

Dalkey Diary

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Annie: the TY Musical

This week saw the culmination of all the hard work the TYs and teachers have put in since September, as we enjoyed the all-time classic musical *Annie* at the Mermaid Arts Centre in Bray.

All students had a chance to see a matinee show, while the evening performances were completely sold out as parents and families enjoyed this fantastic show. Thank you to all who attended, cheered, supported, and sang along. This was a big undertaking for the TYs, most of whom have never performed on stage or for an audience before, and yet the acting, singing, dancing, and backstage work was excellent.

A huge round of thanks and congratulations must go to Ms Green, Ms Penston, Ms Noctor and our wonderful choreographer Denise for the incredible, tireless work they have done with the TYs to bring the show to stage. Well done!

Next up for the TYs, their first week of work experience next week...













Mark your Calendar

Nov 30-Dec 4th	TY Work Experience Week 1
Dec 9th	Loreto Abbey Dalkey Career & College Fair
Dec 11th	YES Christmas Market
Dec 17th	Christmas Carol Service, Dalkey Parish Church
Dec 21st	Dalkey's Got Talent, Concert Hall
Dec 22nd	Christmas break begins at 12pm
Jan 6th	School re-opens

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

International Player of the Year

Last week, Lara Dallaghan (5th Year) was awarded Women's Under 16 International Player of the Year at the 36th FAI International Awards. This is a phenomenal achievement, reflecting the great talent Lara has shown playing for Ireland on U16 and U17 national teams.

Lara is photographed below receiving her award from Paul Cooke, President of the FAI, and Carla Ward, Ireland Women's National Team Head Coach. Well done Lara!





European Cross Country Selection

Congratulations to Megan Brunt (6th Year) who has been selected by Athletics Ireland to represent Ireland for the U20 Women's event at the European Cross Country Championships in Belgrade, Serbia on December 13th.

This selection comes on the back of Megan placing 2nd in the U20 Women's race at the National Cross Country Championships last week, and 1st in the U20 Women's 4500m race at the recent Autumn Open Cross Country International. Well done Megan!

Cinema Trip

A cinema trip was a great way to finish off the week for 1st and 2nd Year students, who all enjoyed a trip to see *Ebenezer* this afternoon.

This thrilling ghost story, based on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, follows one man's journey to face his past, present and future and fight for a second chance at redemption.



















School Fitness Games

On Monday, students from 2nd to 5th Year represented our school at the Dublin qualifying event of the Sidea School Fitness Games in the National Basketball Arena. The competition is designed to test fitness, strength, endurance, teamwork and resilience, putting the competitors through their paces with an intense workout.

The girls competed in teams of two, aiming to complete each fitness station as fast as possible, with stations including wall balls, air bike, lunges, air ski, air rower and a 600m run.

Qualifying teams will be notified in the coming months about taking part in the national finals which take place in April at the Sport Ireland campus.



Don't Miss Your Chance for Tickets

Tickets for the 15th Loreto Annual Dinner will be on sale from Monday 1st December via Eventbrite. Set a reminder, these tickets go fast!

The Loreto Annual Dinner will take place on April 10th 2027 in the Royal Marine Hotel from 1.30pm til late.

This is a wonderful occasion for mums of current students to meet and socialise, as well as a great opportunity for past pupils to get together for a reunion. There will also be a dedicated reception area for 1st and 2nd Year parents.

Tickets cost €80 and include a Prosecco reception, dinner, drinks, dancing and more. The Eventbrite link will be sent via PA Whatsapp groups.

There are tables set aside for each year group, so please select the relevant table when booking. All are welcome!

Hockey Results This Week

Congratulations to all teams who took part in matches home and away this week, including:

1st Year C won 2-0 vs St Columba's

Minor A won 6-0 vs Sion Hill

Junior 2 won 3-0 vs Drogheda Grammar







EU Juvenes Translatores

On Thursday, four 5th Year students competed in the European Commission's Juvenes Translatores 2026 competition.

Julia Boland, Elizabeth Austin, Béibhinn O'Donnell and Anna Kealy Day took part in the annual online translation contest for 17-year-old secondary school students across the EU.

Organised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Translation, the contest has been running since 2007 with the aim of inspiring and encouraging young people to learn languages.

The students had two hours to translate a 1-page text between any two EU official languages, under supervised exam conditions. Professional translators from the European Commission will then evaluate the translations for accuracy, correct grammar and expressions, fluency and creativity in finding effective translation solutions. One winner per EU country will be chosen and announced in February 2027.



One Dublin, One Book 2027

Other People's Lives by Kathleen MacMahon has been selected as the One Dublin One Book title for 2027. Led by Dublin City Libraries and Dublin UNESCO City of Literature, the initiative brings readers together through a shared reading experience and a citywide programme of events, conversations and cultural activities.

Photography Club

This week, the photography club was set the challenge of capturing the prompt "Songlike Stills" in a photo. With the TY musical inspiring us, our members were asked to capture moments of music in all of its forms.

With lots of great entries, the top three picks this week were from Lorena Rodrigues Lowney (2nd Year), Ava Brennan (2nd Year) and Aoife Hill (3rd Year).

New members are always welcome! Contact Ms Delves to find out more about the weekly challenges and getting involved.


Lorena Rodrigues Lowney



Ava Brennan


Aoife Hill

3rd Annual Dalkey Book Drive

After the success of last year's book drive, which saw **more than 500 books donated**, we are calling on students, staff and parents to get involved once more!

The growth of the library is an important part of the literacy and wellbeing initiatives within our school. With a range of ages, interests and reading levels, we are hopeful that our Book Drive will stock the shelves with a greater choice for all students to enjoy.

What kind of books?

We have three fiction sections - Junior, Intermediate and Senior - where books are categorised by suitable reading age and interest level.

In Junior Fiction, books include popular series such as *The Hunger Games*, *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*, *Divergent*, *The Inheritance Games*, *Murder Most Unladylike*, and *The Maze Runner*, as well as hundreds of standalone books such as those by RJ Palacio, Sarah Crossan, Sophie McKenzie, Cathy Cassidy and so many more.

In Intermediate Fiction, books include series such as *Twilight*, *Children of Blood and Bone*, *The Gilded Ones*, *Noughts and Crosses*, and *The Knife of Never Letting Go*, as well as standalone books such as those by Matt Haig, Becky Albertalli, Holly Bourne, Malorie Blackman, Agatha Christie, John Green, and many more.

In Senior Fiction, books include many of the Booker Prize and Women's Prize for Fiction winners, as well as authors including Sebastian Barry, Isabel Allende, Tracy Chevalier, Margaret Atwood, Fredrik Backman, Kristin Hannah, Kazuo Ishiguro, Taylor Jenkins Reid, Claire Keegan, Maggie O'Farrell, and hundreds more.

How to donate?

A link to our **Amazon Wish List can be found in the parent app**, but is by no means the limit of what we would love to see in the library. It's important to note that books do not need to be bought from Amazon, and we would welcome local bookshop support. This list is a shareable option that can be regularly updated as books are donated, so please check back from time to time.

We are also happy to accept **second-hand books in excellent condition**.

Please email Ms Manning at library@loretoabbeydalkey.ie with any queries.