



SALESIAN COLLEGE CELBRIDGE
“We care, develop, believe- together we achieve”
General School Information May 2021

Contents:

- ***German Debating Team – National Winners – Goethe Institute German Debating Competition.***
- ***Road Race***
- ***Sports Days***
- ***Students of the Year***
- ***40th Anniversary Don Bosco Leaving Certificate Bursary.***
- ***6th Year Graduation & Donations of uniform – Senior Ties and Jumpers***
- ***School Charge***
- ***Information on Uniform Orders and collection & School Calendar***
- ***Book Grant - All Parents & Guardians Invited to Apply – Deadline Friday 11th June 2021***
- ***Booklists***
- ***School Calendar***
- ***School Holidays.***
- ***Reports***
- ***Parents Association***

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you are well at this time as we move slowly and positively out of the Covid-19 Restrictions. 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.

We are already preparing for our new school year as best we can. We expect the same systems and protocols to be in place in August 2021 so we will remind all students of this when they return.

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.

As school Principal I am proud of the exceptional on-line work our teachers and students engaged in and we have all learnt new skills along the way which will stand to us. In accordance with direction from the Department of Education and Skills all students will finish on Friday 28th May. Students will follow their exam timetables this week.

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.

German Debating Team – National Winners – Goethe Institute German Debating Competition

Salesian College are the national winners! Well done to our fantastic German debating team who won the prestigious Goethe Institute Debating Competitions. They competed against schools in Leinster and nationally. This is an incredible achievement, and it is a testament to their work ethic and diligence. The winners are Eoin Killian – awarded best overall debater, Ben Feeney, Sean Hanratty, Charlie Hayes and Sean Gleeson. We also give warm thanks also to Ms. Ailish O’Toole and our German Language Assistant Ms. Lena Marquart.

Road Race

Although different this year, we held our annual Road Race on Tuesday 17th May. This was a great achievement for all involved. To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the school 40 finalists from all the year groups were chosen based on their trial times during PE lessons. The race was held around the school grounds, the same distance as the normal race. Our Transition Year students were a great help marking out the route, marking the times and collating the overall results. It was a privilege to see these fantastic students giving their very best and we commend them all for their spirit and participation. The Fr. Archer cup was presented to Gael Castillo, overall winner. Congratulations also to Ethan Sweeney, 5th Year who came 2nd and Michael Hannon, 6th Year who came 3rd.

Sports Days

Well done to all our participants on the individual Sports days organised by the PE department. These events were well organised, and we are delighted the students enjoyed them so much. We compliment Adam Quinn, Bosco 2 for his superb drone footage of the event and his editing of the film. It is great to see such creative talent in our young students.

Students of the Year

Well done to all our award winners. The winners were announced during virtual assemblies for the different year groups. Sincere thanks to Ms. O’Hanlon who organised the awards and certificates.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Year Student of the Year | Conor Cleary |
| 2nd Year Student of the Year | Frank Buggle |
| 3rd Year Student of the Year | Seán Lavin |
| 5th Year Student of the Year | Jack O'Brien |
| 6th Year Student of the Year | Oisín Wade |

40th Anniversary Don Bosco Leaving Certificate Bursary

Well done to all the students who applied for this special bursary as part of our 40th Anniversary celebrations. The standard was exceptional and any of the applicants could have won this award. I thank the Board of Management, the school Trustees Salesians of Don Bosco and the Parents Association who have all sponsored this bursary. The selection panel ultimately decided to award two bursaries to the value of €2000 first prize and €1000 second prize and commended the winners on their understanding of the Salesian ethos, the importance of an holistic education and their personal skills and strengths.

Winner Bursary €2000 Oisín Wade.

Winner Bursary €1000 Sean Gleeson.

6th Year Graduation & Donations of uniform – Senior Ties and Jumpers

I congratulate our 6th year students on their graduation from Salesian College. 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 clean, in good condition senior jumpers. Please leave them with Ms. Kearns, Thank you

Department of Education Covid-19 Inspection – 19th May 2021

The school is fully compliant with all the DES guidelines with regard to the safe opening of schools during the pandemic following a department inspection on 19th May. The report will be published soon.

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 under funded 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. With this in mind we have extended the installments for this school charge. 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 01-06-2021 €50 due 01-08-2021 €50 due 01-10-2021 | €60 due 01-06-2021 €90 due 01-08-2021 €90 due 01-10-2021 |

This payment is made through our Easypayments system which is accessed through our school website. If you have any difficulty accessing your account, please email our school Bursar, ebehan@Salesianscelbridge.com. **If you have an incoming first year student, this school charge has already been paid for 2021-2022.**

If you have any queries, please email the school at office@salesianscelbridge.com.

Information on Uniform Orders and Collection & School Calendar

This information is now available on our school website www.salesianscelbridge.com – School Office Section. The deadline for the ordering of uniform Friday 18th June. Uniform orders can only be made through the school Easypayments on-line system.

Collection 6.00-7.00pm Wednesday 23rd June

Collection 19th & 20th August 6.00-7.00pm.

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, you must 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.

Book Grant - All Parents & Guardians Invited to Apply – Deadline Friday 11th June 2021

I remind all parents and guardians that the deadline for applications is **Friday 11th June 2021**. Extra funding has been made available for this year and we will endeavor to offer financial support to all students in all year groups this year. The application form is available on our website 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.

Booklists

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

School Calendar

Incoming first year students will start on Thursday 26th 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 26th June. The school will re-open on Monday 23rd August 2021.

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

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.

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,

B Kearns

Ms. Brenda Kearns,

Principal.