

# Dalkey Diary

ISSUE 9 | NOV 2026










## Celebrating Stand Up Awareness Week

This week, we celebrated Stand Up Awareness Week, promoting kindness, respect, inclusion and allyship throughout our school community.

We began the week by raising our Stand Up Week flag, while our SPHE groups helped spread the message of inclusion by decorating the spiral staircase with colourful posters and positive messages. On Thursday, we celebrated Rainbow Jumper Day, with students and staff coming together in a wonderful display of colour, unity and school spirit.

Throughout the week, we reflected on the importance of the language we use and the impact our words can have on others. Stand Up Week reminds us that bullying, discrimination and unkind language have no place in our school, and that we all have a responsibility to make others feel included, respected and valued. Most importantly, we were reminded that being an ally doesn't always require a grand gesture. Sometimes, it's the small, everyday acts of kindness, speaking up for others and making someone feel included that make the biggest difference.

This week, and every week, we stand up for inclusion! As Dr Seuss reminds us: *"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You."*

# Mark your Calendar

| | |
|---|---|
| Nov 25-27th | TY Musical in Mermaid Theatre, Bray |
| 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 |

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



## Senior A All-Ireland Quarter Finals

Congratulations to our Senior A basketball team who beat Malahide in the All-Ireland Quarter Finals on Tuesday, with an impressive 47-44 win. Well done!

## Book Club Reminder!

Don't forget to add your name to our growing lists and take part in our new Parent Book Club or Student Book Club.

This is a great chance to meet new people, make time for reading, and perhaps try books you wouldn't otherwise have read.

We are finalising plans and will be in touch shortly with all those who have already replied. If you have any questions, please email library@loretoabbeydalkey.ie

Reminder

## Christmas Shoebox Appeal

On Friday 20th November, the Justice and Peace Committee will be holding their annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal, in support of Team Hope.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved in this wonderful initiative, which aims to bring joy and happiness to children in need across Africa and Eastern Europe this Christmas.

Shoeboxes are filled with everyday essentials and small treats, such as dental hygiene products, toys, colouring books and items of clothing. These simple gifts can make a huge difference to children who may not otherwise have access to them.

**Please leave all completed shoeboxes under the spiral staircase by Friday 20th November.**

Thank you for your generosity and support in helping to make a child's Christmas that little bit brighter!

If you would like to take part but do not have an information leaflet, please speak to Ms Flood.













# TY Trip to Leinster House

On Tuesday, Barry Ward invited 25 Transition Year students to come to the Dáil with Ms Hayes and Mr O'Connor. We got a tour of Leinster House and saw the Dáil Chamber, the Seanad Chamber and different areas of the House. We learned about some of the history of Leinster House and important figures that played a role in its history. We met Verona Murphy, who is the first female Ceann Comhairle (Head of Council). We learned about the structure of the Dáil chamber, and watched a committee speaking in the Seanad about the environment.

Our tour guide Dave spoke about how our government and the uses of Leinster House have changed over time, including the role of women in our government. At the end of the trip, we received a certificate of appreciation signed by Barry Ward. It was a very interesting and beneficial trip that helped us understand more about how our country is run.

*- Saoirse Feeney & Alexandra Egan (TY)*







# Cara Friendship Activity

'Walking together helping and supporting each other', this core aim of the Cara programme was the theme of a prayer service on Thursday, hosted by the Ember Team for the 6th Years and their 1st Year Caras. The prayer service which took place in our beautiful convent chapel, and the girls heard the story of Jesus walking with the disciples on the Road to Emmaus. Caras are also called to walk with each other during the year, to be that listening ear and that supporting hand.

Afterwards the group made their way to Cois Fharraige where they created matching friendship bracelets; a symbol of the enduring bond that is being created between the Caras this year. Thank you to the Ember team for creating this very special moment for the 6th Year and 1st Year groups. Due to the large numbers of students involved in the Cara programme, two further events will take place over the next two weeks.

# Hockey Results This Week

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

1st Year F lost 2-1 vs St Raphaela's

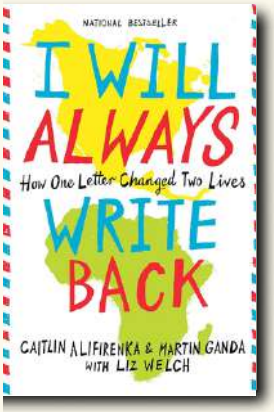
Senior 4 won 2-0 vs St Raphaela's

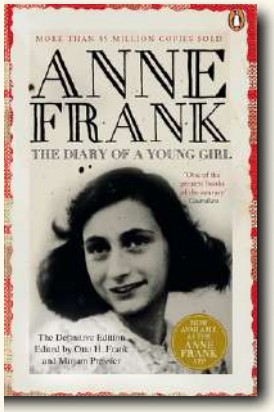


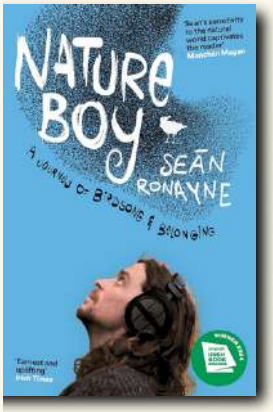

# 12 Book Picks for...

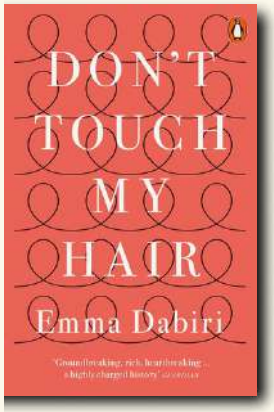
# NON-FICTION NOVEMBER

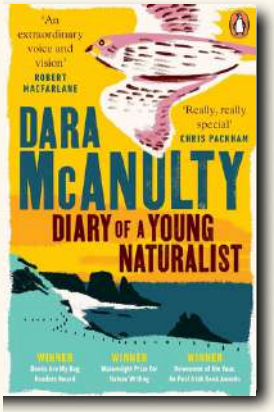
All are available to check out from the school library!

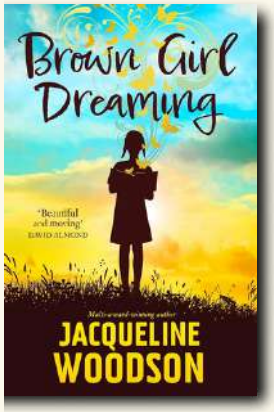


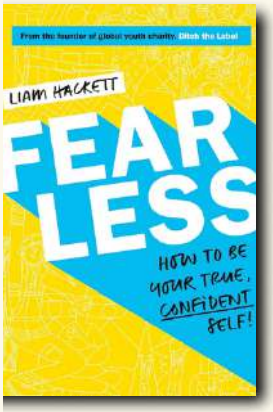



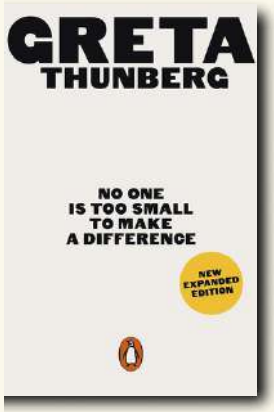



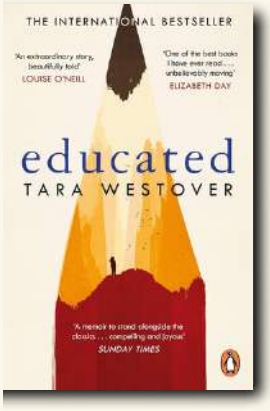



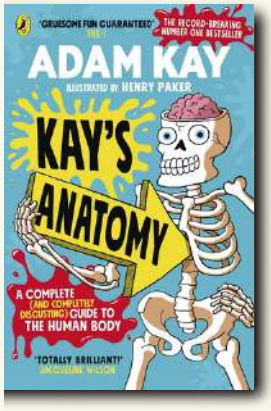



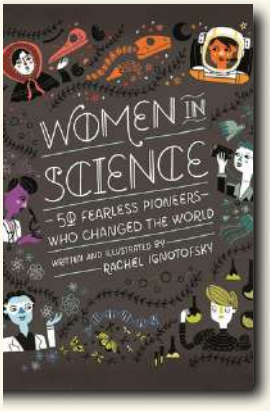



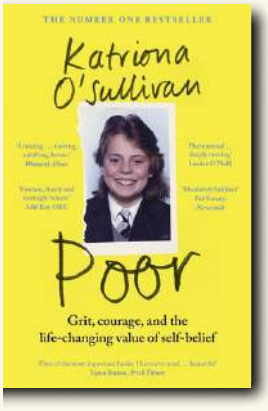



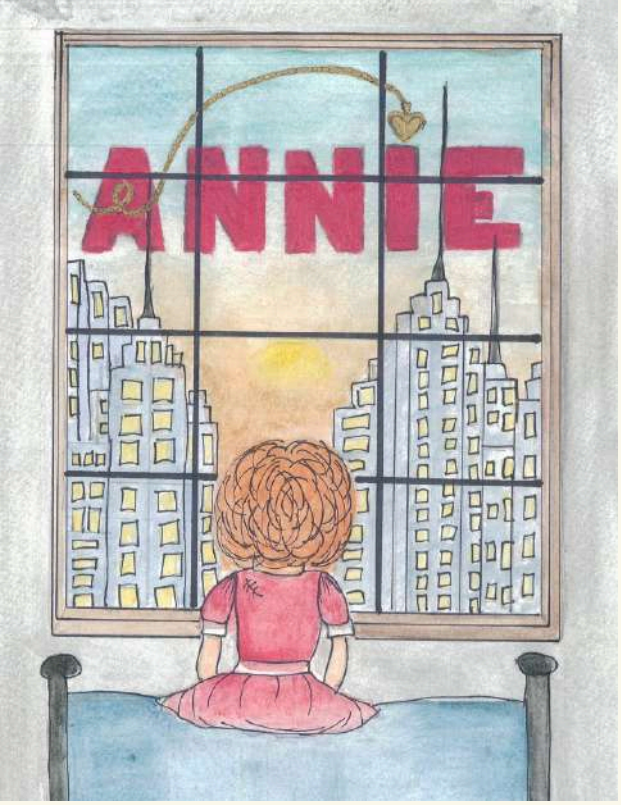






# Tickets on Sale Now for TY Musical, 'Annie'

Loreto Abbey Dalkey Transition Years present *Annie*, the story of an optimistic orphan determined to find her birth parents and of her adventures when she is invited to spend Christmas at the mansion of billionaire Oliver Warbucks.

Featuring well known favourite numbers like "Tomorrow" and "It's the Hard Knock Life," this feel-good musical proves that hope and resilience can triumph over adversity, reminding us that the sun will always come out tomorrow!

The TYs will be performing six shows - a matinee and evening performance each on November 25th, 26th and 27th. Matinee performances are for school only and not open to the public.

Tickets for the evening performances can be purchased directly from The Mermaid Theatre website. We have no control over ticket sales or availability. Any ticket-related queries should be directed to the The Mermaid Theatre.

**Chrysler Chorus** will perform Wednesday Matinee, Thursday Evening, and Friday Matinee
**Rockefeller Chorus** will perform Wednesday Evening, Thursday Matinee, and Friday Evening
Principals, Dancers and Core Mansion are in ALL performances

# 6th Year History Trip

The 6th Year History classes were treated to a day of history and culture on Friday as they headed in to town with Mr Oman and Mr Thompson. The students visited the Tenement Museum, learning of its glory days in Georgian Dublin down into it becoming a tenement building in the 19th and 20th centuries. This links in very well with the students upcoming study of the 1913 Lockout.

En route to the museum, the students stopped at landmarks such as Liberty Hall, Wynn's Hotel, Kings Inn, O'Connell Street and Parnell Street. A great day was had by all.








# Important Reminder: Sport Attendance

Please be advised that there are times when students need to travel to away fixtures for various sports offered in the school. When there are away fixtures, all players must travel to and from the match with the team and coaching staff (usually by private bus hire, or occasionally by DART or on foot).

If there is a reason why a student needs to make their own way home or be collected from the away fixture, this **must be communicated by email to the coaching staff no later than 24 hours in advance**:

For hockey matches:
hockeyattendance@loretoabbeydalkey.ie

For basketball matches:
basketballattendance@loretoabbeydalkey.ie

The email should state the reason why the student needs to be collected/make their own way home. If the email is not sent then **the coach cannot allow the student to leave** on their own. This protocol is in place to ensure the safety of all students.

Additionally, if a student cannot attend a particular match or training session, then the student should email the Sports Coordinator (kate.dillon@loretoabbeydalkey.ie) explaining why they are unavailable, giving appropriate notice (to allow for the arranging of a substitute, if required).

Parents should also be advised that, in keeping with our Code of Behaviour, students are not permitted access to their mobile phones while they are attending sports fixtures in locations outside of school or during training sessions / fixtures in school.

# Basketball Results This Week

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

The Cadette A, B and C teams travelled to Balbriggan, leaving with a 51-14 win (A), a 46-6 win (B) and a 20-34 loss (C), the last of which was a tough game as they played a number of A players on the opposition.

The Junior A and B teams faced Beaufort in their matches, winning 23-22 and 32-30 in very close finishes.








Laoise Flynn


Eve Douglas


Grace McKenna

# Photography Club

Over the midterm break, the photography club was set the challenge of depicting moments which brought them joy over the break. Our winners were Laoise Flynn (2nd Year) in 1st place and runner ups Eve Douglas (1st Year) and Grace McKenna (2nd Year).

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



# Focus Ireland Cheque Presentation

'Your donations can make an impact greater than you will ever know' - these were the words of Patrick Jordan from Focus Ireland who visited our school on Thursday afternoon.

The Transition Years were delighted to present a cheque to Focus Ireland worth €42,455 which they raised during the Shine a Light Sleepout last month. This was the largest amount raised by any school in the country.

We once again congratulate the TYs on this amazing achievement and, while this initiative has now concluded, we look forward to their many achievements moving forward throughout the school year.

# Flash Fiction Writing Competition

## Open to ALL Students!

Fire up your imagination and tell a great story... in just

## 250 words!



Word Limit:
Max 250 Words

Deadline:
November 27th

@

Entries should be emailed to:
library@loretoabbeydalkey.ie

## Get writing!