



Mercy Secondary School
Inchicore



Report on Teaching and Learning

August - October 2025

Shaping Leaders For a
Global Tomorrow



Designed by: Danielle O'Leary

Teaching & Learning Coordinator

Foreword

Greetings and warm regards,

As we begin another exciting school year, we are delighted to welcome everyone back after the summer break. The year has already been filled with great energy, enthusiasm, and achievement. We were thrilled to celebrate our students' excellent Leaving Certificate results and equally proud of the fantastic Junior Cycle results that followed.

A very warm welcome also goes to our new First Year students, who have settled in wonderfully and are already making their mark on school life. Our Open Evening was a tremendous success, showcasing the vibrant learning community we are so proud of, and our School Mass provided a special moment to come together as a community to reflect and give thanks.

We also enjoyed a very fun, exciting, and problem-solving Maths Week that brought staff, students, and parents together through a range of engaging activities and challenges, celebrating creativity, teamwork, and a shared love of learning.

Our sports teams have hit the ground running this term, representing the school with passion and commitment across all codes. We are also very excited to announce the launch of our brand-new Mercy podcast "No Mercy," a creative platform for student voice and discussion. In addition, we were delighted to mark World Teachers' and SNA Day, celebrating the incredible work and dedication of our entire staff team.

Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating the opening of our new gym facility in October 2025, which will be a fantastic addition to our school's sporting and wellbeing resources.

It has been a wonderful start to the year, and we look forward with optimism, pride, and excitement for all that lies ahead in Teaching and Learning at Mercy

This report will delve deeper into these accomplishments, showcasing the ongoing dedication of our students and staff in creating a vibrant and supportive school environment.

Sincere thank you to all colleagues who shared their professional practice in order to carry out this report.

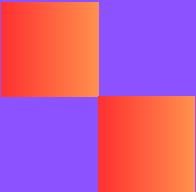
Warm regards,

Danielle O'Leary

Teaching and Learning Coordinator



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Milestones



TY Overnight Trip

Our TY students enjoyed an action-packed overnight trip to East Coast Adventure, taking on everything from making waves at sea to conquering coastal cliffs. It was a fun-filled experience that built teamwork, confidence, and lasting memories.



Open Night

Our recent Open Night was a fantastic success, as prospective students and their families visited to experience all that Mercy has to offer. The evening showcased the vibrant teaching, learning, and extracurricular opportunities within our school, and visitors were warmly welcomed by our enthusiastic students and staff who proudly shared the wonderful spirit of Mercy.



Teacher/SNA Day

We were delighted to celebrate World Teachers' and SNA Day, recognising the outstanding dedication, care, and professionalism of our staff. It was a special opportunity to express our gratitude for the vital role they play in supporting, guiding, and inspiring our students each day.



Junior Cycle Results

We were absolutely delighted with this year's Junior Cycle results, which were truly outstanding. The hard work and commitment of our students were evident in their excellent achievements, and there were plenty of proud smiles and a few happy tears as they celebrated their well-deserved success.



U19 Basketball

Our U19 Basketball Team is off to a flying start this season, securing two impressive wins from two games. The team has shown great skill, determination, and teamwork, and we look forward to seeing their success continue in the weeks ahead.

Academic Programs



The academic programs at Mercy Secondary School places an emphasis on every aspect of student growth and development, while meeting Department of Education requirements. Suitable class sizes and exceptional, qualified teachers allow us to offer a comfortable and inclusive educational environment, while ensuring each student receives the individualised attention and support they need.



01

Junior Cycle



02

Junior Cycle Schools Programme



03

Transition Year



04

Leaving Cert Applied



05

Leaving Cert
Established

Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

Maths: Avril Devereux

Students have been introduced to the important concepts of Probability. They have developed skills in constructing a two way table along with understanding the vocabulary of Probability. Students are working very well and completed a class test on this topic which consisted of Junior cycle exam questions. We are now working through the chapter Sets.

Maths: Danielle O'Leary

Our First Year Maths class has made an excellent start to the year. We began by exploring probability, learning to calculate the likelihood of single and combined events, and using experiments and theoretical approaches to understand chance. We then moved on to sets, studying union, intersection, and complement of sets, as well as representing sets using Venn diagrams. Currently, we are working through number systems, all while tackling Junior Cycle exam questions. The class is demonstrating a very high standard of understanding, engagement, and commitment to their learning with all students receiving brilliant results in their first two class tests.



Religion: Fiona Healy

We have been busy exploring the different communities to which we belong and expressing this through creative poster design in a digital format.

Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

English: Louise O'Toole

Recently, students engaged in a creative writing activity designed to build collaboration and storytelling skills. Working in groups, students began by coming up with a title and writing the introduction to a story within a five-minute time limit. After the timer went off, each group passed their story to the next group, who then continued the narrative by writing the next part. This process continued until every group had contributed at least one paragraph to each story, resulting in a collection of imaginative and unpredictable tales shaped by many voices. Following this creative writing project, we have now transitioned into our film study for the year, where students will begin analyzing film as a text. Their film text for this year is 'Coraline.'



Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have just finished their taster sessions where they looked at introduction to cookery, the Home Economics kitchen and the Food Pyramid. Students made their own 3D food pyramids. Now that students have settled into their selected option classes, students will focus on cooking with their partners starting with Chicken Goujons and Berry Crumble!

Geography: Laura Doyle

Students have just finished a module on the Earth's structure and volcanoes. Student's learnt all about what the Earth is made of and enjoyed watching some footage of volcanic eruptions. Students produced some amazing volcano diagrams and discussed what takes place after an eruption. Students also completed a case-study of Iceland, a country famous for their volcanic eruptions!

Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

Visual Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have just finished their taster sessions where they explored the art elements of Line, Tone and Shape through a range of mediums such as ink drawing, tonal drawing and charcoal. We are now experimenting with colour theory and building up skills in oil pastels while observing natural primary source forms



Science: Danielle Carroll

1st year students have settled in well and are developing a good understanding of being a scientist. They have been learning about lab safety and familiarising themselves with common lab equipment. Students also followed the scientific method to carry out their first investigation, exploring which type of solution caused a gummy bear to grow the most in length. They worked safely and enthusiastically, achieving some excellent results while developing their practical and investigative skills.



Teaching and Learning- 1st Year

Spanish: Kate O'Keeffe

Most of the class are learning Spanish for the first time. We're learning about the culture of the Spanish speaking world, starting with the names of the 21 Spanish speaking countries! (Can you name them?)

We're going on to learn things like introducing yourself (Me llamo Ciara, Tengo 13 años, Soy de Irlanda, Vivo en Dublín). We're using lots of songs to learn new vocabulary and learning the new pronunciation by speaking a lot in class.

PE:Donal Byrne

Students have been busy learning about different Fundamental Movement skills in class. They have been coaching each other on how to jump, land, throw and catch and applying these in games and competitions.

Gaeilge: Sorcha Hackett

First year is all about building confidence in spoken Gaeilge, building on what students already know and, if a student has had a negative experience with language learning, trying to start a 'clean slate' and create a more positive learning experience. We focused on some basics - students learned to speak about themselves and it was lovely to see them all do so well, do their best and build their confidence for their mini oral assignment, telling the class a bit about themselves. They smashed it!

Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

History: Sinead O'Sullivan

Students have been studying the Reformation and the Plantations. In the Reformation they explored why it happened, Martin Luther and his beliefs, the response of the Catholic church and the long and short term consequences. While studying the plantations, students are understanding why the Plantations happened. They are studying the Ulster Plantation in detail and are exploring how the settlers lived and organised land.

Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have been diving into their textile and creative skills! We have just started CBA1 creative textiles where students brainstormed ideas for their sewing. They have excelled at half cross stitch and we can't wait to see how their designs come to life!

History: Thomas Nolan

Job of the Historian & Ancient Rome

Students have been learning about the skills that a historian needs and also researching what life was like in Ancient Rome. They even tried their hands at being real estate agents selling a Villa at the time



Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

Visual Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have explored natural forms through photography, oil pastel and now students are working on clay sculptures inspired by these forms. The clay sculptures will gather to form a collaborative class totem pole that will be displayed in the school



Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

Geography: Laura Doyle

Students have been learning about manufacturing and enjoyed creating factory systems for some of their favourite products. Students also had the opportunity to invent their own products, and created a factory system to manufacture them! Students are now studying rivers and are learning all about how waterfalls are formed!

Maths HL: Danielle O'Leary

Our Second Year Higher Level Maths students have made a superb start to the year, diving straight into the challenges and excitement of higher-level study. They began by exploring the complexities of sets and tackling three-set Venn diagram problem solving, developing strong logical reasoning and analytical skills. From there, they moved into Algebra 1, where they examined patterns, expanded and factorised expressions, and solved both linear and quadratic equations. Students have shown great persistence and accuracy in applying these skills, which was reflected in a set of very impressive exam results. The class has now begun Algebra 2, focusing on algebraic fractions, a topic that demands precision and a deep understanding of algebraic manipulation. Overall, the group continues to work with enthusiasm, curiosity, and a strong commitment to excellence.

Maths OL: Avril Devereux

Students have been learning some new and important concepts in Algebra 1. They have been learning new key words such as coefficient, variable and constant. Students then learned how to substitute values into linear and quadratic equations with learning how to solve linear equations after that. Currently, students are learning how to multiply terms in algebra and will be moving onto removing brackets to get a great understanding of multiplying in algebra. 2nd years are working really hard this term.

Business: Paula McCarville

Students have been working very hard on their business enterprise CBA. They have worked together in small teams and brainstormed ideas and developed their marketing mix. They are just at the finish line now and getting organised to present their CBA projects to the class next week. Students have gained invaluable skills during this CBA such as; communication, leadership, creativity, teamwork and organisational skills. It's lovely to see so many students become more confident throughout their CBA's.

Teaching and Learning- 2nd Year

PE: Donal Byrne

Students have been engaged in learning different athletics events and performing them in competition in their classes. They have focused on high jump, long jump, shot putt and javelin.



Gaeilge: Sorcha Hackett

The first few weeks was all about getting reacquainted with Gaeilge, reminding students of how much they already know, revisiting the basics and building on this. They learned how to speak about their daily routines and to build on their sentences to add more and be able to describe things they enjoy or dislike. They learned lots of new adjectives and practised speaking out loud. We also enjoyed a few games of Blooket!

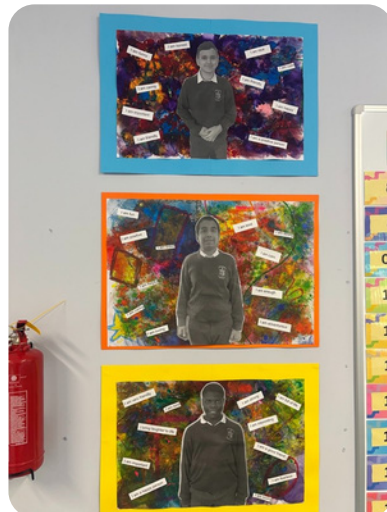
Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

English: Sinead O'Sullivan

Students have been studying the Shakespeare play, The Merchant of Venice. They have been looking at themes, characters, literary devices and historical context.

Lir: Louise Smith

The Lir class worked on an affirmation portrait project designed to build confidence and highlight the positives each student brings to life and the classroom. Students reflected on who they are and what makes them unique. This project combined creativity from our craft class with social-emotional learning. A variety of sensory methods were used to create the portraits, including applying paint with balloons, splattering paint with brush handles, blending oil pastels, and spreading paint with their hands. An overall, fun and colourful project that is now displayed proudly in our classroom.



Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have been working hard looking at cooking processes, nutrition and food processing/ preservation. As the cooking exam is worth 50%, we have been dedicating a lot of time to our practical skills. Students have created delicious dinners (chicken and vegetable fajitas, chicken curry and spaghetti bolognese) and also focused on starters (garlic bread and bruschetta).



Geography: Laura Doyle

Students have been learning about population and have really enjoyed their case study, comparing the population of Ireland with the population of Sierra Leone! They've learnt how to read a population pyramid and have also discussed the Demographic Transition Model.

Next, students will be looking at the developed and developing world and discussing the different types of aid we can give as a society to those that need it most!

Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Visual Art: Rebecca Warren

Students are currently completing their CBA2 projects based on the Junior Cert Art Themes. They are using a range of media to explore primary sources and completing artist research as they develop and explore ideas around their chosen theme. This project is all about students ability to 'communicate and reflect' their ideas and thoughts though art



Spanish: Kate O'Keeffe & Raul Fernandez

We have been studying food in 3rd year Spanish. This week our Spanish assistant, Andrea, arrived from Spain. She was able to help students to prepare their dialogues and perform them in class. The students did a brilliant job writing dialogues of a customer and vendor in the market. They now know how to ask for particular foods, e.g. 'Quiero seis manzanas por favor' - 'I want 6 apples please.' Some of the students performed their dialogues for the class. Students are doing very well in developing their vocabulary, writing skills and communicative speaking in the class.

Maths HL: Avril Devereux

Students at higher level have completed in depth the topic of Co-ordinate Geometry and recently had a class test consisting of all higher level junior cycle exam questions. Students receive a weekly revision booklet to be handed up and marked to monitor their progress as well as revising algebra. Students have now started to learn about trigonometry and the relevance of Pythagoras' Theorem. Students can now apply the Pythagorean Theorem to solve a right angled triangle. They have learned how trigonometry applies to real life scenarios and have started to learn and understand the trigonometric ratios, sin, cos and tan as well as inverse trigonometric ratios.

Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Maths OL: Danielle O'Leary

Students have now completed their study of Financial Maths as well as Algebra 1 and 2. This week, we began our new topic, Trigonometry and students are already engaging well with the material. In addition to our classwork, students are completing a weekly revision booklet made up of past Junior Cycle exam questions. These booklets are handed up each week, graded, and returned with feedback to help students track their progress. The class has been working consistently and staying on track, showing great commitment as they prepare to achieve their best possible grade in the Junior Cycle exams

Business: Paula McCarville

Students have finished learning all about tax and payslips and understanding the different types of tax. We looked at the recent government budget and students were very inquisitive about some aspects of government spending. We are now looking at economic growth and its impact on society. Students enjoyed comparing all of the countries GDP online and charted the countries in order of highest and lowest GDP.

Coding: Raul Fernandez

In Coding, we started working on a Scratch project about how to program, including translation and speech features in different languages like Irish or Spanish. After that, we began working on Python, using an interactive websites, where students are learning how to code in a fun and engaging way and can work at their own pace

Gaeilge: Sorchá Hackett

Given the year that's in it, students were reminded to really give their focus to exam subjects such as Gaeilge. We revisited what they know, learned lots of new verbs and adjectives and put them into practise with written and spoken assignments. We also played a few games of Blooket for fun!

Teaching and Learning- 3rd Year

Horticulture: Sorcha Hackett

Lir class did lots of work on Summer and Autumn and what they look like and what happens in nature during these seasons. We did some art projects, some seed planting, scavenger hunts, made smoothies using seeds and fruits having learned about where they grow and how they grow. We went on a few nice walks to collect some of nature's gifts.



PE: Donal Byrne

Students have been learning and taking part in tag rugby this term.



Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Science: Justine O'Brien

Students have been getting to grips with the basics of horticulture. They have learnt the different parts of the plant and how to test the soil type and pH. We also have begun to examine the role and uses of different plants. Students took part in a herb/spice matching activity. They have also started to develop their growing skills by planting some broad beans for cultivation.



Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have been working on their Ethnic Cookery module where we take a different country each week and cook a food from there. So far we have cooked foods from Italy, Thailand, India and Mexico. Students fill in their portfolio booklets at home for homework which will be showcased at the end of the year.



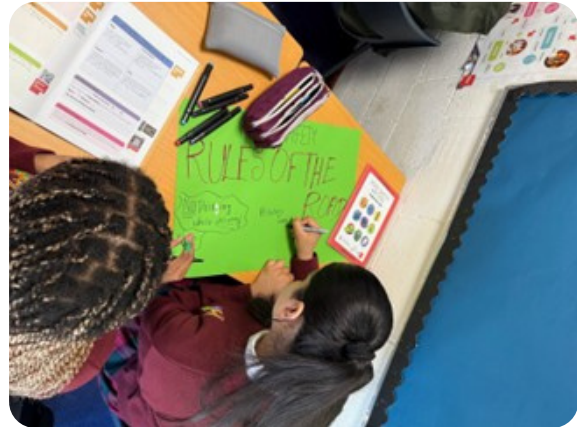
Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Climate and Sustainability: Thomas Nolan

Although we haven't had many classes our Ty's have had a guest speaker in to teach them about climate, sustainability, climate justice and making them aware of how they can play a role in looking after the earth's climate.

Road Safety Authority: Louise O'Toole

TY students have begun their brand new module called Road Safety. They have explored topics such as setting the scene and learning to drive. These lessons focus on road safety, the rules of the road for both drivers and pedestrians, and the process of obtaining a driver's license in Ireland. The students are looking forward to their upcoming driving school day, which will give them hands-on experience in real-life scenarios.



Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Digital Portfolio: Raul Fernandez

We started our digital portfolio, explaining the basic concepts of web design, such as creating pages, navigation, hyperlinks, and how to add background images and colours. Students have been working creatively on their own pages and documenting the activities they have already done during the year, such as the overnight trip. These digital portfolios are coming along very nicely and look very professional!!

Art: Rebecca Warren

Students are currently working on a project exploring the theme of 'Heritage' and traditions. They are working towards a collaborative textile artefact that will showcase their own heritage. Students are completing sampler stitches as practice before beginning their final piece



Spanish: Kate O'Keeffe

We are currently doing a Spanish film studies module in TY. We are watching a film called 'Diecisiete,' set in Cantabria, a region in the northwest of Spain. Students are very engaged in the film which is a coming of age story about a 17 year old boy called 'Hector.' Film analysis includes Spanish culture & common expressions used in Northern Spain among other things.

Teaching and Learning- Transition Year

Maths TYA: Avril Devereux

Transition Year students started the year off by learning all about the History of Mathematics. They learned a variety of elements of this including the history of number, the history of Pi and the history of algebra. Students completed quizzes and worksheets to help enhance their learning. Along with this, they were able to reflect on how mathematics has developed over time. Then students were looking back on the topic of data and statistics. They drew many different forms of graphs including a pie chart , a histogram and a bar chart. Students also learned about the measure of central tendency. During maths week, TYA helped create and design a maths quiz for Ms Devereux's 2nd year class.

Business: Raul Fernandez

We started working on entrepreneurship and entrepreneurs, looking at examples of previous entrepreneurs, how they were successful, and the different types of enterprises. Students are now working on a presentation about one entrepreneur they are interested in.

PE: Donal Byrne & Laoise McColgan

Students have been exploring different areas in our community where they can engage in physical activity in your everyday lifestyle. These included Memorial Park, Kilmainham Hospital, Bluebell Astro and the outdoor gym in Landsdowne Valley Park.



Gaeilge: Sorcha Hackett

Students have been enjoying the more relaxed pace of Gaeilge this year - they are focusing on spoken Gaeilge, have done a big class quix, are watching social media videos and TV shows as Gaeilge to get a more 'real' feel for the language that isn't just based on classroom academics.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCA

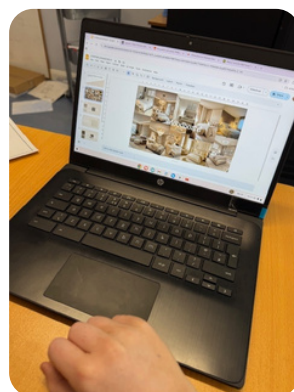
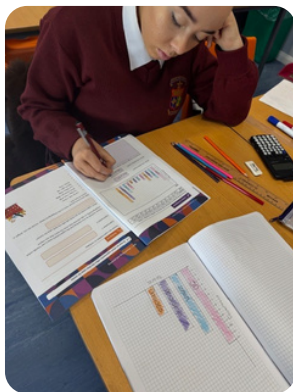
Science: Justine O'Brien

Students have been learning about lab safety when conducting experiments. This forms part of their key assignments. As part of this they made elephant toothpaste in the lab.



Mathematical Applications: Danielle O'Leary

Our LCA class has recently finished their study of Statistics, where students explored how to collect, organise, and interpret data in real-life contexts. Following this, the class successfully completed Key Assignment 1, demonstrating their understanding of the topic. Today, we began our new unit on Perimeter, Area, and Volume, where students will apply their mathematical skills to solve practical, everyday problems. The class has shown steady progress and a positive attitude towards learning as we continue to build on their understanding of key mathematical concepts



Teaching and Learning- 5LCA

Hair & Beauty: Pamela Durrant

5th LCA students have started their 1st module in Hair & Beauty Customer service skills and Receptionist skills in a salon.

VPG: Paula McCarville

In vocational preparation & guidance students have worked on their work experience action plan and are enjoying their work experience every Friday. They are learning new skills and growing with confidence. Students made a jobsearch folder where they put their CV and cover letters along with some sample job advertisements they looked up online. They have studied interview skills and techniques and are looking forward to practising some interviews with their peers.

Gaeilge: Sorcha Hackett

As well as working on strengthening their abilities in Irish, students have been working on key assignments - an oral recording about themselves and answering questions on a short film/TV programme. We have worked on the post card and summer language as well as past tense verbs and adjectives.

PRT: Danielle O'Leary

Our 5LCA class has been spending time in PRT reflecting on their personal growth and experiences each week. Students have been practising mindfulness and gratitude, taking time to give thanks and record their reflections in their journals. This routine has helped them develop greater self-awareness and a positive mindset. We also took the opportunity to celebrate together with hot chocolate following the release of the Junior Cycle results a lovely way to acknowledge everyone's hard work and achievements.



Teaching and Learning- 5LCA

Craft and Design: Rebecca Warren

Students completed their first task interview with the State Examinations Commission. This was worth 10 credits and has significant weighting for the students LC grade. All of the students showed up prepared and had a successful interview with excellent feedback from the examiner. Well done all - looking forward to seeing all you have achieved in your next set of interviews/ oral examinations in May!



Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

English HL: Louise O'Toole

Students have recently begun their study of Othello as part of the prescribed Shakespearean text for Higher Level English. We have focused on developing a foundational understanding of the play through a combination of active listening to the audio performance, close reading of key scenes, and engagement with act summaries and scene breakdowns. This multi-modal approach is supporting students in becoming familiar with the plot, characters, and early thematic developments.

To consolidate learning, students have also completed regular quote tests to build familiarity with important lines and begin to develop analytical language. This work is laying the groundwork for deeper critical engagement with character development, dramatic techniques, and central themes such as jealousy, manipulation, and the complexities of trust and identity.

Overall, students are responding well to the text and are encouraged to revise regularly and contribute actively in class discussions as we move into more detailed analysis in the coming weeks.



History: Sinead O'Sullivan

We started our senior cycle history course by reviewing the work of a historian and examining our own bias and perspective as well as the importance of evidence and sources. Students started the Dictatorship topic by examining the events that lead to communism being introduced in Russia. They have done a deep dive into the life and times of Lenin and Stalin and how they impacted the Soviet Union.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

Home Economics: Melissa McGee

Students have gotten off to a great start with Senior Cycle Home Economics. Huge levels of enthusiasm and work ethic have already been demonstrated in the short time we have been back. Topics such as nutrition, food commodities and diets have been studied. We are hoping to start our Coursework Journals worth 20% of the LC before the October midterm.

Geography: Laura Doyle

Students have settled really well into Leaving Cert Geography. Since returning in September, students have been completing weekly essay tests on topics such as convection currents, plate tectonics, volcanoes and earthquakes. Everyone has been putting lots of effort into preparing for these tests and has been improving week on week as a result!

Business: Paula McCarville

Students are enjoying the new leaving certificate business course. They have already done a lot of individual research during lessons for topics such as stakeholders, enterprise and idea development. Students have settled very well into the course, and some have never done business before and are thriving.

Maths OL: Danielle O'Leary

My 5th Year Maths students have truly hit the ground running since returning at the end of August. We began the year with our study of Algebra 1, focusing on key foundational skills such as simplifying expressions, expanding and factorising brackets, solving linear equations, and working with inequalities. These topics helped to strengthen students' algebraic fluency and confidence as they transitioned into the senior cycle.

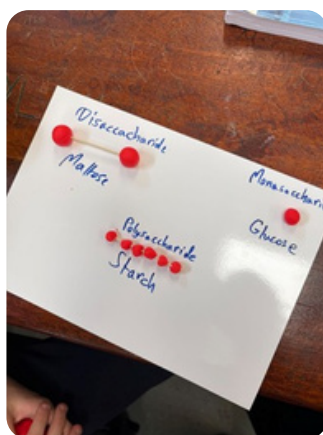
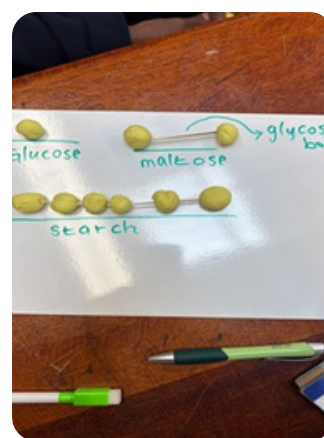
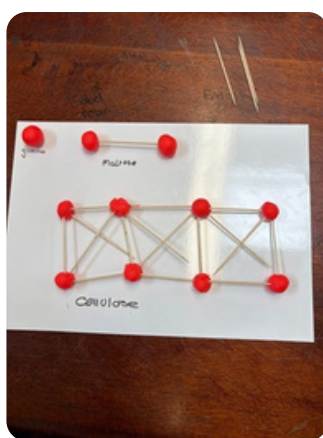
We have since completed our study of Algebra 2, where students built on those skills by exploring quadratic equations and functions, manipulating more complex algebraic expressions, and applying algebra to problem-solving and real-life contexts. Students will complete a class test and an assignment on this topic, similar to what they completed for Algebra 1, to reinforce understanding and track progress.

In addition, all students will receive a midterm assignment consisting of Leaving Certificate exam questions, ensuring we remain on track and continue developing the skills needed for exam success.

Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

Biology: Danielle Carroll

5th year Biology students have been studying the topic of 'Food'. They created excellent playdough models to represent different types of carbohydrates, helping them to visualise and review the structure of monosaccharides, disaccharides, and polysaccharides. Students have also been conducting a series of food experiments, including the new investigation involving serial dilutions to quantitatively measure reducing sugars in various food samples. This hands-on work has helped deepen their understanding of food composition and experimental techniques.



SPHE: Avril Devereux

Students have learned how to set goals effectively at the start of 5th year to help them begin the year with a positive outlook. Students then learned about the different health determinants and how they can have an impact on our lives. They then self reflected and took a quiz to determine how healthy they are. Students then worked in groups in creating and designing an ideal community for everyone .

Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have been introduced to conceptual and contemporary art as they complete thematic research on the theme 'Beneath the surface'. They have created collage to help explore their theme and inform their ceramic mask design. Students also visited a contemporary art exhibition and had the opportunity to chat with a local artist about their practice and techniques. As a class they created a mini exhibition as they learned about curation and the importance of exhibition in art. We hope to curate a group exhibition when their practical work is completed



Gaeilge: Sorcha Hackett

Students have been working hard on improving their Gaeilge and raising their standards of written and spoken language by expanding their vocabulary - verbs, adjectives and the little words that help to build sentences. They've also looked at some social media and TV shows in Irish to improve their listening skills and played a few rounds of Blooket for fun!

Teaching and Learning- 5LCE

Leaving Cert PE: Donal Byrne

This is the first year students have engaged in the Leaving Cert Physical Education syllabus. Students have been learning how to assess and recognise a skilled performance, analyse each others performance in a skill and planning for improvement. They have also been working on their digital skills to help to break down a skill and provide feedback for improvement.

Spanish: Kate O'Keeffe & Raul Fernandez

We started reviewing some basic concepts, such as numbers and dates in Spanish. We also worked on how to describe ourselves and other people, like friends and family, which are very important topics for the Leaving Certificate, especially in the conversation component. We tried to make the lessons more engaging by doing some speed-dating activities to practice questions and answers. We also started working on role plays, which is something new for the students.

Teaching and Learning- 6LCA

Mathematical Applications: Danielle O'Leary

Our 6LCA class has made great progress this term, having now completed their third Key Assignment. At the beginning of the year, we focused on Statistics, where students learned how to gather, organise, and interpret data, as well as represent their findings using charts, graphs, and averages. This topic helped them to see the relevance of maths in everyday life and develop important analytical and problem-solving skills.

We have since moved on to our new topic, Perimeter, Area, and Volume – where students are applying their mathematical understanding to real-life measurement problems. This unit also forms an important part of their preparation for the upcoming Winter Assessments and Mock Exams, helping to reinforce core skills and build confidence ahead of their final year evaluations.

Programme Coordinator: Melissa McGee

Year 1 results have just arrived and our students got on very well. A celebration will be held to congratulate our students on their success!

HCT: Melissa McGee

We have just begun working on our HCT Task. This involves students creating a travel brochure of our local area. We have put ourselves in the shoes of a tourist and created a whole itinerary for Inchicore. After a tourist trail of our local area, the students have really gotten a sense of pride of where they come from!



VPG: Paula McCarville

Students are working well on their work experience action plan and learning new skills and growing in confidence as the weeks go by. They have looked into the employment equality act and health and safety issues in the workplace and made a presentation on their findings. We are currently learning about trade unions and completing our key assignment for soon.

Teaching and Learning- 6LCA

Social Education: Laura Doyle

Students have been hard at work preparing for their task, which will take place in November and December. They are planning to host a workshop on the dangers of drugs with 3rd year students and are working hard to make sure they are prepared to answer all their questions and facilitate some fun and educational activities. As part of this preparation, 6LCA will have a guest speaker in from the Canal Communities Regional Addicition Service after midterm, which they are looking forward to!

Spanish: Raul Fernandez

We have started working on the first module, Module 1: Social Relationships, focusing on greetings, numbers, food, and other practical aspects of Spanish. We have already completed two of the four assignments required for this module, and we are currently working on the third one, a presentation about Spanish-speaking countries. It's a very engaging project, and students are including lots of fun and interesting facts about these countries.

Horticulture: Sorcha Hackett



Teaching and Learning- 6LCA

Music: Rachel Murphy

6 LCA students, Liz and Miss Murphy had a tour of Windmill Lane Recording studios! We have been learning all about the music industry and how a song is released for general access. We met Aidan who is one of the owners of the studios. He discussed all things Rock and Roll, including some interesting history of Irish music. We stood in the same recording studios and sat in the same chairs as some of the world's biggest artists such as Lady Gaga, Bruce Springsteen, U2, The Rolling Stones and 50 cent! We even got to ask Aidan, all about his experience producing songs for huge artists. I mean who wouldn't want to work with Miley Cyrus?! At the end of our tour we got to sign our own names and make our mark on this historic piece of music history!



Hair & Beauty: Pamela Durrant

6th LCA Student are covering their 3rd Module in Hair & Beauty Skin Care. And Practical curling and upstyling in preparation for practical exams.

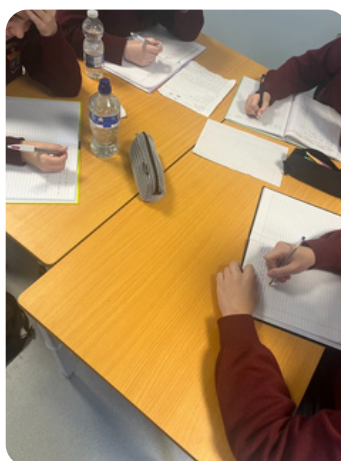
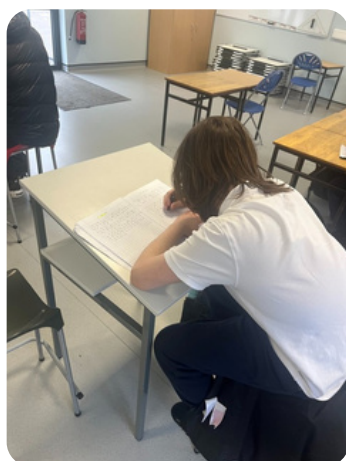
Teaching and Learning- 6LCE

Home Economics: Fiona Healy

6th years are busy preparing their LC journal coursework for submission and also delving into the world of diet related diseases.

English: Leah Kenny and Lorcan Roddy

All students participated in a one day seminar with the amazing Colm Keegan. They worked on preparing Short Stories for Paper One and expanded their creativity. The feedback from the workshop were amazing: 'real comfortable and a great enjoyment', 'very inviting and open person' and 'really helped me with my short story writing'.



Maths HL: James Hanrahan

6th Year HL have gotten off to a flying start working on coordinate geometry of the circle and calculus. We have started extra classes after school to try exam paper questions and hopefully this will put us in a good position for the Mock exams in Feb next year. The plan is to get calculus and financial maths complete before christmas with trigonometry and probability finished before the mock exams.

Maths OL: Avril Devereux

Students have looked in depth at two important topics, functions and calculus. They learned how to get the slope and equation of a tangent along with differentiating. Students can draw and interpret linear, quadratic, cubic and exponential graphs. Students receive a weekly revision booklet to help monitor their progress. Currently, students are focusing on financial maths.

Teaching and Learning- 6LCE

Geography: Thomas Nolan

We took a break from studying our region's topic to conduct our field study which is worth 20% of the Leaving Cert and allowed us to carry out a number of activities on the River Glin. We also made a friend along the way.



Art: Rebecca Warren

Students have explored the era of art in Pre-Christian Ireland. They have created clay studies of the artefacts as they learn and develop their essay writing skills on the topic. They are visiting the National Museum of Archaeology where they will see the artefacts in person. All Visual studies work will be completed ahead of Mid - Term and then students can begin preparing for their practical exam project which starts in December and carries 70% of their final grade for Leaving Cert Art



Teaching and Learning- 6LCE

Spanish: Kate O'Keeffe & Raul Fernandez

Students have been doing a lot of work in Spanish to prepare for their orals. They've been practicing questions together and in the meantime getting to know each other better. The oral exam is a challenging but enjoyable part of the exam to prepare for. Students have to be confident and know a lot of Spanish which takes a lot of work. However, the interactive side of it makes it fun to prepare! There is a lot of reflective practice going on here as students think about what is going well, what needs improving and how to make those improvements.



PE: Donal Byrne

6th years have been taking part in athletics events this term. They engaged in shot putt, javelin, high jump and discus.



Business: Paula McCarville

Students have been working hard on their units in business and overall did well in their HR and Insurance exams. Students are very enthusiastic about their new unit of learning as we delve into the world of marketing.

Mercy Sport



Basketball & Athletics: Donal Byrne



U19 Boys Basketball

U19 Boys Basketball have won their first two games of the year (35-20, 50-36), they have one game left in their group and hope to progress further in the competition.



U16 Boys Basketball

U16 Boys Basketball have played one match so far and have one more to go. Hopefully it will be a win this time.



U16 Girls Basketball

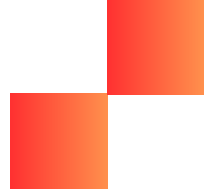
U16 Girls Basketball have played their first match of the year and won 37-10. It was a very strong start and hope to continue this in the coming matches.



Athletics

We are competing for the first time in an athletics competition with our teams running in cross country. The teams scored very well overall, with the Junior Girls overall coming 3rd as a team and the boys 2nd. Two more days of competition are coming up which they are looking forward to.

Mercy Sport



**Football: Thomas Nolan, Paula McCarville,
Rachel Murphy, Liam Regan**

Our football teams this year have started back up, this year we have the addition of the U17s teams. We are very excited to kick off our season this year and see what it has in stock for us!



TY News



Programme Coordinator: Melissa McGee

Our TY students have settled in extremely well this year. They have already demonstrated great enthusiasm and dedication towards the programme. Many events have been organised for the students including the following:

1. TUD Mentoring
2. TenderWrite Play Performance
3. Tenderfoot Theatre Workshop
4. TUD Debating Workshop
5. Luail Performance in the Civic Theatre
6. Overnight Adventure to East Coast Adventure Centre in NI.
7. Mental Health Talk with a Mental Health Nurse
8. Climate and Sustainability Workshop
9. Samaritans Talk
10. TY Driving School
11. HEAnet Block Placement with STEM Passport
12. Code Plus with TCD
13. TUD Maths Workshop
14. Attorney General Work Placement
15. Freaky Friday

There is even more organised next term for this great bunch of students!



Aspire2



Danielle O'Leary



6LCA Trip tip Windmill Lane

We are very grateful to Aspire2 for funding our 6LCA students' trip to Windmill Lane. This visit provided an invaluable hands-on learning experience and will be a huge help to them as they prepare for their upcoming key assignments. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to see their classroom learning come to life in a professional setting.



5th Year Mentoring

The 5th-year mentor session with Aspire2 provided valuable insights and guidance, helping students navigate their academic and career aspirations with confidence and clarity



StudyClix Accounts

We are delighted to share that Aspire2 funding has enabled us to set up StudyClix accounts for all our 5th and 6th Year students. This fantastic learning tool provides access to all subjects, exam questions, and topics, helping students to prepare effectively and confidently for their exams. The platform supports independent study and revision, making it an invaluable resource for our senior students as they work towards their goals



Higher Options

With help from Aspire2, our senior students had the opportunity to attend the Higher Options event in the RDS. This valuable experience allowed them to meet representatives from a wide range of colleges and universities, explore different career pathways, and gather important information to help them make informed choices about their future studies.



YAP Training

Our wonderful Youth Advisory Panelists from 5th and 6th year will be doing some exciting leadership training with the Aspire2 mentors over the midterm break.

Maths Week

Danielle O'Leary & Avril Devereux



Estimation Game

All students went head to head to estimate the amount of jellies in the jar. Fiadh Murphy, Conor McClelland, Beatrice Omoregie and Miguel Vendramini guessed the exact amount and then faced each other in a tie breaker. Fiadh came out on top!



1st Year Maths Week Quiz

As part of Maths Week, all our First Year students took part in a fun and competitive Maths Quiz, working in groups of four to solve a variety of problem-solving challenges. The energy and enthusiasm in the room were fantastic as each team battled it out for the top spot. In a thrilling finish, two groups tied on points, leading to an exciting tie-breaker round — and it was Xander who took the crown home for his team! It was a brilliant event filled with teamwork, laughter, and a real love of learning.



Staff and Parents Quiz

To make sure everyone could join in on the Maths Week fun, Ms. O'Leary organised a special Maths Quiz for all staff and parents. It was a fantastic way to get the whole school community involved, sparking plenty of friendly competition and mathematical thinking beyond the classroom. Congratulations to Amy Ward and Ms. Smith, who proved their problem-solving skills by taking the top spots well done to both!



Junior Group Challenge

As part of Maths Week, ten problem-solving cards were hidden around all Junior class base rooms, challenging students to work together as a team to find and solve them. The competition was fierce throughout the week, with 1 Connolly, 2 Boyne, 3 Tara, and 3 Kells all tying for first place. Each class then sent a representative to compete in an exciting tie-breaker round — and it was Jack Abraham who came out on top, winning a well-deserved pizza party for his class!



Maths Bee

During Maths Week, all students in the school took part in a fast-paced Maths Bee Challenge organised by Ms. O'Leary. Each student had three minutes to answer as many questions as possible, testing their speed, accuracy, and problem-solving skills. The top scorers from each year group advanced to the exciting final, which featured competitors from 1st Year all the way to 6th Year. In an incredible result, Gabby from 1st Year triumphed over them all to become our Maths Bee Champion for 2025 — an amazing achievement!

Social Media Team

Louise O'Toole

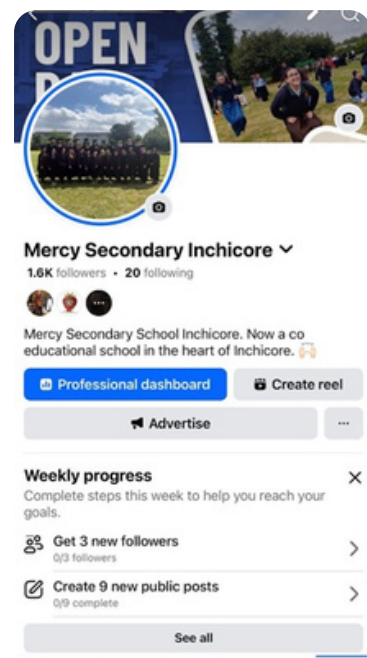
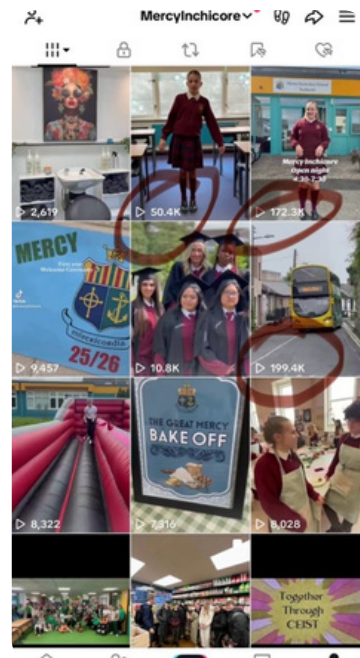
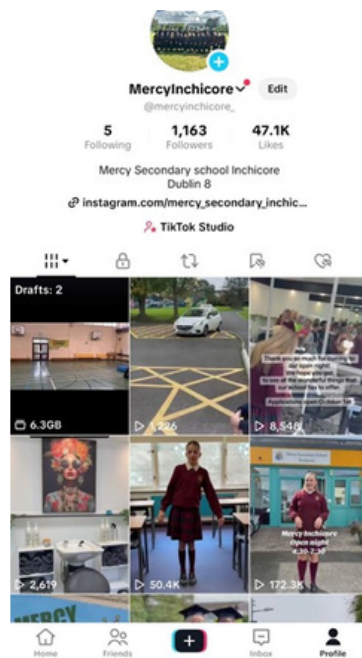
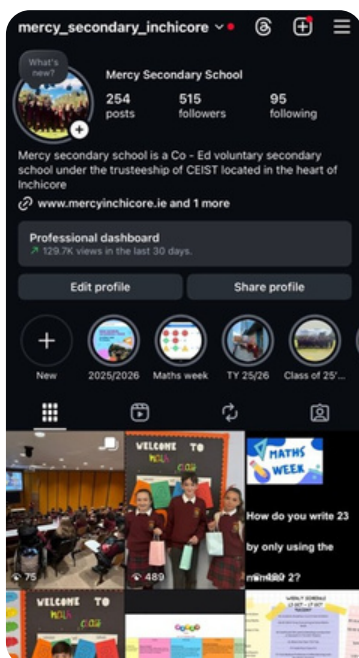
Like most schools, social media has become our fastest and most effective way to communicate. In fact, one of our TikTok videos recently reached an incredible 199.4k views – a huge milestone for us!

Behind the scenes, this success is driven by our student-led social media team. Made up of Halle Rose Weldon, Erin Walsh, and Lee Plunkett, this talented group brings creativity, energy, and fresh ideas to every post. Since forming, they've taken our online presence to the next level and yes, we've gone viral!

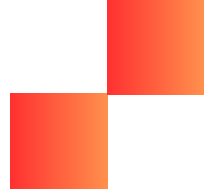
The students pitch their ideas, collaborate with their teacher, and together bring the spirit of Mercy Inchicore to life online. We're proud of how far they've come and excited to see the team grow in the coming years.

Looking ahead, we aim to expand the team and explore even more creative ways to showcase our school.

Huge congratulations to Halle Rose, Erin, and Lee, your work is inspiring. Keep it up!



Extracurricular



Choir: Rachel Murphy

Our Mercy Choir has begun without a hitch, each year we grow and each year we aim to achieve more! This year, we have been asked to perform at a Concert in TUD to mark their Christmas Celebration and of course our yearly Mercy Christmas Market! Each year I am always so impressed by the drive and fun we create in choir! I am incredibly lucky to have such fantastic students in our choir.

LCA Conflict Resolution Workshop: Melissa McGee

Our LCA students took part in a Conflict Resolution workshop with Sorcha Mallen. In this workshop, they looked at coping skills and how to deal with situations of conflict. It was extremely beneficial to our students.

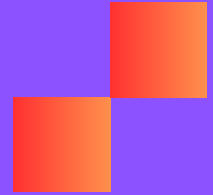
Erasmus + Mobility Youth Exchange Project: Simon Creane

Big congratulations to Hannah, Riley, Andrea and Katie who linked in with students from all over Europe and spent time in Barcelona this summer. They did an amazing presentation on their experiences in Youthcore.





Mercy Secondary School
Inchicore



Shaping Leaders
For a Global
Tomorrow

