



# Mary Queen of Ireland Newsletter

## Term 2 Newsletter 2026

### Upcoming School Closures.

We would like to welcome everyone back after the Easter Holidays, and we are looking forward to a fun term 3! School will be closed on the 20<sup>th</sup> April for staff training. We will also be closed on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May for the May bank holiday, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June for the June Bank Holiday.

### Sacraments

Congratulations to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Class students, who made their First Penance on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March, and to our 6<sup>th</sup> class students who made their Confirmation on the 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Lilyrose Dolan in 6<sup>th</sup> class writes:

*We did lots of practice, fun and learning before our special and holy day. When Confirmation finally came around, everyone in church looked amazing, with people wearing great outfits and dresses! The choir made the day feel even better. We had a nice mass, with lots of students doing jobs and readings. Then, one by one we went up to Fr. Richard with our sponsors and got blessed. Our Confirmation was a day we could never forget.*

Here is a photo of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Class students, who made their First Penance.



### Green Schools

We have done a lot of work on our Global Citizenship and Travel theme. This term, we were focusing on car idling. It is important to turn off your car engines because leaving your car running causes a lot of carbon dioxide to go into the air. This is bad for our lungs and the environment. It also wastes energy and money. Please help by turning off your engines when your car is not moving! Our local travel Officer Rachel came in to see all our good work.

*By Alisha Keogh and Arron Dowling*

### Parent's Association

Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets for the PA's MQI Bingo Bash fundraiser, which will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> April in Kettles Country House Hotel. Doors will open at 6.15pm, and the event will start at 7pm. Tickets cost €20 and can be bought online by scanning the QR code on the poster on our Instagram, or you can collect tickets from a member of the PA or the school office. There are some great prizes on offer! We would like to thank our wonderful PA for all their hard work organising this fantastic event for our school.

### Community Wellbeing Day

On the 26<sup>th</sup> March, we had a wonderful Community Wellbeing day. Our students did a great job cleaning up our local community, picking up litter and waste all around the grounds of the school and Rivermead Estate. After this, we gathered in the yard and our special guest Tommy from Cycle Right joined us as we raised our newly acquired Active Flag and Green Flags. Tommy donated 2 bikes to our school, to give as prizes to some lucky students in a raffle. The winners were Tyler Dufficy and Amber Dolan, huge congratulations to them both!

### Book Week

We had a great time for Book Week. We had DEAR time, and we dressed up as our favourite character from a book. Author and illustrator Niamh Sharkey came to visit us. She told us about her life, her dogs and the books she wrote. She read her new book 'Penguin TV' for us. She showed us how to draw a penguin, and we all worked together to draw characters on a big paper scroll.

*By Dylan Lacey and Erin Cruise*

### School Football

A big well done to our football team on their matches so far this year. We have a strong team and we've been training hard. In February, we played in the FAI Soccer Blitz in Blanchardstown.

We got to the final, and we were proud of our performance. We are also in the Fingal League this year, and we're trying our best to reach the final! We have played Virgin Mary BNS, and next we play St. Francis NS.

*By Josh Jenkinsin and Jace Smith*

## Students' News Around the School!

We recognise the importance of giving our students a voice. Our new Student Council are in charge of this part of the newsletter. This edition, they written about news, learning and events in our school with the help of the Peacocks.

### Swimming

During term 2, a lot of our students took part in swimming on Tuesdays. We went on a bus to go to the ALSAA swimming pool near Dublin Airport. Parents were allowed to come too. We had lots of fun during the lessons. We played games and learned how to jump into the water.

*By Ella Rickard and Beau Reilly Ennis.*

### The Credit Union Quiz

On the 11<sup>th</sup> February some of our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class students took part in the Credit Union Quiz in Fingallians GAA Club in Swords. The Credit Union Quiz this year was very entertaining. The questions were hard, but we had a good go at them and we got a lot of them right. We had 2 teams. On one team, we had Abi Quinn, Josh Jenkinson, Madison Dufficy Rowe and Caleb Loresca. On the other team, we had Mia O'Sullivan, Ollie Sherlock, Zexuan Wei and Mason Marshall. Our subs were Phoenix Walsh and Ella Rickard. During the quiz, they also had a variety talent show, with students singing, dancing and telling jokes. One boy even hurdled over his friend! Caleb from our school sang 'Put Your Head On My Shoulder', and he got a big applause. We had a great time entering the quiz, and we would recommend others to give it a go next year!

*By Ollie Sherlock and Mia O'Sullivan.*

### Class Projects

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class are doing a fashion show project. We will use recycled materials to make outfits. The outfits will be spring themed. We will collect and bring in different materials that we need to make our clothes. We have already designed our outfits on paper. We can't wait to make them in real life. We are looking forward to having a fashion show!

*By Phoenix Walsh, Zac Robinson and Axel Dufficy.*

### Variety Show

We are working very hard to get ready for our variety show in June! We have all been learning dances with Gráinne, and we have been doing drama practice and lessons with Gerry. We have done some fun acting challenges such as being a statue, super fun!

*By Abi Quinn, Alicia Hutchinson and Lexi Keogh.*

### Cycle Right Course

The Hawks took part in the Cycle Right Course this term. Tommy and Colin came to our school on Wednesdays to teach us how to cycle safely. They showed us hand signals, how to turn our bikes around properly, how to do u-turns, to cycle on the left hand side of the road with the traffic, to stop at stop signs, and when to give way to traffic on the road. We learned about how important it is to make sure we wear helmets and hi vis clothes, and to have lights on our bikes. When we had done all of the lessons, we cycled around Rivermead Estate to practice our safety rules. We'd like to thank Tommy and Colin very much.

*By Sean Lawlor and Finlay Trijono.*

Here is a photo of our students doing their Cycle Right Course.



### Sheila Whelan Céilí 2026

All of the classes worked so hard learning our Irish dances and songs for our Céilí this year. On the day, everyone was wearing green clothes and lots of parents and families came to watch. They were clapping along to the songs. Everyone was happy and excited! The whole school learned our National Anthem, and Ireland's Call, and we sang those songs at the start of the Ceilí. All classes performed their songs and dances so well. Ms. Linnane worked very hard coming up with great dances, and she even performed an Irish dance herself. Mr. Browne played Irish music on the tin whistle and guitar. It was a great surprise and it was brilliant. At the end, everyone joined in to dance to the Siege of Ennis. We hope everyone had a great time, and thank you to everyone who came to our Céilí.

*By Lily Mae Warren, Christopher Kelly McLoughlin and David Warren.*