

The Malachian

Vol 4 Issue 1 Winter 2020

Year 8 Newsletter

Welcome to St. Malachy's College (By Mr Niblock)

A CLASS START



A heartfelt welcome to our Winter Newsletter and congratulations to our Year 8s for completing your first term at St Malachy's. As we embark on a New Year and indeed a new decade, there is no better time to reflect, make resolutions for the months ahead and consider what you want to achieve during the next term.

This school year, we had the biggest intake of pupils in the history of the College (established 1833). Over the years, many of our Year 8s have gone on to achieve great things and I have no doubt with hard work and dedication, you will do the same. Maybe one day you will be returning to school as a past pupil to speak to our students about your own



Mr Niblock and Mr McBride with some of our new Year 8s

success and inspire them to follow in your footsteps!

This newsletter promotes and celebrates some of events at the College including extra-curricular activities, our enrichment programme,

the preventative curriculum and achievements both in and outside of school. There are so many exciting school activities available to you, so why not make a resolution to get involved in a club or group this year?

I hope both pupils and parents have thoroughly enjoyed being part of our St Malachy's family so far. We have certainly enjoyed welcoming you all to the College and we are excited for the year ahead.

Cain Armstrong-Quigley 8A

I thought before I started Year 8 in St Malachys College, that I would be alone, being the only boy from my primary school to come here. I also thought as the school was so huge that I would get lost a

lot and would feel out of my depth with so many new subjects, but over the course of a few months, I have made so many new friends. I have never been lost and I love all my classes. I now feel completely at home in St Malachys and I honestly know that I will thoroughly enjoy the years ahead that I will spend here.

Leo Douglas Craig 8A

"On my first day it was a mix of excitement and nervousness but you settle in quickly."

INSIDE

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Cast members of Joseph and the Technicoloured Dreamcoat

As you might all be aware St. Malachy's College, alongside the students and staff of BRA, staged the musical production of Joseph and his Technicoloured Dreamcoat, based on the hit music comedy of the same name, as our annual Christmas play

The show, just like the original, contains very few lines of spoken dialogue, but it is still able to tell a fascinating story throughout. It chronicles the story of Joseph, one of the twelve sons of Jacob, who owns the dreamcoat, which will one day be inherited by Joseph. The other eleven sons, who have long held a bitter hatred against Joseph, kidnap Joseph, steal his dreamcoat, sell Joseph off as a slave and stage Joseph's death. Joseph becomes a slave to the Egyptian tycoon Potiphar until he is suspected by Potiphar as having a relationship with his wife, Mrs Potiphar. He is then sold to the Egyptian pharaoh to interpret his dreams, while his brothers slowly begin to feel guilty about the loss of Joseph. The play is a faithful adaptation of the story, with excellent acting throughout and we give it a resounding **8 out of 10**.

The songs are one of the most important aspects of the show. The songs are what tell the story, and if they had been done the wrong way, the show may have fallen short. The play, however does not succumb to this fate, and in our

opinion, the musical performance greatly enhances the play. The school choir does an exceptional job providing back up support for the singers and of particular interest, is the Elvis inspired Pharaoh song. The songs are a great adaption of the original songs, and for that we give it an **8**.

The acting in the show is top notch. Of high praise are the people who play Joseph's eleven brothers, who are very entertaining to watch in all their scenes, and literally steal the show. The rest of the cast are able to pull off a good performance, despite nearly all their lines being sung, using a healthy mix of facial expression and body language. The cast should be applauded for their effort and we give them a **9 out of ten**.

We only decided to report on the costume after we had seen the play, because as everybody who had seen the play knows, the dreamcoat is **LEGENDARY**. In fact, the coat was previously worn by Joe Suggs during last year's Strictly Come Dancing. **HOW COOL IS THAT!** Even forgetting about the fabled dreamcoat, the costumes worn by the eleven brothers look really convincing. The sequined jackets worn by the narrators are amazing and the pharaoh's costume is a **WHOLE** other level. A lot of time and effort went into making the costumes, and it shows. For these reasons, we give the costumes a **9.5 out of ten**.

So, what is the final score....

The show is a faithful adaption of the show that inspired it, the songs are catchy, the acting is phenomenal and the costumes are fantastic. We therefore give the show a much deserved **9 out of 10**.

PREFECT PROFILE



Name: Aaron McAllister Class: 14P

Why did I want to become a prefect?

When I was in first year, my class prefect helped me a lot and I liked and respected him and respect is essential in the College. I wanted responsibility to make a difference to the school and there is no better place to start than with Year 8s.

Responsibilities as a prefect:

I have responsibility to attend afternoon registration three days a week and attend assembly each week. I am available to chat to the class about anything, be it classwork, sports or anything that is a challenge mentally.

TEACHER PROFILE



Name: Miss Curry

Role: Class Tutor 8F

Subject: Geography, RE, History, HE and Leisure & Tourism

Likes: Exploring the world, PiYo, eating too much chocolate, dogs and spending time with friends & family.

What the pupils say...

'Miss Curry greets us with a smile every morning and gives us a good laugh.'

Eamonn McIvor

'She is very kind and helpful. She has helped our whole class settle in so well to year 8.'

Ben McManus



By Oliver Kelly 8C

Jude Meighan 8C

I have really enjoyed my time at St Malachys. It is so big compared to my primary school. When I walked up the avenue for the first time in my new school uniform I was quite overwhelmed by the size of the

school. From then I have felt more at ease and settled in well. The canteen food is delicious and the library is an amazing place in the mornings. I always look forward to seeing my prefect Ronan as well.



I love learning different languages. Today it's Irish!



We all help each other in class



You can also learn French or Spanish which comes in handy when you go on holiday...



...and even though I'm quite scared of flying...



...it's always worth it when you arrive in the sun



SPORTS

ATHLETICS Weather did not dampen Year 8 spirits

Annual Martin McMullan Race

by Dara Cassidy 8A

On the Monday 30th September, the year 8 pupils gathered together at the Mallusk playing fields for the annual Martin McMullan race. This race is named after a year 8 pupil called Martin McMullan who loved running, sadly he passed away while he was in year 8.

This year was a memorable race for two reasons. Firstly, so much rain had fallen in September that Mr McKillop was heard to say that the surface is "the wettest he has seen Mallusk in 30 years." Secondly this year 8 group of over 170 pupils is the biggest group ever to have



Above: Top ten boys over the finish line

taken part in this race. Luckily the rain stayed away for this crowd of excited and nervous year

8s. After a great effort from all who took part first place went to Eoin McConnell (8A), followed by Dara Cassidy (8A) and Ordhan Walsh (8B). The winning team was 8D, with Declan Murry in 6th and Michael McKenna in 9th place.

I first heard about the Martin McMullan race in P6 when I went to the Open Night at St Malachys and I had been looking forward to it ever since. It was a brilliant experience for me because I love running and I love being part of St Malachys.

Year 8 boys stretch out before the big race (right)



With thanks to: Cain Armstrong-Quigley, Leo Douglas Craig, Manus Murphy, Darragh Ward, Eamonn McIvor, Ben McManus, Jude Meighan, Oliver Kelly & Dara Cassidy