



Dalkey Diary

ISSUE 15 | DEC 2025



YES Christmas Market

From beeswax candles, bath bombs, key rings and dog bandanas to handmade cards, crochet decorations, coffee flavourings, and upcycled makeup bags, the YES Christmas market was a hive of activity and entrepreneurship in the Concert Hall today.

As part of the Young Entrepreneur Scheme, participating 1st, 2nd and TY students showcased their products and services to the whole school, as well as parents, family and students from Loreto Primary. It was a fantastic opportunity for the entrepreneurs to learn the art of marketing, production, and the nuances of selling (including negotiating!), and a chance for visitors to pick up some stocking fillers and Christmas gifts, or to order some bespoke items to be crafted or personalised.

Well done to all who took part so enthusiastically, and to Ms Gleeson for organising the day's activities.



Mark your Calendar

Dec 16th
Dec 18th
Dec 19th
Jan 5th
Jan 8th
Jan 20th
Jan 22nd
Jan 29th

Christmas Carol Concert, Dalkey Parish Church
Dalkey's Got Talent, Concert Hall
Christmas Break begins at 12pm
School reopens
5th Year Parent/Student/Teacher Meetings
School closed
1st Year Parent/Teacher Meetings
Subject choice information meeting for TY and TY parents

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



Get Your Tickets for Dalkey's Got Talent

Tickets for Dalkey's Got Talent will be on sale Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at break and lunchtime outside Ms Coyne's office. Don't miss the chance to be at the annual extravaganza of singing, dancing and talents aplenty!

There will be three shows on Thursday Dec 18th:

- 9.30am for 1st and 4th Years
- 12.30pm for 2nd and 3rd Years
- 3.30pm for 5th Years, 6th Years, parents, family and friends

Tickets cost €12 and all money will go straight to Loreto Rumbek. This is our big fundraiser for our sister school in South Sudan, so please buy a ticket and bring money for the tuck shop at the intermission!



6th Year Movie Night

On Wednesday evening, the 6th Years wrapped up for a Christmas movie under the stars to raise funds for Loreto Rumbek in South Sudan. Huge thanks for Ms Coyne and her elves for organising.

The postponed movie night for TY and 5th Year will take place soon...keep an eye on your inbox!



Carol Singing



Well done to all the students and staff who went carol singing for charity on Grafton Street on Thursday afternoon.

Spirits were high, despite the torrential downpour, and there's no doubt that anyone doing their Christmas shopping will have enjoyed listening to all the festive tunes!





Please Donate

Nessa MacCarthy Morrogh, a recent past pupil from the Class of 2025, is currently undergoing treatment in Europe.

Her family ask that we all consider donating to support the incredible work done by The Gavin Glynn Foundation, which helps families going through similar challenges.

You can donate at donate.tggf.ie to help raise vital funds.



U15 Basketball

Hard luck to the U15 basketball team who lost 30-24 to Dominican College in their All Ireland Quarter Final.

The girls had strong wins in the preliminary matches, beating Colaiste Brid 58-15 and Holy Faith 43-25.



Concern Debating

Round Three of the Concern Debates took place on Wednesday, involving a group of our TY and 5th Year students.

The motion being proposed was "Global commitments to ending world hunger are a load of hot air". The debate was against Holy Family Secondary School, Newbridge.

Team captain Mary Rose Murnane (5th Year) debated alongside Hazel Gillen (5th Year), Ella Bartley (5th Year) and Lily McDonnell (TY). They were joined by Ysabel Zabal (TY) as the timekeeper for this debate and Julia Boland (TY) who acted as chairperson.

The team debated admirably and we are awaiting results of the debate to see if they will progress to the knockout stage of the competition. Well done girls!



3rd Annual Career & College Fair

On Wednesday, our school hosted its 3rd Annual Career & College Fair for all Senior Cycle students from 4th to 6th Year.

This year's event followed a staggered format, ensuring that students were actively engaged throughout the morning. While some groups attended presentations in the Lecture Theatre, others visited the exhibitor stands in the Sports Hall, creating a steady flow of activity across both spaces. The staggered format also ensured that every student had ample time to explore the exhibition, ask questions, and gather information tailored to their interests.

In the Lecture Theatre, Aer Lingus delivered an inspiring presentation, highlighting the growing need for more female pilots within the aviation industry. They encouraged students to remain resilient when pursuing aviation careers, noting that many successful pilots are not accepted on their first attempt. Bray Institute of Further Education also provided a valuable overview of the diverse routes available through further education, including tertiary degree and BTEC courses.

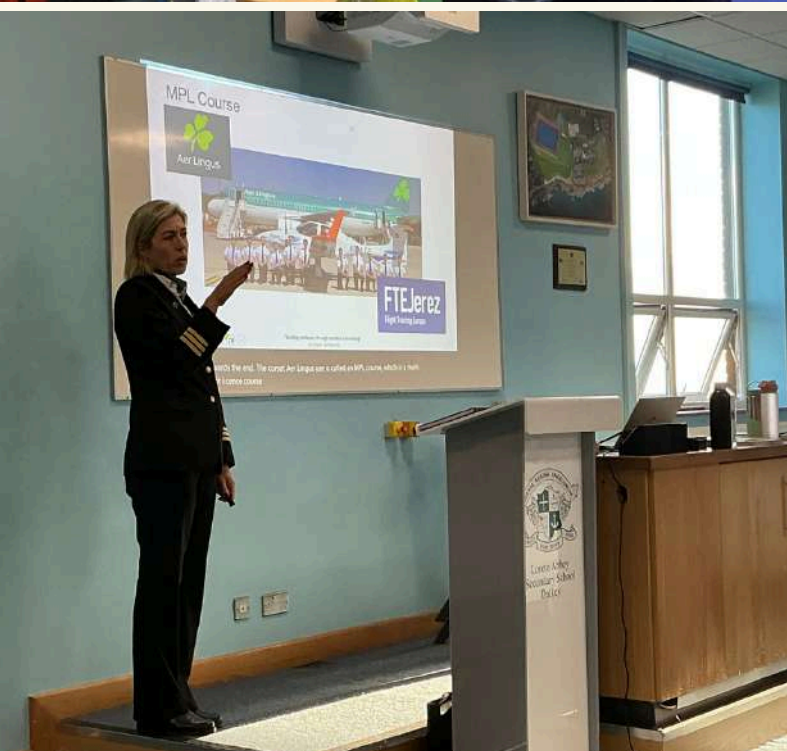
Meanwhile, students visiting the Sports Hall had the opportunity to speak with 18 exhibitors representing a wide range of colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers, and public services.

The event was a great success, offering meaningful insights into future study and career pathways. We look forward to continuing this important tradition next year. Thanks to Ms Shortt and Ms Brophy for organising.

Exhibitors included:

Aer Lingus
Apprenticeships DDLETB
Bray Institute of Further Education
Dublin City University (DCU)
Dublin Business School (DBS)
Griffith College
IADT (Institute of Art, Design & Technology)
Maynooth University
National Ambulance Service

NCAD (National College of Art & Design)
Sallynoggin College of Further Education
SETU
Trinity College Dublin
TU Dublin
University College Dublin (UCD)
UCD School of Business
Ulster University
University of Galway





Focus Ireland Cheque Presentation

TY students gathered today to proudly present a cheque for an incredible €34,699 to Focus Ireland for the monies raised during the Shine a Light Sleep Out in October.

We are so extraordinarily proud of the effort the TYs put in to both fundraising and awareness during the campaign. Well done to all!



Food Drive Donations

Many thanks to all who generously donated food for our Christmas Food Appeal in support of the St Francis Home Care Team and the families they support.

The donations were collected this week (thanks to the 3rd Year helpers for helping to load the van!) and will be distributed in the coming days so that those in need are ready for Christmas.





Leinster League Success

Well done to our 1st Year G hockey team who won with a very impressive 4-0 score against Loreto Foxrock in the Leinster League.

This win puts the team through to play in the Leinster semi-finals next week - a fantastic accomplishment, well done girls!



LCPE Party

Mr Monaghan's 6th Years celebrated submitting their LCPE projects (worth 20% of their overall LCPE grade) with a party and a candy salad. Well done!

6th Year Talk with Sinead Gibney TD

Past pupil and Social Democrat TD, Sinead Gibney, came to speak to the 6th Year RE students about why she entered politics, and answered a wide variety of questions about her background and career.

Sinead spoke about how a desire to work in politics was born out of a humanitarian vision to help others. She referenced that being in politics is difficult, but incredibly rewarding.

Abuse aimed at politicians on social media is becoming more vitriolic, but it is important to stand up to bullies and not let them derail one from the important work of helping people.





6th Year Art Trip to Newgrange

Our 6th Year Art students enjoyed an inspiring and insightful trip to Newgrange this week. Exploring one of Ireland's most iconic prehistoric sites, students had the opportunity to see first-hand the remarkable craftsmanship, symbolism, and engineering of Neolithic art and architecture.

The guided tour brought them inside the chamber of Newgrange, offering a deeper understanding of megalithic culture and the significance of the Winter Solstice alignment. It was a memorable and enjoyable day for all...despite the torrential rain!



Senior A Final

Well done to the Senior A basketball team who played their hearts out against Muckross Park on Thursday afternoon in the Leinster Final at Oblate Hall.

Despite great play and plenty of baskets, the final score was not in our favour and Muckross won 62-53. Well done to the team for representing Dalkey so well, and to the supporters who cheered encouragement from the sidelines.



This Week's Basketball Results

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

Minor A lost 12-10 vs St Andrew's

Cadette B won 32-19 vs Loreto Swords (qualified for the Loreto League Semi-Finals)

Under 15s lost 30-24 to Dominican College in the All-Ireland Quarter Final

Senior A lost 62-53 vs Muckross Park
Senior B lost 41-19 vs Loreto Swords



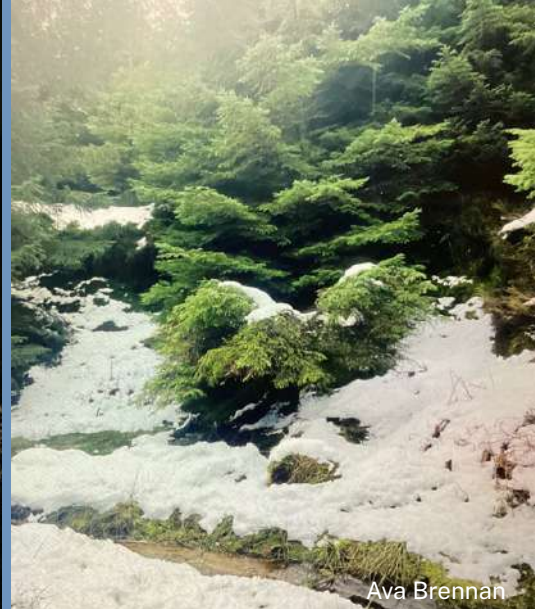
More sports photos can be found on Instagram @loretoabbeydalkeysport



Sadhbh Swan



Laoise Flynn



Ava Brennan

Photography Club

This week's prompt for Photography Club was 'Textures Of Winter' and the girls were encouraged to photograph ice crystals, frosted windows, frozen leaves, and some also added the contrast of Christmas lights. We had a strong range of submissions this week. In 1st Place was Sadhbh Swan (3rd Year), with runners up Laoise Flynn (1st Year) and Ava Brennan (1st Year).

New members are always welcome, so if you are interested in joining photography club, please email Ms Flood.



Well Done Megan!

Huge congratulations to Megan Brunt (5th Year), pictured left, who placed second and received a silver medal in the Under 19 Cross Country Nationals last weekend.

It was a very muddy race after a wet few days, but Megan persevered and did brilliantly. Well done!

Have you found Santa's Elf...?

Have you found the Elf up to his naughty tricks and Christmas antics around the school this week?

Keep an eye out each day for the Elf and fill out the form emailed by Ms Coyne with his daily location. All forms need to be handed in to Ms Coyne's office by December 18th for a chance of winning.

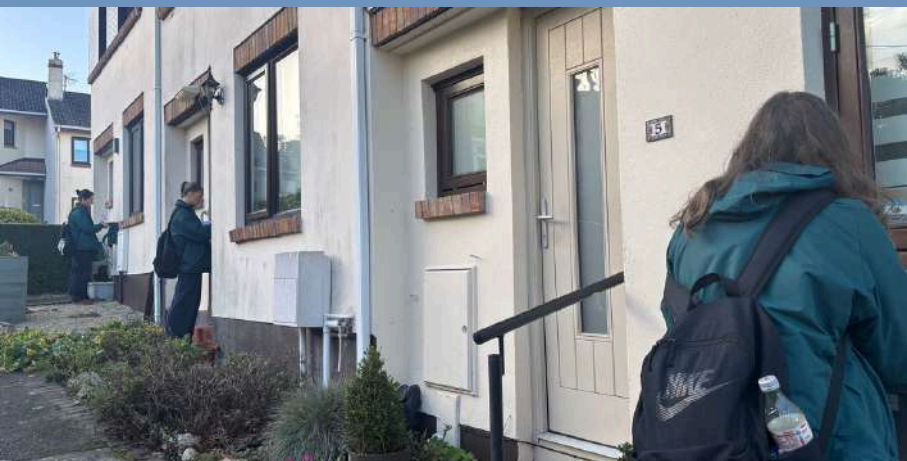
Let's help Santa get his favourite (and boldest!) helper back in time for Christmas!



St Vincent de Paul Leaflet Drop

'Christmas is most truly celebrated when we give the light of love to those who need it the most', and this was evident on Wednesday morning as our Transition Years completed a leaflet drop for the local conferences of St Vincent de Paul in the Dalkey and Glashule areas.

This is an essential service offered by the TY students as it provides St Vincent de Paul's Christmas Appeal with much needed revenue. SVP provides essential help and support to those struggling financially. Their resources are particularly relied upon over the Christmas period.



This Week's Hockey Results

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

1st Year A won 2-0 vs High School
1st Year B won 3-0 vs High School
1st Year G won 4-0 vs Loreto Foxrock

Minor 3 won 2-1 vs Loreto Foxrock
Minor 4 drew 0-0 vs Loreto Beaufort

Junior 1 lost 3-0 vs Mount Sackville
Junior 4 won 6-0 vs Loreto Foxrock
Junior 6 won 2-0 vs Sutton Park

Senior 3 won 4-1 vs Loreto Foxrock



More sports photos can be found on Instagram @loretoabbeydalkeysport

