

JOHN SCOTTUS SECONDARY SCHOOL

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22nd September 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope your sons and daughters have had an enjoyable first month of school. Here are some points I would like to bring to your attention.

Start of year Church Service

The start of year church service took place on Thursday Sept 18th. Thank you to all who participated in the start of year church service. I felt the occasion enriched the feeling of one school community. I was also impressed by the stillness and attention of the student body.

Founder's day trip to Larch Hill Thurs/Fri Sept 25th/26th

Plans for the trip are progressing in great detail. By this stage you will have received consent forms which you will need to sign and return to the school by tomorrow Tuesday Sept 23rd. It promises to be a great celebration of the ethos and the founding intent of the school. If there are any parents who are willing to help in any capacity, please let me know.

Junior Certificate Results

The Junior Certificate results were published on Sept 10th. Well done to all students who have worked hard to achieve these results.

Classics Trip to Medea

The John Scottus Classical Studies group, organised by Mrs Waters and Mr. O'Connor, went to the Lighthouse Cinema in Smithfield for a live screening of English National Theatre's *Medea*, Euripides' 2,500-year-old tragedy. Click <u>here</u> for more details.

Class of 2014 Debs night

On Friday 29th August the newly graduated John Scottus Class of 2014 gathered one last time at their school for a pre-Debs reception. Click <u>here</u> for more details. The school wishes them the best in the next stage of their life.

1st year trips

In the past week the 1st year class attended the Pramerica Spirit of Community awards. As a result of the visit, hopefully some of the students will be inspired to volunteer in their local community. Please click <u>spirit.pramerica.ie</u> for more details of the awards.

Supervised Study

Free supervised study takes place on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 4 to 6 and Wednesday 2 to 4. Please contact Mr. Kortenhorst if interested in attending.

Extra Curricular Activities:

There are 2 new extra-curricular activities your son/daughter may wish to participate in. A chess club has been started by Mr. Daniel Flynn and a Sean Nós dancing club set up by Ms. Bernice Cronin.

Please also find attached below the sports extra-curricular activities offered in the school.

The school musical this year will be "Oliver" and will take place in January. Ms. Valerie Mc Geough will be putting up audition notices shortly.

Fair Funding for fee paying schools campaign:

Fair funding is a campaign for fair funding and supports for Irish schools in the feecharging sector. If you wish to get acquainted with the issues facing fee-paying schools please refer to <u>www.fairfunding.ie</u>. If you are interested in supporting this campaign please contact your local TD using the standard draft letters at <u>http://fairfunding.ie/letter-writing</u>.

Consent for taking pictures

During the course of the year the school will be taking pictures of students during various educational, sports and extra-curricular activities. These pictures are used to promote the school and support student learning activities through the school website, school newsletters and school publications. If you do <u>not</u> give your consent to this could you please contact the office at <u>secondary@johnscottus.ie</u>

Upcoming events

- The Annual Careers' Evening will take place on Tuesday Sept 30th for all students of 4th,5th and 6th year from 5-7pm .
- There will be a short test week beginning Sept 29th. You will receive the first report of the yearon student progress in early October.

A philosophical thought for the day

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail" - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Yours sincerely,

Deden velly

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