

St Mary's & St Gerards N.S.  
Caring, Connection & a love of learning

SMSG Newsletter 21st November 2025

# INTEL SCIENCE FAIR IN SCHOOL TODAY!

Dates for the diary

Friday 12th December @ 10 am: Junior Christmas Concert (Junior Infants -2nd Class) All are welcome!

Thursday 18th December @ 7.30pm: Carols By Candlelight Concert by 3rd-6th Class (in Church) All are welcome!

Friday 30th Jan 2026: Grandparents Day ;All Grandparents are welcome!

March 26th @ 11a.m. : Confirmation Service

Saturday 9th May @ 11a.m. : First Communion Day

**Save the date:** We will have a **Summer Show on June 18th** , when the 3rd-6th Classes will perform their annual plays, which is why the Senior Concert will not be happening this year in December, as previously.

## Intel Mini Scientist Science Fair 2025

We had a proud day in Mary's & Gerard's today. Our 4th-6th Classes exhibited their projects in the hall for the other students and for visiting parents. The amount of preparation that had gone in for the event was huge. Many visitors commented on the excellent presentation skills of our pupils. The scientific approach was also outstanding.

Well done to our winners; C.H & S.R from 6th Class , whose project compared home made compost with shop-bought compost. The runner up in second place was A.O'R, 6th Class and E.P.& D .C. from 5th Class.

Thank you to our judges, Lynda & Caroline for their interest in our Fair and for their fairness in applying the judging criteria.

Thank you to Ms Healy for organising the fair.

[www.enniskerrys.ie](http://www.enniskerrys.ie)

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The Winning project selected at this school level exhibition will now go on to take part in the Regional Final. Best of luck to our participants in the next round of the event.

*Please go to the website to see photos from this week's events*

**Dept Education Survey-HAVE YOUR SAY!**

Please see the letter below from the Department of Education and Youth. Our patron body, C.P.S.M.A., encourages all parents to have their say by taking part in the survey. The B.O.M. and staff will also take part in this survey.

[Primary School Survey](#)

**Admissions to Junior Infants 2026**

Offers went out to our successful applicants for their place in Junior Infants 2026. It is very important that offers are accepted within the timeline in order to guarantee the place.

**Message from Ms Mc Connell**



The Scratch competition is an event that encourages children to develop coding skills by creating projects like games, stories, and animations using the visual programming language Scratch.

**This competition promotes computational thinking and software development for students in primary and secondary schools. Participants can submit projects, and winners are often selected based on creativity and technical skill.**

Over the years, many children in our school have won awards for their creative projects.

For more information, go to <https://ics.ie/scratch-national-competition/>

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The Concern Primary Debates is a fun educational programme aimed at senior primary students.

The Concern Primary Debates are run in conjunction with Education Support Centres across Ireland, and this year the debates run both online and in person.

Our sixth class are taking part in this year's competition and have already taken part in their first debate.

Next Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, they will have their second debate against another primary school in Dublin. They will be opposing the motion 'Weekends should be three days long'.

We wish the team the best of luck and congratulate them and their teacher for taking part in such an exciting and educational initiative.

For more information, go to

<https://www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates/primary-school>

### **The Bebras Challenge**

This week, the children from 3rd to 6th Class participated in the Bebras Challenge.

*What is Bebras?*

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The Bebras® Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students, by allowing them to solve interactive tasks online. It is run in over 60 countries and takes place every November. The tasks can be answered without prior knowledge about computational thinking or information and communication technology. The aim of Bebras is to get students all over the world excited about computing.

### **CT Club**

We have been running a Computational Club at lunchtimes for 3rd-6th Classes to practise the type of computational tasks that will be in the Bebras Challenge and our students participating in the CT Club are really enjoying it and are excited for the Challenge next week. Best of luck to our computational thinkers!

### **Walk On Wednesday**

**Connígí suas é! Tá an-chuid daltaí ag siúl suas ón mBog Meadow.**

### **Books are for life, not just for Christmas!**

As we approach Christmas and all of your loving relatives start to ask for gift ideas; can I please , once again, urge you to ask for books?

Encouraging your child to read and nurturing a love of reading will add so much to their childhood. We need to give fresh , exciting books to our readers to keep them interested.

There are 2 links below which may be of interest to you.

Halfway up the Stairs , in Greystones, is a fantastic bookshop for children' s books.

This shop works with us on school events and we are happy to recommend them .

They will advise you on the best buys for your child's age and reader category.

[Halfway up the Stairs - A children's bookshop, selling books and ...](#)

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A second bookseller (online) -Scholastic books, will donate back to the school if you buy from them. They have a wide range of titles online.

[Scholastic - Home of children's books - Scholastic Ireland ...](#)

Christmas Notice from the P.A.

Please return your Christmas Card orders on Monday so we can get them printed and returned on time. Thank you to Barry Breslin for the printing work, as always..

St Mary's & St Gerard's Christmas Tree Sale 🌲 \*\* Bring the magic of Christmas home while supporting our school! 🌲 7ft-8ft Nordmann Fir (Premium Grade) - €70 Beautiful non shed trees. Other sizes available on request. 📅 Collect from the school on Sunday, 30th November 📞 Contact Arleen to pre order before the 21st of November: 086 334 5929

♥ All proceeds go towards school fundraising initiatives.

<https://revolut.me/smsgenniskerryns>