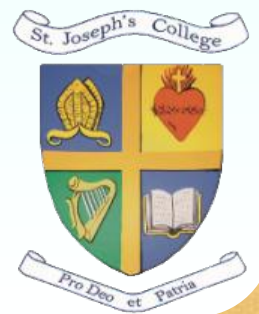
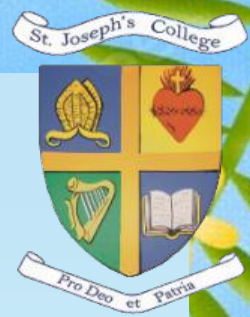


# BISH SUMMER E-ZINE 2026



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



As we approach the end of another busy and rewarding school year, it is an appropriate time to reflect on the tremendous work, achievement and spirit that has characterised school life over the past number of months.

Our school community has been exceptionally active in recent weeks. Easter saw the successful completion of the Oral Examinations, while students also undertook the Computer Science examination, finalised project work across a wide range of subjects and completed the LCVP examination. These milestones represent months of preparation and dedication, and I would like to commend all students for the maturity and commitment they have shown throughout.

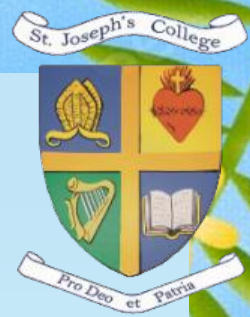
To our Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate students, I extend every good wish as you prepare for the State Examinations ahead. This is an important chapter in your educational journey, and we are immensely proud of the effort, resilience and determination you have demonstrated. We wish you every success and encourage you to approach the coming weeks with confidence and belief in your abilities.

We are also greatly looking forward to our Graduation Ceremony on the 21st of May, which promises to be a very special occasion for our Leaving Certificate students, their families and staff. Graduation is always a memorable milestone in the life of the school — an opportunity to celebrate friendships, achievements and the many contributions our students have made during their time with us. We look forward to marking the occasion together and wishing our graduates every happiness and success in the future.

The recent spell of fine weather has also brought a welcome energy to the school, with many classes taking advantage of the sunshine and enjoying opportunities for outdoor learning and activities. It has been wonderful to see students engaging so positively both inside and outside the classroom.



# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Our extracurricular programme has continued at a remarkable pace. Students participated in the Gaisce Adventure Journey and Darkness into Light, while our Transition Year students enjoyed surfing and hiking trips that provided both challenge and enjoyment. We have had Erasmus visitors from the Czech Republic and from Finland. CPR training sessions equipped students with vital life skills, and a range of informative talks on topics such as the Electoral Commission and cyber security broadened students' awareness of important contemporary issues.

Sporting success has also been to the fore, and I would like to pay special tribute to our U16 Soccer team who have reached the Connacht Final — an outstanding achievement that reflects their talent, teamwork and dedication. We wish the players and coaches the very best in the next stage of the competition. A special mention to James Morahan, Captain and Alan Murphy, Manager of the Irish Senior Schools Soccer team who were narrowly defeated in the Centenary Shield Soccer Final against Wales. We are incredibly proud of you both.

None of the many successes and daily achievements within our school would be possible without the dedication of our staff. I would like to sincerely thank all of our teachers, Special Needs Assistants and support staff for their unwavering commitment to our students throughout the year. A special word of thanks is due to our caretaker Frank, whose tireless work keeps the school running smoothly each day; to our cleaner Piotr for his constant care and attention to the school environment; to our secretaries Sharon and Ciara for their professionalism and warmth in managing the countless daily demands of school life; and to our bursar Rosaleen for her invaluable work behind the scenes. Thanks also to our Board of Management and our Parents Council who continue to support and guide us.

I would also like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone for their continued support throughout the year. In particular, I want to acknowledge the tremendous work and dedication of our two Deputy Principals, Barry McDermott and Rob Grealish. Their leadership, support and commitment to the school are deeply appreciated — quite simply, I would be lost without them.

Finally, I would like to thank parents and guardians for their continued support and partnership throughout the year. Working together, we continue to create a school community where students can thrive academically, socially and personally.

I wish all members of our school community a restful, safe and enjoyable summer break. Please mind yourselves and remember to take care of one another.

With warm regards,

Sarah Gleeson.

# SPORTS



Our J14s and J15s competed in the Sligo Sprint Regatta, the long winter training has paid off!

Well done to Aaron Madigan in 2B who won an All Ireland Schools title in Judo!



We went high speed in Dangan with our intermediate and senior athletes competing in the South Connacht Track and Field



# EVENTS IN THE BISH

Our 5th Year Prefects attended the annual Le Chéile student symposium in Knock Shrine



The Bish took on Coláiste Einde and Taylor's in a friendly debate, Michael Feeney won best speaker!



# EVENTS IN THE BISH

Ms Holden's 5th year class attending morning mass in the Cladagh!

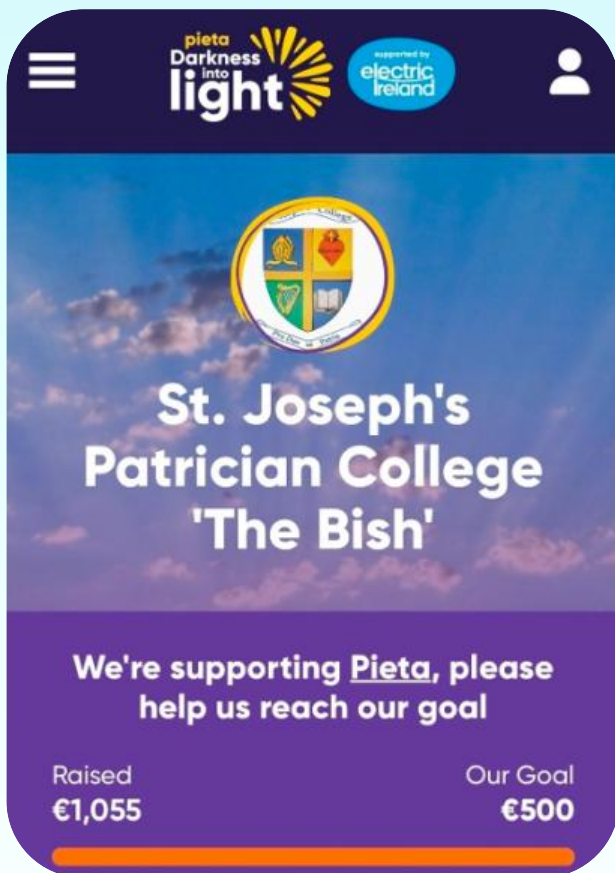


Our Exam Years enjoying some much deserved Ice-cream to celebrate their hard work

Our 5th Year Biologists working on their site mapping, soil sampling, plant and insect identification.



# DARKNESS INTO LIGHT



A huge thanks to our amazing staff and students (and their parents who brought them out late in the night) for walking Darkness into Light.

We want to thank all who supported us. Please remember that there is always support out there.



# TRANSITION YEAR TRIPS



All four TY classes enjoyed a hike up Diamond Hill, with some great weather and views!



The TYs are back surfing in Lahinch, with some rock climbing afterwards!



A group of TYs went to the ATU Taster day and got a feel for college life!



# TRANSITION YEAR TRIPS



Mr O'Loidéan, Mr Montiel and Mr Revill brought TY's on a coastal walk this term!

Our TY HomeEc class went to Hazel Mountain Chocolate factory in Co. Clare with Ms Greaney and Ms Holden to see how small batch craft chocolate is made in Ireland.



TY students organising the FAI Ireland Primary Schools Competition in Mervue Well done to all



# TRANSITION YEAR TRIPS

Another successful Gaisce Adventure Journey for the Bronze award for our TYs. They hiked the Black head loop in glorious sunshine, stayed overnight in the Burren OEC and got to experience caving and kayaking.



TY's had a ball on Inis Mor this term, cycling to Dún Aonghasa and around the island!

With some great weather and superb scenery!



# SCHOOL AWARDS



# SCHOOL AWARDS



# LEAVING CERT GRADUATION



# LEAVING CERT GRADUATION



# BUILD THE BISH



The Bish currently have **791** students in our building built for **450**.

Here are the designs for our new school in Dangan which was **excluded** from the Department of Educations Prioritised Construction List for 2026/27

**62.5%** of applicants were refused due to lack of space. We need a new school.

If you feel like us, the staff and students of the Bish, please contact your **local representatives** and let them know how you feel about the exclusion of **St Joseph's Patrician College (The Bish)**



## 2026/2027 Bish Student application results



**62.5%** of applicants were refused due to lack of space  
**#BuildTheBish**



# THANKS AND ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!



We wish our 3rd Years and 6th Years all the best of luck in their State Examinations, and farewell to our current cohort of Leaving Cert Students.

From the **staff** and **E-Zine team**, we want to wish everyone a great summer holidays and can't wait to see you all back in September!

By *Gunasheel Rettagunta, Conor McDonagh & Loric Ferriere*

