



EDITION I

MERCY CONVENT PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY '25



Dear Parents and guardians, Happy New Year to you all from everyone here in the Mercy. We have a great start back as we look forward to a positive Term 2 ahead. The month started off on high as Mr. McCabe and his wonderful group of 5th class girls presented their project at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS. It was a great day, a great experience for the girls involved and brilliant to have our school represented.

Classrooms are a hive of activity and learning is in full flow. We are grateful for the effort and enthusiasm that our pupils bring to the school each day. This was encapsulated through inviting grandparents in to visit us this week in three class groups. The school closures were unfortunate but warranted. We are closed next Thursday, Feb 6th, for whole staff training on new Primary Maths Curriculum which we hope will be very worthwhile.

This month has also witnessed fantastic progress on the new school building. Progress is going to plan and on time. We are delighted to share that we will most certainly be in the new campus for the start of the new school year at the end of August. It is very exciting, and we can't wait to show you around our state of the art building and grounds.

Looking forward to a great term ahead.

C. Ruane & B. Corkery

JANUARY ATTENDANCE

School attendance for January 2025 was 93.6%, showing a slight increase from 93.2% in January 2024. We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring that your child attends school consistently, provided they are well.

WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome three new staff members this month. Ms. Ciara Blacoe has joined the SNA Team, Mr. Cian Ryan has started in 1st class for the rest of the school year and finally, Ms. Fiona Foley has begun a job share position in Learning Support. We are thrilled to have all these experienced staff members join our team and we wish them well.



BT YOUNG SCIENTIST AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION



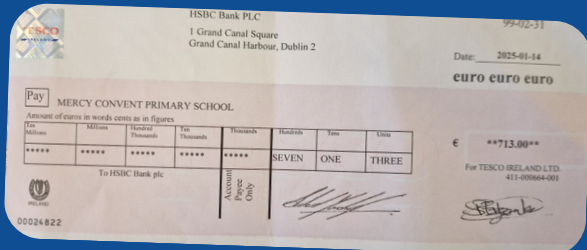
Mr McCabe's 5th class showcased their amazing project, Music to My Plant's Ears, at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition Primary Fair. The children worked tirelessly to bring their idea to life, exploring whether music could affect the growth of plants. From brainstorming creative ideas to planting seeds, caring for their plants daily, and measuring growth weekly, the children showed incredible dedication. They experimented with different genres of music, classical, country, and pop, while also maintaining a control group in silence. Their work didn't stop there! They carefully recorded their findings, collaborated to design an eye-catching stand, and confidently presented their results to the exhibition audience. Their hard work and teamwork truly paid off! We were thrilled to receive a beautiful plaque for the school in recognition of their participation. Each pupil was also awarded an individual certificate, a well-deserved acknowledgment of their commitment.



Grandparent's Day Success

From January 28th to 30th, we held our first Grandparents' Day in many years, and it was a fantastic success! Thank you to all the grandparents and/ or special relatives who joined us. The children in our Infant and Third Classes loved sharing this special time with you. It was a joy to see the children sharing stories, songs and special moments. A big thank you to our Parent's Council for organising the tea and coffee.





We are delighted to share that we have received a cheque for €713 from Tesco as part of the Tesco Community Fund. A huge thank you to Tesco and everyone who supported us!

DEBATE

Huge Congratulations to Our Debating Team!

We are thrilled to celebrate our school debating team on their triumphant win in the Concern Debates semi-final! With their stalwart performances, our captain Kate, second speaker, Holly, and third speaker, Bláthnaid, delivered compelling arguments that secured the motion "We Should Only Buy Fairtrade Products." A special mention to Sophie, our Chairperson and timekeepers Róisín and Saídh on assistance with research and rebuttals.

Your confidence, teamwork, and dedication to the art of debate have made us all immensely proud. Best of luck as you prepare for the final on March 6th — your school community is behind you every step of the way!



New School Build Update:

Our building project is moving forward and we're busy preparing behind the scenes. Our old school yard has been repurposed as the new staff car park but will continue to serve as a playground until we transition to the new campus.

Important Reminders

- Please update Aladdin connect should your child be absent.
- We have a healthy eating policy and encourage healthy eating. Please click [here](#) for details.
- Punctuality is important and greatly assists with a smooth day.
- School is closed on Thursday 6th of February due to in-service training on the new Primary Maths Curriculum.
- Mid-term break: Thursday 20th and Friday 21st February.
- [Click here to access our Parent's survey.](#)

Our School Standards of Behaviour:

- ✓ Correct School Uniform – Please ensure the proper uniform is worn every day, except on PE days – PE uniform on PE days.
- ✓ Footwear – Black shoes, runners or boots should be worn daily.
- ✓ Jewellery – For safety reasons, only stud earrings are permitted. If wearing a watch, please ensure it does not have a camera or the ability to take photos.
- ✓ Artificial nails, nail varnish, hair dye and fake tan are not allowed.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining our school standards.

