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Dear Parents,

 As the new Principal of St Angela’s College, it has been my sincere pleasure and honour to become a member of this great school community. St Angela’s College enjoys a rich history of academic and cultural excellence that is the result of a collegial partnership between the school staff and parents who provide a diversity of experiences for the students.

 On behalf of the whole school community I would like to acknowledge the work of Geraldine Quilter and the contribution she has made to the development of teaching and learning in the school over the last number of years. For each new beginning there is another beginning ending and that can be tinged with a sense of sadness. On behalf of the whole school community I would like to wish Geraldine only success and happiness in her future endeavours.

As I make this transition to St Angela's College, I am aware of the anticipation and eagerness that accompanies new leaders in an organisation. There is no doubt in my mind that the road ahead in providing an effective school will be challenging, even more so with our relocation to Marymount. But it is incumbent on all to ensure that the unique spirit in St Angelia’s College and teaching and learning environment has the ability to keep reinventing itself around a very solid educational structure, no matter where we are located. Our educational programs must continue to be academically challenging, engage each student by linking the curriculum to previous knowledge and experience, and also be exciting to promote further exploration of new ideas. Parents, teachers, support staff, and administration all have an important role to play in encouraging and supporting the girls on their journey to becoming whatever they can be.

*“Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is often more important than the outcome”*

*Arthur Ashe*

*****Le gach dea ghuí,*

**Music Award**

A huge congratulations to Clara Daly-Donnellan from last year’s Junior Cert cohort who will be awarded with the prize for best Music Junior Cert result in the country. She will receive the award in a special ceremony in Dublin in January. Congratulations also to her hard-working teacher Ms MacDonald.

**Fifth Years discover the history of Fota House**

On Wednesday the 19th of October, all fifth year students visited the “beautifully preserved” Fota House (in the words of Aoife Mangan (5B)), accompanied by their English teachers: Ms.Brannigan, Ms. Chambers, Ms.Lewis and Ms. O’Keeffe. While at the house, the students were given a guided tour of this magnificent building followed by a workshop on the genres of writing. The students were then assigned project work, incorporating each of the genres of writing, telling of their experience of their day at the house as well as displaying their knowledge of the history of this great building. This proved to be an educational, informative and enjoyable day for all of those involved.

**The Feast of St. Ursula**

On Friday the 21st of October, the teachers and students of St. Angela’s congregated in St. Patrick’s Church to take part in our annual celebration of the Feast of St. Ursula. Following on with tradition, student participation was an integral part of our celebration of this feast day .With many thanks to those students who read the prayers of the faithful and the Liturgies with such enthusiasm. The choir’s performance and that of our musicians on the day also deserve recognition as without them, our Mass would not have been so special. A word of thanks also to Ms MacDonald who helped our singers and musicians prepare for this occasion; our Religion teachers; Ms Shannon who helped to organise the Mass and to Father Cormac Breathnach , who , as always, ensured that it was a memorable afternoon for all.

 **Students faced some puzzling times during Maths Week**

Posters of famous Mathematicians, puzzles and equations were to be seen on walls, windows and doors throughout the school from October the 15th to the 22nd to mark Maths Week. All maths classes participated in various activities during the week. Some of these activities included Sudoku, puzzles and loopy planes. Students showed great interest in the puzzle competitions which ran for the week. Well done to the following girls who won prizes during the week -Tara MacCarthy, Ruth Moynihan, Laura Smith (all first years); Brigid Purcell, Catríona Osborne (both fourth years) and Emma Porter(sixth year).

 **Young Scientist of the Year Competition**

Well done to our fourth year students who have been chosen to take part in the Young Scientist of the Year Competition which will be held in Dublin in January. It was a great achievement for these girls to be selected for this competition and we wish them the very best of luck.

*Comhghairdeas leo*

**Students support St.Vincent de Paul**

Well done to those students who volunteered to help raise funds for St.Vincent de Paul during the mid-term break. Many students gave willingly and selflessly of their time on November the 4th and 5th in order to bag-pack in Dunnes Stores ,helping to raise much needed funds for this worthy cause. It is very re-assuring to see that our girls are aware of those who are less fortunate than themselves and want to help them at this time.

*Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine.*

**Second Years support the Irish Guide Dog Association and the ISPCC**

As part of their Action Project for their C.S.P.E. class, the students in class 2A have decided to raise awareness about the work of the Irish Guide Dog Association. The girls wanted to support and fundraise for this organisation and have volunteered to have a cake sale, which will take place in school on Friday the 25th of November.

 *Acacia O’Mahony (2B) has written the following account on behalf of her C.S.P.E. class.*

The class of 2B is doing an Action Project in their C.S.P.E. class about the I.S.P.C.C. These letters stand for the Irish Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children. They help children who are being abused at home and help to find them new homes. They are also associated with other charities and organisations, including Childline. We will be distributing questionnaires, putting up posters and holding an Awareness Day as part of our Action Project over the coming months. We will be hosting a cake sale on Tuesday the 15th of November with each cake costing fifty cent. We wish to help as many people as we can by raising awareness about the work of this organisation and by raising funds for them. Please support us.

Many thanks,

From,

 The class of 2B.

 **Fourth Years will travel to Calcutta with the Hope Foundation**

Well done to the following fourth year girls who volunteered and subsequently have been chosen to travel to Calcutta in February in aid of the Hope Foundation: Liadh Conroy, Ellen Hayes, Caitríona Landers ,Alice Maguire, Niamh O’Leary McNeice, Rebecca O’Sullivan, Lisa Porter and Clodagh Quilter. Ms. Lewis will accompany these girls on the trip. Each girl must now raise €3,100 in order to make this journey to Calcutta. Since the selection process has been completed the girls have been fund raising non-stop in the hope of reaching their target. For example, Liadh Conroy showed great initiative before the mid-term break, when she filled an empty two litre bottle with sweets and encouraged the students to guess the correct number of sweets in the bottle, while paying for their guess.

 Well done to Alice Creed (1A) who guessed 600 correctly.

Ellen Hayes, Alice Maguire and Clodagh Quilter organised a Charity Fundraising Ball which was held in the Montenotte Hotel over the mid-term break. The night was a huge success with over two hundred and fifty tickets sold. Once again this event helped to raise part of the much- needed funds for the girls’ trip to Calcutta.

We wish the girls every success and offer them our strongest support over the coming months.

*Go n-éirí an t-ádh leo go léir.*

**CAREER MATTERS**

October has been a busy month for our fifth and sixth year girls as they plan ahead for their futures.

**Study Skills Session for fifth years**

On the 12th of October our fifth years had their study skills session which was given by Mr. Jim Cremen. This annual session proves to be invaluable for all fifth years as they embark on and embrace the Leaving Certificate Course. Effective note-taking techniques, time management, revision, homework and general study skills were some of the key features of this session.

**College and University Open Days**

On the 14th of October, a group of fifth and sixth year students from St.Angela’s availed of the opportunity to visit the University of Limerick, the Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College as part of their open days. Students had a chance to familiarise themselves with these third level institutions and they were also able to meet with representatives from many of the courses of interest to them.

**Career Fair at the Rochestown Park Hotel**

On the 18th of October all fifth years visited the Career Fair organised by the Institute of Guidance Councillors in Cork. They were accompanied by Ms.Connolly, Ms.Gallagher, Mr.Murray and Iníon Uí Fhaoláin. The students spoke with representatives from the various Third level Colleges, Institutes of Technologies and Universities from all over Ireland. It proved to be a very positive experience for the girls who discovered that there are many options available to them following the Leaving Certificate.

 **History, Culture, Fashion and Sport form part of the Fourth Year Outdoor Pursuits Trip**

On Tuesday the 25th of October, for ninety three of our fourth years and some of their teachers, the destination was County Kerry. This was to be their place of residence for four days and three nights as they began their outdoor pursuits’ activities. The students were treated to a somewhat relaxing day on Tuesday as they sampled the sights, sounds and shops available to them in Killarney. In the afternoon the girls were given an informative and enjoyable guided tour of Muckross House in the town. Having had ample time on Tuesday night to settle into their accommodation in Kenmare, the girls approached Wednesday’s activities with much enthusiasm, many expectations and fear of the unknown.

An eventful, fun-filled three days ensued as the girls eagerly awaited the challenges ahead of them not only in the water or on land but also in the kitchen each morning! The highlight for many of the students and teachers was the much anticipated fashion show. This was held on the penultimate night of our trip in the local Community hall in Kenmare. The night proved to be an enjoyable one thanks to the enthusiasm of the students combined with the hard work and dedication of the five teachers present on the night.

 Following more outdoor pursuits at the Star Outdoor Pursuits Centre on Friday morning, the girls returned home on Friday afternoon having spent four eventful days in Kerry.

Many thanks to each of the following teachers who gave so freely of their time while accompanying the fourth years and I (outdoor pursuits co-ordinator) on this trip:

Ms.Costello, Mr.Krasa, Iníon Uí Fhaoláin, Ms.Mackey, Ms. McCarthy, Mr.Murray,Ms.O’Donnell, Ms.O’Sullivan and Ms.Walsh.

 Without their participation it would not have been possible.

Míle buíochas leo go léir,

Emily Crowley.

 **Students learn of “The Winter’s Tale”.**

*Lia Curtin (4C) reviews Shakespeare’s “The Winter’s Tale”.*

On Thursday the 13th of October 2011, all fourth year students attended a performance of “The Winter’s Tale” in the Cork Opera House. This play was written by William Shakespeare and it is a romantic drama . Although at times it was difficult to follow, it was an enjoyable experience overall.

This play has AN undoubtedly complex plot. Leontes, the King of Sicilia, becomes convinced that his best friend, Polixenes, the King of Bohemia, is having an affair with his pregnant wife, Hermione, and that their child is illegitimate. Hermione is thrown into jail and dies of grief after giving birth to her daughter, Perdita. The baby is abandoned by order of the King on the coast of Bohemia. She is rescued and adopted by a shepherd and his son. Sixteen years pass. Perdita has now grown up and has fallen in love with Florizel, Prince of Bohemia and son of Polixenes. The King does not approve of their relationship. The young couple elope to Sicilia, where King Leontes has spent the last sixteen years mourning. With the help of a local pick-pocket, Perdita is revealed to be Leontes’ daughter. Leontes and Polixenes are reconciled and they all visit a statue of Hermione. This statue comes to life and is revealed to be the real Queen, back from the dead.

“The Winter’s Tale” not only has, as I have already mentioned, a complex plot but it also has a large cast. Prior to viewing the performance of the play, I would suggest that the play or a summary of it should be read in order to properly understand and appreciate this Shakespearean drama. The actors were very talented and handled the complex Shakespearean dialogue very well. The set and props, although simple, were very effective at setting the scene. The script, which was from the original Shakespearean play, was complicated and at times confusing, but the actors’ skill made it possible to understand the plot despite this.

I would recommend this play to senior cycle students and those who are familiar with the works of William Shakespeare, as it would be necessary to have studied a different Shakespearean play in order to understand his style of writing and how it translates onto the stage. Even though the play seemed to be quite long at times and the dialogue was difficult to comprehend it was an enjoyable performance.

*Lia would give this play* ***7****/****10.***

**“Spring Awakenings” shocks students’ senses.**

On Wednesday night the 19th of October, some of our fourth years accompanied by Ms.MacDonald, were lucky enough to be audience members at the opening night of the musical “Spring Awakenings” directed by Tony McCleane-Fay, at the Everyman Palace Theatre. It’s diverse, complex and somewhat controversial plot ensured that our fourth years were captivated from beginning to end. An enjoyable night was had by all of those in attendance.

**Debating News/ Cύrsaí Díospóireachta**

*Once again our Head Girl, Charlotte Smith, keeps us up to date with debating matters.*

October has been another busy month for the Debating Society with the preliminary rounds of many competitions taking place. The first rounds of UCC’s Philosoph Munster Debating Competition took place during the final week of October in UCC and UL. St. Angela’s has entered three teams, one of which has progressed to the quarter finals. Catherine Noonan (6th year) and I won our debate on the motion “Ban Religious Symbols in public institutions”. The other teams will progress to a knock- out round before the quarter finals in November.

On the junior front, four of St. Angela’s teams took part in the second round of the Cork Schools’ Junior Mace in PBC. The girls put on a great show with three of our speakers breaking into the top ten speakers’ tab. They will now progress to the final round in UCC where the will face some of Cork’s best junior debaters.

In other news, a delegation of eight seniors took part in the annual Munster leg of the European Youth Parliament. It was a truly enjoyable and beneficial weekend for all who took part. The girls are now anxiously awaiting the results before participating in the National Conference in the upcoming months.

Our first year team is currently preparing for their debut inter-schools debate against Christian Brothers’ College. We wish them and all of the other debaters the best of luck in their upcoming debates.

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Hockey**

Well done to Rachel Foley (3B) and to Kate Harvey (5D) who both played for the Munster Hockey teams in the Inter-Pros tournament which was held in Belfast at the end of October.

Rachel played on the under -16 team where they did very well in winning three out of their four matches.

Meanwhile Kate once again displayed her skill and talent during this tournament on the under 18 team. She has been selected for trials for the **Irish** **under-** **18** **hockey** **team,** which will be held on Sunday the 13th of November.

We wish her the very best of luck on the day.

On Wednesday the 9th of November the Senior B’s had a match against Midleton College. The match was in Midleton and the Seniors won 4 to 2. The goals were scored by Gill Fitzgerald, Rebecca Condon, Kate Harvey and Alice Smith. St. Angela’s played really well and deserved the win. The first year team were also did well to draw their match on that day.

**Basketball**

On Wednesday 9th October St. Angela’s played in the Senior Cup Semi-Finals against Scoil Íosagáin. It was a very close game between two very skilled teams. There were high scores, but in the end St. Angela’s won with a final score of 61 to 59, thanks in part to great play by Kelly Diggin and Kate McAuliffe.

We have heard that some of our junior basketball players are hopeful that they may be selected to play on the **Irish** **Basketball** **team** in the very near future. We wait in anticipation.

**Swimming**

Five girls from first year took part in the Munster Senior Schools’ Gala on Sunday 6th November in UL. Tara McCarthy, Ruth O’Neill, Meg Monahan, Alice Creed, and Eleanor Noonan. The girls swam the medley relay and came fourth.

Sinéad Mills, 2A came fourth in the 100 metre breakstroke and Abbie McNulty did a 3rd second personal best in her 100 metre back stroke. Amy Henessy from 2nd year also took part.

Emma Cassidy, fifth year, won Gold in the 100 metre backstroke and freestyle. Well done to all the girls for representing the school so well.

*Is maith an scéalaí an aimsir.*

**Seanfhocal na Míosa**

*“ Ní bhíonn saoi gan locht” “* Nobody is perfect ”.

**First Year Fun!**

*Holly Coughlan and Laura Nolan 1B write about the recent First Year Retreat.*

In the 25th of October we went on a spiritual retreat. The retreat took place in the fourth year building and was hosted by Diarmuid, Amanda, and Miriam. They go around Ireland visiting many schools helping kids find confidence and inner peace.

We played many team-work games and activities. One of the activities included passing a piece of paper with a person’s name on it and writing good things about that individual. It felt great to read all of those compliments afterwards.

Another activity was pairing up with a person who you don’t know very well. In the space on two minutes you had to learn all you could about your partner. Then you stood up and said as many facts as you could about them.

They taught us how to meditate, and how to clear your mind of all stress. It really worked! We were also taught that God is always with us and will always care for us. The retreat was really fun! We hope that we can have another one soon.

*Lucie Doherty and Megan O’Sullivan write about the first year bowling trip.*

The day we went to Leisureplex to bowling was really fun! We walked from school to the Leisureplex with Ms Brannigan and the girls from the fifth year Meitheal team. We had to put on bowling shoes and were bouncing along to the music! We were then divided into groups and we all had a go at trying to get a strike, which barely any of us managed to do! The person who got the most strikes in every group was given a prize. The person with the best overall score was presented with a giant smurf! We all went home with big smiles on our faces that day.

**Dates for the Diary**

**Third** **Year** **Parent**-**Teacher** **Meeting:**

Tuesday 22nd of November: 4.15pm-6.45pm.

**Christmas Examinations**

**Fifth and Sixth Year students:**

Monday 28th of November- Friday 2nd of December

**Third Years:**

Monday 5th of December-Friday 9th of December

