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Class of 2018: The Power of Friendship

On a beautiful June day, St. Patrick Academy gathered to celebrate the graduation of the class of 2018. The graduates proudly wore their green and gold caps and gowns to receive their diplomas as faculty, staff, families, and friends looked on. Through the excitement, one theme was clear: the power of friendship and the strength of the St. Patrick Academy community.
Dr. Marian Mattison, retired professor of Social Work at Providence College, encouraged the graduates to prioritize personal relationships and reach out to those in need of a friend. Salutatorian Franklin Disla, Jr. and Valedictorian Camila Uriona also spoke about the importance of friendships, especially those that they had formed with their classmates.

“I would personally like to thank you all for treating me as a brother throughout these years,” Franklin said to his class. “On my worst days, you would cheer me up... On my best days, you all congratulated me and made me feel as if I was worth much more than I thought I was. I could not thank you more for that.”

Camila echoed those sentiments, saying, “I am so grateful to all of you because you have helped me to grow so much and overcome many obstacles, just by being there, by saying hi, by smiling, or by being kind. Those little details and small acts of kindness are the ones that make the greatest impact on a person's life. They are what made the biggest impact on me.”

Fr. James closed the day by reminding the graduates that they are forever a part of the St. Patrick Academy community. As we send the class of 2018 out into the world to begin the next chapter of their lives, Fr. James reminded them, “You always have a home here.” Congratulations, Class of 2018 - we are so proud of you!
Bridging a Gap: Class of 2019 Service Retreat at Capitol Ridge

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, the junior class organized a party for the residents of Capitol Ridge Assisted Living. This day of serving and sharing with the elderly was the junior class retreat. St. Patrick Academy students joyfully served treats to the residents and attentively listened to their stories.

Students were amazed at the difficulties some of the residents had faced. Through their conversations, they learned about the wars of our country's recent past from those who lived through them, as well about the residents' daily lives and struggles. A particularly memorable conversation involved a 100 year-old woman who shared with our students the ways in which life has changed over the past 100 years. “The kids were on fire when they left,” Mrs. Cipriano, Campus Minister, said. “They left with a new view of the elderly and a new perspective on life. The sharing was really intense and they bridged a gap.”

“The students recognized that they shared [with the elderly] a lot and aren’t so different despite their ages: they struggle with the same things (loneliness, illness, struggles for independence). The elderly have a newfound identity that is no different than teenagers and they both struggle with this new identity.”

The juniors also connected the experience to their relationships with their grandparents. “They realized that they might not know their elderly relatives’ stories as well as they thought,” said Mrs. Cipriano. All of the students felt that the day helped them build a sense of community as a class and that they learned from the residents as well as helping to brighten their day.
Thank You! Library Upgrades to be Completed This Summer

Thank you to our incredibly generous donors who have made it possible for us to make crucial upgrades to the Father Raymond M. Kelly Library this summer!

When our students and faculty return in the fall, they will find a new library waiting for them, including:

- 25 new laptops (enough for an entire class to use laptops simultaneously), a laptop charging cart, and laser color printer
- 6 new Apple iPads and an Apple TV, allowing for projection directly from the iPads for interactive lessons and presentations
- RI Library Information Network for Kids (RILINK) Membership, including an updated digital catalog and access to interlibrary loan with other member schools.
- New carpeting in a cheerful, welcoming color
- Modular desks and new chairs, allowing for more creative and diverse use of the space

We can’t wait to see the ways in which these much-needed upgrades will impact teaching and learning at St. Patrick Academy next year.

"My Life Was Transformed by This Scholarship:"

The Impact of Adopting a Student
Camila Urioa '18, class Valedictorian, is headed to Roger Williams University in the fall to study architecture. In a letter to her scholarship sponsor, Camila expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to attend St. Patrick Academy. What follows is an excerpt from that letter:

“I wanted to let you know how this scholarship has changed my life. I am a Hispanic immigrant. I came to the US in October 2014 from my home country, Bolivia. When I arrived, I did not know how I was going to be able to continue my education because my parents struggle financially. In addition, I have two older siblings who also needed education.

“This [scholarship] has been a blessing that allowed me to accomplish so many goals and dreams... I was received in the [St. Patrick Academy] community with open arms. I am involved in clubs such as Art Club, Student Council, Jesus Band, and Club 3107 [St. Patrick Academy's discipleship club]. I am also the President of the National Honor Society and the National Art Honor Society, and the mentor of two freshmen. Through all these activities, I have been able to grow as a person and develop a love for community service. Since I have received so much, I want to give back to my community.

“I accomplished all of this thanks to your generosity. My heart is filled with joy and gratitude... I want to thank you again for all you have done for me, my family, and my education. My life was transformed by this scholarship. I hope that one day I will be able to do the same thing you did for me for
Go Padres! Personal Bests at the Track Championship

St. Patrick Academy's Track and Field Teams competed in the Class C Championship at Narragansett High School on May 21, 2018. Both the Boys' and the Girls' Teams performed very well, including recording personal best times in the 100 Meter Dash, 200 Meter Dash, and the 4x100 Meter Relay.

Personal best times were recorded in the following events:

100 Meter Dash:
- Amy Hidalgo '19 (15.55 seconds)
- Paola Perez-Hidalgo '19 (15.94 seconds)
- Bensley Joseph '19 (12.34 seconds)
- Rayanns Joseph '21 (12.45 seconds)

200 Meter Dash:
- Paola Perez-Hidalgo '19 (34.64 seconds)
- Amanda Solano '19 (37.34 seconds)
- Rayanns Joseph '21 (26.44 seconds)
- Bensley Joseph '19 (26.84 seconds)

4x100 Meter Relay
- Girls' team of Amanda Solano '19, Sofia DelaCruz '21, Paola Perez-Hidalgo '19, and Amy Hidalgo '19 (1 minute 7.3 seconds)
- Boys’ team of Ebenezer Falaye ’20, Rayanns Joseph ’21, Keith Wilson ’21, and Bensley Joseph ’19 (49.3 seconds)

This was the largest number of students we have ever had participate in Track and Field and the first season we were able to participate in the 4x100 Meter Relays.

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**Class of 2018 College Acceptances**

![Class of 2018 College Acceptances](image)

The St. Patrick Academy Class of 2018 was collectively accepted to 34 different colleges and universities and received more than $731,000 in grants and scholarships! The Class of 2018 was accepted to:

- Becker College
- Bryant University
- Community College of Rhode Island*
- Curry College
- Dean College
- Emmanuel College
- Franciscan University
- Providence College*
- Rhode Island College
- Rivier University
- Roger Williams University*
- Salve Regina University
- Springfield College
- St. John’s University
- St. Joseph’s College
Franklin Pierce University
Johnson & Wales University*
Keene State College
Keiser University
Manhattanville College
MA College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences
New England College
New England Institute of Technology
Northern Vermont University

St. Leo University
St. Michael’s College
Stonehill College
Suffolk University
University of Hartford
University of New England
University of New Hampshire
University of Rhode Island*
University of Vermont
Wentworth Institute of Technology

Congratulations Class of 2018!

*indicates that a member of the Class of 2018 will attend in the fall

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Connect With Us

Keep an eye on our [website](#) for the 2017 - 2018 Annual Report to learn more about St. Patrick Academy and the difference that supporters like you make in the lives of our students. The report will be published digitally this fall.

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*St. Patrick Academy relies on the generosity of our donors to fulfill our mission of providing a Catholic college preparatory education to all students, regardless of need, who aspire to spiritual, personal and academic excellence.*