



St Edward's College

Dwardu's Scoops

Back to school

By Nollaig Mac an Bhaird

This time last year we were part of a world of uncertainty. There seemed to be a lot of experts sprouting up everywhere. Social media and the anxieties and half-truths that go with it were worrying, frustrating and confusing.

The truth was that we were dealing with something new. There was no 'user-manual' to be pulled off a shelf – we simply had to 'get on with it'. Our *bona fide* experts were and still are, working flat out. At St Edward's we were receiving copious volumes of advice from all and sundry.

We are indebted to the Superintendent of Public Health and the team of dedicated, committed and exceptionally hard-working persons she had around her from whom we received, practical and useful advice. We will continue to be advised this year by PH in order for us to maintain a safe and healthy college environment for everyone. Advice from PH is our default setting.

We have a responsibility to your child, we also have a responsibility to the other 667 children at St Edward's. Co-operation with uniforms, haircuts, shoes, being disciplined, is core to us providing the college that you all are a part of.



New year, new medium

By Sylvana Debono

"We want guardians and parents as well as anyone interest in the activities of the College to feel part of our lively community"

Dwardu's Scoops is the new medium which the school will be e-publishing on a fortnightly basis. This will incorporate reports on activities which happened in the school. Some of the articles will also be written by the students.

"This publication should be seen in tandem with the daily updates on [the College website](#) as well as its [Facebook page](#). We want guardians and parents as well as anyone interest in the activities of the College to feel part of our lively community," said Headmaster Mr Nollaig Mac An Bhaird.

The e-publication will be sent to all the current subscribers of the former school gazette. New subscriptions should be entered through the website on: <https://stedwards.edu.mt/newsletter-signup/> (scroll down to the bottom of the page)

Dyslexia – an invisible challenge

By Rebecca Seaberg



Creating posters for
'Save the Turtles'

Dyslexia is a common learning difficulty that can cause problems with reading, writing and spelling. It can also affect organisational skills. It's a specific learning difficulty, which causes problems in reading and writing. Unlike a learning disability, intelligence isn't affected. Dyslexia exists in all cultures and across the range of abilities and socio-economic backgrounds. To raise awareness of dyslexia, classes around College have been working on a variety of projects and activities in English, Art, Drama and ICT. The boys have responded in a mature and positive way, learning new things and developing their understanding.

Being dyslexic does not have to be a barrier to learning, early identification and knowledge of the characteristics of dyslexia are important. At St Edward's College we are pushing to develop further in a dyslexia-friendly manner, in terms of expectations, tasks set, materials available and the way information is presented.

This approach can do much to reduce the impact of dyslexia on the individual. We believe that dyslexia is a whole-school responsibility and not the responsibility of one individual.

High maintenance

By Analise Cioffi and Leanda Keith



Some of the new bathrooms and showers as they were being installed

Over the summer months the boarding section of the College has been a hive of activity. One of the main targets of the activity was the bathrooms and showers. Under the eagle eye of Leanda Keith, our Boarding Manager, all nine bathrooms were given a complete makeover and now boast some of the latest Italian designed tiles and ceramics. The colour scheme has been lightened and the rooms are now as light and bright as the sunlight outside.

The kitchen and boarders' dining area were also revamped in this down time. This area needed a facelift so that the scrumptious food prepared by our incomparable chef Shaun could be enjoyed in its proper setting. And for chillaxing, the wide and airy terraces were furnished with sofas and beanbags and tables.

Meanwhile, Darren Bonnici, St Edward's IT savant and his team were hard at work upgrading the IT systems and telephony. The Network was upgraded, a new PABX system was installed, brand new intercom as well as 54 CCTV camera points. These cameras will be installed and activated over the mid-term holidays. At mid-term too we shall be putting up the netting around the football pitches.

Meanwhile, the Middle School was repainted with the classrooms and the outdoor area receiving some much-needed attention. The Junior School roof membrane was completely replaced, and the Early Years got additional storage. Air Conditioning units were installed for the Boardroom, for 4 ICT labs and for the IT server room, which was a matter of some urgency.

Get well, Ali

By Sylvana Debono

If this summer can be remembered by any one occurrence, it has to be the accident which has left our dear student Ali Hagagi.

Ali's family contacted the college to say that he had had a bad accident and was, for a time in the Intensive Therapy Unit. He was later transferred to the neurosurgical ward where he was kept under observation for a long time.

Meanwhile, as the word spread, messages of solidarity and support poured in from his fellow classmates and schoolmates as well as from his teachers. Some of the teachers were, indeed, dumbstruck by what had happened. They recalled Ali as a charming, lively and well-mannered boy.

Sadly, Ali's plans to join us this year at IB Diploma will not come to pass. We wish Ali and his family well and keep them always in our prayers.



Ali Hagagi who had a very serious accident over summer.

St Edward's fights cybercrime attack

By Analise Cioffi

On 24th June 2021, St. Edwards College became aware of malicious emails being sent out supposedly on its behalf. The recipients were urged to transfer funds/tuition fees to the College on an urgent basis in order to benefit from a discount. Needless to say, these emails were not sent by the College and the Polish bank account details included in the emails related to unknown third parties.

In strict collaboration with the police, Data Protection Commissioner and our own legal team, the college took immediate action to see that the parents, actual and prospective were safeguarded from this scam. The issue was speedily resolved.

The College worked with the authorities to safeguard the parents from the scam

Off to a flying start

By Stephanie Grech

One week into Michaelmas term and the Early Years are in full swing. For both teachers and parents, the first few days of school at this age group are always a bit of a heartache. We have to bear in mind that for children this is a big step, even if we as adults, are hovering protectively over them all the time, guiding them through the university of life.

The children were mostly thrilled to be back, giving us Picture Perfect Hellos. Their lessons were several and varied not only in content but also in style. We took the opportunity and stressed the importance of cleanliness and the war on germs. (For details, videos and pictures, please follow the links)





Studying Maltese at Advanced level? SEC is the natural choice

NEW: Maltese at A-level

By Sylvana Debono

Studying Maltese is part of the curriculum for all year groups at St Edward's College. For the Maltese contingent, this is par for the course. For those who are non-Maltese, the college also offers the language as a foreign language. There are specialized courses by year group for Maltese as a foreign language.

This year we went one step further and offered Maltese at an Advanced level and IB Diploma level. This means that students who aspire to take university courses where Maltese is a requirement or is an important component, such as Law, Legal Studies, Education or Communications, can now get all their qualifications at the College without having to resort to private tuition.

We realise that this takes time to get used to but several parents and students from Senior School have noted this introduction. Another service provided by St Edward's College

"Hard to get back into a routine"

By Etienne Deguara with Yr 5 X

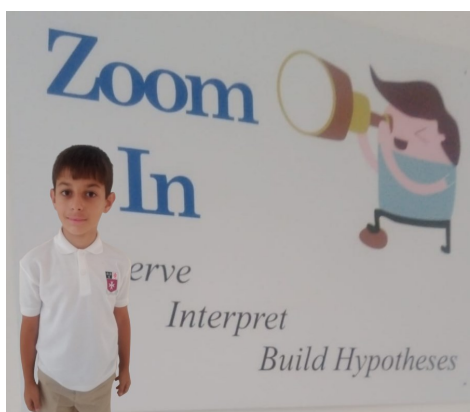
At first, we felt a bit jittery and nervous. Possibly even scared of what was to come for us. It was hard to get back to a routine. Wearing the mask is still annoying but we got used to it again.

Those feelings were also mixed with excitement to meet and play with our friends once again. We are curious of what awaits us, but we are looking forward to what has so far been a fun, brilliant and excellent start to the year.

We've noticed that certain things have changed, such as teachers, classrooms, and rules. It has been truly an unbelievable change and quite a big step up from last year. We've already learnt new things and it has been super, even just being back at college.

"We can breath fresh air"

By Jake Delia Yr 6X



I feel extremely pleased to come back to school since Covid had started. Here we have lots of fun and games, apart from learning subjects. We can breath fresh air while doing our duties., thanks to the trees we are surrounded with.

I am immensely grateful that I am part of the St Edward's College family as we strive to learn in different ways to become exemplary human beings.

Let's stand with our teachers

By Sylvana Debono

Held annually on 5 October since 1994, World Teachers' Day commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the '1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers'.

St Edward's College would like to take this opportunity to remember all teachers of the College, both past and present and joins UNESCO, UNICEF and the ILO in their statement: "On World Teachers' Day, we are not only celebrating every teacher. We are calling on countries to invest in them and prioritize them in global education recovery efforts so that every learner has access to a qualified and supported teacher. Let's stand with our teachers!"



Original maquette donated by former Headmaster

By Sylvana Debono

Former Prep School Headmaster Mr Richard Bonello presented the College with a watercolour study. The study was carried out for a sculptural piece, a statue of the Blessed Virgin, currently gracing the gardens around the Junior School.

'Strict but fair'

Mr Bonello joined the staff at St Edward's College in 1968 after returning from the UK where he had been in charge of boarders St Peter's School in Bournemouth. In 1975 he was appointed as the first headmaster of the Prep School, nowadays known as the Junior School. Mr Bonello retired in 1998 after over 30 years of service to the college and its generations of students. The service Mr Bonello gave was complete to the extent that he lived on the college grounds. Teachers who are still employed at the college recall that Mr Bonello had a reputation among the students for being 'strict but fair' and that his professional standards had always been very high.

Ms Blanche Caruana, one of the teachers who remembered Mr Bonello well, said that "Inside this statue is a tube, containing the names of all the students and teachers who were at college in the Junior school at the time. The Statue and the watercolour are both by a famous Maltese sculptor Victor Diacono.

Memory Lane

Headmaster Mr Nollaig Mac an Bhaird thanked Mr Bonello for his generosity. And presented Mr Bonello with a framed original letter of his appointment to the historic post.

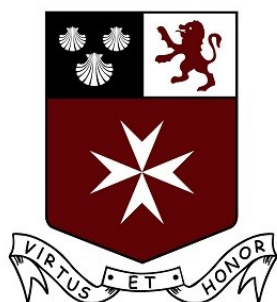
"Inside this statue is a tube, containing the names of all the students and teachers who were at college in the Junior school at the time."



Mr Bonello (left) and Mr Nollaig Mac An Bhaird (right) with the watercolour maquette.

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At St Edward's College we strive to create exemplary citizens in this increasingly globalised and technological world, placing strong emphasis on character formation, genuine intercultural understanding and leadership skills which will assist them to contribute to the well-being of society.



Mr Daniel Caruana Smith takes on the new scholastic year by the horns: His Year 10s are fiendishly focussed, working on details for sketch maps—truly the devil is in the detail here.

Greater visibility for St Edward's College

By Sylvana Debono

This year has been an exceptional year for interaction at St Edward's College. Over the past months, the social media response to the information and communications which the college has been putting forward has been impressive. Unique users, that is when a person goes in to the digital platform once (multiple times do not count, hence unique) have increased by 52% over the previous year. This has led to an increase of 40% in page views. In short: more people are finding more items to read on our digital media. They are staying longer and reading more pages than ever before.

This is encouraging for us at St Edward's College since we would like to strengthen the ties between parents and the College.

By way of innovation, the e-newsletter will also start containing articles written by cub reporters—the students themselves. This will help them in their media literacy considering that the digital media has become a vital source of information. Style, ethics, literacy, fact-checking are all vital even within the confines of what happens at College. We aim to teach.

