



# DECEMBER 2025

## OLS Winter Newsletter

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# HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

On behalf of all the staff in Our Lady's School, I would like to wish all of our students and their families a joyful Christmas and a peaceful 2026!

*Gráinne Byrne  
Principal*



# MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Christmas atmosphere could be felt all around the school this term. Although the days became colder and darker, the school was full of warmth thanks to the many activities and events that took place over the past few months.

It has been an exciting term for sport. Both the Junior and Senior camogie teams had fantastic campaigns, reaching the Division 1A finals, with the junior team progressing to the All-Ireland series after a thrilling one-point victory. Hockey teams were also busy, with many competitive matches played, and a group of students had the opportunity to attend the FIH Pro League in Abbottstown to watch world-class hockey. The Badminton teams made a strong start to their season, winning all their opening league matches, while the U19 basketball team qualified for the All-Ireland draw. This year also marked a first for Our Lady's with the introduction of a First Year soccer team.

Beyond sport, the P5s organised a beautiful Nuns' Feast Day ceremony, celebrating the history and legacy of the Sisters in our school, supported by wonderful performances from the choir. December was filled with festive fun, including an Advent Calendar of activities and a special visit from Elfaba from the North Pole. The LCA class also organised the Gifts to the Crib ceremony, with the school community donating generously to those in need.

The term ended on a high with a festive last day, culminating in the much-loved OLS Carol Ceremony organised by C5. We hope everyone enjoys a restful Christmas and wish all a Happy New Year.

— Sadhbh, Estella & Aoife 



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



**JANICE DSOUZA (6C),  
ABBY O'ROURKE (T1) AND  
NEISHA FAIRBROTHER  
(T4), REPRESENTED OLS AT  
THE COMHAIRLE NA NOG.**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS  
OF THE INTERHOUSE COMPETITIONS!  
L HOUSE & M HOUSE**



**WELL DONE TO CARA SULLIVAN ON  
WINNING THE 6TH YEAR STUDY  
HAMPER AT THE REVISION WORKSHOP**



# OLS CELEBRATIONS



## GIFTS TO THE CRIB

THE ANNUAL GIFTS TO THE CRIB TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER. A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THE STUDENTS AND STAFF WHO BROUGHT GIFTS ON THE DAY. LARGE AMOUNTS OF TOYS, CLOTHES, TOILETRIES AND TREATS WERE DONATED TO ST VINCENT DE PAUL, CRUMLIN'S CHILDREN HOSPITAL, AND SAOIRSE WOMEN'S REFUGE.



## OLS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



## CHRISTMAS JUMPER CATWALK



**2ND YEAR CHRISTMAS FAIR**



**THE NUNS' FEAST DAY**



**CHRISTMAS KARAOKE**



**CHRISTMAS HOUSE ASSEMBLY**



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



There has been much spiritual activity and nourishment since August. Our students have benefitted from a reflective retreat with our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Years enjoying great days in Glendalough.

We marked several significant celebrations including Opening Year Mass in September, the Nuns' Feast Day in November, Gifts to the Crib on 11 December and the Christmas Carol Service on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December.

In addition our student faith leaders on the Le Chéile Council are playing a vital role in the development of spirituality in our school. Amie Lynch (L5) from the Le Cheile Council has written her own reflections on the work of the Council thus far.

Mr Tom Sneyd, Chaplain



In this school year, the Le Chéile Council has been very active in helping to promote prayer, reflection and a sense of community within our school. We meet every Monday at lunchtime to plan for the week ahead and to discuss new ideas and ways we can support the spiritual life of the school.

One of the main things we have organised this year is morning meditation before school. These sessions have provided students with a calm and peaceful start to the day and have been really well received. We also hold a prayer or meditation service most Fridays at lunchtime. Usually, two girls from the Council put the service together. We also make an announcement over the intercom to let students know about it and encourage everyone to attend.

We have also set up a sacred space in Reception to mark the different liturgical seasons. During December, we have been making announcements over the intercom about the meaning of Advent. The Advent candles are displayed in reception to help mark this important time in the school year.

Being part of the Le Chéile Council has been a really enjoyable and rewarding experience for me. It is great to be involved in something that helps bring people together and supports the values of our school. We are looking forward to continuing our work and planning more activities in the new year.  
(Amie Lynch, L5)

# ACTIVE SCHOOL FLAG

OLYMPIC RINGS OF  
FRIENDSHIP





THE LCA CLASS VISIT TO  
TERENURE GARDA  
STATION



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TY STUDENTS  
WHO PERFORMED BRILLIANTLY AT THE  
LEINSTER DEBATES COMPETITION!

# TY & LCA UPDATE



THE LCAS HAD A GREAT TIME  
CELEBRATING THE END OF THE TERM  
ICE SKATING



TYS HAD THE FANTASTIC  
OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH  
IRISH AUTHOR JAMES BUTLER  
IN TERENURE LIBRARY ON THE  
18TH OF NOVEMBER. THEY  
TOOK PART IN AN ENGAGING  
DISCUSSION AND SHARED  
THEIR REVIEWS OF HIS NEW  
NOVEL, 'CRYING WOLF'.



THE TY ENTERPRISE CLASS HAD A VISIT FROM A BANK OF IRELAND REPRESENTATIVE



ALEX HIBBERT, ARCTIC EXPLORER SPOKE TO TYS ABOUT HIS INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES IN THE ARTIC



THE TY ENGLISH CLASSES VISITED ST PIUS NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR SOME PAIRED READING WITH SENIOR INFANTS. THEY PRESENTED THE BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN'S BOOKS THEY HAD WRITTEN, DESIGNED AND COMPILED THEMSELVES.



THE TY HORTICULTURE CLASS BUSY PLANTING TULIP BULBS WITH THEIR TEACHER MR KEESHAN

# CAMOGIE

## SENIOR



WELL DONE TO OUR SENIOR CAMOGIE TEAM ON ANOTHER FANTASTIC SEASON AND REACHING THE SENIOR DUBLIN FINAL. THANK YOU TO MR CANTWELL & MR HANNAN.

## JUNIOR



A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JUNIOR CAMOGIE TEAM WHO ARE NOW IN THE JUNIOR DUBLIN A FINAL FOR THE THIRD YEAR IN A ROW. THE GIRLS PUT IN A FANTASTIC DISPLAY TO BEAT COLÁISTE ÍOSAGÁIN BY A SCORELINE OF 5-10 TO 3-8. THANK YOU TO MR CANTWELL AND MR GAMMELL.

# HOCKEY



Our Minor 1 team won 2-0 against Sutton Park in the Minor Cup. Thank you to Mr Urwin and Mr Williamson.



Our Senior 1s beat Loreto Balbriggan and Mount Temple 3-1 and 4-2 respectively. Thank you to all of our Hockey coaches.

# SOCCKER



Our Lady's School played their first competitive soccer match this term. Our new First Year team took on Loreto Bray on the astro pitch in Templeogue Utd winning 3-2. Thank you to Mr Gammell, Mr Bergin and Mr Maher.

# BADMINTON



The U14 Badminton teams have had a great start to the season with a number of comprehensive wins including against Woodbrook and Loreto. Thank you to Mr Cleary and Mr Kieran.

# BASKETBALL



The U16s and U19s  
in their new  
basketball kit this  
week.

Our U 19 Basketball team had a decisive victory winning 65 - 18 against Loreto Bray in the dome. Thank you to Mr Brennan Whitmore and Mr Andabaka.





# SUSTAINABILITY

## for Christmas

This year, OLS students and teachers got together to cook up some clever tips for a more **sustainable Christmas**. Whether you're in the kitchen or the gifts under the tree, we've got festive ideas to make your holiday kinder to the planet!



## Green School ideas



# SUSTAINABILITY

## Home Ec

**Small choices in the kitchen can make a big difference to our planet.** Sustainability doesn't have to be complicated.

Choosing to cook **more vegetarian or vegan meals**, even once or twice a week, can help reduce our environmental impact. **Plant-based meals** often require **fewer resources** to produce and can be just as **nutritious**, colourful and satisfying.

**Reducing food waste** is another key part of sustainable cooking. Leftover vegetables can be added to sauces, soups or stir-fries.

**In Home Economics, we encourage zero-waste cooking**, where as much of the ingredient as possible is used. Stems, peels and trimmings can often be reused rather than thrown away.



### Quick Vegan Veggie Stir-Fry!



#### You'll Need:

- Leftover veggies (carrots, peppers, broccoli, etc.)
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1-2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 tbsp soy sauce
- Cooked rice or noodles

#### What to Do:

1. Heat oil in a pan.
2. Add garlic & veggies. Stir-fry 5-7 mins.
3. Add 2 tbsp soy sauce.
4. Serve with rice or noodles!



merry  
*Christmas*  
~ & ~  
happy new year

