



Celebrating Stand Up Awareness Week

This week we marked Stand Up Week in school with a wide range of activities. To mark this important event in our calendar, we raised our newly designed 'Stand Up' flag. This flag proudly symbolises that we are all allies and that our school will not tolerate any homophobic, biphobic or transphobic language in our school or school community. Our vibrant new flag was designed by Chloe Finnegan in 1B and will be proudly flown every year during Stand Up Week.

In addition to starting the week with the flag-raising ceremony, our SPHE Support Group (pictured above) have worked hard on awareness and activities throughout the week, culminating in a whole school photo. Each year group was assigned a colour to wear on Friday, and we gathered together to proudly display our rainbow colours.

Mark your Calendar

Nov 20th	2 nd Year Parent/Teacher Meetings
Nov 20-26th	5th Year Autumn exams
Nov 24th	School closed
Nov 26-28th	TY Musical in Mermaid Theatre, Bray
Dec 1st-5th	TY Work Experience
Dec 8th	School closed
Dec 10th	Careers Fair for 4th, 5th and 6th Years
Dec 12th	YES Christmas Market
Dec 16th	Christmas Carol Concert, Dalkey Parish Church
Dec 18th	Dalkey's Got Talent, Concert Hall
Dec 19th	Christmas Break begins at 12pm

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



Past Pupil Memories

'The memories and friendships you make in school last a lifetime' these were just some of the inspiring words of Anne Kavanagh, Loreto Abbey Dalkey head girl from 1953, who spoke to TY students Beibhinn O'Donnell and Mia Jackson this week. Anne was accompanied by her good friend Maureen, a past pupil of the Loreto School, formerly of North Great George's Street.

Anne and Maureen shared interesting insights into life as Loreto students during their school years. While they went to different schools, they were united in their Loreto identity which still remains as important to them over 70 years following their graduation.

A huge thanks to Anne, Maureen and Anne's daughter Karen (also a past pupil and current parent in our school) who took the time to visit our students and share their memories. The stories shared by Anne and Maureen will form part of an exciting display on the lived history of our school in the new year.

If you, or any past pupil you know, would like to share memories of school, we would love to hear from you. Please email Mr Byrne at patrick.byrne@loretoabbeydalkey.ie



TY Addiction Workshop

This week, our TY students had an addiction workshop, presented by Carol Walsh, a specialist speaker in addiction and mental health awareness.

The presentation focused on promoting empathy, reducing stigma, and encouraging informed discussion and personal resilience. It helped students better understand addiction in its many forms, while fostering awareness, openness, and emotional intelligence that extended beyond the classroom.

Through interactive discussion and reflective exercises, students were encouraged to engage actively with the topic and share their insights in a supportive environment.

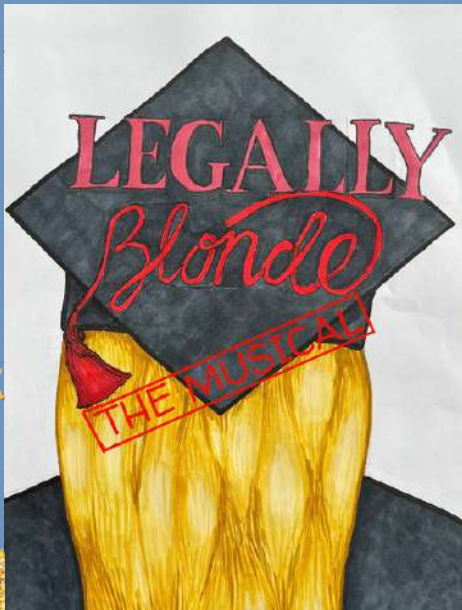
You Are Invited to...

Legally Blonde: The Musical

Join the Transition Year of Loreto Abbey Dalkey for a night of pink-powered fun and fabulous energy as they perform *Legally Blonde: The Musical*!

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the hit MGM movie, *Legally Blonde: The Musical* follows Elle Woods, a sorority queen who enrolls at Harvard Law School to win back her ex—but discovers her true strength instead.

Bursting with catchy musical numbers by Laurence O'Keeffe and Nell Benjamin and a script by Heather Hach, this feel-good musical celebrates confidence, friendship, and staying true to yourself.



The TYs will be performing six shows - a matinee and evening performance each on November 26th, 27th and 28th. Please note that the matinee performances are for school audiences only and are 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. Please direct any ticket-related queries to the box office in The Mermaid Theatre.

Leverett House will perform: Wednesday Matinee, Thursday Evening, and Friday Matinee.

Quincy House will perform: Wednesday Evening, Thursday Matinee, and Friday Evening.

Library Book Drive

We are delighted to have reached our first goal of 125 books donated - thank you!

A link to our **library wish list** is in the school app, and huge thanks to all who have already donated so generously. The new additions to the library are already being enjoyed by the students, and will be for a long time to come!

Don't forget, we are also happy to accept **second-hand** books in excellent condition.

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





First Years Meet Our Loreto Sisters

On Thursday, 1st Year class 1D, accompanied by their RE teacher Mr Byrne, visited our convent adjacent to the school. While in the peaceful surroundings of the Convent Chapel they met our Loreto sisters; Sr Colette, Sr Berna, Sr Anne Mary and Sr Elizabeth.

The sisters spoke to the students about their life as missionaries working in Loreto schools throughout the world. They also explained our founder Mary Ward's belief that 'Women in time will come to do much' and how each one of us students, staff and sisters are all part of one Loreto community. There was also time for the students to ask the sisters questions.

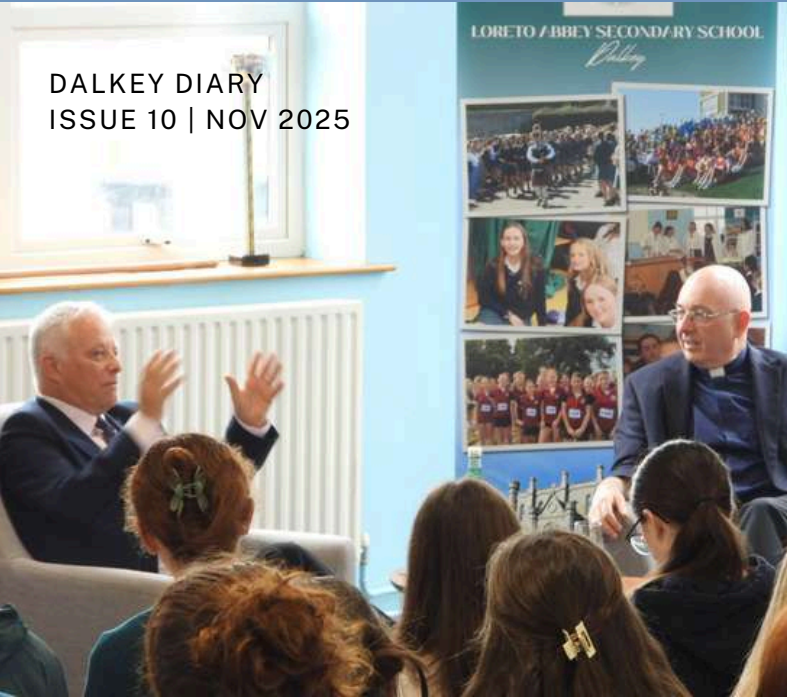
Thank you to the sisters for taking the time to meet and speak to our students.



Well Done Cadette A

Huge congratulations to the Cadette A Basketball team who have just qualified for the All Ireland Cup semi-final on December 16th in the National Basketball Arena

They achieved this with a 41-33 win today over St Andrew's and then beat a very strong St Mary's of Naas team 62-42 in their best performance of the year.



6th Year Talk with Bishop Donal Roche

This week, our 6th year RE students had the privilege of welcoming Bishop Donal Roche for a reflective and thought-provoking discussion. Bishop Roche shared details of his own faith journey and how he was called to his vocation. He also outlined his work as a school chaplain and parish priest before his appointment as Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin. He spoke honestly about the challenges of his role and the questions the Church is facing about the future.

An insightful discussion about how the church can engage with young people was a reminder of the importance of understanding, and reflection on how we can deepen our faith perspectives.



This Week's Hockey Results

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

1st Year E won 3-1 vs Mount Sackville
1st Year F won 3-1 vs Mount Sackville
1st Year G won 5-0 vs Mount Sackville
1st Year H won 4-1 vs Mount Sackville

Junior 4 won 2-0 vs Mount Anville
Junior 4 won 3-0 vs Loreto Bray

6th Years won 3-0 vs Loreto Bray



New Goalie Gear

Our hockey goalkeepers collected their lovely new goalie shirts this week - pictured here are some of our Senior goalies.



Shanaghan Cup

Our Dalkey sailors took part in the second stage of the Shanaghan Cup in the INSS this week.

The Shanaghan Cup is run over three dates, so our teams will compete for a final time after Christmas. Thank you to the INSS for a fantastic day!



This Week's Basketball Results

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

Junior A won 32-20 vs Holy Child Killiney
Junior B won 30-19 vs Holy Child Killiney

Cadette A won 41-33 vs St Andrew's
Cadette A won 62-42 vs St Mary's of Naas
Cadette A lost 41-38 vs Teresians
Cadette B lost 23-16 vs Teresians

Senior A lost 46-45 vs Loreto Beaufort
Senior A lost 40-32 vs Belfast
Senior B lost 39-32 vs Teresians

More sports photos can be found on Instagram @loretoabbeydalkeysport



Garda Safety Talk

This week, our local community gardaí, Marion Power and Angela O'Connor, came to speak to our 3rd year students about the potential legal and criminal implications of making poor decisions - even at a young age.

The presentation was very informative and we are very appreciative of the busy gardaí for giving us their time.



Nessa Raleigh



Advika Jalgi



Ella Connor

Photography Club

Over midterm, the girls in the Photography Club were asked to take a photo that captures a moment of warmth on a cold day. The winner was Nessa Raleigh (1st Year), with runners-up Advika Jalgi (1st Year) and Ella Connor (2nd Year).

If you want to try out a new hobby and get involved, new members are always welcome to join Photography Club. Please email Ms Flood for more information.