



OUR LADY'S SECONDARY SCHOOL

INFORMATION WEEK BEGINNING APRIL 4TH

MONDAY APRIL 4TH

- Student Support Meeting P6 in Iontas
- TY Drugs Talk
- U/15 Boys GAA
- 2L Business Presentation
- OLSS 50th Anniversary History Time Capsule
- Junior Debating Club Rm at lunchtime in Room 04
- U/15 Boys Soccer 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- First Year Homework club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.00pm – 6.00pm



TUESDAY APRIL 5TH



- Year Head Meeting P6 in Iontas
- First Year Boys Basketball All Ireland Play Offs
- DCU Senior Girls GAA 7's competition
- U/14 Girls GAA
- Yes & Be Well Programme
- Senior ECO Club 1.15pm (new members welcome)
- U/14 Girls GAA 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- First Year Homework club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.00pm – 6.00pm
- UCD Entrance Scholars Presentation

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6TH

- First Year Girls Basketball All Ireland Play Offs
- TY PE Expo
- First Year Boys GAA 1.10pm – 2.10pm
- Evening Study 2.00pm – 4.00pm
- Choir event in Iontas



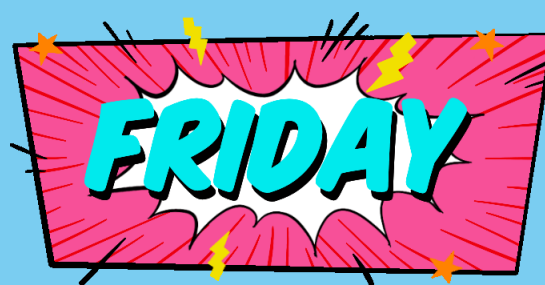
THURSDAY APRIL 7TH



- U/14 Girls GAA
- Third Year Presentation on TY 2.00pm – 2.30pm
- 4th & 5th Year Rugby 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- First Year Homework club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.00pm – 6.00pm

FRIDAY APRIL 8TH

- Second Year Boys Basketball All Ireland Play Offs
- 5th Year LCV Enterprise Activity
- U/15 Boys Soccer Ulster Semi Final
- First Year Boys GAA training 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- First Year Homework club 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.00pm – 6.00pm



SATURDAY APRIL 9TH

- Sixth Year Saturday Study 9.00am – 1.00pm





- **Saturday April 9th:**
Leaving Certificate
German Orals
- **Saturday April 9th:**
Leaving Certificate
French Orals
- **Sunday April 10th:**
Leaving Certificate
French Orals
- **Thursday April 15th:**
Leaving Certificate
Russian Orals
- **Saturday April 9th-
Thursday April 14th:**
Leaving Certificate Irish
Orals



OLSS News

Fundraising Raffle

Our school has organised a fundraising raffle with all proceeds going towards facilities in the school, and in particular the new 13 classroom extension. All students in the school received a book of tickets on Friday April 1st with 6 tickets to sell at €5 a ticket. These tickets are to be returned to on or before May. As a school we are conscious of the huge financial demand on parents and this is our first fundraising event in a number of years to coincide with our 50th anniversary and the building of our new extension. If any parent / guardian would like to take additional books of tickets to sell please ask their son / daughter to speak with Mr. Bishop. Thank you in advance for your support with this initiative.

Name

Tel

Email

Amt.....

Ticket No 001

Our Lady's Secondary School 50th Anniversary Raffle



Castelgarden XDC150HD
Tractor Mower 15hp Engine
32" Cut Hydrostatic Drive
Retail Price €3200



HUSQVARNA AM315
AutoMower Supplied & Fitted
(with App Control) Retail Price €3200



Bentini Phoenix
Mountain Bike 27.5" Wheel
GENTS Bike Retail Price €430

Other Prizes include:

- Falcon Vienne Ladies Hybrid Suspension Bike Retail Price €379.00
- Stihl Re100 Power Washer Electric Retail Price €329.00
- TENG TOOL Tm095 95 Piece Tool Kit Retail Price €295
- Nintendo Switch Portable Gaming Console Retail Price €269.00
- Eufy 15c Max Robotic Vacuum 1500va (with App Control) Retail Price €249.99

In Association with Monaghan Hire

**€5
Ticket**

Ticket No 001



OLSS News

Scholarships

Congratulations to Vincent Chen, Mia Mackie, Jodie Mc Quillan, Emma Hanratty, Tara Quinn and Phaedra Clarke Casey and who are receiving UCD Entrance Scholars Awards next Tuesday. These awards are given to students who received 560 points or more in last year's Leaving Certificate.

Active Schools Week

Congratulations to Ms. Mc Enaney, the PE Department and the students in the Active School Module for organising a comprehensive range of activities for staff and students this week.

Daffodil Day 2022

Thank you to the staff, parents and students of our school who raised over €900 for Castleblayney Cancer Society on Daffodil Day





OLSS News

Student Voice

- Our Senior Student Council and Junior Student Council meet every Friday at lunchtime.
- Our Second Year & Third Year students participated in Student Voice Focus Groups with Ms. Murray in recent weeks.
- Well done to our TY Mentors who have been assisting the Sixth Year Student Leaders with their duties in school and who have been supporting staff and students with teaching & learning initiatives in the junior end of the school.
- Our Student Council & representatives from our Student Leadership group participated in a Student Leadership Conference with other CEIST Schools on March 23rd.
- A group of 5th Year students met with representatives from DCU as part of a focus group on the Irish specification for Junior Cycle.
- Well done to 6th Year student Ronan Garrivan who was one of the MC's at this year's Comhairle na nÓg





OLSS News

50th Anniversary Celebrations

A mass celebrated by Bishop Larry Duffy to mark the 50th anniversary of the school took place in St. Mary's Church on Friday March 25th with representatives from our Trustees, Sisters of Mercy, Board of Management, parents, retired staff, past pupils, current staff & current pupils attending.

Transition Year Junk Kouture

Congratulations to the five entries from our TY Junk Kouture module who made it through to Northern Regional finals of the Junk Kouture competition. Our school has one design through to the Junk Kouture Dublin City final in the Bord Gais energy theatre on May 5th. The design is called 'Monster Extinction' by Lara Raducevic, Ellie Cummiskey and Salomeja Skalisiute.





OLSS News

Student Enterprise Competition

- Well done to our Junior and Senior students who participated in the Student Enterprise competition. A special word of mention to all those students who were successful in various categories:
 - Emily O' Reilly: Runner Up in the Creative Video Category
 - Sarah Myles: Winner in the Creative Video Category
 - Erin Mc Quillan: Winner in the Quality Video Category
 - Adam & Pauric Mc Bride: Winner in the Innovation Category and Senior Category Winner





OLSS News

Government advice on the easing of Covid restrictions in schools:

Please see below guidance we have received from the Department of Education & Skills about the easing of Covid restrictions in post primary schools.

- The Government has accepted the recommendations of NPHET to remove remaining restrictions relating to mask-wearing and physical distancing in schools. Schools should now resume normal school routines and normal teaching and learning activities.
- The suite of measures set out in the Framework for physical distancing at post primary schools included, reconfiguring class spaces to maximise physical distancing; reviewing timetables, use of live streaming within the school; and accessing available spaces within the local community. As the general requirement for physical distancing no longer applies, schools are no longer required to maintain these arrangements.
- Use of changing rooms, PE halls and lockers, staff rooms etc. can resume where schools have curtailed access to these facilities.
- Students can continue to wear their PE gear to school on the days that they are timetabled for PE and / or a sports related module.
- The staggered breaks & lunches will continue to the end of the year as they are built into the timetable.



OLSS News

Government advice on the easing of Covid restrictions in schools:

- The staggered end to the school day will cease as and from Monday. All year groups will finish at 3.55pm apart from First and Fourth Year students who can finish at 3.50pm.
- It is no longer a requirement for staff or students to wear a mask in school. Staff and students can continue to wear a mask if they wish to do so. Schools should continue to make masks available on request as they are currently doing.
- With effect from Monday 28 February the wearing of face coverings/masks on school transport will no longer be mandatory but will continue to be advised. All other measures relating to hygiene (including the provision of hand sanitiser and additional cleaning of service) and pre-assigned seating will remain in place subject to further review
- Schools should continue to promote good hygiene. Hand hygiene can be achieved by hand washing or use of a hand sanitiser (when hands look clean).
- The requirement to stay at home if you have symptoms remains, both for students and staff. One of the key messages to manage the risks of COVID-19 is to do everything practical to avoid the introduction of COVID-19 into the school.



OLSS News

State Examinations June 2022

Please see below links to important information from the SEC relating to adjustments to the Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate exams this year.

- Adjustments to the Leaving Certificate 2022
<https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-EX-22888090.pdf>
- Assessment Arrangements for Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2022. This document also includes the Junior Cycle adjustments which remain valid
<https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-EX-13298977.pdf>



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Assessment Arrangements

For Junior Cycle and Leaving Certificate Examinations 2022



OLSS News

State Examination Oral & Music Practical Exams

The State Examinations Commission has issued Circular S90/21 'Important Announcement in Relation to Oral Tests in Irish and Modern Foreign languages and the Music Practical Examinations for Leaving Certificate 2022' <https://www.examinations.ie/misc-doc/EN-EX-14529694.pdf>.

The circular sets out the following key provisions in relation to the timing of these tests, preliminary information in relation to arrangements, recruitment of examiners, and supports for schools:

- For the 2022 Leaving Certificate, the Oral language tests and the Leaving Certificate Music Practical examination will be conducted in the Easter holiday period using a revised 6-day model to run from Saturday 9th April to Thursday 14th April
- Schools will have some flexibility if there is a particular day over the six days on which tests cannot be held due to local needs.
- The tests will be conducted by visiting examiners, recruited, and appointed to schools by the SEC
- If it is not possible to facilitate all of the tests in the 6-day period, two contingency days have been identified as Thursday 7th and Friday 8th April 2022.

The State Examinations Commission will issue a more detailed circular in January 2022 with further details of these arrangements including details in relation to the management of the tests during the 6-day period over the Easter holidays.



OLSS News

Attendance

If you know your son / daughter will be absent please email: office@olss.ie with a brief message outlining the reason for the absence. If your son / daughter is absent and we do not receive prior notification parents / guardians will receive a notification via the school app. It is very important that all parents click the Yes / No option to confirm that they are aware of the reason for this absence.





OLSS News

Mobile Phones in School

- Mobile Phones in School: See below updated guidelines for the use of mobile phones in school.
- Before school, break / lunch and after school
- Students mobile phones should be switched off at all times before school, during break / lunch and after school while on the school premises.
- Students are not allowed access to their phones before school, during break / lunch and after school while on the school premises. If a student is using their mobile phone without permission on the school premises it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.
- Students are not allowed access to their mobile phones during evening study. Chromebooks will be provided to students who require access to Google Classroom.





OLSS News

Mobile Phones in School

In Class

First Year

- Student mobile phones should be switched off at all times in class.
- Students are not allowed to use their mobile phone for any activity in class. (students will have access to the school chromebooks for all ICT teaching & learning activities)
- If a student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.
- If a student asks permission to leave the class to use the bathroom or go on a message they will be asked to leave their mobile phone on their desk before they do so.

Second Year

- Student mobile phones should be switched off at all times in class.
- Students are not allowed to use their mobile phone for any activity in class. (students will have access to the school chromebooks for all ICT teaching & learning activities)
- If a student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.
- If a student asks permission to leave the class to use the bathroom or go on a message they will be asked to leave their mobile phone on their desk before they do so.



OLSS News

Third Year

- Student mobile phones should be switched off at all times in class unless directed by the class teacher.
- Students may be allowed to use their mobile phone in class to complete work and access material relevant to CBA's, exams etc if they cannot do this work on the school chromebooks or in the computer rooms. If the use of mobile phones in class is essential to the aforementioned work the classroom teacher will email smt@olss.ie in advance of this activity outlining the class group and the nature of the work to be covered with the mobile phone. When using their mobile phones in class students will follow the guidelines below.
- If a student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.
- If a student asks permission to leave the class to use the bathroom or go on a message they will be asked to leave their mobile phone on their desk before they do so.





OLSS News

Fourth Year

- Student mobile phones should be switched off at all times in class unless directed by the class teacher.
- All students have a school chromebook and this should be the preferred option for students in class.
- If students have to use their mobile phones for an activity that cannot be completed on the chromebooks the students will follow the guidelines outlined below.
- If a student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.

Fifth Year

- Student mobile phones should be switched off at all times in class unless directed by the class teacher.
- The booking of the school chromebooks should be the preferred option for students in class.
- If students have to use their mobile phones for an activity that cannot be completed on the chromebooks the students will follow the guidelines outlined below.
- If a student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.





OLSS News

Sixth Year

- Student mobile phones should be switched off at all times in class unless directed by the class teacher.
- The booking of the school chromebooks should be the preferred option for students in class.
- If students have to use their mobile phones for an activity that cannot be completed on the chromebooks the students will follow the guidelines outlined below.
- If a student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.

Guidelines for the Use of Mobile Phones In Class for Certain Year Groups

Please see below some guidelines for staff on student use of mobile phones in the classroom

- Students are expected to use the student Wi-Fi when using their device for classroom tasks. The teacher will issue a unique code to the class to access this for the length of the class activity only.
- If the school's student WiFi network is down, students may use their own mobile data to access only educational and career development activities as directed by the class teacher.
- Students should have their mobile phones placed flat on the desk at all times unless otherwise directed by the teacher for a particular task under direct teacher supervision
- Students should be informed before each activity using their phone that any inappropriate use of their device may lead to sanctions up to and including suspension.



OLSS News

School Activities (including games, trips etc)

- Students in First, Second & Third Year are not allowed to use their mobile phones travelling to / from any school activity or while participating in any school activity.
- If a teacher is comfortable allowing senior students to use their phones travelling to / from any school activity or while participating in any school activity then they can give them permission to do so. If a teacher isn't comfortable with this they could request that students phones remain switched off.
- In a small number of cases when junior students and senior students may be on the same bus / activity the teacher may give permission for junior students to use their mobile phones if this privilege is being extended to senior students.
- If any student is using their mobile phone without permission in class it may be confiscated for the student and / or parent / guardian to collect in the school office at the end of the day.





OLSS News

Saturday Study

- Saturday Study for Sixth Year students continues every Saturday from 9.00am – 1.00pm



SATURDAY STUDY

SIXTH YEAR STUDENTS

Every Saturday

9am-1pm

Our Lady's Secondary School
Castleblayney

www.olss.ie



Extra Curricular Activities



CONGRATULATIONS TO TY STUDENT HAZEL HUGHES AND HER TEAMMATES WHO CAME THIRD IN INTERNATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY EVENT IN WALES LAST WEEKEND.



Congratulations to 5th Year student Callum Madden who was selected to represent Ulster Rugby in the upcoming inter provincial competition.



GAA TRAINING & GAMES FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS CONTINUES AS PER THE EVENTS SCHEDULE ABOVE. OUR U/14 GIRLS GAA TEAM GOT THEIR CAMPAIGN OFF TO A GOOD START WITH A DRAW VS LORETO OMAGH ON WEDNESDAY. OUR SENIOR BOYS GAA TEAM REACHED THE QUARTER FINAL OF THE DCU GAA 7'S ON MARCH 23RD. OUR U/13 BOYS GAA TEAM GOT THEIR ULSTER A CAMPAIGN OFF TO A GOOD START WITH WINS VS ST. PAT'S CAVAN & ST. MACARTAN'S MONAGHAN. OUR U/15 GAA TEAM HAD A GOOD WIN IN A CHALLENGE GAME VS ST. COLMAN'S NEWRY.



WELL DONE TO 6TH YEAR STUDENT AMY CALLAN WHO RECEIVED HER ULSTER POST PRIMARY GAA LADIES ALL STAR AND A FUNCTION IN BALLYGAWLEY ON FRIDAY MARCH 25TH.



Extra Curricular Activities



WELL DONE TO OUR FIRST YEAR GIRLS WHO WERE SUCCESSFUL IN THE REGIONAL A FINAL ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 30TH. HARD LUCK TO OUR FIRST YEAR BOYS AND SECOND YEAR GIRLS WHO LOST THE REGIONAL A FINALS COMING UP AGAINST STRONG TEAMS FROM DONEGAL & ANTRIM



Soccer training continues as per the events schedule above and our U/15 Boys soccer team has qualified for the Ulster Semi Final.



CHOIR REHEARSALS CONTINUE WITH THE CHOIR PARTICIPATING IN A FUNDRAISING EVENT IN IONTAS ON APRIL 6TH.



AUDITIONS FOR 3RD & 4TH YEAR STUDENTS FOR NEXT YEARS SCHOOL MUSICAL TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY MARCH 31ST.



JUNIOR DRAMA CLUB CONTINUES AFTER SCHOOL EVERY THURSDAY FROM 4.00PM - 5.00PM IN THE CONCERT HALL.



JUNIOR DEBATING CLUB CONTINUES EVERY MONDAY AT LUNCHTIME IN ROOM 04.



THE SENIOR ECO CLUB MEETS EVERY TUESDAY AND THE JUNIOR ECO CLUB MEETS EVERY THURSDAY AND NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

50 YEARS

Uniter Sub Maria
OLSS



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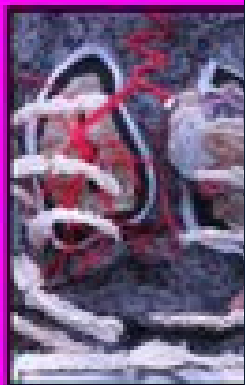
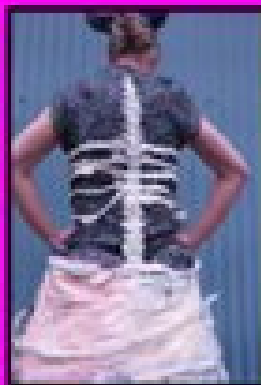
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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JUNK KOUTURE DUBLIN CITY FINALIST - 'MONSTER EXTINCTION'

Congratulations to IT students: Lara Radicevic, Elio Cammiskey and Salemeja Skainsara who have reached the Dublin City final of the Junk Kouture Competition with their design 'Monster extinction'. They will now represent Our Lady's Convent Castleblayney in the Bord Gais Energy Theatre on May 5th. Well done to all!







@olssccastleblayney



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Our Lady's
Secondary School
Media



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