



# ST. LOUIS HIGH SCHOOL



June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you are enjoying the beautiful sunshine. The **Leaving Certificate Exams** finished up on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, so the school year is officially ended. We wish our Leaving Certificate students every success in the next stage of their journey. I hope that their learning and experiences at St. Louis High School will guide and empower them.

As we end the school year and begin the summer holidays, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the year. We could not do our job without the support and cooperation of the whole school community.

The school year, was as ever, packed full of learning opportunities, experiences and activities. I hope you enjoyed following the many diverse student activities and events on our school App and school Instagram. I think you can agree that we are successfully fulfilling our mission statement providing our students with a holistic education. I would like to thank the many teacher and parent volunteers for providing the diverse programme of extra-curricular activities for our students. Our school participated in many inter-school competitions this year ranging from NFL to Junk Kouture. We are proud of all our students who represented us this year. If you have any particular interest, hobby, or skill that you would like to share with our school community, please do not hesitate to contact me. We are keen to build on the learning opportunities available to our students.

I would like to say a special thank you to the parents who gave so generously of their time on this year's Parents' Council. Their work supporting the school is greatly appreciated. As a voluntary secondary school, we have little discretionary funds and rely on the fund-raising activities of the Parents' Council to enable us to purchase resources and to fund projects that enrich the learning experiences of our students. This year the Parents' Council, raised €10,841.95. This sum of money reflects the hard work of the Parents' Council and the generosity of our school community. Many thanks to all of you who supported us this year.

In line with our school's commitment to sustainability, the Parents' Council ran a Uniform Sale on Wednesday June 25<sup>th</sup> where they provided parents the opportunity to purchase uniforms at a greatly discounted rate. This reuse of uniforms is not only a positive recycling initiative it also helped us to raise almost €1,000. The Parents' Council hope to run a second uniform sale in September. Many thanks to the Parents' Council and all the families who took time to donate uniforms. As you can see the Parents' Council play an important role and make a valuable contribution to our school, I would like to invite you to consider joining the Parents' Council for the next school year. You will receive an invitation to attend the **Parents' Council AGM in September**. It is a wonderful way to connect with other parents and to contribute to the school community.

This year we will also be looking for **two new parent representatives for our Board of Management**. The parent representatives to the board play a key role in overseeing school governance. If you have any expertise or experience in finance, law, construction, digital technology, or an interest in education and school governance; please consider putting yourself

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forward as a nominee. A formal invitation will be posted on the school App and website in September. If you would like to discuss this role, please feel free to contact me.

Attached to this letter you will find a list of **Essential Costs** together with a payment schedule. Mindful of the rising cost of living, we have tried hard to keep these costs to an absolute minimum. Just as you are experiencing rising costs at home, we too are struggling with rising costs. Unfortunately, Department of Education and Youth funding has not changed to reflect the rising costs of running the school; particularly in areas such as heating, lighting, cleaning, and transport (coaches to school matches/events). This means that more than ever we rely on you to cover the cost of essential expenses for your child's school year. With this in mind, I ask you to endeavour to adhere to the payment schedule. Should you experience difficulty meeting this financial commitment, please do not hesitate to contact me and we can facilitate a payment schedule that will work for you. This year we are trialling a **new payment system with Unique** which will be available on the **school app**. This will replace our current payment platform **Payzone**. We hope that this will make it easier for you to keep track of payments. Unlike Payzone, all notifications are personalised and relate specifically to your child. All school communication will now go through our school App, so **it is vital that you download the App**. If you have any difficulty doing this, **please contact Unique Schools Support** <https://parenthelp.uniqueschools.ie/hc/en-gb> or the school office. To improve communication between the school and home, the Unique App is available in various languages.

When we return to school in August, we are launching a **Classroom Clean-up Campaign**. This is part of our sustainable school initiative and is in line with our policy of providing a holistic education. We think it is important to teach our students the importance of cleaning up after themselves and the importance of caring for their environment. Our cleaning costs for the school have risen to an unsustainable level and we think by taking five minutes at the end of each day to tidy up-sweep, wipe down the desks, straighten up the desks and to place the chairs under the table- we can teach our students important life lessons as well as reducing our cleaning costs. We hope that with the cooperation of the students and staff these small measures will make a big difference.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful and rejuvenating summer. It was a long winter, and I think we are all due some blue-sky time. We look forward to welcoming our students back in late August (please see the school App and website with the school calendar for next year) and to continuing to build a strong school community with all our parents/guardians. **“Ut sint Unum”** together we are one.

Best wishes,

Louise Stenson