



Southern Regional College Students compete for SkillBuild glory

The annual **SkillBuild** competition at Southern Regional College got underway at the start of February as competitors from various trades and disciplines showcased their talents and skills.

Contestants from across the College's campuses competed against peers, to be in with the chance to make it to the regional competition. The regional competition is set to take place on Tuesday 21st May at South West College's Enniskillen campus.

Categories participating in the **SkillBuild** competition included brickwork, cabinet making, carpentry, joinery, wall & floor tiling, painting & decorating, plastering, plumbing pipework, electrical installation and light motor vehicles.

Success at the inter-campus competition is the first step towards competing on the **WorldSkills** stage. Successful competitors at **SkillBuild** will be benchmarked against competitors from Northern Ireland's other Further Education Colleges by the **Construction Industry Training Board**. The results will determine who will represent the region at national and international levels.

There now remains an anxious wait before it's known whether local students will progress to the regional competition. Local students successful in the **SkillBuild** competition hoping to progress include:

Cabinet Making

Odhran Campbell

Forkhill, Newry

Plastering

Matthew McCready

Kilcoo, Newry

Plumbing Pipework

Andrew Houston

Kilkeel

2nd place

Wall & Floor Tiling

Dean Frazer

Newtownhamilton, Newry

Plastering

Thomas Maguire

Newry

Plumbing Pipework

John McKee

Kilkeel

Motor Vehicle Light

James McCartan

Annalong

L2 Light Vehicle Apprenticeship

3rd place

Carpentry

Junior Swain

Ballyward, Castlewelling

Carpentry & Joinery

Plastering

Aiden McCabe

Newry

Plumbing Pipework

Jordan Nummy

Newry

Rachel Dorovatas, Director of Industry Training & Support at **CITBNI**, attended the competition and praised the participants for their high standards of skills. Rachel commented: "We are continuously impressed by the standard of skills demonstrated by the apprentices and trainees who participate in the Inter Campus College Competitions. Congratulations are extended to all participants with special recognition for those who excelled in their categories. Their outstanding performance may pave the way for them to further showcase their talents at the upcoming **SkillBuild** NI Regional Competition in Enniskillen this May."

Gareth Mone, Curriculum Area Manager at Southern Regional College further commented: "Our Inter campus **SkillBuild** competition involved over 80 competitors across construction, motor vehicle, body & paint, and welding trades."

We welcomed visitors from **CITBNI** and judges to Greenbank. Again, the standard of work was extremely high, and we hope to have many of our students progressing to the regional finals in Enniskillen."



Plumbing Pipework student John McKee alongside **CITB** Director Rachel Dorovatas and SRC Curriculum Area Manager Gareth Mone



Plumbing Pipework student Andrew Houston alongside **CITB** Director Rachel Dorovatas and SRC Curriculum Area Manager Gareth Mone



Carpentry student Junior Swain alongside **CITB** Director Rachel Dorovatas and SRC Curriculum Area Manager Gareth Mone



Plastering student Matthew McCready alongside **CITB** Director Rachel Dorovatas and SRC Curriculum Area Manager Gareth Mone

Right - Cabinet Making student Odhran Campbell alongside **CITB** Director Rachel Dorovatas and SRC Curriculum Area Manager Gareth Mone

