



Mercy Secondary School
Inchicore



Report on Teaching and Learning

January - March 2025

Nurturing Global Thinkers,
Shaping Leaders



Designed by: Danielle O'Leary
Teaching & Learning Coordinator

Foreword

Greetings and warm regards,

As we reflect on the past term, we are excited to share some of the key highlights that have contributed to another memorable and enriching period in our school.

A significant focus for many of our students was the completion of the Leaving and Junior Cert mock exams, providing them with valuable feedback as they continue their preparations for the final exams in June.

Literacy Week was a fantastic celebration of reading and writing, with a series of engaging activities that sparked a deeper appreciation for language across all year groups.

Seachtain na Gaeilge was another standout event, with the school coming alive with Irish language and cultural activities. Students and staff participated enthusiastically, including dressing in the colours of the Irish flag to show their support for Irish heritage. It was a wonderful opportunity to immerse ourselves in the language while embracing the pride of our culture.

The Student Council, as always, played a vital role in organizing a range of events, ensuring the student body's voice was heard. One particularly special occasion was Grandparents' Day, where students welcomed their grandparents into the school to celebrate their cherished role in our lives.

On the sports front, we are thrilled to highlight the achievement of our girls' football team, who reached the cup final, demonstrating exceptional skill and teamwork. In addition, our U16 girls' badminton team made history by winning the Division 5 Dublin Schools Badminton Championship, demonstrating exceptional talent and determination in their sport.

This report will delve deeper into these accomplishments, showcasing the ongoing dedication of our students and staff in creating a vibrant and supportive school environment.

Sincere thank you to all colleagues who shared their professional practice in order to carry out this report.

Warm regards,

Danielle O'Leary

Teaching and Learning Coordinator



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Milestones

01



Badminton Champions

The U16 Badminton Champions showcased exceptional talent emerging as the best in their age category through a series of thrilling matches.

02



Seachtain na Gaeilge

A sea of green filled our school in celebration of Seachtain na Gaeilge, as we proudly donned our Irish colors to honor the Irish language and culture.

03



TY Try a Trade

TY Try a Trade gave students a hands-on opportunity to explore various careers and skills, sparking their interest in future professions through practical experience.

04

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

- Added some colour to the outdoor seating area
- Lined with uniform companies, created new designs and gathered feedback from the student body
- Raised funds through a hot chocolate sale
- 4 students represented the school at the regional ISSU meeting
- Created bullying information posters



PLANS FOR THE NEXT TERM

We plan on creating various events to improve student wellbeing and sense of belonging!

- Grandparents day (March 4th)



05



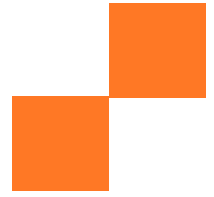
Student Council

The Student Council worked tirelessly, organizing events and initiatives to improve the school community and give students a voice in important decisions.

Grandparents Day

The Grandparents Day Bingo event at school was a delightful occasion, where students and their grandparents gathered for an afternoon of games, laughter, and cherished memories.

Academic Programs



The academic programs at Mercy Secondary School places an emphasis on every aspect of student growth and development, while meeting Department of Education requirements. Suitable class sizes and exceptional, qualified teachers allow us to offer a comfortable and inclusive educational environment, while ensuring each student receives the individualised attention and support they need.



01

Junior Cycle



02

Junior Cycle Schools Programme



03

Transition Year



04

Leaving Cert Applied



05

Leaving Cert
Established

Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have been looking at food science specifically zoning in on soups, sauces, pastry, raising agents and home baking. Students will practice all of the theory learnt in class soon by cooking mac and cheese, vegetable soup and sausage rolls.

Science: Justine O'Brien

Students have learnt all about solutions and mixtures by creating crystals. They have also examined separation techniques by carrying out experiments in filtration, evaporation and chromatography. They are just beginning to examine the differences between metals and non-metals and see how rusting of metals can be prevented.

SPHE: Letitia Enright

Students have been carrying out the Fuse Anti-bullying programme. So far we have looked at defining bullying, cyberbullying, empathy and relationships, bystanders and responsibility and responding and reporting. Students have really engaged with the work and created Anti Bullying posters in class.

History: Sinead O'Sullivan

We have been studying what life was like in the medieval period. They have been exploring the feudal system and what it was like to be a lord, a lady, a knight and a peasant. We have also looked at crime and punishment and health and medicine in this time. The students worked in pairs to create a project on an area of interest for them during the middle ages. They presented it to the entire class and did a great job.

Coding: Sinead O'Sullivan

In coding students are building on the basics of Scratch. They have learned how to use sequencing, events, and loops to animate their own name and add music and sound to their projects. Finally students developed problem solving skills by debugging code.

Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

Gaeilge: Sorcha Hackett

We have continued scaffolding the basics of Irish and building on top of what students already know - practising more language and adding to their vocabulary and knowledge of Gaeilge. We have covered the topics of home, the house, where students live and the community/surroundings. We also had a lovely Seachtain na Gaeilge with quizzes, games, events and competitions.

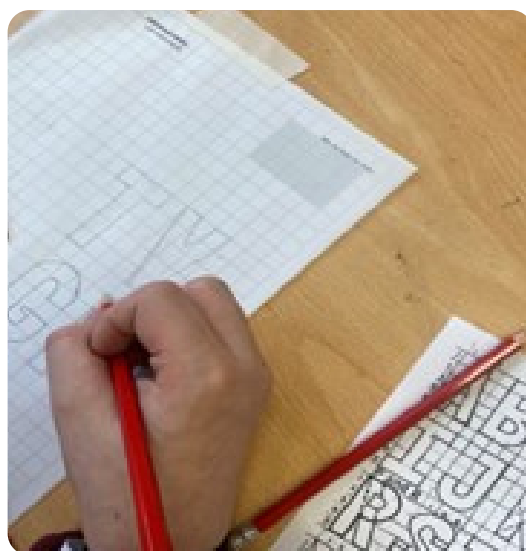
Maths: Avril Devereux

Students have learned some important concepts in Coordinate Geometry. Students have learned how to plot x and y coordinates on a Cartesian plane. They can identify the 4 quadrants and how to graph lines. Students can calculate the slope of a line by using the rise over run and also by using the slope formula. They also worked very hard on using the midpoint formula. We are now beginning to solve linear equations.

Visual Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have completed their tonal self-portraits using the grid method. Throughout this project, they explored facial proportions, symmetry, blending techniques, and scale. They are now finalising their monochromatic painted portraits, focusing on color theory and painting techniques.

As they move forward, students are beginning to develop ideas around sustainability and pollution in the Liffey. This marks the start of an eight-week Graphic Design project, guided alongside two teachers from NCAD.



Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

Gaeilge: Liam Regan

We spent the past term further developing students' confidence in using the language with one another through student-student questioning. We have focused on the key vocab areas of my home and my area and scaffolded students into creating short written pieces on both their house and their area. We had a very enjoyable Seachtain na Gaeilge with in class games, a table quiz and a poster competition.

CSPE: Liam Regan

We continued our study of Rights and Responsibilities this term with a focus on Animal Rights. Students learned about animal rights, abuse and the role of animals in food production and entertainment. We made use of the documentary Blackfish to study animal treatment in zoos and theme parks and we are currently developing an idea for an awareness project on this topic.

Business: Paula McCarville

All first year business students have been looking at advertising techniques and the development stages of a new product and sponsorships. A lot of the first years are football fans and they loved talking about the sponsors of their favourite teams. These topics are our starting point for preparation for next year's CBA where they will develop a product or service as part of their enterprise unit which they seem to really enjoy.

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

We have continued working on how to describe people, including family members. We also began learning how to talk about likes, dislikes, and pastimes. In addition, we introduced the difference between ser and estar – two key verbs in Spanish that are both used to express "to be," but in different contexts.

Coding: Justine O'Brien

Students have finished learning the basics of scratch. They have been learning computers as communication devices. They looked at binary and how to write their names in binary code. They have also examined how computers generate pictures by designing their own pixel art.

Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

CSPE: Sorchá Hackett

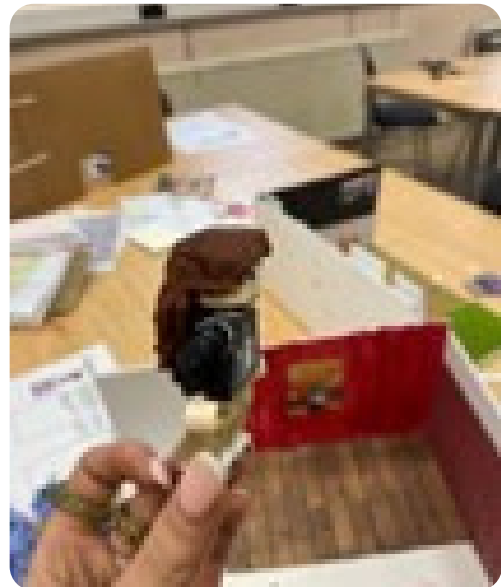
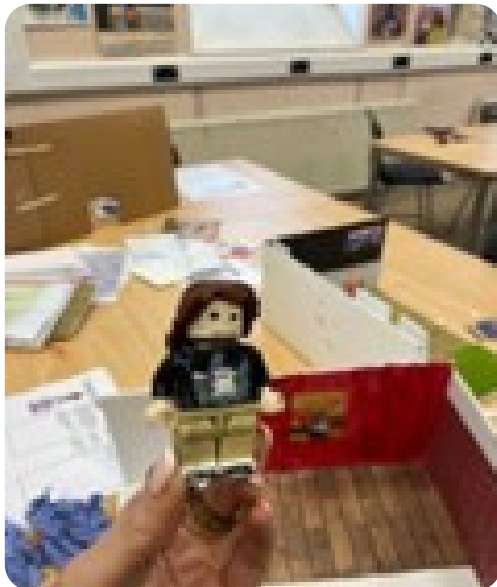
We continued to delve into different aspects of human rights - we focused on racism and bystanderism. We also looked at different people who changed the face of human rights and are currently working on a mini-CBA in the form of a presentation. Students have chosen a hero who they believe helped to improve human rights throughout history and they are going to present their findings to their class before the Easter break.

1 Setanta Home Room: Melissa McGee & Louise Smith

Each week we attend the library at Richmond Barracks. The students love attending as they get to improve their literacy skills and relax at the same time!

1 Setanta Art Craft & Design: Rebecca Warren

Students are currently filming and editing their stop motion animations films. They have created a 3D set backdrop and characters from clay and plasticine/wire. They are learning how to capture images and create smooth transitions for filming a short animation. They will then add sound effects and edit their short film using capcut



Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

1 Setanta & 2 Lir

Home Skills: Melissa McGee

Class Lír have been zoning in on the home skill of recycling and correct waste disposal. The students created their own box so they can collect bottles for the deposit return scheme. At the end of the month, we return the bottles and bring the money back to our school!

Home Room: Melissa McGee & Louise Smith

Each week we attend the library at Richmond Barracks. The students love attending as they get to improve their literacy skills and relax at the same time!



Science: Justine O'Brien

The students have been working on a number of different things. We made crystals, did some chromatography decorations and learnt all about the planets. They have also learnt different organs of the body through Simon says and are beginning to look at the water cycle.

Horticulture: Sorcha Hackett

We have been covering the topic of Spring - looking at what spring brings - animals, seeds and the nature around us. We have incorporated this into art, writing and projects.

The boys have planted many new seeds of flowers and food and they are enjoying watching the micro-greens sprout up!

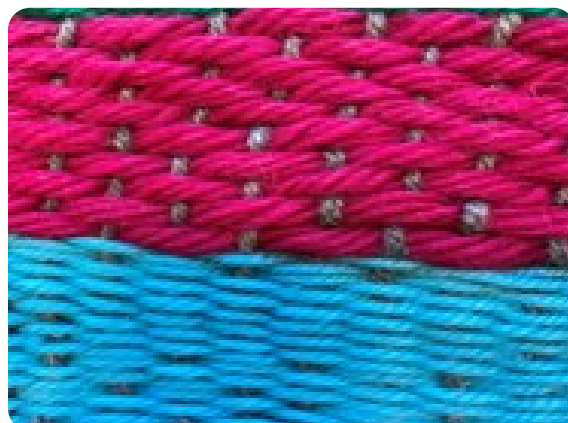
Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

2 Lir

Art, Craft & Design: Rebecca Warren

Students have created a number of short projects to enhance their creative and sensory skills. They have completed a full still-life piece using paint, refining their understanding of color theory and mixing. This piece was based on the theme of 'Technology,' exploring both old and new forms of technological advancements. They also used tape to create an abstract artwork.

We worked in textiles and constructed handmade looms before completing a weaving piece. Currently, they are working on oil pastel blending techniques.



Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

Home Economics: Melissa McGee & Fiona Healy

Students have completed their CBA which focused on creative textiles. Students really impressed us with their creative and sewing skills. The students are delighted to be getting back into the culinary side of the course where they will delve into food commodities and cooking processes!

Science: Justine O'Brien

Students have finished their CBA's where they got to design and report on their own experiment. They have worked through density and are now examining acids and bases using pH meters, universal indicators and titrations.

History: Aine O'Shaughnessy

Students finished learning about the 1798 Rebellion and are now working on their CBAs where they are exploring local or family history and using their research skills to analyse sources and relevant information.

English HL: Sinead O'Sullivan

We have been reading the novel Noughts and Crosses which explores the themes of racism and injustice. Students completed their CBA 1 on oral communication. They picked an area of interest for them and worked individually, in pairs or groups to produce an oral presentation on it. Mediums included speeches, sketches, interviews, presentations, poetry and songs.

Maths HL: Avril Devereux

Students have learned all the important concepts in Statistics 1,2,and 3. They are able to calculate the mean, mode, median and range. At higher level, students can now calculate the mean using mid interval values. Students can also display data using various types of graphs. These graphs include pie charts, histograms, stem and leaf diagrams, back to back stem and leaf diagrams. We have been focusing on exam style questions and have just finished a class test. We are now beginning patterns and sequences.

Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

Maths OL: Danielle O'Leary

My 2nd year Maths class are working very hard. They have tackled concepts like perimeter, area, and volume, and now, they're diving into the world of distance, speed, and time. It's amazing to see their enthusiasm as they apply these concepts to real-life scenarios.

After mastering formulas for areas and volumes, they've seamlessly transitioned to understanding how distance, speed, and time connect. The way they approach exam-style questions like figuring out how far a car travels at a certain speed or how long it takes to run a set distance is impressive. They're not just memorizing formulas, they're genuinely grasping how maths works in the real world.

I love seeing their confidence grow with each problem they solve. It's clear that the more they practice, the more they enjoy the process.

Visual Art: Rebecca Warren

Students are adding the finishing touches to their CBA projects, which involved researching and developing ideas on a theme before designing a final artwork. One class has focused on enhancing their observational drawing and photography skills by creating narrative still-life paintings using the grid method, while the other group has explored printmaking techniques through collage composition and lino cutting.

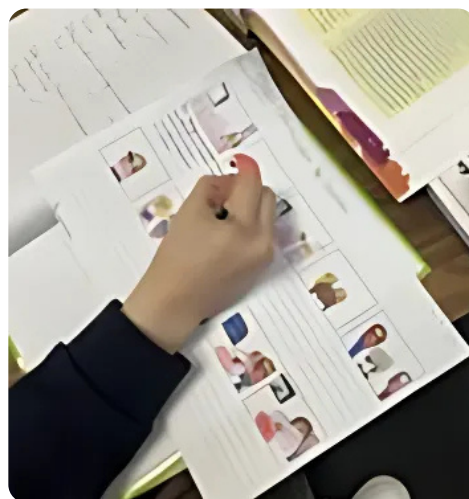
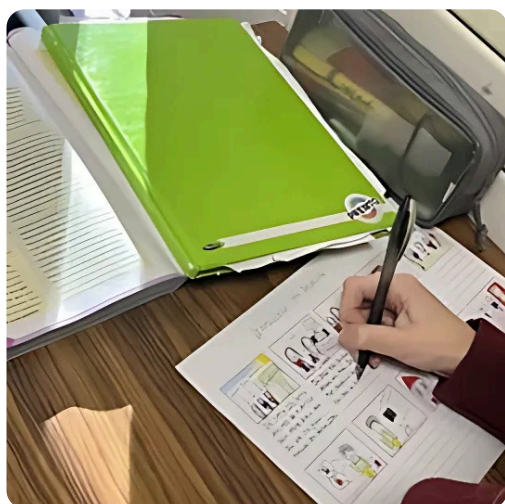
As they prepare for their final presentation, students will create a reflective piece to accompany their work.



Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

Gaeilge HL: Liam Regan

Students studied the drama 'Na Deoraithe' as part of this terms focus on holidays, travel and culture. Storyboards were created to tell the story of the drama and they specifically focused on the themes, emotions and character traits in the drama. Students also created a travel itinerary and travel diary for an interrailing trip around Europe making use of verbs in the past and present tense and putting their new vocabulary to use.



Gaeilge OL: Sorcha Hackett

Students have been working on writing about events that they have been to and their own experiences - so we have looked at event vocabulary for example accidents, concerts and sporting events. They have been preparing a mini-CBA which goes towards their summer assessment. We also had a lovely Seachtain na Gaeilge with quizzes, games, events and competitions.

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

We introduced how to talk about time and dates in Spanish, including the days of the week and months of the year. We've also started covering topics such as daily routines and reflexive verbs.

To support listening skills, we watched the animated adventure comedy Puss in Boots: The Last Wish in Spanish — a fun and engaging way for students to continue practicing their comprehension.

We've also begun working on CBA 1, which is a great opportunity for students to develop their oral skills by preparing a presentation on a topic of their choice.

Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

CSPE: Sorchá Hackett

We studied ableism and homelessness and looked at some interesting facts and statistics as well as some informative videos. We discussed these issues as a class. We also looked at different people who changed the face of human rights and are currently working on a mini-CBA in the form of a presentation. Students have chosen a hero who they believe helped to improve human rights throughout history and they are going to present their findings to their class before the Easter break. This is a CSPE initiative across different classes that will become part of a schoolwide presentation on 'our heroes' and is aimed at showing students how one individual can change history for the better! These can be local heroes or global.

Business: Paula McCarville

Second year business students have been working hard on their enterprise CBA's and are in the final week of adding the finishing touches. They looked at the marketing mix and applied their knowledge to a product or service of their choice and compiled a presentation that they will present to their peers next week. Second year business students had a trip to Sky Ireland to learn all about the company and had a go at the green screen and what it is like to be a news reporter. They were given a specific role to carry out this task at Sky and some of them included; production manager, camera person, stylist, content creator, editor etc. They had a great time!



Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Home Economics: Melissa McGee & Fiona Healy

After completing the written mock exams, students are preparing for their practical exams. Students are focusing on their paperwork at the moment which encourages organisation, resourcefulness and critical thinking



Science: Justine O'Brien

Before their mocks students were learning about solutions and mixtures by making crystals. They also learnt about the different separating techniques used in science. Now they have completed their mocks students are working through revision booklets and learning how to design and build their own electrical circuits.

Gaeilge HL: Bernie McCabe

The focus of our learning moved from the literature element of the language, to essay writing skill set & aural & oral as we supported each other on the final touches to our MRB (CBA) 2. Students prepared a presentation on a topic of their choice. A topic which interested them personally and something that they wanted to share with their class. Having submitted this presentation on Google Drive & Canva, they worked towards giving that presentation - as Gaeilge to the class.

History: Sinead O'Sullivan

Students were very busy in January revising for their mocks. We have been exploring 20th century history this term. They have looked at the cold war, the changing lives of women, the 1960s and the troubles in Northern Ireland.

Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Gaeilge OL: SORCHA HACKETT

Students have been busy preparing for their mock exams. Most students put in the hard work and it paid off. We practised many exam questions and looked back over different topics, vocabulary and grammar. Students have been working on writing about events that they have been to and their own experiences - so a big focus on past tense. We also had a lovely Seachtain na Gaeilge with quizzes, games, events and competitions.

CSPE: SORCHA HACKETT

We have been looking at the Irish government and the electoral systems. We have also looked at democracy, how to register to vote and how to fill in a ballot paper.

Maths HL: DANIELLE O'LEARY

My 3rd year maths class has been diligently working hard ever since finishing their mock exams, demonstrating a strong commitment to improving their skills. As we approach the end of our study on financial maths, students have not only grasped the core concepts but have also applied them to real-life scenarios, showcasing their growing understanding.

To ensure continued progress, they are required to submit a weekly JC paper for grading, allowing both the students and myself to track their development. In addition to the regular coursework, extra classes have been scheduled on Mondays to provide further support and help students refine their understanding of complex topics. The dedication and effort shown by the class have been impressive, and they're now preparing for the final stages of their learning before the upcoming exams.

Maths OL: AVRIL DEVEREUX

Students have been focusing on the different types of transformations. Students have also been completing a revision booklet on a different topic every week to help monitor their progress for their upcoming Junior Cycle. We have been focusing on exam questions. We have started to revise financial maths.

Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Visual Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have been very busy in art, completing their Junior Cert projects ahead of the upcoming deadline! They each are working on an individual work based on a given theme in the medium of their choice. Some have created beautiful ceramic sculptures, still life paintings, mixed media compositions and large scale drawings!

They will then ensure their ideas are clearly communicated in their visual journal to show their developments and processed as they came to create their final artwork

Business: Paula McCarville

Students have been revising some accounts that showed up in their mocks. We are practising the trading profit & loss account and some company budgeted and actual accounts which many of them answered very well in their mocks. We are looking at balance sheets and understanding what these accounts mean and are why they are necessary for the firm to carry out. We are starting to pick out some first year topics for revision too. Students are working extremely hard towards their junior certificate.

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

In class, students worked on mock exam questions, focusing on reading, listening, and writing tasks. We also reviewed some previous topics such as the weather, dates, and telling the time. In addition, we began exploring new areas like giving directions and using the past tense to talk about past holidays or events.

Students were given individual feedback on their results – some did really well, showing that their hard work is paying off.

We'll continue covering any remaining topics and keep practicing with exam-style questions to help build confidence and make sure everyone is ready for June.

Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Home Economics: Melissa McGee & Pamela Durrant

Students have been continuing to focus on their ethnic cookery module where they each make a meal from a different country each week!

Careers: Caroline McCorriston

Students have experienced a Subject Choice event this term where they were able to ask senior students questions and see examples of their work.

Science: Justine O'Brien & Laoise McColgan

Students received a talk on the new changes being implemented in both Leaving Cert Chemistry and Biology. They have finished their Biology modules after looking at microorganisms and different food tests. Now they are beginning to learn about acids and bases. They have been practising their titration techniques.

English: Aine O'Shaughnessy

Students have been reading 'The Gone Book' by Helena Close, taking part in discussions and examining character and plot development.

Hair & Beauty: Pamela Durrant

Students have been excelling in their practical skills this term. Practicing on the Mannequin heads and each other, with some great results.



Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Digital Portfolio: Sinead O'Sullivan

Students continue to update their digital portfolio weekly. We have been doing a digital storytelling module. In groups students have come up with a story concept and storyboarded it. They shot their movie following their storyboard and edited it in capcut. Each group presented their short film to the class and explained the creative process.

Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have been working on planning a mural for the new STEM room through brainstorming and learning about contemporary artists. They have painted the base coat and will work collaboratively to select the final design

12 TYs are also continuing to work on the Photography project with local artist Liadh Connolly. Their work will be exhibited in IMMA in the summer which is such a fantastic opportunity! They are exploring Inchicore through photography as they complete workshops with the artist on Fridays. This project is alongside Children's Hospital Ireland and will lead to the work being displayed in the new children's hospital



Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Business: Raul Fernandez

Students worked on topics related to the financial life cycle and explored discounted suppliers such as Lidl. They also learned about the 4 Ps of the marketing mix – Product, Price, Place, and Promotion – and how these elements are used by businesses to attract customers. In addition, students are currently learning how to write their own CVs, focusing on how to present their skills and experience effectively.

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

Students worked on topics such as ordering food in a restaurant and learned about some typical Spanish dishes. We also looked at how to talk about pastimes and hobbies, helping students expand their vocabulary for everyday conversations.

Maths: Danielle O’Leary

The Transition Year students have been steadily working through the Leaving Cert curriculum, making impressive strides in their studies. Having recently completed their work on Statistics and Sequences and Series, they have developed a strong foundation in these areas, applying theoretical concepts to practical problems. Now, the focus has shifted to Probability, where students are diving into the complexities of chance, analyzing real-world situations to understand how probability plays a role in various contexts. Their engagement and hard work throughout each topic have been commendable, and they continue to approach the material with determination, preparing for the challenges ahead in their Leaving Cert journey.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

Biology: Justine O'Brien

Students have finished enzymes and all the associated experiments. Now they are learning all about ecology and how to examine a habitat in preparation for their upcoming trip to Dublin Zoo to carry out their ecology practical.

Gaeilge: Bernie McCabe

We have continued on our language journey, discovering more about the working of the grammar of the language, from many aspects but specifically the Future tense. We have watched & analysed the short film “Cáca Milis”, which takes a look at how we treat vulnerable members of our society among other themes. We have continued on our communicative element of the course by collectively writing up another “Sratih Pictiúr” & had some fun with “Guess Who” (as Gaeilge) during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Mo Ghrá-sa. Le Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill has also featured a poem which clearly spells out the importance of care & nurturing in our relationships as opposed to purely our physical appearance, which all too often is pushed on us by social media.

Home Economics: Fiona Healy

We have been delving into the world of social studies in Home Economics and have looked at areas such as The Family and Marriage. We have had some really fascinating discussions on different cultural traditions and rituals from various countries and faiths.

Maths OL: Avril Devereux

Students have been focusing on patterns and sequences. They can formulate the n th term for arithmetic sequences using the T_n formula. Students can now identify how a pattern is quadratic. They can now find the sum of an arithmetic series using the S_n formula. Students can now solve simultaneous equations in patterns. We have been working on problem solving questions in patterns and will complete a class test on Monday 24th March.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have been working on canvas as they complete their oil pastel self-portraits, based on the theme '*Beneath the Surface*'. They researched and developed ideas before participating in a workshop with artist Declan O'Meara, who guided them through his oil pastel techniques and processes.

In addition to their final artwork, students created small-scale, handmade accordion sketchpads to document their creative journey.

We are now moving on to Post-Impressionism in Visual Studies, exploring the changes and developments in art history during the 19th century. Students are also reflecting on their own techniques as we compare artists' individual styles, palettes, and processes.

Business: Paula McCarville

5th years are working away on management activities and have completed their exam on management skills with fantastic higher level results. We are chipping away at the applied business question (ABQ's) and getting our structure and timing technique up to standard. Overall students are working really hard and it's great to see that level of dedication.

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

We've continued practicing and introducing key grammar, including past tenses such as the pretérito perfecto and pretérito indefinido. Students also worked on creating a "gira verbo" — a small craft project that involves building a verb wheel with different irregular verbs to help reinforce their understanding.

We explored topics like movies and TV shows, using real materials such as songs and film clips to make learning more engaging and to improve listening skills.

Lately, we've started focusing on the oral exam. We explained how it works, including the marking scheme, and began practicing the conversation section in class. To make it fun and dynamic, students took part in a "speed dating" style activity, practicing quick-fire questions with different classmates.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCA

Coordinator: Melissa McGee

Students completed their first task interview with the State Examinations Commission. This was worth 10 credits and has significant weighting for the students LC grade. All of the students showed up prepared and had a successful interview with excellent feedback from the examiner. Well done all - looking forward to seeing all you have achieved in your next set of interviews/ oral examinations in May!

VPG: Caroline McCorriston

Students have completed their CVs this term and surveyed a person in a career they are interested in.

Science: Justine O'Brien

Students have completed their 3rd key assignment. They prepared a presentation on the best practices for teenagers in the area of food, sleep and exercise. They used to suggest how they can improve themselves in these areas. Now they are beginning to prepare their final CBA in which a nurse will come to speak to them about their job.

History: Aine O'Shaughnessy

Students have been developing their research skills and completed the first draft of their RSR project. They chose a topic of interest and spent time researching and learning about this before writing their essay.

Horticulture: Sorcha Hackett

Spring is here so it has been a busy time of planting seeds, preparing our plot in the Richmond Barracks and working on the project report for the Vocational Education Task which will be examined at the end of April. Students are learning a lot about growing food and plants from seeds as well as planting flower bulbs for spring.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCA

Hair & Beauty: Pamela Durrant

Students have been focusing on writing up for their home-made hair/face mask for their Task this term and continuing To practice their practical skills each week And the Mannequin heads and practising on each other's hair also curling, Plaits and upstyling. In our new Mercy Salon room.



VPG: Paula McCarville

Students are working on their VPG task. They are planning a mini company after brainstorming a lot of ideas. They are planning to set up a chocolate shop around Easter time and are arranging a raffle to fund this. They are working hard on their posters to promote the idea. We are looking forward to our mini company day.

Teaching and Learning- 6LCA

Mathematical Applications: Danielle O'Leary

The 6LCA class has just completed their fourth and final key assignment, marking a significant milestone in their coursework. With this important task behind them, they are now fully focused on exam preparation as the Leaving Cert approaches in June. The students are dedicating themselves to revision, consolidating everything they've learned throughout the year, and honing their exam techniques. There's a great sense of determination in the class as they work through past papers, clarify any remaining doubts, and fine-tune their knowledge in preparation for the final exams. With hard work and perseverance, they are making the most of the time remaining to ensure they are fully prepared for the challenges that lie ahead

Coordinator: Melissa McGee

Students completed their final task interviews with the State Examinations Commission. The students showed up prepared and had a successful interview with excellent feedback from the examiner. Well done all - looking forward to seeing all you have achieved during your oral examinations in May.

Horticulture: Sorcha Hackett

Students have been busy preparing for mock exams. We have been very focused on the academic side of things but have also been planting seeds for food and flowers, digging in Richmond barracks and covering some key assignments.

Craft & Design: Rebecca Warren

Students created small scale weavings after constructing a handmade loom. They are currently working on their practical project which accounts for 60% of their final grade. They are developing ideas to design a 3D scale model of an interior design space which they will construct after the break. Their Ceramic pieces from term 1 have also been fired in the new Kiln and we are excited to glaze them

Teaching and Learning- 6LCA

VPG: Paula McCarville

Students have been working on workplace safety and regulations and have been researching safety procedures for companies. Students discussed trade unions and wrote up a set of questions for a shop steward which they will interview before the easter break in preparation for their key assignments.

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

We've been getting ready for the mock exams by practicing different types of questions and finishing up the key assignment for Module 1: Social Relationships. We've now moved on to Module 2: Travelling and Finding the Way.

To get started, we've looked at vocabulary around accommodation and the hospitality sector. We've also started preparing for the oral exam and doing some practice in class. Over the next few weeks, we'll be working on the four key assignments for this module.

Teaching and Learning- 6LCE

Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have just completed their mock exams and we are working on filling in the gaps of knowledge. We have been zoning in on exam technique. Students will finish their elective (social studies) and we will then work towards a second mock to see their progress as we get closer to June!

Careers: Caroline McCorriston

Students have had a busy term applying to the CAO, Further Education Courses, Apprenticeships and some have started attending interviews for courses.

Gaeilge OL: Bernie McCabe

Our attention turned towards the mock exam- revision of literature, essay writing, comprehension skills but also time management, of both the topics revised but also of the papers themselves during the exam. Since the completion of the mocks, aural & oral skills have taken centre stage, with the completion of the Sraith Pictiúr & the continuing conversation of the many genres which may be discussed in the upcoming Dept of ED.Oral Irish exam which will take place this Easter.

Gaeilge HL: Liam Regan

Our main focus this term has been student's preparations for their mock exams and currently their oral examinations over the Easter break. The content we are dealing with in the run up to the oral exams is on Sraith Pictiúr and each student has been getting individual time each Friday to practise their oral skills outside of class.

Physics: James Hanrahan

Students have been flying through the curriculum and recently had a great hair day using the van de graaf generator. Mocks are over and everyone is looking forward to finishing the course soon and practicing their exam papers.



Teaching and Learning- 6LCE

Maths HL: Danielle O'Leary

My 6th year students have successfully completed their mock exams, and following valuable feedback, they are now incredibly focused on their final preparations for the Leaving Cert in June. With Inferential Statistics and Probability already behind them, they have built a solid foundation in these areas and are now transitioning to the study of Financial Maths. This new topic will provide them with the essential tools to apply mathematical concepts to real-world financial situations. Additionally, the students continue to attend their extra classes every Wednesday after school, ensuring they stay on track and make the most of the remaining time before the exams. Their dedication and commitment to improving their skills are evident, and they are pushing forward with great determination as they approach the final stretch.

Maths OL: Avril Devereux

Students have been learning the laws of indices and how to apply the laws in exam questions. We have also completed the 19 prescribed constructions. They have been working very hard on a revision booklet on a different topic each week to help monitor their progress. Students also stay for an extra hour of Maths on Wednesdays after school.

Art: Rebecca Warren

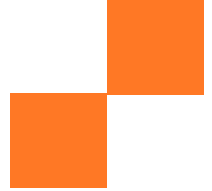
Students are busy completing their practical project work, which accounts for 70% of their final grade in Art for the Leaving Cert. It is a challenging project, but they are working exceptionally hard—generating ideas and concepts based on themes before creating two finished artworks. They are also preparing for their five-hour practical exam in April.

Business: Paula McCarville

Students have been practising insurance questions and having good discussions on insurance scenarios. They are practising the applied business question, looking at structure and practising time management. They are focusing on keywords and definitions in their units that apply to their ABQ. Some students are handing up extra work ahead of their June exam which is great to see.

Guidance

Caroline McCorriston



5th Year Community Mentoring



**2nd Year Scholars
Ireland
Graduation in
Trinity College**



**TYs Subject Choice
Event with 5th and
6th year students**



**TYs at the 'Try a Trade'
day in Irish Rail**



**2nd Years at the Trinity
College Medicine Day**



**3rd years at an
apprenticeship day in
Irish Rail**

Student Council

Caroline McCorriston



Student Council Hot Chocolate sale



A selection of students won awards for being Kind



Grandparents Day

TY News

Melissa McGee



Our TY students have been extremely busy since coming back from their winter break. They are immersing themselves in new experiences and pushing themselves out of their comfort zone. Below is just a summary of what they got up to:

1. Tenderfoot Theatre Programme
2. Bridge to College with TAP
3. Conflict Resolution Workshop
4. Fighting Words Playwriting Workshop
5. Wide variety of TAP (TCD) programmes (Culture Works, University Times Journalism Course, MedWeek, Pharmacy Week, Code Plus Graduation)
6. Wide range of TUD programmes (leadership, painting and decorating, restaurant experience)
7. Street Law - Criminal Courts of Justice Visit
8. Attorney General Work Experience Week
9. Athletics Ireland Leadership Programme
10. Youth Fundraising Workshop

Students have a jam packed term ahead and we can't wait to see all of their achievements!



Aspire2

Danielle O'Leary



6th Year Overnight

Our 6th Years had the best time on their very last trip from secondary school, making more memories and reflecting on their time in Mercy



5th Year Mentoring

The 5th-year mentor session with Aspire2 provided valuable insights and guidance, helping students navigate their academic and career aspirations with confidence and clarity



5LCA HCT Task

The 5LCA class visited the Butlers factory to gain firsthand experience and insights, preparing them for their upcoming HCT task with a deeper understanding of the industry



6th Year Mentoring

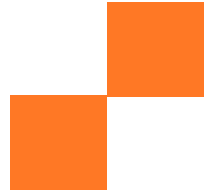
The 6th year's final Aspire2 mentoring session marked a reflective and empowering conclusion, offering students valuable advice as they prepare to embark on their next chapter beyond school



YAP Training

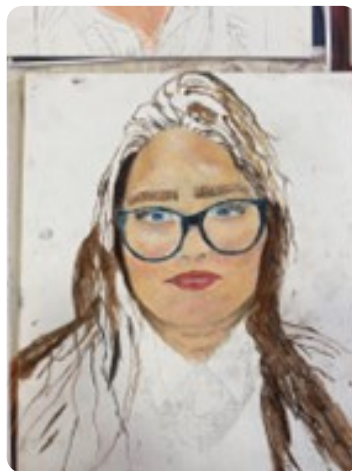
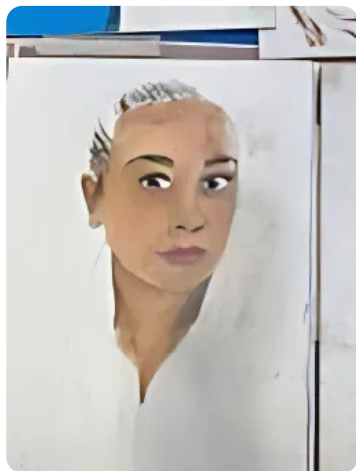
During the February midterm, our Youth Advisory Panel participated in leadership training at UCC, enhancing their skills and fostering collaboration for future initiatives

Extracurricular



5th Year Artist in the Classroom - Creative Engagement Project Rebecca Warren

As part of Creative Engagement, 5th year Art students had a full day workshop in the art room with Declan O'Meara. They explored self portraiture and were guided by Declan as they developed oil pastel techniques and application. They are currently completing the portraits in Art class.



Girls Football Team

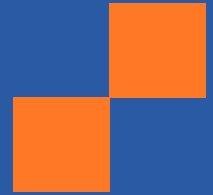
Thomas Nolan, Paula McCarville, Rachel Murphy

The girls under 15s put in a brave performance in their Leinster Final against the reigning champions Gallen CS at Athlone Town Stadium. They just fell short losing 1-0. A lot of stand out players, but an unbelievable performance from keeper Chloe O'keefe who was also one of heroes alongside Faye Marshall and Lily May Murphy as the girls bounced back from their loss to win their region quarter final 3-1 on Penalties.





Mercy Secondary School
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Nurturing Global
Thinkers,
Shaping Leaders

