



## **SALESIAN COLLEGE CELBRIDGE**

**“We care, develop, believe- together we achieve”**

**General School Information 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The month of May is always a busy but enjoyable time as we organise various end-of-year events. We thank most sincerely all our students for their excellent cooperation and behaviour this year as we have all faced the challenges with student and teacher absences.

I sincerely thank all parents for their exceptional support for the school over the last year. It is a positive experience working through difficult times when we know as a school that you support and encourage your children in their education.

We hope all our students do well in the end-of-year assessments and we wish our Leaving Certificate students the very best of luck in their written exams in June.

I ask all parents to read this letter carefully and I hope it will provide you with as much information as we can possibly give you at this time.

### ***Road Race***

The first full Road Race since the Covid-19 pandemic took place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The PE Department Mr. Colin Cryan, Mr. Peter Beirne and Mr. Kevin Flynn are sincerely thanked for their excellent organisation. 605 students participated. The race was officially started by Mr. Paddy McGovern – former teacher in Salesian College. This event was a success due to the full and committed participation of all the staff and students. Well done to everyone involved.

### **Winners**

#### ***Overall:***

- 1) Gael Castillo
- 2) Daniel Costigan
- 3) Jamie O'Connor

**6th Year:**

- 1) Conor King
- 2) Jack O'Brien
- 3) Martin Egan

**TY / 5th Year:**

- 1) Gael Castillo
- 2) Jamie O'Connor
- 3) Ben Tynan

**3rd Year:**

- 1) Daniel Costigan
- 2) Conor O'Brien
- 3) Diarmuid Finn

**2nd Year:**

- 1) Ewan Jackson
- 2) Finn Groen
- 3) Luke Gilmartin

**1st Year:**

- 1) Luke Cullen
- 2) Dylan Hegarty
- 3) Thomas Darcy

**Sports Day**

Well done and thanks to all students for their participation in our Sports Day rescheduled to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> due to weather concerns. We also thank our wonderful Parents Association and all the volunteers who organised the BBQ. We sincerely thank all our sponsors and all monies raised will go towards supporting our students.

**6<sup>th</sup> Year Graduation & Donations of Uniform – Senior Ties and Jumpers**

I congratulate our 6<sup>th</sup> year students who will attend their formal graduation ceremony on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022. I believe they are strong, resilient young men now and we hope they always value the Salesian principles of reason and loving kindness. We welcome any donations to the school of senior ties and senior jumpers in good condition and clean. Please leave them with Ms. Kearns, thank you.

**House Exams**

The timetable for the exams will be published for all students next week. During the exams all third-year students will be timetabled for study blocks. Third year students must attend for the full school

day during the exams - there are no early finishes for third years. Full cooperation with all school rules still applies and **all students must wear their full school uniform until the end of the school year**. Please do not send notes in regarding the wearing of runners instead of correct school shoes – the uniform is for the full school year.

### ***Junior & Leaving Certificate Exams***

Junior and Leaving Certificate students must be on the school premises the morning of their first exam on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June no later than 8.50am. Students must have their exam numbers with them, they must sign in with the State Examination Commission invigilators and be assigned to their exam centre.

As there is no supervision allocated for students during the Junior and Leaving Certificate exams all students must leave the school premises once they have finished their exams. They will not be allowed to stay in the hall or wait outside on the grounds. Students must make their own lunchtime arrangements and will only be allowed back into the school 15 minutes before their next exam.

### ***Introduction of one-hour classes in Salesian College for New School Year 2022-2023***

Following a lot of planning and preparation next year all our classes will be one hour in length. We know this will be a big change for students and teachers alike moving from 40-minute classes to 60-minute classes. There are many reasons why Salesian College has decided to implement this change.

One of the main reasons is the new Junior Cycle Curriculum which highlights the need for differentiated teaching in the classroom. There are many different types of learners, and their differentiated needs should be accounted for in each class. This requires different methodologies to be used in the classroom. A one-hour lesson will allow more time for these methodologies to be used.

It also allows for more time for constructed feedback to be given to the students and allows more personal and individual feedback. This “Assessment for Learning” feedback allows the student to gain a greater understanding of their work and a greater level of inclusion.

The new Junior Cycle also requires a greater use of ICT in the classroom. Students are required to research a piece of work and complete a Classroom Based Assessment (CBA) in all subjects. This may involve a presentation to the class either as an individual or as part of a group. The one-hour lesson allows the time for this interaction to take place.

Wellbeing is embedded as an integral part of the new Junior Cycle Programme and each school has to deliver 400 hours of dedicated Wellbeing over the three years in the Junior Cycle. The one-hour lessons allow specific subjects of CSPE, SPHE, PE and Digital to meet the time requirements.

The decision has been discussed and presented to the Student Council, the Parents Association, and the Board of Management. We understand it is a big change but believe it will improve the Teaching & Learning experience in Salesian College for everyone.

### ***New Timetable Schedule for 2022-2023***

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
	8.45-8.50 Form Class	8.45-8.50 Form Class	8.45-8.50 Form Class	8.45-8.50 Form Class	<b>No Form class – students will go straight to their first class.</b>
Period 1	8.50-9.50	8.50-9.50	8.50-9.50	8.50-9.50	8.45-9.45
Period 2	9.50-10.50	9.50-10.50	9.50-10.50	9.50-10.50	9.45-10.45
<b>Break</b>	10.50-11.10	10.50-11.10	10.50-11.10	10.50-11.10	10.45-11.45
Period 3	11.10-12.10	11.10-12.10	11.10-12.10	11.10-12.10	<b>Break</b> 11.45-12.05
Period 4	12.10-13.10	12.10-13.10	12.10-13.10	12.10-13.10	12.05-13.05
<b>Lunch</b>	13.10-13.50	13.10-13.50	13.10-13.50	13.10-13.50	<b>13.05-14.05</b>
Period 5	13.50-14.50	13.50-14.50	<b>13.50-14.50</b>	13.50-14.50	
Period 6	<b>14.50-15.50</b>	<b>14.50-15.50</b>		<b>14.50-15.50</b>	

### ***School Charge***

As you know each year all students pay their school charge of €130. Unfortunately, the funds made available from the Department of Education & Skills are not sufficient to meet the school's financial needs and consequently voluntary schools like Salesian College are underfunded by approximately 25%.

This school charge is required to cover the cost of the: School Journal, 24 Hour Personal Insurance Cover, Cognitive ability tests, House Exams, Parents Association, Sports, Career Guidance & Counselling Services, Photocopying, Materials for non-exam years Practical & Optional subjects & ICT, Locker Rental & Maintenance. All students avail of these materials and resources in the school.

As a school we are very conscious of the economic impact of the Covid-19 Restrictions for all families and appreciate this letter seeking this payment will be a challenge for parents. Our installment plan last year was very successful, and I believe allowed parents to budget the school payments in an easier way so we will continue this system from now on. I invite parents/guardians to contact me directly in relation to this payment who may be in need of financial assistance.

We sincerely thank you all in advance for paying this charge. As you are aware, it is not possible to manage the school without your assistance and financial contribution. All monies paid to the school are fully accounted for and are put to use for all students for their academic, personal, and social development.

Payment Type	Single Student	Two Students
Full Payment	€130	€240
3 instalments	€30 due 01-06-2022 €50 due 01-08-2022 €50 due 01-10-2022	€60 due 01-06-202 €90 due 01-08-2022 €90 due 01-10-2022

This payment is made through our Easypayments system which is accessed through our school website. If you have any difficulty accessing your account or setting up this installment plan please email our school Bursar, [ebehan@Salesianscelbridge.com](mailto:ebehan@Salesianscelbridge.com). **If you have an incoming first year student, this school charge has already been paid for 2022-2023.**

If you have any queries, please email the school at [office@salesianscelbridge.com](mailto:office@salesianscelbridge.com)

### ***Information on Uniform Orders and Collection & School Calendar***

This information is now available on our school website [www.salesianscelbridge.com](http://www.salesianscelbridge.com) – School Office Section. The deadline for the ordering of the uniform is **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June**. Uniform orders can only be made through the school Easypayments on-line system.

Collection 6.00-7.00pm Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022

Collection 6.00-7.00pm. Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Uniforms will not be sold on these evenings. **Orders for collection will not be processed through the school office.** If you are unable to attend on the collection dates, please make an arrangement with a neighbour or friend to collect it on your behalf.

Our uniform collection sessions are organised on a voluntary basis by our fantastic Parents Association, so we thank them in advance for their work. Students who do not have their full uniform for the school re-opening in the new academic year are not to attend school unless they have their full uniform.

### ***Trousers & Shirts***

As we only provide the school jumpers and ties now and parents and guardians can purchase the school trousers and shirts themselves, we have some left-over stock of grey and white shirts and trousers. We will post a list of the available sizes next week and we will organise a morning sale before Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022. These will be available to purchase at a reduced price along with some secondhand jumpers.

## ***Book Grant - All Parents & Guardians Invited to Apply – Deadline Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022***

I remind all parents and guardians that the deadline for applications is **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022**.

The application form is available on our website [www.salesianscelbridge.com](http://www.salesianscelbridge.com). Please fill in the form on the website.

The process is as follows:

- (i) Fill out this online form and submit,
- (ii) Your application will be processed by the school,
- (iii) You will receive a confirmation email confirming you were successful,
- (iv) The names of the successful candidates will be given to your nominated bookshop.

All applications will be considered, and we endeavor to financially support any application as best we can.

### ***Booklists***

All booklists will be available on the school website in June.

### ***School Calendar***

Incoming first year students will start on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August. The school calendar and start dates for all other year groups will be posted on the school website in June.

### ***School Holidays***

The school will close officially for summer holidays on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June. The school will re-open on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022.

### ***Reports***

All parents and guardians will have access to the summer reports on VS Ware in June. A text alert will be sent to all students. Please contact Mr. Kerins if you have any difficulties logging into your VSware account [mkerins@salesianscelbridge.com](mailto:mkerins@salesianscelbridge.com)

### ***SCC 500 Draw & Fundraiser***

We sincerely thank all parents, family members, past pupils, and members of our local and Salesian community far and wide who have supported our SCC 500 draw. The response has been fantastic – better than we could have expected. The school is working on the plans for the new all-weather pitch, and we hope to share with you all soon the first photograph of the diggers moving in to start construction. All funds raised will go towards all school facilities, so your support is greatly appreciated.

### ***School Musical Variety Show***

We are delighted to announce that next year we will host a school musical variety show to showcase the wonderful musical, dramatic and artistic talents of our students. Auditions will be held and rehearsals will start in September. We will also invite our new incoming first year students to get involved and also extend the invitation to any talented parent or guardian who would like to surprise us with their talent. I thank Ms. Leah Griffin, Ms. Rebecca Pratt and Mr. Brian Comaskey who are our production team. Best of luck to all involved and we look forward to a full house to enjoy this extravaganza and celebration of Salesian talent.

### ***Parents Association***

I sincerely thank the Chairperson Ms. Fiona MacCurtain, Secretary Ms. Anne Hamilton Black and Bursar Ms. Mary Quine and all the committee members for their support, feedback, and sponsorship this year. New members are always welcome, and we will advise all parents of the date of the first meeting in September.

### ***Retirement***

We wish Mr. Niall O'Connor every health and happiness on his retirement from Salesian College this summer. Mr. O'Connor joined Salesian College in 1985 and has served as an excellent and hugely talented Engineering teacher who has had an incredibly positive influence on all his students. We sincerely thank him for all his time and dedication to the Salesian education of all his students and he will be missed by all his colleagues.

I wish all our students a healthy and positive summer and I look forward to seeing all our students again in the new school year.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Brenda Kearns,  
**Principal.**