which lead to their success.





The 4th XI, captained by Rosie Park, also had a successful season starting off their cup run with a 7-0 victory against Banbridge Academy in October. They went on to beat Sullivan Upper in the quarter final 1-0. Unfortunately, Ballymena Academy narrowly beat them in the semi-final of the 4th XI Cup, 1-0. The Strathearn players left everything on the pitch and we are so proud of this team for all their hard work.

We also had a 5th XI this year who played some friendly Saturday fixtures. It was great to see so many Strathearn girls from Form 4 - U6 getting involved in hockey throughout the season.

In junior hockey, the Under 14As, captained by Sarah Hylands, won against Cloughnagh Junior High School in the first round of the Junior Cup, 3-0. They went on to play Sullivan Upper in the next round in a tight game and managed to stick together and work as a team, scoring a much-needed goal, to finish the match 1-0 and qualifying for the quarter finals. This super team then qualified for the semi-finals after beating Banbridge Academy and took on Friends' School Lisburn in a brilliant semi-final, winning 2-0 and earning themselves a place in the Junior Cup Final. Unfortunately, the Junior Cup was not Strathearn's to take; after lots of great hockey and hard work, the girls lost 3-1 to a strong Killicomaine Junior High School. Big thanks to Mr Hylands of Hyland Fuels for sponsoring the under 14 sweatshirts for the Cup final!

The other four Junior teams - U14Bs, U13As, Bs and Cs worked hard all season to develop their skills and improve their team play as they played regular Saturday matches. The Under 12s played in a tournament hosted by Methodist College Belfast, where both "A" and "B" teams

reached the semi-final of the cup and plate competitions. Well played girls – this was a great start to your hockey careers at Strathearn!

Special mention also goes to the girls who were involved in Ulster Hockey Development Programmes this season. Strathearn had seven girls - Mac Eager, Karis Hamilton, Anna Kirk, Sophie Livingstone, Ruby Rebbeck, Jess Ryan and Emmy Thornton - who were selected for the U15 Talent Development Programme this season and a number of these girls were asked to attend a U16 Development Group trial as a result of their performances in the U15 programme. Lucie McNaught, Anna Gillespie, Sophie Hoey and Niamh Hatfield attended some U17 Development sessions at the start of the season with Lucie progressing to be part of the U17 Development group throughout the season just missing out on reaching the final stages for the U18 selection process for next season.

At Christmas, all age groups enjoyed our annual 'Christmas Cracker' tournament where lots of effort was put in by all to have the best costume. Some however forgot they actually needed to be able to play hockey in it as well! Our season finished with a very competitive Inter House tournament, enjoyed by players and spectators alike.

Thanks to all the PE staff for their commitment to every team throughout the season and to all our supporters who cheered us along the way, especially in finals week. Special mention to Cecil Swinton for producing match statistics as he supported us throughout the year. I would like to wish everyone the best of luck for next season.

Harriet Platt U6T



1st XI - Super League Semi-Finalists

Back Row: Grace Hutchinson, Harriet Platt (Captain), Jenny Wilson (Vice Captain), Eve McKibbin, Erin Stewart, Niamh Hatfield, Alex Fawcett

Front Row: Anna McKinty, Amelia Hopkins, Lauren Armstrong, Anna Gillespie, Lucie McNaught, Jess Ryan, Lara Whitten



2nd XI - Mc Dowell Shield Runners Up

Back Row: Karis Hamilton, Rachel McDonald, Hannah McGugan, Amber Hamilton, Sophie Hoey, Molly Elliott, Grace Ruding (Captain) Megan Adair, Zara Hanna

Front Row: Eve Elliott, Anna McKibbin (Vice Captain), Niamh Hatfield, Jemima Thomas, Emmy Thornton, Daisy Moore



3rd XI - Gibson Cup Winners

Back Row: Mrs Crawford, Tilly Nield, Lucie Maskery, Sarah West, Sophie Thomas, Cara Murray, Eva Ralston, Ruby Rebbeck, Connie Hanna, Eva Kissenpfennig, Mrs Harvey

Front Row: Kate Hunter, Rhiannon Brady (Vice Captain), Elly Ryan (Captain), Anna Kirk, Emma Wilson, Alice Henry



4th XI - Cup Semi-finalists

Back Row: Amy Ellison, Holly Gilpin, Kristen Kerr, Tori Kerr, Lucy Chambers, Ellie Dornan, Sophie Longstaff, Aiza Ghafoor

Front Row: Alice Henry, Erin McClure, Mabelle Wilcox, Ella Simms, Rosie Park (Captain), Talia Irwin, Tara Kerr



U14 A XI - Junior Cup Runners Up

Back Row: Miss Scott, Amy Nesbitt, Rhiannon Davies, Angelique Toombs, Emily Wilson, Sophie Livingstone (Vice Captain), Sarah Mavitty, Hannah Dudley-Young, Sarah Hylands (Captain), Ellie Patrick, Mrs Hewitt

Front Row: Anna Cousins, Darcy Shields, Annabel Harron, Georgia Thornton, Beth Chivers, Darcy Blair, Mac Eager



U12 hockey (MCB Tournament)

Back Row: Lucy Andrews, Lottie Eighteen, Libby Gorman, Daisy Dorrian, Sophie Gordon, Hannah Grant, Hannah Jackson, Eve Armstrong, Kirsty Gregg, Lily Rodden, Hannah Minford

Front Row: Kate Cunningham, Isla Stewart, Darcy Shields, Susann Villar, Aurelia Mayne, Ella Riddell, Sophie Holmes, Maddie Leathem, Rosey Magowan

U13 CHRISTMAS CRACKER TOURNAMENT



NETBALL.



Minor Netball Team - League Runners Up

Back Row: Alex Picton-Lynas, Georgia Thornton, Florence Rebbeck, Darcy Feeney, Gracie Hamilton, Rosie Whitten, Heidi Carter

Front Row: Emma Stranaghan, Lauren Wright, Hollie Davies, Katie Mullan, Eva Morrison

This academic year has proved to be another great season for Netball in Strathearn, with many girls from all ages getting involved in practices throughout the week. The Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior teams have all competed in the NI Schools' Leagues.

Special congratulations to the Minor Netball team who were runners up in the NI Schools' Minor A League final, losing out to a strong Rathmore Grammar team, after beating Dominican College 17-12 in the semi-final. The Junior team made it to the semi-finals of the NI Schools' Junior A League, narrowly losing to Killicomaine JHS. The Intermediate and Senior teams also had superb seasons, playing very well against strong competition including Bloomfield Collegiate and Glenlola Collegiate.

Interhouse netball was once again a favourite amongst the Strathearn girls. There was a great turn out from all age groups, all eager to compete and support their Houses, making the atmosphere highly charged. Special mention should go to Watts House who were the overall winners of this fiercely competitive tournament. I hope that this will encourage more girls to get involved in after-school Netball next year.

Thank you to all the coaches who gave of their time to take our training sessions and matches. I am hopeful that the next Netball season will be just as successful for all age groups.

Megan Ashcroft U6R

TRAMPOLINING



Zoe Hill and Amy Wilson

On 24th of November, three girls from Strathearn competed in the Northern Ireland Schools' Trampolining Championships, held in Ards Blair Mayne leisure complex. This year, we had two girls entered in the intermediate competition: Zoe Hill in the 7-9 category and Alexandra Speers in the 10-14 competition. Both girls were in very competitive age groups but still competed and represented the school very well. Amy Wilson competed in the novice 9-10 category and performed very well. Congratulations to these girls who took part; you should be very proud!

Amy Wilson 4R

GYMNASTICS

It has been another successful year for gymnastics at Strathearn. This year the gymnastics club has been run by "Gymfun" and has been attended by girls from Forms 1 to 3, however everyone is welcome to attend. It runs on a Wednesday afternoon from 3:45 to 4:45. Each week we are encouraged to progress our gymnastics skills with a mixture of floor, vault and beam skills. We also had the opportunity to work towards British Gymnastics Proficiency Awards and we were all successful. It is a great opportunity to make new friends, try out new skills and improve strength and flexibility. I have enjoyed attending the club this year. Some of us also attended gymnastics clubs outside school and had the opportunity to compete in Gymnastics Ireland and Northern Ireland competitions. Well done and thank you to the girls and coaches, especially Miss Kerr, for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Abbie Conroy 2S

EQUESTRIAN.



Eva McGimpsey



**Louise Brown, Ellen Douglas, Rachel Booth (Penrhyn),
Felicity Johnston, Kathryn Finlay**

The Equestrian team had great success throughout the year in both showjumping and dressage, with participation in three of the five legs of the Meadows Equestrian Centre inter-schools showjumping league. In the second leg in October, our open team of Ellen Douglas, Felicity Johnston and Katie Smith won the tack and turnout award, whilst our novice team of Louise Brown, Ellen Douglas, Kathryn Finlay and Felicity Johnston came 10th. Preparatory member Rachel Booth joined the older girls with a clear round in the primary class, boding very well for her future school representation. Maeve Clarke also competed throughout the league, joining Kathryn, Ellen and Felicity in a strong team.

In November, Eva McGimpsey and Kathryn Finlay competed in the Ulster Schools' Dressage competition held at Gransha Equestrian Centre. Although it was a day for the ducks, they both thoroughly enjoyed representing Strathearn.

Louise Brown was selected to represent Northern Ireland Tetrathlon at the Royal Windsor Horse Show in April 2020. In March, Felicity Johnston qualified for and was due to compete at the Pony Club UK Winter Triathlon Championships in Aylesbury. Unfortunately, both these events were cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Felicity Johnston L6T

CHEERLEADING.



Ireland Junior (All Girl) Level 4 Cheerleading Team 2018/2019

In April 2019, Connie Hanna and Zara Hanna travelled to Orlando, Florida to represent Ireland in the World Cheerleading Championships.

They competed in the Junior All-girl Level 4 advanced category. The competition took place in the ESPN Wide World of Sports complex in Disney. The team placed 7th and the whole experience was worth the weekly training in Dublin.

This really is a fabulous achievement for these two sisters.

**Zara Hanna (Left)
Connie Hanna (Right)**



Another Track season completed, and yet another successful year for Strathearn's athletes throughout the year groups. Fantastic results were achieved at Co Down, Ulster and Irish Schools' Championships. Well done to everyone who got involved at each of these.

The Co Down District Athletics Championships were held in May, and Strathearn were crowned overall Junior and Senior Champions, as well as the Mini, Minor and Intermediate teams coming 2nd overall. There was a massive turnout and plenty of medals. The results were as follows:

Seniors: Overall Champions with great performances from all the girls, with the 4x300m Relay of Harriet Platt, Murphy Miller, Rhiannon Brady and Aimee Stitt setting a new district record. Other great performances were as follows: Freya Axten 1st 3000m, Murphy Miller 1st 800m and 2nd 1500m, Harriet Platt 1st Triple Jump, Zara Wilson 1st Hammer and 3rd Discus, Kerry Annett 2nd Triple Jump and 2nd Long Jump, Cara Tan 2nd 100m Hurdles and 3rd 100m, Anna McKibbin 2nd High Jump, Aimee Stitt 2nd 400m and 3rd 200m, Eve Elliott 2nd Shot Putt, Ruby Baxter 2nd 3000m, Katie Wills 3rd 1500m, Alex Fawcett 4th Javelin, Molly Longstaff 4th 100m and 4th Long Jump, Olivia Nelson 5th 800m, Lucy Mashford 5th Shot put, Rosie Park 5th 400m, Hannah McCann 5th Javelin, Grace Hutchinson 5th Hammer, and Rhiannon Brady 5th Discus and 6th 200m. The 4x100m Relay: (Molly Longstaff, Harriet Platt, Cara Tan and Aimee Stitt) were 3rd.

STRATHEARN SCHOOL . 80

Intermediates: Overall Co Down Runners-Up with two new district records from Amelia Kane in the 1500m, and Anna McKinty in Triple Jump. Other Intermediate results from the girls: Anna McKinty 3rd 300m Hurdles, Amy Ellison 2nd 800m and 4th Hammer, Casey Dawson 3rd 300m and 5th 200m, Chloe Browne 3rd 3000m, Amelia Hopkins 4th High Jump, Molly Elliott 4th 80m Hurdles, Rebecca Callaghan 4th Long Jump, Anna Gillespie 5th Javelin, Sophie Longstaff 7th Triple Jump and 7th 100m, Megan Allen 7th 300m, Sophie Jordan 7th High Jump, Lara Whitten 9th 1500m, Rosie Bonner 10th Shot and 10th Javelin, Amber Hamilton 12th Discus, Mia Montgomery 13th Shot, Alice Sloan 18th Long Jump, Holly Gilpin 18th Discus, with the 4x100m Relay: (Casey Dawson, Anna McKinty, Molly Elliott and Sophie Longstaff) coming 3rd.

Juniors: Overall Champions, with lots of success. Sophie Hoey 1st Triple Jump and 1st 75m Hurdles, Connie Hanna 1st High Jump and 5th Triple Jump, Lucie McNaught 1st Javelin, Ruby Rebbeck 1st Discus and 7th Javelin, Emma Wilson 2nd Hammer and 4th 75m Hurdles, Emmy Thornton 2nd 1500m and 6th 200m, Niamh Hatfield 3rd 200m and 5th Long Jump, Mabelle Wilcox 3rd 800m, Eloise McKnight 4th Shot and 11th High Jump, Alice Browne 5th 1500m, Erin McClure 6th Long Jump and 14th 100m, Anna Kirk 6th Hammer, Lula Hopkinson 11th Shot, Sophia Knox 13th 800m, Alex Faloon 14th Discus, with the 4x100m Relay: (Sophie Hoey, Erin McClure, Emma Wilson, Niamh Hatfield) coming 1st.

Minors: Overall Runners-Up with some great results from the following girls: Amelia Hazle 1st 75m Hurdles and 2nd High Jump, Laura Irwin 3rd 75m Hurdles, Lucy Wills 5th 800m, Amy McClean 5th Long Jump and 18th 100m, Niamh Long 9th High Jump and 13th Shot, Bethany Johnston 12th 800m, Rhiannon Davies 14th Long Jump and 12th 100m, Angelique Toombs 17th Shot, with the 4 x 100m Relay : (Bethany Johnston, Amelia Hazle, Rhiannon Davies, Amy McClean) coming 3rd.

Minis: Overall Runners-Up with lots of individual successes. Anna Cousins 1st 100m and 1st Long Jump, Maisie McCrea 1st 800m, Emma Stranaghan 3rd Long Jump and 7th 100m, Katie Mullan 3rd 800m, Bea Baker 11th High Jump, Velvet Meharg 14th Shot, Megan Flood 22nd Shot, Ella Hampton 28th High Jump. The 4 x 100m Relay: (Emma Stranaghan, Maisie McCrea, Bea Baker and Anna Cousins) finished 2nd.

With these fantastic performances, the Ulster Schools' Championships were next for plenty of our girls. Strathearn was represented by around 30 athletes from all five age groups. There were many individual successes, but every point counts at these Championships, so well done to everyone who competed. Our Junior Team were crowned overall 2nd in Ulster, with our Mini

and Senior teams finishing as Overall Ulster Champions! Every athlete's efforts contributed to Strathearn ranking Overall 1st in Ulster for the second year in a row. These Championships were held on 17th and 18th May. This is a brilliant achievement, especially during exam time. The results were as follows:

Seniors: Overall Ulster Champions with a great performance from the 4 x 300m team who set a new Ulster Schools' Record. Well done to the girls – Harriet Platt, Rhiannon Brady, Murphy Miller and Aimee Stitt. Other successes from the Seniors were: Murphy Miller 1st 800m; Zara Wilson 3rd Hammer and 5th Discus; Kerry Annett 3rd Triple Jump and 3rd Long Jump; Eve Elliott 3rd Shot Putt; Cara Tan 4th 100m; Harriet Platt 4th Triple Jump; Aimee Stitt 4th 200m ; Freya Axten 5th 3000m; the 4 x 100m Relay were first. Well done to the girls involved – Molly Longstaff, Harriet Platt, Cara Tan and Aimee Stitt.

Intermediates: some great individual performances from the intermediate team: Anna McKinty 1st Triple Jump; Amelia Kane 3rd 1500m; Amy Ellison 9th 800m; Casey Dawson 10th 300m; Chloe Browne 11th 3000m; with the 4 x 100m Relay (Anna McKinty, Casey Dawson, Molly Elliott and Sophie Longstaff) finishing 7th.

Juniors: Overall 2nd in Ulster. Lots of success from the Junior team: Sophie Hoey 1st Triple Jump and 75m Hurdles; Connie Hanna 1st High Jump; Emmy Thornton 2nd 1500m; Mabelle Wilcox 4th 800m; Emma Wilson 4th Hammer; Lucie McNaught 7th Javelin; Niamh Hatfield 9th 200m; Ruby Rebbeck 11th Discus; the 4 x 100m Relay came 4th – (Sophie Hoey, Erin McClure, Emma Wilson and Niamh Hatfield).

Minors: great performances from these girls: Amelia Hazle 6th 75m Hurdles and 8th High Jump; Laura Irwin 10th 75m Hurdles, with the 4 x 100m Relay: (Bethany Johnston, Amelia Hazle, Rhiannon Davies and Amy McClean), finishing 8th.

Minis: Overall Ulster Champions with great successes for these girls: Anna Cousins 1st 100m and 1st Long Jump; Emma Stranaghan 2nd Long Jump; Maisie McCrea 4th 800m; Katie Mullan 9th 800m. The 4 x 100m Relay placed 1st, well done to the girls involved – Emma Stranaghan, Maisie McCrea, Bea Baker, Anna Cousins

After the exceptional performances at the Ulster Championships, 14 girls qualified for the Irish Schools' Championships on 1st June 2019, where they competed against the best in Ireland in Tullamore, Co Offaly. It is such an achievement to even qualify for these championships, and we offer everyone who competed huge congratulations. We hope that these performances make each of the athletes determined to continue to work hard in the future. The results were as follows:

Juniors: Special congratulations to Sophie Hoey who was Irish Triple Jump Champion – a brilliant performance. Other great successes from Connie Hanna 6th High Jump and Emmy Thornton 7th 1500m.

Intermediate: Well done to Anna McKinty who was 2nd in the Triple Jump. Amelia Kane was unable to compete due to international swimming commitments.

Seniors: Overall 2nd in Ireland. Lots of successes in the Senior Team; the results were as follows: Murphy Miller 4th 800m; Kerry Annett 5th Triple Jump and 7th Long Jump; Eve Elliott 6th Shot; Zara Wilson 9th Hammer and 9th Discus. The 4 x 100m Relay Team were 2nd; well done to the girls – Molly Longstaff, Harriet Platt, Cara Tan and Aimee Stitt. The 4 x 300m Relay also placed, coming 3rd – a great performance from Harriet Platt, Murphy Miller, Rhiannon Brady and Aimee Stitt.

These were all brilliant achievements made by the girls and were all down to hard work and dedication. As a result of their performances at both the Ulster and Irish Schools' Championships, Anna McKinty was selected for the Ulster Schools' Athletics U17 team to compete at the Inter Provincial Tailteann Games, placing a commendable 4th place against some girls nearly two years older than her. Amelia Kane was also selected but was unable to run due to commitments in swimming. This is a fantastic achievement for both girls to be selected! Anna was also selected to compete at the English U17 Championships in Bedford.

Well done to the Strathearn girls who competed in the Ulster Schools' Multi-Event Championships in September, competing over the five different events – Hurdles, High Jump, Long Jump, Shot and 800m. Congratulations to the Minor Girls, Anna Cousins in 10th, Amelia Hazle in 23rd and Emma Stranaghan in 26th. In the Junior Girls, Sophie Hoey finished 5th and Connie Hanna 6th.

Overall, another great year of athletics for Strathearn. A big thank you to all the coaches involved in helping our athletes to achieve these great results. Good luck to the competitors next year!

Aimee Stitt U6R





CROSS COUNTRY.

When it comes to cross country, Strathearn has always been successful and this year was no exception. Thank you to Miss Kerr for her commitment to the club, sacrificing every Thursday afternoon to coach and help all members, whether they were aiming for competitions or simply to keep fit!

This year the District A Championships returned to Delamont Country Park. While this was a new experience for the younger teams, both the Intermediate and Senior teams were going back to where it all began, despite breathing a sigh of relief when they discovered that the usual hill was no longer part of the course! This change meant that the races were especially quick, as the Minis discovered in the first race of the day. While the team narrowly missed out on the medals, all members of the team ran the 1500m race strongly, in particular, Sophie Jess and Ella Riddell finishing in 9th and 10th respectively, and qualifying as individuals for the Ulster Championships. The Minors and Juniors also ran impressively to gain bronze and silver in the team competition, with special mention going to Katie Mullan, for the Minors, finishing 6th, and Mac Eager and Lucy Wills, for the Juniors, finishing 7th and 9th. In the next race of the day, the Intermediate 3000m, the Strathearn team once again performed impressively, with Emmy Thornton battling from the start to achieve a very commendable 3rd place, closely followed by her teammate Mabelle Wilcox in 9th, Alice Browne in 12th and Hollie Massey in 13th. Strong running from all of the Intermediates resulted in an achievement of 2nd place,

qualifying comfortably for the Ulster Championships. Last up were the senior girls, with 2000m to run. Amelia Kane battled to the front from the get-go and raced strongly to finish 2nd. Not too far behind were Murphy Miller and Lara Whitten in 3rd and 5th positions, with Lara putting in a particularly impressive last 100m to move up from 10th. Felicity Johnston put in a solid performance to finish in 23rd and was closely followed by Aimee Stitt who, stepping up from her usual sprints to complete the team, finished a strong 24th, not far ahead of Chloe Browne, in 29th. These commendable performances from our Senior girls earned them first place in the team competition.

After victories at the Districts, Strathearn's qualifying teams moved on to the Ulster Championships, tackling Mallusk's muddy playing fields. First up were the Minis, who did not let their first ever Ulster Championships intimidate them. Both Sophie Jess and Ella Riddell raced strongly and worked together to gain 20th and 23rd position respectively. In the Minor race Katie Mullan did Strathearn proud, running impressively to gain 28th place. Next up were the Juniors, with Mac Eager and Lucy Wills leading out the team, finishing in a solid 21st and 22nd place respectively. Bethany Johnston was the next Strathearn girl home in 63rd, with Louise Brown in 80th, Amelia Hazle in 88th and Maeve Clarke in 98th, all helping the team to achieve an extremely respectable 5th place. It was now the turn of the Intermediates, and they did not disappoint. Emmy Thornton had a spectacular race to finish 4th, just outside of the medals in a high quality field. Mabelle

Wilcox also ran impressively to finish 18th, and not too far behind were Hollie Massey in 28th, Amy Ellison in 31st, Alice Browne in 34th, and Eva Kissenpfennig in 39th, all running strongly to contribute towards an excellent silver medal position in the team competition. In the last girls' race of the day, the Seniors were next to run and, with Amelia Kane unable to compete, the girls had a challenge ahead of them if they were to replicate their usual team success. However, determined as ever, the girls ran well with Murphy Miller achieving a solid 6th place, and both Lara Whitten and Freya Axten also running impressively to finish in 22nd and 32nd place. Not too far behind were Felicity Johnston and Chloe Browne, who achieved 48th and 57th place respectively. These admirable performances earned the girls a bronze medal in the team competition and therefore qualified them to compete in the Irish Schools' Championships, along with the Intermediate team.

With both of the Intermediates and Seniors qualifying, the teams set off for the Irish Championships in Santry Park, Dublin, accompanied by Mrs Harvey. First off were the Intermediates with Emmy Thornton once again putting in a fantastic performance, achieving 10th place against the best in the country, and qualifying for the Irish U15 SIAB team. Mac Eager was the next Strathearn girl home in an impressive 42nd, closely followed by Hollie Massey in 51st. Amy Ellison finished in 65th, Eva Kissenpfennig 68th and Alice Browne 71st. The girls' strong performance led to their 4th place position overall, only narrowly missing out on a team medal. Last but not least was the Senior team, who were forced to step up from their usual 2000m to 3500m. Despite this challenge, the girls once again performed to their best, with Murphy



Miller the first home in 23rd, followed by Freya Axten and Lara Whitten in 59th and 61st respectively. Felicity Johnston and Chloe Brown also put in strong efforts to claim 69th and 70th place, contributing towards the team's commendable 5th place position overall.

Congratulations to the members of this year's Cross Country Club! Whether just running for fun and fitness, or competing for Strathearn, every member has put in hard work and improved throughout the year. Well done!

Murphy Miller U6R





Senior Team

Chloe Browne, Amelia Kane, Felicity Johnston, Murphy Miller, Aimee Stitt, Lara Whitten, (absent Freya Axten)



Intermediate Team

Emmy Thornton, Mabelle Wilcox, Holly Massey, Alice Browne, Eva Kissenphennig, Amy Ellison



Junior Team

Mac Eager, Lucy Wills, Louise Brown, Amelia Hazle, Rhiannon Davies, Bethany Johnston



Minor Team

Bea Baker, Anna Cousins, Anna Reynolds, Holly Davies, Maisie McCrea, Katie Mullan



Mini Team

Ella Riddell, Sophie Jess, Hannah Minford, Hazel MacPhearson, Anjali Singh, Amelia McGowan

JUNIOR DANCE .

This year Strathearn's Junior Dance Team was led by three L6th pupils- Emma Hylands, Jade Scott and Marnie Preston. The team was made up of sixteen committed girls from Forms 1 to 3 who were selected from over one hundred pupils who auditioned in October. The whole team worked tirelessly and very efficiently alongside the coaches to perfect their carnival themed routine. They performed to the best of their ability at the Northern Irish Creative Movement and Aerobic Championships. The team were up against very tough competition from the other schools and were very unlucky to miss out on a medal. As their coaches, we are so proud of the girls and even though we missed out on the top three this year the girls had great fun and represented Strathearn very proudly. Thanks to Mrs Lennox for supervising our rehearsals all year!

Emma Hylands, L6R



Junior Dance Team

Back Row: Niamh Long, Darcy Blair, Ria Cimic, Emma Hylands (Captain), Sarah Hylands, Amy McClean, Sara Murray

Middle Row: Megan McCreesh, Rachel Carson, Chloe Kenny, Zara Walker, Lucy Dunbar, Ella Dunbar

Front Row: Jade Scott (Captain), Charlotte Gorman, Honey Bridges, Mya Dunne, Grace McCracken, Marnie Preston (Captain)

SENIOR DANCE .

The Senior Dance Team excelled yet again this year. Missing lockdown by just two weeks, a team of fifteen girls comprised of Forms 4 to U6 competed at the Northern Ireland Creative Movement and Aerobics Championships (NICMAC) against many schools across the country. Following the auditions in October, the final team showed their commitment, practising every Tuesday after school along with additional lunchtime rehearsals leading up to the big day. As well as the effort put in by the dancers, the coaches, Cara Tan, Rebecca Welsh and Kaitlyn Smith worked tirelessly to choreograph a dance that allowed each girl to shine. The routine was called 'Jumpin' Jack'; an extremely high-energy and challenging number, executed brilliantly by the team who were awarded a well-deserved 2nd place in a category of an extremely high standard. We are so proud of this achievement and the hard work put in by each dancer, with special thanks to Miss Morrison for supervising every rehearsal.

Cara Tan U6R



Senior Dance Team

Back Row: Marnie Preston, Anna McCabe, Kaitlyn Smith (Captain), Rebecca Crymble, Jade Scott, Zara Rintoul

Middle Row: Aaliyah Moore, Molly Graham, Hannah MacCartney, Rebecca McCleary, Emma Hylands

Front Row: Rebecca Welsh (Captain), Hannah Pollock Chan, Jodi Flaherty, Amber Brown, Leah Howe, Rebecca Devlin, Cara Tan (Captain)

DANCE CLUB .

Dance club takes place every Wednesday at lunchtime. All students are welcome to join in. Every week, a different dance is taught by different students. They include pop, ballet, contemporary, jazz, and ballroom. The

senior dance captains sometimes come along to teach us parts of the dances they learn as part of their own club.

I enjoy how easy-going it is at Dance Club. There are always areas for improvement but even so, there is no

pressure. Everyone has a different level of skill but we all join in on the same thing. Dance brings everyone together for a bit of fun and a laugh. Thank you to Miss Kerr for supervising and helping us this year.

Imani Forde 3A

TENNIS.

2018-2019



Junior B Tennis Team

Romelly Roberts, Sophia Knox,
Aiza Ghafoor, Hannah Pollock Chan

Tennis is an extremely strong sport for Strathearn and the 2019 Tennis season was no exception, with four teams reaching the semi-finals of their respective competition and three teams going all the way to the Ulster Schools' Cup finals.

Our Senior A team made it through to the final of the cup but unfortunately Victoria College proved too strong for us. The team, consisting of Emma McGugan, Grace Hutchinson, Emma Craig and Erin Stewart, had to settle for runners up in the Ulster Schools' Senior Cup this year with each player receiving silver medals for their achievements. Despite their final defeat, they still proved to be a successful team who have been playing together since 1st year.

The Senior B team of Elly Ryan, Tara Kerr, Kristen Kerr and Rachel Lemon made their best efforts in their section of the cup but were knocked out of the competition. They then played in the Senior Plate and made it all the way to the semi-finals. They were a young team and so will have a chance to compete again next year.

Alice Sloan, Megan Allen, Amber Hamilton and Olivia Knox made up the Intermediate B team and like the

Senior B team were unable to progress in the cup. They played their way through to the semi-final of the Intermediate Plate where they faced Glenlola Collegiate and unfortunately lost, but they thoroughly enjoyed their season.

The third of our teams to reach the plate semi-final was the Junior B team consisting of Hannah Pollock Chan, Aiza Ghafoor, Sophia Knox and Romelly Roberts. The girls were unlucky not to make it to the final, losing narrowly to Sullivan Upper.

The Intermediate A team of Jemima Thomas, Sarah Craig, Sarah West and Lauren Mooney reached the semi-finals of the Ulster Schools' Intermediate Cup having beaten Victoria College on the way. In the semi-final they took on Methodist College and put up a good fight but Methody were stronger on the day. It is still a great achievement to get to the semi-final with most players in the midst of their GCSEs at this time.

However, huge congratulations to the Minor and Junior A team who were both crowned Ulster Schools' Minor and Junior Champions respectively. These successes cannot be overshadowed.

The Form 1 Minor team powered through their section and knock-out stages of the Cup and defeated Friends' School Lisburn in the final to be crowned Ulster Schools' Minor Tennis Champions 2019. The team was made up of Paige Hawthorne, Eva Morrison, Eva Wilson and Maisie McCrea.

The Junior A team of Lucie McNaught, Kate Hunter, Sarah Mavitty and Sophie Thomas made their way convincingly to the final where they defeated Friends' School Lisburn to be crowned Ulster Schools' Junior Tennis Champions 2019.

As well as these teams there were many more girls out enjoying tennis practice, improving their skills and match play in friendly matches and a huge number of girls taking part in the fiercely contested Inter House Tennis competitions.

Congratulations to all the girls who participated in tennis over this past year as, once again, they proved that Strathearn is at the centre of Ulster Schools' Tennis! A big thank you to all the staff who helped create this fantastic season and a thank you to every girl who showed their unwavering commitment to tennis this year. We are extremely proud of this year's accomplishments.

Well done girls and good luck for the forthcoming season. Let's hope we can achieve similar successes and continue Strathearn's excellent reputation in Tennis!

Erin Stewart U6R



**Senior Tennis Team
Ulster Schools' Senior
Runners Up**

Grace Hutchison, Emma McGugan,
Emma Craig, Erin Stewart



**Junior A Tennis Team
Ulster Schools' Junior
Champions**

Kate Hunter, Lucie McNaught,
Sophie Thomas, Sarah Mavitty



**Minor Tennis Team
Ulster Schools' Minor
Champions**

Maisie McCrea, Eva Wilson,
Paige Hawthorne, Eva Morrison

TABLE TENNIS.

Table tennis is a relatively new sport at Strathearn but we have still had great success this year. On the 5th February, two teams of six girls took part in the Ulster Schools' Table Tennis Championships in Lisburn. Despite it being many of the girls' first tournament, our U15 team came 2nd and our U13 team came 4th which was a brilliant result and bodes well for what we can achieve in the future.

Special congratulations go to Anjali Singh who finished this year as the Irish No. 1 U13 girl. Anjali also played on the Ulster U18 girls' team in the Junior British League at the beginning of March, which finished second in Division 2. This is a great achievement for a pupil who is only in Form 1.

Lauren Mooney 5S



U15 Team

Back Row: Cerys McMurray, Sophie Thomas, Lauren Mooney, Anjali Singh

Front Row: Katherine Boyle, Rosie Elwood



U13 Team

Matilda Brown, Eve Armstrong, Bella Emerson, Connie Waterworth, Lauren Wright, Amy Boyle

SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS

Srathearn's Sports Hall Athletics teams began training on Thursday evenings for the annual Sports Hall Athletics Championships. The competition is held each year at the Meadowbank Arena in Magherafelt. This year, the Strathearn Sports Hall Athletics teams competed in two competitions. They first competed in the Ulster Sports Hall Athletics Heats in December and then competed in the Ulster Sports Hall Athletics Regional Finals. Strathearn girls competed against four other teams, from Londonderry, Fermanagh, Antrim and Donegal. The girls all performed exceptionally well, facing tough competition throughout but managed to successfully gain placings and medals in a wide range of events.

The U13 girls had some excellent individual results. At the heats, Hollie Davies placed 2nd in the Shot; Emma Stranaghan was 3rd in the Standing Long Jump and 1st in the Parlaaf; Anna Cousins was 2nd in the two Lap, 2nd in the Standing Long Jump and partnered Emma to take 1st in the Parlaaf; Masie McCrea was 2nd in the six Lap; Bea Baker was 3rd in the two Lap and 1st in the Triple Jump.

At the regional finals the U13 team came 3rd overall. Hollie Davies placed 2nd in the Obstacle Relay and 3rd in the 4x1 Relay, Katie Mullan placed 2nd in the 2 Lap and 3rd in the 4x2 Relay, Mya Dunne placed 3rd in the Vertical Jump, Emma Stranaghan placed 3rd in the 4x2 Relay and 2nd in the Standing Long Jump. Bea Baker placed 3rd in the 4x2 Relay.

The U15 girls also achieved some excellent individual results. At the heats, Sophie Hoey placed 1st in the Standing Long Jump, 3rd in the two Lap, 1st in Shot and 2nd in the 4 x two lap relay; Emmy Thornton was 1st in the Parlaaf, 1st in the four Lap and 3rd in the Speed Bounce; Niamh Hatfield was 3rd in the vertical jump and 1st in the Parlaaf; Ciara Moore was 1st in the vertical jump and 2nd in the 4 x 2 relay; Bethany Johnston and Amelia Hazle were also on the 4 x 2 relay coming 2nd.

At the regional finals the U15 team came 2nd overall. Sophie Hoey placed 3rd in the two Lap, 3rd in the 4x2 Relay, 2nd in the Shot and 1st in the standing long jump. Niamh Hatfield placed 3rd in the 4x2 Relay. Ciara Moore placed 2nd in the Vertical Jump, Emmy Thornton placed 2nd in the Parlaaf and 3rd in the 4 x 2 relay. Bethany Johnston placed 3rd in the 4x2 Relay.

Congratulations to all the girls who competed this year. Thank you to Mrs Crawford and Miss Kerr who coached the teams and supported the girls throughout the year.

Niamh Hatfield 4A

BADMINTON .

The badminton club has had yet another successful year and still remains very popular with the girls of Strathearn. Everyone has extended their knowledge of the game throughout the year, while getting to know girls in other year groups. The excellent turnout each week meant that we were able to enter Year 8, Minor and Junior teams in the Ulster Schools' Badminton League/Cup.

The Form 1 team consisted of Kate Farmer, Grace Hanna, Francesca Holmes, Ruby Huth, Neve McAlorum and Connie Waterworth. Unfortunately, they lost to Bloomfield Collegiate in the first round of the Cup but enjoyed the experience of playing on the team nonetheless. This year we were able to enter two Minor teams, one in the league and one in the cup. Hollie Davies, Sophie Johnston, Faye McCarten and Kate McConkey all made up Minor Team A, who were successful in beating Bloomfield and Wallace, but unfortunately lost to Royal and Prior in the league. Minor Team B consisted of Bella Emerson, Gracie Hamilton, Eva Wilson and Lauren Wright, who played extremely well in the Cup but lost to a very strong Hunter House team.



Form 1 Badminton Team

Connie Waterworth, Grace Hanna,
Ruby Huth, Kate Farmer

Kathryn Finlay, Aiza Ghafoor, Cara Murray and Lois Whiteside made up the Junior team, which was particularly strong in this year's league. The team played very well together, beating Sullivan Upper and Royal and Prior. They then lost to Coleraine Grammar, and just missed out on progressing to the next stage of the competition, which is still an incredible result!

There was an amazing turnout of girls this year at the Interhouse Badminton tournament. It gave everyone a chance to practise all the skills they had learnt throughout

the year as they went head to head to win points for their houses. Lois Whiteside of McCaughey house was presented with the Wilkinson Salver after winning the tournament due to her superb performance in all matches played. I would like to say a huge thank you on behalf of everyone at the badminton club to Mrs Crawford, Miss McKeown and Miss Sturgeon, as all of this would not be possible without their help. We wish Mrs Crawford all the best while on maternity leave and we thank Mrs Harvey for stepping in to help during her absence. Everyone has thoroughly enjoyed the badminton club this year and we can't wait for it to start again in September!

SQUASH .

The 2019-20 season proved to be another fantastic one for the Strathearn squash girls. The U17 team, consisting of Hannah McGugan, Sophie Thomas and Lucie McNaught, and the U19 team of Emma McGugan and Jemima Thomas, both qualified to compete at the Irish Schools' squash competition in Dublin. Unfortunately this event had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Individually the girls have had great success. Hannah McGugan was the girls' U19 Irish National champion and was selected to play for Ireland at the U19 European team championships in the Netherlands. Sophie Thomas won the girls U17 Irish National Championships and was selected to play for Ireland at the European team championships in England. Emma McGugan came third at the Irish Senior Nationals and was selected to play for the Irish senior team at the senior European Team Championships in the Netherlands.

Well-done girls!

Emma McGugan U6A

FOOTBALL CLUB .

The football club is held at lunchtime every Friday on the hockey pitch. We play matches and do small drill exercises such as working on footwork or simple skills. I enjoy football as it is an alternative way to make friends and also a fun break from work. We were hoping to enter a tournament at the end of the season but unfortunately this year it couldn't happen.

Overall, I find football a fun activity to break up the day.

Bella Emerson 2T

SWIMMING .

This year has been very enjoyable and successful for Strathearn swimmers.

The Strathearn team that attended the Swim Ulster Schools' Cup Championships excelled at Bangor Aurora on the 12th and 13th of October. All girls performed outstandingly as seen through the results they obtained.

The Minor girls relay team consisting of Emily Barry, Tasha Noble, Sophie Jess, Anjali Singh and Sophie Holmes came 3rd and 4th in the Freestyle and Medley relays respectively.

In the Junior girls' section, talent was shown from Forms 1-3. In the 100m butterfly Zophia Quigley placed 3rd while her teammate Rosie Whitten placed 4th. Rosie also placed 1st in 100m freestyle. Lucy Wills came 7th in 100m backcrawl and Grace Davison swam exceptionally well in both her individual events placing 1st in 200m IM and second in the 100m breaststroke. The Junior Relay team, consisting of Lucy Wills, Grace Davison, Zophia Quigley and Rosie Whitten, finished in gold medal position in the Medley and Freestyle relays. All these team and individual performances combined to make Strathearn overall Ulster Schools' Junior Champions, bringing home the Firth Cup.

The Intermediate relay team of Rachel Childs, Lara Whitten, Alice Browne and Martha Cupples placed 3rd and 4th in the Medley and Freestyle relays. Lara and Alice performed well, placing 5th and 7th respectively in the 100m backcrawl.

The Senior team performed outstandingly. Their relay team consisting of Chloe Browne, Mia Davison, Amelia Kane and Florence Tinsley won gold in both Medley and Freestyle relays. Amelia placed 1st in 400m freestyle and 2nd in 200m IM. Mia placed 4th in



Minor Relay Team Details of Cup etc

Anjali Singh, Sophie Holmes,
Tasha Bell, Sophie Jess (front)

the 100m breaststroke and Florence took the gold in 100m backcrawl and bronze in 100m freestyle. Chloe Browne placed 27th in 100m freestyle. Their overall results meant Strathearn won the Nocher Cup and were crowned Ulster Schools' Senior Champions.

Strathearn also competed at the Ulster Schools' Junior Cup in Larne on the 11th of January. The relay team of Lucy Wills, Aoife Stafford, Eva Lappin and Tasha Noble placed 4th in both Medley and Freestyle relays, narrowly missing out on the bronze medal position. Alice Gardener, Ella Riddell, Sophie Holmes and Sophie Jess placed 13th in the Medley relay. Lucy Wills swam impressively and placed 5th in 100m backcrawl. Zophia Quigley stole the show by getting a Personal Best in 100m butterfly (and gaining the gold medal) as well as claiming 4th in 100m freestyle. Well done girls for these achievements!

Also, special congratulations to Amelia Kane who represented Ireland at the European Juniors from 3rd-7th of July in Kazan, Russia and the World Juniors from 20th-25th of August in Budapest, Hungary. She then went on to compete at the European Seniors Short Course in Glasgow in December, coming away with three PBs in three events in her Senior debut for Ireland. An amazing achievement by Amelia! Amelia, along with Florence Tinsley and Grace Davison, qualified to represent Ulster at the Interprovincial Swimming Championships at the NAC in Dublin but unfortunately this competition was cancelled due to Covid-19.

With an extraordinary year now over, on behalf of all the girls, I would like to say thank you to Mrs. King and Ms. Young for all they have done for us throughout the year. I'm sure all swimmers are looking forward to next year!

Florence Tinsley U6T

KAYAKING .

This year the Kayaking club attracted girls of all abilities from all year groups and once again provided a fun and friendly way to experience paddle sports.

The sessions were run exclusively for Strathearn by Belfast Kayak Academy. We learnt skills that lead to a formal kayaking qualification and enjoyed races, games and canoe polo. We also had free time to play about on the water. This club runs on Fridays after school at Ormiston Pool.

Zoe Hill 2A

Cricket is still a relatively new addition to sport at Strathearn but has nevertheless been a huge success. With large numbers at training and many teams competing in tournaments, it has been exciting to see cricket grow in popularity.

Throughout the last few years of cricket we have made many links with local cricket clubs – CIYMS, NICS and Hollywood. A special thanks to Hollywood Cricket Club this year for their assistance with coaching and for organising competitions. We had great success this season with two U13 teams and three U15 teams taking part in Hollywood Cricket Club tournaments where they took on teams from Rockport and Sullivan Upper. All the girls played well but the U15 'A' team were the overall winners at this tournament.

We also had an U13 team playing at the Super 8s competition at Friends' School Lisburn, who did exceptionally well to reach the semi-final but unfortunately were beaten by a more experienced Wallace HS team.

Outside of school Lucie McNaught, Anna Kirk, Sophie Thomas and Jemima Thomas competed for Civil Service Cricket Club and played matches throughout the summer for their team which went on to win the Challenge Cup Final as well as the women's league. Lucie, Sophie and Jemima then got selected to attend NCU training sessions throughout the winter months. A great season all around!

Jemima Thomas L6A



U13 Teams for Hollywood Cricket Club Tournament

Back Row: Daisy Compton, Abi Conroy, Maeve McAirt, Rebecca Gabbie, Lola Parkes, Maisie McCrea, Eva Morrison, Katherine Boyle, Evie McMullan, Rachel Bowan

Front Row: Amy Boyle, Eva Wilson, Georgia Thornton, Gracie Hamilton, Katie Mullan, Ailsa Gallagher, Lucy Brown



U15 A Team Winners of Hollywood

Cricket Club Tournament

Back Row: Hannah McGugan, Penny Hood, Aiza Ghafoor, Cara Murray, Sophie Hoey, Ruby Rebbeck

Front Row: Sarah Tweedie, Sophie Thomas, Lucie McNaught, Karis Hamilton, Niamh Hatfield



U13 Super 8's Team

Back Row: Ailsa Gallagher, Eva Wilson, Maisie McCrea, Daisy Compton

Front Row: Georgia Thornton, Gracie Hamilton, Amy Boyle, Rachel Carson

STRATHEARN PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.



As part of my role as Head of Department in Strathearn Preparatory Department I also teach P4. In P4, we research a number of famous people and Sir Ernest Shackleton is a definite favourite of mine. Ernest Shackleton's goal was to be the first man to traverse the Antarctic continent. During this expedition his ship became trapped in ice and he was unable to complete the transcontinental journey he had hoped for. Despite this, he brought back all 27 of his men alive, a feat of magnificent leadership without parallel.

How did he do it? Of Shackleton's many leadership abilities the two most vital were his resilience and his care for others. His optimism never failed him and defeat never broke him. Numerous times, Shackleton and his men felt incredibly hopeful that a goal was in sight and things were turning their way, only to have these hopes utterly dashed.

This was Shackleton's reality for a year and a half. Although he had moments where the weight of the situation sat heavily upon his shoulders, he would always shake off the gloom and resiliently move forward once more.

At Penrhyn, our purpose is to help our girls to develop wonderful qualities such as those displayed by Shackleton. I believe that resilience, care and compassion are essential qualities that our girls need for their future success. Success, in Penrhyn, comes in many varied forms.

The high academic standard achieved by our P7 pupils is evidenced by the fact that the girls achieved excellent results in the 2019/2020 AQE Common Entrance Assessments. Alongside the aim of academic excellence, however, a Strathearn Preparatory Department Education also offers a wide variety of excellent extra-curricular opportunities.

I am always amazed when I look back on the school year and see just how much we have achieved. I am delighted to invite you to read about our academic achievements, our outstanding performances on the stage and our sporting successes in what has been yet another enjoyable and memorable year in our happy school.

Mrs Mawhinney
Head of Department

PENRHYN SCHOOL COUNCIL.



Back row: Grace Gilchrist, Isla Aldworth,
Julia Cochrane, Emma Bell

Front row: Ava Dunlop, Amelia Maze, Erin Sweet, Faith Mercer

Seated on floor: Sophie Nelson, Emily Morrison

P7 DUTY PREFECTS.



Back row:

Emma McNally, Tara Curry, Faith Mercer, Vanessa Minford, Mrs Andrews, Zoe Greenaway, Megan Chercoles Carter, Charlotte Harvey

Front row:

Sophie Crawford, Chloe McKittrick, Aisling Gaskin, Lydia Greer, Mya Somerville, Macy McCormick, Lauren Eakin, Lotte Carter

Seated on floor:

Grace Conroy, Essie Costello, Katy Allsopp

P7 CLASS PREFECTS.



Back row: Katie Barr, Isabella Kenny, Mrs Andrews, Zara Gray, Julia Cochrane

Front row: Georgia Matchett, Maggie Wilson, Annabel Pollin

Seated on floor: Erin McDowell

HOUSE CAPTAINS



Back row: Zara Gray, Tara Curry, Aisling Gaskin, Julia Cochrane

Front row: Mya Somerville, Essie Costello, Vanessa Minford

Seated on floor: Sophie Crawford

ART

P1 - P3



Ella McEwen P1



Ella McKinney P1



Astrid McGimpsey P2



Ellen Burnside P2



Emma Wilson P2



Bella McCormick P3



Sophie Wilson



Emily Morrison



Catherine Quinn



Arianna Beattie



Amy Greenaway

ART

P4 - P7



Ava Dunlop P4



Amelia Maze P4



Freya Bevan P4



Lottie De'Ath P4



Sophia Bennett P4



Libbie Gordon (red) P5
Jessica Kerr (green) P5
Eva Graham (pink) P5



P5



P5



Bella Houliston P4



Charlotte Harvey P7



Zoe Greenaway P7



Essie Costello P7

P6 Viking Ship



THE PENRHYN YEAR 2019-2020.

MAY 2019.

P2 TRIP TO ULSTER MUSEUM

On Thursday 16th May 2019, P2 visited the Ulster Museum and met our new friend, 'Stuffee'. We learned how to look after our bodies by brushing our teeth and eating healthy food. It was fun to pull out Stuffee's small intestine - we all had to help because it was so long!

C Hunter

P1 TRIP TO MOUNT STEWART



The P1s went on a trip to Mount Stewart and followed the "Rainbow Chips" programme. We had been studying the topic of "The Senses" in school and the fun activities organised for us included listening to animal sounds, matching colours of flowers, tasting fruits growing in the grounds and smelling and feeling the different plants and trees growing in the garden. We thoroughly enjoyed our trip and we learnt so many new things in such beautiful surroundings.

V McKinney

P3 'PLANT AND PLAY' ROADSHOW



On Thursday 9th May and Friday 10th May 2019, a lady named Vicky came into P3 and led a workshop on gardens and another one on minibeasts. On Thursday we did gardens and we planted peas and made Secret Message Flowers. On Friday, we learned about minibeasts. We learned about Invasive Minibeasts such as the Harlequin Ladybird and the New Zealand Flatworm. We saw minibeasts in little boxes and we even got to hold a very slimy snail! Our class also got to plant lovely poppy seeds and we did paper plate art. We really enjoyed having Vicky come into our class.

Lottie De'Ath and Rain Akpojivi P3

P3 STEAM DAY

On Thursday 30th and Friday 31st May 2019, the P1, P2 and P3 girls had two fabulous STEAM Days. This is what STEAM stands for:

- S** = Science
- T** = Technology
- E** = Engineering
- A** = Art
- M** = Maths



We had 10 different activities. There was Rainbow Volcanoes, planting sunflower seeds, making different shapes of bubbles, drawing and painting sunflowers, designing structures with marshmallows and cocktail sticks, making newspaper towers, butterfly cubes, experimenting with cars and ramps, making a natural materials collage and balloon-driven cars. Our favourite activities were the Rainbow Volcanoes and Bubbles. In Rainbow Volcanoes we mixed baking soda, food colouring and vinegar and then it erupted like a volcano. We loved blowing bubbles and making lots of different shapes. The P3s were leaders of each group and we had to be very sensible and wise. Mrs. Mawhinney came in to see how we were working together. Every single girl enjoyed themselves and we would definitely love to do this again!

Amelia Maze and Sarah Matchett P3

P3 TRIP TO MOUNT STEWART



On 24th May 2019, P3 went to Mount Stewart for a very exciting Bug Day. When we arrived we ate our snack and then went to the lookout. There were lots of interesting stuffed animals, shells and sharp shark teeth. After the lookout we went pond-dipping. We had nets and we tried to find newts. Ava Dunlop was very lucky to catch one! Then we went on a magnificent minibeast hunt. We caught many woodlice, beetles, green fly, slugs and many more insects. This was a very enjoyable activity. To finish off our trip we had a walk around the lake and we met the little cygnets and fed the ducks.

Ava Dunlop and Sophie Thompson P3



P5 TRIP TO CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE AND MUSEUM

On Friday 31 May 2019 P5 visited Carrickfergus Castle and Museum. We first went to see the gate house. Inside we looked up and could see the 'Murder Hole'! The guards used to pour hot oil down this hole on top of their enemies. The archers would also shoot down their arrows into the hole as the attackers were trapped by the portcullis at the entrance. Then we saw the drawbridge which would be lowered down by cutting the rope to protect the castle during invasion. John de Courcy built this Norman castle in 1177 high up on a rock by the sea. We saw a statue of his wife Affreca who looked sad. We learned that she had to have permission to smile from her husband! Finally, we went to the Museum and used ipads for a treasure hunt. It was really enjoyable and my favourite part of the trip.

Heidi Dunlop P5

JUNE 2019.

P2 TRIP TO CASTLE ESPIE

On Monday 10th June 2019, P2 visited Castle Espie. We fed the ducks, made perfume using flowers and plants, had a minibeast hunt and played at the Wildwood Play Park. It was a fun day of outdoor learning and exploring our environment.



C Hunter

P4 TRIP TO CASTLE ESPIE

On Monday 10th June our P4 class travelled by bus with the P2 class to Castle Espie. It was a lovely sunny day, and we had a fun-packed morning full of interesting activities. We learned all about the journey of migratory birds, and spotted different types of birds on the Lough and learned about their habitats. We fed the ducks and after lunch we visited the shop before our journey home. It was a really enjoyable day!

Rachel Chacko and Sophie Nelson P4



P5 TRIP TO OXFORD ISLAND



On September 19th Prep 5 went on a wonderful trip to Oxford Island. The first thing we did was meet our leader called Pascal. Our first activity was minibeast hunting. I found lots. Then we went pond dipping. We were put into groups and we went one at a time and we brought the nets back and put them in a box with water so that you could see the creatures. Then we went bird watching. We saw that Oxford Island had lots of birds on it.

Ava Sweet P5



EUROPEAN LANGUAGES DAY

Thursday 26 September 2019 was European Languages Day. We all got dressed up. In Assembly we learnt about a few different languages. Mrs Hyndman was teaching us French. She had four different colours of card and she taught us the colours in French. The colours of the cards were blue – bleu, red – rouge, yellow – jaune and green – vert. I dressed up in a flamenco dress and I had good fun.

Ava Dunlop P4

THE PENRHYN YEAR 2019-2020 .

P5 TRIP TO SEAFORDE BUTTERFLY HOUSE AND GARDEN



On Friday 27 September the P5 class went to the Seaford Butterfly centre. We took a long bus journey. As soon as we got there we had to walk to the butterfly room, where we saw lots of beautiful butterflies. Then we went into another room which had turtles, birds and fish. We then went into another room that kept a female snake, snails, fish and tarantulas. Next we went into the maze, which I found really hard but fun. We then took the bus to Clough Castle which is situated in County Down. It was built in the 12th century. It is an Anglo-Norman Motte and Bailey castle built by John de Courcy's Knights. The views from the remains of the castle were very beautiful. I hope to go there again in the future.



Rachel Chacko P5

P3 VISIT BY CAPTAIN AGAR

On Monday 30th September, my Dad who is called Captain Agar visited P3. He did a fabulous presentation about his job as



a pilot flying aeroplanes for Jet 2. We learned how an aeroplane flies using two engines. It also has three exhausts. My Dad has a co-pilot to help him. We looked at a map and found all our holiday destinations. We also learned about what we do and where we go at an airport. P3 had a great time. We are going to visit Belfast City Airport next week.

Issie Hazel-Agar P3

POETRY DAY WITH WES MAGEE



On Monday 30 September Wes Magee came to our school. He did workshops for P1 – P6. On Tuesday P7 had a whole day workshop. He showed us some of his poetry books called 'So, You Want to Be a Wizard?' and 'Deep in the Green Wood'. He taught us all about being a poet. His favourite poems are 'My Dog's First Poem', 'Hide and Seek', 'Birthday Game' and 'Stroke the Cat'. He travelled by ferry from Liverpool to Belfast overnight. There were seagulls on the journey and he taught us a poem called 'Seagulls'. Wes Magee is 80 years old. We had an amazing time with Wes Magee!

Sophie Thompson P4

P1 DAFFODIL PLANTING

In September the P1s planted bulbs in the Penrhy garden. We chose a flower bed close to the P1 path, so that the girls could observe the growth of the daffodils from planting to flowering and feel proud that they had added to the beauty of the garden. Nature at its best!

V McKinney

OCTOBER 2019 .

P6 VIKING DAY



On 4th October 2019 P6 had a Viking day. Rita and Michael (who was being called Magnus for the day) came in to teach us all about Vikings. First of all, we watched some videos about the Vikings in our classroom. Then we made spears out of card, newspaper and some poles. We even added red paint to the end for blood! Next we all headed to the hall to watch another video. It started playing a second time and in the middle of it Magnus came running in dressed as a Viking! Everyone screamed. I have to admit I did too. Once we had all recovered from the shock we split up into groups and did activities like a Viking board game called trip trap troll and a chainmail relay, which I can tell you was hard work because the chainmail was really heavy. We all had break time and came back to find another set of activities to do. There was flint and steel, Heidi and I were the only ones in our group to make sparks by bashing the flint on the steel. We headed to lunch talking about what we had been told was next. Sword fighting! We didn't actually fight but got taught positions, on guard and 1,2,3,4 & 5. We had to get into the positions as quickly as possible and you got put out if you were slow or got it wrong. I won! I got a special bracelet and was announced leader of the longship. I really enjoyed P6 Viking day.



Bella De'Ath P3

P2 TRIP TO W5

On Thursday 10th October 2019, P2 visited W5. Our tour guide Matt taught us about the astronaut, Tim Peake. We watched video clips of astronauts in space and we learned how to launch a rocket. Some girls now want to be astronauts when they grow up because it looked like so much fun.



C Hunter

P3 TRIP TO GEORGE BEST CITY AIRPORT



On Thursday 10th of October, P3 went on a trip to the George Best City Airport. First we met Paula, then we went to a big conference room. We asked Paula lots of questions about the airport. Then Gareth the fireman came and told us about his job. There are three fire engines at the airport, just in case there is a fire. We loved dressing up in Gareth's fireman outfit. We had a lovely trip. At the end we got fabulous goody bags!



Emily Morrison and Issie Hazel-Agar P3

P4 TRIP TO CASTLE WARD



On Thursday 10th October our P4 class travelled by bus to Castle Ward where we took part in its annual 'Applefest'. We spent the morning doing various fun activities such as planting apple seeds, apple art and craft activities and playing games in the beautiful gardens of Castle Ward and exploring the apple trees outside. Before we left we visited the National Trust shop and sang some 'apple' songs! It was a really super day!

Lottie De'Ath and Freya Brand P4

M & M VISIT

On 11 October 2019, we saw the M & M production of Snow White. It was Snow White's birthday and her stepmother was preparing for a party. The sisters were inviting Prince Rider to the party. The stepmother went to the magic mirror and said 'mirror, mirror on the wall who's the fairest of them all?' the mirror replied 'Snow White is the fairest of them all'.

Bella Turtle P4

DIVERSITY SCIENCE WEEK

On Friday 11 October we had a visit from Dr Oyama to look at diversity. We went down to the hall with our lab coats and put on plastic gloves and plastic glasses. We sat down and got a drink to swish and swash around in

THE PENRHYN YEAR 2019-2020 .

our mouths and spit it out into a plastic cup. After this we took plastic tubes and poured the drink up to the mark of 25 ml, then we added some pink liquid to the 6ml mark. Then we shook up the tubes and left them for 2 minutes, then we added cold ethanol to make two layers and used a pipette to take up the DNA. We all got glass bottles and squeezed the liquid into the bottles. We put them round our necks and thanked Dr Oyama for coming.

Lotte Carter P7

P7 TRIP TO PARLIAMENT BUILDING AT STORMONT



On arrival, we went through a security check, where we had to take off our blazers. It was a bit like security at the airport. We started our tour in the Great Hall, where we met our Tour Guide. Our Tour Guide told us lots of interesting facts about the building. My two favourite facts are that the building is 365 feet wide; each foot represents a day of the year. My other favourite fact is that during World War II, the building was covered in a mixture of tarmac and cow manure, to hide it from enemy attack. Stormont must have been the smelliest building in the world during World War II! A highlight of the tour was a visit to the Senate Chamber, where we saw two very interesting paintings. Unfortunately, we didn't get to go into the Blue Assembly Chamber because there was a debate going on. Part of the tour involved seeing a video that a girl our age made about Stormont; she taught us some more interesting facts about Stormont. All in all, it was a very interesting and informative visit that I thoroughly enjoyed.

Katy Allsopp P7

P5 VISIT FROM GREEN WATCH KNOCK FIREFIGHTERS

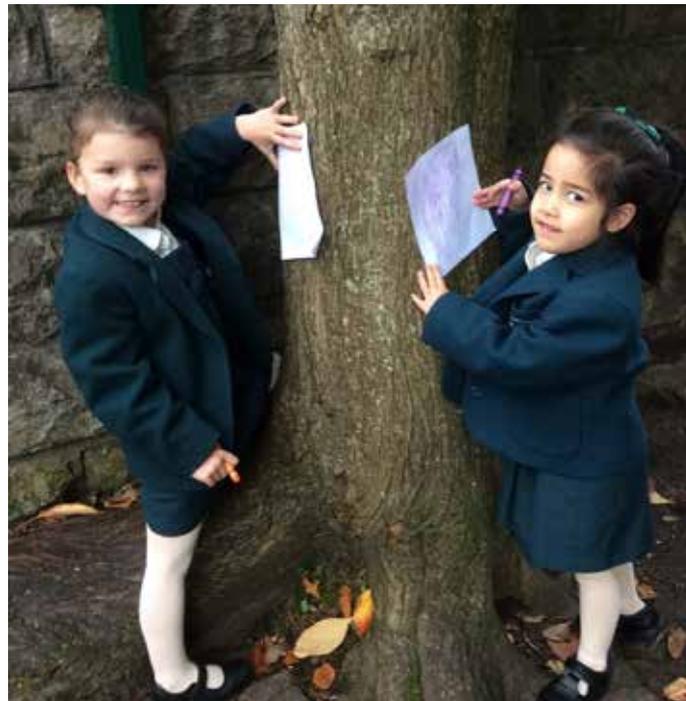
Firefighters from Green Watch at Knock Fire Station came to visit P5 on 25 October 2019. It was fun and educational. We learned about Fire and Safety and how it is important to have a fire escape plan. Each pupil received a safety pack and an activity booklet. We all got to



see the fire truck in the playground and we tried to knock down cones with the water hose. All of Prep 5 enjoyed the fire safety visit especially when the siren sounded!

Sophie Nelson P5

P1 AUTUMN WALK



On Friday 25th October the P1s went for an Autumn Walk in the Penrhyn garden. We collected leaves, made nature art pictures and took bark rubbings from the beautiful trees. It was really interesting to feel the roughness of the bark on our hands and to compare the different patterns we made with our rubbings. It was good fun!

V McKinney

NOVEMBER 2019 .

P5 TRIP TO CAMPBELL JUNIOR SCHOOL FOR A C S LEWIS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 12th November, the P5 class went to do a workshop about CS Lewis at Campbell. We travelled by minibus and when we got there we were welcomed by some Campbell teachers who took us to a big room with lots of chairs and mats. We sat on the chairs and the boys sat on the mats. When we had settled down, Mr Smith came in and started talking about CS Lewis. One of his stories was based on the lamppost in Campbell. This story was *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*. CS Lewis also wrote *Prince Caspian* and *The Magician's Nephew*. We were asked some questions and held some valuable books. There was a big one and some really small ones. Then we watched a movie about CS Lewis and found out he went to Oxford University. I really enjoyed this trip and learned a lot.

Alex Savage P5

HOLLYWOOD MUSIC FESTIVAL

On 21st November, a few other girls and I went to the Hollywood Music Festival. My song was called "Be Kind to Your Parents". My song was a funny song. My dad collected me from the P6 classroom at around 1.20 pm and drove us to the Queen's Leisure Centre. We arrived and rushed upstairs thinking we were late, but we weren't. Most of the girls were there. Mrs Mawhinney sat in the back row. The age group was for children aged nine and under. First, the lady started speaking about if a fire happened. If so, we needed to leave the building. She also spoke about how we shouldn't be nervous when we sing. She then announced the first person. I was number fifteen, so I watched fourteen people before I went on. Everybody was really good! Mrs Devlin called me up to the piano to say that I was on next. The lady told everybody that I was coming on. I walked up with pride, then announced my name and song. I sang my heart out! I also tried my best. Around five other people sang after me. Then there was an interval. Finally, the adjudicator announced the score! Freya Brand in P4 came 3rd, I came joint 2nd with Cecily Park and Iona Blair came 1st! I was so pleased because this was my first time ever singing in a big crowd! All the girls that won came from Penrhyn! Thank you for listening to my story, I had a great time!

Tara Kirk Thom P6

STRATHEARN'S PERFORMANCE OF 'THE WIZARD OF OZ'

On 26 November 2019 a few P5 and P6 girls walked over to Strathearn to watch Strathearn girls perform 'The Wizard of Oz'. The reason why not all of the P5s and P6s went was because most of the class were on a trip with the choir. When we got to Strathearn there was a lovely display. When the play started it was really exciting. The Fairy Godmother wore a beautiful, pink, sparkly dress and Dorothy wore a blue, checked dress. The play overall was a blast! The singing was phenomenal and the acting was astonishing! We really enjoyed this funny play.

Isla Aldworth and Grace Gilchrist P6

EARLY MAN WORKSHOP WITH P5

On Friday 29th November 2019, P5 had an Early Man Workshop. Rita and Michael came to tell us all about it. We had some activities to do, such as dressing up as cavemen and cavewomen. We made bread and we also wove a wall out of sticks. We had some pictures of things that they used to kill animals for food, such as spears and axes. We made pots with Rita, and we used clay and we decorated it with lots of squiggles. Last but not least, we made a fire in the playground. Michael put stones around it and wood in the middle. We had a really enjoyable day.

Farrah Taylor P5

P6 & P7 BELFAST TOUR BUS



On Tuesday 3rd December 2019 P6 and P7 went on a Belfast Bus Tour. A double decker 'hop-on, hop-off' bus collected us from school and took us on an interesting tour of all the city's main attractions. During the tour we visited St George's Market, Titanic quarter, Crumlin Road Gaol, Falls and Shankill Memorial Gardens, Royal Hospital for Sick Children and Queens University. We heard lots of facts about Belfast. My favourite fact of the day was that, during the war, bodies were stored in St George's Market. Our tour guide also told us some information about the troubles and how in some places in the city large gates were closed at 7.00 pm and reopened at 6.30 am. We stopped at a few places to get photographs taken before returning to school for lunch. We all had an exciting day out.

Sophie Crawford P7

FLAHAVAN'S PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

On the 3 December 2019 a group of P6 girls (Cecily Park, Nyla Mallon, Bella De'Ath, Katie Allen and myself) went to Flahavens Cross Country Competition in Newcastle. We finished with Cecily Park coming 8th, Bella 12th, Katie 16th, Nyla 18th and me 30th. I think it was an unforgettable experience!

Charlotte Acheson P6

P1 & P3 CONCERT

On Thursday 5 December P5, P6 and P7 got to see the dress rehearsal of "Everyone Loves a Baby" by P1 and P3. I was really excited to see it. I loved the singing. The story was about Mary and Joseph. I thought it was funny and the costumes were brilliant. The performance was extremely entertaining. The songs were very lively and bouncy. The actions were well thought out. I loved all the P1's little dresses. I thought the play was outstanding.

Jemima Readman

P4 ART WORKSHOP



On Monday 16th December the P4 girls were treated to a flower arranging workshop led by the very talented Mrs Sandra Carson, who is a retired art teacher and a flower arranging expert. The girls had a wonderful afternoon creating Christmas floral decorations.

P Devlin

P1 CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Friday 20th December the P1s had a lovely Christmas Party in class. We had a special snack together and then we gathered around the tree to wait for Santa Claus to arrive. He spoke to every girl about their Christmas wishes and he posed for a photograph with the class before leaving with a merry "Ho, Ho, Ho!"



V McKinney

JANUARY 2020.

SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

On Monday 13 January P6 and P7 went to Strathearn to take part in Sportshall Athletics. We were joined by Campbell College Belfast and Dundonald Primary School. We formed three different teams: The Bears, The Cats and The Acers. The event soon started and teams went up to the warm-up. There was a variety of events including javelin, 4 x 1 relay, chest push, 5 strides, 2 x 2 relay and more. All the teams tried very hard and we all worked really well together. When the last race ended we were all very eager to find out who had won. We took the top three places and Dundonald took 4th – 7th places. In 3rd place was the green team, in 2nd and 1st place was the orange team.

Megan Chercoles Carter and Julia Cochrane P7

STRATHEARN SCHOOL. 102

P3 TRIP TO CULTRA FOLK PARK



On Thursday 23rd January 2020, P3 went on an amazing trip to Cultra Folk Park. First we had our snack. Then we divided into 2 groups. We had 2 very exciting workshops. Audrey taught us how to make soda bread on a griddle over the fire. We then

got to eat a piece of it with lovely butter on top. It was yummy! After that we had a weaving workshop. We made beautiful harvest love knots. We have to give them to someone we love. There were lots of old houses and shops and churches to visit. Arianna loved the doctor's house best and she had her hearing tested. Sienna



loved visiting the photographer and she saw the old cameras and how they worked. We were sad to leave.

Sienna Mooney & Isabella White

P7 SCIENCE VISIT TO STRATHEARN SCHOOL

chairs and given three tasks. The first task was to put together a human body out of plastic representations of various organs. The second task was to find out which liquid had metal in it. We used milk of magnesia, lemon juice, water and vinegar. We used a chemical to mix into each of the above liquids and compared the results on a scale. The third task was to use a microscope to magnify and discover what was hiding in and around moss, a mouldy stick and a bit of a fir tree.

Maggie Wilson P7



Two of our young scientists hard at work.



as the scullery, which are very different to the ones we have now. In the dining room there were fancy plates on the table and a painting of the person who lived in the house, a man in old fashioned clothes. Upstairs we saw what the bedrooms would have been like. In one of the bedrooms was a wooden box with pretend drawers. This was actually the toilet, with a lift up lid. There were also two dressing tables. We had our packed lunch down in the reception area and played in the garden, which was really big, before we got back on the bus to go back to school. Some people bought old fashioned toys in the shop. We arrived back just in time for PE!

Lauren Eakin P7

P7 VISIT TO SENTRY HILL



On Monday 27th January we went on a trip to Sentry Hill in Carnmoney. This is an old Victorian farmhouse. We went on a bus, from school, at about 9.30 am. Mrs Andrews, Mrs Atkinson and Essie's mum came with us. When we arrived two people, Wesley and Deirdre, were there to meet us and show us around. They were really nice and helpful too. First we saw some children's toys, from a long time ago, a ball catcher game, Jacob's ladder and a flip book. There was also a spinning top. A Jack-in-the-box was my favourite toy. We also saw a cane used by teachers in those times and we saw a wooden back straightener which was used if children were slouching! Wesley told us a story about the family who lived in the farmhouse and showed us an old iron, a stone hot water bottle and a cover to keep flies off the food. We also saw a jelly mould and glove-stretchers, which we don't use today. When we went into the house we looked at the kitchen and the utility room, also known



FEBRUARY 2020.

KLASS KIDS ASSEMBLY

On Friday 7 February 2020 Klass Kids came to our school for an Assembly. First they introduced themselves and said what we were going to do. We started with the songs 'Castle on the Hill', 'Let it Go' and 'Shotgun'. Then we recorded animal sounds. Essie got called up and had to make a dog sound. Then Mrs Atkinson got called up to make a chicken sound – it was very funny. Then we recorded a song which was fun. We heard a story from the Bible. It was about a paralysed man whose friends dug a hole in a roof of a house to see Jesus. P7 had their own workshop and after that we played games and did crafts. Overall I really enjoyed it.

Chloe McKittrick P7

P6 VETERINARY SURGEON VISIT

My Dad is a Veterinary Surgeon and during our topic of the human body he came into school on 7 February 2020 to talk about the animal kingdom, and how animal bodies are very similar to ours, but also very different. He discussed different organs, anatomy and structure and it was really interesting and enjoyable. We had to look at x-rays of different animals and then had to guess what animal they were from and where in the body they would be on a human! I have to say the hardest one to guess was the whale! At the end he got us to look at an x-ray of a dog and say what was wrong with it. The dog had actually swallowed a plastic toy! My dad said that the class questions were excellent. They went on for so long we nearly missed our break!

Molly McCoubrey P6

P1 VALENTINE'S CARDS



On Tuesday 11th February the P1s made gorgeous cards in school. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the process of making, enveloping, addressing and posting the letter, which was to cause such a special surprise when it arrived at their homes on Valentine's Day.

V McKinney

P6 VISIT BY A CHILDREN'S NURSE

We did a project on the human body. My cousin Rachel came into our class on 12 February 2020 to tell us all about her job working as a children's nurse in the Royal Victoria Hospital. Rachel works with tiny premature babies and babies who are sick when they are born and need help from doctors and nurses. Rachel brought in some of the things she uses in her work every day. She brought in scrubs and we got to try these on and we got to keep them in school for our golden time. She brought in face masks, gloves and hats to show us too, which we got to keep in school. Rachel showed us the difference between a premature baby nappy and a normal baby nappy...it was so tiny. We got to put it on George my monkey and it fitted him! She showed us the size of the oxygen masks for tiny babies when they need help to breathe and it was about the size of a nose! She showed us the special lights that they use to shine in the babies' eyes. It was a blue light and it wasn't too bright so it wouldn't hurt the babies. That Friday we brought in dolls to pretend to be doctors and nurses during our golden time and had great fun using all the special things Rachel gave us.

Niamh Coman P6

P6 VISIT FROM A DENTIST

On 12th February 2020 Mr Blair, my dad, came in to P6 to talk about teeth. He had a Powerpoint presentation so it was very interesting. He talked about the structure of a tooth, the skull, the nerves on your face and much more. The pictures in the presentation really helped because I couldn't imagine all the things he talked about in my head. Mr Blair also had a few models to pass around for us to look at, as well as a real elephant tooth! He played a mini-game with laminated cards with pictures of food.

The game was to identify which food was good for your teeth and which food was bad. The structure of the tooth was the main topic Mr Blair talked about; he also explained about the muscles in your face. One of the names for a muscle was so long it had to be abbreviated! I was quite sad when the talk was over as it was very interesting.

Iona Blair P6

P1 PRINCESS PARTY



On Friday 14th February the P1s had a Princess Party to celebrate the end of their "Fairy-Tale" topic. The girls were allowed to wear their favourite princess dress to school and we wore the pretty crowns we had made to add to the style. We danced, played games, watched a Princess film and had a cake as well. What a super day!

V McKinney

MARCH 2020.

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 5th March the P1s celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as a character from their favourite book. The girls developed their talking and listening skills, by performing a "Show and Tell" for the class. We all loved listening to the girls' best parts of the story and it was most enjoyable to discover such a wide range of books on display.

V McKinney



Nainsi as the blue crayon



Nainsi McCoubrey P2



Augusta as Madeline



Augusta McCausland P2



Peggy as a ladybird



Peggy Hirst P2



P2 VISIT BY LAGAN SEARCH & RESCUE



On Tuesday 10th March, Mr Hirst (Peggy's dad) and Brooke came to talk about their work with Lagan Search and Rescue. They delivered an interesting PowerPoint and then we got to climb into the jeep and boat! The siren was so loud! This hands-on experience was great for our topic, 'People Who Help Us'. Thank you for coming to visit.

C Hunter

P7 SINGING CLASS AT BELFAST MUSIC FESTIVAL



On 11 March the P7 singing class girls took part in the musical theatre class at Belfast Music Festival, where high commendation was given to all of their individual performances. Individual prizes were awarded to Macy McCormack, Erin McDowell and Isabella Kenny. Macy was also awarded the cup for the overall most promising voice in her age group at the festival.

P Devlin

Acrostic Poems by Rain Akpojivi P4

Remote Learning

Reading at home is always fun
Every book is a special one
Mental maths with mum's a blast
Oh but beware, she's tough as tough
Times tables on the go
Elaborate art to keep us busy

Learning new things every day
Extraordinary creatures to unearth
Activity filled weekends and more
Reciting helps us remember again while
Numeracy keeps us on our toes
Incredible screen time is allowed
Numerous meals in between
Games upon games and games unending

Home School

Home we went and home we stayed
Out of reach from the growing pandemic
Mothers and Fathers turning into teachers
Evenings and mornings muddled into one

Staying at home but staying safe
Chores unending fill the day
Hoping the time quickly will pass
Opting to play all day is best
Often snacking on chocolate bars
Longing and longing for school days again!

**Starting at Penrhyn in P6
by Maisie Rainer**

I moved to Penrhyn in week 4 of Term 1. I felt a bit awkward and nervous when I first arrived because I didn't know anyone. The girls in my class were very welcoming. There were 22 girls in the class when I first joined.

Everyone wanted to talk to me and find things out about me – they were chatty and friendly. Everybody showed me where everything was and made sure I was looked after. We played games at break time but they called them by different names so I was a bit confused!

Mrs Hyndman showed me where my desk was and she had all of my books ready for me. I sat between Grace and Heidi D to start with. We move desks every half term so we get to know everyone really well.

Niamh also joined in P6. She started after me and we all made sure that she felt welcome too. The school has very high standards on how girls should behave at school. I am pleased to be at Penrhyn and have made some good friends.

Learning at Home During a Pandemic

by Rain Akpojivi P4

It was almost the end of term two at school and our classes slowly started to feel empty. Fear of a new virus, the human corona virus COVID 19 making people sick and even killing some was spreading in the community. Little did we know that our lives were about to change drastically. There were still lots of activities planned. We were all looking forward to the Mary Poppins play by the P5 to P7 pupils. I for one had the day all planned with my mum. My dad was returning from South Africa the morning of the play. He would look after my sisters while I had alone time with my mum and enjoy the play. Well, you already guessed! We were unable to watch the play as the show was cancelled. You can imagine my disappointment. Now triple that and you can see how sad the P7s especially would have been. All those hours of rehearsals! There were tears for sure.

Almost all of the world is now affected by the 'corocoro virus' as my mum calls it. So by midday on Friday 20 March we all left school wearing long faces, our school bags full of tons of work packs prepared by our lovely teachers. We weren't even sure when we would be back to school.

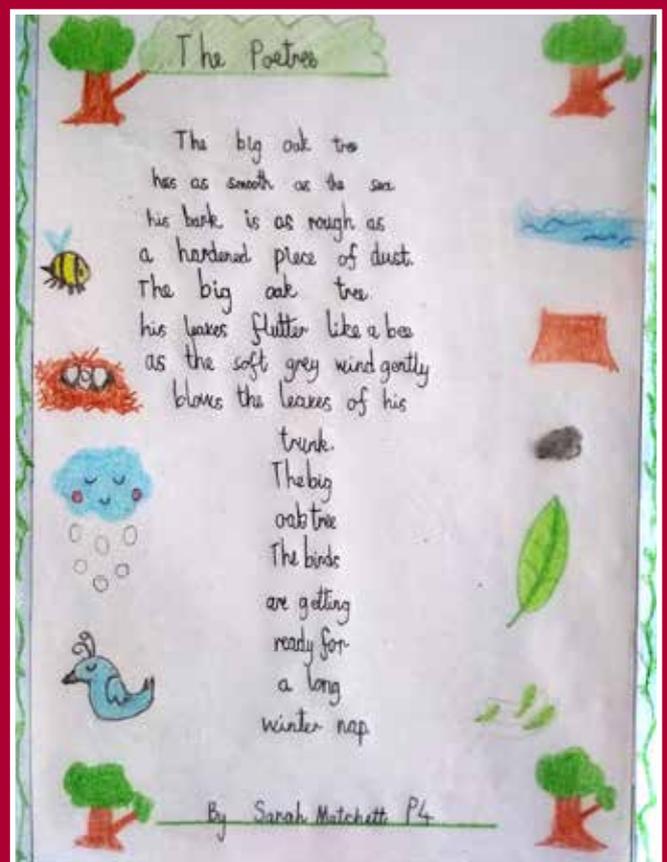
Almost five weeks have gone, and we all have a new normal, home schooling or remote learning as some people call it. I have mostly enjoyed this home schooling thing. I get to lie in a little more in the morning as there is no morning rush to get to school. I also get to spend time with my siblings and mum, who has also become my teacher. Don't tell her that I said this but she is a very strict teacher!

After a bit of mental maths, some spelling and written tasks and some exploration of bird and facts on the Scottish Islands, I spend the rest of my day playing with my sisters or watching programmes on Netflix. I sometimes get cookery lessons from my mum and I now know how to make yummy scrummy noodles and pasta. I even do 'dress the baby' competitions with my mum. It is a race to see who is first to finish when dressing my sisters. It's fun because, somehow, I always win. I am sure I'm ready to be a babysitter now! Funny enough since we have been in lockdown, the weather has been really sunny. It has only rained once or twice. Since the weather has been so nice and sunny, I sometimes go on bicycle rides and play football and tennis in the garden. I also enjoyed the videos from Mrs Devlin and Mrs Mawhinney and the tasks they give us. It was lovely to see photos of my friends also working from home. I am really

enjoying home school because I get to spend time with mum while learning.

However, I really do miss my friends from school and my teachers. Everyday can also feel like the same day and it is sometimes boring. Although, some of us have been able to catch up through video calls, speech and drama lessons aren't the same without my friends. No swapping seats, no lunch partners, no Irish dancing, no Art with Mrs Mawhinney or singing lessons with Mrs Devlin!

Everyone is working hard to fight the pandemic and save lives. My dad says we have to be grateful to all the health workers and keyworkers keeping us going. He says we have to listen to the news (he loves listening to the news!) and do our part. Hopefully very soon, we will all be able to get back to normal everyday life. Even though I am loving remote learning and home school, I can't wait to get back to school, to see my friends and teachers and run around the familiar grounds and corridors of my beloved Penrhyn.



ENTERTAINMENT .

MARY POPPINS .

Mary Poppins was the P7 play in Penrhyn in 2020. P7s took on the main roles while P5 and P6 played the smaller parts and were also the choir. Even though the experience got cut short due to Covid-19 we still enjoyed every minute of it! We started off by finding out what parts we got. Everyone received a role that they were pleased with. The girls with the smaller roles got to play multiple characters and we all enjoyed it. Macy and I (Annabel) were cast as Jane and Mary Poppins.

At first we rehearsed in Penrhyn's assembly hall but as the play became better we were given the privilege of rehearsing in Strathearn's Manning Hall. In the Manning Hall we got to use the proper staging and began to use props. As we rehearsed more and more the play started to come together. We had great fun rehearsing on stage with all our friends. We were really excited as it was getting closer to the performance night and every day the play was improving. We were allowed use more props and even got to try on our costumes. We had glittery, colourful costumes and also a variety of umbrellas.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 we received the news that we would only be performing the play once and the audience had to be members of our household. We were very disappointed.



The day of the dress rehearsal finally arrived and P7 were very excited. We were all dressed up in our fancy costumes and given radio mics to use. We performed the play and had a great time, only to find out further bad news that this would be our only chance to perform Mary Poppins. There would be no live show. We were all devastated, but grateful that it had been filmed and recorded on DVD forever.

We hope all the future P7s enjoy the play as much as we did. We had a great time and made so many amazing memories. It was a play that we will never forget.

By Annabel Pollin and Macy McCormick P7

CHRISTMAS ROADSHOW .

On the 15, 16 and 17 December, P7 were offered the opportunity to run a Christmas Roadshow by themselves. This was a real treat for the P7s after completing the AQE. It was also a chance to show our entrepreneurial skills. To prepare, we initially split into groups of two or three girls. Then, with our group we came up with ideas for fun games to play and delicious treats to sell. Following this, Mrs Andrews allocated each group an area in the classroom to set up their stall and decorate it.

The classroom was transformed into a Christmas Grotto. It looked fantastic. All pupils from P1 to P6 were able to come and visit. Everybody could play the games and if you got the highest score then you could win a special prize. The teachers could also take part!

I thoroughly enjoyed the Christmas Roadshow because it was a really enjoyable time with my friends and I made a lot of happy memories. It is also good to know we are helping others. Overall it was a great success and I hope that next year's P7s enjoy it as much as we did.

By Annabel Pollin P7

WORKING FROM HOME.

It's safe to say that this school year has been far from normal! Whilst we're disappointed to have missed out on many of the interesting and enjoyable activities that we had planned, we are also really proud of the way our girls have risen to the challenges of remote learning. It hasn't always been easy but as you can see from these photos, the Penrhyn girls really have shown great resilience and enthusiasm in adapting to their new circumstances.



Amy Greenaway P3



Issie Hazel-Agar P3



Daisy Rose Skinner P3



Sophie Wilson P3



Bella McCormick P3



WORKING FROM HOME.



Annabel Pollin P7



Lotte Carter P7



Lydia Greer P7



Sophie Crawford P7



Mya Somerville P7



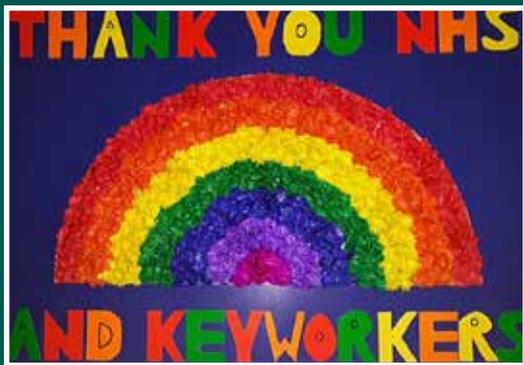
Lottie De'Ath P4



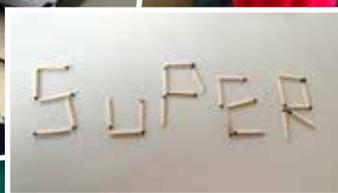
Sarah Matchett P4



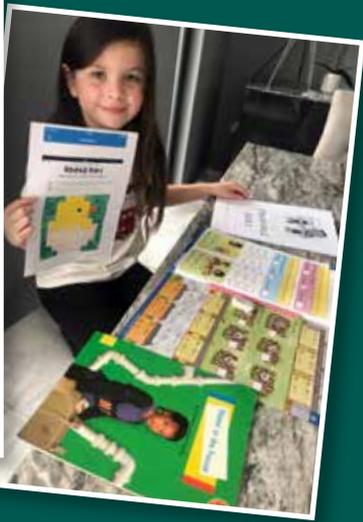
Sarah Bryans P4



Darcy White P4



Emily Morrison P3



Sienna Mooney P3



Isabella White P3



Rosanna McGimpsey P3

Well done girls!
We can't wait to see you again next year.



CLUBS .

CHOIR

Being a member of our school choir is great fun! We learn to work as a group and to listen and concentrate. Our performances provide an opportunity for us to develop our personal creativity, self-confidence and self-esteem. We thoroughly enjoy learning new songs and working together. At the Hollywood Music Festival in November 2019 we sang 'Silver Moon' by Lyn Marsh and 'Why We Sing' by Greg Gilpin. We were very excited when it was announced that we had won the Priory Cup and the Maurice Foster cup for the best overall Primary School Choir. In December, we took part in the Strathearn Senior School Carol Service. Essie Costello and Julia Cochrane from P7 represented the Preparatory Department by reading two lessons. They spoke clearly and with great confidence. Well done girls!

We also entertained office workers in Concentrix in Belfast. We sang carols and well known Christmas songs. At the start there were only a few people listening but very quickly lots of workers left their desks to come and listen and to join in!

Our previous engagements include Royal Belfast Golf Club, NSPCC St Anne's Cathedral, Festival Brass Concerts, Glenmachan Church, Marie Curie, Radio Ulster School Choir of the Year, Sydenham Salvation Army Christmas Concert and the Strathearn Anniversary Concert in the Ulster Hall.

At the Laganvale Technology Band Concert in February 2020 we opened by singing two beautiful songs by Lyn Marsh - 'Silver Moon' and 'Earth, Sea and Sky' painting a picture of God's amazing world. The

choir also performed a selection of the songs from our school musical show. The Mary Poppins' Medley included 'A Spoon full of Sugar', 'Chim Chim Cheree' and 'Let's go Fly a Kite'. Our final piece of the evening took the audience up, down and spinning around as we joined 'The Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines!' composed by Ron Goodwin.

Mrs Mawhinney

SINGING

This has been a super year for singing classes. Each week we meet to develop good vocal technique, add to our repertoire, and gain confidence on stage! In November P4-6 girls were entered for Hollywood Music Festival and the girls performed brilliantly.

Special mention must go to Amelia Maze, Rain Akpojivi, Freya Brand, Iona Blair, Grace Gilchrist, Cecily Park, and Tara Kirk Thom who all won medals. In March the P7 girls entered the theatre class at Belfast Music Festival and prizes were won by Macy McCormick, Erin McDowell and Isabella Kenny. Macy McCormick also won a special cup for the most promising voice.

*Well done to all
the girls for
performing so
confidently on stage!*

Mrs P Devlin

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Our fun-filled After School Club runs every day from 2.00-5.45pm. Full-time and part-time sessions are available for all years. After School Club provides opportunities for the girls to engage in arts and crafts, role play and to socialise with friends.

We have an arts and crafts trolley which is full of supplies where the girls can use their imaginations to create their own masterpieces for their individual scrapbook.

The girls are offered a healthy afternoon snack and we can offer support to those who wish to complete their homework in Prep 4 and above. We also have access to a great outdoor space where the girls can take part in outdoor games and have some fresh air after a hard day's work in school!

Miss King

SCIENCE CLUB

Our Science Club is a really fun and interactive way to expand on already existing interests. Each week we look at a different subject such as how to make a sunset, leaf chromatography or making a real cloud in a bottle. We use a combination of demonstrated experiments and investigative creative projects. For example, the leaf blower can be used to demonstrate the Bernoulli effect as it holds a beach ball in mid air even when held at a steep angle. The children then each try to blow up 8ft windbags with one human breath using the same scientific principles.

**Claire Childs
Party Professor**

SCRIPTURE UNION



We have been following an exciting Scripture Union programme called Shine Kids during January and February 2020. Each week we played fun games, enjoyed exciting drama, participated in fabulous craft activities and learned more about God. In our last week we had a brilliant treasure hunt and decorated yummy Easter biscuits. We also loved learning new songs which we hope to teach the rest of the girls in Assembly.

Emily Morrison & Rachel Cairns P3

SPEECH AND DRAMA

Speech and Drama provides an opportunity for each girl to improve her communication skills, expand her imagination and think creatively. The classes aim to foster an appreciation of literature, poetry and drama while building self confidence and self esteem, creating confident and motivated individual learners.

The interaction necessary for drama provides an arena where the girls can develop team-working skills. The Lagan Festival of Speech and Drama produced very successful results. The girls also have the opportunity to enter the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) examination and the last sets of results were truly outstanding.

J Armstrong





Back row: Zara Gray, Vanessa Minford, Megan Chercoles Carter, Isabella Kenny

Front row: Erin McDowell, Macy McCormick, Essie Costello, Lotte Carter, Katy Allsopp, Julia Cochrane

HOCKEY CLUB



Back row: Katie Allen, Essie Costello, Vanessa Minford, Charlotte Acheson, Nyla Mallon, Megan Chercoles Carter, Zoe Greenaway, Jemima Readman, Lotte Carter

Front row: Annabel Pollin, Zara Gray, Molly McCoubrey, Iona Blair, Julia Cochrane, Isabella Kenny, Bella De'Ath, Niamh Coman, Cecily Park

CRICKET CLUB



Back row: Vanessa Minford, Erin McDowell, Zara Gray, Annabel Pollin

Front row: Lotte Carter, Katy Allsopp, Macy McCormick, Emma McNally, Essie Costello



Back row: Jemima Agbaje, Julia Cochrane, Bella Turtle
Front row: Freya Brand, Sarah Bryans

IRISH DANCING



Irish Dance is a fun activity available to all at Penrhyn. The girls enjoy learning both solo and team dances as well as developing the skills involved in Irish Dance. Classes provide a relaxed, fun environment for all involved and the highlight of the year is when the girls perform at Open Morning.

Cathy McCamley

Back row: Scarlett Bennett, Sarah Bryans, Rain Akpojivi, Rachel Cairns, Isabella White, Issie Hazel-Agar, Augusta McCausland, Ellen Burnside, Nainsi McCoubrey, Alice Sloan, Tara Kirk Thom, Chloe Burrows, Maggie Wilson, Aoife O'Connor, Natasha McMullan, Charlotte McKenna

Front row: Amy Greenaway, Freya Brand, Emily Morrison, Sienna Mooney, Willa Readman, Poppy Fraser, Willow-Rose Young, Alexa Burns, Molly McCoubrey, Iona Blair, Layla Corry, Scarlett Terry

PE



Individual Winners

Cecily Park, Vanessa Minford, Ava Sweet

P1 – P3 Sports Day

The weather was kind at our P1-P3 Sports Day in June. All of the events were participated in with great enthusiasm by the girls, and many parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters came to cheer on our athletes. For many it was their first time competing in a Sports Day, but everyone enjoyed themselves and all the girls were presented with a participation certificate.

P4 – P7 Sports Day

Our Senior Sports Day was held at Strathearn on the last Bank Holiday in May with many parents and family along to support the girls. Unfortunately, the day was cloudy and gloomy; we nearly

avoided the rain but there was a shower during the last races. Guest of Honour was the Commonwealth Games athlete Amy Foster, who presented the medals. The Overall House winner was Boucher (Captain Ellie Johnston and Vice-Captain Darcy Shields). Many thanks to Strathearn for allowing us to use their facilities and to the Sixth Formers who helped in running the events.

Individual Winners

Ava Sweet P4
Cecily Park P5
Vanessa Minford P6
Sophie Gordon P7

JUDO CLUB



Back row: Macy McCormick, Astrid McGimpsey, Katy Allsopp, Essie Costello, Grace Robinson, Heidi Moore, Lottie De’Ath, Alice Ritchie, Alice Sloan, Emma Wilson, Freya Brand, Amy Greenaway, Isla Aldworth, Ava Williams

Front row (seated/kneeling): Jemima Readman, Bella Turtle, Erin McGirr, Freya Bevan, Laura Porter, Torrance Glover, Jemima Agbaje

CROSS COUNTRY



Back row: Bella De’Ath, Nyla Mallon
Front row: Katie Allen, Charlotte Acheson, Cecily Park

TENNIS CLUB

The after-school tennis club which runs on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon at CIYMS Tennis Club continues to be a great success. Emma Crowe, one of the CIYMS tennis coaches, collects the children from school and walks them to CIYMS where the children have enjoyed tennis throughout the winter months in the club indoor dome.

Numbers in the classes are good and steady but we are always keen to get more children involved in tennis. The classes focus on fun and technique. We aim to give the children fundamental knowledge of tennis strokes and to encourage them to enjoy playing in a safe, fun-filled atmosphere.

Stephen Watters
Head Coach

SWIMMING



Individual Winners

Freya Brand, Katie Allen, Layla Corry, Vanessa Minford.



Back row: Sophia Blair, Scarlett Childs, Libbie Gordon, Katie Allen, Nyla Mallon, Delphine McGimpsey, Grace Gilchrist, Julia Cochrane, Megan Chercoles Carter

Front row: Valentina Danielli, Grace Chercoles Carter, Cecily Park, Vanessa Minford, Heidi Dunlop, Layla Corry

STRATHEARN PARENTS' ASSOCIATION.

The Strathearn Parents' Association is made up of both the Penrhyn team and the Strathearn team. As you would expect each team is focused on their respective school, however we work very closely together as one association, with one constitution, one overall committee and we raise funds together for the benefit of both schools. We hold regular meetings of the overall committee for some of the more formal activities and then as individual teams for specific fundraising events. Our purpose is to support the schools, through fun fundraising events and activities which enhance the girls' overall experience.

This year has clearly been very unusual and challenging. Despite this, 2019 and 2020 have been hugely successful. Indeed, this culminated with our 90th Anniversary Gala Ball celebrations in November 2019 at the Stormont Hotel. The evening was enjoyed by all, and tickets sold out very quickly. The school's Chamber Choir kicked us off with their beautiful voices. Rebecca McKinney, a former pupil, did a splendid job of hosting the evening for us and we rounded it off with an auction which helped us raise a whopping £10,000 for the schools.

As well as the success of the gala ball we have held many other events. At Strathearn the successful discos for Years 8 and 9 have taken place at the Stormont Hotel. P7 were also invited along for the February disco after their AQE. They were well attended by pupils from Strathearn, Penrhyn, Campbell College and neighbouring schools.

The Penrhyn team have been extremely busy. The team and lots of helpful volunteers ran "The Greatest Showman Summer Fete" in May 2019. The fete was a roaring success and it was also helped by great weather. The end of term discos, where the girls get to dress up and have their photos taken against a themed photo wall with props, have proved great fun. The "used uniform" sales have generated lots of funds. In February, just before lockdown, we were able to hold our first movie night for the girls. It was held in the Manning Hall, with popcorn and goodies provided. The girls loved it and we are so glad that it went ahead.

Due to all these great activities and the work of the Parents' Association, we are delighted to say that our finances are very healthy at present, with a record bank balance at the end of December 2019 of £18,570.

In January 2020 it was agreed between the committee and the school that the majority of the funds raised would go to support the new Strathearn and Penrhyn ICT Strategy, contributing to the purchase of vital hardware and software for both schools.

We had many plans for the remainder of 2020 - a pub quiz for the parents, the Penrhyn Summer Fete, more used uniform sales, more discos and another ball in December. These have been put on hold for now. When the time is right, however, we hope to run more fun events for the girls and parents to support the schools. Indeed, we already have the Stormont Hotel booked for a ball towards the end of 2021.

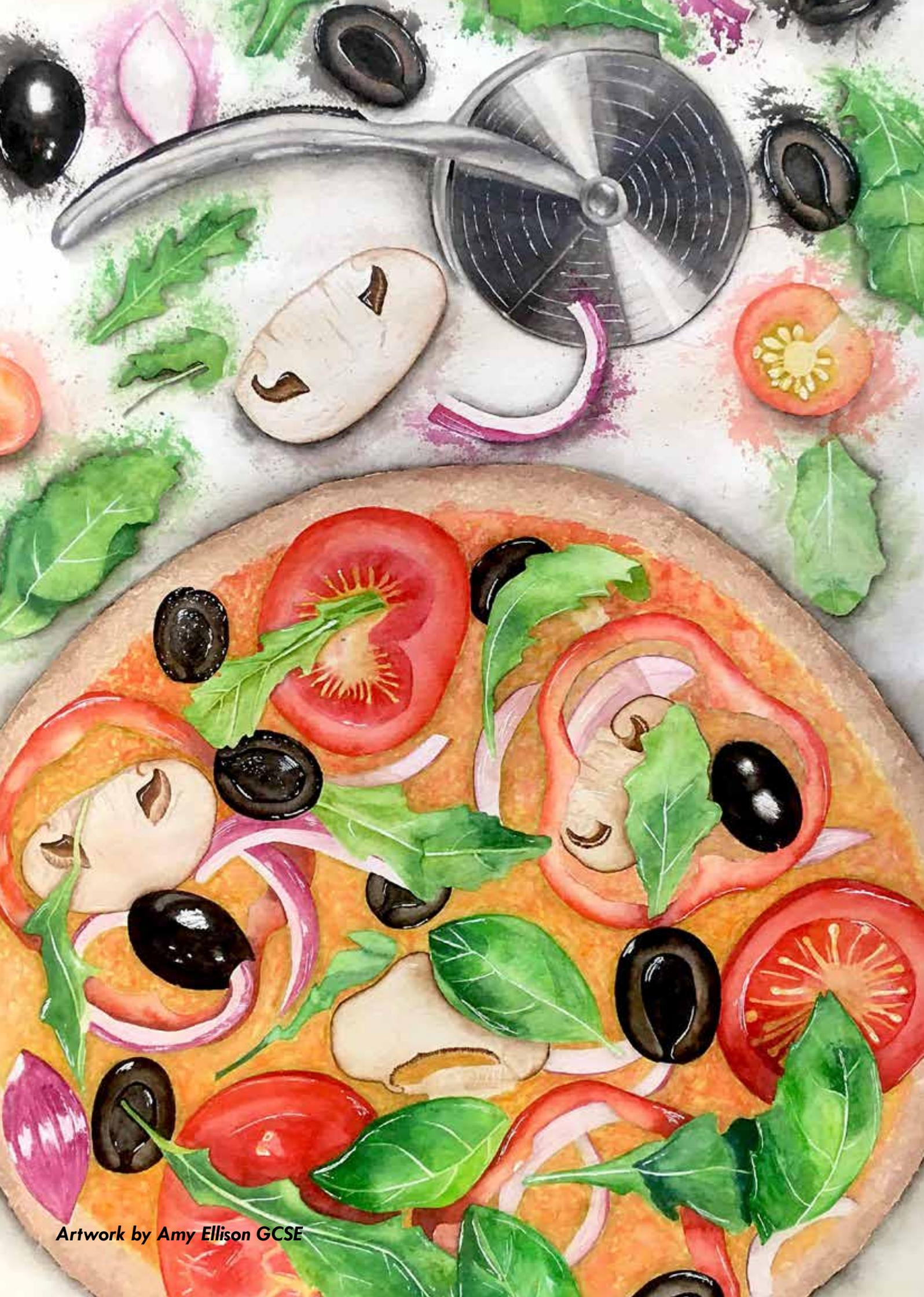
We are always looking for new committee members or volunteers. If you would like to help in any way, please contact school reception or contact our Chairs Zoe Wilcox (Strathearn) or Claire Ritchie (Penrhyn) through the school. We would be delighted to welcome anyone to be part of the team.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who give so generously of their time and money throughout the year, enabling the Parents' Association to continue to run events and raise important funds for both schools. It is very much appreciated. A very sincere, heartfelt thank you to all those who serve on the committee for their continuing support and enthusiasm. Also, thanks to Mr. Anderson as teacher representative and to Mrs. Connery and Mrs. Mawhinney for their continued support.

Finally, we hope that in what has been a historical year for many reasons that you, your girls and your families are all well. We very much look forward to when we can meet again and create lasting fun memories for the girls. Stay safe and well.

**The Penrhyn and Strathearn
Parents' Association Committee**





Artwork by Amy Ellison GCSE



Cover Artwork by
Grace Ruding
A2 Level

Cover Artwork by Amy Long 'Escape'

(One of the winning entries to the 'Life in Lockdown Art Competition.)

"For the first time, the kind owners of the Rosemount Estate in Greyabbey have opened up their home to the people who live in the village, as an escape from the worries of the pandemic. This beautiful trail around the lake offers some peace and tranquility during these tough times. Everyday, I walk my dogs along this trail, allowing me to see new scenery of a village I have lived in for almost 18 years."

