

Parents' Association Newsletter



St. Columba's College
Parents' Association

Michaelmas Term – September 2025

Welcome

We hope you all had a lovely summer holiday, and your children are all settled back into their classes. A special welcome to all pupils, parents and guardians who are new to the school.

For parents who may not be familiar with the Parents' Association (PA), we have included general information on the PA in this letter. The PA Newsletter will be circulated to you each term to update you on events and PA news. We always welcome suggestions. You will find our contact details at the end of this newsletter.

On a final note, we'd like to express our appreciation for parents taking time to attend the welcome evening, an annual get-together held on 3rd September. We hope you had a wonderful time, as we did. Thank you for joining us and we look forward to your continued support.

Best wishes,

Parents' Association

Upcoming Events

*All parents are welcome to attend.

Please refer to the Green Book for complete schedule and detailed information.

Saturday 13th September: * Concert in BSR at 8:00 pm.

Friday 19th September: * National Culture Night 6:30 - 8:30 pm (Tour by the Sub-Warden starts at 7:00 pm in the Chapel).

Saturday 27th September: Open Morning 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

*More details on <https://www.stcolumbas.ie>

Friday 3rd October: * PA AGM in Whispering House at 11:30 am./

Exodus Weekend Begins at 12.50pm.

Monday 6th October: Exodus Weekend ends.

Return of Boarders between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Tuesday 7th October: Return of Day Boarders/Day Pupils by 8.10am.

Sunday 19th October: * 1st & 2nd Form Plays in BSR at 8:00 pm

Friday 24th October: * PA Coffee Morning in Whispering House at 9:30 am/ Parent-teacher meeting for parents of pupils in 6th, 3rd and 1st Form in Sports Hall, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm./ Classes end at 10.45am.

Half-Term holiday begins.

Monday 3rd November: Half-Term holiday ends.

Return of Boarders between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Tuesday 4th November: Return of Day Boarders/Day Pupils by 8.10am.

Thursday 13th November: * A Midsummer Night's Dream, Preview in BSR at 7:00 pm

Friday 14th November: * A Midsummer Night's Dream, First performance in BSR at 7:00 pm

Saturday 15th November: * A Midsummer Night's Dream, Second performance in BSR at 7:00 pm

Thursday 27th November: * PA Coffee Morning in Whispering House at 11:30 am/ Exodus Weekend No pupil may leave the College until exams are completed.

Sunday 30th November: Exodus Weekend ends.

Return of Boarders between 6.30pm and 8.30pm.

Monday 1st December: Return of Day Boarders/Day Pupils by 8.10am.

Saturday 6th December: *Christmas Concert in BSR at 8:00 pm.

Sunday 7th December: *Carol Service in the Chapel at 7:00 pm, followed by reception in BSR

Friday 12th December: Michaelmas Term ends at 11:30 am.

Parents' Association

St. Columba's College has an active Parents' Association (PA) involved in many aspects of college life. The PA is run by a volunteer committee made up of parents from across all year groups and is mainly funded by families' annual PA subscriptions (the PA Levy) and earnings from the second-hand uniform shop run by PA volunteers. Every Euro from the PA levy, and all earnings from the second-hand uniform shop are redistributed back to the College community in a variety of ways – there is nothing spent on overhead, with all the PA work done by parent volunteers. More information on the second-hand uniform shop, the PA Levy and the PA's activities and contributions can be found on the College website: <https://www.stcolumbas.ie/parents/>

2025 AGM

The St Columba's College Parents' Association 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Friday, 3rd October 2025 at 11:30 am in Whispering House at St. Columba's College, Whitechurch, Dublin 16. *The PA constitution is available on the College website [here](https://www.stcolumbas.ie/parents/).

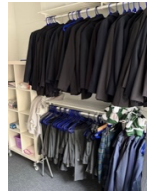
Agenda items: 1. Chair's opening remark 2. Report by the Honorary Secretary 3. Statement of Accounts by the Honorary Treasurer 4. Election of new members to the PA Committee* 5. Any other business

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM.

*A nomination form for election to the PA committee will be emailed to parents prior to the AGM. The nominations must be accompanied by the nominee's consent with signature, proposed and seconded by members of the association. Committee members shall be elected to serve a three-year term and the chairperson of the PA automatically holds a seat on the Board of Management (BOM). The PA's ordinary general meetings are online, held monthly during the academic year, with a minimum of one meeting per term.

Fresh Look on the Second-hand uniform shop

We are delighted to tell you that the shop has been renovated to a brighter and modern look! Our sincere thank you to the college staff Mr. Keogh, Ms. Healy, Ms. O'Shea and Ms. Smith who have contributed their time and effort to make this possible.



Recent past and ongoing activities

The College guidance team's webinar on the Leaving Certificate & university entrance was held by Mr. Jones & Mr. O'Shaughnessy on 12th June which included an excellent presentation with excellent advice, presented by Mr. Jones. A member of the PA initiated the organisation of this event.

Common Room Support to all Houses. As reported in our last newsletter, the PA is providing equipment for each House's Common Room, such as a table tennis table and racquets, games and beanbags etc. We hope the pupils will enjoy these fun new additions to the Houses.

Personal Electronic Device Policy. We continue to support the Warden in the continuous evolution of the College's Personal Electronic Delivery policy (which includes phones). Such evolution protects us all whilst cohering parental Responsibility, pupil Accountability and College Authority. It is an important team effort close to all our hearts.

We are looking forward to delivering to you more news on our activities and contributions in the next newsletter.

WhatsApp Groups - available to all parents Form I – VI

Each year group from Form I to Form VI and the overseas parent's cohort have a parents' WhatsApp group, administered by PA members who send notices about events to parents. We find these are a particularly useful communication method, especially if one wants a quick answer to a question. In addition, each year group's WhatsApp group receives essential information and useful links such as those listed below.

If you would like to be added to the group for your child's year, email your details (your name, your child's name, Form/year group, and your mobile number) to us at: pa@stcolumbas.ie

Useful Information

St Columba's schedules – daily matters:

Most immediate place for parents to access up-to-date detail on daily matters, including events, as well as changes of routine.

<https://www.stcolumbas.ie/news/>

Sports' fixtures – details of all these, including results:

<https://www.stcolumbas.ie/sportsresults/>

Google College calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=c3RhZmYuc3Rjb2x1bWJhcy5pZV9mdWU2aDRsNjNydDNwNGRwNDUyM3BiajUwZ0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t&pli=1>

Dates for the academic year and other documents:

<https://www.stcolumbas.ie/documents/>

Green Book:

<https://www.stcolumbas.ie/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/greenbook2526finalparents.pdf>

Regarding the College events

Parents have an open invitation to attend events in the College, such as the Form plays, Sunday chapel services etc, unless it is specifically stated in the Green Book that there are no-visitors.

We always welcome any enquiries or suggestions, which you may send to our email address below.

pa@stcolumbas.ie