

Sullivan Upper School Monthly Newsletter

Dates for Diary - March 2019

F	1	Yr12 Subject Choice Interviews 1.00-3.30
Tu	5	Yr9 Parental Consultation 1.00-3.30, early closure at 12.25, buses provided at 12.30
F	8	House Speaking Competition
Tu	19	2 nd HPV Vaccinations Yr9 Girls 9.00-12.30
Th	21	UKMT Maths Challenge – Intermediate Kangaroo
Th-F	21-22	A2 (Yr14) Geography Fieldwork
W	27	Young Enterprise Company Programme Presentation
F	29	Rehearsal day for Spring Concert



'Time to Talk Day'

'Time to Talk Day' was on 7 February 2019 and some Year 14 pupils volunteered to help Miss Gale and Mrs McAvoy in organising some activities for the day. Mental health problems affect one in four of us, yet people are still afraid to talk about it. Time to Talk Day encourages **everyone** to talk about mental health.



They set up 2 stalls which had conversation starters, leaflets, positive quotes, an encouragement wall to write encouraging messages and a box to post negative thoughts. The Silver Robin made muffins with the Semi Colon logo to raise money for Suicide Awareness and our charity collection organised by Mrs Hartin was also in aid of Suicide Awareness that week. It was a great success with both pupils and staff and we hope to build on this within school.

Sullivan Compete in STEM Quest Challenge

The STEM QUEST Challenge was a University Challenge style quiz on all things STEM. Hosted in Titanic Belfast, it was open to all schools in Northern Ireland, as part of the Northern Ireland Science Festival. Thirty two teams entered in total, from twenty one different schools. Sullivan entered two teams, both of which did well. Team one did particularly well finishing in 2nd after an intense tie break.



Team one (runners up)

Perna Shyam (Y10) (Captain), Daniel Jones (Y10), Conor McKeown (Y9), Connor Black (Y9)

Team two

Kirstin Gregory (Y10) (Captain), Angharad King (Y10), Chloe Hanna (Y10), Abigail Trainor (Y9)

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Ulster Cross Country Results from Mallusk 13 February 2019

Well done to all who took part at the finals, there were some great performances.

The two Year 8 competitors did very well for their first finals with Rebecca Beggs 25th and Oliver Playfair 19th in fields of over 125 runners.

At Minor level (Year 9) the girls team ran well but missed Niamh Fenlon who was injured. However, Rachel Anderson ran a great race and just missed out on qualifying as she came 16th and the top 15 go through to the Irish. Ava Downey fought hard throughout the race and came in an impressive 9th position.

The Minor Boys of Ryan Drain, Jamie Morris, Jamie Gaw, Jacob McKittrick and Max Killiner were running in one of the largest fields of the day with 150 competitors. Two boys placed in the top 15: Jamie Gaw came 12th and Jacob McKittrick came 7th, both ran an excellent race. However, later on in the day we discovered that because the other boys also put in good performances they came 1st in Ulster as a team. This was a great result!

Finally, the Intermediate Girls team were competing - all of the team are Year 11 and compete with the Year 12. The girls worked hard and all finished the race. Tara McDonough held onto the front runners and finished an excellent 5th place.

The Minor Boys, Tara and Ava will now travel to Dublin on 9 March 2019 to compete in the Irish finals at Clongowes Wood College.



Year 14 Charity Week

Congratulations to the Year 14 charity committee who raised **£2645.88** for Tearfund, MS and Cardiomyopathy during their charity week. Thank you to pupils, staff and parents who generously supported their events.



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Eva Clarke Holocaust Survivor

On Wednesday 30 January 2019, Eva Clarke, whose mother is a Holocaust survivor, came to Sullivan Upper and talked about her mother's experience during World War II. Ms. Clarke's presentation was particularly relevant as Holocaust Memorial Day, on the 27 January, marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the largest Nazi death camp. We remember the 6 million Jews who died during World War II. The speech was presented to the Year 10s, who found it very powerful and shocking hearing the events that took place. Parents were welcomed to come as well to listen to Eva's speech. Eva Clarke comes annually to Sullivan to tell her story and to educate young minds about what the Second World War was really like for the Jews.

Eva Clarke talked about what life was like for Jews just before, during and after the Holocaust. She started off talking about when Adolf Hitler first came to power in Germany, Jews were advised to leave Germany. Her father moved to the Czech Republic, where he met his future wife. The

Germans took control of Czech Republic which made life harder for Jews by putting restrictions on them. These rules were called the Nuremberg Laws and meant that Jews immediately lost most of their rights in society.

The first concentration camp that her parents went to was called Theresienstadt or "Terezin." This camp was located at the outskirts of Prague in the Czech Republic. If you were ill, pregnant or a child below the age of 12, you were sent to a death camp like Auschwitz. Eva's parents spent 3 years in Terezin, but her father was sent to Auschwitz and Eva's mother remarkably volunteered to go with him. In all the time she was in Auschwitz the Nazis did not know the Eva's mother was pregnant.

At the end of the War, Eva's mother was sent to Mauthausen. By this time, she was nine months pregnant and she was described by Eva as being a living skeleton; she weighed roughly seventy pounds. On arrival at Mauthausen it is believed that the shock of arriving there due to its notorious reputation brought on Eva's mother labour. She gave birth to Eva on a coal cart on the train. The baby was three pounds. However, they

were not killed by the Nazis as the Nazis had run out of gas in the Mauthausen camp and the US Army liberated the camp four days after Eva's birth which meant that she and her mother could receive medical treatment.

After Eva's talk, she allowed the Year 10 pupils and the parents to ask questions. One of the questions that was asked was, "Would you ever forgive the Nazis for what they did?" Eva said it was a very hard question to answer, but she might with some thought, but she said that she will never forget what they did. Eva's talk was truly inspiring and all of Year 10 found it a memorable experience.

Dylan Smyth 10S



Congratulations to Conor Carton (8M) on winning two bronze medals at the UK National Speed-Stacking championships in Cambridge on 23 February. Conor now looks forward to the World Championships in Spain in April.

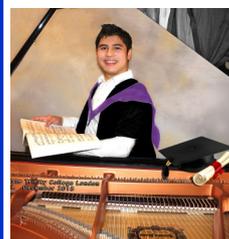


BOYS HOCKEY

Congratulations to Conor Matthews (Yr11), Patrick Rose (Yr11) and Tom McClintock (Yr12) who represented Ireland in the U16s Hockey team against England last week.



Rowel Friers (Yr12) has recently been awarded the diploma Licentiate Trinity College London.



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Fencing: Sullivan at Round 4 of the N Ireland Junior Foil Series

The Queen's Leisure Centre in Holywood was the venue for the 4th round of the N Ireland Junior Foil Series, held Sunday 3 February 2019. Thirteen Sullivan Upper Fencers took part, 5 of whom brought back medals: 2 gold, 2 silver and a bronze.

U12 Girls

Year 8 Sophia Cahill made her return to competition in Round 4, after missing the 3rd round because of a broken wrist. She also returned to winning, taking gold in a repeat of her Round 2 win.

U12 Boys

Oliver Playfair also made a return to competition after missing Round 3, finishing 7th.

U14 Girls

Two SU fencers competed this age group, year 10 Alex Atkinson and year 8 Charlie Beimers. Charlie finished 6th, while Alex stepped up her fencing and improved on her previous two 3rd places with a silver medal finish.

U14 Boys

Arnav Arava, Alexander Penny, Cameron Kitchen and Keir Murray all made the quarter-finals in the U14s, with Finn Neely just outside the last 8 in 9th place.

U16 Girls

With the winner of the first 3 rounds, SU's Victoria Morris, out with a wrist injury, it was left to Izzy Evans, Ruzi Statham and Rachel McKillen to represent Sullivan in this age group. Ruzi met Izzy in the final, Ruzi taking gold and Izzy silver, while Rachel took bronze in 3rd place.

U16 Boys

Cormac Kitchen was again the lone SU fencer in this category, this time finishing 6th.

Round 5 takes place on Saturday 9 March 2019 in the Sullivan Upper Sports Hall.



Congratulations to Katie Nevin (Yr10) who was part of the team who won the All-Ireland Inter-Club Golf Championship Under 19s by beating County Louth GC in the final. Katie is a member of Holywood Golf Club and has a handicap of 18. Katie was the youngest member of the team aged 13 at the time.

The team were also nominated for Belfast Telegraph Sports Awards and attended the ceremony at Belfast Waterfront on 14 January 2019. Unfortunately they didn't win but were in the top 3 of the Belfast Telegraph young team of the year.



On Monday 25 February 2019, Sullivan Jazz group performed at the annual Youth Jazz Showcase at the Black Box Theatre, Cathedral Quarter, Belfast. Many thanks to all those parents who came along to support the pupils and enjoy an evening of jazz.



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ICELAND TRIP

At the end of the half-term break Year 11 and 12 Geographers & Physicists spent 4 days in Iceland. They enjoyed everything from a visit to a Geothermal Power Plant, the Lava Centre to learn about volcanic activity, The Settlement Exhibition, the Black Beach and the Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss waterfalls (pictured). A busy and very enjoyable trip. A huge thank you to Mrs Karayiannis for organising it.



Lily Smith (Year 8) has been selected to play table tennis for Ireland in the up and coming primary schools international competition which takes place in Lisburn Racquets on 5-7 April 2019. She will be joining an Irish team that also includes a composite team with players from the Isle of Man and Jersey.

Octane, our **Young Enterprise** company attended the annual Trade Fair in Bloomfield's Shopping Centre on 12 February 2019. All pupils enjoyed the retail



experience and the opportunity for some of the team to make a pitch to top business people.