



Mary Queen of Ireland Newsletter

November and December 2023

Christmas Holidays!

We would like to wish all of our students and families a very Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year. We have had a wonderful first term at school, with so much progress, hard work and achievements already.

Our school will close **at 12pm on Friday 22nd December**. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers to school on this day, and they may bring a small treat to school. We will reopen on **Monday 8th January**.

Board of Management

We are delighted to announce the members of our new Board of Management 2023-2027:

Patron's Nominees: Michael Mooney (Chairperson), Nicola McKittrick

Teachers' Representative: Gerard McDermottroe

Community Representatives: Carol Wade (Treasurer), Martha Traynor

Parents' Representatives: Adrienne Lacey, David Reilly

Principal: Aileen O'Donnell

Parent's Association

The Parent's Association would like to say Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all, and a big thank you for the continued support in our school community. New faces are always welcome on the PA so please let them know if you have any interest in joining!

MQI would like to thank our Parent's Association for the amazing events that they have carried out in the school so far this year, including a Halloween Activity Day, Toy Swap, Christmas Jumper Swap, Christmas Bake Sale, non uniform days and much more. All activities are greatly enjoyed by our students and staff. We look forward to all their upcoming events in the New Year!

Christmas Festivities!

We have had a wonderful festive season in MQI! We have our Christmas decorations up, Christmas art has been done in each class, we have been singing and dancing to Christmas songs, and there is even a cheeky elf or 2 making mischief in the classrooms!

Some of our wonderful students sang Christmas Carols in the estate for the local residents on the 18th December. We would like to thank the Parent's Association for helping to organise this, and to all the residents and community members who showed support for this and our Christmas raffle. We received many generous donations towards our raffle and we greatly appreciate it.

Here is a photo of our students Carol Singing in Rivermeade.



Choir Trip to Airport and Nursing Home

3rd to 6th class students performed Christmas Carols at The Oakwood Lodge Nursing Home, followed by a performance at Terminal 1 at Dublin Airport on 19th December. Our choir sounded amazing and they should be so proud of themselves. A big thank you to Mrs. O'Donoghue for her hard work and rehearsals with our choir.

Memorial Garden Service

Thank you to all who attended our Memorial Garden Service on the 28th November. It was a beautiful service.

Active School News

At MQI, we emphasise the importance of getting lots of physical activity every day. This can be challenging during the winter months when it is cold outside and there is less daylight, which is why we try to get as much physical activity in school as possible. For this reason, our Active Committee have been organised

Winter Walks for our students every week in December to help us all get some extra physical activity. Here are some other suggestions for staying active during winter:

- The morning is a great time to do stretches to help wake you up and prepare for the day.
- Get some exercise outside after school if possible before it gets dark.
- In the evening, dance to your favourite songs on the Kidzpop Youtube channel, or do a workout on the Go Noodle YouTube channel.
- Join your local swimming pool with your family.

School Sports

Our students have just completed a very enjoyable Basketball workshop with BB Chuks-Mady, organised by Daly Fitness. They are also currently taking part in Hurling lessons with Gordon from Wild Geese GAA.

Congratulations!

We would like to say a huge well done to our very own Harry McGuinness, Cillian Dufficy Rowe, Lexi Treacy and Jamie Regan! Harry was named as Fingal Ravens Under 12s Player of the Year 2023. Lexi and Jamie took part in the 5th class CTY, and Cillian received amazing scores in his CTY Ireland tests. We are so proud of them!

Well done Harry, Jamie, Lexi and Cillian!



Green School News

Our Green School's Committee are spreading awareness that a lot of waste and litter ends up in our rivers, seas and lakes, causing damage to the wild life there and polluting our water. Some of the activities that we have done to work towards our flag include a Beach Clean, an experiment to examine what happens to different materials when they are left in water, an experiment to examine how difficult it is to remove oil from water, adopting and sponsoring a seal, carrying out litter picks and promoting recycling. In January, our green schools committee hopes to carry out a campaign to reduce plastic waste from our school lunches. Also in January, we hope to organise an electrical waste collection. Please keep an eye on the Aladdin App for more information after Christmas.

Tree Planting Workshop

Author and former children's TV presenter Dale Treadwell visited our school on the 24th November to complete a tree planting workshop with our students. He planted holly trees with our Green Schools Committee, and read extracts from his own children's books to each class. His visit was much enjoyed by our staff and students.

Cold Weather

Please take extra care during the cold icy mornings. We would ask that everyone walks carefully on the footpaths outside the school in the morning and evening. Children should bring their coats to school, as well as scarves and hats if possible. There are a lot of coughs and colds going around at the moment. If your child is sick with a cough or cold, please keep them home to allow time to recover and to avoid the spread of illness. We thank you for your cooperation.

Flower tots

Afterschool available daily Monday to Friday from 1.40-2.40pm. €5 per day. Please contact Sandra on 086 448 1324.