



# JOHN SCOTTUS SECONDARY SCHOOL

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30<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

As we come to the end of the first month of the year, here are a few notices that you may be interested in.

### **Transition Years in India**

Transition Year students departed to India on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> to begin the English Teaching programme with Indian students. All arrived safely and the English Teaching programme has started in earnest. To get more detailed information about the trip please link [here](#) to the dedicated blog site.

### **Classics Trip to London**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> year Classics students visited London for a one day trip on Jan 16<sup>th</sup>. During the trip, a visit was made to the British Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum to see the famous Parthenon and other artefacts from Greece and Rome. Special mention must be made of Mrs. Mairin Waters who organised the trip.

### **Oliver Musical**

The Oliver musical was a fantastic experience. All students participating in the production really did show us their limitless brilliance. Special thanks to all who helped in the production.

### **Herbert Mile Challenge**

The Herbert Mile Challenge was a great school community building event. All students in the school ran for a mile around Herbert park on Tuesday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all teachers for supporting the event, and particular thanks to Mr. Rob Craig and Ms. Sinead Sweeney for organising the event. For pictures of the event please see [here](#).

### **Townley Hall House Trip**

The house leaders of Venus, Neptune and Mars organised a trip to Townley Hall on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January. The main organiser was Head Boy Eduardo Travesi assisted by Isabelle McGeough, Kiah Ronaldson and Christian Devine. Mr O'Connor, Miss Sweeney, Miss Cronin and Mr O Duffy went along for the ride. There were 36 in the group including the 4 teachers. To read more click [here](#).

It was a good weekend which gave a chance for the students to get to know each other better and to share some activities.

### **School Outings Policy**

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The Schools Outing Policy has been reviewed, approved by the Board of Management and can be accessed on the website from [here](#).

### **Request for Computers/Laptops/Tablets**

Please if you have any ICT devices not being used and in good condition, let me know as we could have a home for them

### **Vision 2024**

Thank you to the parents who have given feedback to date and to the parents who have participated in a focus group. The output of feedback received is currently being collated and summarised.

### **Mindfulness Practice in Schools Conference**

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, John Scottus School is organizing the Mindfulness Practice in Schools Conference which will take place in the Avila Retreat Centre, Donnybrook, Dublin 4. The conference aims to support schools in Mindfulness practice. It is for school leaders who wish to lead Mindfulness practice, for teachers practicing Mindfulness with their students and for others who may wish to begin the practice of Mindfulness.

John Scottus School are acting as coordinators for the event. The practice of Mindfulness has been a key part of the ethos of the school since it started in 1986 and the school motto "Delight in the Present" reflects this.

For more information see <http://mindfulnesspracticeinschools.ie/>

### **Philosophy Week**

The theme of the Philosophy week was Emotional Intelligence- from Crisis to Calm. To remind everyone of the theme there were notices everywhere on the walls with wise sayings like: "*Holding on to anger is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die...*" (Buddha). Monday Assembly was addressed by a former pupil, Jonathan Delaney, to say what it was like, thinking you were going to die during the tsunami ten years ago, when instead of dying, he actually saved someone else's life as well as his own. To read more please click [here](#).

### **Upcoming events**

- Mock exams for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years will start on Friday Feb 6<sup>th</sup>
- 11 week exams for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years will start on Wednesday Feb 11<sup>th</sup>
- Mid-term break takes place from Monday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday Feb 20<sup>th</sup>

### **A philosophical thought for the day**

*Millions saw the apple fall, but Newton was the one who asked why.* - Bernard Baruch

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Declan Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping underline.

Dr. Declan Kelly

Principal

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