An impressionistic landscape painting in shades of blue, green, and purple. The scene depicts a valley with rolling hills, a winding path, and a small structure. The brushstrokes are visible and expressive, creating a sense of movement and light. The overall mood is serene and atmospheric.

# STRATHEARN SCHOOL.

2019.

# inside STRATHEARN SCHOOL magazine.

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# PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME.

Welcome to the Strathearn School magazine for 2018-2019. At Strathearn we live by our motto – encourage, empower, excel. This year's magazine shows how the ideas of our motto are visible in the daily life of the school, both inside and outside the classroom. In Strathearn, we also pride ourselves in the way we give primacy to the pupil voice – almost all the articles that follow are written by the pupils themselves.

The magazine contains reports on a wide variety of activities including sport, music and drama, as well as some very interesting insights into our House System from our House Captains and Deputies. The excellent work of the School Council as a forum for change and improvement is also detailed in their report on the year's work.

The section dedicated to our Prize Night provides a sense of the great variety of activities involved in Strathearn life, both in terms of academic and extra-curricular pursuits. The Prize Night is always one of the highlights of our school year, as it allows us to celebrate the many achievements made by those within our community. In the article on Prize Night, you can hear from our pupils themselves as they reflect on various areas of life at Strathearn.

Like our Prize Night, the school magazine provides us with an opportunity to celebrate all that we are proud of in the Strathearn community, and as we have embarked on our 90th year celebrations this makes it a very special edition. The magazine showcases many of the opportunities the girls have availed of this year, especially the section on our Clubs and Societies. Here, you can read our pupils' own views about the wide range of experiences they have had - from Choir reports to interesting reminiscences about school trips, both at home and abroad. Our values of concern for others and generosity are also expressed in the sections that relate to charity and community involvement. Our potential for creativity in music, art and literature is showcased here in all its variety.

2018 – 2019 was also a very special year for sport in Strathearn, as many of our hockey teams had their best seasons in over ten years. Sporting life goes from strength to strength, both in terms of team and individual performances. The stories of these achievements can be found in the pages that follow, and again, all these reports are written by the pupils themselves.

I would also like to thank the staff and pupils of the Preparatory Department for their wonderful contributions to the magazine this year; their art work and literary section is amazing for pupils of such a young age.

I would also like to record my appreciation to all of those who have contributed to this magazine in our 90th anniversary year. I would particularly like to pay tribute to the magazine's editor, Dr McBride, and to its designers, Mr Coleman and Mrs Black.

I trust that you will enjoy reading it as much as I have.



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Mrs H Agnew BA PGCE

Miss B Gourley MA BA PGCE

Miss S Lyttle BA PGCE

Miss E McClean BA PGCE

Miss R Minihan BA PGCE

Mrs S Morrow BA PGCE

Mrs J Muldrew MA PGCE

Mr D Newell BA PGCE

Mrs J Thompson BA PGCE

Ms M Y Perdomo Rodríguez

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Miss B Brittain BEd

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Mrs P Devlin BEd ALCM

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Mrs V McKinney BEd

Mrs J Walls BEd (Cantab)

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Mrs J Atkinson BEd

Mrs R Browne BSc PGCE Dip PD

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Miss G Campbell BSc

Mr D Coleman BDes BA

Miss M McLaghlan

Mr S Millar HND BSc

Miss A Ramsey

Mrs J Shaw BSc DIS

Mr M Smith

Miss Todd

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Mrs K Black BSc MSc PGCE

Ms N Ditty

Mrs S Doyle BSc

Ms M Edgar BSocSci

Ms I Jess

Miss A Jordan BSc

Miss D Larkham

Miss O McParland BA MA

Mrs R Shaw PGATC

Mrs S Volland

Mrs D Welsh BA Dip IS

**PREMISES STAFF .**

Mr J Algje

Mr M Paxton

**CATERING STAFF .**

Mrs V Crymble

Ms T Gibson

Mrs L Gillespie

Ms M Kowalska

Mrs E Madden

Mrs W McCluskey

Mrs J McConnell

Ms N McMaster

Ms M Mellon

Mrs C Nesbitt

Mrs N O'Brien

Miss C Stewart

**SUPERVISORY STAFF .**

Ms J Clinging

Ms N Gardener

Mrs C Harper

Mrs L Howe

Ms C Macartney

Mrs L Martin

Ms S Morrison

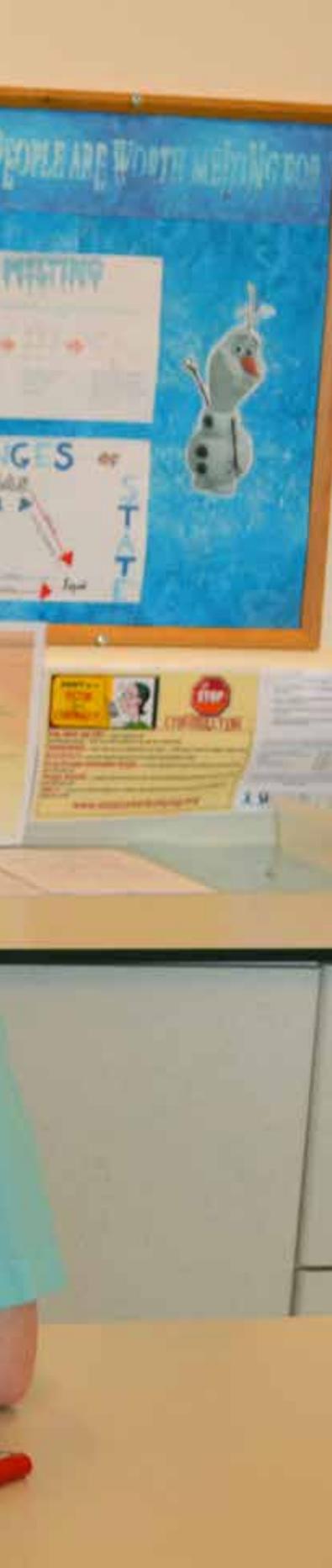
**ANCILLARY STAFF .**

Mrs A McLaughlin

Ms P McNeice



# FORM ONE.



In August we welcomed our new Form 1 to Strathearn for their first day. This is always a very exciting time for all involved! There are many changes when starting a new school and for many girls the familiar routines of P7 can feel a long way off. Even so, the girls approached the start of the new year with great enthusiasm and found that it didn't take long at all to feel at home in their new surroundings. We are very fortunate in Strathearn to have so many extra-curricular activities for the girls to get involved in, and the new pupils always find that these activities really help them to meet new people and make new friends, both within their year group and beyond.

In early September we embarked on an adventurous day out to the Folk Museum. It was really encouraging to see how well the girls worked together as they completed their treasure hunt. We were also blessed with great weather and had a delicious picnic in the grounds. Even the long queues in the sweet shop didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the group!

By the end of September the Form 1 girls had really settled into their new routine, and were treated to a special French Breakfast in Miskelly Deli to celebrate Modern Languages Week. The House Plays were really well supported by our new pupils, both by the actors and those behind the scenes. Each year we raise funds for a local charitable cause and this year we were delighted to be able to take part in the Help for Hollie initiative. We are very grateful for the generosity of all who supported us in our morning of sporting fun - the girls raised over £4500 which was incredible.

As usual, the year has flown by and I wish all of our Form 1 girls every success as they embark on their second year in Strathearn.

***Keep working hard girls,  
and get involved with school life  
as much as possible!***

**Miss Stewart, Head of Form 1**



**Back Row:** Clara McWhinney, Beth King, Anna Cousins, Maeve Macairt,  
Homa Ijaz, Heidi Carter, Velvet Meharg

**Middle Row:** Mia Bleakley, Pippa Chambers, Beatrice Baker, Jayla Boyd, Beth Danaher,  
Lauren Wright, Rebecca Thomson Donnan, Mrs Rea

**Front Row:** Maya Dhokia, Anna Reynolds, Lucy Dunbar, Amy Boyle, Dawn Blair,  
Ella Hampton, Alyssa Fleming

# FORM 1S.



**Back Row:** Emma Stranaghan, Rheanna James, Hannah Bell, Maisie McCrea,  
Lola Parkes, Amy Nesbitt

**Middle Row:** Jade Weir, Amy McNaught, Eden Long, Eva Wilson, Ria Hanna,  
Georgia Thornton, Hope Gordon, Miss Stewart

**Front Row:** Cassie Bailie, Sami Macartney, Rachel Carson, Mia Gribben, Kara Morrice,  
Holly Marshall, Gracie Hamilton

FORM 1T



**Back Row:** Emma Hanna, Abbi Sloan, Rebecca Mounstephen, Olivia Graham,  
Holly Humphreys, Aisla Gallagher, Madeleine Wall

**Middle Row:** Lucy Richmond, Isabella Harvey, Aimee Robinson, Rebecca Gabbie,  
Lily Richardson, Grace Coburn, Miss Blayney

**Front Row:** Abbie Higgins, Sara Murray, Jessica Geddis, Anna Spence,  
Katerina Yakovchuk, Emily Gilmore, Emma Smyth

# FORM 1R.



**Back Row:** Sophie Campbell, Lara Holden, Ella Cooper, Grace Hughes, Eleanor Burns,  
Katie Browne, Charli Graham-Ogg

**Middle Row:** Rutendo Mushipe, Sophie-Rose Atkinson, Ruby Love, Rebecca Mitchell, Lita Carson,  
Paige Hawthorne, Klara Skerratt, Harriet Walker, Miss McGahon

**Front Row:** Rhianna Reid-McKittrick, Hollie Davies, Isabella Dunbar, Ruby Emerson,  
Grace McCracken, Lucy Brown, Isabella Emerson

FORM 1A



**Back Row:** Alex Picton-Lynas, Faye McCartan, Eva Morrison, Rebecca Shannon,  
Aoife Stafford, Francesca Hamilton, Lydia Devlin.

**Middle Row:** Katie Mullan, Rachel Bowen, Zara Walker, Sophia McMullan Zophia Quigley,  
Catherine Friend, Daisy Compton, Ellen Eakin.

**Front Row:** Abi Patton, Megan Flood, Evie Pringle, Elle Thompson, Chloe Kenny,  
Abbie Conroy, Zoe Hill.

# FORM 1H.



# Welcome to Strathearn School



# an interview **HEAD** with the **GIRL.** Anna Corbett



**Q. What is your favourite memory from primary school?**

**A.** I went to Gilnahirk Primary School and looking back, it feels like a million years ago! One thing that I don't think I will ever forget is the last day of P7. Although there were quite a lot of tears and goodbyes, it was a really special and happy day and I remember running round the school with my friends trying to get as many signatures as possible on an old school shirt. Even though I was sad to leave, I was ready for the next step and the last day of primary school was the perfect way to end the first seven years of my school career.

**Q. What is your favourite memory from your time at Strathearn?**

**A.** In Form Five, I went on the school trip to Santander and it was such an enjoyable and memorable experience. From going to Spanish classes, learning salsa dancing and visiting the Guggenheim museum, we were able to fully immerse ourselves into Spanish culture and we also got to eat some absolutely delicious churros and chocolate. It's one of the experiences I wish I could relive all over again.

**Q. What are your extracurricular interests?**

**A.** Since junior school, I have loved debating and I have been able to take part in some of the House Debates throughout the years. This gave me the opportunity to work with girls in my house and from across the different year groups. Many friendships have been made because of this club.

**Q. What do you like to do in your spare time?**

**A.** In my free time, I think it's really important to relax and spend time to de-stress, and for me, the best way to do this is to read books and listen to music. The last book I read was *Becoming*, by Michelle Obama. This really helped me to get motivated for upcoming exams. Also, when things can get quite hectic, specifically during exam season, I find going for walks with friends a really easy and enjoyable way to clear my mind as a change in scenery is always refreshing, especially after revising all day!

**Q. What would you say is the biggest challenge involved in the role of Head Girl?**

**A.** I must admit that I've always been very nervous about public speaking, so making the speech at Prize Night was a very daunting experience. However, after taking several assemblies and making presentations throughout the year, I soon became more confident and so public speaking became a very rewarding experience. Throughout my time as Head Girl, Claire and Zoe have been absolutely brilliant and the three of us overcame many challenges together. I can't imagine doing this role without them and it really has been such a privilege to work so closely with them, Mrs Myers and Mrs Connery.

**Q. Do you have any advice for new pupils in Strathearn?**

**A.** Throughout your time at Strathearn there will be many changes, so the biggest advice I can give you is to embrace it! You'll have the opportunities to try new things, make new friends and develop more interests and skills and therefore it's important to embrace all these experiences to ensure that you have a fulfilling and rewarding time here. Try to enjoy and take pride in your work, as this will help shape your interests and your path for the future. Finally, make sure that you enjoy yourself and embrace all the aspects that make the Strathearn experience so unique.

**Q. What are your plans for next year?**

**A.** Next year I hope to study History and Philosophy at Trinity College in Dublin. Strathearn has thoroughly prepared me for this next stage in my life and I will always be grateful for the experiences, memories and friendships that this school has given me.

# SIXTH FORM.

## Front Row (from L to R)

Sian Anderson, Shanan McMillan, Britney Haynes, Tara Caldwell, Hannah McCann, Zoe Hepworth, Bethan Andrews, Tess Carvill, Bethany Smyth, Hannah Cowan, Rachel Campbell, Tara Kane, Josie Allen, Rebecca McAlees, Molly Cahoon, Hannah Cowie, Chloe Sweet, Caitlyn Thompson, Katie Campbell

## Second Row

Sarah McTaggart, Emma Reid, Rebecca Cordner, Laura Graham, Laura McAleer, Jenna Montgomery, Martha McCamley, Kerry Annett, Anna Corbett, Rose de Montmorency-Wright, Sophie Neale, Isabella Reihill, Melissa Murray, Bethan Jones, Sophie Williams, Leah Fleming, Lydia McKane, Joanne Allen

## Third Row

Jessica Anderson-Bell, Molly Longstaff, Yuan Chen, Claire Whiteside, Naomi Cochrane, Rose Templeton, Caris Coulter, Ruby Baxter, Kate Welsh, Maya Savage Newell, Eva Perrott, Imogen Rose, Philippa Sha, Tavisha Sood, Anna Mercer, Rachel Bell, Jessica Marks

## Fourth Row

Jordyn Patterson, Emma Gibson, Orla Bannister, Georgia Gallen, Mia Wheatley, Grace McAllister, Arianne Whiteside, Rebekah Mitchell, Katie Wills, Anna Robinson, Emma Farrelly, Olivia Nelson, Beth Minnis, April Irvine, Louisa Williams, Taylor Healy

## Back Row

Sophie Young, Zara Wilson, Sarah McMahon, Esther Henry, Nicole Lawther, Abigail Bester, Ellie Mackey, Tess McMillen, Mia Tighe, Lauren Fetherston, Olivia Creighton, Robyn Dunwoody, Verity McGimpsey, Erin McConnell, Jessica Moore





## OFFICE BEARERS .

**Front:** Caitlyn Thompson, Rebecca McAlees, Sarah McMahon, Zoe Hepworth, Anna Corbett, Claire Whiteside, Katie Wills, Hannah McCann, Sophie Neale

**Second Row:** Chloe Sweet, Tara Kane, Yuan Chen, Rachel Bell, Sophie Williams, Isabella Reihill, Sarah McTaggart, Joanne Allen

**Third Row:** Molly Longstaff, Rose Templeton, Emma Gibson, Rebekah Mitchell, Taylor Healey, Tavisha Sood, Leah Fleming

**Back Row:** Sophie Young, Esther Henry, Robyn Dunwoody, Mia Wheatley, Olivia Nelson

# 6th FORM .

# PRINCIPAL'S SPEECH

at Prize Night 2018.

**M**adam Chairman, Mrs Best, ladies and gentlemen, girls. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all on this very special occasion. I am delighted to present my report on the 2017-2018 school year. I too, would echo Mrs Stewart's welcoming statement that it has truly been a vibrant year for Strathearn.

Tonight we take time to celebrate the efforts and successes of the Strathearn community, to rejoice at the academic and the many other opportunities available within the school, and to reward individual success. So first of all we celebrate the great success of the girls at GCSE.

71% of the year group achieved grades A or A\* in at least 5 of their subjects. 68% of the grades awarded were at A or A\* Level. These statistics are well above the Northern Ireland grammar school averages. Those are the numbers, but behind them are the individuals who have worked hard with their teachers to achieve this great success. Tonight, as always, we will read out the names of those girls who have achieved so many top grades, but later this evening each pupil in L6 will walk across the platform so that we can recognise and celebrate their individual achievements. Ten pupils achieved nine GCSEs at grades A\* and above. Those girls are Amy Cooper, Ellie Davis, Anna Heyburn, Grace Hutchinson, Anna McKibbin, Murphy Miller, Daisy Moore, Beth Strathan, Jenny Wilson and Jodi Wilson. In recognition of this brilliant achievement, these girls have been awarded with the Eileen Hamilton Prize for our top GCSE candidates. My congratulations, however, go to all our GCSE candidates on having achieved such super results.

At AS level, we were delighted with the strength of achievement attained by the girls. 72% of the grades awarded were either an A or B grade. Prizes are awarded to pupils in last year's L6 who have achieved 3 or 4 A grades in their AS examinations. Tonight we reward 30 girls who have achieved this top level of performance, with 8 pupils gaining A grades in 4 subjects. This is a super level of performance, and a great base from which to secure success in A levels next year.

At A level, against the NI figure of 10.3% for girls in grammar schools, Strathearn girls achieved a super 13.2% of grades at A\*, and 40.7% of the grades achieved were A or A\*, which is also significantly better than the NI figure for girls in Grammar Schools.

This year 81% of the year group achieved at least 3 grades at A\* to C, and 21 girls this year achieved 3 straight As or better.

In your Prize Night Booklet, you will see the full list of all the prizes awarded to the Class of 2018 at our Prize Distribution held in early September, and a list of the courses on which they are embarking.

All the girls here tonight deserve great praise, but parents, your interest, support and even that essential taxiing service have all contributed to the success we celebrate this evening. I hope you are proud of your daughter's achievements, whether she is in Form 2 or U6. On behalf of the girls and the staff of Strathearn I say thank you to the mums and dads for their support and encouragement.

Last year, in November, the school had a visit from the Education and Training Inspectorate, and during their visit they had the opportunity to interview groups of pupils from all year groups. In their report, they concluded that "the pupils spoke positively about their school and expressed their appreciation for the approachable, helpful teachers and learning support staff." Any school's number one resource is its staff. I am really proud of what Strathearn's staff do and achieve each day. On this occasion, I would ask you to join me in showing our appreciation for their work.

I also record my thanks to the Principals and staff of neighbouring schools, who over recent years have played an increasingly significant part in the education we provide in Strathearn. Pupils in the Sixth Form move between Strathearn, Ashfield Girls, Ashfield Boys, Bloomfield Collegiate and Campbell College. At open morning I celebrated the quality of education offered in this area – where else within such a short distance do you encounter such recognised excellence in schools?

Last year was a quiet year for staff changes but we did say farewell to Mrs Hannah Agnew. Mrs Agnew joined us in September 2014 as a teacher of Modern Languages. Her pupils appreciated the care and attention she gave them, the thoroughness of her teaching, and they held her in extremely high esteem. Mrs Agnew organized and participated in many trips with the Modern Languages Department, and the girls particularly enjoyed the cultural

experiences she introduced - such as the rap songs in French that echoed around our lower ground floor. We will miss her thoughtfulness and wish her well as she embarks on her academic studies in Canada.

Mrs Karen Quinn is due to leave us next Friday to take up the post of Principal of Victoria College in Belfast. Mrs Quinn started in Strathearn in February 2015, and in her short time with us she has transformed the learning experiences of the pupils in Strathearn with her impressive personal knowledge of digital technology. Her innovative approaches to e-learning in the classroom have enhanced the learning experiences of all the Strathearn pupils. Mrs Quinn leaves us with a legacy that all pupils at Key Stage Three now regularly use iPads across the curriculum, and the senior school have proficiency in Google chromebooks to assist and advance their learning. Karen, as you leave us to take up this wonderful new post, we wish you well and trust that you will always carry fond memories of Strathearn in your heart.

I would like to wish a warm welcome to our new teaching staff who have joined us this year – Mrs McKeown who joined the Maths Department, and Miss Lyttle and Miss McClean in the Modern Languages Department. We have also had a number of non-teaching and support staff appointments. We welcome you all to the Strathearn community and wish you all a successful year.

At this point I would like to thank the Board of Governors for all of their hard work, support and encouragement for the staff and pupils in Strathearn. I thank you for the hours you spend in meetings and your willingness to readily accept your responsibilities. Your efforts may go largely unseen by the wider school community, but on behalf of us all - pupils, parents and staff - I thank you for the time you put into this role, and the interest, dedication and vision you show in exercising your responsibilities.

Our Parents' Association does a wonderful job, mobilising support, and assisting at events in the Preparatory Department and the Senior School. Thank you for your tireless dedication to organising a range of activities for pupils and parents - although the discos remain our number one attraction! Last year the Parents' Association raised a total of £8500 for the Secondary and Preparatory departments, which in the current economic climate is tremendous. We are in the process of using a proportion of the money to purchase new school materials. Please, on behalf of the school, do continue to support the work of the Parents Association and join us at the end of October at our AGM.

Strathearn plays a role in areas of its pupils' lives that extend far beyond their academic pursuits, and tonight I wish to pay tribute to all of my colleagues and the coaching teams within Strathearn School who offer a tremendous extracurricular programme for our girls. I would like to begin by highlighting just a few of the areas from this past year, beginning with music.

The Music Department continues to excel in Strathearn School, providing opportunities for all pupils to find their own areas of musical expertise and enjoyment. The orchestra has expanded even further, and now has sixty pupils drawn from most year groups. I would also like to pay particular tribute to the peripatetic teachers who play such a key role in helping us to prepare for the musical events that give us so much pleasure throughout the year. The choirs are undoubtedly an obvious strength of the Department. We have 130 junior pupils in our Junior Choir, and 90 pupils in our Senior Choir. Both choirs give the girls the opportunities to perform, but also to develop friendships with pupils from other classes and year groups, thus strengthening the Strathearn community.

Our Chamber Choir has had exceptional success this year, and it is at this point that I would like to welcome two of its members to tell us about their wonderful year.

### **Megan Adair & Hannah Cowan**

*Good Evening. I am Megan Adair and I'm in Lower Sixth. This year will be my second year in Chamber Choir. As a little bit of background, the Chamber Choir this year is made up of twenty-five girls, ranging from Form 5 to U6. I started choral singing when I was in primary school in Strandtown, and so naturally when I joined Strathearn I became a member of the Junior Choir. It was at my first Christmas Carol Service that I heard the Chamber Choir perform. I was amazed that a group of girls not much older than me could make such an angelic sound. From then on, it became an ambition of mine to one day be part of it.*

*The Chamber Choir to me shows what Strathearn is all about. It aims to achieve excellence in what it does. With confidence I can say that Chamber Choir would really be nothing without Mrs McIvor, who gives up her free time on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes for practice as well as going the extra mile to record our songs for us so we can learn them at home. I speak on behalf of all the girls in the choir when I say that we are so grateful for everything she does for us. Thank you also to Ms Kimber who accompanies us for performances, and manages somehow to calm us down when we are tearing our hair out over the F sharp falling flat for the third time in a row!*

The Chamber Choir, however, is not just about trying to create the perfect sound. It's great fun too. Through Chamber Choir I have met so many girls from different years that I wouldn't have got the chance to meet otherwise, made strong supportive friendships that I hope I will keep for life and experienced so many hilarious memories. I assure you that no lunchtime rehearsal is a burden with such a wonderful group of girls and such a great conductor. I am so proud to be a member of the Chamber Choir. Thank you for listening.

### **Hannah Cowan continued.**

Last year Chamber Choir had the privilege of taking part in the Songs of Praise Young Choir of the Year Competition. This was an incredible experience and we were so delighted and shocked when we made it through to the final of the competition and won. The Chamber Choir began the process for this competition in September when we sent off a recording of us singing 'Be still my soul' as our audition piece. Out of the hundreds of choirs which entered, we were chosen to be one of five choirs from around the UK in the semi-final. Knowing how much of an achievement it was to make it that far in the competition we headed off to the semi-final in Bangor, Wales, excited to meet the other choirs and be part of this televised competition, but unaware of the truly incredible experience which lay ahead of us.

Arriving at the Pontio Arts centre, being surrounded by camera crew, and then performing live in front of the famous judges J B Gill, Carrie Grant and Ken Burton, the whole competition was a surreal and exciting experience. During the semi-final we performed 'Be still my soul', and although this was an incredibly nerve-wracking experience, our months of intense rehearsing paid off when we delivered a performance which was described as 'musical candy' by Ken Burton and which earned us a place in the final. In the final we performed our gospel piece 'Hallelujah, Get happy'. We gave it our all, knowing that no matter what the outcome, we had worked incredibly hard to have made it this far. After receiving some critical feedback from the judges, and already so proud of what we had achieved, we didn't have any expectations and were ready to cheer on whatever other choir won. Much to our surprise, however, they announced Strathearn School as the winners. I'm sure everyone who watched the competition will agree that our faces didn't do a good job of hiding our shock when J B Gill announced, "The Songs of Praise Senior Young choir of the year 2018 is... Strathearn." Performing in and winning the Songs of Praise competition was an amazing, once in a lifetime experience. Other memories, however, that will stick with

me as I look back on this whole experience will include bonding with the rest of choir as we sang 'Be still my soul' in the bus, getting to know the other choirs, and performing a flash mob in John Lennon Liverpool airport! This competition was also a chance for everyone in the choir to grow in confidence as performers and really push ourselves to be the best choir we can be, and I am very grateful for the confidence I have gained from this.

It also wouldn't be possible for me to talk about the Songs of Praise competition without mentioning the person who made it all possible, Mrs McIvor. Without your dedication and passion for the choir none of this would have been possible and I just want to thank you, on behalf of the Chamber Choir, for all the hard work you do to enable us to sing at such a high standard. It is honestly a privilege to be a part of Chamber Choir. I also would briefly like to take a moment to thank all the family members and school staff who supported the choir, both on the frontlines at the competition itself and behind the scenes planning the trip. We are incredibly grateful for all the support and encouragement we receive as a choir, and we are so glad that we were able to make the school and our families proud at the competition. Thank you very much.

### **Mrs Connery continued her report.**

Thank you, girls, for that insight into your memorable year and thank you for your commitment to your studies as well as attending the numerous rehearsals for your choir performance. Strathearn is very proud of you. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make it such a successful year for music in Strathearn.

Strathearn has always had a strong reputation for success in sport, and this year was no exception. In a survey by the PE Department, total pupil attendance at our sporting extra-curricular activities over a one-week period reached 660. Given that our school has 780 pupils, I am sure you would agree that this is simply outstanding. Great achievements were made in all areas of sport this year. The Cross-Country team this year were simply exceptional, bringing back all five district trophies and being crowned overall Ulster Cross-Country champions for the second successive year. This is simply unheard of, and to add to this, for the first time in Strathearn's history, our Minor Cross-Country teams won our first ever Irish Schools' Cross-Country title. Well done girls! In Hockey, the 1st XI's victory over Portadown College in the final of the Senior Shield formed the highlight of the season. Later on in the year, our athletics and tennis teams brought home medals nearly every week of the summer term. Special congratulations go to the Senior and Mini teams who

were crowned Ulster Champions. Sport has always been strong in Strathearn and I think it is great that we can say, without contradiction, that this has been a tremendous year. A large proportion of the pupils' sporting successes must be attributed to the great staff, the super facilities and our supportive parents. Well done to the staff and pupils who made it such a successful year for sport in Strathearn.

Another area that has had a splendid year is Drama. Drama continues to bring great fulfilment and enjoyment to many in Strathearn. Lots of the girls at this time of the school year are involved in our annual House Plays. These demand a considerable amount of time and effort from all participants. The plays are chosen, or indeed written, cast and directed by the senior pupils. Last year we had some very memorable performances – one that comes straight to mind was Molly Longstaff's unforgettable portrayal of President Trump! Our tradition of joint drama productions between Strathearn and Campbell College also continues, and this year was the turn of Strathearn who staged a spectacular version of the well-known musical *The Sound of Music*. I am sure that everyone who attended would have been in awe in of pupils as young as twelve delivering such polished and professional performances. My thanks to the staff and pupils for all the time and dedication which culminated in a truly wonderful and enjoyable performance. Thank you to all those involved with Drama in Strathearn.

In my speech last year, I pledged that Strathearn would intensify its efforts to recognise the achievements of all of its pupils. This has been fulfilled through our excellent Merit System within the school. The School Positive Behaviour Policy states that 'those who make a significant and special contribution to the ethos and life of the School' should have their behaviour recognised in the award of school Merits. With this system we hope to recognise the everyday actions and achievements that make our school such a positive and pleasant environment, I would now like to call forward Hannah Cowie from Upper Sixth to detail her experiences to date of the school's Merit System.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, pupils, staff and the Board of Governors. Tonight we are recognising the girls who have excelled in their studies, and have achieved top marks in their internal or external exams. I would now like, however, to talk about something which is just as important at Strathearn – the Merit System. Most of the girls in Strathearn display a high standard of behaviour every day and this makes the school a fun and positive place in which to learn. Each year, however, the staff at Strathearn hope

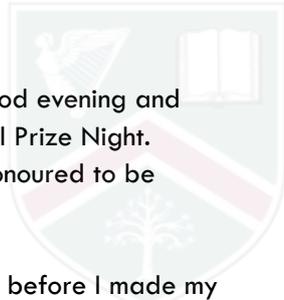
to recognise girls who have excelled in other ways in school life. This could involve helping other pupils or members of staff, promoting Strathearn in a positive way in the wider community, volunteering at an event such as Open Morning or the Spring Concert, or showing dedication in clubs, societies and teams throughout the year. Many girls who also deal with other challenges and still give their best every day are recognised through this system. The Merits earned by pupils carry forward each year, and at the end of each year, a team of staff meet and decide to give around 20% of the year group a Merit Award. The Merit Awards are scaled and range from a Merit Certificate to a gold badge. As a pupil in Strathearn, the Merit System is motivating and encouraging. When I receive a Merit for something I have worked hard at, I feel a sense of pride and happiness. Having received a gold badge this year, I feel happy and accomplished and I know that with this, the hard work has paid off! Thank you very much!

Thank you, Hannah, for that informative insight into our Merit System. Hannah is an exceptionally busy person as she undertakes A level studies in Digital Technology, German and Media Studies. She has also set up a Modern Languages society in the school. She hopes to study Linguistics and German with a focus on Teaching English as a Foreign Language in Germany at university next year. Thank you, Hannah, for all that you have contributed to Strathearn School.

*Ladies and gentlemen, I never fail to remind myself what an extraordinary privilege it is to lead this energetic and talented community of students and staff. On a daily basis, I have the pleasure of seeing the girls at Strathearn develop and mature into young women who will play leading roles in many areas of our society in the future. In preparing our girls to navigate and shape this complex and changing world, we recognise not only the importance of delivering academic excellence, but also the need to support and develop the wellbeing of the girls. Ladies and gentlemen, I am sure you would agree that Strathearn is an exceptionally vibrant and successful school. Madam Chairman, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am delighted to conclude my report on a wonderful year for Strathearn School.*







# HEAD GIRL'S SPEECH

at Prize Night ●

**L**adies, gentlemen and pupils, good evening and welcome to Strathearn School's annual Prize Night. My name is Anna Corbett and I am honoured to be Strathearn's 55th Head Girl.

I am the youngest in my family and so before I made my own choice of secondary school, I had seen both of my older brothers move on to a school in which they took great pride. They went to an all-boys school, however, and so my plan to follow exactly in their footsteps had quite an obvious flaw. Even so, I now had a very clear idea about what I hoped my secondary school would be like. I wanted to feel this same pride and excitement about the school I was choosing. The first ever open day I went to took place in what was essentially a construction site but, whilst walking around the mobile classrooms and seeing all the pupils who were studying there, the heart of the school shone through and this made the decision-making process very easy. For me, Strathearn was the obvious choice and I am glad to say that, throughout my time here, I have experienced the same sense of belonging and pride in my school as my brothers did in theirs.

My year group can be considered to have had the best of both worlds as we are the last year group that got to experience the old build and one of the first to enjoy the new. I can honestly say that running from mobile classes in the rain, not being able to stand on the top step outside Art, and the never-ending queues in the old canteen were rather humbling experiences. Even so, we couldn't help but to fall for the charismatic charm of the old building, despite only knowing it for a short time. However, we were also very excited to be a part of the change, and also interested to see if the rumours about having pink walls in the school were actually true! They were. Despite the size of the new build, the actual atmosphere of the school did not change. Somehow the charismatic charm of the old building had transcended into the new one, and this is perhaps how we were able to adapt so easily to the change. It would be true to say that my time at Strathearn has flown by.

My second and third years here were spent trying to do as many things as I possibly could. This included going to Choir practice, going to Hockey, Netball and Badminton clubs, and of course attending the infamous Strathearn discos. I would say that during these two years I had the time to really discover myself and what I found interesting. Therefore, the greatest advice I can give to those in junior school now is to take advantage of the amazing opportunities that Strathearn offers us on a daily

basis. It's safe to say that although my Hockey, Netball and Badminton phases really didn't last very long, I can gladly say that at least I tried them. Sometimes the most important thing is simply trying something new.

Whilst studying for my GCSEs, I was lucky enough to be able to go on two trips abroad with Strathearn, one to Berlin and the other to Santander. After hearing all the talk about these trips from previous years, I was completely ecstatic at being able to go on them myself. It's safe to say that these trips did not disappoint. Our trip to Santander involved us trying to learn to salsa dance, eating many churros and visiting the Bilbao museum. These trips gave me an even greater love for the subjects I was studying and amazing memories that I will always treasure. To all the parents in the audience wondering, I do promise that there is an educational aspect to these trips.

Finally, being an Upper Sixth pupil has again taught me many things about myself. This is the year of being asked big, scary, life-changing questions such as 'what are your plans for after school?', 'what university course are you applying for?' and of course the most important one, 'what colour is your formal dress?' Despite how scary these things may seem, it's safe to say that without the support system at Strathearn these things would actually be a lot scarier.

Strathearn has been teaching us life lessons from our very first year and I couldn't be more thankful for everything that this school has done for me. When looking out and seeing the faces of my classmates as well as the teachers and staff who have continuously supported me, I can say, with sincerity, that Strathearn is a place I will always hold very close to my heart. I hope that everyone who still has a few more years here will also be able to experience the same pride and joy that I now feel.

*Thank you.*

# LANZAROTE TRIP.

2018 was the year of the volcano for the Geography and Science Departments as we took 35 students on our inaugural Earth Sciences trip to the Canary Island, Lanzarote. 3000km from Belfast and 100km from West Africa, Lanzarote is the 4th largest island in the Canary archipelago, a sub-tropical island chain formed through volcanic activity millions of years ago yet with recent tectonic events.

Our GCSE students spent four days exploring all aspects of the physical and human landscape, learning how 140,000 people, animals and plants live in a hostile geological and ecological wilderness.

Our first excursion involved a submarine dive off the east coast of the island into Atlantic waters, observing unique tropical marine species and sunken ships. On our second day we had a guided tour of the spectacular Timanfaya National Park, exploring the lunar landscape carved by volcanic eruptions just over two centuries ago. After touring some of the island's 300 volcanic cones and being exposed to the heat from the Earth's mantle, the pupils got to relax (well sort of!!) on the back of a dromedary camel, trekking across the volcanic dunes. Other highlights on day two included the salt flats of Janubio and the coastal inlet of Los Hervideros where the Timanfaya lava meets the Atlantic Ocean. The famous El Charco de los Clicos Lagoon and La Geria vineyard were visited before an evening back at our hotel.

Our third day was spent touring the north of the island, with our first stop at the Mirador del Rio tourist centre and its panoramic cliff views of Archipielago Chinijo,

Europe's largest marine reserve. We spent time at an aloe plantation farm where we saw a demonstration of the farming and growth of Aloe Vera as a health product. This was followed by two popular attractions which are part of the same 4 mile volcanic tunnel formed as a result of a series of eruptions of La Corona Volcano 3000 to 5000 years ago. First was Jameos del Agua, spectacularly enhanced by César Manrique, a famous local artist. The sites have both natural and man-made swimming pools including a rare species of albino crab as well as an auditorium built into the cave. The second visit was to Cueva de los Verdes and a one hour underground tour of the lava tube known as the Tunnel of Atlantis.

Following our end of trip table quiz, we packed our bags on day four and waved goodbye to the Costa Teguisse resort. We had a wonderful trip, the sun shone and the pupils were exposed to natural wonders and processes not experienced anywhere in the British Isles. One student summed up the whole experience in this way:

*"I was surprised at how busy it was and how many different places we visited. I found touring around the island really interesting and there was so much to learn".*

We will be returning to the 'Island of Eternal Spring' in October 2019 for another outdoor Earth Science adventure.



## SANTANDER TRIP

On 21 October 2018, forty pupils from Forms 4 and 5 headed off with the Spanish Department to Santander on the north coast of Spain. As part of the trip we had the opportunity to have lessons with a native Spanish speaker every morning. Each day, after breakfast, we set off for the language school, which was about a ten minute walk from our hotel, where we would begin a three-hour Spanish lesson.



During these lessons, we were encouraged to speak only in Spanish. This made a massive improvement to my language skills and further developed my love for Spanish as we were constantly learning new phrases and words. We even got the chance to visit a market and

communicate with the local people in their own language which, for me, was one of the highlights of the trip.

The afternoons were packed with a wide range of amazing activities. We visited both the Botin and Guggenheim Museums as well as a safari park and an aquarium. After visiting the safari park we got the bus to a beautiful old Spanish village called Santillana Del Mar. When we arrived, my friends and I decided to have lunch in a pretty little café and even ordered our meal in Spanish. After lunch, we spent the rest of the afternoon exploring the village and buying souvenirs for our family and friends. On another day, we took a boat trip around the sunny Peninsula de la Magdalena, which was very beautiful. Although we did many fun activities, my favourite memory of the trip is the afternoon we went salsa dancing, followed by chocolate con churros! Estaban deliciosos!

Overall, I really enjoyed the trip and was very sad to see it come to an end. It made me love Spanish even more than I already did, and the experiences we had were unforgettable! I would highly recommend this trip to anyone who loves adventure and I will always look back on it as a great week.

*Ellie Johnston*



# BERLIN TRIP.

**T**he Berlin trip, the only thing that had kept us going through the summer exams, had arrived. We'd spent four years listening to assemblies about this legendary trip to Germany, and now it was finally our turn to board the 3am bus to the airport. I'd imagine it was like herding cats, trying to usher sixty girls on and off a plane and a coach. We eventually arrived in the heart of Berlin and got our first look at the hotel – it was fantastically positioned - and then had an absolutely brilliant brunch.

We dropped our bags and immediately headed out to our first destination. The German flag was framed by a pure blue sky as we walked up the path to the Reichstag. We were free to explore the building to get an insight into the impact it had made on the history of the city. We also enjoyed an incredible view from the dome. That evening we went to a large shopping centre for dinner – there was a huge range of options open to us, but many played it safe with a reliable Big Mac. The following day's visit to the Stasi Prison was a sobering one. Standing in the cell that was nicknamed 'the Submarine' after its stifling heat and dampness in the summer, you really understood how hard prisoners of the East German Communist state had it.

The Sachsenhausen Prison Camp was another harrowing experience. The sky was a heavy grey as we made our way around the expansive grounds, taking in the bleak cabins and impenetrable perimeter. I was especially struck by the belongings of the victims – small wooden toys and a tiny watercolour sketchpad that would have had the owners killed if discovered. That afternoon we lifted our spirits with a visit to the TV Tower. It stretches 368 metres into the sky and the restaurant at the top is only accessible by a lift that runs directly up the middle of the building. We enjoyed an array of cakes and coffee as the entire floor rotated, giving us a 360-degree bird's eye view of Berlin.

We finished up with one of my favourite parts of the trip - a boat tour down the River Spree. It was a great opportunity to see all the best and most beautiful parts of Berlin from a new perspective.

*“The Berlin trip was beyond our expectations, and I would love to return in the future. If you get the opportunity to go - it's a must.”*

On Monday, we went to Potsdam and the Neus Palais and the Sanssouci Palace and Gardens. It was a beautiful day and a great opportunity for a bit of photography – the palace had been the summer home of the Prussian royal family, and the architecture reflected that. We finished the trip with a tour of the 1936 Olympic Stadium where Jesse Owens brought home four gold medals for the USA. The Berlin trip was beyond our expectations, and I would love to return in the future. If you get the opportunity to go - it's a must.

*Jess Winton*



# BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP

**T**he AS biologists completed their field study work by staying at Delamont Outdoor Centre and using the local area to gain access to different habitats.

When we arrived at the centre we were welcomed by the staff, and after a safety briefing we gathered our equipment and headed out to the sand dunes near Newcastle to study plant species. Although the skies were blue and the sea was calm, this environment is actually a harsh one for plant species, as high tides and storms have eroded the foredunes.

We gathered plenty of data, and after a break for tea and a little relaxation, it was time to start work on our report of the day's study. We got up early the next

morning while the tide was low, so that we could find starfish, urchins, butterfish and sponges.

Back at the centre, there was time to research the habitat further and find out about the specialist adaptations shown by the organisms on the shore.

The third study of our trip considered the biodiversity of the area, and explored how the conflicting interests of a public park, farmland and Area of Special Scientific Interest could be reconciled successfully. This is an important aspect of our A level work, as we build up knowledge of our local habitats.



## LIBRARY REPORT.

**S**trathearn Library continues to thrive. This year saw Tara Kane of U6R take on the role of Library Prefect, and she, along with the Library Committee, made sure that our range of events this year ran smoothly. Form One students enjoyed Book Craft at the beginning of term, which was expertly managed by Tara and her colleagues, Jessica Arbuckle and Jenna Montgomery.

In October, the Library's Coffee Morning for staff raised £556 as part of the Help for Hollie week. The Scholastic Book Fair proved as popular as ever, with the school earning £620 in commission.

For World Book Day, the junior pupils entered into ReadOn, a sponsored read in aid of the Cancer Fund for Children, which this year raised £3310 for the charity. Mia Bleakley, 1S, designed the best World Book Day cover and Rebecca Shannon, 1H, was drawn from the correct entries who worked out the names of all the titles in our Missing Vowels competition.

Book Club had a lively year, with plenty of games and chat. Members also attended the Finale of the Northern



Ireland Book Awards at the Crescent Arts Centre as part of the Belfast Book Festival in June. This year we completed our Accelerated Reader programme, with students reading nearly 2000 books, which amounts to around 100 million words!



**O**pportunities for creative writing have been promoted at Strathearn this year. Pupils entered competitions including the BBC Young Writers competition and the Foyle Young Poets competition. We also welcomed author, Sheena Wilkinson, to Strathearn before Christmas. She gave pupils a great insight into the writing process, and answered questions about being a writer. We were also fortunate to welcome guest speakers from Women Aloud NI (the poet, Gaynor Kane, and writer, R B Kelly). Pupils had the opportunity to ask questions and learn some writing skills.



## MOCK TRIALS.

**C**ourt Rise! This year, Strathearn sent two teams into the heat of battle in the Young Citizens' Mock Trial Competitions. The Bar Mock Trial was held in November, with a team of senior girls taking on two cases at the Royal Courts of Justice in Belfast. Emma Craig and Erin Stewart were excellent as defence barristers, and Scarlett Reid justly earned plaudits

for her turn as a defendant. The Magistrates' Court Mock Trial team, made up of junior pupils, travelled to Craigavon in March, and lawyers Abi Herron and Cerys McMurray managed both their witnesses and the opposition witnesses with great skill. Iona Holt gave a poised performance as Court Clerk, and Shirley Jiang managed the proceedings with great confidence.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL.

**H**eaded up by Sarah McMahon and Rebecca McAlees, the School Council has had another successful year here at Strathearn. Comprising one representative from each form class, the School Council provides a vital forum in which pupils can voice their thoughts about school life. This year, the School Council, in addition to addressing the day-to-day concerns of students, focused its attention on Strathearn's 90th anniversary celebrations. Mrs Myers attended a meeting to ask pupils to consider the Positive Behaviour Policy, and Sarah conducted two visits to local Primary Schools with junior representatives to chat about their school councils. Sarah also attended a meeting of the Board of Governors to share the work of the council.

Thanks to all those staff and students who helped with the smooth running of the School Council this year.



# HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE

**P**upils from Strathearn travelled to Westminster to participate in a debate in the Lords Chamber at the Palace of Westminster run by Plan International UK and the English Speaking Union. Pupils got the chance to talk to panels of inspirational women which included Chelsea FC Ambassador, Katie Chapman, Space Scientist, Maggie Aderin-Pocock, and Editor in Chief of Marie Claire UK, Trish Halpin. The debate was

opened by Ellie Massey, who discussed the damage that persistent stereotypes can cause girls as they pursue their education. Darcey Jamison, Rachel Lipson and Hannah McCartney delivered speeches, and a number of the school's students were called upon by the Deputy Speakers to add to the debate, and gave impromptu speeches to the Chamber.





## CONNECTIONS WITH PAST PUPILS

**T**his year, a number of former pupils have engaged with the school in a variety of ways. Head Girl Anna Corbett had a wonderful morning chatting with past Head Girl Maureen Dibble in December. Anna said that it was very interesting to learn about the ways in which the Strathearn we know today has grown from the Strathearn of the past. We were also delighted to welcome around sixty former pupils to Manning Hall in January this year for afternoon tea, and in May a group of past pupils celebrating their 70th birthdays returned to the school. It was great to listen to their stories about their time as pupils, back in the days when girls wore pinafores and berets!





THE  
**SECRETARY  
 OF STATE**  
 VISITS  
 STRATHEARN SCHOOL.

**O**n 3rd June, we had the pleasure of hosting the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the Right Honourable Karen Bradley, MP.

She was greeted by some of our Penrhyn pupils and presented with a bouquet of flowers before undertaking a tour of Strathearn with our Principal, Mrs Connery.

Mrs Bradley finished her tour in the Boardroom, where she was greeted by our Head Girl, Deputy Head Girls, School Council Chairperson, members of the Board of Governors and senior teaching staff.

# AN INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.



*In a relaxed setting, the Secretary of State answered a number of questions from our pupil representatives.*

**Q. What was your journey into politics?**

Mrs Bradley told us that she attended an all-girls comprehensive school in Buxton, England before studying to become a Chartered Accountant at Imperial College, London. As an advisor to the Conservative Party in the early 2000s, the then party leader, Michael Howard encouraged her to enter the world of politics. She grabbed the opportunity and was subsequently elected in 2010.

**Q. What do you believe to be the main challenges to women in leadership?**

The Secretary of State told us that women need to have more confidence to put themselves forward for

positions of authority, to look up to role models and be much braver in their quest for leadership. One of the challenges to overcome is a perceived bias in the media against women.

**Q. We are approaching our final year of school – what advice would you give to us as 17 year olds?**

Mrs Bradley passionately encouraged the pupils to embrace the opportunities they get. She told the girls – “Don’t be scared to make decisions because you own your own life”. She followed this up by advising the students to follow their own goals rather than letting others make decisions for them.

**Q. What were your favourite subjects at school?**

Her two favourite subjects were Maths and History. She also spent some time asking the pupils about

their own subject interests and future ambitions.

**Q. What do you enjoy most about your job?**

Mrs Bradley responded to this question by answering, “Things like this. It is great to meet people and find out about their lives”. She also commented on the challenges of her job. This included her responsibilities as an MP in Staffordshire, participating in Parliamentary sessions in London and of course Secretary of State business in Northern Ireland. She jokingly commented that this means needing to have three toothbrushes in three different homes depending on her work location.

**Q. What are your fondest experiences of Northern Ireland?**

The Secretary of State said, “I am in love with Northern Ireland. It is very similar to the landscape of Staffordshire and I always experience a warm welcome here”. One of the highlights for Mrs Bradley and her family was a recent visit to the North West 200 motorcycle racing festival. She can’t wait to return there in the future.



*“This was a special day for us in Strathearn and we were grateful that the Secretary of State was willing to take time out of her busy schedule to spend time meeting our students.”*



# ART



**Ellie Mackey A level**

Selected for the  
'True Colours' Exhibition 2020  
at the Ulster Museum.

The Art & Design Department at Strathearn saw another exciting year of creative exploration in 2018-19, with our talented young artists and makers developing their skills and confidence in a range of art media. In junior school, Form One students created quirky three-dimensional character sculptures which were later put on display in the library. Form Two students produced highly impressive still life drawings, which they used as inspiration to design sculptural ceramic vessels. Form Three pupils studied Pop Art, creating mixed media drawings that provided glimpses of everyday life. They used this pop art imagery to design fashion pieces, using a range of textile techniques to redesign and upcycle old garments. In the summer term, second and third form students had the chance to work collaboratively on a mural project to enhance the walled garden area at Penrhyn. Inspired by passages from 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett, and assisted by Tutoring in Schools student, Katie Ireland, pupils used drawing and collage techniques to develop their designs and a selection of the most effective of these were translated into large scale wooden panels for the Penrhyn garden. The pupils in Penrhyn also got involved in the project, designing and creating pieces for the mural, such as birds, insects and flowers.



Outside of the classroom, senior school students had the chance to enjoy a range of inspirational exhibitions and workshops, beginning with the Sixth Form annual Art Trip to Dublin in the autumn term. The AS and A2 students visited the Sculpture in Context at the National Botanic Gardens, IMMA, the National Gallery and the RHA to gain inspiration for their personal projects. In October, Form Five students visited the annual RUA show at the Ulster Museum, sampling the diversity of artistic talent



from within Northern Ireland. In June, students in Form Four visited the University of Ulster art college end-of-year degree shows, which provided a valuable opportunity to peer more closely into the sketchbooks and preparatory work of artists working across the wide range of disciplines on display.

We have also been fortunate to have a number of professional artists visiting the Art Department to share their work and experiences with the students, as part of our lunchtime art club programme. These guests included Howard Wright, Associate Head of Belfast School of Art, Debbie Fraser, jeweller and lecturer, and Ellen Cunningham, ceramicist. These talks provided valuable insights into the career opportunities and pathways available to students of Art & Design.

The Art & Craft Club, organised and led by AS level students, continued to be well attended and provided a range of exciting activities, such as watercolour painting and junk sculpture. Students from the club took part in the NI Science festival / Ulster Wildlife Marine Litter Art Competition, making a large fish sculpture from waste materials collected from a local beach to highlight the issue of plastic pollution in the oceans. A new Film & Animation Club was also instigated, with a small group of students learning the basics of film language and shooting short film sequences after school.

Our youngest artists this year arrived into the Art Dept in the form of one hundred and fifty P6 students from Strandtown Primary School, who visited Strathearn in June. In the art room, our P6 visitors each made a colourful mixed media leaf and these pieces came together to form a large tree inspired by the school crest which was sent to Strandtown as a display.

At the end of a busy year, the success of our senior school artists was celebrated in the annual summer exhibition in June. GCSE and A-level work was exhibited across the department and the event was very well attended by friends and family. Particular congratulations are due to Eva Perrott, whose impressive and ambitious AS painting was exhibited at the Ulster Museum as part of the prestigious True Colours exhibition, which showcases the best work in Art & Design from across Northern Ireland.



**Eva Perrott at the True Colours exhibition**

**Miss Whitla**

ART .

# PRINCIPAL'S PRIZE WINNERS .



**Jessica Winton, GCSE**  
*(awarded 1st place in Northern Ireland)*



**Eva Perrott, A level**



**Ellie Mackey, A level**  
*(selected for True Colours 2020)*



**Elizabeth Walker, GCSE**



**Beth Buchanan, AS level**



**Eva Aston, AS level**



**Grace Ruding, AS level**



Artwork by Eva Aston, AS level

## SUMMER EXHIBITION

A glimpse into the end of year exhibition...

Megan Ashcroft, AS level



Eva Blakely-Hewitt, GCSE



Tara Campbell, AS level



Heidi McMillen, AS level



Rebecca McDowell, AS level



# ART .



**Elizabeth Walker, GCSE**  
Landscape Triptych selected for the *True Colours* exhibition 2020 at the Ulster Museum (cover artwork)

**Jordyn Patterson, A level**



**Eva Perrott, A level -**  
Principal's prize winner (from a series of 4)

# JUNIOR SCHOOL ART .

## Form One

Character design and sculpture project



## Form Two

Ceramic vessel project



# GERMAN LANGUAGE DEBATE.

**O**n 8 March, pupils from Strathearn and Campbell College travelled to Queen's University to take part in the NICILT A-Level German Language Debate. The Strathearn team, made up of three girls in U6 (Hannah Cowie, Emma Gibson and Katie Campbell) won the Overall Award, defending the motion that 'Today's young people have fewer life chances than their parents at the same age.' In addition, the team's captain, Hannah Cowie also won the Best Speaker award for the debate. Most importantly, the team brought home a spectacular trophy for Strathearn!

The speeches took a lot of preparation, with the girls giving up their conversation periods to get their arguments ready. It was thanks to our language assistant, Sara, that we were able to debate to such a high standard and achieve such great results! The debates took place in the impressive surroundings of the Lanyon Building at Queens University, so walking in many of us felt quite nervous! Thankfully those feelings didn't last long, as we were warmly welcomed by the NICILT team, the German judges and the other schools.

Our individual debate against Belfast Royal Academy lasted half an hour, with each speaker giving it their all. The standard of the debate was extremely high, and so we were delighted to hear the judges announce that we had won! It was even more of a shock when the judges announced that Strathearn had earned the most points and had won the overall prize!

As Team Captain, I was immensely proud of the work we had put in to prepare for the debate, how well we spoke on the day itself and of course the fantastic outcome. It was a very successful and enjoyable day for everyone involved!



## JUNIOR SCRIPTURE UNION.

**J**unior Scripture Union exists to provide opportunities for girls in Forms 1 - 3 to explore and encounter the good news of Jesus.

Our prayer for these girls is that they are inspired, encouraged and equipped to live lives that reflect

the love of Jesus in our wider school community and beyond.

We have had a range of talks, speakers, studies, worship and prayer time together as well as lots of games, food and fun. This year we have been learning more from the life stories of women in the Bible such as Esther, Ruth, Mary and Martha. Some of

our senior girls have been involved in sharing with the junior pupils, and this has been a source of great encouragement.

*Scripture Union takes place on Friday lunchtimes and all pupils and staff are most welcome.*

# CAREERS .

**T**he autumn term got underway with our usual Parent Information Evenings for Forms 4, L6 and U6 and the local university open days at Queen's and Ulster University. Upper Sixth pupils attended Open Days at Queen's and the University of Ulster, and Mrs Hearst ran several workshops giving advice on writing personal statements.

*Representatives from several universities visited Strathearn; these included Dundee, Harper Adams, Oxford, Lancaster, Strathclyde, St Andrews and Harvard.*

UCAS applications got underway for U6 and most girls had these completed by half term. We welcomed a representative from Trinity College Dublin at the end of November and all interested pupils went to a guidance session on applying to all universities in the Republic of Ireland through CAO. We also had speakers to talk about gap years, Veterinary Science, Nursing and Midwifery. We welcomed a speaker from Deloitte who talked about careers in accountancy, the financial sector and its Bright Start programme, while a member of staff from Queen's talked about its widening participation programme. The programme of guest speakers got underway for Form 5 and we had talks on Law, Medicine, Teaching and Engineering. Career guidance interviews started for Form 5 pupils which continued until January, in good time for Form 5 making their A level choices. Form 3 had their Subject Mapping session with Eye4Education where they started to think about how they would choose their GCSE subjects later in the year. Form 3 girls also had a talk on GCSE choices from our careers adviser from the Department of the Economy.

All U6 had the opportunity to attend our Mock Interview Evening on 20 November and Oxbridge applicants had an additional interview as part of their preparation for their interviews in December. As always, we are really indebted to all those professionals who took time out of

their busy schedules to help our U6 pupils. Our careers adviser Mrs Hearst also talked to U6 about preparation for interviews and ran interview workshops.

Many girls attended events outside school. One U6 pupil went on a 'Meet the Marines' Day where she got an insight into the training and work of a marine. A representative from the navy also gave a lunchtime presentation for girls from Form 4 upwards. Two girls attended a Dentistry Open Day at Queen's while others went to an event organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Belfast and another pupil attended a careers event at Mercers, an actuary firm in Belfast. One pupil in L6 attended a Dietetics Open Day at Knockbracken, and others attended Open Days on Radiotherapy, Pharmacy and Midwifery at the Ulster and Royal Victoria Hospitals. One pupil attended an engineering careers event at Montupet where she learned about the design and production of aluminium products.

*Several girls attended a Medicine at Queen's event which was aimed at pupils who are considering applying to Medicine for 2020 entry.*

Different academics talked about career opportunities and working life in General Practice or as a Pathologist or Surgeon. In addition, there were hands-on interactive activities in Anatomy, Physiology and Clinical Skills. Just before breaking up for Christmas, we welcomed back former pupils studying medicine and dentistry who talked enthusiastically about their courses.

U6 had two talks in the second term – one on Student Finance to make the girls aware of the financial implications of going on to higher education, and another from the Department of the Communities on Renting and Accommodation. Information from both of these talks should be useful for U6 when they leave Strathearn in June.

We welcomed many speakers from a range of universities and colleges this term who talked to L6 about courses at their institutions. These included Scotland's Modern University Tour, Southampton, Northumbria, Queen's, Ulster, CAFRE, Liverpool John Moores, Aberdeen and the Scottish Universities Tour which gave a presentation on behalf of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Strathclyde, Heriot Watt, Dundee and Stirling. Several pupils in L6 and Form 5 attended a Medical Applicant Workshop hosted by a representative from the University of Lancaster who provided lots of useful information about applying for medical courses.

L6 pupils continued to attend many events outside school in this second term. These included Open Days for Pharmacy, Midwifery and Physiotherapy at our local hospitals, an Engineering Insight Day at Survitec, an Actuarial Experience Day at Deloitte, a Law Conference at Methodist College, another Dentistry Open Day at Queen's and an Open Day at Stranmillis University College. Several girls attended the Oxford and Cambridge Conference in Lisburn.

All L6 attended the UCAS Higher Education Convention where they had the opportunity to attend a range of seminars on courses and careers and speak to many university representatives from NI, the rest of the UK and Ireland and even further afield. L6 girls also attended a presentation on personal statements in school in preparation for completing their Ucas applications next autumn.

*Form 3 pupils had visits to the Careers Suite to find out more about the importance of choosing their GCSEs carefully, and all girls and their parents had the opportunity of an interview with a member of the Careers team.*

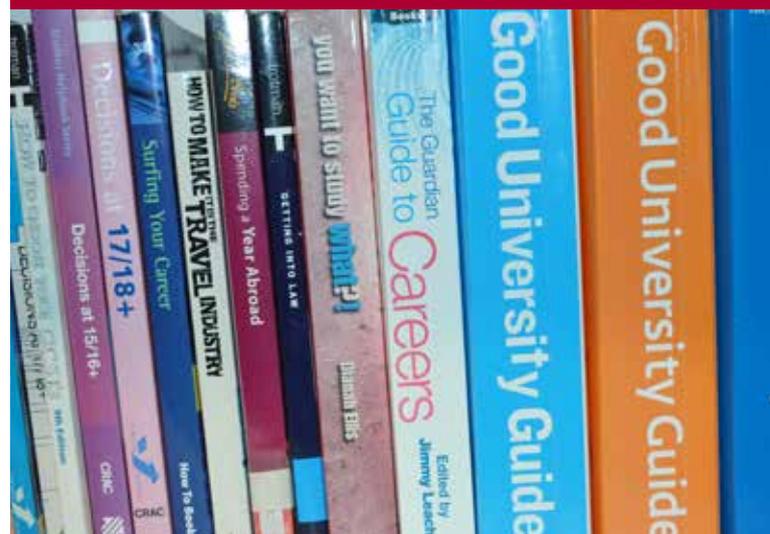
With STEM in mind, Form 3 pupils attended the 'Bring IT On' road show where they learned more about opportunities in the IT sector and Form 1 girls attended a Robotics Road Show hosted by Sentinus, where pupils learned to programme a toy vehicle. They also had an introductory visit to the careers suite this term.

*Form 5 girls had two guidance sessions on post 16 options and choosing their A levels.*

The series of talks from guest speakers continued for Form 5 and we had presentations on the creative industries (film and television), entrepreneurship, languages, the police and photography. We also welcomed Mark Gordon who talked to pupils about writing music for film and TV programmes and starting his own business. We had another inspirational talk from Captain Lou Rudd who was successful in his solo crossing of the Antarctic. He is the first British person to achieve this. He holds the world record for miles walked / skied in the Antarctic, and is the only person to have crossed coast to coast twice.

*We are really grateful to all those people who gave up precious time to visit Strathearn.*

*Finally, the staff in the Careers Department would like to send their very best wishes to all pupils in school sitting important exams this summer and to wish all our U6 well for the future.*



## GEOGRAPHY .

In Geography we focus closely on ethnic diversity, exploring the complex cultural exchanges that occur internationally, nationally and locally. At A level, we investigate ethnic conflicts such as the recent civil war in Sri Lanka between the Tamils and Sinhalese, or the very recent struggles of the Muslim Rohingya people of Myanmar, struggling to be recognised as citizens in their own country and many being forced to emigrate as a consequence. At GCSE level, when considering urban environments, we explore the opportunities and challenges of ethnic diversity in cities like Belfast and London.

At Key Stage 3, we are reminded just how far our own society has evolved in the last few decades when we see the outcome of an increasingly ethnically diverse community in our own classrooms. Many of our students have migration stories at the core of their own existence. Some have family heritage over 6,000 miles away in east Asia, while others have links to European countries. The benefits of this rich ethnic

tapestry are obvious for all of us in Strathearn. Exposure to a wealth of languages, religions, nationalities and cultural expressions broadens all our horizons and helps us to consider our global citizenship. Class discussions and debates are greatly enhanced when pupils can share from their own unique experiences of local and international cultures. In Geography, we proactively celebrate this diversity. To quote the first elected female Head of State in Africa, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf,

*“ethnicity should enrich us: it should make us unique people in our diversity and not be used to divide us”*

We continue to go from strength to strength in the Geography Department. In 2019, we waved goodbye to established colleagues with gratitude and welcomed fresh faces with anticipation.

**Mr Stevenson**



# GEOGRAPHERS IN ACTION

L6th pupils studying the Curly Burn river, Limavady.



Form 5 pupils visiting Newtownards for GCSE fieldwork



Form 1 pupils undertaking their Belmont urban study



Form 3 pupils completing their Stand by Me sponsored walk

## KAYAKING

I have now been a member of the Kayaking Club for almost a year, and I am very glad that I joined. Before starting this club I never dreamed that I would spend my Friday evenings speeding along in a kayak. It is something that not many people get a chance to try as they don't have the equipment or access to the right setting. The first time I got in a kayak I was a bit shaky, but I improved as the year went on and now I am confident on the water. We are picked up from school in a minibus and driven the short way to the pool at Pirrie

Road. We get changed into our wetsuits in the cubicles provided and get out the kayaks. The instructors check that we are wearing our helmets and buoyancy aids and then we all get in. Activities vary from canoe polo to T-rescues. At the end of the session we are normally given time to play and experiment with different boats and occasionally paddle boards. Kayaking is a fun and adventurous way to get some exercise and have fun with your friends. I would encourage everyone to try something new and come along to the club.

**Orla Millard**



# MUSIC







On 27 March, we held a special 90th anniversary concert in the Ulster Hall when hundreds of guests joined us to celebrate nine decades of Strathearn life and music. Over three hundred pupils took to the stage in a three-hour musical extravaganza, compèred by past Strathearn student Tina Campbell.



Musicians from Penrhyn and Strathearn, and past pupils in the form of the Miskelly Chorale, performed as part of six choirs, two orchestras and a range of smaller ensembles, along with sixth form soloists Orla Bannister, Naomi Cochrane and Joanne Allen. All the musicians enjoyed the opportunity to perform in such a prestigious and lovely venue, and the audience appreciated the very high standards of music-making presented.



STRATHEARN

performs  
at the

ULSTER

HALL





90TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
SPRING  
CONCERT



# CHAMBER ORCHESTRA.

**C**hamber Orchestra consists of girls from across many year groups who have achieved a Grade Six or higher in their musical instrument. This year we rehearsed on Wednesday mornings and have had the privilege of performing at the Autumn Concert, where we played Vivaldi's *Allegro in G* and *Oblivion* (Piazzolla), and also at the Spring Concert where we played highlights from the soundtrack to the film *Amadeus*. We have really enjoyed being part of the Chamber Orchestra this year, and we would like to thank Mrs McIvor for her dedication and expertise as our conductor.

**Rosie Elwood**

**Back Row:** Beth Minnis, Abigail Bester, Sarah West, Orla Bannister

**Middle Row:** Naomi Cochrane, Lauren White, Emma Gibson, Sophie Thomas, Jemima Thomas

**Front Row:** Kristanna Clegg, Rosie Elwood, Anna Hughes, Lauren Mooney, Hannah Pollock Chan, Hannah Watson

# JUNIOR CHOIR



**T**he Junior Choir is made up of around eighty pupils from forms one to three. The choir is taken by Ms Kimber and we meet every Tuesday lunchtime for rehearsals. In the first term, we began rehearsing for the Strathearn Carol Service, which was to be held in Bloomfield Presbyterian Church. I really enjoyed singing at the Carol Service, and it was great for us to be able to hear the older girls perform as well as the Penrhyn choir. Our repertoire consisted of two songs, "One Candle" and "I will follow you". Both of these songs contained lovely harmonies as well as beautiful lyrics. It was a very special evening in which we celebrated Jesus's birth through carols and readings. At the start of the Spring term, we

began busily rehearsing for our Spring Concert. We were all very excited to hear that this year it was to be held in the Ulster Hall, as part of the celebrations for the school's 90th anniversary. Together with the Senior Choir we sang a medley of songs from *Mamma Mia*. My personal favourite songs from the medley were "Dancing Queen" and "Waterloo." We really enjoyed singing with the older girls, and it was great for us to gain more experience of singing in harmony. It was particularly special that our performance closed the concert, and we were very thankful for the opportunity we had to perform it in such a well-known and iconic venue.

**Rebekah Devlin**

**Back Row:** Amy Nesbitt, Leah Orr, Zoë McCausland, Angelique Toombes, Eloise McKnight, Sophie Thomas, Madalaine Wilson, Lulu Hopkinson, Madeleine Heawood, Eve Gorman, Grace Hill, Connie Hanna

**Fourth Row:** Ella Simms, Eva Wilson, Katie Darley, Maddie Twamley, Rachel Boal, Iona Holt, Eve Harrison, Molly Leitch, Annabel Harron, Sarah Somerville, Freya Rowe, Ria Hanna, Hannah Watson

**Third Row:** Evie Pringle, Catherine Friend, Klara Skerratt, Francesca Hamilton, Eden Long, Paige Hawthorne, Madeline Doherty, Maeve Clarke, Katie Hinds, Lara Holden, Rutendo Mushipe, Madeleine Wall, Lydia Devlin, Lucinda Park, Sophia McMullan, Lauren Wilson

**Second Row:** Ellie Gilmore, Alice McIvor, Katie Mullan, Miranda Patterson, Harriet Walker, Sophie Campbell, Emily Wilson, Caitlin Corbett, Rebekah Devlin, Anna Cousins, Beth King, Lara Johnston, Zoe Boyce, Mabelle Wilcox, Isabelle Anderson

**Front Row:** Rhianna Reid McKittrick, Sara Murray, Anna Reynolds, Ella Dunbar, Dawn Blair, Amy Blair, Megan Flood, Bea Baker, Ellen Eakin, Lauren Wright, Rebecca Thomson Donnan, Grace McCracken, Lucy Dunbar, Anna Spence, Lucy Brown, Maya Dhokia

# SENIOR CHOIR.



**T**his year Senior Choir had an incredible ninety girls from Form Four to Upper Sixth performing together as Altos, First and Second Sopranos. We started the year learning “Ave Verum” and “Heaven Knows Why” for the Carol Service in Bloomfield Presbyterian Church. Joanne Allen, one of the U6 choir members, opened the service by singing the first verse of “Once In Royal David’s City” as a solo. We then began to learn “Hold On” and an Abba medley for our Spring Concert. We were even more excited to discover that we were going to be singing in

the prestigious Ulster Hall. In preparation for the concert we worked hard to perfect our pieces, all the while filled with excitement and a little fear at the idea of performing in front of so many people. The whole experience was incredible and certainly something we will never forget. These concerts would not have been possible without our incredible conductor, Ms Kimber, and accompanist Mrs McIvor. Many thanks to them both on behalf of the whole choir.

**Anna Hughes**

**Back Row:** Rose Templeton, Emma Gibson, Beth Minnis, Casey Dawson, Hannah Stanfield, Nicole Lawther, Sarah Lennon, Ellie Mackey, Abigail Bester, Esther Henry, Rebekkah Lindores, Ella Keane, Orla Bannister, Phoebe Spratt

**Fourth Row:** Alex Graham, Emma Carson, Sophie Longstaff, Ruby Allen, Rachel Lemon, Megan Allen, Naomi Cochrane, Phillipa Sha, Sarah Lowry, Annabel Holden, Emily Parker, Tara Kerr, Sarah Blackmore, Rosie Park, Martha Gooding

**Third Row:** Caris Coulter, Eva McClean, Julia Rawson, Catrina Martin, Joanna Carson, Kate McEvoy, Grace Bowman, Lauren Nesbitt, Natalya Ricketts, Sarah Clarke, Charlotte Crawford, Nicole Gallagher, Ellie Dornan, Alex Coetzee, Lauren Lawther, Laura Graham, Lauren White.

**Second Row:** Aoife Moore, Hannah Cowan, Miriam O’Reilly, Rachael Campbell, Rebecca Hill, Anna Hughes, Ellie Van Giesen, Emma Reid, Leah Fleming, Sophie Neale, Megan Adair, Cheryl Watson, Rachel Constant, Lauren Mooney, Darcey Jamison, Tori Jackson, Íde Simpson, Joanne Allen

**Front Row:** Catherine Welsh, Eve Greer, Catherine O’Reilly, Andra Vladu, Sophie Hagan, Penny Hood, Amy Bole, Zara Hamilton, Laura Gordon, Lucy Bole, Sophia Hamilton, Rebecca Welsh, Rosie Elwood, Freya Beers, Ellie Massey, Sarah McIvor, Lauren Farmer, Katie Campbell



**A**t lunchtimes on Thursdays, a small group of us attend a practice for the Traditional Group. Miss Taaffe, who teaches harp, takes the group and plays her harp along with our fiddles and flutes. We learn different traditional Irish pieces to perform at the Autumn Musical Evening and Spring Concert. It is so much fun learning, practising and performing these exciting pieces. We played pieces such as “The Rose and the Heather”, “Carolán’s Receipt” and “The Blackthorn Stick”. We got to perform in Manning Hall for the Autumn Musical Evening, and then the Ulster Hall for the Spring Concert. I would highly recommend Traditional Group to anyone who plays an instrument that could be used in traditional Irish music, from the guitar to the bodhrán! It is so much fun and it and has definitely helped my violin playing and performing confidence!

**Emily Hanna**

**Back Row:** Abbie Patton, Lauren Mooney

**Front Row:** Emily Wilson, Lauren Wright

**Absent:** Rosie Elwood, Emily Hanna, Sydney Heatley, Ciara Moore

## TRADITIONAL GROUP

# ORCHESTRA.



**S**trathearn's orchestra, organised and conducted by Mrs McIvor, meets on a Wednesday afternoon and welcomes girls of Grade Two standard and above. We rehearse as a group or in sectionals for the two main musical evenings of the year. For the Autumn musical evening, the orchestra opened the show with the theme from the Pixar movie *The Incredibles*, and later played medleys from Disney's *Enchanted* and from *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. The orchestra's

next performance was included in the Spring Concert which was held at the Ulster Hall this year as part of Strathearn's ninetieth anniversary celebrations. There we replayed the theme from *The Incredibles*, which proved to be a crowd favourite, a medley from Pixar's *Coco*, and a selection of songs from the musical *Wicked*. It was a wonderful experience to perform in such a fantastic venue, and it was great fun for the orchestra to recreate songs and themes from much-loved movies and musicals.

**Anna Hughes**

**Back Row:** Naomi Cochrane, Jodie Morgan, Emma Gibson, Beth Minnis, Ella Keane, Abigail Bester, Amy Major, Elly Ryan, Sarah West, Orla Bannister, Martha Gooding

**Third Row:** Jemima Thomas, Zara Rintoul, Abi Stevenson, Eva Perrott, Anna McKinty, Lois Whiteside, Lauren White, Sophie Thomas, Philippa Sha, Megan Allen, Joanna Carson, Madeleine Heawood, Rebecca Shannon

**Second Row:** Faith Heyburn, Laura Gordon, Anna Hughes, Amy Bole, Sophia Hamilton, Iona Holt, Olivia Todd, Rachael Campbell, Miriam O'Reilly, Tori Jackson, Lauren Mooney, Lucy Bole, Rosie Elwood

**Front Row:** Katie Mullan, Caitlyn Watson, Beth King, Lydia Devlin, Kristanna Clegg, Hannah Pollock Chan, Sophie Hagan, Rebecca Hill, Zara Hanna, Francesca Hamilton, Jiyun Park, Catherine Welsh, Kara Morrice, Abi Patton

# CHAMBER .CHOIR



In 2018-19, Chamber Choir consisted of 24 girls who met three times a week to rehearse in four-part harmony for a range of musical events. In September we were asked to perform at St Mark's Dundela Flower Festival, where we performed 'Here on these branches' by Sarah Quartel and Irish traditional piece 'Geantraí'. Throughout December we worked hard at perfecting our pieces, 'My Lord has come' and 'Christmas Lullaby', which we performed at our annual carol service.

2019 marked Strathearn's 90th anniversary as a school, so our Spring Concert was a very important evening. The Chamber Choir rehearsed and performed three

pieces, Hatfield's 'Las Amarillas' (this was my favourite yet probably the hardest piece we've ever done as a choir!), 'Weep No More' and 'Still', a piece which was specially commissioned for the concert. The music for 'Still' was composed by past pupil Stephanie Devlin, and I was privileged to be asked to write lyrics for this piece. It was great fun to be a part of this project and it really encompassed how it feels to be a part of such a special school community. We also filmed a professional video for this piece. None of this would have been possible without Mrs McIvor. We are so thankful to her and Ms Kimber for their continued dedication to the Chamber Choir - it really is such a special group to be a part of.

**Íde Simpson**

**Back Row:** Rose Templeton, Lauren White, Esther Henry, Abigail Bester, Ellie Mackey, Eve Elliott, Phoebe Spratt, Charlotte Crawford.

**Second Row:** Rosie Park, Megan Adair, Ruby Allen, Tara Kerr, Sophie Longstaff, Emma Carson, Beth Strahan

**Front Row:** Íde Simpson, Amy Bole, Miriam O'Reilly, Leah Fleming, Zara Hamilton, Tori Jackson, Hannah Cowan, Joanne Allen

# JUNIOR DRAMA CLUB.

**T**he Junior Drama Club was held every Monday lunchtime in Manning Hall from October until April, led by the Junior Drama Club committee of four Upper Sixth pupils (Leah Fleming, Molly Longstaff, Lauren Shankey and Molly Cahoon) and organised by Mr. Scott. We had a great turnout of girls from Forms One to Three who were eager to make new friends across the different years, as well as develop and show off their drama skills.

After a few weeks of fun drama games such as “Jump in!”, the girls split off into their four school houses to work on some short performances of poems for Open Day. Although the senior school girls offered their help to direct the girls, we found that the girls had their own ideas and didn’t need much help after all! These performances took

place in the Drama Studio, with many parents being very impressed at how well the girls performed, and potential students showing an interest in joining the club next year.

After the Open Day performances, the club split into groups to perform a short play for the “Junior Drama Club Oscars”, where friends could come along and watch. One lunchtime, two groups performed to the rest of the club, as shown in the pictures below, and did very well. Well done to everyone who performed on Open Day and attended Junior Drama club throughout the year - the committee have loved getting to know you all and wish you all the best in your future dramatic endeavours!

**Leah Fleming (Drama Prefect)**



# Joint Strathearn-Campbell Production





# HOUSE PLAYS .

## JUDGE .

**Anna Lecky**

Artistic Director for  
Threes Theatre  
Company, Belfast

## BEST CAMEO .

**Rachel Carson(presenter)**

McCaughey

## BEST SUPPORTING ACTORS .

**Rosie Park & Zoe Hepworth**

Watts

## BEST ACTOR .

**Megan Adair(Kate)**

Boucher

## BEST TECHNICAL .

**Watt the Future holds**

Watts

## BEST DIRECTOR .

**Molly Longstaff**

McCaughey

## BEST PLAY .

**What Lies Beneath**



# BARBOUR

Mia Wheatley  
Joanne Allen  
Taylor Healey



**W**hen Taylor, Mia and I learned that we had been appointed as House Captains, our first conversation had to be about the House Plays. Our first task as House Captains was writing the play, and after a few stressful afternoons together and a lot of laughs, we completed our script in time for the auditions. The plot was based around a fictional prison underneath the school building, and the play was led by six girls from Form One to Sixth Form. After weeks of hard work and outstanding performances from everyone in the cast, we were delighted to be awarded Best Production. Our aim this year was to keep the House spirit alive throughout all of the events. We had a large number of girls who were eager and ready to sign up. We performed particularly well in events such as Tennis, Rounders and Potted Sports. We would like to thank everyone who gave their all and showed great enthusiasm in every event. Another highlight of the year had to be Strathearn's Got Talent. I would like to personally thank Rebekah Devlin and Catherine Friend for representing Barbour at this year's talent show.

A popular event with the girls was the House Bake Off. Well done to everyone with their Easter-themed creations – they were delicious! Taylor, Mia and I are proud to have raised over £168 for our House charity this year, Marie Curie. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously. Furthermore, I want to say a huge thank you to Taylor and Mia, who have been the best deputies I could have asked for. We worked hard as a team throughout the year and I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you both. Thank you for your dedication, commitment and hard work. Finally, to next year's House Captains - I wish you the best of luck and I hope you enjoy it as much as we have. Relish every second – it will be over before you know it! It has been an honour to be House Captain for Barbour this year and I will never forget it.

**Joanne Allen**

Chloe Sweet  
Rose Templeton  
Sarah Taggart

# BOUCHER



**W**here has the time gone? It's incredibly hard to believe that it has been nearly a year since Chloe, Sarah and I were appointed as Boucher House Captains! We have thoroughly enjoyed leading Boucher House this year. We formed amazing friendships with girls from all different years of the school, and have created brilliant memories that we will never forget. As soon as we were appointed as House Captains, our first task was to create the Boucher House Play. It was a difficult decision as we wanted this year's play to be the best, but we finally opted for *Wedding Wars*, based on the film *Bride Wars*. It was such an incredible experience to see the script that we spent many hours creating come to life on stage. It wouldn't have been such a success, however, if we hadn't had so many talented Boucher actresses! It was an absolute pleasure to work with so many girls from Boucher who were so passionate about their roles and who dedicated so much time and effort to really pull the whole play together. We were also very lucky to have such an amazing backstage crew who really enhanced the overall look of each scene. A massive well-done to all the girls, but a very special mention to Megan Adair who won Best Actress – very well deserved!

After the excitement of the House Plays, we had Strathearn's Got Talent. Our two entries, Emma McCaughan and Ella and Lucy Dunbar, came equal 3rd – again, it was a delight to give such amazing girls the opportunity to showcase their incredible talents. Well done girls! Throughout the rest of the year we showed true Boucher competitiveness by winning the House Netball and giving other houses a run for their money in lots of different events such as Hockey, Dodgeball, Badminton and many more. Even though we didn't place first in everything, the high levels of participation really showed the strong House spirit and enthusiasm of Boucher girls. This year, we picked a charity called 'Care International' and the Boucher girls donated their money to support the education of girls in developing countries. We raised around £130, something every Boucher girl should be proud of. Your generosity will go a long way.

Finally, I would like to say a massive thank you to Chloe and Sarah. We worked as a team throughout the entire year and I am so delighted to have had the opportunity to work with such dedicated and talented girls. It has been an absolute pleasure to share all these amazing experiences with them! To the Boucher House Captains of next year - we wish you all the best and hope you enjoy every minute of being a House Captain! It's a lot of hard work, but definitely worth it.

**Rose Templeton**

# MCCAUGHEY

Molly Longstaff  
 Robyn Dunwoody  
 Rebecca Black (Absent)



**R**obyn, Becca and I were given the privilege of becoming House captains of the great McCaughey house. Our first responsibility was the annual Day of Sport, which saw many wondrous achievements and sights, including unnamed teachers becoming highly competitive with space hoppers. Following various sporting successes, preparations began for arguably the most dominant (and terrifying) house event; House plays.

Although different concepts were explored, we decided to base the script on the evolution of Strathearn girls; we started with the Stone Age and then moved through various historical periods, including ancient Greece and Elizabethan times. The vast array of talent shown at the auditions provided some reassurance that our ambitious script, *Strathearn Through the Ages*, could be pulled off. For a month we cracked the whip with rehearsals occurring every lunch time and some after school. We often questioned whether choreographing a dance involving twelve first years dressed as cavewomen would succeed. However, the time and dedication our cast put in was ultimately fruitful with the play winning the McNeill Cup for Directing and Rachel Carson (who had only been at school for two months!) winning the best cameo performance.

McCaughey's success continued in Dodgeball, Debating, the quiz and Netball, with the participation and talent demonstrated in these events continuing to astound us. A special mention goes to Anna Corbett and Martha McCamley who represented the house in the final of the Senior Debating competition and drew after a heated battle. The auditions for Strathearn's Got Talent were highly competitive, and we were forced to channel our inner Simon Cowells in order to make a decision. The two acts chosen were Naomi Cochrane, who played a beautiful violin piece unaccompanied, and Clara Waterworth whose voice and ukulele playing were made even more astonishing by the fact that she composes all her own songs. Clara triumphed; we hope to see her on the big stage somewhere in the near future! After inter-House Hockey the final event on our agenda was the inter-House Bake Off. Following the extremely laborious job of tasting the many entries which were submitted, we selected the girls who would go on to compete in the highly competitive and ruthless Bake Off.

The McCaughey charity this year was Autism NI, a cause close to our hearts, and we raised £129 to go towards the great work they do. Thank you so much to the many people who so generously donated. This year has made me appreciate the hard work that goes into running all the House events, and I'd like to thank and acknowledge the immense efforts of Ms Young who holds the House system together. Finally, we would like to thank the all members of McCaughey house whose dedication, talent and passion for House events has made this a thoroughly enjoyable and unforgettable year.

**Molly Longstaff**

Tavisha Sood  
 Esther Henry  
 Sam McCormack



Last April, when Samantha, Tavisha and I were given the honour of being Watts House Captains, we couldn't wait to get started, but we had no idea just how much hard work would be involved. Yet, we also didn't realise how fun and rewarding this year would be.

Our first opportunity to make the most of our roles was the Day of Sport before the summer, when we somehow managed to lead Watts to victory. It was great to see our house get so excited and we were so proud of them. Throughout the year, our girls have really enjoyed the inter-house sport events, such as badminton, netball, cross-country and hockey. Being not athlete myself, I have been continually amazed by their abilities and enthusiasm. I would like to give a big thanks to the girls for their willingness to participate and give it their all, which they have done throughout the entire year, not just in the sports. The next highlight in the house calendar was the House Play. This did require a lot of work and preparation, as we began to write our script over the summer and hold our auditions at the end of September. The rehearsals, while occasionally stressful, were an incredibly enjoyable experience. Even after two months of intense planning, I think it's safe to say no one felt quite ready to perform! Even so, our amazing cast pulled off two great performances and we could not have been prouder! Congratulations to Zoe Hepworth and Rosie Park who were awarded the well-deserved McMinn cup for Best Supporting Actress. Thank you both - we couldn't have done it without them. Nor could we have performed our play without such excellent technical and back-stage teams, providing so many small touches that often go unnoticed by the audience, but which made a world of difference. Thanks to Sam, who put so much effort and time into the details of the technical effects, Watts was also awarded the Technical Cup. Memories of the House Plays are one of the many things I will take with me from my time at Strathearn.

As the year continued, Watts proved their genius once again in the House Debating and House Quiz. Then came the talent show, which was a joy to watch! It was difficult to choose only two acts to perform, but they did us proud. Emma Owens and Rachel Brett's act came second with an excellent rendition of "All That Jazz". The final house event, the Bake Off, was one of my favourites, as the House Captains got to taste-test over twenty bakers' buns. In the end we thought they all did an excellent job, finishing in second place. This year the girls in Watts supported the Children's Heartbeat Trust, a very worthy cause. We managed to raise £296.61, a sum of money that will be used to change lives.

It really has been such a privilege to be a part of this team with Sam and Tavisha, who have been so passionate and dedicated from start to finish. It would have been an impossible task without them both. Ms Young also deserves so much credit for organising the events that allow everyone in the House to get involved. I was ecstatic for Watts to win overall this year. The girls really deserved it and I could not have been prouder! Sam, Tavisha and I hope that the House Captains next year enjoy the challenge as much as we did. Go Watts!!

**Esther Henry**





• SPORT



# GAMES CAPTAIN'S REPORT.

Strathearn has had another very successful year of sport. Once again Strathearn had a superb Athletics season. In the summer of 2018, many girls competed in the Co Down District Championships and gained four out of five Co Down District titles – Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior. As a result of this, a number of girls qualified for the Ulster Schools' Championships. All age groups performed fantastically, and their hard work paid off as both Minor and Senior teams were crowned Ulster Champions. Our amalgamated points meant that we were crowned 2018 Overall Ulster Schools' Athletics Champions. Due to these amazing performances by the girls, four relay teams plus a number of individuals qualified for the Irish Schools' Championships. Special congratulations to Harriet Platt and Anna McKinty who were crowned Intermediate and Junior Irish Triple Jump Champions respectively. Due to their performances at the Ulster and Irish Championships, Anna McKinty and Amelia Kane were also selected to represent Ulster in the Tailteann Irish Schools' Interprovincial Championships.

The summer term of sport was rounded off with another brilliant Tennis season. All teams performed exceptionally. Special mention goes to the Senior team who were crowned Ulster Champions and the Intermediate Team who were runners-up. This was Jessica Leeman's and Megan Chambers' seventh successive Ulster Schools' Tennis title, and Victoria Hamilton's sixth - an outstanding achievement for these girls!

Cross Country is usually strong at all levels in Strathearn, and this year was no different. At the Co Down Districts, the girls did extremely well to win two titles, and finish as runners up in two more of the five titles. There were also some very impressive individual performances. This led to the Ulster Schools' Championships, where the girls once again performed very well and Strathearn was crowned Overall Ulster Cross Country Champions for the third successive year. Both the Junior and Senior teams qualified for the Irish Schools' Championships in Kildare, where the Junior team was placed third in their age group. This was a tremendous achievement and something the girls should be very proud of.

Strathearn's Netball teams have had another successful year, and the sport continues to be very popular at all ages. Both Minor and Junior teams have advanced to the semi-finals of the Northern Ireland Netball League which will be played in the upcoming weeks. There have been some great performances throughout the year and specific congratulations to those who were selected for the U15 Belfast Regional Development Academy and the U13 Belfast Academy Squad.

The Strathearn swimming teams have had another successful year. The girls took part in the Swim Ulster Schools' Cup and Championships and won a range of medals. Congratulations to the Minor relay team consisting of Zophia Quigley, Aoife Stafford, Grace Davison and Darcy Shields who won both the Freestyle and Medley relays, and then went on to win the Irish Minor Schools' title in both relays as well. Further congratulations to the Intermediate team, who were overall Intermediate winners of the McMahon Cup. We had a number of swimmers competing at a high level in club competitions throughout the year, but Amelia Kane deserves massive congratulations as she has been selected to compete for Ireland at the European and World Junior Championships in Russia and Hungary this summer.

In Hockey, we have had one of our most successful seasons to date. The 1XI, 2BXI, 3AXI and U14 XI produced wonderful performances throughout the season and all reached the semi-finals of their cup competitions. The 2A XI played fantastic hockey throughout all stages of their season, beating strong teams such as Rainey Endowed on the way to the final of the McDowell Cup in which they faced Friends' School Lisburn – huge congratulations to the team on this great achievement! In October 2018, a group of senior girls travelled to Barcelona for several training matches, professional coaching sessions and some sightseeing adventures, including a trip to Portaventura Theme Park – it was an unforgettable trip.

There are also a number of other sports in which Strathearn girls have been involved, including Squash, Dance, Badminton, Gymnastics, Golf, Football, Trampolining and Kayaking. Special congratulations to the Senior Dance team and Intermediate duet who both placed 1st in the NICMAC championships in their categories. The U17 squash team won the Irish Schools' Squash Championships. Further congratulations to Zoe Hill, Emma Simms and Amy Wilson who qualified for the Zonal Championships in Trampolining.

Congratulations to Ellie Gordon and Mia Davison, who competed in Indoor Rowing at the UK School Games, and to Evie Hempstead who was selected for the Ulster U17 Water polo team.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who have been involved in Strathearn sport over the years, and to the parents who consistently support us all in our chosen sports. Special thanks to Ms Young, Mrs Grundie and Mrs Crawford for all their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

# HOCKEY .

**T**he 2018-19 season has been an exceptional year for the hockey teams throughout the school. Reaching one cup final and three cup semi-finals, the Strathearn squads made sure to put our name on the map.

The 1st XI, captained by Chloe Sweet with Claire Whiteside as her Vice-Captain, were determined to make it to the Belfast Telegraph Senior Cup Final. This was a goal of the team from the beginning of the season, having reached the Senior Plate Final and won the Senior Shield Final in the previous two years. The team began their season by reaching the quarter-final of the Super League. Playing Royal School Armagh and defeating Friends and Coleraine, this led them to the quarter-final where they lost out to Rainey Endowed. Despite the loss, reaching the quarter-finals of the Super League provided the girls with a good foundation from which to approach the Belfast Telegraph Senior Cup. Starting in the third round, Strathearn made the long journey to play Raphoe where they won 3-1 and so took one step closer to reaching their goal. In the quarter-final, Strathearn played Royal School Armagh. The girls knew this would be a tough match but they went on to defeat the Armagh side 2-1, leading them to the semi-final. Taking on Banbridge Academy in



Strathearn's first Schools' Cup semi-final since 2012, the team put on a brilliant display of hockey. Although the girls had long periods of dominance in this match, their opponents won by a single goal. The team put in a super performance and did Strathearn School proud.

This year, the 2A XI had great success in reaching the final of the McDowell Cup, with Zoe Hepworth leading the team with Sophie Williams as her Vice-Captain. In the second round of the McDowell Cup the Strathearn side defeated Ballyclare Secondary 4-0, setting them up for a cup-winning streak. They went on to play Banbridge in the third round, defeating them 1-0, and Ballyclare High School in the quarter-final, winning 1-0 to earn them a spot in the semi-final. In the semi-final, the girls dominated the match and left the pitch with a 2-0 win over Rainey Endowed, securing their place in the final. On 11 March the final was played against Friends' School Lisburn at Civil Service. The girls did well to match their opposition's goals, leaving the score at 2-2 with only minutes left on the clock. However, Friends managed to put a shot away and so won 3-2. The girls should be very proud of their performance!

This year, the 2B XI was captained by Daisy Moore. This team was extremely successful in the Gibson Cup, reaching the semi-final against BRA. The team started their cup campaign by beating Glenlola, Ballyclare and Carrick in the group stages. In the quarter-final, they came up against Ballymena and secured their spot in the semi-final by slotting away two goals to win the match 2-0. The semi-final was a nail-biting match to watch. With full time finishing 0-0, it came down to penalty runs. Unfortunately the girls lost 3-2, but they put up a super fight till the very end. Great play girls!

On an exciting note, this year was the first year of the 4th XI Cup. The 3A XI competed in this cup with Rosie Park as captain. They started their cup run exceptionally well with a 7-0 win over Lagan College, taking them straight to the quarter-finals, in which they met Ballyclare. The girls showed great skill and determination to keep the scoreline close and full time ended in a draw. This led to penalty runs in which they sadly lost 2-1, but the team can be proud of their performance and hold their heads high. The 3B XI also had a super year competing on a regular basis and it's great to have another senior team representing Strathearn.

This year the senior hockey teams had the privilege of travelling to Barcelona on a hockey tour in October. This unforgettable trip left all of the girls with new hockey skills, strengthened friendships and great memories. We had two teams playing in Barcelona, made up of a mix of all of the senior teams, and we played against some



of the best school and club hockey teams in the area. It was an amazing experience that all of the players were grateful to have been given.

In Junior Hockey, the U14 XI had a brilliant year, making it to the semi-final of the Junior Cup with Niamh Hatfield as captain. The team set out with all guns blazing in the first rounds of the cup, with a 5-0 win over Friends, a 1-0 win against Omagh, and a win against Clounagh in the 3rd round. This brought them to the quarter-final of the Junior Cup, in which they met Ballymena. Despite the tough competition, the girls pulled through and managed to slot a goal past the Ballymena keeper to win 1-0 and take them to the semi-finals. In the semi-finals the team came up against local rivals Methodist College. The match had everyone on edge as full time finished 1-1. The two teams were so close throughout the entire game but unfortunately Methody managed to sneak into the final of the Junior Cup by winning on sudden death penalty runs. The performance of this young team suggests there is a bright future ahead for Strathearn hockey. Well done girls!

The U14B XI had a great season with super wins against some tough sides. This team is captained by Anna Kirk. Playing local rivals, Sullivan, is always a treat. The girls dominated this match, and it ended with a 4-0 win. Similarly, the girls beat Friends 5-0, with Kate Hunter scoring four. Super play girls. Keep it up! The U13A XI captained by Sophie Livingstone, U13B XI captained by Laura Irwin, and U13C XI captained by Niamh Long have all had really good seasons. These junior players undoubtedly have a great future in hockey.

This year the U12A XI competed in the annual first year Grosvenor Tournament. This young side wowed us all,

beating BRA, Larne and Grosvenor and drawing with Hunter House in order to put them into the semi-final. In the semi-final they played Friends and lost 1-0, however the girls should be proud of their performances, and have a lot to look forward to in the future.

I would also like to congratulate Niamh Hatfield, Jess Ryan, Karis Hamilton, Sophie Hoey, Ruby Rebbeck, Mabelle Wilcox, Lucie McNaught and Emmy Thornton on earning a spot in the U15 Talent Development Programme. Niamh, Jess, Karis, Sophie and Lucie have also been selected as part of the Ulster U16 Development Squad from which the final Ulster U16 team will be selected later this year. Further congratulations go to Niamh Hatfield, Jess Ryan, Anna McKinty, Zara Hamilton and Lucie McNaught in being selected for the U15 Belfast Area Board Team who emerged as the Area Board Tournament winners. Finally, huge congratulations to Harriet Platt who has been selected to train with the U21 Ulster Development Squad and Anna Gillespie who has been selected to train with the U18 Ulster Development Squad. Well done to all these girls. It is great to see so many Strathearn girls representing us so well at this high level!

Many thanks to all the PE staff for the tremendous amount of work and effort put into training and helping us throughout the season. Thank you also to the many supporters who turned out at the semi-finals and final this year. Indeed, we had great support right throughout the season, and this often helped to spur the teams on to succeed. A further big thank you goes to Cecil Swinton for his exceptional stats and continuous support for Strathearn hockey. I wish all the best to next year's teams.

**Chloe Sweet**



### 1st XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Jessica Anderson Bell, Maya Savage Newell, Grace Hutchinson, Alex Fawcett, Erin Stewart

**Middle Row:** Lauren Armstrong, Eve McKibbin, Francesca Park, Amelia Hopkins, Anna Gillespie, Emma Farrelly

**Front Row:** Hannah McCann, Claire Whiteside (VC), Chloe Sweet (C), Harriet Platt, Jenny Wilson



### 2A XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Anna McKibbin, Anna McKinty, Eve Elliott, Amelia Hopkins

**Middle Row:** Grace Ruding, Molly Longstaff, Amber Hamilton, Francesca Park,  
Eve McKibbin, Lauren Armstrong

**Front Row:** Lara Whitten, Sophie Williams (VC), Zoe Hepworth (C), Zara Hanna, Anna Gillespie



### 2B XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Sarah West, Elly Ryan, Molly Elliott

**Middle Row:** Jemima Thomas, Kristen Kerr,  
Tara Kerr, Hannah Meredith,  
Talia Irwin, Rachel McDonald

**Front Row:** Victoria Kerr, Megan Adair (VC),  
Daisy Moore (C), Tilly Nield, Rhiannon Brady



### 3A XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Holly Gilpin, Marnie Preston,  
Lucy Chambers, Ellie Dornan

**Middle Row:** Sophie Kenny, Eva Aston, Joanna Carson,  
Amy Ellison, Sophie Longstaff, Alice Henry

**Front Row:** Hannah McGugan, Olivia Knox (VC),  
Rosie Park (C), Penny Hood, Alice Sloan



### 3B XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Aoife Moore, Catrina Martin, Sophie Jordan,  
Megan Allen, Abi Stevenson, Saya Caddy

**Front Row:** Natalya Ricketts, Lois Gillan, Jessica Baker  
(C), Gabrielle Park, Erin McConnell



### U14 A XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Kate Hunter, Lucie McNaught,  
Sophie Thomas, Sophie Hoey

**Middle Row:** Karis Hamilton, Ruby Rebbeck,  
Connie Hanna, Lucie Maskery,  
Erin McClure, Eva Ralston

**Front Row:** Emmy Thornton, Jess Ryan,  
Niamh Hatfield (C), Anna Kirk, Mabelle Wilcox



### U14 B XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Cara Murray, Kate Hunter, Sophia Knox,  
Sophie Thomas, Eloise McKnight, Katie Smith

**Middle Row:** Eirys Leathern, Scarlett Mooney,  
Anna Nicholl, Lucy Hutchinson, Aiza Ghafoor,  
Emma Wilson, Katie Sweet, Rebekah O'Tiarnaigh

**Front Row:** Martha Cupples, Josie Baile, Laura Mitchell,  
Anna Kirk (C), Ella Simms, Catlyn Corbett, Zoe Boyce



### U13 A XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Annabelle Harron, Angelique Toombs, Charlotte Moore

**Middle Row:** Darcy Blair, Rhiannon Davies, Sarah Hylands, Sarah Mavitty, Ellie Patrick

**Front Row:** Hannah Dadley Young, Emily Wilson, Sophie Livingston (C), Drea Doudicon, Beth Chivers



### U13 B XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Laura Dunlop, Amelia Hazle, Ruby Donaldson

**Middle Row:** Evie McMullan, Zara Cheung, Anna Mounstephen, Niamh Long, Charlotte Moore, Amy Powell

**Front Row:** Eilidh Blair, Lucy Wills, Laura Irwin (C), Bethany Johnston, Izzy Graham



### U13 C XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Kaitlyn Martin, Hannah Legge, Eve Gorman

**Middle Row:** Holly Kidd, Hannah Gilpin, Faith McFerran, Amy Powell

**Front Row:** Jaya Armstrong, Niamh Long, Caitlyn Watson



### U12 A XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Emma Stranaghan, Ria Hanna, Ailsa Gallagher, Georgia Thornton

**Middle Row:** Lily Richardson, Heidi Carter, Eva Wilson, Beth Danaher, Rachel Carson, Amy Nesbitt

**Front Row:** Bella Emmerson, Gracie Hamilton, Ruby Emmerson, Ella Hampton, Hollie Davies  
Absent Anna Cousins (C)

### U12 B XI Hockey Team

**Back Row:** Rebecca Mounstephen, Maisie McCrea, Rebecca Mitchell

**Middle Row:** Bea Baker, Rebecca Gabbie, Ruby Love, Chloe Kenny, Taylor Robinson

**Front Row:** Cassie Baillie, Lucy Dunbar, Isabella Dunbar, Rebecca Thompson Donnan, Zoe Hill





Once again Strathearn has had a great year for netball, with a high level of participation from all year groups. Lots of girls have been playing for our Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior teams, which have all been competing in the Netball NI Schools' B league. This year our Junior A team was victorious against all opponents, with outstanding wins against Victoria College, St Joseph's and Lagan College. The team made it to the quarter-finals in which they suffered a narrow defeat to a strong Wallace side. The Minor A team were also successful this year; they won their group, and made it through to the semi-finals following a 19-7 win over Bloomfield. The Intermediates have similarly had a good year with two strong wins against Bangor Academy and Sullivan Upper.

Unfortunately, they lost 10-12 against Glenlola. Our Senior team also played well this year, with wins against St Columbanus, Bloomfield and Sullivan Upper. They finished second in the group, however, after a loss against Regent House. Special congratulations to the following girls who made it into the Regional Development Academy this year for their respective age groups: Niamh Hanna, Emma Stranaghan, Rhiannon Davies, Sophie Johnston, Ellie Gordon, Lauren Mooney, Rosie Bonner and Megan Stewart. Inter-house netball was another exciting day in our season, with a tremendous turn out from all age groups. After some exciting and competitive games, Boucher were once again victorious.

## Senior Netball Team

**Back Row:** Megan Ashcroft, Grace Hutchinson

**Middle Row:** Sophie Mitchell, Ruth Gregg, Megan Adair

**Front Row:** Grace Ruding, Sophie Neale, Josie Allen (C), Rhiannon Brady

# NETBALL.



### Intermediate Netball Team

**Back Row:** Rosie Bonner, Elly Ryan

**Middle Row:** Sarah West, Megan Stewart,  
Lauren Ayre

**Front Row:** Lauren Mooney, Jemima Thomas,  
Ellie Van Giesen, Niamh Hanna



### Junior A Netball Team

**Back Row:** Lucie McNaught, Sophie Hoey, Ellie Gordon

**Middle Row:** Niamh Hatfield, Sarah Tweedie, Ruby  
Rebbeck, Erin McClure

**Front Row:** Romelly Roberts, Ellen Douglas (C),  
Rosie Hardy



### Junior B Netball Team

**Back Row:** Lois Whiteside, Madalaine Wilson

**Middle Row:** Leah Orr, Aaliyah Moore,  
Emma White, Natasha O'Tiarnaigh

**Front Row:** Emily Hanna, Maddie Twamley,  
Juliette Ruelland-Kennedy



### Form 1 Netball A Team

**Back Row:** Eva Morrison, Emma Stranaghan,  
Rebecca Mounstephen

**Middle Row:** Taylor Robinson, Charli Graham-Ogg,  
Georgia Thornton, Katie Mullan

**Front Row:** Lauren Wright, Gracie Hamilton (C),  
Hollie Davies



### Form 1 Netball B Team

**Back Row:** Ria Hanna, Gracie Hamilton,  
Madeleine Wall

**Middle Row:** Alex Picton-Lynas, Kara Morrice,  
Francesca Hamilton, Lydia Devlin

**Front Row:** Emily Gilmore, Ella Hampton (C),  
Isabella Dunbar



### Minor A Netball Team

**Back Row:** Anna Mounstephen, Sophie Johnston,  
Katherine Boyle

**Middle Row:** Lucy Wills, Aisha Moore,  
Clara Waterworth, Zara Cheung, Hannah De Freitas

**Front Row:** Zaynab Sabri, Rhiannon Davies (C),  
Ellie Patrick (C), Annabel Ennis



### Minor B Netball Team

**Back Row:** Anna Mounstephen, Ruby Donaldson,  
Aisha Moore, Clara Waterworth

**Middle Row:** Hanna De Freitas, Lucy Wills,  
Emma Heasley

**Front Row:** Eilidh Blair, Bethany Johnston (C),  
Libby Nesbitt, Amelie Euler

# GYMNASTICS .

Gymnastics has been a great success this year at Strathearn. This is the fourth year of the Gymnastics Club. It takes place every Friday after school in our gymnasium. The club is run by 'The Gymnastics Academy' who encourage the girls each week to progress and improve their individual skills, working together in building pair and group balances and learning new routines. On 3 March, a team of six gymnasts from Form One competed in the NI Schools' Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships in Bangor. The girls put on a great performance but unfortunately just missed out on the medals, finishing in a very commendable 4th place. Well done to all the girls for their hard work and dedication this year! Thanks also to the coaches who helped them throughout the year.

**Emma Hylands**



## Gymnastics Team

**Back Row:** Lucy Richmond, Sara Murray,  
Anna Spence

**Front Row:** Holly Humphreys, Abbie Conroy,  
Charlie Graham-Ogg

# TRAMPOLINING .

Our trampolining teams have had a very successful competition season this year. On 18 November, we competed in the Northern Ireland Schools' Trampoline Championships held in Ards Leisure Centre. Strathearn entered six individual competitors this year, between the Novice and Intermediate competitions. Amy Wilson and Ella Simms competed in the U15 competition and were placed 1st and 2nd respectively. Zoe Hill competed in a tough U13 section and was placed 3rd. Alexandra Speers competed in a massive U19 Novice section, and did very well to be placed in the top ten in her group. Eliza Chittick and Sophie Neale were entered in the Intermediate section of their age groups and were not far off the medals either! Amy, Ella and Zoe qualified for the Schools' Zonal Championships which were held in the new Ards 'Blair Mayne Wellbeing and Leisure Complex' on 26 January. The girls had a great experience competing in a bigger competition than normal, and they represented Strathearn very well. Congratulations to everyone that took part in these competitions and I hope the coming years bring you more enjoyment and success!

**Sophie Neale**



## Trampolining Team

**Back Row:** Sophie Neale, Alex Speers

**Front Row:** Amy Wilson, Zoe Hill, Ella Simms

**Absent:** Eliza Chittick

**S**trathearn continues to encourage its girls to get involved in a diverse range of athletics events and many have been successful at District, Ulster and Irish levels this year. Congratulations to all the athletes who competed at the Co Down District Athletics Championships in May. Strathearn were crowned Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Minor Champions and the Mini Team were 2nd overall. Twenty-seven individuals and six relay teams have qualified for the Ulster Championships by virtue of finishing in the top three of their respective events at District level. We should remember, however, that it is not just the medal winners who gain points, so special congratulations to all those athletes who contributed to Strathearn's totals - we would not have won four out of five titles without your efforts.

**Seniors:** Overall 1st Co Down District Champions with Molly Longstaff 1st 100m & 4th Long Jump; Katie Wills 1st 800m & 4th Triple Jump; Kerry Annett 1st Triple Jump; Beth Crosbie 2nd 400m; Olivia Nelson 2nd 1500m; Alex Reilly 2nd 3000m; Natalie McHugh 3rd High Jump & 3rd Javelin; Ruby Baxter 3rd 200m & 5th 1500m; Zara Wilson 2nd Hammer & 2nd Discus; Arianne Whiteside 4th High Jump. 4 x 100m Relay 2nd Rhiannon Brady, Eve Truesdale, Kerry Annett, Molly Longstaff; 4 x 300m Relay 1st (Murphy Miller, Katie Wills, Olivia Nelson, Beth Crosbie) with a New District Record of 3.04.45 min.

**Intermediates:** Overall 1st Co Down District Champions with Murphy Miller 1st 800m; Amelia Kane 1st 3000m with a New District Record of 10.38.57 min; Harriet Platt 1st Triple Jump with a New District Record of 10.82m; Grace Hutchinson 2nd Hammer & 10th Discus; Freya Axten 3rd 3000m; Anna McKibbin 4th 80m Hurdles & 4th High Jump; Sophie Longstaff 4th Triple Jump & 6th 100m; Amelia Hopkins 4th High Jump; Evie Hempstead 5th 80m Hurdles & 15th Long Jump; Leah McClements 5th 100m; Rosie Park 5th 300m; Holly Gilpin 5th Hammer; Amber Hamilton 5th 200m & 9th Discus; Rhiannon Brady 6th 200m; Aimee Stitt 6th 300m; Emma Craig 7th Javelin; Sophie Kenny 8th 1500m; Alex Fawcett 8th Javelin; Rebecca Callaghan 10th Long Jump; Eve McKibbin 10th 800m; Jemima Thomas 12th 1500m; Lucy Mashford 14th Shotput; Sarah West 20th Shotput. 4 x 100m Relay 2nd (Leah McClements, Sophie Longstaff, Eve McKibbin, Harriet Platt).

**Juniors:** Overall 1st Co Down District Champions with Anna McKinty 1st Triple Jump with New Record of 10.29m & 3rd 800m; Sophie Jordan 1st High Jump; Anna Gillespie 1st Javelin; Zara Hanna 3rd 75m Hurdles & 4th Long Jump; Amy Ellison 3rd Hammer & 10th 800m; Connie Hanna 3rd Triple Jump; Casey Dawson 3rd 200m; Martha Todd 4th 75m Hurdles; Ruby Rebbeck 4th Discus; Alice Browne 4th 1500m; Hollie Massey 5th 1500m;

Emma Wilson 5th Hammer; Molly Elliott 5th Long Jump & 6th 100m; Lara Whitten 6th Javelin; Aoife Moore 7th High Jump & 100m; Lucie McNaught 9th Discus; Mia Montgomery 18th Shot; Natalya Ricketts 21st Shot. Relay 3rd (Zara Hanna, Molly Elliott, Anna McKinty, Casey Dawson).

**Minors:** Overall 1st Co Down District Champions with Sophie Hoey 1st Long Jump & 1st 75m Hurdles; Mabelle Wilcox 1st 800m; Connie Hanna 1st High Jump; Niamh Hatfield 2nd Long Jump; Emmy Thornton 3rd 800m & 4th 75m Hurdles; Eloise McKnight 6th High Jump; Karis Hamilton 8th 100m; Kate Hunter 9th 100m; Lulu Hopkinson 11th Shot; Emma Wilson 23rd Shot. Relay 1st (Sophie Hoey, Karis Hamilton, Emma Wilson, Niamh Hatfield).

**Minis:** Overall Co Down Runners-up with Amelia Hazle 1st High Jump; Bethany Johnston 3rd 800m; Niamh Long 5th High Jump; Lucy Wills 9th 800m & 15th Long Jump; Amy McClean 9th 100m; Rhiannon Davis 11th Long Jump; Maddie Haldane 16th Shot; Sophie Johnston 24th Shot. Relay 2nd (Bethany Johnston, Amelia Hazle, Elena Gourley, Amy McClean).

Well done to everyone who qualified for and competed at the Ulster Schools' Athletics Championships in May at Antrim Forum. This is a very busy exam time for all our girls so we really appreciate them giving up their valuable time to represent the school at these championships. Their hard work paid off with both the Minor and Senior athletes winning their age group trophy. The results from all age groups were combined and contributed to Strathearn being ranked 1st in Ulster and being crowned Overall Ulster Schools' Champions! Well done everyone – this was a super effort by all of you!

**Seniors:** Overall 1st in Ulster with Kerry Annett 3rd Triple Jump qualifying for the Irish Championships; Molly Longstaff 3rd 100m; Zara Wilson 4th Hammer & 5th Discus; Katie Wills 5th 800m; Hannah McCann 4th Javelin; Relay 4 x 100m 2nd Eve Truesdale, Zara Wilson, Kerry Annett, Molly Longstaff qualifying for the Irish Championships. Relay 4 x 300m 1st (Murphy Miller,



**Mia Davison**  
**Indoor Rowing**  
**UK School Games:**  
**Northern Ireland U15 Team**

## ATHLETICS

Katie Wills, Olivia Nelson, Beth Crosbie) qualifying for the Irish Championships.

**Intermediates:** Harriet Platt 1st Triple Jump qualifying for the Irish Championships; Amelia Kane 3rd 3000m qualifying for the Irish Championships; Grace Hutchison 8th Hammer; Freya Axten 8th 3000m. Relay 2nd (Leah McClements, Sophie Longstaff, Rhiannon Brady, Harriet Platt) qualifying for the Irish Championships.

**Juniors:** Anna McKinty 1st Triple Jump qualifying for the Irish Championships & 10th 800m; Zara Hanna 5th 75m Hurdles; Casey Dawson 6th 200m; Connie Hanna 6th Triple Jump; Sophie Jordan 7th High Jump; Amy Ellison 7th Hammer. Relay 6th (Zara Hanna, Anna McKinty, Molly Elliott, Casey Dawson).

**Minors:** Overall 1st in Ulster Sophie Hoey 1st Long Jump & 2nd 75m Hurdles qualifying for the Irish Championships; Mabelle Wilcox 2nd 800m qualifying for the Irish Championships; Niamh Hatfield 4th Long Jump; Connie Hanna 9th High Jump; Emmy Thornton 9th 800m. Relay 3rd (Sophie Hoey, Karis Hamilton, Emma Wilson, Niamh Hatfield).

**Minis :** Bethany Johnston 7th 800m; Amelia Hazle 10th High Jump. Relay 5th (Bethany Johnston, Amelia Hazle, Elena Gourley, Amy McClean).

At the Irish Schools' Athletics Championships on 2 June, fifteen Strathearn girls stepped out against the best in Ireland to perform in Tullamore, Co Offaly. It was a fantastic achievement to qualify for these prestigious championships and a day when they needed to be on top form to compete at such a high level. Our girls really did us proud by giving it their best shot. Whilst they did not all win medals, there were lots of courageous



**Anna McKinty**

**Athletics**

**UK School Games:  
Northern Ireland U17 Team &  
Ulster Schools' U17 Team**

performances, with some just shy of the medal places. We offer all the girls huge congratulations and hope they will learn from their experiences and be determined to keep working hard for the rest of the season and the future. Harriet Platt and Anna McKinty deserve special mention as they both jumped out of their skins to become Irish Schools' Champions in the Intermediate and Junior Triple Jump respectively. Harriet improved on her PB by 3cms to win with a jump

of 10m 96cm and Anna improved her PB by a massive 37cm with her winning jump of 10m 66cm.

**Seniors:** Kerry Annett 4th Triple Jump. 4 x 100m Relay 7th Kerry Annett, Amber Hamilton, Sian Anderson, Molly Longstaff; 4 x 300m Relay 5th (Murphy Miller, Katie Wills, Olivia Nelson, Beth Crosbie).

**Intermediates:** Harriet Platt 1st Triple Jump Irish Champion! Amelia Kane (Injured) 3000m. Relay 6th (Leah McClements, Anna McKinty, Sophie Longstaff, Harriet Platt).

**Juniors:** Anna McKinty 1st Triple Jump Irish Champion! Anna Gillespie 11th Javelin.

**Minors:** Sophie Hoey 6th Long Jump & 6th 75m Hurdles; Mabelle Wilcox 7th 800m.

Congratulations to Anna McKinty and Amelia Kane who were selected for the Ulster U17 Team to compete at the prestigious Tailteann Games in Santry. Anna finished just out of the medals in 4th place in the Triple Jump, which is fantastic given that she was competing against girls two years older than her. Amelia finished in bronze medal position in the 3000m with a brilliant run, especially given that she had been unable to compete at the Irish Championships due to injury. She had been keeping her fitness up, however, as she had been training and competing in swimming galas in France and Spain in preparation for the European Junior Swimming Championships in Helsinki in July.

Anna McKinty was also selected for the UK School Games team and travelled to Loughborough at the start of September and finished in a very commendable 4th place. At the Ulster Schools' Multi-Event Championships in September, four Strathearn athletes worked very hard in five different events. Sophie Hoey was 4th in the Minor competition and Anna McKinty 4th in the Junior competition.

Well done to all the athletes who competed this year and good luck for next year!



**Ellie Gordon**

**Indoor Rowing**

**UK School Games:  
Northern Ireland U14 Team**

**Kerry Annett**



### Senior Athletics Team

Co Down District & Ulster Schools' Senior Champions

**Back Row:** Molly Longstaff, Olivia Nelson, Zara Wilson

**Front Row:** Katie Wills, Hannah McCann, Kerry Annett



### Intermediate Athletics Team

Co Down District Schools' Intermediate Champions

**Back Row:** Jemima Thomas, Grace Hutchinson, Emma Craig, Sarah West,

Evie Hempstead, Eve McKibbin,

**Middle Row:** Lucy Mashford, Rebecca Callaghan, Amelia Hopkins, Alex Fawcett, Holly Gilpin, Rosie Park

**Front Row:** Harriet Platt, Murphy Miller, Sophie Longstaff, Anna McKibbin, Amber Hamilton,

Aimee Stitt, Rhiannon Brady

**Absent:** Amelia Kane



## Junior Athletics Team

Co Down District Schools' Junior Champions

**Back Row:** Niamh Hatfield, Anna McKinty, Molly Elliott, Lucie McNaught, Emma Wilson

**Middle Row:** Amy Ellison, Connie Hanna, Casey Dawson, Sophie Jordan, Ruby Rebbeck, Aoife Moore

**Front Row:** Alice Browne, Lara Whitten, Zara Hanna, Mia Montgomery, Anna Gillespie



## Minor Athletics Team

Co Down District & Ulster Schools' Minor  
Champions

**Back Row:** Eloise McKnight, Kate Hunter, Sophie Hoey

**Middle Row:** Karis Hamilton, Lulu Hopkinson,  
Emma Wilson, Niamh Hatfield

**Front Row:** Emmy Thornton, Connie Hanna,  
Mabelle Wilcox



## Mini Athletics Team

**Back Row:** Elena Gourley, Amelia Hazle,  
Sophie Johnston, Niamh Long

**Front Row:** Rhiannon Davies, Lucy Wills,  
Amy McClean, Bethany Johnston

**C**ross Country has had another successful year, with all age groups producing great results in the Co. Down, Ulster and Irish Schools' Championships. The Co Down District Championships took place on 30 January at the new venue of the Billy Neill Centre of Excellence. This was a very demanding course but the teams did not let this affect them, with all of the girls running extremely well. The Mini Girls were up first with an incredible performance, finishing in 1st place overall and setting a high standard for the races to come. Maisie McCrea was first home from Strathearn coming in 7th place, with Katie Mullan hot on her heels in 8th place. Ella Dunbar was next to finish coming 20th, closely followed by Hollie Davies coming 21st then Anna Cousins and Anna Reynolds coming 27th and 42nd respectively.

The Minor Girls were up next and just missed out on the medals, finishing in fourth place. Lucy Wills was our first athlete to cross the line, coming 10th, allowing her to qualify for the Ulster Schools Championships as an individual. Bethany Johnston and Amy McClean followed closely behind finishing 16th and 18th respectively. Louise Brown was 35th, Rhiannon Davies 37th and Amelia Hazle 41st. Our Junior Girls were trying to complete a hat-trick of titles and ran brilliantly, having five of the runners in the top 8 positions. Down High School just pipped us for gold on this occasion. The girls worked together with Mabelle Wilcox finishing 3rd, Emmy Thornton 4th, Alice Browne 5th, Niamh Hatfield 7th, Connie Hanna 8th and Sophie Hoey 37th.

Next were the Intermediates who also ran a very strong race, having the challenge of running 2500m. Amelia Kane had another very good race running at the front of the pack and finishing in 3rd place with Lara Whitten closely behind in 9th. Amy Ellison came 14th, Felicity Johnston 15th, Anna McKinty 20th and Faith Heyburn 22nd. The Senior Girls were the last team to take the course and they put in a great performance, finishing in 1st place overall, and receiving the Co Down title for the third consecutive year! Murphy Miller charged off from the start finishing in 2nd place. Harriet Platt was next to finish coming 6th, Olivia Nelson 7th, Katie Wills 9th and Aimee Stitt 18th.

After the success at the District Championships, the Mini, Junior, Inter and Senior teams set off to the Ulster Championships at Mallusk Playing Fields on 13 February with high expectations. For many of the girls this is a familiar course and so they took it all in their stride. The Mini Girls put in a strong performance against the best in Ulster and finished in a very commendable 5th place overall. The Junior Team followed with Mabelle Wilcox and Emmy Thornton battling it out for bronze position. After a super finish, Mabelle came 3rd and Emmy 4th. Alice Browne was 22th, Niamh Hatfield 27th, Connie Hanna 29th and Sophie Hoey 78th. This meant that the girls placed 2nd overall.



**Emmy Thornton**  
Ireland Schools' U15 Team

In the Intermediates race we saw another outstanding individual performance from Amelia Kane who stormed through the finishing line in 3rd place. The rest of the team ran their best in a very competitive field, finishing in fourth place overall.



### Senior Cross-Country Team

#### Co Down District Schools' Senior Champions

- Back Row:** Katie Wills, Olivia Nelson  
**Front Row:** Harriet Platt, Aimee Stitt, Murphy Miller  
**Absent:** Freya Axten



### Intermediate Cross-Country Team

- Back Row:** Felicity Johnston, Amy Ellison  
**Front Row:** Lara Whitten, Anna McKinty, Faith Heyburn  
**Absent:** Amelia Kane

The Senior team were in the last race of the day and they did not disappoint. Despite missing two team members who were playing in the Semi Final of the 1st XI Schools' Cup, the team put in a solid performance finishing in third place. Murphy Millar had another great run finishing in 6th place with Freya Axten coming 16th, Olivia Nelson 27th and Aimee Stitt 33rd. These outstanding performances across all of the age groups meant that Strathearn was crowned overall Ulster Cross Country Champions for the third successive year! Well done to all of the girls for this achievement. Special congratulations to Mabelle Wilcox and Amelia Kane who qualified to represent Northern Ireland in the London Mini Marathon from their superb performances.

As a result of these performances, the Senior and Junior teams travelled down to Clongowes Wood, Co Kildare to race in the Irish Schools' Cross Country Championships on 9 March. A combination of other sporting and personal commitments, as well as various injuries, meant that not all our athletes could travel to Kildare but those that did gave it their all and we are very proud of their performances. The Juniors set off at a good pace with our front runners amongst the leading pack throughout the race. Emmy Thornton and Mabelle Wilcox pushed each other all the way with Emmy just finishing ahead of Mabelle in 10th place. Alice Browne was the next Strathearn runner across the line, followed closely by Niamh Hatfield. Sophie Hoey ran a brave race as she was carrying an injury but completed the course showing great determination. Well done to the girls on finishing third overall. Congratulations to Emmy Thornton who has now been selected to run for Ireland in the Schools' International Cross Country Championships!

In the Senior race, Amy Ellison stepped up from the Intermediate team to fill in for missing members. Murphy Miller had a good race finishing in 15th place, ahead of some of the athletes who finished in front of her at Ulster level. Amy Ellison and Aimee Stitt put in solid performances resulting in the Senior team coming 7th overall.

Congratulations to all the girls that represented the school this year but also to the many other dedicated members of the Cross Country Club who have been training hard every Thursday afternoon in all weathers, from the start of the season. Thank you to Sara Brown for her time and commitment to coaching all the members of the Club – it has been another exceptional year.



## Junior

### Cross-Country Team

**Back Row:** Connie Hanna, Sophie Hoey, Niamh Hatfield

**Front Row:** Mabelle Wilcox, Emmy Thornton, Alice Browne



## Minor

### Cross-Country Team

**Back Row:** Lucy Wills, Amelia Hazle, Louise Brown

**Front Row:** Amy McClean, Bethany Johnston, Rhiannon Davies

## Mini Cross-Country Team

### Co Down District Schools' Mini Champions

**Back Row:** Katie Mullan, Maisie McCrea

**Front Row:** Anna Reynolds, Ella Dunbar, Hollie Davies

**Absent:** Anna Cousins

The Senior Dance team was very successful this year. A team of nineteen dancers from Forms 4 to U6 were selected from auditions which were held in October. Rehearsals began shortly after the auditions in early November. These rehearsals were carried out every Monday afternoon after school. In addition to this, extra lunchtime rehearsals were required up until the beginning of March right before the competition to ensure we had planned our routines to perfection. It's safe to say that a lot of hard work was definitely put in by the team, along with plenty of help from coaches Lauren Shankey and Jordan Hineson who choreographed, taught and organised the team. Our routine was called, 'Running with Wolves' and we decided to use a contemporary style of dance. We performed on 9 March in NICMAC against many other schools in Northern Ireland. The competition was very strong, but we performed brilliantly and managed to claim the first place trophy for Strathearn this year. An outstanding achievement by all the girls involved. A big thank you to Miss Mallon for her time and supervision of rehearsals over the past five months.

Lauren Shankey

## Senior Dance Team

### NICMAC Dance Champions

**Back Row:** Cara Tan, Rebecca Crymble, Zara Wilson, Mia Wheatley, Kaitlyn Smith, Evie Hempstead, Absent Emma Hylands, Jordan Hineson (C)

**Middle Row:** Zara Rintoul, Rebecca Welsh, Marnie Preston, Rebecca Black, Anna McCabe, Seren Evans

**Front Row:** Amy McWhirter, Jade Scott, Leah Howe, Lauren Shankey (C), Rachel Neale, Annie Heavern, Hannah McCartney,



Strathearn's Junior Dance team consisted of twenty talented dancers from Forms 1-3. With over 100 girls auditioning in October, selecting the team proved to be a challenge as the standard was extremely high! The girls were very committed to their weekly after-school rehearsals in order to learn and polish their competition routine. Our dance this year was choreographed by Leah Howe, Annie Heavern, Seren Evans and Rachel Neale and was to the song 'Nicest Kids in Town' from *Hairspray*. In December the team took part in a sponsored silence during school which raised an amazing £600 to put towards buying costumes needed for the competition. On 9 March, the team competed in the Northern Ireland Creative Movement and Aerobics Championships held in Lisburn Leisureplex. The team competed in a very tough Junior Dance section, and just narrowly missed out on the medals. Regardless of the outcome, the girls had a very enjoyable day watching all the performances and supporting Strathearn's senior team. Girls, you have done yourselves, the school and your captains proud! Congratulations to everyone who participated. Thanks also to Sophie Neale, U6 and Miss Lyttle for their help and supervision during the year.

Rachel Neale

## Junior Dance Team

**Back Row:** Amy McClean, Niamh Long, Sarah Hylands, Lily Richardson, Rebecca Devlin

**Third Row:** Rachel Carson, Hannah Pollock-Chan, Molly Graham, Darcy Blair, Chloe Kenny

**Second Row:** Leah Howe (C), Rachel Neale (C), Isabella Anderson, Sydney Heatley, Ria Cemic, Laura Irwin, Seren Evans (C), Annie Heavern (C)

**Front Row:** Zara Walker, Isabella Dunbar, Amber Brown, Lucy Dunbar, Sarah Mavitty



## GOLF .

**T**he 2019 Golf season was one which proved very successful for Strathearn. The Ulster District Qualifier for the Irish Schools' Championship took place on 29 March at Carnalea Golf Club. Six girls took part; Tess McMillen, Aoife Moore and Lois Gillan formed the Senior team and Lucie McNaught, Niamh Hanna and Aimee Blair formed the Junior team. The girls all played to the best of their ability and represented Strathearn admirably. Massive congratulations to Tess who won the Senior Gross prize with 28 gross points, and Aimee who came home with the Junior Nett prize.

Well done to all the girls who took part. It was very fitting that these brilliant performances happened on Ms Murphy's last day in Strathearn! We thank her for organising our school golf entries with such enthusiasm over the last number of years and wish her all the best for her retirement. We are sure that she will enjoy having more free time to spend playing golf!



### Golf Team

**Tess McMillen**

**Back Row:** Lucie McNaught, Lois Gillan

**Front Row:** Niamh Hanna,  
Aoife Moore, Aimee Blair

**Absent:** Tess McMillen

## TENNIS 2017-2018 .

**T**his season has been another successful one for the Strathearn Tennis teams. In Ulster Schools' Cup competitions, Strathearn was represented at Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels. There is a great interest in tennis as an extracurricular activity in Strathearn, with practices running throughout the week and on Saturday mornings. Out of the large number of Form 1 girls attending Tennis Club, Sarah Mavitty, Sophie Johnston, Rhiannon Davies, Hannah Dudley-Young, Emily Wilson and Niamh Long were selected for the team. The girls made a promising start to their campaign with an early win against Bloomfield, however, unfortunately the girls were put out by a strong Methodist College side in the semi-final of the Plate. The Junior A team, consisting of Lucie McNaught, Kate Hunter, Lauren Mooney and Ellie Gordon, had a successful year reaching the final of the Plate. They faced Coleraine Grammar School and proved to be the stronger team, playing some excellent tennis to bring home the Ulster Schools' Junior Plate, winning 6-0. The Junior B team of Sophie Thomas, Alice Sloan, Hannah Pollock Chan and Megan Allen reached the quarter-final of the Junior Plate. Unfortunately, luck was against us and after drawing our Junior A team in that round, the Junior B team exited the competition. The Intermediate teams also had a very successful year with the Intermediate A team of Jemima Thomas, Emma McGugan, Sarah Craig and Sarah West reaching the Ulster Schools' Cup Final where they played Methody. The girls' road to the final included convincing wins over Grosvenor, Belfast Royal Academy and Glenlola. Methody were always going to provide tough opposition but with two of our players unavailable due to Duke of Edinburgh and a Berlin trip, it made

the fight even harder and, on this occasion, we had to settle for runners-up. The Intermediate B team of Grace Hutchinson, Emma Craig, Amber Hamilton, Olivia Knox and Elly Ryan played some great tennis to reach the final of the plate. Their opponents in the final were Victoria College and it was a very tight match finishing 3-3; unfortunately we narrowly missed out as Victoria won on games count by just one game. The Senior A Tennis team, consisting of Jessica Leeman, Megan Chambers, Victoria Hamilton and Jessica Moore, were crowned Senior Cup Champions with this being two of the girls' (Jessica and Megan) seventh successive Ulster Schools' title. This means they have won the cup every year since Form One, which is no mean feat! The other two are not far behind them though - Victoria has won six and Jessica Moore has won five. The girls progressed to the final with wins against Down High and Grosvenor and then faced Sullivan in the final. This was a hard-fought match, but the Strathearn girls managed to emerge as victors. A fantastic display of tennis and a great way to end their school careers. The Senior B Tennis team of Ellen Gilpin, Katrina Kerr, Katie Caldwell and Claire Whiteside had strong wins against Belfast Royal Academy and Wallace but were unfortunately put out in the quarter-final of the Plate after a tight match with Friends. The tennis season finished with an Inter-House tournament, in which many girls from each year group in Strathearn got involved to support their house. On behalf of all the girls, I would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Crawford and Ms Young for organising and supporting us throughout the tennis matches. Congratulations to all the girls who participated in both the Inter-schools and Inter-House matches!



**Senior A Tennis Team**  
**Ulster Schools' Senior Champions**

Jessica Moore

**Absent:** Victoria Hamilton,  
 Jessica Leeman, Megan Chambers



**Senior B Tennis Team**

Maya Savage Newell,  
 Claire Whiteside

**Absent:** Ellen Gilpin,  
 Katie Caldwell, Katrina Kerr



**Intermediate A Tennis Team**

**Back Row:** Sarah West, Sarah Craig

**Front Row:** Jemima Thomas, Emma McGugan



**Intermediate B Tennis Team**

**Back Row:** Oliva Knox, Ellie Ryan,  
 Amber Hamilton

**Front Row:** Emma Craig, Grace Hutchinson



### **Junior A Tennis Team**

**Ulster Schools' Junior Plate Winners**

**Back Row:** Ellie Gordon, Kate Hunter

**Front Row:** Lucie McNaught, Lauren Mooney



### **Junior B Tennis Team**

**Back Row:** Sophie Thomas, Megan Allen

**Front Row:** Hannah Pollock Chan, Alice Sloan



### **Minor Tennis Team**

**Back Row:** Niamh Long, Sophie Johnston,  
Sarah Mavitty

**Front Row:** Hanna Dadley-Young, Emily Wilson,  
Rhiannon Davies



**Emma McGugan**  
Ireland U19 Team



**Hannah McGugan**  
Ireland & Ulster U17 Team



**Sophie Thomas**  
Ireland & Ulster U15 Team



**Jemima Thomas**  
Ulster U17 Team

**S**quash may not yet have made it into the Olympics, but it certainly continues to thrive in Strathearn! In a fantastic season for the Strathearn squash girls, both the U17 and U19 teams qualified to compete at the Irish Schools' Squash Championships on 29 March in Lisburn. Unfortunately the U19 competition did not run due to teams being unavailable to travel, but the Strathearn U17 team of Hannah McGugan, Sophie Thomas and Jemima Thomas emerged as Irish Champions by defeating Sacred Heart School from Westport.

Individually the girls have had great success. Hannah McGugan was the U17 Irish National Champion as well as playing on the Ulster U17 team at the Interprovincial Championships along with Jemima Thomas.

Sophie Thomas won all four Irish circuit tournaments as well as ending the season as U15 Irish National Champion and representing the Ulster U15 team at the Interprovincial Championships. Sophie will play on the U15 Irish team at the Five Nations Tournament in Dublin in April and at the European Championships in the Netherlands in May.

Hannah will also compete at the European Championships on the U17 team.

Emma McGugan has been selected to play for the U19 Irish team at the European Team Championships in the Czech Republic in April as well as at the World Championships in Malaysia in August.

Well done girls and best of luck in these forthcoming competitions!

**Emma McGugan**



**U17/U19 Squash Teams**

**Back Row:** Emma McGugan, Sophie Thomas  
**Front Row:** Hannah McGugan, Jemima Thomas



**Swimming Teams**  
**Ulster Champions**  
**Swim Ulster**  
**The McMahon Intermediate**  
**Schools' Cup**

**Back Row:** Zophia Quigley, Chloe Browne,  
 Florence Tinsley, Mia Davidson,  
 Evie Gallen, Aoife Stafford,

**Front Row:** Alice Browne, Lara Whitten,  
 Sophie Williams, Lucy Wills, Ella Hampton

**Absent:** Amelia Kane

## SWIMMING.

**S**wimming has had yet another successful year, filled with great individual and team performances.

The Swim Ulster Schools' Swim Cup and Championships were held in Bangor Aurora on 20-21 October. All swimmers competed exceptionally well and represented the school with pride. In the Minor Girls' competition, Zophia Quigley, Aoife Stafford and Harriet Walker all swam strong individual events with Zophia winning two silvers in 100m Freestyle and Butterfly, Aoife placing 9th in both Freestyle and Back Crawl and Harriet coming 25th in Breaststroke and 30th in Freestyle. The relay team of Zophia Quigley, Aoife Stafford, Grace Davison (Penrhyn) and Darcy Shields (Penrhyn) performed outstandingly in the 4x50m Freestyle and 4x50m Medley Relays winning gold in both.

In the Junior Girls' competition, we had Alice Browne, Lucy Wills, Ella Hampton and Eva Lappin representing the school. The four girls raced hard and did Strathearn proud with Alice placing 10th in 100m IM and 12th in Backcrawl, Lucy placing 38th in Freestyle and 29th in Backcrawl, Ella placing 71st in Backcrawl and 98th in Freestyle and Eva placing 46th in Breaststroke and 56th in Freestyle. Their relay team performed strongly against their competitors, placing 9th in the 4x50m Freestyle and 11th in the 4x50m Medley.

The Intermediate team stole the show with all of their fantastic performances. Amelia Kane took away two golds and a silver medal in her 100m backcrawl, 400m Freestyle and 200m IM respectively. Mia Davison placed 1st in her Butterfly and 2nd in her Breaststroke, Lara Whitten came 3rd in Backcrawl and 13th in Butterfly and Rachel Childs placed 12th in Back Crawl. The girls continued showcasing their excellence in the 4x50m Freestyle and 4x50m Medley Relays, winning gold in both. All these performances combined to make Strathearn Overall Intermediate Champions and the girls took home The McMahon Cup for the second successive year.

The Senior team of Sophie Williams, Florence Tinsley, Chloe Browne and Evie Gallen continued the success bringing home even more medals. Evie placed 24th in Breaststroke and 43rd in Freestyle, Chloe Browne came 54th in Freestyle and 43rd in Back Crawl, Sophie Williams placed 3rd in Back Crawl and Florence Tinsley placed 2nd in both Back Crawl and Freestyle. The relay team finished the weekend on a high placing 4th in the 4x50m Freestyle and 3rd in the 4x50m Medley.

The Ulster Schools' Junior and Intermediate Cup was the next competition in the swimming calendar. Again, Strathearn's girls did very well with Zophia Quigley bringing home a bronze medal in the 100m Butterfly. The relay team of Zophia Quigley, Lucy Wills, Eva Lappin and Alice Browne finished 2nd & 3rd in the Freestyle and Medley Relay respectively.

Next the Minor team had the Irish Minor Schools' Championships in the NAC Dublin 10 February 2019 as a result of their outstanding performances in the Swim Ulster Schools' Swim Cup and Championships. Zophia was Irish Champion in the 100m Butterfly and 2nd in the Freestyle, Aoife was a finalist in both the Back Crawl and Freestyle, and Grace Davison (Penrhyn) was Irish Champion of the 100m IM and 2nd in Back Crawl. The relay team of Zophia Quigley, Aoife Stafford, Grace Davison (Penrhyn), Darcy Shields (Penrhyn) were Irish Champions in both the 4x50m Freestyle and 4x50m Medley relays. Well done girls for this excellent achievement!

Strathearn also competed at the Ulster Grammar Schools' Gala in Larne on 2 March. The young swimmers Zophia, Aoife, Eva and Lucy swam excellently with Zophia finishing 1st in the 50m Butterfly and 3rd in Back Crawl, Aoife placed 12th in Breaststroke and 17th in Freestyle, Eva came 13th in Breaststroke and 19th in Freestyle and Lucy place 8th in Back Crawl and 15th in Freestyle. The team finished an impressive 4th and 5th place in the 4x50m Freestyle and 4x50m Medley Relays respectively.

Special congratulations to swimmers Amelia Kane, Mia Davison and Florence Tinsley on being selected to represent Ulster at the Interprovincial Swimming Championships, hosted in the NAC Dublin later this year. Lastly, on behalf of all the girls, I would like to say a massive thank you to Mrs King and Ms Young for organising and supporting us throughout the year. Well done to all the swimmers and best wishes for future success!

**Sophie Williams**



**Sophie Williams**  
Ulster Schools' U19 Team



**Florence Tinsley**  
Ulster Schools' U19 Team



**Mia Davison**  
Ulster Schools' U17 Team

## BADMINTON .

**B**adminton club has had another successful year, with an amazing turnout of girls every week. Throughout the year everyone has extended their knowledge of the game, and I have seen them all make great progress. Due to the club's popularity, we were able to enter Year 8, Minor and Senior teams in the Ulster Schools' Badminton Competitions, with fantastic results.

The Year 8 team consisted of Hollie Davies, Faye McCarten, Lauren Wright, Eva Wilson, Gracie Hamilton and Beth King who had a very successful year, reaching the semi-final of their competition. At this stage the team lost to Coleraine, but it was still a great achievement to get this far.

This year, we were able to enter two Minor teams into the league. Lois Whitesdie, Kathryn Finlay, Aiza Ghafoor and Cara Murray all made up Minor Team A, who were successful in their matches against Wallace, and Royal

and Prior, however they unfortunately lost to Friends. Minor Team B, which consisted of Sophie Johnston, Kate McConkey, Victoria Murray and Eilidh Blair, were equally successful, reaching the semi-final in which they lost out to Hunterhouse. These are both incredible results!

This year, the Senior team was made up of Ellie Davis, Emma Caldwell, Hannah McCann, and Claire Whiteside. Unfortunately, we lost to Royal and Prior, Wallace and Friends, however I think I speak for everyone when I say that we've all really enjoyed being a part of the badminton team.

On behalf of everyone at the Badminton Club, I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Crawford, as none of this would have been possible without her help. Her help and guidance have made the club as enjoyable and successful as it is now!

**Ellie Davis**



### Senior Badminton Team

**Back Row:** Claire Whiteside, Ellie Davis  
**Front Row:** Hannah McCann, Emma Caldwell



### Form 1 Badminton Team

**Back Row:** Eva Wilson, Faye McCartan, Beth King  
**Front Row:** Hollie Davies, Gracie Hamilton, Lauren Wright



### Minor A Badminton Team

**Back Row:** Lois Whitesdie, Kathryn Finlay  
**Front Row:** Cara Murray, Aiza Ghafoor



### Minor B Badminton Team

**Back Row:** Sophie Johnston,  
Victoria Murray  
**Front Row:** Kate McConkey,  
Eilidh Blair

**S**trathearn's U13 and U15 Sports Hall Athletics teams have been training hard every Thursday night in order to prepare for the Ulster Sports Hall Athletics Championships. This competition is held annually at the Meadowbank Arena in Magherafelt - this year it took place on 14 March. The girls faced tough competitors from teams right across Ulster and managed to successfully secure runners-up positions in both the U13 and U15 overall competitions. Congratulations girls! The U13 girls had some brilliant individual results. Bethany Johnston placed 3rd in the 6 Lap race, Amelia Hazle

placed 2nd in the 4 Lap race, Anna Cousins placed 3rd in the 2 Lap race and 2nd in the Standing Triple Jump, and Hollie Davies placed joint 3rd in her Speed Bounce event. Furthermore, the U15 team also achieved great individual success. Ciara Moore came in 1st place in the Vertical Jump, Sophie Hoey placed 2nd in Shot and also placed joint 3rd in her Standing Long Jump and Emmy Thornton came joint 2nd in Speed Bounce. Well done to all the girls who competed and thank you to Mrs Crawford who coached the teams.

**Hannah McCann**



**U15 Sports Hall Athletics Team**  
**Back Row:** Karis Hamilton, Emma Wilson  
**Front Row:** Sophie Hoey,  
 Emmy Thornton, Niamh Hatfield



**U13 Sports Hall Athletics Team**  
**Back Row:** Georgia Thornton, Emma Stranaghan, Amelia Hazle, Amy McClean, Rhiannon Davies  
**Front Row:** Hollie Davies, Bethany Johnston, Kara Morrice, Lily Richardson

## CRICKET 2017-2018.

**T**hroughout the summer term, a group of Form 4 pupils met on Fridays after school with a range of highly qualified coaches from Civil Service CC, CIYMS CC and Hollywood CC, who gave us technical coaching to help improve our bowling, batting and fielding skills. We formed an U15 team and competed in a tournament at Hollywood cricket club against Sullivan and Rockport on a warm day in June. We entered two teams at this level, with our top team finishing runner-up after a close loss to a very tough Sullivan side. Further down the school, we had thirty girls training after school on Wednesdays to improve their cricket with the assistance of coaches from the previously mentioned clubs.

Our U13 team competed at the Super 8s Cricket Tournament in Friends' School Lisburn on 12 June. They performed exceptionally well and progressed out of the group stages to meet Methody in the semi-final. They had a great win and then met Wallace in the final, in which they narrowly lost. This was a great achievement to finish runners-up against more experienced teams, and it bodes well for the future of Strathearn cricket. We had further success when six girls from the U15s and four from the U13s were chosen to attend NCU development squads. We hope for similar success in cricket at Strathearn in summer 2019.

**Jemima Thomas**



### U15 Cricket Team

**Back Row:** Ellie Dornan, Megan Allen, Alice Henry, Sarah West, Roseanna Bonner, Elly Ryan, Molly Elliott, Sophie Jordan, Tara Kerr, Kristin Kerr

**Middle Row:** Lois Gillan, Jemima Thomas, Rebekah Burrows, Alex Coetzee, Amber Hamilton, Emily Gault, Holly Gilpin, Abi Stevenson, Arabella Brown, Rachel McDonald

**Front Row:** Erin McConnell, Alice Sloan, Victoria Kerr, Gabriella Park, Rhiannon Davies, Penny Hood, Taylor McCullough, Aoife Moore, Saya Caddy



## U13 Cricket Team

### Hollywood Cricket Club U13 Champions

**Back Row:** Sophie Hoey, Kate Hunter, Lucie McNaught, Madalaine Wilson, Sophie Thomas, Lulu Hopkinson

**Middle Row:** Sarah Tweedie, Erin McClure, Ruby Rebbeck, Emma Wilson, Eva Ralston, Aiza Ghafoor, Rosie Hardy, Caitlyn Corbett

**Front Row:** Anna Kirk, Anna Nicholl, Niamh Hatfield, Cara Murray, Karis Hamilton, Jess Ryan, Mabelle Wilcox

## . EQUESTRIAN

**T**he Equestrian team was represented by some of our younger pupils this year, with notable successes in both Show jumping and Derby courses. Louise Brown competed in the first two legs of the Ulster Schools' Show jumping League, which was hosted by the Meadows Equestrian Centre in Lurgan. She then went on to compete at the Ulster Schools' Derby, hosted by Gransha Equestrian Centre in Bangor. Louise jumped a fabulous round and placed 1st in the 85cm class - a super result!

We also had Charlotte Keers representing the school in the Ulster Schools' Dressage competition, hosted again by Gransha EC in December 2018. Charlotte was competing in a strong section and did very well, against the best in the province. Charlotte also competed at the Pony Club Triathlon finals in Milton Keynes recently and will be representing NI as part of the Pony Club Dressage Team at The Royal Windsor Show.

For the second successive year, Katie Smith has been selected for the U15 NI Pony Club Mounted Games team, which will also compete at the Royal Windsor Show in May. Finally, Maeve Clarke is currently competing in Sentower, Belgium at the Nations Cup with a place on the Irish Junior Show jumping team. This is a huge achievement for a pupil of such a young age, and we wish Maeve every success!



**Katie Smith & Tilly Nield**

**Northern Ireland U15 Mounted Games Team**

**Felicity Johnston**

# STRATHEARN PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.



One of the joys of teaching is to see children growing in confidence. Our pupils' successes (such as improving marks, performing on stage, and sporting victories) are rooted in their confidence to achieve beyond their imagined boundaries.

At our annual Prize Morning in June 2018 I urged the P7 pupils to take the skills they have developed in Penrhyn to their next school and to flourish. I encouraged them to consider these wise words from Harry Potter in J K Rowling's novel, The Order Of The Phoenix:

*Working hard is important,  
but there's something  
that matters even more.  
Believing in yourself!*

At Penrhyn, our purpose is to help our girls to find what it is that makes them different and special. This is what we are all about in Strathearn Preparatory Department. In school we equip our pupils to be the best that they can be and to believe in themselves! The high academic standard achieved by our P7 pupils is evidenced by the fact that the girls achieved excellent results in the 2018/2019 AQE Common Entrance Assessments. Alongside the aim of academic excellence, a Strathearn Preparatory Department education offers a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities.

I am always amazed when I look back on the school year and see just how much we have achieved. I am delighted to invite you to read about our academic achievements, our outstanding performances on the stage and our sporting successes in what has been yet another enjoyable and memorable year in our happy school.

**Mrs Mawhinney**

## HOUSE CAPTAINS.



**Back row:** Molly Boomer, Ellie Johnston, Grace Davison, Maddie Leatham, Sophie Holmes  
**Front row:** Darcy Shields, Aleena Wasim, Aurelia Mayne

## . PENRHYN SCHOOL COUNCIL

**T**he School Council is made up of ten representatives from P3 – P7. Aurelia Mayne and Susanna Villar have taken on leadership roles and have recorded minutes during meetings. The Council meets to discuss ways of enhancing the school grounds and facilities.

This year the Council has been maintaining actions required to sustain the Eco School Bronze Award, such as recycling of paper. Our focus this year is to work in collaboration with the Senior School to create some large art murals based on 'The Secret Garden' theme. Penrhyn pupils dressed up for World Book Day in March 2019, bringing a monetary contribution to help pay for necessary resources.



**Back row:** Laurie Eakin, Tara Curry, Ellie Johnston, Darcy Shields, Grace Davison, Aleena Wasim, Sophie Gordon  
**Front row:** Faith Mercer, Julie Cochrane, Georgia Matchett, Aurelia Mayne, Susanna Villar, Maddie Leathem, Vanessa Minford, Lucy Andrews, Lottie Eighteen

## P7 DUTY PREFECTS .



**Back row:** Ellie Johnston, Eloise Keers, Emma Barr, Jemima Adams, Mrs Andrews, Susanna Villar, Tara McNeill, Toni-Jayne Lovell-McCann, Grace Davison

**Seated:** Johanna Hegan, Eleanor Evans, Aurelia Mayne, Aleena Wasim, Katie-Lynn Hill, Eve Downey

**Front row:** Tiffany McGowan, Darcy Shields, Lottie Eighteen

## . P7 CLASS PREFECTS

**Back row:** Sophie Gordon, Molly Boomer, Mrs Andrews, Chloe Nelson, Lilybella Burrows

**Seated:** Maddie Leathem, Anna Matthews, Sophie Mae Holmes, Lucy Andrews



# THE PENRHYN YEAR 2018-2019.

## APRIL 2018.

### P1 TRIP TO THE ARK FARM



On 18 April 2018, the P1s went on a trip to the Ark Farm in Newtownards. We had been studying the topic of "Growing" in school and we had been learning about Mummy and baby animals. There were lots of activities organised for us, including feeding new-born lambs, stroking baby rabbits and holding fluffy yellow chicks. We were so excited to see a chick hatching out of its shell while we were visiting. We thoroughly enjoyed our trip and we even had time to play in the adventure park before getting the bus back to Penrhyn.



**Jemima Puddleduck by Lottie De'Ath**

### P3 TRIP TO HILLMOUNT GARDEN CENTRE

On 27 April 2018, P3 went to Hillmount for a gardening workshop. We had a tour of the garden centre. We saw and smelt beautiful lavender and we planted sunflower seeds. The whole class enjoyed sliding on the big purple dinosaur and playing in the mushroom house. Then we visited the pygmy goats and the deer. We got to feed them. At the end we enjoyed a drink of juice and a biscuit in the cafe. Thank you for reading about our trip to Hillmount.

**Layla Corry, Rachel Chacko and Anna Ritchie, P3**

### P7 TRIP TO CARLINGFORD ADVENTURE CENTRE



This trip allows the pupils to develop their inter-personal skills, including leadership, teamwork, trust and respect.

## MAY 2018.

### P1 TRIP TO MOUNT STEWART

On 11 May 2018, the P1s went on a trip to Mount Stewart and followed the "Rainbow Chips" programme. We had been studying the topic of "The Senses" in school, and the fun activities organised for us included listening to animal sounds, matching colours of flowers, tasting fruits growing in the grounds and smelling and feeling the different plants and trees growing in the garden. We thoroughly enjoyed our trip and we made friends with a very friendly little robin, who followed us wherever we went in the beautiful grounds of the estate.



### P3 TRIP TO MOUNT STEWART

On 17 May 2018, we went to Mount Stewart on a school trip. After eating break the first thing that we did was to go to the Education Centre where we looked at animals and fossils. We played a game where we found out that there are a lot more minibeasts all over the world than mammals. Then we went hunting for minibeasts. We found millipedes and a big black slug and some snails that were different sizes. Jemma and Gillian were our guides and they helped us find and identify the minibeasts. The next activity we did was pond dipping in the Shamrock Garden. Jemma and Gillian put water in trays and we all took turns to use



**Elodie Perais P3**

SEPTEMBER 2018.

P5 TRIP TO SEAFORDE BUTTERFLY

On 14 September 2018, P5 went to Seaforde Butterfly House and Gardens. When we got there we put all our things in a room and then we went to see the butterflies. There were lots and lots of butterflies all flitting around the room. It was very hot inside the room because the butterflies were tropical. There was also a cabinet full of pupae of all sizes. Then we went into the next room with birds and terrapins. These were cool to look at. In the next room were things like spiders and there was a massive snake! After that we went and explored the maze. It was hard to get to the middle! Next we had lunch and went to the shop but the fun didn't stop. Then we went to Clough Castle which is a Motte and Bailey. We had a challenge to do. We had a to draw it now and as it would have looked then. After that we went back to school happy.

Bella De'Ath, P5

P5 TRIP TO OXFORD ISLAND DISCOVERY CENTRE

On 27 September 2018, we went to Oxford Island. When we arrived at Oxford Island we watched an interesting presentation about all of the animals that live there. We then got to do some pond dipping. Some of us were lucky enough to catch some fish. However, there were some really big fish that nobody caught! We had good fun trying. When we went into the forest most of P5 caught beetles and slugs. They were much easier to catch. Before we got on the bus to leave we got to try on the bee-keeper suits. It was really good fun to see each other in these suits.

Nyla Mallon, P5



OCTOBER 2018.

'A TASTE OF DAHL'

On 2 October 2018, Anthony Pedley came to our school to perform 'A Taste of Dahl'. He pretended to be Roald Dahl. He talked about the books Roald Dahl wrote. His suitcase had Roald Dahl's initials written on it and it was vintage. In his suitcase there was a Dairy Milk bar, some of Roald Dahl's books, a silver ball made out of Dairy Milk wrappers and his glasses. He pretended to be George, and Mrs Mawhinney pretended to be his grandma!!

Clara Hanna, P4

a net to scoop out water from the pond into the tray. We found water spiders which can run over the surface of the water and water snails. It was really good fun! After this, we went to the Mary Garden to make a minibeast collage using leaves and sticks. Our group made a green butterfly which lives in Mount Stewart. Our favourite activity was the minibeast hunt because we found a lot of bugs by lifting up rocks and rolling logs. After an exciting morning we ate a yummy lunch and then it was time to go back to school. It was a fantastic day!

SCHOOL FETE

Our annual Penrhyn Summer Fete took place on a beautiful afternoon in May. It was hugely successful fundraiser and great fun for all.

P5 TRIP TO CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE

On 29 May 2018, P5 went on a trip to Carrickfergus Castle. It is a Norman castle and is over 800 years old! It was also used as an air raid shelter in World War 2. When we arrived we looked up to see a wax figure pouring hot wax down towards us. This was a way they protected the castle in medieval times. We went to the activity centre and some of us got to dress up in medieval clothes. Then we had a tour of the castle and even saw a giant chess set in the King's room. The most interesting part was seeing an oubliette in the dungeons. This was where very bad people were locked up and forgotten about. Sadly, we couldn't go in! We had lunch beside the old well and to finish the day we went to the shop for souvenirs. I really enjoyed this trip.

Chloe McKittrick, P5



Endurance by Lexie Johnston

JUNE 2018.

P2 TRIP TO CASTLE ESPIE

On 6 June 2018, P2 visited Castle Espie. We fed the ducks, made perfume using flowers and plants, had a minibeast hunt, played at the Wildwood Play Park and had a picnic lunch in the sunshine. What a fun day of outdoor learning in the sun!

# THE PENRHYN YEAR 2018-2019.

## VISIT FROM GREEN WATCH FIREMEN (KNOCK FIRE STATION)

On 5 October 2018, the Fire Brigade came to Penrhyn to talk about fire and how dangerous it can be. When they arrived, they told us the five main causes of fire. They showed us some posters of them. They wore black clothing and black boots. When the talk ended they gave us a fire safety leaflet with cards and a game but they had a special surprise for us. They said we were allowed to go in their truck! It was great fun! When it was time to go home, they gave us a special badge. We really enjoyed it.

**Grace Gilchrist, P5**

## TRIP TO THE SU BUS

On 5 October 2018, P5 went to the Scripture Union bus. This bus is a fun way of learning about the Bible and most of all Jesus and God and it was parked at Strandtown Baptist Church. When we got there a lady called Lindsay led us onto the bus. When we went inside, the walls were interactive! Lindsay began her talk. Her talk was very interesting and fun. We also played games such as heads or tails and Lindsay chose some of us to press buttons on the interactive walls. Overall it was a fabulous trip and great for learning.

**Heidi Moore, P5**

## KEY TO LIFE

On 5 October 2018, pupils from P3 to P6 visited a Scripture Union bus at Strandtown Baptist Church. Each class went at different times. When we got there we were all really excited. When we got into the bus we all sat on coloured cushions. There were three groups, red, grey and orange. The instructor told us the walls were interactive. We got up and touched the wall and stars appeared. The North star flew across the screen and the instructor told us to sit down and asked us what it was. After that we had a vote about what Jesus meant to us. Each group got up and there were different options and we got to choose. The instructor showed us a timeline of history and told us that people believed in Jesus before he was born. The instructor showed us a video of the story of Mary and Joseph. The instructor asked us what miracles Jesus performed in his lifetime such as walking on water, making water into wine and feeding five thousand people. Then she showed us a video of Jesus healing a paralysed man. She asked each group what the characters in the story were feeling then; we discussed our answers. We then took another vote to see if now we knew who Jesus was.

We thanked the instructor for having us. Then we walked back to school; we all had a great time learning about Jesus.

**Faith Mercer and Lydia Greer, P6**

## HARVEST ASSEMBLY

On 9 October 2018 we had our Harvest Assembly. We do this to help people who have no food. We did a 'Guess what is in the Bag' game. It was so much fun. There were pot noodles and cans of pineapples. We saw how one seed can make a lot of them. Heidi stood on plastic cups and a tray, showing us that when we all work together it works. When Heidi stood on one plastic cup it crushed flat but with lots of cups it worked and Heidi could stand on the tray without the cups crushing. Our donations go to Storehouse Foodbank.

**Alex Savage, P4**

## P3 VISIT TO BELFAST CITY AIRPORT

On 11 October 2018, we went on a trip to the George Best City Airport. The whole class was so excited to go into the fire station. We saw the planes take off in the watch room. Then we saw the firemen go down the firemen's pole. We went on top of the fire engine and we smelt all the foam. It did not smell nice. The fire engine drove down the road and shot out water. All of us got goodie bags at the end of our trip.

**Freya Brand and Rachel Booth, P3**

**Church by Eleanor Evans P7**



Batik by Katie-Lynn Hill P7

### SCIENCE WORKSHOP FOR P4 & P7

On 11 October 2018, we had a science workshop led by Dr Oyama. We learned about how foods can be acidic, alkaline or neutral. We did a lot of tests in our groups to find how much acid or alkaline was in each sample of food. We got to wear safety glasses and white coats. We really enjoyed the experiments and we look forward to doing a science workshop again.

**Rachel Chacko and Sophie Nelson, P4**

### M & M PRODUCTION OF PETER PAN

On the 12 October 2018, M & M Productions performed Peter Pan in the Assembly Hall. First we went into the Assembly Hall and waited for the show to start. There were painted boards of wood on wheels for the scenes. The costumes looked amazing and really brought the show to life. The actors and actresses themselves were outstanding and extremely funny. They sang songs and performed dances. My favourite characters were Smee and Peter because Smee was very stupid and silly and Peter was brave and daring. At the end of the show all of the actors and actresses came out and did a final bow. Overall I really enjoyed the performance. I hope M & M come again soon.

**Isabella Kenny, P6**

### P4 TRIP TO CASTLE WARD

On 25 October, P4 went to Castle Ward. We went on a bus to get there. First we had our snack and then we were divided into two groups. There was another school there too. After that we watched a PowerPoint about the different seasons and what the trees look like in each season. Inside we did apple drawings with chalk and then we went outside and played games. We hid apples and it was very good fun.

Afterwards we went back inside and we planted a seed in a pot. We made a card and it was beautiful. On the front there was an apple and we could put a worm on it. I made it for my mum. She liked it. Then we had lunch and after that we went to the shop and I had money so I could buy something. We went and said good bye and went on the bus.

**Valentina Danielli, P4**

## THE PENRHYN YEAR 2018-2019.

## NOVEMBER 2018.

## P7 PRESENTATION ABOUT RESPECT

In November, P7 did a presentation on respect. The first girls read out some ways of being kind. My sister spoke about how to present your school in front of visitors. Chloe spoke about extra-curricular activities. Grace said about respecting the teachers, our families, the environment and our school.

All the P7s were talking about respecting others. They were saying if you are mean no one will want to be your friend, but if you are friendly everyone will want to be your friend. The P7s told us that when we are in the playground you should include others in games. Also when you are in the canteen you should respect and listen to the dinner ladies and when they serve food for you, you don't speak. When Mrs Crawford takes you for PE you respect her. Also when Mrs King takes you for swimming you should respect her too.

**Libbie Gordon, P4**



Artwork by Mya Somerville, Vanessa Minford & Grace Conroy

P7 TRIP TO PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
STORMONT

On 23 November 2018, the P7s went on a trip to Stormont. When we arrived, we went through security. Next, we walked up to the entrance and met our tour guide, James Stewart. He taught us many things about the building and Northern Ireland politics. We learned that in 1922, builders started building Stormont and completed it in 1932. The first room we visited was the Senate Chamber. It had linen on all the walls. We learned that the builders building Stormont were very superstitious. They would rub the linen on the walls of the Senate Chamber because they thought it would bring them good luck. The next room we entered was the Assembly Chamber. P7 had a debate about whether school uniform should be abolished. The majority voted in favour of keeping uniform. We had the opportunity to see the First Minister's office too. Before our amazing Stormont experience concluded, we became MLAs and had a vote to decide which girls would become Ministers. We also watched an interesting PowerPoint while James counted the votes. I highly recommend this trip to next year's P7s.

**Chloe Nelson, P7**

## DECEMBER 2018.

## P7 TRIP TO W5

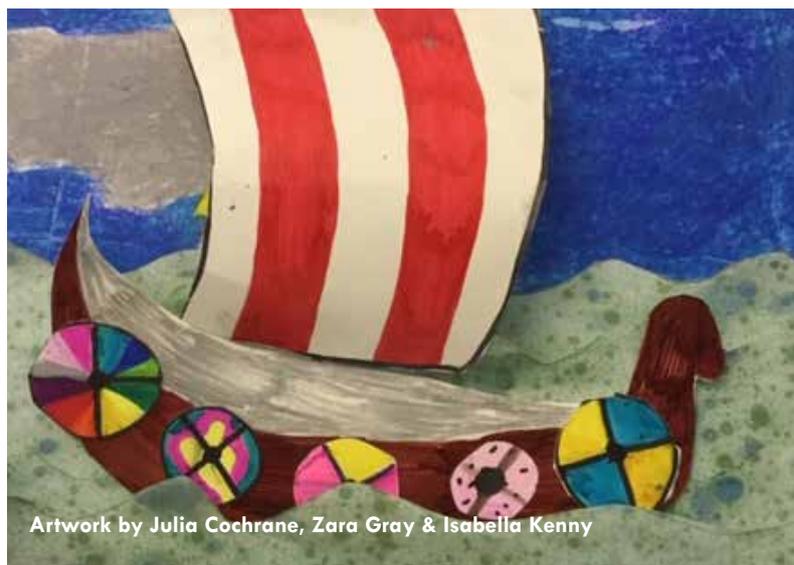
On 3 December 2018, P7 went to W5. This trip was thanks to Lucy's mum who won it in a competition. In the morning the bus was late! When we finally got on the bus some of the class started singing Christmas songs. At last we got to W5 and at the entrance we saw big Lego figures made from regular Lego. I thought they would have taken forever to make! We did a lot of things at W5 but my favourite part would have to be the Climbit exhibition. I was a little scared at first because it was quite high but my friends helped me to get to the top and that helped my confidence and I was able to climb all around it. Overall I thought it was a very good trip and I am very thankful that Lucy's mum won it for our class.

**Ellie Johnston, P7**

## P6 VIKING DAY

On 11 December 2018 we had our Viking Day. The instructors were called Rita and Magnus. First we watched a PowerPoint. Half way through Magnus dressed up as a Viking and ran in screaming. All of us screamed loudly. Next they split us into groups of six or sometimes seven. My group's first activity was to weave sticks in and out to make a fence. After this, Magnus showed us Viking weapons. The swords and axes were really heavy. He passed everything around including the shields, swords and axes. After that we looked at close up pictures and tried to tell what they were normally. After a while we dressed up as Vikings. Erin, Lottie and I pretended to be a family. I was the Dad, Lottie was the Mum and Erin was the child. Then we used flint to make sparks. Everyone let me do it a lot because I could make sparks. Next we ground wheat to make flour. Finally, we played with foam swords and learnt different positions – unguard, first, second, third, fourth, fifth. Also we had a competition to see who could win the beautiful bracelet by remembering all the positions without hesitating. Emma won the bracelet. After a while we made our own Viking spears out of a tube of silver strong paper. Next we taped it together and used red paint to make blood.

**Sophie Crawford, P6**



Artwork by Julia Cochrane, Zara Gray & Isabella Kenny

**CHRISTMAS ROADSHOW**

From 11 to 13 December 2018, P7 did a Christmas Roadshow! Mrs Andrews let us choose a partner or a group of three. We had to make up games for the younger children to play. Throwing games and finding games were very popular. Games normally cost from 20-50p to play. Food could also be bought; candy canes, shortbread and cupcakes were all in high demand. One game that the younger children really liked was 'Guess the Name'. If you guessed it correctly, you won the teddy. Stalls were decorated with Christmas paper, decorations, fairy lights and tinsel. We had different areas of the classroom for our stalls. The library was also used and if your stall was in the library you could play your own music. Prizes were given out the following Monday. We were allowed three prizes per group and one teacher prize. Prizes had to be a reasonable price so that everything was fair to each team. The money raised was given to Barnardo's. We raised a total of £1,000 which is the highest amount the Christmas Roadshow has ever raised! It was a very enjoyable and fun experience and we would recommend it!

**Molly Boomer and Sophie Mae Holmes, P7**

*On 13 December 2018, my class went to the P7 Roadshow. My favourite stall was the Lucky Dip. It was very sparkly and colourful and you could buy fairy buns and cupcakes. You could guess the name of the knitted family. Some people were dressed up as elves and they were selling biscuits and cakes. The classroom was decorated with tinsel and fairy lights. There was a stall with a snowman made out of boxes. You had to throw ping-pong balls at it. All the money we spent went to a charity called Barnardo's. In the end the P7s raised £1,000. Well done!*

**Layla Corry, P4**

On 14th December 2018, P5 had an Early Man Workshop. When we got to the classroom it looked amazing. Our workshop instructor Rita helped us make clay pinch pots with Stone Age symbols on them. We dressed up like early man before using quern stones to make bread. We also made a wattle wall and used looms. At the end of the workshop we all made axes. I loved my experience at the Early Man Workshop and I hope to do more workshops like that in the future.

**Iona Blair, P5**

**P1 CHRISTMAS PARTY**

On 20 December 2018, the P1s had a Christmas Party in class. A very special visitor arrived to talk to the girls and check that they had all sent their letters off with their Christmas wishes. Santa Claus spent a long time talking to each girl and gave them an early present to take home with them. We loved our special party, and so did Santa!

**V McKinney**

**JANUARY 2019.**

**MR CARTER VISITS P5**

On 25 January, Lottie's Dad, Mr Ben Carter, came in to P6 to tell us about his technology company. Before he began he showed us a video to make everything easier to understand. It showed us the features that his company are hoping to add to steering wheels. The features he was explaining to us included a heartbeat detector which recognised the car owner. Mr Carter brought a steering wheel with the added features to use as an example. It recorded Mrs Hyndman's heart beat and no one else was a match. This was very interesting for me because it was similar to the finger print system that the girls use in Strathearn. I am very glad that Mr Carter came in to talk to us. It was very exciting to see what might be used in cars in the future. We also got sweets, which were yummy!

**Charlotte Harvey, P6**

**P7 TRIP TO SENTRY HILL**

Sentry Hill is an old house from the Victorian Era. All the things that were there were left in the same position untouched for many years. When our P7 class went on 28 January, we thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Our favourite memory was when we got the chance to explore the old farm house. We got to learn very interesting facts about the lifestyle of people in the Victorian Era. We highly recommend this trip to everyone and hope you enjoy it as much as we did.

**Johanna Hegan and Darcy Shields, P7**



**The Flopsy Bunnies by Ava Dunlop**

**DR TURNER VISITS P6**

On 28 January, Dr Turner came to our class to talk about the bones and the organs in the body. She also brought in x-rays and a stethoscope that we had a go at using. We each split into two teams and one person stood still while the rest of us stuck labels of the bones on the right place on the body. We also had a look at the plastic bones she brought in and we learnt the different sorts of joints we have in our body. Dr Turner also passed round booklets with loads of facts and information about the body. At the end she passed round brain shaped chocolate. Altogether P6 had a great time.

**Aisling Gaskin, P6**

## THE PENRHYN YEAR 2018-2019.

## FEBRUARY 2019.

## DR MURRAY'S VISIT TO P6

In our second term, we were learning about the human body. We were split into groups and given a different organ to learn about. I was given the kidneys and really enjoyed finding out how they help our bodies to function. Throughout our topic we had different visits from some of the parents in the class. Dr Murray, Annabel's mummy, came to school on 4 February and spoke about the lungs. She is a GP and works in a Doctor's surgery, treating many people with many types of illnesses. She brought in lots of equipment that she would use in the surgery and we got to try them out. There was a blood pressure machine, thermometer, stethoscope, inhalers and a peak flow meter. One thing I learnt is that a stethoscope can be used to listen to the heart and check how many beats there are per minute and also listen to the lungs to check for wheezing. I really enjoyed learning about the lungs. Dr Murray gave a really fun, interactive presentation.

**Mya Somerville, P6**

## P1 PRINCESS PARTY

On 15 February 2019, we had a Princess Party in P1. We had been working on the topic of Fairy Tales and we celebrated our hard work by dressing up as our favourite Princesses. We played games, danced around the classroom and wore our crowns that we had decorated in school. We looked so pretty! We even had a Princess cake for snack. What a treat!

**V McKinney**

## MARCH 2019.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

On 7 March, Penrhyn celebrated World Book Day. Penrhyn don't usually celebrate World Book Day but we did celebrate this year to raise money for materials and paints for our new area called 'The Secret Garden'. Everybody brought in £2.50. We had to dress up as characters from books. There were many varieties of characters, from Hermione Granger from the Harry Potter series, to Alice from Alice in Wonderland. We really enjoyed World Book Day and maybe the classes can enjoy this experience again next year.

**Lilybella Burrows and Eloise Keers, P7**

## WORLD BOOK DAY

On 7 March, we had World Book Day. Everyone had to dress up as people from books. I was Mildred Hubble from The Worst Witch. You had to bring £2.50. In The Worst Witch I have two friends, Enid and Maud. The Worst Witch is by Jill Murphy. I got presented with a cat. The cat was white and black; the other cats were black. The £2.50 is for the School Council. Emma was Mary Poppins and Alex was Mildred Hubble like me. Layla was Hermione Granger, Scarlett Terry was The Queen of Hearts and Scarlett Childs was Mary from The Secret Garden. In Assembly, Libbie put on a show and so did Sophie (Libbie's sister).

**Ava Williams, P4**



Artwork by Lucy Andrews

POETRY IN MOTION

On 12 March, P7 went to the Ulster Hall for a 'Poetry in Motion' event. There were thirty different schools there. Our school was sixth to perform and there were three pupils from our class reading out their poems. The people who read out their poems were Molly, Lottie and Anna. Their poems were fabulous. Anna was highly commended and Lottie and Molly performed very well! Some of the girls even got their work published in an anthology.

**Emma Barr and Katie-Lynn Hill, P7**

HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

On 12 March, some P7 hockey girls went to Belfast Harlequins and competed against other schools, including Strandtown Primary School, Methodist College and Victoria Prep. The first match was against Victoria Prep. It was a narrow 2 – 2 draw. We then won our second match against Stranmillis Primary School. It was a very successful match, 4 – 0. After this successful match, we competed against Strandtown Primary School. It was a very difficult match as their goalkeeper was very good. We sadly didn't win this match. The score was 1 – 0 to Strandtown. After our defeat we had a quick lunch break and then it was time to go against Methody in the semi-finals. It was a very intense game but sadly for us Methody scored the winning goal in the last thirty seconds. The score ended up being 3 – 2 to Methody. We then made our way back to school and continued our day.

**Maddie Leathem and Lucy Andrews, P7**

P5 TRIP TO W5

On 13 March, P5 visited W5 for a 'Generation Station' Workshop. Our instructor Matt asked us to think about how much energy the appliances in our homes use. Electric showers use the most! A phone charger uses the least! We were learning about the environment. In our groups we built wind turbines to generate clean energy and we put chargeable batteries inside them. Next we built cars while our wind turbines were spinning. Then we transferred the batteries charged by the wind turbines into our cars. We had a car race. The cars moved slowly and bumped into each other but it was fun! After lunch we visited the 'Go Gallery'. I liked the investigating crimes area best. Then we went to the huge 'Climbit' area where everyone had fun climbing on the pods. Then sadly it was time to leave. I really enjoyed W5.

**Cecily Park, P5**

DOGS TRUST VISIT

On 19 March, Dogs Trust came to visit P6. They came to tell us about what happens at Dogs Trust. A nice lady called Kathy came with her dog Gillie. Gillie was a breed called a toy poodle. He was brown and he was quite small. Gillie was so so cute! Kathy was telling us about what happens and what she does in her job. She also told us about how many dogs come in at Christmas because people get them and then find out how much work they are. One person from the class won a Dogs Trust pen. Thank you Dogs Trust for coming into Penrhyn.

**Katy Allsopp, P6**



Artwork by Grace Davison

# CLUBS.

## CHOIR

Our School Choir meets every Wednesday afternoon after school and we thoroughly enjoy learning new songs and preparing for our many and varied performances. Our first engagement was in October, at the stunning Campbell College Central Hall. We had been invited to the Family Sunday Service and we sang 'Creator God, Wonderful Lord' and we joined with Campbell Junior Boys' Choir to sing 'The Lord's my Shepherd'. We really enjoyed this opportunity to join with Campbell Junior School. Later that month we performed at the Hollywood Music Festival 70th Anniversary Concert as a special guest choir. In November, we took part in the Hollywood Music Festival School Choir competition, performing 'The Lord's my Shepherd' and 'Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines'. A cheer went up when we were announced the winners of the Priory Cup and the Maurice Foster Cup for the best overall choir. At Christmas we joined with the choirs of Strathearn Senior School for a Festival of Lessons and Carols in Bloomfield Presbyterian Church. We sang 'How Far is it to Bethlehem', 'Stowey' and 'Calypso Carol'. Grace Davison and Tara McNeill were the Penrhyn readers and they spoke clearly and with confidence.

In February 2019, we took part in the Radio Ulster School Choir of the Year competition at Grosvenor Grammar School. We definitely ended this year on a high note with an exciting performance at the Strathearn 90th Anniversary Concert in the Ulster Hall in March. Our Prep Junior choir from P3 and P4, directed by Mrs Devlin, were also invited to perform at this special event.

**B Mawhinney**

## SINGING

Singing classes for P4 to P7 continue to be very popular in Penrhyn. Each week we work towards developing a good singing tone, improving our breathing technique, and learning how to communicate well through the words of our songs.

In June the girls were entered for an ABRSM Prep, Grade 1 or 2 Singing exam, in which many girls achieved the highest result of Distinction. In November, some girls took part in the Musical Theatre class at Hollywood Music Festival, where the standard was exceptionally high. Individual prizes were won by Sophie Crawford, Annabel Pollin, Molly McCoubrey and Stuti Mehta. We were also delighted to perform at the school Open Day, where we entertained pupils and parents with a medley of popular theatre songs. Congratulations and thanks to all the girls for their enthusiasm and excellent progress in singing.

**T Devlin**

## AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

Our After-School Club runs every day from 2.00 - 5.45pm. Girls from all years are welcome to attend for a full or part-session. We have our craft trolley full of supplies that the pupils can use to create crafts and artwork; this encourages independence, imagination and creativity. We also have games, role-play, the opportunity to make lots of new friends and access to a beautiful garden for some much needed fresh air after a hard day's work in school!

**A Ramsey**



### SCRIPTURE UNION

Girls from P3 to P7 attended Scripture Union every Wednesday over a ten week period. We were very fortunate to have Class Kidz taking Scripture Union for five weeks. We were split into two teams which we called Team Minecraft and Team Candy Crush. In our teams we earned points for learning our memory verse, for winning fun games and for answering questions in the quizzes. We also watched small video clips with Max and his puppets training for a race, and we learnt that God is with us the whole way. For the last week we had a party and played party games. We also ate party food and we found out that Team Candy Crush had earned the most points. We thoroughly enjoyed Scripture Union. We would definitely recommend it to anyone!

**Chloe Nelson and Molly Boomer, P7**

### MINIVERSITY

The Miniversity program was developed to teach children about various careers through the use of ICT. We have created instructional material which makes learning about various careers through the use of ICT fun for the pupils. The lesson plans are designed specifically for children and with future careers in mind. We cover all university career topics plus more using a variety of computer programs and with a big emphasis on presentation skills, something the children will need later in life. In each session the children learn about a different career whilst honing their ICT & presentation skills. We have also developed course outlines in the STEAM category (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) which primary school children can relate to. Term 3 will bring another exciting range of topics in our After School Program which runs every Friday.

### SCIENCE CLUB

Our Science Club is a really fun and interactive way to expand on already existing interests. Each week we look at a different subject such as the inspirational work of Archimedes and the gold crown, the Titanic, slime, forensics and the digestive system. We use a combination of demonstrated experiments and investigative creative projects. For example, the leaf blower can be used to demonstrate the Bernoulli Effect as it holds a beach ball in mid-air even when held at a steep angle. The children then try to blow up eight-foot windbags with one human breath, using the same scientific principles.

**C Childs**

### YOGA

This term there has been a Yoga Club in Penrhyn, provided by Jigsaw Yoga and led by Verity McDonald. This new club was met with great interest, particularly from the older girls. The girls learnt a variety of yoga postures and breathing techniques to provide an opportunity for exercise, fun and relaxation mid-week. The younger pupils journeyed on adventures and learnt postures through stories. The older girls learnt postures for different parts of the body and about which muscles are used for different sports. Both groups also played games such as 'What's that yoga pose?' which is similar to 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' and 'Yoga freeze', which is similar to musical statues. The girls were eager to begin each week, learn new exercises and share some of their own yoga creations!

### SPEECH AND DRAMA

Speech and drama provides an opportunity for each girl to improve her communication skills, expand her imagination and think creatively. The classes aim to foster an appreciation of literature, poetry and drama while building self confidence and self esteem, creating confident and motivated individual learners. The interaction necessary for drama provides an arena where the girls can develop team working skills. The Lagan Festival of Speech and Drama produced very successful results with many individual entries winning prizes. The girls from P3 and P4 all entered the class choral speaking competitions; their hard work was rewarded by a 1st and 2nd place respectively.

The girls also have the opportunity to enter the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, LAMDA, examination and as I anticipated the last sets of results were truly outstanding,

**J Armstrong**



## SPORTS.

## ATHLETICS

I personally feel very passionate about sport and Athletics is one of the ones I enjoy most! I like it because it challenges you in all sorts of ways.

In school we have Athletics Club which is for anyone in P6 and P7. It is usually held on Wednesdays after school, in Strathearn, "the big school" where we also go for lunch, PE and other sports clubs. We normally do Athletics outside on the track but if it is occupied or if there is unsuitable weather we can use one of Strathearn's spacious halls.

Last year, girls were selected to attend a competition at the Mary Peters Track. I was one of those who went and it was so much fun and a spectacular experience! Some events at the competition involved sprinting, javelin, standing long jump etc.

Overall, all those who take part in this club thoroughly enjoy it.

**Sophie Gordon, P7**



**Back row:** Sophie Gordon, Grace Davison,  
Chloe Nelson, Ellie Johnston

**Front row:** Aurelia Mayne, Lucy Andrews, Susanna Villar, Maddie

## CRICKET CLUB

Last year's Cricket Club was held in the summer term. We had a member of Holywood Cricket Club to teach us for eight weeks with a competition at the end.

We learned how to throw the ball properly. We had a few matches against each other which was really fun. After eight weeks we were ready for the competition.

When it came to the competition, we were split into two teams, Team A and Team B. We were playing against Campbell Junior and Holywood Primary School. They were also split into two teams. It was really good fun and afterwards I got pizza for all the girls. We didn't win because Campbell Junior won but overall we all had fun.

**Aleena Wasim P7**



**Back row:** Ellie Johnston, Maddie Leathem,  
Tara McNeill, Johanna Hegan

**Front row:** Darcy Shields, Susanna Villar, Aleena Wasim,  
Aurelia Mayne, Lucy Andrews

## HOCKEY CLUB

Hockey club is attended by eighteen girls from P6 and P7 on Wednesday afternoons at Strathearn pitches. This year we have played several friendly matches against the Form One pupils, Ben Madigan and Strandtown Primary in preparation for the Belfast qualifier tournament held at Belfast Harlequins.

At the qualifying tournament we got off to a strong start with a 2-2 draw with Victoria and a 4-0 win against Stranmillis. We then faced a tough Methody side in the semi-final. After a close match Methody ended up as eventual 3-2 winners. Well done to all the girls who attended.



**Back row:** Laurie Eakin, Tara Curry, Ellie Johnston, Darcy Shields,  
Grace Davison, Aleena Wasim, Sophie Gordon

**Front row:** Faith Mercer, Julie Cochrane, Georgia Matchett, Aurelia  
Mayne, Susanna Villar, Maddie Leathem, Vanessa Minford, Lucy

## IRISH DANCING

Irish Dance is a fun activity available to all at Penrhyn. The girls enjoy learning both solo and team dances, as well as developing the skill involved in Irish Dance. Classes provide a relaxed, fun environment for all involved and the highlight of the year is when the girls perform at Open Morning.

**C McCamley**

## JUDO CLUB

The school have a brand new club this year with the introduction of the Olympic sport of Judo to the after school programme! Simply Judo run a club here every Tuesday afternoon 3-4pm in the school hall for girls from P3 to P7.

The girls have been learning lots about judo over the last 2 terms. They've been learning Japanese terminology, judo throws, judo holds, escapes, turn overs and more!

We recently held our 1st judo grading in the school in which the girls had to demonstrate various moves and learn some Japanese judo words to pass (which they all did!).

**S Mayne**



**Back row:** Lucy Andrews, Eve Downey, Ellie Johnston, Heidi Moore,  
Emma McNally, Essie Costello, Lotte Carter, Isla Aldworth

**Front row:** Aleena Wasim, Eloise Keers, Grace Gilchrist, Mya  
Somerville, Bella Turtle, Sophie Thompson, Freya Brand,

Freya Bevan, Jemima Agbaje  
**Seated on floor:** Macy McCormick

PE

**P1 – P3 Sports Day**

The weather was kind at our P1-P3 Sports Day in June. All of the events were participated in with great enthusiasm by the girls, and many parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters came to cheer on our athletes. For many it was their first time competing in a Sports Day, but everyone enjoyed themselves and they all collected a participation certificate. The P3s competed in their first house relay with Barbour finishing as the winners.

**P4 - P7 Sports Day**

Our Senior Sports Day was held at Strathearn on the last Bank Holiday in May. The sun shone all morning and added to the excitement of the day. As usual there were great individual and team performances from the girls, and Mrs Young, Head of PE at Strathearn, presented the girls with their medals. Many

thanks to Strathearn for allowing us to use their facilities and to the sixth formers who helped in running the events.

**Results – Winners**

P4 50m, Cecily Park; P4 50m Obstacle, Katie Allen; P4 Tennis ball, Katie Allen; P5 50m, Megan Carter; P5 600m, Zara Gray; P5 Tennis ball, Vanessa Minford; P5 Long Jump, Tara Curry; P6 75m, Molly Boomer; P6 600m Sophie Gordon; P6 Tennis Ball, Grace Davison; P6 Long Jump, Bronte Thompson; P6 High Jump, Bronte Thompson; P7 75m, Velvet Meharg; P7 600m, Cara Logue; P7 Tennis Ball, Daisy Johnston; P7 Long Jump, Velvet Meharg; P7 High Jump, Tilly McWhinnet.

**Individual Winners**

P4 Katie Allen, P5 Zara Gray, P6 Sophie Gordon, P7 Velvet Meharg.



Zara Gray, Katie Allen, Sophie Gordon

CROSS COUNTRY



TENNIS CLUB

The after-school Tennis Club runs on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at CIYMS Tennis Club, and it continues to be a great success. Emma Crowe, one of the CIYMS tennis coaches, collects the children from school and walks them to CIYMS where the children have enjoyed tennis throughout the winter months in the club indoor dome. Numbers on the classes are good and steady, but we are always keen to get more children involved in tennis. The key focus of the classes is fun and technique. We aim to give the children fundamental knowledge of the main tennis strokes and to encourage them to enjoy playing in a safe, fun-filled atmosphere.

**S Watters, CIYMS Head Coach**

**Back row:** Ellie Johnston, Maddie Leathem, Sophie Crawford, Grace Davison  
**Front row:** Aurelia Mayne, Cecily Park, Zara Gray

SWIMMING

Swimming is a massive part of the life of Strathearn Preparatory Department. This year we had eleven swimmers competing in the Ulster Schools' Gala and they all did superbly well! Our teams consisted of the following swimmers:

**P5 -** Katie Allen, Nyla Mallon and Cecily Park

**P6 -** Megan Chercoles Carter, Essie Costello, Zara Gray, Vanessa Mindord and Annabel Pollin

**P7 -** Grace Davison, Sophie Mae Holmes and Darcy Shields  
The finalists were Katie Allen (6th and 8th) Nyla Mallon (6th), Cecily Park (2nd / silver medal) and Grace Davison (4 gold medals). We go swimming every Wednesday to Templemore Baths but some people go

swimming outside of school as well. Overall I think it is very important to have the opportunity to swim and it gives you a chance to get out of the classroom and get some exercise.

**Grace Davison, P7**



Layla Corry, Megan Chercoles Carter, Grace Davison, Nyla Mallon

**Back row:** Nyla Mallon, Darcy Shields, Megan Chercoles Carter, Cecily Park, Grace Davison  
**Seated:** Katie Allen, Vanessa Minford, Annabel Pollin, Essie Costello, Zara Gray

# STRATHEARN PARENTS' ASSOCIATION.

**S**trathearn Parents' Association's main purpose is to raise funds to support Strathearn School and the Penrhyn Preparatory Department. It consists of parents from both schools, with a Chairperson from each on the committee. There are various fund-raising events planned throughout the school year for both the girls and parents to enjoy. The funds raised are invaluable to both Strathearn and Penrhyn, and are used in ways that really do make a difference to the girls' educational experience.

This year we continued with our very successful discos for Forms One and Two. They were held at the Stormont Hotel, a venue loved by the children, with P7 also being invited after the AQE exams. They were once again very well attended by pupils from Strathearn, Penrhyn, Campbell College and neighbouring schools.

Another successful event was the Penrhyn Summer Fete which was held in June 2018. This included the very popular "Bake Off" competition, and many other fun activities such as a climbing wall, tombola, bouncy castle slide and much more. This event was thoroughly enjoyed by all the girls and their families.

We also held Halloween, Christmas and End of Term discos for the Penrhyn pupils, in which they could dress up and dance the afternoon away, with lots of party games and treats provided.

*At the end of the year, we were delighted to present a cheque to Mrs Connery for £6000. This will be shared between Strathearn and Penrhyn to help support them in their activities.*

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who gave so generously of their time and money throughout the year, enabling the PTA to continue to run events and raise important funds for both schools. It is very much appreciated. A very sincere, heartfelt thank you to all those who serve on the committee for their ongoing support and enthusiasm. Thanks also to Mr Anderson as teacher representative, and to Mrs Connery and Mrs Mawhinney for their continued support.

We are always looking for new committee members or volunteers. If you would like to help in any way, please contact reception at either Penrhyn or Strathearn. It would be greatly appreciated.

**Zoë Wilcox, Chairperson for Strathearn and Claire Baillie Ritchie, Chairperson for Penrhyn**



## Cover GCSE Artwork by Elizabeth Walker

Landscape from a series of 3  
Selected for the 2020 True Colours  
Exhibition at the Ulster Museum

