

Location: Room 30 OLSS

Date:

6<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Time:

7:15 pm

# **Meeting Agenda**

1)	Welcome	(hy	Chairr	arcon
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- 2) Apologies
- 3) Note(s) of Sympathy
- 4) Correspondence
- 5) Minutes of Previous Meeting available on file
- 6) Any Matters Arising
- 7) Discussion with OLSS Student Council representatives
- 8) Treasurer's Report
- 9) Principal / BOM Report
- 10) Chairperson's Address
- 11) Dates for Parents Association to help at end of year events.
- 12) Any Other Business
- 13) Date of Next Meeting



# Our Lady's Secondary School Castleblayney Co. Monaghan

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Principal: Mr. Eddie Kelly

Deputy Principals: Ms. Jane Treanor, Mr. Darren Bishop

# Parents Association Meeting May 6th

# **Events to Date:**

# Friday February 14th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm

# Midterm Break: February 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>:

#### Monday February 24th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- TY Work Experience
- Second Year Vaccinations
- 3F Guidance Class P2
- 3B Guidance Class P6
- Ulster Ladies All Star Trial
- Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting
- U14 Boys Soccer 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm

#### Tuesday February 25th

- TY Work Experience
- Second Year Vaccinations
- 3A Guidance Class P4
- 3C Guidance Class P5
- Ulster Schools All Star Trial
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- First Year Focus Group
- U14 Girls GAA 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm

#### Wednesday February 26th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- TY Work Experience
- Second Year Focus Group
- Third Year Focus Group
- First Year Boys GAA 1.15pm 2.15pm
- U14 Camogie 1.30pm 2.30pm
- Evening Study 2.000pm 4.00pm

# Thursday February 27th

- TY Work Experience
- First Year Study Skills Workshop
- 3D Guidance Class P4
- Student Enterprise Finals
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- Official Opening Creative Voices Art Exhibition in Iontas 7.30pm (Our Lady's & Castleblayney College Art Students)
- U15 Boys Soccer 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm

# Friday February 28th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- TY Work Experience
- Fifth Year Music trip to TU Dublin
- 3E Guidance Class P4
- Acorn Life Scholarship Launch
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm

#### Saturday March 1st

Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Monday March 3rd

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- U14 Girls GAA at lunchtime
- TY Focus Group P3
- Teaching & Learning Committee meeting 4.05pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Tuesday March 4th

- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- U15 Boys GAA training 4.00pm 5.00pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> Year Business Talk
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

# Wednesday March 5th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- U13.5 Boys GAA
- Fifth Year Focus Group P2
- U14 Camogie training 1.30pm 2.30pm
- Evening Study 2.000pm 4.00pm

#### Thursday March 6th

- First Year Vaccinations
- U14 Girls GAA at lunchtime
- Sixth Year Focus Group P3
- Ulster Ladies All Star Game
- Fifth Years Macbeth
- Bailey 333 TY Workshop
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

# Friday March 7th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- First Year Vaccinations
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- U15 Boys GAA Ulster Quarter Final
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Saturday March 8th

Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Monday March 10th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- Wellbeing Week 'Being Connected'
- Seachtain na Gaeilge: Ceol traidisiúnta ag am lóin le lucht na céad bliana
- TY Focus Group P3
- Queens University Belfast Talk for Fifth Year students P5
- U14 Girls GAA 4.00pm 5.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- Third Year Information Evening 7.00pm

#### Tuesday March 11th

- Wellbeing Week 'Being Connected'
- Seachtain na Gaeilge: Tae agus plé/ Oral practice for 6<sup>th</sup> Year students in Room 12 1.20pm – 1.50pm
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- PISA Testing
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Wednesday March 12th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- Wellbeing Week 'Being Connected'
- Seachtain na Gaeilge: Comórtas bácála Gaelach agus sólaistí sa seomra foirne
- First & Second Year Girls Regional Basketball Semi Finals
- MFL Fashion Show
- Evening Study 2.000pm − 4.00pm

#### Thursday March 13th

- Wellbeing Week 'Being Connected'
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
  - o Lá glas €2 ar mhaithe le Barnardos
  - o Ceol traidisiúnta ag am lóin le lucht na hIdirbhliana
  - o Céilí na céad bliana sa cheoláras P6 1A, 1B & 1D & P7 1C, 1E & 1F
- U14 Girls GAA Blitz
- U14 Girls GAA Game
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- U14 Camogie 1.30pm 2.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

# Friday March 14th

- Open Day for Incoming First Year Students
- Second Year History Tour
- TY trip to Croke Park
- Fifth Year Interest Tests
- Sixth Year Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Saturday March 15th

Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Monday March 17th

• St. Patrick's Day

# Tuesday March 19th

- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- U14 Girls GAA
- PISA Testing
- U14 Girls GAA training 4.00pm 5.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

# Wednesday March 19th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- YSI Speak Out Event
- Evening Study 2.000pm 4.00pm

#### Thursday March 20th

- AMS Cardiac Screening
- TY MABS Talk P6
- TY Musical Workshop
- TY Debating
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Friday March 21st

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- AMS Cardiac Screening
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- U14 Girls GAA
- TY Law Talk
- TY trip to Butlers Chocolate Factory
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- Ulster Ladies All Star Presentation

#### Saturday March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

# Monday March 31th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- TY Reptile Haven Workshop
- Junior Cycle Home Economics Practical Exam
- Teaching & Learning Committee meeting 4.10pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Tuesday April 1st

- Junior Cycle Home Economics Practical Exam
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

# Wednesday April 2nd

- School Closure for students.
- Bi Cinnealtas CPD for staff.
- Leaving Certificate Music Practical Exam

# Thursday April 3rd

- Leaving Certificate Music Practical Exam
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- TY SEPI Programme
- Fifth Year Geography Field Study
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

# Friday April 4th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- OLSS Monthly Prayer Staff Meeting
- Lots of Socks- Down Syndrome Awareness & Fundraising
- TY Dragons Den
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Saturday April 5th

Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Monday April 7th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- First Year Movie Day P 4 & P5
- University of Galway Talk P5
- U14 Girls GAA
- Fifth Year Geography Field Work Study
- Junior Cycle Home Economics Practical Exam
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Tuesday April 8th

- Junior Cycle Home Economics Practical Exam
- First & Second Year Camogie
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- Board of Management Meeting 6.30pm

#### Wednesday April 9th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- TY Trip to Barcelona
- Evening Study 2.00pm 4.00pm

# Thursday April 10th

- Leaving Certificate Art Practical Exam
- Art Club in Art Room 1.30pm
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- TY Trip to Barcelona
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Friday April 11th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- TY Trip to Barcelona
- U14 Boys GAA at lunchtime
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Saturday April 12th

- TY Trip to Barcelona
- Leaving Certificate Irish & MFL Oral Exams
- Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

# Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>- Thursday April 17<sup>th</sup>: Leaving Certificate Irish & MFL Oral Exams

#### Monday April 28th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- LCA Horticulture Task 9.15am
- Teaching & Learning Committee Meeting 4.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Tuesday April 29th

- District D Track & Field Competition
- TY Robotics
- TY Scifest
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Wednesday April 30th

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- LCVP Exam 10.00am- 12.30pm
- Evening Study 2.00pm 4.00pm

#### Thursday May 1st

- Leaving Certificate Construction Studies Practical Exam
- Lunch Time Junior Mini-Company in Room 4
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

#### Friday May 2nd

- Breakfast Club 8.00am 8.45am
- District D Track & Field Competition
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm

### Saturday May 3rd

Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Monday May 5th

Bank Holiday

#### Tuesday May 6th

- Wellbeing Week 'Being Healthy & Active'
  - Walkway Quiz 1<sup>st</sup> Year
  - o Drop Everything & Move 12.20pm
  - Staff Step Challenge
  - o Cycle from Mizen to Malin Head
  - Teacher vs Student Basketba;;
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Year Yoga & Tug of War P7
- TY Musical Tech Rehearsal
- LCA French Oral Exam
- LCA English & Communication Exam
- All Ireland Cookery Competition
- Student Support Meeting 2.00pm
- First / Second Year Homework Club 4.00pm 5.00pm
- Evening Study 4.10pm 6.00pm
- Parents Association Meeting 7.15pm

# Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>

• Saturday Study 9.00am- 1.00pm

#### Upcoming

- Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup>: CEIST Student Leadership Conference
- Wednesday May 7th: TY Musical Primary School Matinee
- Wednesday May 7th: TY Microsoft Office National Finals
- Thursday May 8th: Student Enterprise Competition
- Thursday May 8th: TY Musical
- Friday May 9th: TY Musical 7.30pm
- Monday May 12<sup>th</sup>: Fifth Year Guidance Interview Evening
- Monday May 12<sup>th</sup>: Leaving Certificate Applied Horticulture Exam
- Tuesday May 13th: LCA Hotel, Catering & Tourism Exam
- Tuesday May 13th: Leaving Certificate Graduation Mass 4.30pm
- Wednesday May 14th: Student of the Year
- Thursday May 15th: Awards Night
- Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>: Staff Meeting 4.10pm 5.00pm
- Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup>- Friday May 23<sup>rd</sup>: Fourth Year Summer Exams
- Wednesday May 21st: French students visit to Our Lady's
- Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup>: 2nd Year French trip to Causey Farm (
- Wednesday May 21st: Second Year French trip
- Monday May 26<sup>th</sup> Friday May 30<sup>th</sup>: First, Second & Fifth Year Summer Exams

# Learning & Teaching

- A meeting of the Board of Studies and Exam Review Committee took place on March 13<sup>th</sup> to look at the following areas of school life:
  - Transition Year Statement
  - Schedule of Exams
  - o Junior Cycle Curriculum
  - Senior Cycle Curriculum
- The Pre Junior Cycle and Pre Leaving Certificate exams occurred before the midterm break. Parents and guardians received the reports from the end-of-term assessments the week beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Junior Cycle & Leaving Certificate practical exams took place
- per the events schedule referenced above.
- The Leaving Certificate Oral Exams took place during the Easter holidays.
- Senior Cycle Reform.
- A selection of Third & Fourth Year students participated in the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment on March 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The Fourth Year Parent Teacher Meeting took place on March 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Teaching & Learning is on the agenda for all staff & Subject Department Meetings.

- The Teaching & Learning Committee met on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- School Self-Evaluation: The development of our areas of focus for School Self-Evaluation for the forthcoming year will continue through the Teaching & Learning Committee, Subject Department meetings, and staff meetings. A Wellbeing Week, 'Being Positive about Learning,' was held recently with several initiatives organised by the Business Department and the school Literacy & Numeracy Coordinator.
- Parents / Guardians in the different year groups are surveyed after the parentteacher meetings as part of the SSE process.
- The Senior MFL tours took place in France and Germany before the midterm break.
- The MFL Department held its annual Fashion Show on March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Fifth Year students participated in Music workshops in Dublin on February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Fifth Year English students attended a production of Macbeth on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The Acorn Life Business Scholarship for 2024- 2025 was launched on February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Students in our school participated in the Student Enterprise County Finals. Naomi McCaghey and Mary Kate Byrne won the Best Digital Marketing Award. Liliana Hudson and Megan Monaghan came 1st in the Intermediate Category and will represent Co Monaghan at the National Finals.
- Laragh Corcoran, Katie Coyle & Emily Lambe qualified for the Knights of St. Columbanus Public Speaking Competition finals.
- Mischa Bogue, Annie Carroll & Ronan Ward participated in the EU Model Council debate in Dublin Castle on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Art students in our school participated in a collaborative "Creative Voices" project with Castleblayney College, which was officially launched in Iontas on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- TY Art students Emily Smith, Lowena Lowey, and Elizabeth Tatarnikova represented the school in the Regional Final of the Junk Kouture competition on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- TY Art student Emily McMahon was awarded first place at the chapter level and received a joint merit nationally in the 14-17-year-old category in the Credit Union Art competition.
- All First Year students participated in a Study Skills workshop on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The Irish Department organised a number of events for Seachtain na Gaeilge, the week beginning March 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Second Year History students visited the Ulster American Folk Park on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Fifth & Sixth Year students had a talk on Career Opportunities from Ohk Energy.
- Fifth Year Geography students completed their Field Study on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Third Year student Ilila Mc Ardle came second place in the final of an All-Island Cookery Competition in St. Angela's College, Sligo on Tuesday, May 6th.

- The Literacy & Numeracy Committee organised a number of initiatives for students, like the lunchtime Darts Club.
- The German Club meets on a regular basis.
- The Art Club meets regularly
- Students from the Robotics Club continue to prepare for their upcoming competition.
- Club na Gaeilge meets regularly.
- The Junior Mini Company Club meets on a regular basis.
- Evening Study takes place from 4pm 6pm.
- A homework club for First Year students takes place from 4.00 pm 5.00 pm. First Year students are supported by our SNAs and TY students.

#### Extra Curricular

- GAA
  - O U14 Girls GAA
  - Dervla Cawley and Katie McAdam were selected on the Ulster Ladies All-Star Post Primary team for 2024- 2025, and both girls received their awards at a presentation on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - Fourth & Fifth Year students participated in the DCU Ladies & Men's
    7 a side tournament on March 25<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - The 2005 & 2015 Senior Boys GAA teams held a reunion on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### Basketball

- The U14 Boys Basketball team qualified for the Regional A final.
- The U14 Girls Basketball team qualified for the Regional A final and the All Ireland Quarter Final.

#### Soccer

- The 1<sup>st</sup> girls have now finished for the year. They completed all of their league games and lost in the preliminary rounds of the Ulster Cup.
- The U15 girls have concluded their season, losing a 4<sup>th</sup> round Ulster Cup game.
- The U17 girls reached the Ulster quarter-final stage.
- o The U19 girls lost the Ulster semi-final 1-0 to the eventual provincial
- The 1<sup>st</sup> year boys reached the Ulster Quarter Final, losing narrowly to St. Aidan's, Cootehill. winners and All-Ireland finalists, Scoil Muire Buncrana.
- The U15 boys lost an Ulster Quarter Final to St. Pat's Cavan, 4-3.
- The U17 boys reached the Ulster semi-final stage, losing two-nil to the eventual competition winners.
- The U19 boys had concluded their season before Christmas.
- A JCSP soccer blitz was held on March 28th.
- The school choir practices regularly at lunchtime most days each week for upcoming school events.

- Judy Hughes & Aine Smith competed in the All Ireland School Cross Country on March 8<sup>th. Aine</sup> Smith was selected for the Irish International Cross Country Team and participated in the international cross country event on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Several students from the school participated in the District D track & Field competitions on April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 3rd Jusy Hughes won gold in the 800m, Odhran Wynne won gold in the long jump, Aine Smith won gold in the javelin and 1500m, Maeve Smith won silver in the shot putt and gold in the 300m. Odhran Smith won gold in the shot putt.
- Our school equestrian team participated in an inter-school show jumping competition on March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- A whole school 5km walk/run was held on Wednesday, March 26th.
- The German Club meets regularly.
- The Art Club meets regularly.
- Club na Gaeilge meets regularly.
- The Junior Mini Company Club meets regularly.
- Transition Year students have been very busy since the last meeting:
  - o TY Coaching Mentors
  - o TY STEM Event
  - o TY SEPI Initiative
  - TY Focus Group
  - O TY Circus Skills Workshop
  - TY Work Experience
  - o TY Bailey 333 Workshop
  - o TY MABS Talk
  - TY Debating
  - Ty Musical Workshop
  - o TY Law Talk
  - o TY trip to Butler's Chocolate Factory
  - TY YSI Speak Out
  - TY Mini Company Dragons Den Competition
  - TY Junk Kouture
  - TY Garda Talk
  - o TY Reptile Haven
  - o TY Dragons Den
  - o TY Fundraising
  - o TY MFL Fashion Show
  - TY trip to Barcelona

#### **Student Voice**

- Sixth-year student leaders are assisting with corridor supervision before school.
- Transition Year students assist with peer mentoring activities for the JCSP classes.
- The Student Council meets regularly. Members of the Student Council met with members of the Parents Association to discuss possible areas for school improvement.
- Many focus groups took place with different year groups over the year.
- The Senior Management Team and Year Heads meet students in different year groups on a 1-1 basis to discuss their progress.

#### **Student Support & Discipline**

# **Student Support**

- Student Support Meetings are held every Tuesday.
- The External Counsellor continues to support students every week.
- The school has enlisted the support of an Art therapist to support students.
- The school meals programme continues to provide support to several families on a weekly basis.
- The school has engaged the services of a Student Youth / Home School Liaison Officer every Wednesday through an initiative with Monaghan Education Centre.
- Our school is implementing the NCSE Check & Connect Programme this year.
- The Guidance Department is currently meeting with the different Third Year classes.
- HSE vaccinations for first- and second-year students occurred in February and March.
- All First Year students participated in a Study Skills workshop on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- AMS Cardiac Screening took place in the school on March 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### Discipline

Council of Discipline meetings take place every Wednesday.

#### Faith Life of the School

- Weekly prayers are said over the school intercom.
- Ms. Mc Ardle has organised monthly prayer meetings for staff.
- The Religion Department organised a number of initiatives for Lent & Easter.
- Representatives from the school are participating in a CEIST Cothu initiative with representatives from St. Vincent's Secondary School, Our Lady's Greenhills, Drogheda, and Sacred Heart, Drogheda.

# Plant Development & Maintenance

• Report on the new SEN extension.

# **Policy Review:**

- Circular 0055/2024 'Publication of Bi Cinnealta Procedures to Prevent and Address Bullying Behaviour for Primary and Post Primary Schools'
- Critical Incident Policy
- Child Safeguarding Statement
- Feedback on the Code of Behaviour

# A.O.B..

- Open Day March 2025.
- A whole school 5km walk/run took place on Wednesday, March 26th.
- End of Year Events
- Junior Cycle / Senior Cycle Book Scheme.

# **Next Meeting**

TBC