

## Termly Report – Epiphany 2020 – St Mary’s College stories and events

**Winter Congregation Dinner 9<sup>th</sup> January** – On this celebratory occasion a group of 1970 alumni graduates of St Mary’s returned with an invitation from the Principal to help rejoice in this College congregation event. It brought back memories for them in which they could share to the students and helped the Principal learn more about the College that she now was in charge of, for her second term of the academic year! It was also a wonderful evening with family of the newly graduated to celebrate successful endings and new beginnings.

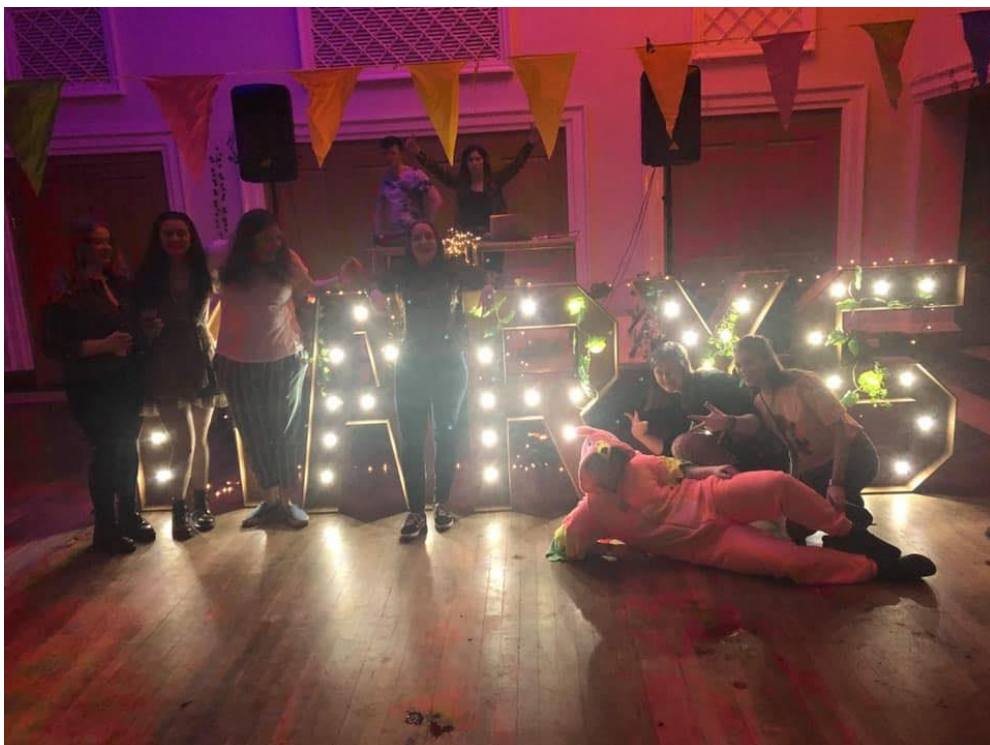


**Burns Night Formal Dinner 23<sup>rd</sup> January** – Another classic yearly formal has once again come around and passed us by. As always the ‘address to the Haggis’ took place and all the students that flooded the hall to capacity had a joyous time in company of friends from all different year groups. The solidarity and friendships we see are delightful to observe and we hope people can keep in contact with their friendship groups for years to come!

**Mary’s Does Parkrun** – As always Mary’s has kept up its weekly Park Running and occasionally we get a larger turnout from our students. Congratulations to you all (some didn’t make it to the group picture). Keep it up and be proud of what you all achieve. It can be hard to get up so early to then hurl yourself around for 5km!



**Mary's Bop 7<sup>th</sup> February** – Another in-house College event but with a twist. No formal meal but a disco-style set up to keep the students grooving and having fun in each other's company. A lot of set up and preparation always goes in to events by the students themselves through the JCR and as always it was heart-warming to see many of them staying back after the event to help tidy away and take all the decorations down. It takes teamwork to keep these events running smoothly and with no hitches, and that's exactly what students keep giving us. The comradery of Mary's shines through at events like this!





**Arts week 17<sup>th</sup> February** – This week involved a pub quiz with arts related questions and general knowledge, a life drawing session, a painting and decoration session and brand new this year a Mary's got talent event. This featured a variety of acts as well as a panel of judges. The judges were the Principal who has a very interesting musical career background, the Arts President and a live audience voting system. The winning act won a place for a headlining slot for this year's Mary's day!

Students varied in skill, but some rose to the occasion and a rare few had developed a special sense when it came to drawing over the years and stunned many in the society. It was a chance to celebrate the Arts in Mary's and it was certainly a busy time organising the week for the President, but all enjoyed themselves and it often gave students a chance to try something new or open their minds to a new hobby that they will now consolidate. Along the way people were guided in how to develop their drawings and no previous experience was required. It was always a very chilled-out atmosphere. As many people that wanted to get involved could, and the turnout never disappointed.

Arts Week finished with the climax of the Masquerade Ball...



**Masquerade Ball 21<sup>st</sup> February** – This year's theme for the Ball harked back to the scenes of Venice and its roots. This masquerade extravaganza had all the usual entertainments before and after the meal and more! There was a selfie machine, print outs and phoenix photography before the meal, and after was a waffle machine, a rodeo-esque spinning machine, and several acts. These included basement jazz, witless, a Mary's dance routine, a magician and it finished off with a DJ closing the evening off.



**Sports alumni weekend 7<sup>th</sup> March** – A range of sports wanted to get involved in this event this year and there was an obvious reason! Fun and competitiveness... to prove who is the best – the present students of the sports clubs or the past veterans of our alumni community. But somehow there are always stand out characters of each generation and year group. It was an excellent event of skill and leisure, the inclusivity from all our sports was super to see and always with laughter and smiles from everyone. Thank you to all the captains involved in the organisation of the sports day and I hope all the alumni that travelled up enjoyed their time here and passed on beneficial wisdom to our current students, in both sports and academia.



After this, other events for this term sadly had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus prevention policy. St Mary's wishes everyone well and hopes to see you all in the future.