



St. Patrick's College Banbridge

Coláiste Phádraig Droichead na Banna

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January 2021

Hello boys and girls,

I hope you are safe and well during this new period of lockdown and remote learning. 2020-21 has been a really, really tough year for you in particular; you are now in your final year of primary school and many of the opportunities that are normally offered to pupils in Primary 7 cannot be offered to you this year. I am so sorry. Covid-19 has a lot to answer for!

In previous years, the pupils and staff of Saint Patrick's College would have welcomed you to enjoy a full day of activities in December. Unfortunately, this was not allowed to happen. In January, we also hosted our annual Open Night when you and your parent(s)/guardian(s) would normally visit the school to gain some kind of insight into what we offer. Again, this was not allowed to happen! As a school community, we are so disappointed. We really wanted a chance to meet with you, get to know you, show you what we believe makes our school so great and answer any questions you might have.

Over the next few weeks, you have some very important decisions to make. You are about to decide what post-primary school you want to go to in September 2021 and I know that the circumstances this year may make this decision very difficult for you. Not being able to visit your local post primary schools doesn't help, therefore, we in Saint Patrick's College have decided that we will bring a little bit of our school to you remotely! We have just launched our brand new school **WEBSITE** (<http://www.stpatrickscollegebanbridge.com>) which we are delighted with and would love for you to explore. It is really easy to navigate and you will be able to see clearly what we have to offer. In the website, we have also launched our new **VIRTUAL TOUR** – it is as close to an 'Open Night' as we can get during this pandemic! You will be able to see the subject classrooms, but more importantly, you will be able to listen to many of our lovely pupils who will tell you about the subjects that we offer and what life is like in Saint Patrick's College!

I am sure you have many, many questions about our school and we would love to answer them for you, especially if it makes your decision about transition a bit easier! Please feel free to use the contact form facility on our website or send us an email via info@stpatricks.banbridge.ni.sch.uk

Thank you very much for taking the time to read through my letter and on behalf of the entire Saint Patrick's College community, I wish you every success and best wishes as you embark on the next stage of your educational journey.

Kind Regards

Mrs Roisin Woods
PRINCIPAL

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