

Sandymount Park Press

Issue 1

IN THIS ISSUE:

OPINION

SCHOOL NEWS

POETRY ALOUD
COMPETITION

SPORTS

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES



Newspaper Team

Editors

Vencel Gera
Ava Gill
Greta Whipple

Feature Writers

Sofia Shields
Stephen O'Connell
Feá Maher

Reporters

Méabh Lunn
Enea Lambe
Andrew Cummins

Graphic Designers

Lua Collins
Theo Calamino
Leya Hennessy
Elliott Greene

Secretary

Eimear Byrne

This volume's green tip is:

Next time you're getting a new toothbrush, try to get a bamboo one!



One Planet

an article by Méabh Lunn

In 1962, the whole world was holding its breath over the Cuban missile crisis; today we're holding our breath over climate change. Back then, there was the risk of a nuclear missile crisis which could have effectively destroyed the human race; this was the biggest international issue of the generation. Today, we face a similar issue in climate change in that if we don't do something now there is a chance that it could end the human race. The Cuban missile crisis was solved by an agreement which required trust. Today we need to trust each other and work together if we are to avoid catastrophe.

Our intelligence sets us apart from other animals, it allowed us to create language, culture and civilisation, and yet it may be what will destroy us all. The only reason we got to this predicament is because we had the brains to invent technology.

This isn't the sort of problem that can just be solved by two important men in suits. This is the sort of problem that needs to have everybody working together because, as the quote by Dalai Lama goes, "If you think you're too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito".

Weekly Student Awards

by Andrew Cummins

There are many awards displayed at the front of the school that each individual earned for trying their best. An award is given weekly to a student in each class. We feel like every student should try their hardest to receive their own.





Students at the National Library, accompanied by teachers, Aoife O and Aoife F

Poetry Competition

an article by Feá Maher

Tension rose on Monday, 22nd October, as ten students from our school went to the National Library in Kildare Street for the national Poetry Aloud competition. They had been training very hard for weeks and were ready for Poetry Aloud. As they sat down in front of the stage they began to feel nervous, revising their poems calmed them slightly but before they knew it the first name was called, the competition began and their adrenaline started pumping.

After many poems were read, the judges called everyone back onstage to congratulate them and to reveal who had gotten into the semi-finals. We were very proud when Méabh's name was called! We caught up with our semi-finalist:

- *How did you feel before?*
- I felt nervous, slightly shaking but more nervous inside my head.
- *How did everyone do?*
- A few people forgot their lines but overall everyone did an excellent job.

Hockey at Railway

by Andrew Cummins

During October, we got the chance to Hockey at Railway every Thursday from six weeks where Ken, of Hockey Ireland, taught us hockey and how to play. Every week he would show us something new for example, how to tackle or stop a ball mid-pass. We also got to go with the other class, Skellig and/or Innisfree. It was a very interesting and fun experience. Hopefully we do more things like this during our time at Sandymount Park.



A bit of the action down at Railway!

Activities



1	7		8				9
		6		1			7
					7		5
		4	9		5		8
	8			6			9
9			4		3	5	
	5		7				
7				9		6	
8					6		2 1



Christmas Word Search



h	u	e	b	c	k	s	b	t	c	q	w
h	d	c	h	e	a	b	r	a	r	k	u
o	r	h	l	s	l	e	i	g	h	e	c
l	o	r	w	z	s	a	n	t	a	p	e
l	i	i	r	o	k	w	u	f	r	z	m
y	b	s	e	r	e	i	n	d	e	e	r
s	m	t	a	i	y	z	w	f	i	f	m
m	t	m	t	y	p	a	f	z	t	c	e
r	r	a	h	n	t	s	k	l	j	a	r
n	h	s	r	q	c	a	r	o	l	a	r
v	p	r	e	s	e	n	t	s	i	y	y
b	o	p	u	d	d	i	n	g	y	m	d



- carol
- christmas
- holly
- merry
- presents
- pudding
- reindeer
- santa
- sleigh
- star
- tree
- wreath





Sports

by Enea Lambe

Recently Sandymount Park played some football matches in St. Catherine's Sports Hall. We played against Synge Street. Unfortunately, we lost 1-0 but we won against Stratford 3-1. Everyone was very committed in both the game and training leading up to it. The football team worked very well together throughout it all.

The football season is now complete and basketball has begun. Some students prefer athletics and are building up to the 5k run instructed by Conor and Lauren. Every Tuesday they train on the beach and the results have been obvious during our 'bleep tests'.

When I interviewed Conor and Paddy they said that we will be joining Santry. Santry is a sporting event where all schools come together and compete against each other for bragging rights and what not. Next year we will also be starting GAA, hurling, camogie and more. Paddy is really excited to teach GAA he says, "It will be my baby when it starts". With all these new sports, the majority of the school will be on a team



The "meme bus" no more?

an article by Sofia Shields

Up until October, there had been a daily school bus for the kids that need transportation to get to school. But the bus company has recently informed parents that they (Star Bus Coaches) are not making enough money and might not be able to continue this process. This has impacted many students on their daily lives.

I asked some of my fellow students about it:

- *Enea, how has this school bus cancellation affected you?*

- It affected me a lot; I have been an hour late for school every morning.

- *What do you think we can do to fix this?*

- Tell our bus driver to come back and drive us!

- *Stephen, has the bus cancellation affected you?*

- Yes, it has made my trek to school longer.

- *What do you think we can do to fix this?*

- Either, get a new bus or bargain with what we have now.

From experience, the school bus was a great way to chat with friends and have fun. The atmosphere was always chaotic and lively, but that just got everyone to be outgoing and have a laugh! Will our school really be the same without it? Parents made a bargain after mid-term. Maybe this crazy teenage vehicle will live on...

Interview with Conor

Maxwell

by Stephen O'Connell

On the 1st of November The Sandymount Park Press interviewed Conor Maxwell, the school's maths, science, coding, joint P.E and Irish teacher.

- *What made you take this job?*

- The first reason is because its a brand new school and is a great opportunity. Reason number two is that the Educate Together ethos is my favorite ethos and it allows students to have a voice and allows students to be more active in their learning.

- *What's your favourite subject that you teach?*

- Maths, because I like a challenge and it makes me think.

- *What did you for fun as a child?*

- Athletics, tennis, football and watching T.V.

- *What did you want to be as a child?*

- A teacher and a medical doctor.

- *What's your favourite sport?*

- Tennis.

- *Have you ever lived anywhere exotic?*

- I lived in America.

- *Whereabouts?*

- Chicago.

- *Where do you see yourself in five years?*

- Here, with a big building, and students who enjoy school. Oh, and starting my PhD.

This was great fun and an amazing interview.

- *Thanks Conor!*



Conor Maxwell



Hallowe'en Day

an article by Stephen O'Connell

On Friday 26th of October we had our first Hallowe'en fundraiser for 'One Day Together', the national fundraising day for Educate Together. Parents were invited and the students were allowed to dress up in Halloween costumes. Aoife O was the one who organised the day and all the really fun events as well. A few of these events were making chocolate apples, pin the skeleton and sweet-eating.

With a best homemade costume competition that was won by Feá Maher and her Medusa outfit, an art competition was also held which Harper Walsh won with his amazing collage of Sandymount strand. Good Homework and Full Attendance were awarded to six students in front of the whole school at the end of the day.



Our school community in some colourful costumes

A School Sports

Uniform - yes or no?

an article by Feá Maher and Sofia Shields

Even though our secondary school doesn't have a uniform, a school sports outfit would be great idea. Students in our school could have a sports outfit unique to our school. It will make us feel like a proper team. If you think about it, nearly all school sports teams have a sports uniform!

We asked Paula our principal, if the uniforms would be jerseys that are kept in the school, or if they be sports kits specially designed for us. She said that we are trying to get a sponsor for our uniforms, so students can work and come together to design a brand-new school sports gear. This could give our school something special, not just being a 'no-uniform' school but a school that has the option of something every student can wear freely, or if there is a gathering with other schools too. At the moment, our schools sports teams are: athletics and soccer, but we are thinking of expanding that to GAA hurling, camogie and basketball.

These are some of the teachers' responses to a sports uniform:

-What is your opinion on a school sports uniform?

"I'd like it, as long as the students have an input on the design and colour, it could give the students on the teams a sense of unity"- Aoife Fleming

"I think it's a really good idea, I think a good colour would be blue, really, like, sky blue or, red and black, or maroon...or blue and white, or green... but not horrible green! Or purple and yellow...." - Conor Maxwell

"I like the idea of it while you're playing sports, especially if it's a team sport, that you're in the same uniform, I think it's a really good idea. Something bright... I really like red... Or purple." -Anne Muhall

What do you think of the idea? Write in to the school newspaper! Send a letter to the editors via Aoife afleming@dscetss.ie.

In your letter, include:

- "Dear editors"
- Your opinion on the uniform
- A sign-off



**Student Voice:
Have your say!**

Famine In Yemen an article by

Méabh Lunn

“Famine in Yemen could be the worst in modern history”, says UN.

Yemen is in danger of starvation and mass famine. Nearly half the population, 14 million people, may soon be dependent on aid, according to Mark Lowcock, the UN Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs.

The main cause of the famine is civil war that has been raging since 2015 between the then Yemeni government and the Houthi rebel group and their respective allies.

Fighting is blocking shipments from entering the country and is trapping resources in the port city of Hodeida, trapped in a single warehouse by the fighting there are enough resources to feed 3.7 million people for a month.

“Many Yemenis struggle just to survive. Parents tell our staff how they’re skipping meals or going up to two days without food to give what little they have to they’re children,” said Tamer Kirolos, Save The Children’s Country director for Yemen.

The UN will hold peace talks at the end of the year. Much will rest on the outcome.



Submissions

We are seeking submissions of:

- photographs
- art
- poetry
- short stories

Encourage your friends to submit their wonderful artwork!