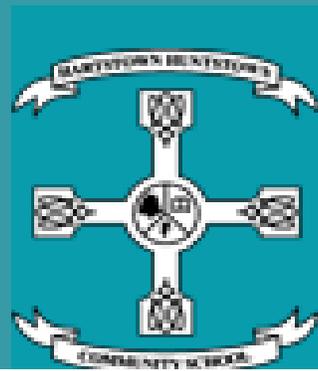




Hartstown Community School



MR E. BRADY, MS MORDI, MISS VANESSA MORDI, MR JOHN BEAN (PRINCIPAL)

IN THIS ISSUE

The School Community were delighted to hear the wonderful news that Vanessa Mordi, one of our recent 2017 Graduates, has been awarded an All-Ireland Scholarship for her excellent Leaving Certificate results.

This much coveted scholarship is awarded to the best one hundred eligible Leaving Certificate Students in the country each year. The top two students from each of the thirty two counties and the remainder of the top one hundred leaving certificate performers receive a grant of almost €7000 for every year of college. Vanessa has accepted a place in Trinity College Dublin to study Dental Science for the next five years.

The All Ireland Scholarship was initiated by J.P. McManus and is administrated by the Department of Education and Science.

Vanessa's excellent Leaving Certificate included H1's (over 90% in a higher level subject) in four

subjects: English, Home Economics, Chemistry and French.

We know how diligent Vanessa was throughout her time here and we wish her every success and happiness in her academic career.

On Friday the 8th of September the school hosted an Award Ceremony for the best Leaving Certificate Students of 2017. The top twelve HCS performers in the Leaving Certificate and the two best from LCA were invited back to school with their parents.

We organize this annual event to formally recognise the dedication shown by the students who reached a very high standard in their Leaving Certificate exams. These students made real sacrifices and committed fully to realising their potential. They were presented with certificates and bursaries towards their further education. It is also hoped that our fifth and sixth year students would be inspired by our winners from our award winners to achieve their academic potential.



Hartstown through 25 years

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FEATURE ARTICLES

Mr J. Bean - Principal

Mr E. Brady – Guidance Councilor

Ms M. Berreen - Teacher

Ms Marrie Keane - Staff

The School Musical – Ms A. Kelly

We are delighted to be presenting another musical in the school this year. Ms. Kyne and her team have been rehearsing since last May and a great evening's entertainment is guaranteed. This year's show, "Showtunes", features songs from six different well know musicals and gives students an opportunity to show off their performance skills. Dancing and singing rehearsals are in full swing and from the 10th to the 13th October it will be "lights, camera, action!" Tickets will be on sale in the school from 25th September and are priced at €12 for adults and €8 for students/senior citizens. We hope that you will all come along to support our students and give yourselves a very enjoyable evening.

Transition year 2017 2018

Mr N. Wade

Transition Year has a total of four classes. We have at present over eighty students enrolled in the year. This year's programme includes established programmes unique to TY like Yoga, photography, fencing, ballroom dancing, as well as our couch to 5k programme. We also have psychology as a subject as well as art appreciation.

Internet safety day: We have had a full internet safety day on the 11th of September with Zeeko.ie. The day focused on the challenges facing adolescents as regards their use of the internet and social media

Draocht Theatre project: Our very successful collaboration with Draocht had its first run on Friday the 16th where we welcomed back Eimear Morrissey to hold a full one day theatre workshop. Many thanks again to Mr Keane and the English dept. for all of their work on this valuable project

Future Learning project: We will be participating in a Future Learning Project in Trinity College and any student that is interested in attending this should talk to Mr. Wade. This proved very successful last year and will take place from the 3rd to the 6th October this year and places are limited to ten students.

Work experience: TY students should always be on the lookout for interesting work experience placements. The Defence Forces as well as the Garda Síochána have some



really good programmes worth investigating. The Irish Times run an annual competition for work experience placements. It is always worthwhile if parents and family can help with placements for students.

Garda Vetting: E-Vetting for TY Students: Section 12 of the Vetting Act 2016 places a statutory obligation on school authorities to obtain a vetting disclosure from the Bureau prior to the employment, contract, permission or placement of a person to undertake relevant work or activities with children or vulnerable persons. This applies to all students aged over 16.

As some of our TY students may do work experience in a Primary school, an early years setting or in community care with vulnerable adults, they must go through the e vetting process once they reach the age of 16 at the time of the placement. If your son or daughter intends to work in this area he/she must see Mr. Wade immediately in order to begin the e vetting process.

SPHE Talking Topics – Ms N. Clince

As we are all aware, there is a huge emphasis being placed on the area of wellbeing in conjunction with the new junior cycle. In light of this, we have introduced a weekly "Talking Topic". This is a topic of discussion that each student in our school will be exposed to on a weekly basis in their tutorial group, this topic can also be integrated into their SPHE/CSPE class accordingly. A timetable of "Talking Topics" will be e-mailed to the staff on a monthly basis. It is hoped that this will create an awareness among our students, and encourage them to engage in active discussion among their peers, and at home. It is also hoped that these discussions will lead to active, and informed decision making by our students which in turn will have a positive

effect on their wellbeing.

Literacy Initiatives - Mr. J Horseman

The DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) timetable is available in each student's journal. Students should bring in a book from home which they can read during this class period. If any student is unsure about what type of book they might be reading, they should consult with their English teacher who could put forward some suggestions. The purpose of DEAR is to encourage students to read books for enjoyment and to improve general literacy levels.

The Peer reading initiative is designed to assist students who may struggle with reading. They are partnered with a Transition Year student who assists them in improving their reading levels. We will be starting the training with the Transition Year students' shortly. Second year students will be involved before Christmas and students from First year will be involved after Christmas.

Maths Club - Ms J. Reilly

Maths club takes place Monday to Thursday from 3.20-4.00pm in H13. It's a drop in service open to all year groups with a high ratio of experienced teachers to students. We are giving students the opportunity to complete Maths homework and raise their levels in preparation for the state and end of term exam.

25 Years at Hartstown CS

Welcome Back – Mr J. Bean, Principal

A warm welcome back to the all members of the school community in this, our 25th anniversary year. From small beginnings in 1992 of 86 students and 8 teachers, Hartstown Community School has gone from strength to strength. We now have 1130 students and over 80 teachers. Our first students from overseas came from Bosnia in 1993. We now have one of the most diverse populations of any school in Ireland, something which contributes greatly to our open, respectful ethos.

The 25th anniversary sees the arrival of Mr. Graham Fleming as Deputy Principal, joining Ms Kelly, Mr Horseman and myself on the senior management team. We also moved into to our beautiful nine- classroom extension in August. It was designed by QBB architects, built by McDermott and Treaty Builders and entirely funded by the Department of Education and Skills.

Various celebrations are planned for the year, beginning with our Musical in October. Tickets are now on sale. Keep an eye on our website for further events.

I wish the entire school community a happy, healthy and fruitful 25th anniversary year.



E. Brady, M. Breen, J. Bean, Mr Sheehan, Father Dan Joe

You taught me Mam! – Mr E. Brady

It's hard to believe that a quarter of a century has passed since We welcomed our first set of students into HCS. As a young (scared) teacher just out of college I remember the nervous excitement I felt walking into my

first class. With Mr.Flynn as Principal and Mr.Fitzmaurice as Year Head, I became a tutor and was able to get to know some of our students and their families. It soon became apparent that the young people of this community are some of the nicest, smartest, fun and genuine people you could ever meet. Our graduates have gone on play vital roles in Irish society and beyond.

Many are now parents of young families and increasing numbers of new HCS students say to me

"Sir, You taught my Mam ", which is lovely. I will, however, know that it is time to retire if I ever hear

"Sir, You taught my Granny! "



Mr Flynn - 1st Principal at HCS

Changes to HCS - Ms Marie Keane

The school opened its doors in September, 1992 and I started my job in Hartstown Community School in October of that year. There was no school built at this time only a building called the annex which contained six classrooms, what a difference from today.

The next year the prefabs were built which contained more classrooms, the science labs along with the home economics rooms. The upstairs of the building along with the rest of the school was not completely built until two to three years later.

In 2016 the new building attached to the

school was in the process of being built and this building was completed in August of this year.

During my 25 years working in the school I have had three children attend the school along with my granddaughter.

Last August I came to school to see the completion of the new building. With new floors laid, painting completed and furniture in place you could see how impressive the new extension would be. This visit reminded me of the first time I came to HCS, it was the same week in August but exactly 25 years earlier.

Changes to HCS - Ms M.Berreen

In August 1992 there was a section of the permanent building almost ready, the Annex building was getting the final touches for the opening of the first ever school year. It was an impressive building even at that early stage and the culmination of many years of dedicated planning.

I returned a week later and joined the small staff for the start of the first school year along with 86 students full of excitement and anticipation for the year to come. I was excited to be involved in planning and equipping the new Home Economics room. The following year a number of classrooms in the new building were ready and over the subsequent years the number of staff and students grew to fill them. In a short time we became a team of three Home Economics teachers as Ms. Killoran and Ms.Giblin joined the staff.

There were outstanding facilities for teaching and learning and the students were soon involved in a vast array of extra-curricular activities provided by the growing staff. I remember we brought entire year groups on school tours to Clare and the Burren area. Subsequent tours were organised to include trips to London, Paris, Germany and Barcelona. In the years that followed the students and staff were involved in the production of a variety of great Musicals and an extensive Night School developed providing a huge range of courses to the locality.

In recent years some of my students are now sons and daughters of former students and we have a number of past pupils who have returned to our staff. Looking forward to the next chapter in the life of HCS.

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