

Parents' Association Newsletter

Trinity Term – April 2026



St. Columba's College
Parents' Association

Welcome Back

Dear parents and guardians, we hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. It's hard to believe, but this is our last PA newsletter of this academic year. Looking back, we're grateful for the many rewarding moments we've shared while supporting the pupils and the college. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best wishes for 2026 Leavers

To the parents of 6th Form, we wish you all the best and good luck with your children's final months at the College and on to their next steps in their journey to the future.

Best wishes,

Parents' Association

PA's recent contributions

Arts Week: As you saw in the Warden's Hilary Term 2026 email to Parents, Arts Week was an enjoyable event for pupils and parents. The PA contributed funds to this event.

Motivational talk by Colin Judge: Sixth form pupils attended a talk by Colin Judge, a table tennis star and paralympian, who spoke about gratitude, determination, and setting ambitious goals. His story encouraged pupils to focus on their exams and consider their future beyond school. The PA organised and funded the event.

Join Us! All are welcome

We warmly invite all parents and guardians to join Parents' Association events, such as our "Coffee Mornings" and the "Welcome Evening." Coffee Mornings are friendly get-togethers with tea, coffee, and pastries at Whispering House, usually held twice each term before you pick up your children for Exodus. The Welcome Evening (Parents get-together drinks) is a relaxed annual gathering at The Royal Yacht Club in September, where parents of all years can meet over drinks and canapes—not just those with new pupils. These events are a great way to meet other parents. Come along to connect and learn more about the Parents' Association. If you are new, there's no need to worry. PA members will help introduce you to others in your group. Being "inclusive" is part of our Columban spirit!

Please also note that all parents and guardians are welcome at College events, such as Form plays and Sunday chapel services, unless the Green Book specifically says an event is "(internal event - no visitors)."

You can find the event dates in the Green Book and the Google College Calendar. See the links under "Useful Information" below.

- Upcoming Events -

All parents are welcome to attend all events except those marked by *
Please refer to the Green Book for the complete schedule and academic dates.

Saturday, 2nd May:

PA Coffee Morning

The Whispering House from 11.30am.

Exodus. Classes end at 12.50am.

Tuesday, 5th May:

Exodus ends.

Return of Boarders 6.30 - 8.30pm.

Wednesday, 6th May:

Return of Day Boarders/Pupils by 8.05am.

Wednesday, 13th May:

*5th and 4th Form parents' and Old Columban careers' evening.

Thursday, 14th May:

Open Evening 6.30pm - 8.30pm for

*prospective pupils and their parents

Sunday, 24th May:

Voices of Poetry: The BSR at 8.00pm.

Regular classes end for 6th Form.

Tuesday, 26th May:

*Transition Year English evening:

The BSR at 8.00pm.

Thursday, 28th May:

Confirmation Service:

The Chapel at 2.30pm

*Transition Year Final Presentation evening: The Whispering House at 7.00pm.

Friday, 29th May:

*6th Form Graduation Ceremony:

The Chapel at 6.30pm, followed by supper for *6th Form pupils and their parents

*RSVP: Invitation via College email

Saturday, 30th May:

St Columba's Day Celebrations.

RSVP: Invitation via College email

Exodus. After Prize-Giving, approx. 1.30pm

Tuesday, 2nd June:

Exodus ends.

Return of Boarders 6.30pm - 8.30pm.

Wednesday, 3rd June:

Return of Day Boarders/Pupils by 8.05am.

Thursday, 18th June:

Trinity Term ends.

Save the date

The “Welcome Evening” for all parents will be held on **Wednesday, 2nd September 2026, at The Royal Yacht Club. Details** to follow. Stay tuned!

Shaping the Future of the College - Parents Consultation Meeting

The PA invites all parents to a Parent Consultation Meeting with Patrick Scott, the new Chair of the Fellows. Share your ideas for the College's future by joining us online on **29 or 30 April**, or in person on **5 or 6 May** for roundtable discussions. We value your input. *Note: This is not a fundraising forum. Register the following link to help shape the future of St Columba's College: [Shaping the Future of St Columba's College](#)

Parents' WhatsApp Group

There is a parents' WhatsApp group for each year group, plus one for overseas parents and another for day parents, serving as an online community for communications on topics specific to each group. The WhatsApp groups have proven useful for parents to get rapid responses to issues or questions and to communicate with fellow parents. The PA also sends notices for its events and essential information to parents in each WhatsApp group. If you'd like to be added to a group, send your details (your child's name, house and Form, your name, and your mobile number) to our dedicated email address below.

Get involved with the PA!

With the committee term ending in October 2026, we're seeking new members to support the PA's mission. The current team has worked on many successful projects, and we look forward to welcoming parents with fresh ideas. Joining the PA committee is a meaningful opportunity to engage with other parents, support the Warden in ensuring the best education and welfare for pupils, and contribute to the college and community.

Committee members serve a three-year term starting after the PA AGM in October. The PA chairperson automatically holds a seat on the college's Board of Management. The PA's ordinary general meetings are held online monthly during the academic year.

For more details about the role, please see the role description in the constitution, at the upper right of our webpage [here](#).

We will send the AGM information and nomination form to the PA committee closer to the date. If you have questions about the committee or role, please reach out to us.

The more parents get involved, the more we can accomplish together for the future of the College!

- The PA contact information -

Everyone is welcome to contact us with any suggestions or questions at: pa@stcolumbas.ie

Useful Information

St Columba's schedules – daily matters:

The most immediate place for parents to access up-to-date details on daily matters, including events, as well as changes to routine.

<https://www.stcolumbas.ie/category/updates/>

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

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

Google College calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/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>