



Bí Cineálta Week 2026

This week we had our second annual Bí Cineálta Week in school. We focused on the theme of language and in particular how the words we choose with each other have the ability to build people up or tear them down. Our Bí Cineálta activities included:

- Every morning this week the Student Council led us in a reflection on the kind of language we should use in school. They reminded us that words have an ability to impact us in a deep and meaningful way and so we should be mindful of how we speak to one another.
- Students from 2nd and 3rd Year had a presentation from The Shona Project, a charity that aims to empower young women using kindness as a foundation. The Shona Project workshops are designed by young people for young people and built around the belief that girls deserve more: more support, more celebration, and more space to grow into strong and confident women.
- A group of our Transition Year students worked hard on creating an impressive display for Bí Cineálta week that expressed the values that we hold dear as a school community.
- In SPHE classes, each student was encouraged to create a 'brick', so that we could build a wall of kindness and support in the school. By choosing words that uplift and respect others, our students are actively building a kinder, more connected school community for everyone.
- Each day, students were asked to nominate peers who they feel go out of their way to be kind and supportive to others. Two students were then selected each day to be our Hidden Heroes.
- The Ember group produced a short film on the impact of negative language. The film was introduced by Mr Byrne and viewed by the whole school community on Tuesday.
- Pictured above, the 6th Year leadership team welcomed students to school with song and dance to celebrate Bí Cineálta week and the start of Spirit Day 2026 excitement!



LORETO ABBEY DALKEY

BÍ CINEÁLTA WEEK 2026

♥ BE KIND WEEK 2026 ♥



Mark your Calendar

Mar 28th-Apr 1st	Leaving Cert Oral exams
Mar 30th-Apr 1st	Optional study for 6th Years from 9am-4pm
Apr 7-10th	Optional study for 6th Years from 9am-4pm
Apr 13th	School reopens
Apr 14th	Class and team photos to be taken
Apr 25th	Loreto Annual Dinner at the Royal Marine Hotel
May 6th	A Night of Summer Music, Concert Hall
May 7-8th	TY Gaisce Hike
May 11th	Orientation (1) for incoming 1st Years from 4-6pm
May 15th	Spirit Day
May 19th	6th Year Graduation Mass, Dalkey Parish Church
May 21st	TY Graduation, Killiney Court Hotel
May 25-28th	TY Trip to Italy

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

TY Seville Exchange

This week, we are saying goodbye to our final group of Loreto Seville students for the year.

It has been another fantastic year of linguistic and cultural experiences for both Loreto schools. We would like to thank all of our TY students and families for participating so enthusiastically in the programme.

If students who are currently in 3rd Year are interested in taking part in next year's 2026/'27 Seville Exchange Programme, the deadline has been extended until after the Easter break. Application forms are available from Ms Freyne or from the link provided in the school app.



LAST FEW
REMAINING TICKETS

Need a Ticket?

If you are still hoping to attend the Loreto Annual Dinner on April 25th in the Royal Marine Hotel, there are a limited number of tickets available on [Eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie)

Any queries, please email the committee on loretoladieslunch@gmail.com



FIRST Lego League All-Ireland Final

Last Saturday, the LEGO Lads travelled to the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Santry and took 3rd place at the FIRST LEGO League All-Ireland Final, competing against 23 of Ireland's best teams.

After presenting our Core Values, "Facing the Arte(Facts)" innovation project, and robot design, we then participated in the robot games, making it through to the quarter-finals and, finally, we advanced to the Robot Games semi-finals.

Despite our narrow loss, our high scores secured our national ranking. We are very grateful that our hard work throughout the year paid off and that we had the opportunity to compete against such amazing teams from all over the country. We had a blast in the vibrant atmosphere and really enjoyed the day. We'd especially like to congratulate Mr Cullen on winning the Team Coach award and thank him for giving up his time to help us come this far. We look forward to competing again next year!

- The LEGO Lads



Team Coach Award

Huge congratulations to Mr Cullen who has been recognised for his outstanding leadership, winning the prestigious Team Coach Award at the FIRST LEGO League Irish National Final.

Sponsored by Amazon, this award celebrates the vital role mentors play in guiding students through the complex challenges of robotics, coding, and innovation.

"David's dedicated mentorship and tireless support were instrumental in his team's success, reflecting the extraordinary passion and hard work that defines the very best of Irish STEM education."



Loreto League Champions!

Huge congratulations to Minor B, Junior A and Junior B who all won their Loreto League finals this week. What an incredible accomplishment - well done to all players and coaches!

Minor B won 27-16 vs Loreto Beaufort

Junior A won 32-28 vs Loreto Beaufort

Junior B won 36-21 vs Loreto Beaufort



Kicking Off Summer Sports!

Please check Ms Coyne's email from today about the Summer Sports schedule after the Easter holidays.

Tennis teams will be finalised today at 6pm and an email will be sent over the Easter break.

Hockey groups will also be sent over the Easter break to focus on our skills in the off-season.

Mr Cahill will be in touch with **basketball teams** who still have play-offs after Easter

Athletics, sprints, hurdles and throwing events will all kick off on Monday 13th (see Ms Coyne's email for times). All students are welcome - just come along to try!



How to have an eggcellent Easter break...

- Relax and recharge
- Eat chocolate for breakfast at least once
- Sit in the sunshine
- Read a book for FUN!





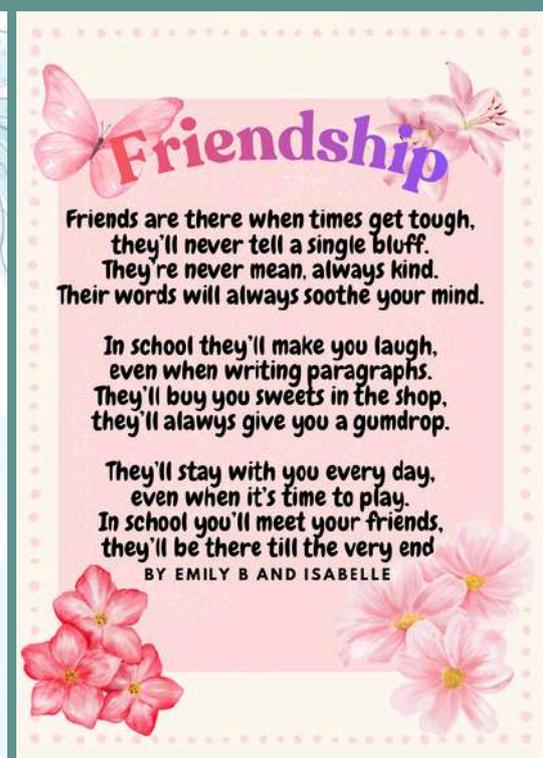
Livestream of 'Poor' by the Gate Theatre

On Wednesday, TY and 6th Year students were able to view a livestream of the hugely popular 'Poor' from the Gate Theatre as part of the Open Gate programme.

Originally a book of the same name, 'Poor' charts Katriona O'Sullivan's extraordinary journey as she emerges from her childhood in Coventry and Birmingham marked by poverty, addiction and homelessness. Moving to Dublin as a teenager, Poor follows O'Sullivan as she overcomes seemingly insurmountable obstacles to earn a PhD from Trinity College Dublin and inspire a generation through her writing, teaching and speaking.

Friendship Poems

This week, 1C explored the theme of friendship in the novel *Trash* in English class with Ms Noctor. Inspired by their learning, and the spirit of BÍ Cineálta, students created poems that reflect the power of friendship and the impact of words. Below are three examples from Anna Fallon and Ella Murphy, Alice Sheehy, and Emily Byrne and Isabelle Chambers.



2nd Year German Baking Activity

After covering the topic of food and cooking, the 2nd Year German class decided to put what we'd learned into practice. After researching German recipes online, we settled on making Kaiserschmarrn - a delicious German treat, a little like a pancake.

We found a recipe online which we thought would be simple to follow, and which we could translate into German, while also being tasty. We worked together to translate the recipe which was great for practising our grammar and especially using the imperative form.

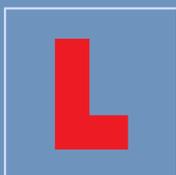
Once we had the recipe translated, we asked the Home Ec department if we could borrow some equipment and use a kitchen unit the following week to try out our recipe in the real world.

We had a lot of fun taking turns whisking, measuring, and trying our hand at flipping the Kaiserschmarrn in the pan. Finally we got to taste our creation and we all decided it was "sehr lecker!"



Well Done Polly

Well done to Polly Keegan in TY who is the first official graduate of Ms O'Keeffe's Life Skills Driver Theory Test Module, after passing her theory test recently!



Sacha Dekker Talk

Last week, the TYs were lucky enough to hear the incredible, inspirational story of Sacha Dekker. Ms Dekker came in to speak about her own journey, saying that "resilience is a choice, not a skill". Through her personal experiences, Ms Dekker definitely showed the power of believing and choosing to do better.

Ms Dekker had a great job and a great life, but she found out that her father had cancer and he died a few days later. Soon after, Ms Dekker was diagnosed with a rare type of epilepsy. She tried 21 different medications for her epilepsy, but none of them worked. She then decided that it was best to have surgery to get rid of her epilepsy. The doctors reassured her that there was a 0.0001% chance of anything going wrong but, unfortunately, she was left completely paralysed on the left side of her body. Her doctors told her she would need to live in a care home for the rest of her life, but Ms Dekker decided that she did not want that to be her life, so she moved to the National Rehabilitation Hospital, where she would spend her time learning to walk again and live with her disability.

Ms Dekker would go on to defy all of the odds and all of the doctors who told her she "couldn't". She walked the pier without stopping to sit down, and has since walked the Great Wall of China, and the Camino.

Ms Dekker's story is definitely one that we will never forget!

- Lily-Mae Fahey (TY)



Feis Ceoil

Last Thursday at the RDS, both school choirs represented the school with a series of excellent performances at the Feis Ceoil. The Junior Choir, a group of 57 students from 1D, 1E, and the 1st and 2nd year cohorts, competed in the Junior-Part competition. They delivered an entertaining performance of Greg Gilpin's 'Lightning' alongside a warm, expressive rendition of 'The Vicar of Dibley,' (Howard Goodall), ultimately earning an impressive second place.

The Senior Choir, featuring 38 students from 1st to 6th year, also took to the stage in a competition of an extremely high standard. They performed Eric Whitacre's 'The Seal Lullaby' followed by Zoltán Kodály's 'Gypsy Lament', a challenging unaccompanied 3-part piece. Their performance earned them a well-deserved Commended Certificate, with the adjudicator specifically praising the choice of repertoire and the girls' impressive intonation throughout.

We are incredibly proud of all the students for the hard work and dedication they put into their preparations leading up to this event. To celebrate their success, the day concluded with a well-earned trip to Eddie Rocket's for some much-needed milkshakes!



Camino Training Gets Underway

The first of the Camino training hikes took place on Wednesday afternoon. Luckily the sun was shining for the 5th Years who will spend the next number of weeks preparing for their trip at the end of May.



Leinster Senior Swim Gala

Congratulations to our Leinster Senior Swim team who took home gold in the free relay (Rachel, Chloe, Emily and Ashling) and gold in the medley relay (Ashling, Lily, Rachel and Emily). What a fantastic way for our three 6th Year swimmers to end their school swim journey. Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm over the years.

Congratulations also to Victoria Griffin (2nd Year) who was on the winning Leinster Interpro team at last Sunday's gala.



March's Monthly Music Monday

We had a lovely turnout for our monthly Music Monday this week! It was wonderful to welcome so many new faces, with students from 1st to 6th Year joining in.

The audience was treated to beautiful piano recitals and an energetic drum performance. It was a fantastic showcase of the talent we have across all years.

Save the Date for April Music Monday!

Following a fantastic session this month, we are already looking forward to our next Music Monday! Whether you've been practicing a new piece, want to showcase a fresh trick, or just want to enjoy some live music in a supportive environment, we'd love to see you there.

- Monday, April 27th, 2026 at 1:10pm
- Location: E01
- All years are welcome!



Walk for Water

On Tuesday, members of the Green School's committee walked to Dun Laoghaire and back, each carrying 5L of water in our school bags. We did this to raise awareness for water scarcity and what many women and children have to do multiple times a day.

We walked 5km with 5L but most of the women and children have to walk 15km just to find water. Usually from a watering hole where animals drink and swim and the water carries disease. They then have to carry over 10L of this on their heads the 15km journey back. They have to do this even at a young age and sometimes they have to do this multiple times a day.

We are all incredibly lucky that we do not have to worry about where we can find clean drinking water. We can just go to our kitchen tap or smart fridges and there it is. The Green Schools committee wanted to raise awareness on how this isn't the case for many people, which is why we do this walk every year.



Spanish Flamenco Workshop

Loreto Seville students Maria and Marta gave a presentation on the Feria de Sevilla to Miss Mooney's TY Spanish class this week. They then demonstrated flamenco dancing to the class and taught the girls the basic moves. !Qué arte!

Hidden Heroes

As part of Bi Cinealta week, students were asked to nominate 'Hidden Heroes' - people who carry out acts of kindness everyday in a quiet and understated way.

These heroes make life better for those around them and seek nothing in return. Together, we say a heartfelt "Thank You" to them for all that they do.





TYs Get Creative

Well done to 4E who had a great idea to create an original and creative Bí Cineálta image in their SPHE class this week!



5th Year Easter Baking

Ms Gleeson's 5th Year Home Ec class baked some delicious Mini Egg cookies for the end of term!

Vincent Lavery Talk

In their History module rotation, the TYs have spent the year learning about John F. Kennedy. They have examined his background and upbringing, critically assessed his choices in tough situations, and debated his legacy and the conspiracy theories around his assassination.

They were very excited therefore, to have Vincent Lavery in as a guest speaker this week. Mr Lavery was in the US army at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis, stationed in Florida only 90 miles from Cuba. He helped Kennedy's brother Robert campaign for the presidential nomination and has stayed involved in politics in America and in Ireland.

Mr Lavery was generous with his time and encouraged the girls to ask him questions as he gave insights into the politics of America in the 1960s, the Cold War, the cause of pacifism, the current US president, and what we as individuals can do to affect change.





Hockey News

1st Year C were narrowly defeated in shuttles after a 1-1 draw vs Mount Anville

1st Year E played in a heated Leinster League semi-final, losing 1-0 vs Kilkenny College

Minor 1 won their South Dublin League final!

Minor 3 won their Loreto League final!

Minor 4 won their Loreto League final!

Junior 2 lost 1-0 in their Loreto Final against Loreto Bray, but displayed great skill and effort

Junior 3 won their Loreto League final!

Junior 4 won their Loreto League final!

Senior 2 and **Senior 3** had their last hockey matches of the season. Thank you to the 6th Years on both teams for six years of enthusiasm, effort, and fun.

Senior 4 lost in their Loreto League final, but were an amazing team this year reaching both the semi-finals of the Leinster League and the finals of the Loreto League.

