



# JOHN SCOTTUS SECONDARY SCHOOL

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13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

I hope your sons and daughters have had an enjoyable first two months of school. Here are some points I would like to share.

## **Philosophy Themes**

To stimulate young minds some of the themes for the past few weeks have been:

Am I am this body or is it an instrument for my use?  
How do I make reason pure and still?  
How do I make love constant?

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

## **Morehampton Road**

The contracts for the sale of the buildings on Morehampton Road have been signed with a closing date in early December. We have agreed with the new owners that No. 72 will continue to be used by our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class students until the end of the academic year in June 2018. The new owners are a commercial educational establishment so the buildings will continue in educational use

## **Parents Association AGM – Tuesday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>**

The parent's association AGM will take place on Tuesday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>. This year Enda Murphy will give a talk on the topic of Guiding your child through adolescence and young adulthood.

Enda Murphy one of the best known Psychotherapists in Ireland. Currently he is Broadcasting Columnist on 'Today with Sean O Rourke', RTE radio (Aug 2014 – To Date). He has authored many books including '*Five Steps to Happiness, Learning to explore and understand your emotional mind*', '*Flagging the Screenager, Guiding your child through adolescence and young adulthood*' and '*The Raggy Dolls, Stories of Survival from Anorexia Nervosa*'. He is also author of 'The GP Model of CBT (Cognitive Behavioural Therapy)'; a model of CBT specifically designed for medical doctors and health professionals. This has formed the basis of psychotherapy training for General Practitioners in Ireland since 2003.

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

We hope that you and your family will be able to join us for the John Scottus Christmas Celebration on Saturday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, 11.30 – 2.00 pm. More details to follow.

### **Staff Changes**

Ms. Emma Maguire Timmins will be absent from school for the next 5 weeks due to a planned routine medical operation. We wish her well in her recovery. In her place Ms. Lorraine Kelly will teach English and Ms. Patricia Wroe will provide Guidance support.

### **Calendar Change**

Please note that Friday Nov 24<sup>th</sup> is now a normal school day as the school planning day was changed to Friday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Evolving Family Workshops**

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

### **Transition Year Update**

Some of the modules Transition Year students now studying include: Music, Photography, Development Education and Volleyball/Soccer Coaching.

At the end of October students received certificates on completing modules in Public Speaking, Health and Well-being and Website building. To see some pictures of this event please click [here](#).

Our TY's recently visited the Botanic Gardens, to see some pictures and read more please click [here](#).

### **Sports Update**

On Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 12 students from John Scottus competed in the Blackrock Cross Country invitational. The races ranged in distance from 1.2km - 3.6km. All students ran excellently on tough terrain. Noticeable results on the day were Aisling Spratt finishing 5<sup>th</sup> out of 30 in the Senior Girls, Mila Pfeiffer Reddy finishing 7<sup>th</sup> out of 60 competitors in the Junior Girls event and finally Kaiya Pfeiffer Reddy finishing 17<sup>th</sup> out of 70 in the Intermediate Girls race. Please click [here](#) to see some pictures

Our Frisbee teams have also recently won games against St. Dominic's, click [here](#) to see some pictures.

### **Interesting links**

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

[French Cinema club](#)

[Founders Day trip to Glendalough](#)

[6<sup>th</sup> years attend History lecture in TCD](#)

[Winner of the EU Day of languages](#)

[Brian Hayes MEP talks to our Academy students.](#)

### **New Chair of Board of Management**

After 12 years of dedicated service Austin Colfer has stepped down as chair of the Secondary School Board of Management. We are sure you will all join us in expressing

our gratitude to him for his huge service to the school over that period. His place as chair of the Board of Management is being filled by Professor John Doran.

### **School Policies**

Our school policies can be accessed via our website. They can be viewed [here](#).

### **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”  
– Emerson

Yours warmly,

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

Dr. Declan Kelly

Principal

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