

St. Michael's College C.S.Sp. Development Ezine

May 2021



Development Message



What a year 2021 has been. While we started the year in lockdown, we have thankfully moved back to a somewhat more normal working and school environment. As the end of the school term fast approaches, we look forward to a safe and restful summer break so that we can look forward to the boys' secure return to school in late August.

For the past 12 months, we in St. Michael's College focused our resources on ensuring that our students continued to receive the care and learning required as well as the necessary support for student wellbeing. We moved our classes to online learning with plenty of interaction, feedback and encouragement. We were thrilled when the doors opened up in early March and by mid-April, almost everyone was back on campus, with classes resuming to normal schedules. The boys adapted so well and were amazing in terms of hand sanitising, distancing in the school buildings and mask wearing. They are a true inspiration to us all.

As we spent an entire year focusing on student welfare, online learning and the management of providing a Covid safe education and working environment, we put a hold on launching the second stage of our *Building on Success* development programme. As you know, we received planning permission in January 2020 for the redevelopment of the Junior School, which will take place on a phased, two-step basis, and to develop a new STEM block for the Senior School where the current swimming pool is located. Even though we suspended our plans to fundraise – work on our development programme still progressed. Over the past year, we have been finalising the plans for the new swimming pool facility so that we can apply for planning permission as soon as possible.

We are delighted to inform you that we have selected Ganson as the main contractor to build the new Junior School block which will be located on the playground between the Pavilion and the Junior School. Works will hopefully commence over the summer holidays. This is exciting news and we look forward to sharing full details of Phase 2 of our *Building on Success* development programme when we return in Academic Year 2021/22.



Thank You to our Donor Families

On that note, we would like to thank our donor families for their generous support during the first phase of our *Building on Success* Development Campaign (2014-2019) which saw the transformation of various educational, artistic and sporting facilities on campus. Their legacy is seen all around us today and will hopefully be continued and enhanced by present and future St. Michael's College families as we strive to improve our educational environment. Without the support of our Community of parents, former parents, past pupils and friends of St. Michael's College, none of these developments would have been made possible. Thank you to all our donor families and we look forward to keeping you in touch as St. Michael's continues to grow.



Farewell to the Class of 2021



Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2021 from St. Michael's College Junior and Senior Schools. This is a momentous time for the boys and their families. As a member of the Junior School Class of 2021, we look forward to welcoming the boys into the Senior School in late August, and to see them grow and develop over the next six years as they continue their journey with us in the Senior School. To those graduating 6th Form boys who venture onto other schools to complete their secondary education, we wish them all the best in their new school.

To the boys in the Senior School Class of 2021, we would like to wish them every success in their Leaving Certificate exams and future endeavours. For those venturing out into the world, whether they have been a St. Michael's College student for six or 14 years, we hope your family's time with us has been a happy and formative one and that your son has embraced the Spiritan ethos and seized every opportunity to learn and grow to be the best he can be. As your son departs, along with the rest of his Class of 2021, we hope you will remember all the good times and that he enjoyed and benefitted from the wonderful transformation of our campus over the last six years made possible by the generous and steadfast support of our donor families. Please remember that once a St. Michael's boy, always a St. Michael's boy... you will forever remain a member of our family.



And Finally...

As the school year races to its finish, we would like to wish you and all your family a safe and happy summer. For those of you returning after the summer holidays, we look forward to sharing our exciting news. To all those preparing for final exams and graduations, we would like to wish you the very best of luck. Stay well and safe. God Bless

For Further Information

If you would like further information about any of our development initiatives, or if you would like to discretely and confidentially discuss making a contribution to Phase 2 of our *Building on Success* development programme, please contact Judith Hally in our Development Office. Telephone 01-2189421 or Email: judith.hally@stmc.ie

