



Dalkey Diary

ISSUE 32 | MAY 2026



Spirit Day 2026

There's nothing quite like a Loreto Abbey Dalkey Spirit Day, and 2026 was no different! This year's Mario Kart theme saw a racetrack on the hockey pitch, an opening ceremony race between Mario (Mr Dunne), Bowser (Mr Flanagan), Princess Peach (Ms Conlon) and the Year Heads, a chance to win gold chocolate coins, food trucks and games galore - you can see all the fun on Instagram @loretoabbeydalkey_

Huge congratulations to the TYs and Ms Coyne for organising and running an amazing day for the whole school!





More photos can be found on Instagram @loretoabbeydalkey_





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Mark your Calendar

May 19th

6th Year Graduation Mass, Dalkey Parish Church

May 21st

TY Graduation, Killiney Court Hotel

May 25-28th

TY Trip to Italy

May 29th

End of school year

June 3rd

State examinations begin

The full school calendar can be found on both the website and via our school app



Student Leadership for 2026/27

Congratulations to our new Head Girl and Deputy Head Girls for 2026/27 who were announced to the school earlier today during the Spirit Day festivities!

We are delighted that **Laoise Ó Moráin** will serve as Head Girl, while **Molly McAree** will be Deputy Head Girl for Ethos, **Kate Holland** will be Deputy Head Girl for Junior Leaders, **Sophie McAlarey** will be Deputy Head Girl for Co and Extra Curriculars, **Aoife Redden** will be Deputy Head Girl for Sport, **Molly Hyland** will be Deputy Head Girl for Sustainability, and **Aisling O'Connor** will be the 6th Year Prefect. Well done girls!



IRELAND U16 WNT

FIBA YOUTH EUROBASKET 2026

AOIFE COURTNEY (DUBLIN LIONS)
AVIE LEIGH MCGONAGLE (DUBLIN LIONS)
AYOTADE ADEMOKUN (KILLESTER BCI)
CIARA ZURAWSKA (KILLESTER BCI)
JESSICA BREE (METEORS BCI)
KATIE ROSE HARRISON (PORTLAOISHE PANTHERS)
MIA DUNNE (DUBLIN LIONS)
NAIYA TURNER (BETHEL PARK HIGH SCHOOL, PITTSBURGH)
ROBYN WALSH (LIMERICK CELTICS)
SARAH HORKAN (LIMERICK SPORT HUSKIES)
SIUN KELLY (LIMERICK CELTICS)
SORCHA KELLY (KILLESTER BCI)



Well Done Jessica

Congratulations to Jessica Bree (3rd Year) who has been chosen to represent Ireland in basketball this summer.

Jessica will play on the Ireland U16 Women's National Team in the upcoming FIBA Youth Eurobasket in Greece in July. Well done!



Darkness into Light 2026

Thank you to all who took part in, or donated to, our first Darkness Into Light event for Pieta in Loreto Abbey Dalkey. It was an incredibly special morning for a wonderful cause, and we appreciate the involvement of the whole school community in making this event a success.

On Saturday morning, we witnessed a stunning sunrise over Dalkey Island. Mr Dunne spoke a beautiful reflection, then as the sun rose we were treated to beautiful music by Ysabel Zabel and flute playing by Susanna Moir, which all combined to create a very memorable moment.

Many thanks to all who helped in advance and on the day, in particular the SPHE Support Group, Ms Murray and Ms Coyne.

There is still time to donate **via the QR code here** or through our fundraising page at <https://www.darknessintolight.ie/s/253460/298995>

Thank you for your support!



Charity Concert

On Wednesday, our students joined the Alma College Choir from Michigan for a joint recital in St Joseph's Church, Glashule. The evening was a beautiful showcase of talent, featuring medleys and performances from our 1st Year Choir, Junior Choir and trad group.

Following a mesmerising set by the visiting Michigan singers, both choirs united for a powerful finale of Loch Lomond.



AIB Future Sparks Award 2026

We were delighted to learn this week that Loreto Abbey Dalkey has been awarded an Exemplary School status in the AIB Future Sparks 2026 School Impact Awards.

Bryan O'Higgins from AIB presented the award to Mr Dunne and student representatives Lucy McCarthy and Lily McEvoy from Transition Year on Tuesday morning.



Senior Leinster Tennis Final Champs

Huge congratulations to the Senior 1 tennis team who won the Senior C Leinster Tennis competition on Monday, beating Our Lady's Terenure 2-1 to claim the win. Well done!

We cordially invite you to
The
Graduation
Mass of
the Class of
2026

**TUESDAY 19TH
MAY**

At 7pm

The Church of the
Assumption, Dalkey

Followed by a
Reception in
Loreto Abbey



Graduation Mass for Class of 2026

The Graduation Mass for our 6th Year students will take place on Tuesday May 19th at 7pm in The Church of the Assumption, Dalkey, followed by a reception at school.

We look forward to celebrating this graduating class as they prepare for their next adventure!



TY Write a Book Project

A few weeks ago, the TY students met with 1st and 2nd class students from Loreto Primary. They gathered in pairs to interview their younger partners, getting information from them on their likes and dislikes, pets, favourite foods and more. The TYs then worked on creating and designing original stories, incorporating all they learned, before delivering the final books this week.

The primary school students were delighted to be featured in these creative stories and found themselves cast as superheroes, battling dinosaurs, time travelling, zipping off to space, getting up to mischief, visiting far-flung destinations, and even solving crimes!



6th Year Art History Trip

Last week, the 6th Year Art class visited the National Museum of Ireland on Kildare Street to get a real life insight into Bronze and Iron Age artefacts as part of their visual studies course.



Physics in Action!

Mr Cullen's 6th Year Physics class demonstrating great teamwork...
Mr Cullen says it deserved Physics Achievement of the Week!



Kate McLaughlin

Incoming 1st Years

This week, we welcomed our incoming 1st Years for their first orientation visit and their first real change to see life in Loreto Abbey Dalkey.

They learned dance routines, did quizzes and games, made hot chocolates, and played lots of team-building activities so they had a chance to get to know each other before starting at the end of August. Thanks to the TYs for helping!



Aoibh Richardson



Ella Connor



Photography Club

This week the girls in the photography club were asked to submit a photo which represented Loreto in May, to capture the feelings of the end of school year.

We had some great photos uploaded this week, with highlights including these photos by Kate McLaughlin (TY), Aoibh Richardson (1st Year), and Ella Connor (2nd Year).



This Week's Tennis Results

Well done to all teams taking part in home and away fixtures throughout the week.

Junior 1 won 2-1 vs Mount Anville and through to Leinster League

Junior 4 won and are through to Leinster League

Senior 1 won 2-1 vs Our Lady's Terenure



2nd Year Trip to Butlers Chocolate Cafe

On Tuesday, Ms McHenry's 2nd Year Geography class were treated to a quick visit to Butlers Chocolate Cafe in Glasthule. This class reward came after learning all about the Butlers Chocolate Factory as part of their geography curriculum.



A book award for Irish debut Children's/YA authors, shortlisted by school librarians, judged by students in Primary and Secondary Schools.

Certificate of Participation

Loreto Abbey Dalkey

Thank you for taking part in the Great Reads Award 2025. You have helped to celebrate Irish authors and illustrators, while promoting reading for pleasure in your school.

GRA Committee

The School Libraries Group of the Library Association of Ireland

WINNING Books 2025



Great Read Awards

We were delighted to participate in the Great Read Awards 2025/26. This book award is given to Irish debut Children's and YA authors, and is shortlisted by school librarians and judged by students in primary and secondary schools nationwide.

The winning books were *Fia and the Snow Deer* by Eilish Fisher and *You Don't See Me* by Chris Ricketts - both are available in the library.