



## My Time in St. Louis

by Patrick McDonnell, Head Boy 2015/2016

St. Louis community school will be somewhere I will remember for the rest of my life for quite a number of positive reasons. There are too many to mention but the experiences which I have undergone will stand to me for years to come I'm sure.

My first memory of the school is the very first day when we sat in the geography room and had to walk a lap of the second floor to collect the mountain of schoolbooks! It was possibly the longest walk of my life. This sent me on the road to the years which have absolutely flown by. The number of extra-curricular activities and trips is amazing. In second year we climbed a mountain in Connemara and in third year we enjoyed a trip to Dublin to the human body exhibition.

Transition year in this school is extraordinary. The abundance of trips was brilliant; we managed to get away to Monaghan for two nights, Madrid for four nights and plenty of day trips to the ploughing for in between. All of TY is with credit to Mr. Dunleavy and a number of other teachers for giving up their time for the good of us students. This is far from uncommon in St. Louis with many

teachers sacrificing their time daily with no questions asked to support and coach us in music, sports and an array of other activities.

The way in which friendships are formed in Louis is astonishing, especially in Transition year where students get to spend lots of time together. The atmosphere in the school is excellent and it is a hive of activity at all times. The number of people I can gladly say I have met and bonded with throughout my 6 years is great, friendships between different years above and below and in our own year that will hopefully last a lifetime.

Sport is probably the biggest part of my life in St. Louis (behind academic priorities of course!!) Gaelic football is a major element in school. I was lucky enough to enjoy provincial success at Junior and senior levels but unfortunately the senior championship always escaped our grasp. Maybe this year will be ours!!

There is no denying the astonishing standard of teaching in school not to mention the supreme leadership of the Principal and Deputy Principal. I was extremely honoured to be chosen as head boy by my classmates and teachers alike and to be a representative of this accomplished school.

Undoubtedly my time in St. Louis is one I will remember and look back upon fondly for many years to come.