

Principal's Report November to December 2024







Welcome to the Principal's Report for the second term of the 24-25 academic year.

There were many highlights this term and I hope you enjoy reading all about them in this report.

Ms. Regina Anderson Principal

Open Night Tour Guides



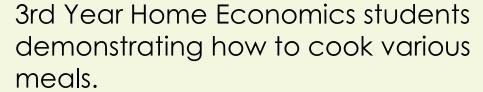




Thank you to Ms. Whelan, our team of Prefects, and the 5th and 6th year volunteers who led the Open Night tours so efficiently.









Our 2nd year boys sharing their experience of Geography to our incoming students and their parents.





5th year students and their Maths teachers sharing some Maths jokes during the Open Night.

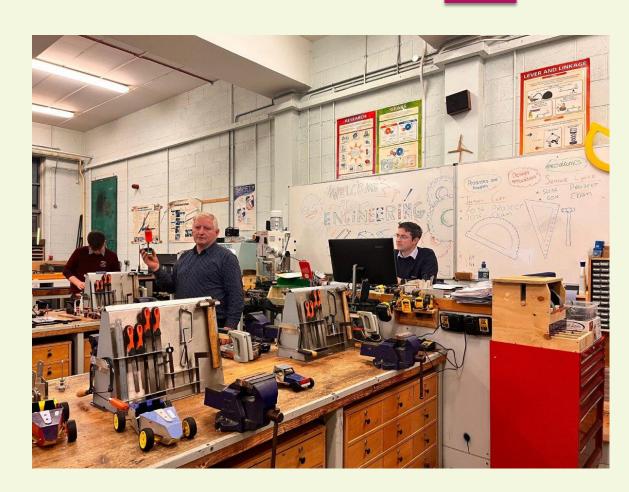


Caoilinn was demonstrating how to make a helicopter in the Woodwork room.





Adam was busy demonstrating how to build a bird house.



Mr. Dunleavy and Mr. Kilduff giving an overview of Engineering.







Our Music department were delighted to share their musical talents at the Open Night.



Learning







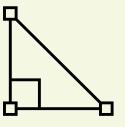
Teaching















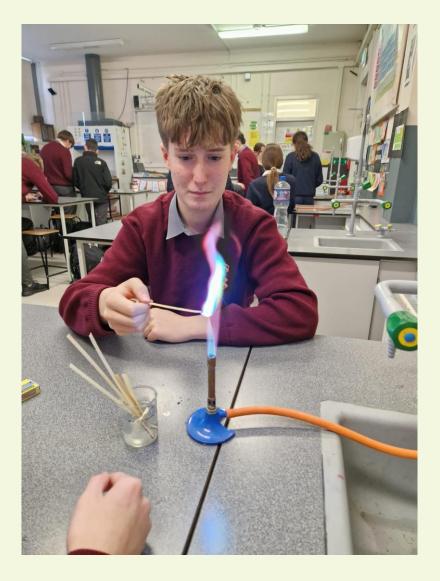
Science

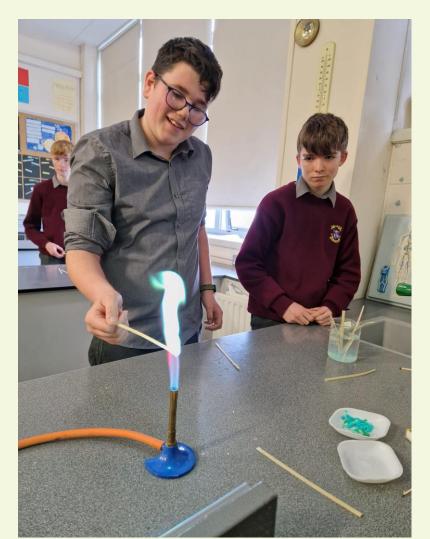






Ms. O'Hora's First year Science class enjoyed carrying out food testing.







Ms. McWalter's 3rd year students were busy carrying out flame tests to visually determine the identity of unknown metals.

Science







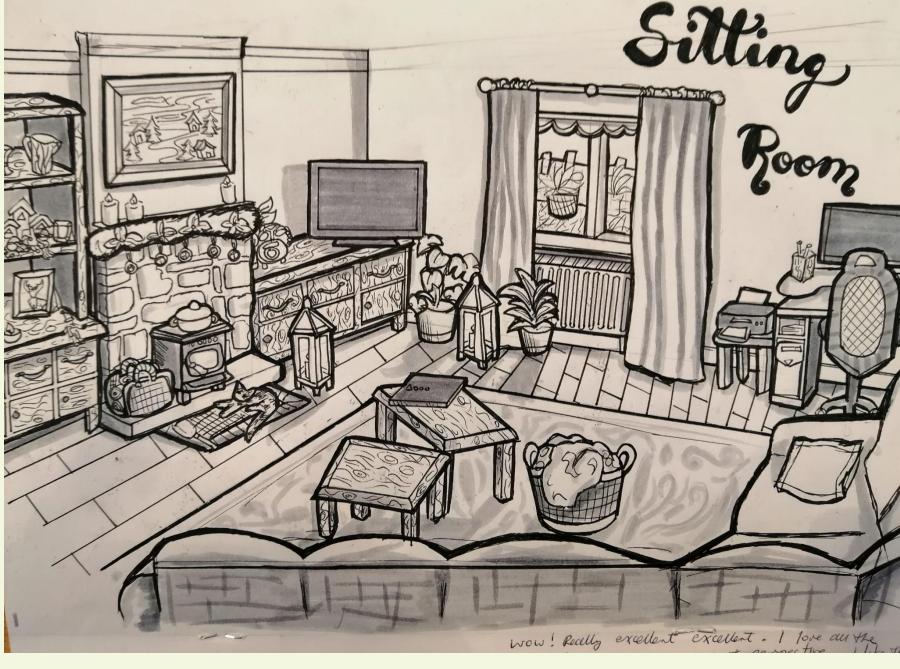
2nd years students from Ms. McWalter's class enjoyed investigating magic drinks.



TY Biology



Roisin and Sinead, two of our TY students enjoyed making red cabbage indicators to test the PH of various substances.





Art Homework of The Week

"A corner of my room" by Elen Jounova 1st year





Art Homework of The Week

Beautiful Christmas Wonderland by Barbara Korniievska in 1st Yr.

Wood Technology





Beautiful work from our 1st year students and their teacher Mr. Harrington.

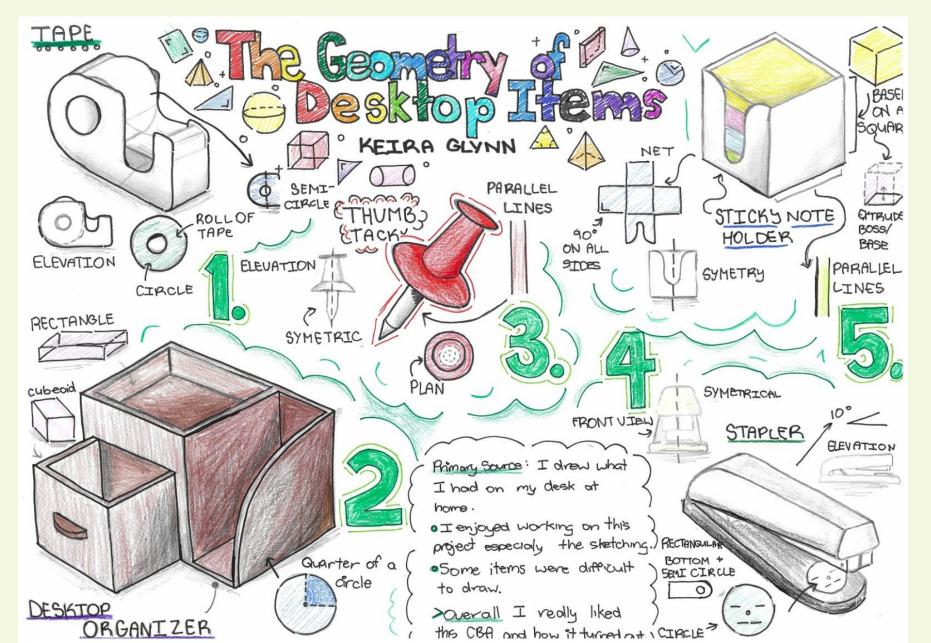






Graphics

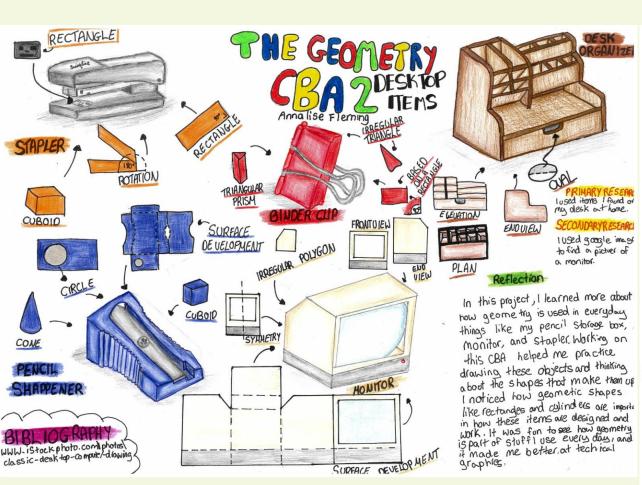


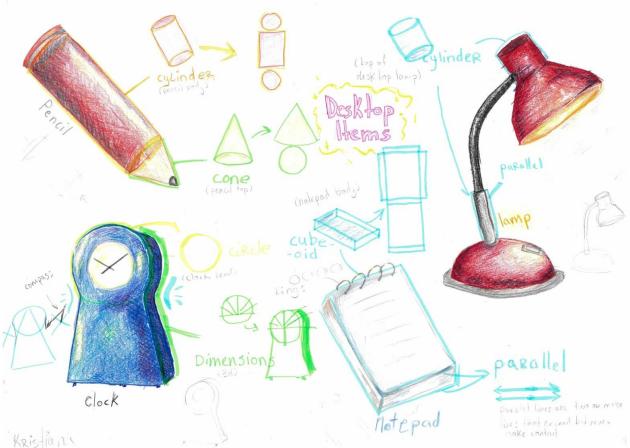


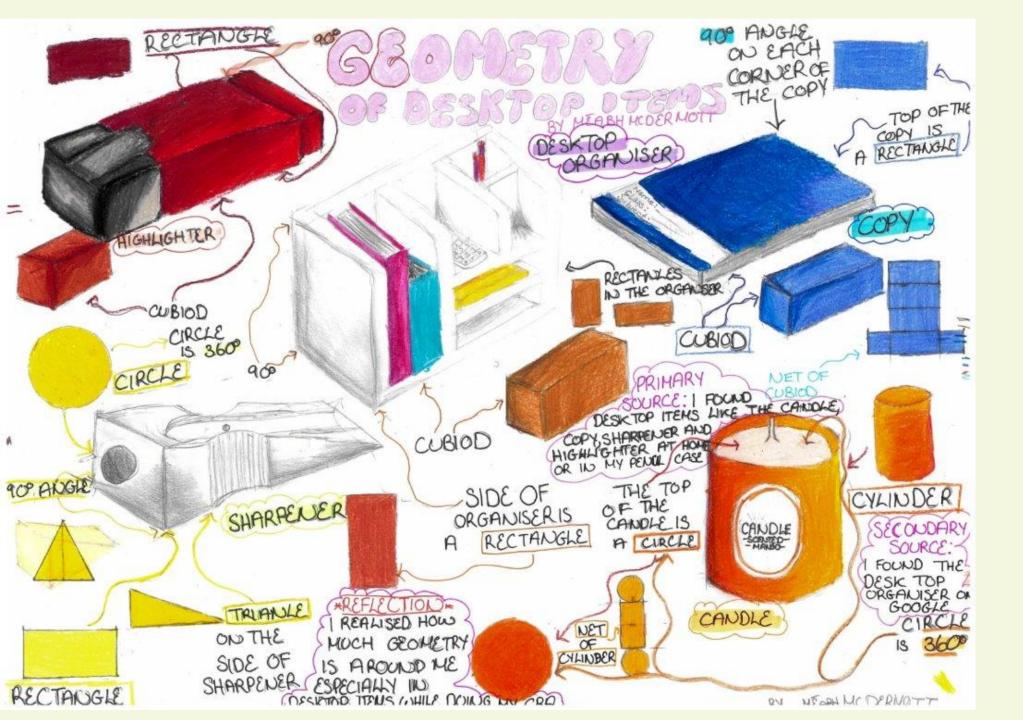
Examples of classroom based assessments.

Graphics

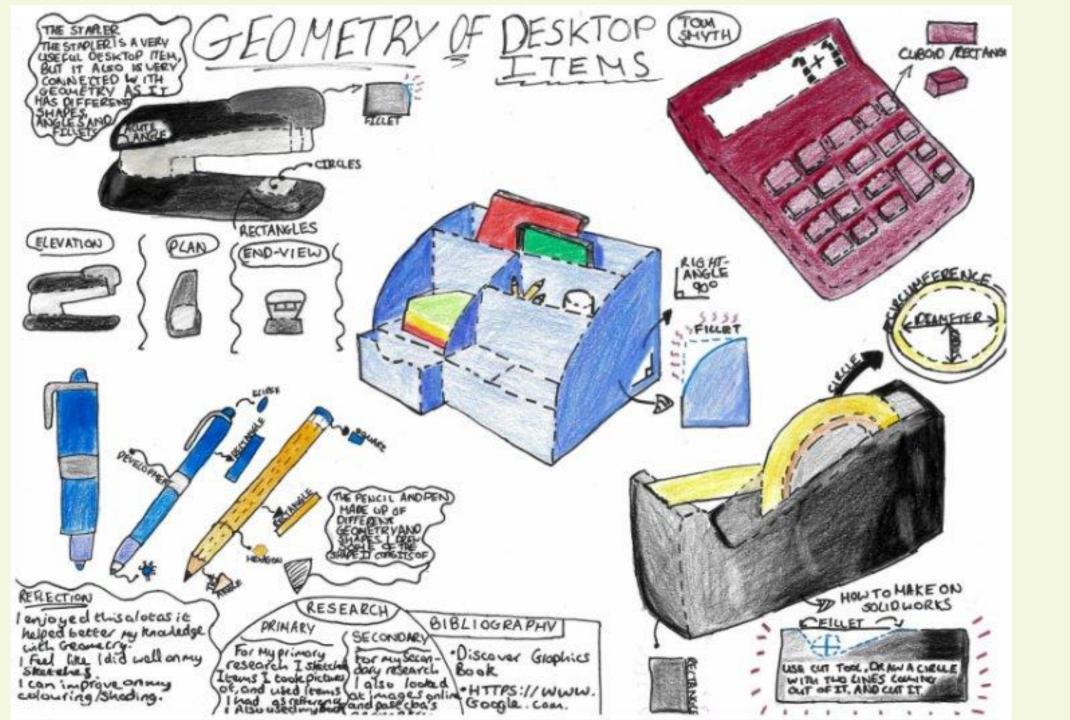




















Our Senior History students enjoyed a trip to Derry where they visited the Museum of Free Derry, and a local historian gave them a talk on the area. The students then visited the city walls and Guild Hall. Thank you to Ms. Haran for organising this trip.













Engineering





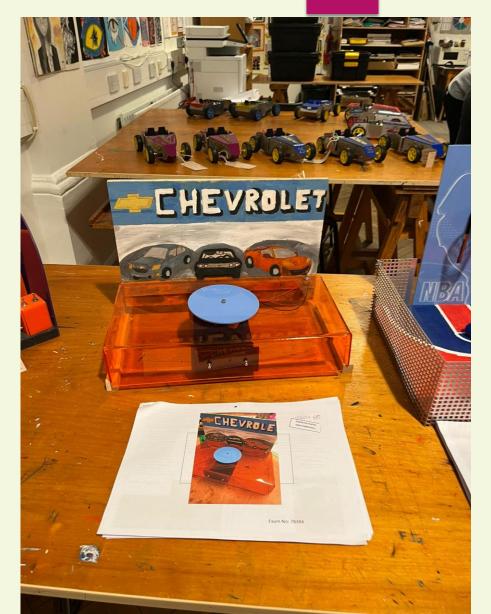


Examples of Leaving Cert Engineering projects.



Engineering





French









Ms. McNamara organised a 2nd year French Fashion show where students presented each other on the catwalk. They demonstrated their knowledge of verbs, relevant vocabulary and adjectives to describe each other's clothing. Next stop Paris Fashion Week!



French









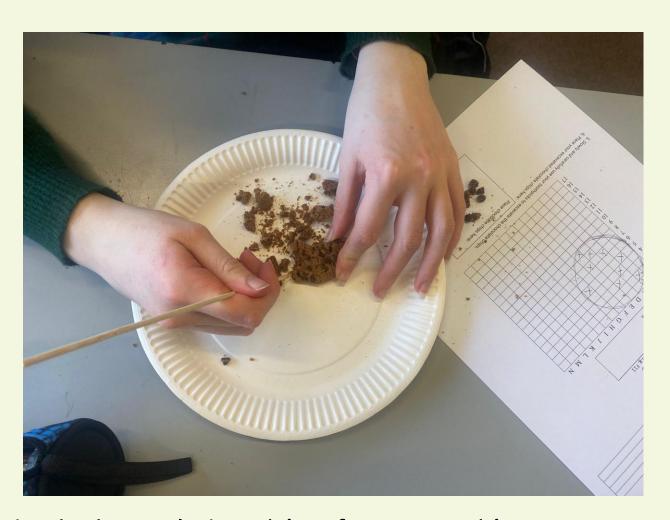




TY History students mummified apples in Ms. Kearn's History class.







TY History students excavated chocolate chips from cookies.

PE Fitness Tests





These three young ladies achieved incredible results in the last round of their fitness tests.

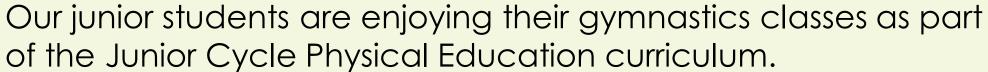
- Aoibhinn Curry (12 min plank),
- Aimee McGuire (11 min plank)
- Addison Brennan (10 min plank).

Each of the girls improved their times by at least two minutes, which is testament to their hard work and determination.











LCA Social Education





Our LCA students visited Castlebar Court House yesterday as part of their Social Education class, 'Everyone has the right to a fair trial'.

It was an insightful and enjoyable experience followed by a trip to the bowling alley.

Thank you to Ms. Jordan, Mr Concannon and Ms. Dunleavy for organising the trip.



LCA Social Education





Business Studies







Student Enterprise Day

Student Enterprise Day







Student Enterprise Day



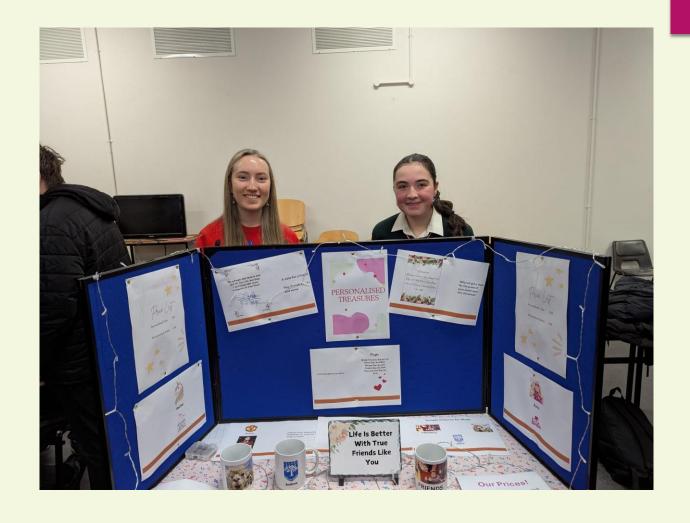




Student Enterprise Day







Student Enterprise Day











Shane, Conn, Sinead and Roisin were busy handing out complimentary treats to the students at the Student Enterprise day, they even managed to make a few tips for themselves. Thank you to the team of Special Needs Assistants for all their support.











Our 1st year students are enjoying their Home Economics classes under the direction of their teachers Ms. Coffey.





























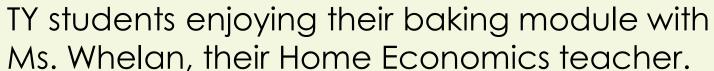




Ms. Murtagh's second year students were busy learning how to embroider.















Well done to Roisin, Sinead, Shane and Conn who made delicious granola bars for the staff of St. Louis. Four fabulous students who are always looking out for others. Thank you to Ms. Murtagh and Rosaleen for all their assistance.



Spanish

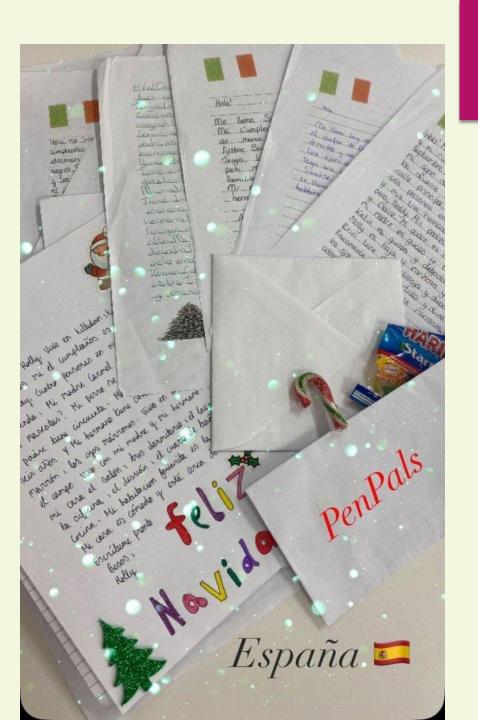


Ms. Monaghan's Spanish class enjoyed playing a game of Spanish bingo as term two drew to a close.



1st & 2nd yr Spanish penpal letters arriving in IES Isabel Perillán y Quirós, Ciudad Real from Ms. Monaghan's Spanish class.

Such a lovely activity!







Gaeilge







Ms. Concannon's 1st Year Gaeilge class enjoyed making some Christmas cards.



TY Business



Thank you to Mr. Gallagher for organising an enterprise workshop for the TY students.

CSPE Buy, Swap and Sell







Thank you to Ms. Monaghan for organising a buy, swap and sell sale. Our students had great fun selling their wares and hunting for a bargain, all while reducing their carbon footprint.

















































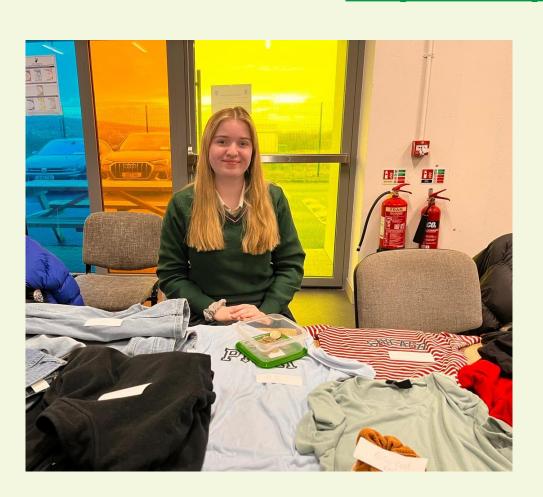










































Geography







Ms. McNamara's TY students enjoyed presenting their 'Bon Voyage' Geography projects.



Junior Certificate Schools Programme JCSP





On Friday 29th November, 55 of our JCSP students enjoyed a trip to Turlough Museum to explore Ireland's folklife collection.















Thank you to Ms. Maloney and Mr. Costello for organising this trip as part of the JCSP programme.









Thank you to Ms. Maloney and Mr. Costello for organising a cake decorating workshop as part of the JCSP programme.











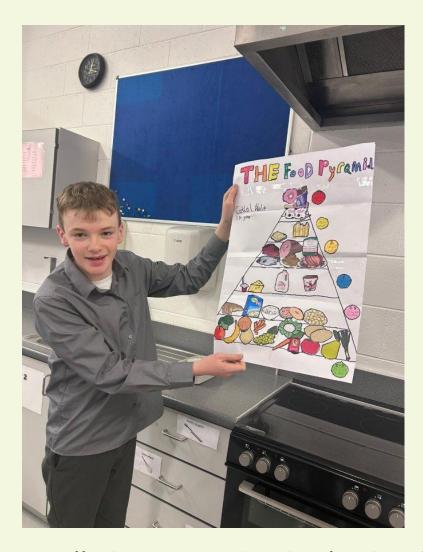




Well done to the winners of the four gingerbread houses from the JCSP day.

- 1st year Leah May Carroll
- 2nd year TJ
 Monahan and Ignas
 Blazitis,
- 3rd year Annalise
 Fleming







Well done to Cathal who is working hard with the L2LP programme, thank you to Michelle his Special Needs Assistant for all her support.

Reminder: Schedule of subject and module tranches published

New and revised subject specifications, incorporating the revised assessment arrangements will be rolled out in tranches on an annual basis. By 2029, all subjects will be revised. This means that all those entering fifth year as a Leaving Certificate established student in 2029 will be following revised curricula and assessment arrangements in all subjects.

Tranche 1 starts 2025

Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Arabic, Latin, Ancient Greek, Business, Climate Action and Sustainable Development, Drama, Film and Theatre Studies

Tranche 2 starts 2026

Accounting, Construction Studies, Engineering, English, Geography, LCVP Modules, Physical Education

Tranche 3 starts 2027

Agricultural Science, Computer Science, Design and Communication Graphics, History, Home Economics, Mathematics, Music, Physics and Chemistry

Tranche 4 starts 2028

Art, Economics, French, Gaeilge, German, Italian, Politics and Society, Spanish, Technology.

Tranche 5 starts 2029

Applied Mathematics, Classical Studies, Japanese, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Religious Education, Russian.

Senior Cycle Update



Further information is available on;

https://ncca.ie/en/senior-cycle/

https://www.curriculumonline.ie/

An information evening on 5th year options and the first tranche of senior cycle subjects will take place on ... January in the school chapel.

2024 - 2025	
Policy	Date of Review
Child Protection	September 2024
Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment	
Checklist for the Review of the Safeguarding Statement	
Anti-Bullying Policy	September 2024
Admissions Policy	November 2024
Safety Statement	January / February 2025
Attendance Policy	January / February 2025
Suspension / Expulsion Policy	January / February 2025
Dignity at Work Policy	January / February 2025



Schedule of Policy Review

All policies, including those under review are available to view on the school website www.stlouiscs.com

Educational Outings and school trips	March / April 2025
Substance Use Policy	March / April 2025
Mobile Phone policy	March / April 2025
Emergency Medication Policy	March / April 2025
Acceptable Usage policy	May / June 2025
Date Protection Policy	May / June 2025
Records Retention Policy	May / June 2025
Prefect Policy	May / June 2025



Schedule of Policy Review

Staff, parents and students are always welcome to make suggestions to any of our policies that are under review.



Extra Currícular Activities









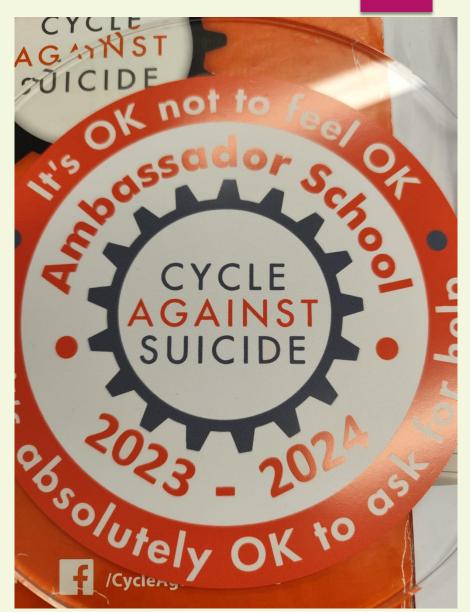


11th Cycle against Suicide Award



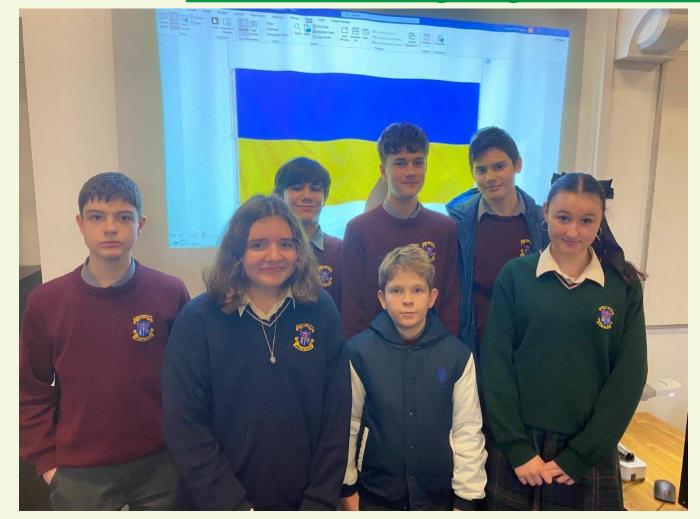
Congratulations to the Leadership Team, the Wellbeing Ambassadors and their coordinator Ms. Ruane for working to achieve our 11th Cycle against Suicide award.

This award recognises all the work that was carried out promoting positive mental health.



Ukrainian Language and Culture Cafe







Thank you to Ms. Monaghan for organising the Ukrainian Language & Culture Café, which was hosted by Gordian & Nikita. They are pictured with members of the Ukrainian community in St. Louis Community School.





Thank you to Gordian for the delicious homemade "Verguny" that he shared in the lunchtime café.



Leadership Certificate





Congratulations to our 5th year students who graduated from NUIG with a Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action on Saturday 23rd November. Thank you to Ms. Ruane for coordinating the Leadership programme in St. Louis.

The Fractured Programme







Thank you to Mr. Padraig O'Hora from Mayo Mental Health Association for educating our students how to mind their mental health, thank you also to Ms. Kenny for organising the talk.

Craft Club

Thank you to Ms. Coffey and Ms. O'Hora for organising the afterschool craft club.

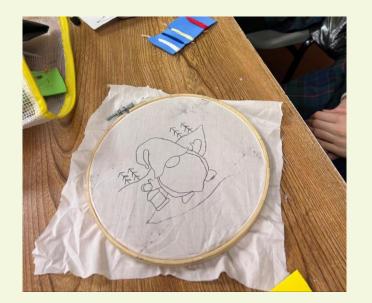
The students are enjoying improving their sewing skills.





Craft Club













Odd Socks Day

Thank you to Ms. Ruane and the Wellbeing team for organising an odd socks day, which is a fun and lighthearted event that encourages our students to embrace individuality and celebrate differences.

Kiltimagh Christmas Markets





Well done to all of our students who took part in the Kiltimagh Christmas markets.

Kiltimagh Christmas Markets





Hospice Coffee Morning





Well done and thank you to Aiden, our caretaker and a team of TY students who organised a coffee morning and raised €1900.00 for Mayo Roscommon Hospice.





Thank you to the members of our local community who joined us for our Hospice Coffee morning, they are pictured with Conor, one of our All-Ireland Volleyball champions.

In November we Remember





During the month of November our school community remembered their deceased family members and friends on our remembrance sunflower.

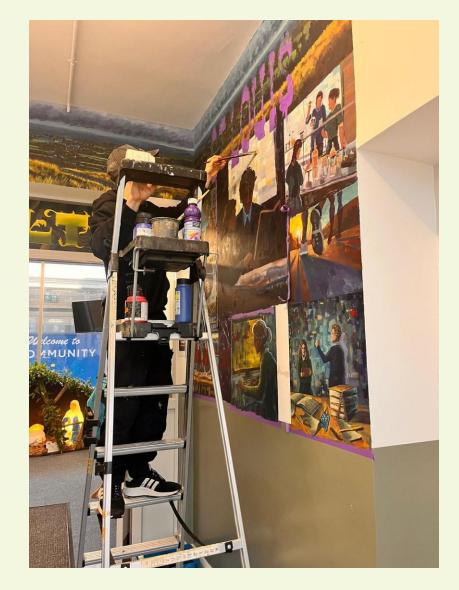
Thank you to Ms. O'Brien and the Chaplaincy Team for organising this annual event.



Our Amazing Artist



Thank you to Klym, our very talented LCA 2 student who is busy painting a beautiful mural in our front foyer.



Arrivederci





Best wishes were extended to Carlotta who returned to her home country of Italy after spending three months in St. Louis.

She is pictured with Mr. Cleary, Deputy Principal and Ms. Anderson, Year Head.

The Student Council





The Student Council enjoy meeting every Monday lunch time.

Thank you to Isla and Caillean, who chair the meetings and thank you to Ms.
O'Brien for supporting the council.

Student Council Report





The student council represents the student voice, and provides an opportunity for the students from all the different year groups to have a say in what goes on within our school community.

We regularly review and contribute to the development of school policies. In a few short months we have organised many events and charitable fundraisers.

The year started off with the student council bonding trip to Boda Borg in Lough Key Forest Park, this was a very fun and enjoyable experience, and a great way to get to know other members of the council.

Recently, the council put together a candy-cane selling fund raiser for the Simon Community. Lastly, the council is helping the LCA class to organise Christmas food hampers for members of our school community.

By Emma Dunne and Julianne Nash

Student Council Fundraiser





Members of the Student Council were busy selling candy canes at the Student Enterprise Day to raise funds for the Simon Community.

Fundraiser for the Simon Community





The Student Council and their coordinator Ms.

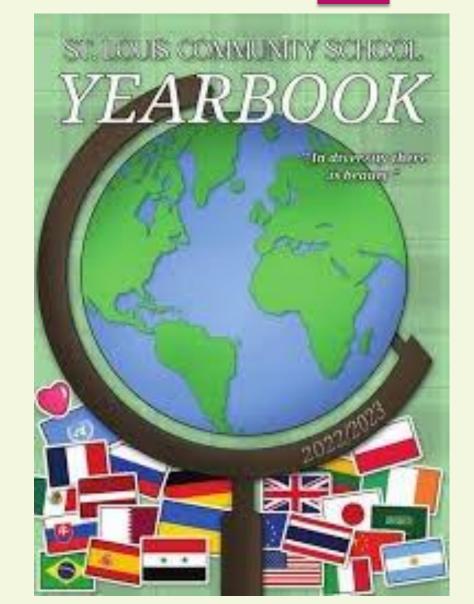
O'Brien presented the Simon Community with a cheque for €500.

Well done to all involved.

Yearbook

This term the Yearbook Committee were very busy. Pearl was putting pictures from the first term into a Word Document, Kate and Ellen were busy thinking of games for the yearbook and Grainne and Maria are using Canva to do the top albums of the year 2024. Jayden, Aoibhe and Maria are using Canva to make ideas for the cover of the yearbook, Niamh is writing about the enterprise day, and Michal is inserting photos of all the trips we have gone on in Transition Year. Heath, Cillian, Martin and Kian are putting the first-year pictures into the yearbook. By Kate Leonard





Return Scheme





Conn, Sinead, Roisin and Shane are enjoying working on the deposit return scheme.

Prefects Report





Prefects



Open Evening for First Years

We had an open night for the incoming first years and the prefects were tasked with escorting groups around each floor in a co-ordinated fashion as to not cause any hold ups throughout the night. There were also two prefects going around the whole school re-directing lost visitors and hurrying up groups that were moving too slow for an optimal tour.

Canteen Duty

The main job the prefects were given for the year is canteen duty, what that entails is taking down the names of people that buy food in the canteen to make sure all purchases are accounted for.

Awareness of Juniors

As prefects, something we must do without needing to be told is to look out for the junior students and make sure that they are all ok and settled in well.

Assistance to Staff

A main part of being a prefect is the rapport you gain with the staff

By giving help when you can, at events or even throughout the school day

and this is something we have all been building on.

Study skills Powerpoint

The prefects delivered a powerpoint to the 5^{th} years to help them to learn how to study, first we split into groups of 5 and we delivered the powerpoint presentation to the four 5^{th} year groups. The presentation contained general tips for study and subject – specific tips to help as much as possible.

By Nathan Casey.

Wellbeing Ambassadors





Our wellbeing ambassadors are doing great work.

Thank you to Ms. Ruane for working with this group of students.



This year the Wellbeing team launched the mental health vs mental illness campaign. They have been providing tips on self-care strategies through announcements on the intercom, notices on Microsoft Teams and by mounting various posters around the school.

This term the team will be giving advice to students on how to get a good nights sleep, and how to reduce the amount of time they are spending on their mobile phones. This team also have plans to update some of the health posters and plaques around the school, especially the orange help line boards.

Some members of the team made little teddies bears for the residents of the local nursing homes.

By: Aleksandra Bogdanovica

Best Wishes to James





The staff and students of St. Louis were delighted that James, one of our second year students paid us a brief visit while he is recovering from spinal surgery.











LCA Enterpreneurs

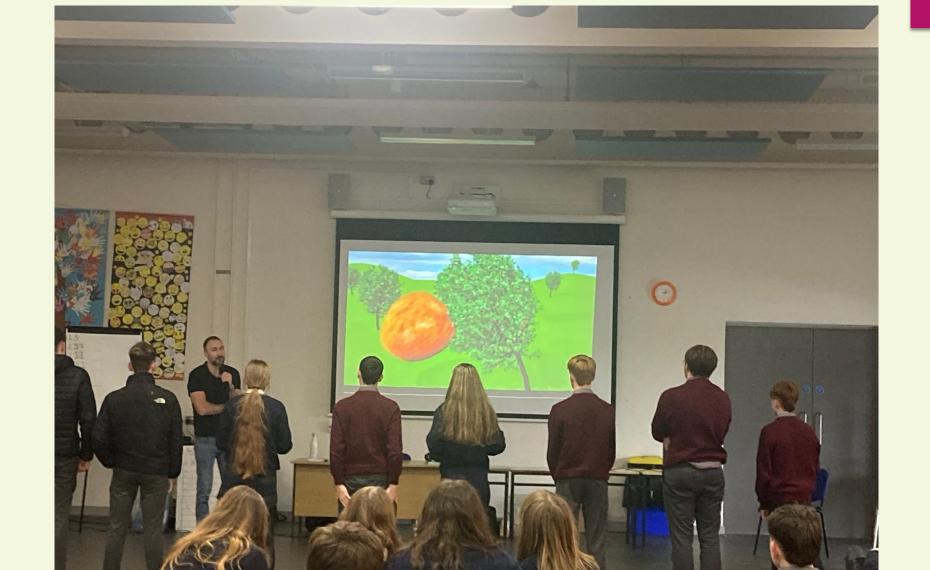




Well done to the LCA students who provided popcorn for the students during the recent student wellbeing events.

An Tobar Nua Retreat











An Tobar Nua delivered a retreat for our third year students. The main focus was on developing the student's overall well-being and encouraging faith in an interactive, relatable, fun and contemporary manner. Thank you to Ms. O'Brien for organising this retreat, the students really enjoyed it.

Comhairle na nOg





Thank you to Ms. Ruane for bringing our junior students to Comhairle na nOg, a youth council which gives young people a chance to have their voice heard on the issues affecting their lives and their future.

PE / Sport in St. Louis



























All-Ireland Champions















Congratulations

Congratulations to our Senior Boys Volleyball team and their coach, Mr. Costello on their great win against Colaiste Muire Mhathair in the All-Ireland Volleyball final on Monday 9th December in the National Sports Arena, Dublin.

St. Louis Supporters





Thank you to all of our students who travelled to Dublin to support our volleyball team.

The All Ireland Champions





Our All-Ireland Volleyball team enjoying a well deserved treat after their great victory in Dublin.





TY Future Leaders

Well done to our Ty future leaders who organised a Gaelic football session for our 1st year students as part of their coaching module. Well done to the students and thank you to their coach, Mr. O'Hara.







The first year students really enjoyed the coaching session.





TY 15km Hike

TY 15km Hike





Well done to our Transition year students who completed a 15km hike in aid of Hygiene Hub Ireland; They raised funds which will be used to purchase hygiene supplies for distribution locally. Thank you to Ms. Monaghan for organising this very enjoyable event.

All Ireland Rowing Champion







Congratulations to Ms.
Ueno who was awarded
first place in the
Provincial Indoor Rowing
championships.

U-16 Basketball Team





Senior Boys Rugby





Well done to our Senior Rugby team on their two great wins recently.

Thank you to Mr. Martin Byrne and Mr. Kilduff for working with this team.

U-16 Girls Gaelic





Our Girls Gaelic team are enjoying their matches, with lots of wins this term.

Thank you to their coaches Ms. O'Hora and Ms. Concannon for training this team.

Junior Soccer Tournament





Thank you to Martin McDonagh, one of our TY students who organised a soccer tournament for our junior students.

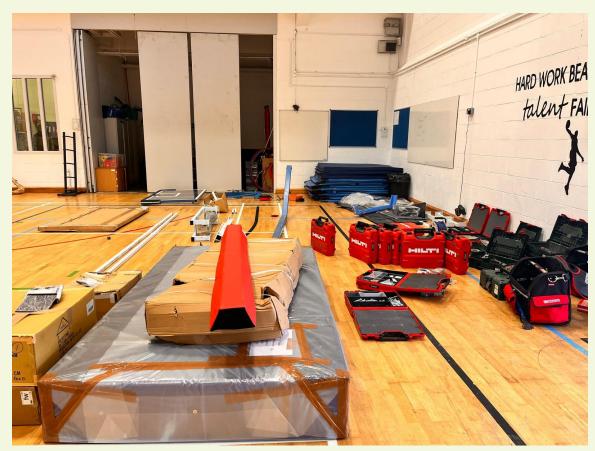






<u>PE</u>





Our recent delivery of PE equipment, thanks to a grant of €75,000 from the Department of Education.

Our Beautiful Crib





Handcrafted by the Woodwork department.





Our School Chapel





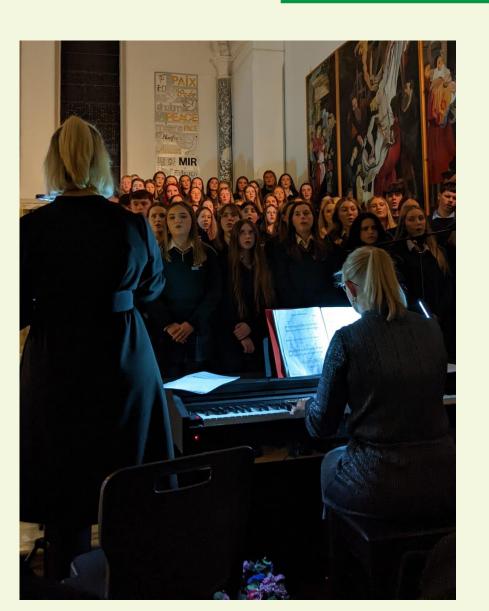




Thank you to Rosaleen, one of our Special Needs Assistants for all the time and effort she puts into decorating our school for the Christmas season, every year she does a fabulous job.

Christmas Carol Service







Thank you and well done to Ms. O'Brien, Ms. Morrison, Ms. McEvaddy and all the students involved in our Christmas Carol Service, it was a fabulous occasion.

Senior Choir





Trad Group





1st Year Choir











Thank you to Cariosa and Jack who were the masters of ceremonies for the night, they did a fantastic job.

Thank you also to Mr. Dunleavy, our resident Santa Claus for entertaining the young children.

Shoe Box Appeal





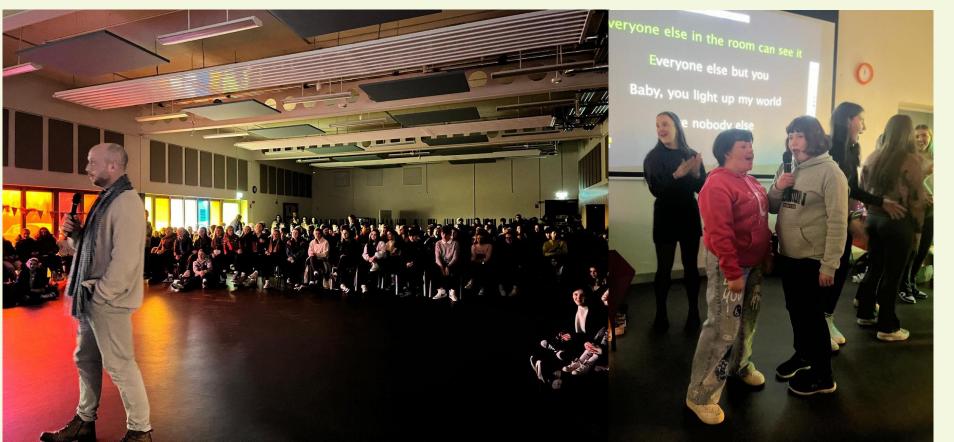


Thank you to Ms. Maloney and her 5th year LCVP class who organised a very successful shoe box collection.

Christmas Fun Day

ici

Thank you to Ms. Emily Concannon, Mr. Dylan Byrne and all the staff involved in the organisation of the Christmas Fun Day, everyone had a lovely time.









Thank you to Abbie, Cait and Cariosa, our student leaders for all their help at the Christmas Fun Day.





Christmas Fun Day









Christmas Hampers





Congratulations and well done to our LCA students, Mr.
Concannon, Aiden and Pauline who organised fabulous food hampers for members of our community.

Movie Time





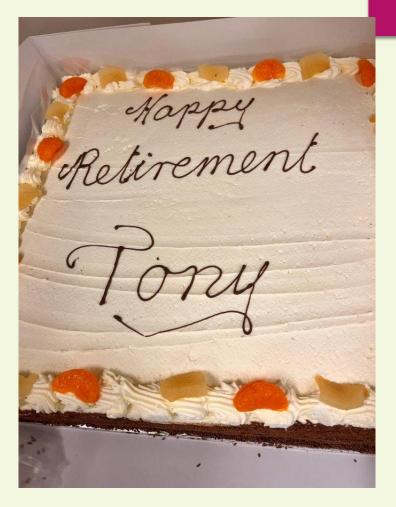
Thank you to the Leaving Certificate Applied students for organising a Christmas movie hour for the pupils from St. Aiden's National School as part of their fundraiser for the Christmas Food Appeal.

Thank you to Mr. Concannon and the Special Needs Assistants for all their assistance.

Retirement Wishes







On Friday 20th December we bid farewell to Mr. Tony Duffy who retired from St. Louis after 25 years service. Mr. Duffy taught Science, Chemistry and Maths, and he trained several Senior Boys Gaelic teams over the years. May the next chapter be filled with discovery, relaxation, and joy as he embarks on new adventures.









Thank you to Ms. O'Brien and the Student Council for organising a lovely retirement prayer service for Mr. Duffy. Thank you also to Ms. McEvaddy, Ms. Morrison and the School Choir for adding so much to the occasion.





Thank you to Mr. Dunleavy for adding some fun and festive cheer to the retirement service.



Ho Ho Ho







Board of Management Agreed Report 24th September 2024



An attendance roll was taken.

- Ms. Mary Mullarkey was elected as Chairperson.
- The Checklist for the Board of Management meetings was completed.
- The Appendix to School Self-Evaluation Report, including the legislative and regulatory checklist will be completed by Ms. Mary Mullarkey and Ms. Regina Anderson.
- All correspondence was addressed.
- The Child Protection Oversight report and the Anti Bullying report were presented.
- An update was provided on teaching and learning, the Leaving Certificate and the Leaving Certificate Applied
 results, additional accommodation and the Emergency works application.
- The revised Safeguarding Statement, Risk Assessment and Anti-Bullying policy were adopted by the board
- The SSE focus for this academic year is attendance, a review was carried out with staff at the last staff meeting and focus groups will be organised with students and parents.
- Eight teachers expressed interest in attending the Le Cheile Middle leaders / Aspiring leaders course.
- Congratulations were extended to Ms. Trish O'Brien and Ms. Patricia Murtagh who completed the Diploma in Special Educational Needs.

Condolences were extended to;

- Mr. Murt Dunleavy on the death of his brother Billy.
- Ms. Patricia Murtagh on the death of her father Martin.
- Ms. Aideen Ueno on the death of her father Richard.
- Mr. Michael Farrell on the death of his Granny.
- Mr. Michael Brett on the death of his brother John.
- The McNieve family on the death of their son / brother James.





In St. Louis Community School

Staff Member	Email Address
Ms. Regina Anderson	regina.anderson@stlouiscs.com
Mr. Grahame Cleary	grahame.cleary@stlouiscs.com
Ms. Trish O'Brien	trish.obrien@stlouiscs.com
Ms. Walburg Ruane	walburg.ruane@stlouiscs.com
Ms. Tracey Kenny	tracey.kenny@stlouiscs.com

Supports outside of School

	Support	Phone Number	Email
-	Mindspace Mayo Market Square Castlebar Co. Mayo F23 Y427	094 90 67001	info@mindspacemayo.ie
	ISPCC	01 234 2000	info@ispcc.ie
	Samaritans Samaritans, 4-5 Usher's Court, Usher's Quay Dublin 8	01 6710071	
	The Family Centre Chapel Street Castlebar Co. Mayo F23 PH39	094 90 25900	info@thefamilycentre.com
	Knock Counselling Centre Knock Shrine Knock Co. Mayo	094 93 75032	counsellingoffice@knockshrine.ie
	Childline	1800 66 66 66	You can chat with someone live online
	Pieta House (Connacht) Family Resource Centre Abbey Street Ballina Co. Mayo F26 C6P6	093 25586 0818 111 126 1800 247 247 (24/7 helpline)	info@pieta.ie



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Website www.stlouiscs.com