



# JOHN SCOTTUS SECONDARY SCHOOL

OLD CONNA, FERNDALE ROAD, RATHMICHAEL, CO. DUBLIN.  
TEL: (01) 6680828,  
E-MAIL: [SECONDARY@JOHNSCOTTUS.IE](mailto:SECONDARY@JOHNSCOTTUS.IE) WEB: [WWW.JOHNSCOTTUS.IE](http://WWW.JOHNSCOTTUS.IE)

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21<sup>st</sup> December, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

We have arrived at the end of a very eventful first term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their dedication during the first term: students, parents, teachers, staff and extended school community. Here are just a few notices I would like to share with you.

## **Philosophy Themes**

To provoke discussion and thought, some of the themes for the past few weeks have been:

Why Pause?

What is the ultimate cause?

Why meditate?

The aim of the weekly themes is to promote curiosity, critical thinking and kindness. For more information about the assembly themes please click [here](#).

## **School Closed for Junior Cycle Training Day – Tuesday Jan 9<sup>th</sup>**

The Department of Education has sanctioned 3 planning days on which schools will close to enable teachers receive professional development on the teaching and learning principles behind the new Junior Cycle. Our second planning day takes place on Tuesday January 9<sup>th</sup>, and on this day the school will close to facilitate professional development for all teachers. We believe that such days really help in raising the standards of learning and teaching in the school and we thank you in advance for your co-operation with this.

## **Carol Service**

Our Carol Service takes place on Friday Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11.30am in St. Mary's church, Haddington road. I hope to see you there.

## **Christmas Celebration – Saturday Dec 9<sup>th</sup>**

The Christmas Celebration was a great success with over 350 people attending. Thank you to all who helped and the feedback from those who attended was very positive.

## **Staff Update**

We are delighted to welcome back Ms. Emma Maguire Timmins and Ms. Valerie Collins who both have returned from medical leave.

## **Evolving Family Workshops**

Our family workshops in Yoga, Arts and Craft and Storytelling are proving to be very popular. To find our more information about this workshop please click [here](#).

## **Transition Year Update**

Transition Year Students continue to be very active.

To find out more about their activities during the last few weeks please follow the links below

[TY First Aid Course](#)

[TY Students coaching primary school students volleyball in Rathmichael](#)

[TY Students coaching primary school students soccer in Rathmichael](#)

[Music/Photography Modules](#)

[TY Student Faolán Launders win Maths Prism Competition](#)

[TY Showcase Night](#)

In addition to a very busy schedule, they are currently fundraising for their trip to India next January.

### **Sports Update**

This term has been a very busy one with great participation in athletics, soccer and hockey. For update on Sports activities please follow the links.

[Senior Boys Indoor Tournament](#)

[Senior Hockey Team Wins](#)

[Ballinteer Community School Cross Country Invitational](#)

### **Business Studies Update**

Our business students have been busy in the past few weeks. Please follow the links:

[Euroscola Entry: There is no EU with you](#)

[Two teams through to second round of Generation Euro](#)

[TY Business Class Junior Ambassadors](#)

### **Science Week**

Science week (Nov 13<sup>th</sup>) was kick started with a spectacular display of science by Ms. Grace at assembly on Monday. During the week there were numerous Science activities including quizzes, games and presentations. Even the walls of the school were decorated with fun science facts to encapsulate the students ever inquiring minds. Thank you to all teachers and students that helped promote the relevance of science, technology, engineering and maths in our everyday lives during science week. To see some pictures please click [here](#).

### **Recycling Week**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> years organised a recycling awareness week recently. To see a video made and some pictures please click [here](#).

### **Interesting links:**

Here are some links you may have missed highlighting some events in the school

[Halloween Dress up Day](#)

[Pictures from the Nature Photography Competition](#)

### **Summary of Events coming up**

School Re-opens – Monday Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

School Closed for Junior Cycle Training Day – Tuesday Jan 9<sup>th</sup>

Parent-Class Teacher Meetings – Monday Jan 15<sup>th</sup>

Philosophy Week – Starting Monday Jan 22<sup>rd</sup>

**A philosophical thought for the day**

“Look within. Within is the fountain of good, ready always to well forth if thou wilt always delve” - Marcus Aurelius

Yours warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Declan Kelly".

Dr. Declan Kelly

Principal

Phone: 01-6680828

Email: [dkelly@johnscottus.ie](mailto:dkelly@johnscottus.ie)