



Our Lady's Templemore

Nollaig Shona!

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A Message from the Principal

Welcome to the Christmas edition of our newsletter. September 2025 marked 40 years since the formation of Our Lady's Secondary School, and the school founders, I have no doubt, would be proud of where the school stands in 2025. A new academic year began in August with many new and exciting events for Our Lady's. Our Leaving Cert class of 2025 received their results with great joy and excitement, with 87% of our students scoring 300 points or above.

September 2025 saw another large group of 1st year students joining Our Lady's, with 123 enrolments, bringing our school population to 645—the largest in our history. Students quickly adjusted to their new surroundings and sampled new subjects along with the traditional curriculum. Our school musical, Shrek, got into full swing and featured one of the largest casts ever at Our Lady's, with over 197 students on stage and another 40 helping behind the scenes.

Over the past few months, students have engaged in their term assessments, Junior Cycle results were issued, our extra-curricular programme has been busy, and the student council has been actively promoting the student voice to improve our school community. I congratulate and say well done to all our students. I admire the commitment of their teachers, who leave no stone unturned to ensure that every student who attends our school achieves their full potential. I take this opportunity to wish all in our school community—parents/guardians, students, teachers and families—a happy Christmas and a healthy and fulfilling New Year.

As we approach 2026, we look forward with confidence, courage and enthusiasm to what lies ahead for the school community at Our Lady's Templemore.

Paul Fogarty – Principal

Our Lady's Templemore Celebrates Remarkable Results

There were scenes of celebration at Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore, on Friday, August 22nd, as almost 80 Leaving Certificate and Leaving Certificate Applied students received the results of five to six years of dedication and hard work.

The Class of 2025 performed exceptionally well, with results surpassing the national average in many subjects. Overall, the results reflected remarkable success across the year group:

- 30% of students scored over 500 points
- 60% scored over 400 points

- 87% scored over 300 points
- Principal Mr. Paul Fogarty commended the students, saying:
- "We are immensely proud of this year's results. They reflect not only the talent and commitment of our students, but also the dedication of their teachers and the constant encouragement of their families. It is wonderful to see their hard work rewarded, and we are excited to watch them progress into the next stage of their lives in college apprenticeships, and the workplace."*



Yearhead Mr Brian Carroll proudly congratulates Adam Tynan O'Connor, Emily O'Connell, Darren Keeshan, Tara Fogarty, Mary Breslin and Stephanie Treacy on their Leaving Certificate results.



Principal Mr. Paul Fogarty proudly congratulates Stephanie Treacy on her LC results



Mr Paul Fogarty, Principal, Liam Delaney

Scholarship

We extend our congratulations to Liam Delaney, who has been awarded the Entrance Scholarship Award from MIC Limerick based on his performance in the Leaving Certificate 2025. Liam is currently studying an Arts degree at MIC Limerick. Everyone at Our Lady's extend their warmest congratulations and wish him every success as he begins this new chapter.

Our Lady's Welcomes Minister for Special Education



Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore, was delighted to welcome the Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion, Michael Moynihan, on Thursday, 6 November.

He was greeted by Principal Paul Fogarty, Deputy Principal Martina Butler, members of the Student Council, and local TD Ryan O'Meara and his delegation.

The Minister toured the school, visited several facilities, and met with students—including those in the special classes—gaining insight into the inclusive practices that have shaped Our Lady's for more than 40 years.

The visit highlighted the school's ongoing commitment to providing a welcoming, supportive environment where every student can reach their full potential.

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

'Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out' (Robert Collier)

- 2nd, 3rd and 5th year students have just completed their first-term formal assessments and received support in preparing for these tests.
- Revision plans are now being issued to 3rd and 6th students ahead of the Christmas break and in preparation for their pre-examinations in Jan/Feb.

- Supervised Study takes place each day for two hours. All students are welcome to attend; however, at this stage in the year, participation is strongly encouraged for students in Third to Sixth Year.
- Further details are available from the school office.

ASSESSMENTS JAN - JUNE 2026	1ST	FIRST YEAR
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing class tests
	2ND	SECOND YEAR
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBA's • Summer Exams
	3RD	THIRD YEAR
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre - Examinations • 3rd years are advised to follow SEC timetables for project and practical coursework
	TY	TRANSITION YEAR
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio • Summer Exams
	5TH	FIFTH YEAR
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Engagement Report • Project work • Summer Exams
	6TH	SIXTH YEAR
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre - Examinations • 6th years are advised to follow SEC timetables for project and practical coursework



First year Opening School Mass

Liturgical Events

As a Catholic school community, we are blessed with many opportunities to come together in prayer and celebrate our faith. Already this year, we have shared several meaningful liturgical moments that have enriched our spiritual journey. These include our First Year Mass, the Sixth Year Mercy Day Mass, November We Remember, Advent Confessions, and our Christmas Carol Service.

We are also grateful for the John Paul II Awards programme, in which our fifth-year students participate, as it further deepens and complements these faith experiences.

Tipperary Hurling Heroes

Last September, Our Lady's school community enjoyed a memorable celebration as we welcomed members of the Tipperary senior and U20 hurling teams, including nine distinguished past pupils, to mark their All-Ireland victories. Joined by former students Declan Laffen, Murtagh Brennan, and Jonathan Cullen, the teams proudly showcased the Liam MacCarthy and James Nowlan Cups to an enthusiastic audience. With warm introductions from Deputy Principal Ms. Martina Butler and congratulations from Principal Mr. Paul Fogarty, the event featured heartfelt reflections from Noel and John McGrath on their time at Our Lady's and the support they received from teachers and coaches. The occasion concluded with a beautiful rendition of Slievenamon by sixth-year student Sarah McGrath, rounding off a day filled with pride, tradition, and inspiration for the next generation.



SHREK - The Musical

The annual school musical is a much-anticipated highlight at Our Lady's Templemore, and this year's production of Shrek The Musical was no exception. Featuring a talented cast of more than 200 students, the show delivered vibrant colour, impressive vocals, and high-energy choreography. Congratulations are extended to the entire production team and all students involved for delivering an outstanding performance. The well-earned standing ovations were a testament to their hard work, creativity, and talent—take a well-deserved bow.



Stephen Tuohy as Shrek and Julie Grey as Donkey



Laurie Mullen as Princess Fiona, Andrew Quinlan as Lord Farquaad.

A MEMORABLE TRIP TO BERLIN

Over the midterm break, 69 students and 10 teachers from Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore, enjoyed a four-day educational trip to Berlin. German students experienced the country's history, language, and culture first-hand through visits to the Olympic Stadium, Brandenburg Gate, the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie Museum, and the Asisi Panorama. A solemn visit to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp offered insight into the Holocaust, balanced by a fun outing to Tropical Islands Waterpark. The group also explored the Reichstag Dome, Stasi Prison, TV Tower, and the DDR Interactive Museum.



L-R Pearse Óg Everard, Pádraig Guilfoyle, Saoirse Kennedy, Maisie June O'Brien, Emma Whelan, Séan Giles, Chloe Conroy.

Open Evening

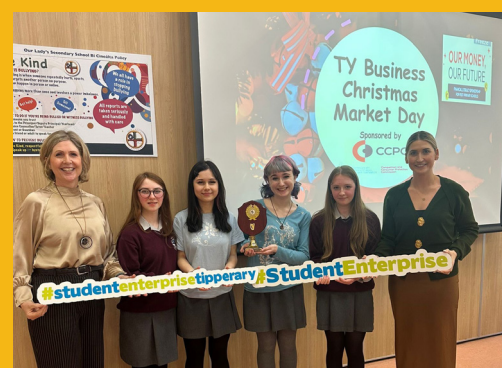
Our Open Evening was held on Thursday 13th of November. It was a resounding success. We were delighted to welcome pupils and parents to our vibrant learning community and to showcase our students and our school.



Mr Paul Fogarty (Principal), Lily Stapleton Higgins, Alicja Hamill Kolodziejczyk, Ruby Stapleton Higgins, Ms Martina Butler (Deputy Principal)

Junior Cycle Results

In early October, our Transition Year, LCAI, and 5th Year students received their Junior Cycle results. These achievements are a testament to their hard work and commitment. It marks an important milestone as they progress into the senior cycle. Well done to all involved.



Overall Best Company: Solar Design and Bralliance (Joint Winners)

TY MINI COMPANY COMPETITION

Our TY students showcased their creativity, innovation, and hard work at their Mini Company Competition! From clever product ideas to impressive presentations, each group brought incredible energy and entrepreneurship to the day. We were also thrilled to welcome Tina Mulhearn from the Tipperary Local Enterprise Office and Geraldine Jones, founder of Skin Formulas, as our

guest judges. Their expertise and encouragement added a fantastic professional insight to the event, making the day even more inspiring for our young entrepreneurs.

A big thank you to all the parents, family and members of our community who visited the Christmas Market. Your support of our young entrepreneurs is very much appreciated.

First Years Complete Subject Sampling Programme

Over the first three months of the school year, our First Year students took part in a subject sampling programme, exploring six different subjects here at Our Lady's. This experience offered them a valuable insight into each subject, helping them discover their strengths and interests. Students have now selected the two subjects they will continue with for the remainder of the year. Well done to all involved as they take this important step in shaping their learning journey.



GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

This term, Our Lady's was alive with German festive spirit as our Transition Year German students hosted the much-anticipated Annual Weihnachtsmarkt (Christmas Market). The event offered a wonderful celebration of German culture and a lively taste of Christmas traditions from abroad.

Well done to all our German students, who prepared an array of stalls, festive foods, and drinks for everyone to enjoy. A special word of thanks and congratulations to Mr Declan Leamy, Ms Aoife Campion, and Ms Saibh Whelan for their outstanding work in creating such an exceptional celebration of German culture within the school.



Harty Team

Congratulations to our Harty Cup panel and management, who have secured their place in the Senior A Hurling quarter-final on Wednesday, January 7th. The team delivered strong performances throughout the group stages, claiming impressive wins over Christian Brothers College, Cork, and North Monastery Secondary School, Cork, while narrowly losing out to St. Joseph's Secondary School, Tulla.

We extend our best wishes to the panel and management in the semi-final against St. Flannan's, Ennis on Wednesday 7th January.



Camogie in Our Lady's

We are very lucky this year to be able to field two Junior Camogie teams- such is the level of interest in the school. Our second junior team had a good campaign, playing Borrisokane, Ursuline Thurles, and Colaiste Mhurie Ennis.

Our Junior A team have progressed to the Munster semi-final with strong victories over Ballingarry and Youghal. They face Dungarven in the Munster Semi Final.

Our Seniors have excelled in the Senior B championship. They beat Ursuline Waterford and SNT Doon. A draw against St. Mary's Nenagh secured a home semi final against Carrick on Suir- a great achievement for this young team.

We wish both teams the best of luck in their semi-finals!



Senior Camogie



Junior Camogie

Badminton

Massive congratulations to all our boys' and girls' badminton teams, who represented Our Lady's with exceptional skill and enthusiasm at this term's Badminton Championships, including the events hosted in Presentation Thurles. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, teamwork, and dedication throughout the competition.



Soccer Update

Our Junior Girls' Soccer team opened the season with a 5-1 win over Shannon before facing a strong St. Mary's Nenagh side in Round 2.

Our First Year Girls' Soccer team narrowly lost their opening match to Crescent College. Both teams have league fixtures to play after Christmas.

Meanwhile, Our Lady's First Year Boys' Soccer Team made a brilliant start with back-to-back 5-1 wins over Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, Thurles, and Borrisokane Community College on the BT Harps Astro. They now top their group and advance to the U14 Munster Shield knockout stages.



New beginnings for our first years

A warm welcome to our First Year students who have all settled in very well at Our Lady's. In September they enjoyed team building and wellbeing activities. An afternoon of team activities on campus gave all our students a chance to build new friendships while having some fun outdoors.

