

Parents and guardians of Second Year information meeting (zoom)

Tuesday, 14th September 2021

7:15 p.m - 8:15 p.m

Simon Carey - Principal

Louise O' Sullivan - Deputy Principal

Brían Ó Donnachadha - Second Year, Year Head

Simon Carey

School Principal

- Second Year students - many changes and challenges faced by your children
- Important year for students
- Who to contact?
- Covid - 19
- School Building works
- School holidays

Challenges

- Can be a difficult age?
- Motivation
- Focus with homework and study
- Boundaries
- Knowing who your child is/are friend(s) with
- Social media

Important Year

- Commencement of Junior Cycle work with Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs) after Christmas in Second Year (details to follow)
- Positive mindset
- Important to monitor your son's/daughter's work
- Importance of attendance in school
- Zero tolerance for interruption to teaching and learning
- Punctuality

Who to contact with concerns?

This a chain of command myself and Louise trust our staff

- The principal and deputy principal will not be dealing with day - to - day matters. As a school, we have fantastic people who will work with you:
- S.E.N = resource@stdavids.ie
- Year Head (deals with the day - to - day issues for your child such as concerns, bullying, disciplinary matter, etc.) = bodonnchadha@stdavids.ie
- Well-being and mental health concerns = guidance@stdavids.ie
- Lates = school secretary info@stdavids
- School charges = finance@stdavids.ie
- Areas pertaining to subjects and teaching = individual teacher itself

Covid - 19

- Tutor classes for Second Years are rooms 14 (Library), 16, 17, 18, 19 (upper floor of main school building)
- Approx. 60% of Second Year classes are based in this base classroom
- One hour classes this academic year, 2021 - 2022
- Movement for 40% of classes due to speciality rooms (Construction, Engineering, Graphics, Visual Art, Science, Resource (if applicable) and streaming in Mathematics and Gaeilge (with extra classrooms needed)
- All students follow one-way system throughout the creative school building and two-way system in main school building
- No lockers this year - use of large boxes placed underneath table in classroom

- Second Year toilets are based in a designated zone in the upper corridor and Engineering block in Creative Block
- P.E: students wear appropriate sports gear on the days that they have P.E. as no changing rooms
- Break-times: Second Years remain in their base class except lunch-times on designated days four times out of nine slots, weekly where they have access to dining area and benches along the lower floor. This done to reduce mixing of different year groups
- Assigned seating in every classroom
- Compulsory wearing of face masks (navy or black in colour) or visors
- Use of sanitisers in all classes

School policies (covid - 19)

- School policies are all available on the school website in the parents section. These policies are:
 - Covid - 19 school policy
 - Covid - 19 Response Plan
 - Covid - 19 Risk Assessment & Plan
- Procedures in place, for suspected cases, as per DES and Dept of Health guidelines

School Building works

- The main school building, containing rooms 6 - 27, library, dining area, staff room and main office complex refurbished fully (except dining area, library, rooms 15 & 16 - these will be renovated next summer, 2022)
- Creative Block consisting of rooms 28 - 43 (Labs, Home economics rooms, Visual Art, Engineering, Construction Studies, Computer Science, etc) will be fully refurbished next summer, 2022
- New sports arena - construction work ongoing, early 2022 completion
- New three storey extension (connecting main school building and creative block) - construction ongoing, late 2022 completion

School Holidays

- Friday, 1st October 2021
- Halloween mid-term: Monday, 25th October - Friday, 29th October 2021
- Monday, 29th November 2021
- Christmas: Wednesday, 22nd December 2021 - Wednesday, 5th January 2022
- February mid-term: Monday, 21st February - Friday, 25th February 2022
- St. Patrick's weekend - Thursday, 17th and Friday, 18th March 2022
- Easter: Monday, 11th April - Friday, 22nd April 2022
- Monday, 2nd May 2022 (Bank Holiday)
- School year ends on Friday, 3rd June 2022

Deputy Principal

- School assessment and reporting
- School year, 2021 - 2022
- Curriculum and Junior Cycle
- School uniform

School assessments & reporting

- There will be one parent-teacher meeting this academic year, 2021 - 2022. Due to continued restrictions due to covid - 19, this meeting will be online via zoom on Monday, 8th November 2021 from 4: 15 p.m - 6: 45 p.m
- You will be issued three school reports on vsware and these dates are Wednesday, 15th December 2021; after February whole-school assessments on Wednesday, 16th March 2022 and Summer reports, Friday, 17th June 2022
- On-going assessments by teachers throughout the year within classes
- Three main whole-school assessments for Second Years: **Monday, 22nd November - Friday, 26th November 2021**; **Monday, 14th February - Friday, 18th February 2022** and **Summer, Monday, 30th May - Friday, 3rd June 2022**

School Year, 2021 - 2022

- Second Year Parent - Teacher Meeting- Monday, 8th November 2021 (4: 15 p.m - 6: 45 p.m)
- Second Year November Assessments (Monday, 22nd November - Friday, 26th November 2021)
- Wednesday, 22nd December 2021 - Christmas Concert via zoom
- Classroom based Assessments (CBAs) January - May 2022
- Second Year February assessments (Monday, 14th February - Friday, 18th February 2022)
- Sports Day (Friday, 29th April 2022)
- Second Year Trip (May 2022) - T.B.A
- Second Year Summer Assessments (Monday, 30th May - Friday, 3rd June 2022)

Curriculum and Junior Cycle

- Second Year is the second of a three year programme known as junior cycle
- Core subjects (exam) - Mathematics, Gaeilge, English, History, Geography, Science, Religious Education
- Core subjects (non-exam) - Well-being (C.S.P.E, S.P.H.E & P.E)
- Non core optional (three taken) subjects (exam) - Francais, Espanol, Graphics, Visual Art, Music, Engineering, Technology Wood, Home Economics, Business

Classroom based Assessment (CBA1)

- As part of new Junior Cycle, Second Year students will have CBAs to complete, during class time in all ten subjects
- These CBAs will take place from January - May 2022
- The objective of these CBAs is to encourage a move away from end of term/end of week/end of year exams (summative assessment) and encourage more on-going assessment (formative)
- Students are not awarded grades but descriptors

CBAAs and descriptors

- There are four descriptors awarded, based on teacher professional judgement applied following agreed criterion within each subject department:
- Exceptional
- Above Expectations
- In line with expectations
- Yet to meet expectations
- Teachers will inform you of these in the summer report of 2022

New Junior Cycle

- There is a new grading system in place for J.C. with all subjects taught at common level, except Gaelge, Maths and English (which are taught at higher or ordinary levels)
- Streaming of students, based on higher level or ordinary level, applies to only three subjects - Mathematics, Gaelge and English
- Students complete a second CBA when they are in Third Year. This, too, is awarded a descriptor. At the end of the CBA in Third Year, students complete an Assessment Task in two classes and this constitutes 10% of their J.C. in that subject
- Each paper in J.C. is 2 hours in duration

J.C. grades are changed

- Distinction = 90 - 100%
- Higher Merit = 75 - 89%
- Merit = 55 - 74%
- Achieved = 40 - 54%
- Partially Achieved = 20 - 39%
- No grade = 0 - 19%

School uniform

- School uniform remains as is:
- School jumper (if cold in class, students are permitted to wear their school hoodie. Once class ends and they move around the school, they remove their hoodie)
- School trousers or school kilt
- School shirt or blouse
- Black shoes
- Due to covid-19, on the day or days of P.E, students are permitted to wear sports gear, as there are no changing rooms open
- If a student does not have any aspect of their school uniform, they will be sent home

Year Head, Mr. Ó Donnachadha

- School policies
- Social media
- Homework, study and homework journal
- Communications with you (parents/guardians)
- Pastoral care for your child
- Uniform

School policies

- Lates
- School uniform
- One hour classes
- Attendance
- Mobile phones
- P.E
- Tutor system (each morning 8: 45 a.m - 8: 50 a.m)

Social Media

- It is vitally important that you are aware that your children are huge users of social media
- Can be an agent of bullying
- If you have a concern please contact me

Pastoral care for your child in Second Year

- Year Head - Mr. Ó Donnchadha
- Tutors - Ms. Noone, Ms. Murphy, Mr. O' Dowd, Ms. De Blácam, Mr. Hassett
- Principal - Simon Carey
- Deputy Principal - Louise O' Sullivan
- Guidance Counsellor - Ms. Brady
- S.E.N coordinator - Ms. Doughty (in charge of Second Years)
- School Secretary - Celina Purcell
- School care-taker - Liam Murtagh

Questions & Answers

Meeting ends at 8: 15 p.m.