

Dalkey Diary



LORETO ABBEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

19th April 2024

Our Mary Ward Circle



Mary Ward wrote in the 17th century that 'Divine love is like fire'. Fast forward to 2024 and we were delighted to host a Mary Ward Circle with Sr Marie Celine, our 6th Year Student Leadership team and members of the Loreto community, who gathered to explore how we can pass the fire Mary Ward spoke of from generation to generation of Loreto students and past pupils. This intergenerational discussion provided us with a space to reflect on what we treasure in Loreto and how we sustain connections with our past pupils going forward. Thank you to Mr Byrne and Sr Marie Celine for facilitating this circle.



A Great Volume

The philosopher, Edmund Burke, posited that 'In history, a great volume is unrolled for our instruction, drawing the materials of future wisdom from the past errors and infirmities of mankind'. It was with this in mind that the historians from 2A, 2B and some of 2C converged on the GPO, Liberty Hall and the Custom House in order to gain a glimpse into our complex history of rebellion and nationhood. Our students enjoyed the GPO interactive tour where they experienced first hand accounts of the Rising from various primary sources. The Second Years then walked to Custom House Quay where the Helga was anchored during Easter 1916, finally making their way back past Liberty Hall, the birthplace of the Irish Citizen Army. Thank you to Ms Murray, Ms Galvin and Ms Galligan.





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CHECKMATE



It is said that Chess is a game in its form, an art by its content. With this in mind our Junior Chess players made their way to Oatlands College Chess Tournament this week to hone their craft. Having enjoyed tuition by Hector, a Chess Master from Blackrock College, our students held their own at the tournament. Thank you to Ms McBreen for organising another enjoyable chess experience.



What is the Ether?

Is Alchemy real? What is spontaneous generation? This week our Senior Physics students were tasked with identifying which theories from 300 years ago have since been debunked by modern scientists while attending Physics 300 in the Fitzgerald Building in Trinity College. Not only did they participate in stimulating discussions but also ascended to the roof where they observed the sun via a telescope that could perceive sunspots and other surface features. Thank you to Mr Cullen and Ms O'Keefe for organising this eye opening experience.

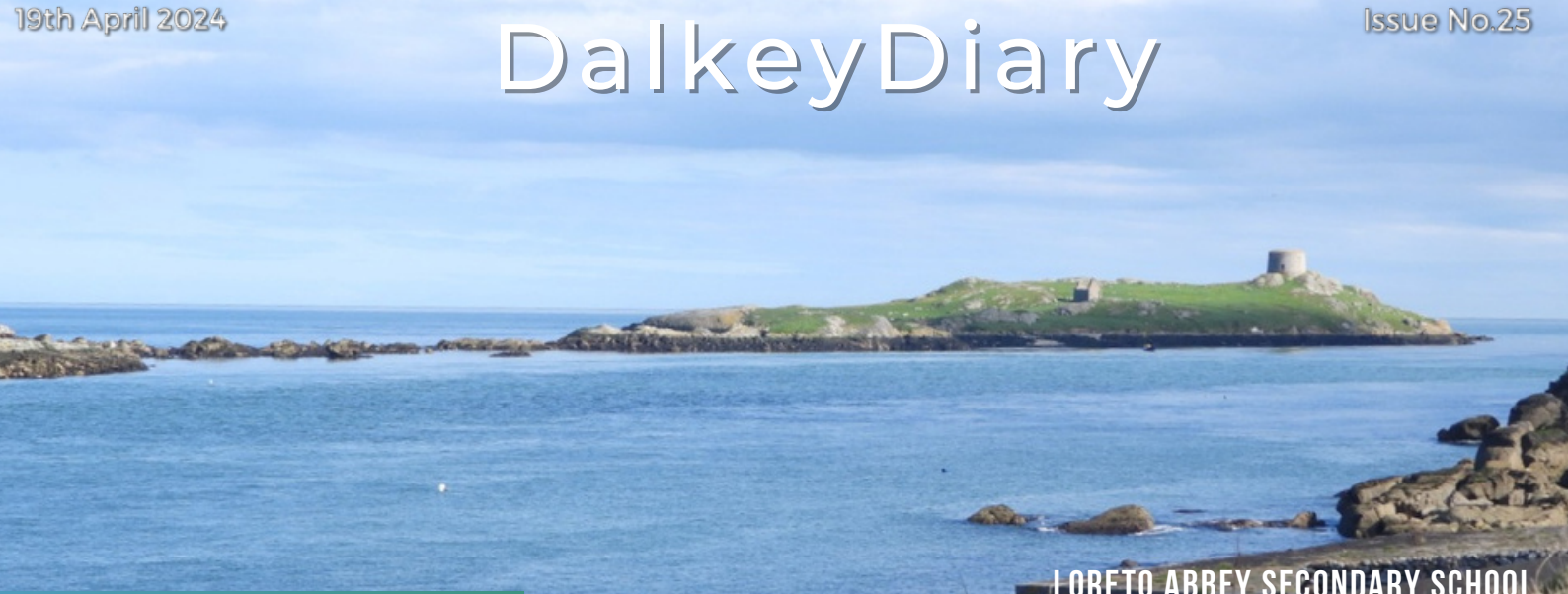


The Class of 1971

George Harrison's 'My Sweet Lord' spent five weeks at Number One in the charts in 1971 and this is what the class of that year exclaimed when they returned to their alma mater this week. Astonished by the significant developments that have occurred in the school since their time but also impressed by our students' friendly, courteous and confident manner, the Class of 1971 left us with a rekindled love of Loreto Abbey Dalkey.



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Book Festival Week

'Everybody loves a good story' were the words of Mill Theatre CEO and Artistic Director, Kate Canning to students in the Library as we celebrated our inaugural Loreto Abbey Dalkey Book Festival. In addition to discussing the role of theatre in bringing words to life, Kate also facilitated a drama workshop. Over the course of the week, RTE Broadcaster Rick O'Shea spoke about his love of books, DLR Writers in Residence, Sonia Gildea and Joanne Hayden hosted creative writing workshops while RTE Legal Affairs Correspondent, Orla O'Donnell spoke to students about reporting on high profile cases and being a journalist in an era of misinformation. Thank you to all of our speakers for inspiring our students to enjoy the myriad benefits of reading and writing.



Parents' Association Events

This week our Parents' Association held two very enjoyable events; our 3rd Year Parents enjoyed an evening social in Dún Laoghaire Yacht Club while our First Year parents joined us for a coffee morning in the Concert Hall. There they were entertained by our First Year Choir and instrumentalists. Thank you to our P.A representatives Marea, Ken Karen and Nikki for organising these worthwhile events.





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On Your Bike

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We were delighted to welcome our Transition Year students back to school this week after a week of Community Care. While they may be reaching the end of their journey towards Senior Cycle, there were a myriad of activities to enjoy this week including song writing with Luan Parle, sailing, mountain biking with Aisling Cullen of Trail Bike Body and Spirit Day preparations. Each class also received their Junior Cycle Certificates including their Junior Cycle Profile of Achievement, both of which students require when applying for university abroad. Students who are on exchange may collect their certificates from Ms Lonergan on their return to school.



Ember

Our Ember and Solas Faith Leaders were delighted to support the Sixth Class from Loreto Primary School as they were confirmed this week.





Basketball



GAA



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Sports Round Up

Golf



There were a number of national and school sporting successes this week including our Golf team winning the Loreto Outstanding Golf Team award, Sibéal Cherry won the National Camogie League Division 1B title, Katie Hayes won the Leinster Minor B Championship and our volleyball players won silver representing Ireland in Malta. Well done to all of our sports women.



Volleyball



Tennis

