



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 21st January 2024

Celebrating Our School Communities

The celebration of Catholic Schools Week begins on Sunday 21 January. It is a week during which the Gospel rooted ethos is considered and celebrated in a particular way. The theme this year is: ***Catholic Schools as Communities of Service*** focusing on putting faith into action. Faith is at the core of Catholic schools and all faith schools; the factor of impetus.

We have a wide variety of schools in the Lucan area with each one having a fine print which marks its' ethos and defines its' characteristic spirit. When buying a can of red paint, we find that there are many shades and that the subtleties make all the difference to the experience. Every parent seeks to find the school which is best for their own child/ren. Every school positions the child at the core of all objectives, with each school being good. Choosing a school is usually a challenging one for parents in terms of acquiring a place of first desire and also in terms of deciding what is of value in this decision. The fact that every school is good makes the decision all the more difficult and very interesting! However, like finding the right fitting shoe, the right decision fits with comfort too!

Ethos is the core difference in each school. The ethos is the set of roots that underpins the values on which the educational process is developed. Ethos is like an artery travelling through the system nourishing all children, parents, staff and curricula content through delivery and reception of education. Ethos is the reference point for how people are together and what they do together. The ethos of a school is usually evident from the moment of entry into the building of the school through the attitude of the individuals encountered and the items on display in the reception area, with some commonalities in all places. Every school, home and workplace has an ethos of its' own reflecting the values of the people within. Every place and person has a set of values, sometimes defined and sometimes not, but always felt!

There is great diversity of people, schools, services, etc. in Lucan so that we gain benefit from the strengths of each one. Retaining and supporting diversity, is important, so that the values of each person and each group is nurtured, respected, enjoyed and sustained adding strength, texture and colour to the fabric of the local community. Competition is not necessary or useful in this realm anymore than it is in a waiting room full of people. Co-existing healthily together, as is the lived experience of most institutions in Lucan, in the manner that a wide variety of trees exist together in a forest with each finding its' correct place in which it may gain enough light and space to grow and live well.

We take this week to celebrate all our school communities showing appreciation for the students, staff members, parents and connected community. Let us take time to let light shine on and from the particular ethos and savour it like a piece of art on display. There is comfortable room on the bench for all to sit and share with a variety which is truly wonderful!

Cathy Burke

Catechist in the Partnership of Parishes in Lucan



Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

Our office is located in the Ballyowen Castle Youth and Community Centre, Ballyowen, Lucan



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

Tuesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

Wednesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

Thursday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS) is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8pm on 0818 07 4000

MABS – the Money Advice and Budgeting Service is the State's money advice service, guiding people through dealing with problem debt for over 20 years. MABS phone service is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8 pm on 0818 07 2000

School holidays for mid-term break in February 2024

All primary schools close on Thursday, 15 February 2024, and Friday, 16 February 2024. Primary schools can use 3 discretionary days to extend this to a 5-day break starting on Monday, 12 February 2024 unless they need these days to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures.

Unforeseen school closures might happen, for example, due to bad weather.

Post-primary schools close for a week, from Monday, 12 February 2024, to Friday, 16 February 2024 inclusive, unless changes are needed to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures.

If a post-primary school needs to make up such time, it can shorten the mid-term break by staying open, up to and including Wednesday, 14 February 2024.

Moving Country

Our website has information on the following topics -

Irish citizenship

Asylum seekers and refugees including the asylum process in Ireland

Visas and permission to enter Ireland

Moving abroad

Moving to Ireland

Ukrainian refugees in Ireland

Coming to work in Ireland

Asylum seeker

An asylum seeker is a person who has left their country and is seeking protection in another country. Asylum seekers are also called international protection applicants.

Seeking asylum is a human right. When you ask for asylum at the border of a country, that country's authorities must examine your application. If you ask for asylum in Ireland, you must make an application for international protection. While you are waiting for a decision on your application, the Irish State gives you accommodation, food and medical care. You are entitled to legal aid to help you with your application and appeals (if needed).

When your application has been processed, you may be either:

Declared a refugee

Granted subsidiary protection status

Granted permission to remain for humanitarian reasons

Refused international protection

You can appeal a refusal to the International Protection Appeals Tribunal.



What does 'refugee' mean?

A refugee is a person who:

Has a well-founded fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group

Is outside of their own country and cannot or will not return there because of the well-founded fear of persecution

Cannot be protected in their own country

Programme refugees and Convention refugees

A Programme refugee is a person who has been invited to Ireland under a Government decision in response to a humanitarian request, usually from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), either for the purposes of temporary protection or resettlement.

A Convention refugee is a person who fulfils the requirements of the definition of a refugee under the terms of the Geneva Convention (as described above) and is granted refugee status.

Lucan ICA

It was lovely to get back to our crafts morning last Monday after the Christmas and New Year break.

Fiona Guinan started teaching us jewellery making; it was a lovely class, and we enjoyed it very much.

Monday 22nd: Crafts as usual.

Tea Hostesses: Patricia Harding and Mary Rudden.

We send get well soon wishes to any member who is under the weather at this time, there's so much flu, RSV and covid doing the rounds.



Lucan Senior Citizens

It was with great sadness we said goodbye to our friend and colleague Jo Howard on Tuesday 9th January.

Jo was a member of our committee for 22 years and as Treasurer looked after our finances diligently and professionally.

Jo also volunteered with Meals on Wheels, and the Apostolic Workers Group. She was a treasure to all groups she worked with. Jo was a quiet gentle unassuming lady who preferred to work behind the sense.

Jo was cherished and loved by all her family and friends. Sincere sympathy to Pat, Marie, Sinéad, Eimir and all the family.



People's Art & Craft Fair Lucan in Canon Despard Centre Chapel Hill Centre, Lucan

Bank Holiday
Monday 5th Feb
11am - 5pm



All are welcome!

In aid of Alice Leahy Trust
(Supporting Homelessness)

Contact: peoplesartlucan@gmail.com for booking form

Art Stands €30, 6ft Craft Table €30 & 4ft Craft Table €20

Ballyowen Castle Community Centre AGM

Monday 22 January 2024 at 8.15pm
(in the centre)
All welcome.



Art Classes for Adults

8 week course with Siobhan

Beginning Wednesday 24th January

10am - 12noon

Contact the library to register your interest - in person, by phone or email

Please note that materials are not provided, but are inexpensive. Siobhan will advise what is needed at the first class

Lucan Active Retirement Association

We meet in St Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am. New members always welcome, come and join us in a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends. No charge for your first meeting.

Lots of activities to enjoy. Bowls, scrabble, cards, drama and choir. Coffee break at 1pm. Organised trips in Ireland and abroad.

Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Sunday Mass Times: Vigil: 6.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am.

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Saturdays. (funerals permitting) from 10.30am to 11.30am. *All welcome.*

Christian Meditation: We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow. *All welcome, Sr Geraldine.*

Divine Mercy Devotion: Every Wednesday morning in St. Mary's Parish Church after the 10am Mass until 11am (unless there is a funeral), the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This devotion, revealed to St Faustina by Our Lord, is necessary to defeat evil, for peace in the world and for our journey to eternal life.

Bethany Bereavement Support Group: We meet every 2nd Monday at 10.45am and 4th Thursday at 8pm of the month in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen to or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one. *Sr. Geraldine.*

Legion of Mary: Meeting every Thursday 5.30pm in the **Parish Bungalow** for Rosary and Prayers. *All Welcome.*

Baptisms: Dates are bookable on line. If you need to cancel email: secretary@lucanparish.com

Confessions – Nuns' Chapel: After Saturday 10am Mass and Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Visits to the housebound: If you are housebound you can call Deirdre at the parish office (01 621 7041) we will be happy to call on a monthly basis.

Coffee Dock Open: Every Sunday Morning and Weekdays 10am to 12 noon. *All Welcome.*

Deepest Sympathy to the family and friends of **Nora O'Brien**, Courtown, Co Wexford and Hermitage Park, Lucan and to the family and friends of **Mary Clinton**, Esker Glebe. *May they rest in peace.*



Scriptural Reading (Lectio Divina):

John 14:16 "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

In simple terms, without the slightest equivocation, Jesus, lays down exactly what one must do to attain a knowledge of the Father; listen to what he has to say and follow it. Spoken by any ordinary human these words are arresting enough but when one considers they are uttered by Jesus, the Son of God, they become immeasurably more important. So, we really should really go out of our way to hear what Our Lord had to say in the Gospels. And while the meanings are generally simple, can be gained by reading them thoroughly and listening to the insights of others.

Lectio Divina, Scriptural Reading, which involves reading and re-reading the Gospel passage, meditating on it, contemplating how we should respond to the message and above all praying to the Holy Spirit for guidance. We take great comfort in the words of Our Lord "where two or three are gathered in my name I will be there". Most participants find it a very enriching experience. **Meetings are held in the Bungalow, every Monday night between 7.30 and 8.30pm when we reflect on the following Sunday's Gospel. All are welcome.**

John McCrory

Thank you from St Francis Hospice Dublin

On behalf of St Francis Hospice please accept our deepest thanks for the very generous contribution of €3,095.00, being the proceeds of the funds raised for the hospice at the Christmas Carol Service.

Your support from St Mary's Parish is deeply appreciated.

We really appreciate all your efforts and please know that you have made a difference. You have all helped to create funds so that patients and their families will experience compassionate caring at a deep physical, spiritual and emotional level when they are in most need of support in their lives.

It is so important as a community that we care for each other and to that end the staff and volunteers of St Francis Hospice will at all times strive to ensure the highest quality of care for patients and families.

Again, our deepest and heartfelt thanks for your support of St Francis Hospice.

*Yours sincerely, Bernadette Gillis,
Events/Community Co-Ordinator.*

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net



Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil: 6pm.

Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12.00 noon.

Weekday Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:15am. Sat. 10am

All Masses will be livestreamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions every Saturday 5.15pm and after the evening Mass.

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of

Medjugorje: Every Thursday, in the Church of Divine Mercy, Lucan South.

7.00pm: Rosary and Confessions

7.30pm: Holy Mass

After Mass: Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction. *All welcome*

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Confessional Room in the church. Their works include home visitation and outreach to the poor. All are welcome.

Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon: 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration

Fri: 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle

Fri: 2-3pm: Divine Mercy Devotion/Adoration.

Prayers of the Church: Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.

The Church is open Monday to Friday from **10am to 1pm** for private prayers.

Bingo: Bingo takes place every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.30pm. All welcome to play for big prizes.

Wednesday tea/coffee morning: There is a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake after 9.15am Mass every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room (room with tables and chairs to the right of the porch at the main Church entrance).

All are most welcome.

**CATHOLIC FAITH
FORMATION CLASSES
FOR CHILDREN**

Every Saturday, 4:45 to 5:45 pm,
at Divine Mercy Church, Lucan

Open to children from Class One
to Leaving Cert.

Registration on arrival. Classes will
be held in age-appropriate groups.

Children from neighbouring parishes
are welcome. No cost involved.

Email: catechismilucansouth@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Sunday Mass Times: 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon.

The 10.30am Family Mass is aimed at younger parishioners and their families.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday at 10am.

All Masses livestreamed at stpatrickslucan.ie

Adoration: Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am. All are welcome.

St Patrick's Prayer Meeting: Meeting every Monday night in the Pastoral Centre, (Side of St Patrick's Church) from 7.30pm to 8.15pm.

Confessions: Confessions after Saturday 10am Mass and after Thursday 10am Mass.

St Joseph's Young Priests Society

St Joseph's Young Priests Society has been set up in Divine Mercy Church, Lucan
for all the Lucan parishes.

We meet up on the first Wednesday of each month for one hour at 10.40am.

Our next meeting is on the 7th February.

We would like to invite new members to join our special group praying for vocations and for our priests. We have tea and cake provided before the meeting.

Sympathy

NORA O'BRIEN

Sincere sympathy to **Mary Douglas** and family on the death of her sister, **Nora**.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.

Lucan Newsletter Team

Anniversaries



KATHLEEN COLLINS

10th Anniversary - 21st January

Late Sarsfield Park.

We who love you sadly miss you
As it dawns another year
In our lonely hours of thinking
Thoughts of you are always near.

*Loved and remembered by your daughters
Carol Anne, Elizabeth, grandchildren and
great grandchildren*

DECLAN MARTIN

10th Anniversary - 24th January

May the winds of Heaven blow softly
And whisper in your ear

How much we love and miss you

And wish that you were here

You may be gone from our sight

But you are never gone from our hearts.

Sadly missed by Gerard, Philo and all the family

Declan's Anniversary Mass will be on

Sunday 21st January at 12 noon in

St. Mary's Church.

CATHERINE REGAN

1st Anniversary

Remembering a beloved wife, mother and grandmother.

Missed beyond measure

Thoughts of you are forever near.

*Your loving husband Martin, sons Gerard, Paul
and Neil, daughter Teresa and their families*

Anniversary Mass in St. Mary's on

Sunday 21st January at 12 noon.



JOHN F McDONALD

10th Anniversary - 23rd January

In loving memory of a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. R.I.P.

*Always remembered with love by his wife Clare,
daughters Joan, Clare, Mary, Emma, Helen and
son Barry*

Anniversary Mass for John on

Tuesday 23rd January in St. Mary's at 10am.

MICHAEL McGRATH

10th Anniversary - 18th January

Ballydowd Grove.

In memory of a wonderful husband, dad and grandad.

You are the light

That shines in our hearts forever.

Greatly missed by your loving family xxx

ANTHONY SPEIGHT

1st Anniversary - 19th January

Lonely is the home without you

Life to us is not the same

All our days would be like Heaven

If we could have you back again.

*Loved always, Madeline, Stephen, Leah and
Nathan and all the family.*

Mass at 6.30pm in St. Mary's on Saturday

20th January.

Monday, January 22nd

Week of Prayer

for Christian Unity Service

in St. Philomena's Church

Palmerstown at 8 p.m.

The preacher will be Dr Damian Jackson who is the General Secretary of the Irish Council of Churches and joint Secretary of the Irish Inter Church Meeting.

The chosen theme is 'You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself' (Lk 10:27). Brothers and sisters from the Catholic Archdiocese of Ouagadougou, Protestant Churches, ecumenical bodies and the CCN in Burkina Faso collaborated generously in drafting the prayers and reflections. They experienced their work together as a real path of ecumenical conversion.

Refreshments afterwards in the Parish Centre.

**ALL ARE INVITED!
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Found

Ear Pods in Black Case (White Dot), in Football Field in Hillcrest.

Phone 087 6928023

Money Found in Cash Machine in Supervalu.

Phone 087 7956167

This Day in Irish History

By Padraic Coffey

A great read, this informative book, gives a few very interesting pieces with anniversaries this coming week.

First Irish / Catholic U.S. President

On 20th January 1961, John F. Kennedy was sworn in as the 35th President of the United States, using the Bible which his great grandfather, Thomas Fitzgerald, brought across the Atlantic with him.

104 years since first sitting of Dáil Éireann

On 21st January 1919, 27 of the 69 elected TD's assembled in Dublin's Mansion House – many of those elected in the previous December being in prison. 3,000 people attended the sitting, about half of them women, and proceedings were conducted in the Irish language much to the annoyance of American journalists who were lost in it all.

I wonder if you'd get 3,000 plus people into the Mansion House today – health and safety and all that!

Joining Europe!

On 22nd January 1972, Ireland signed the Treaty of Accession to the European Community. The treaty was signed by Taoiseach Jack Lynch, and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Patrick Hillery. The public would cast their votes in May 1972, 83.1% in favour, and we were on our way.....

VAT on Children's Shoes

27th January 1982 – We all remember this one when the Dáil was dissolved over VAT on children's shoes. Minister for Finance, John Bruton introduced the budget and announced 18% VAT on clothing and footwear, children's shoes not being exempt. Independent TD Jim Kemmy voted against the budget, there following a general election.

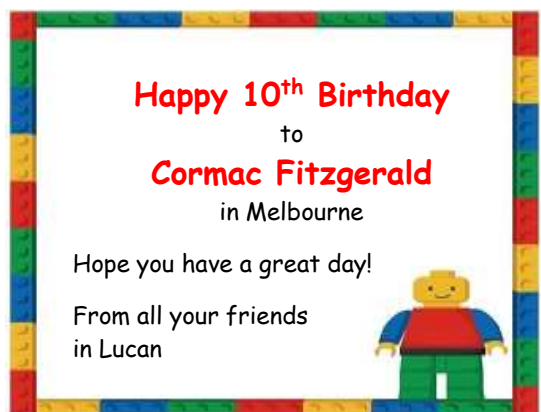


There sure is a brrrrr in the month!

-3C as we go to press, feels like -7C, according to the Smartphone – however did we manage without such an item.

Who remembers the days long ago before washing machines and dryers, when many an item was taken in from the washing line stiff as a board – something to be telling the grandchildren about....

Congratulations to all the local budding young scientists who took part in, and did so well in this year's Young Scientist Competition. Great times ahead!



Are you caring for a loved one at home with additional needs? A spouse, partner, child, close relative or neighbour? Then you are a family carer! Become a member of Family Carers Ireland, the national charity supporting Ireland's 500,000+ family carers nationwide. Contact 057 93 70221 and hear how we can support you or for more info visit www.familycarers.ie.

Minder & Toddler Group

Thursdays
in **St. Mary's Parish Centre**,
from **9.30am to 11.30am**.
All Welcome!



Nollaig na mBan

No matter where we go, visit or wander we're met with traditions, traditions are part and parcel of our heritage, handed down to us from one generation to the next. They're found within our homes, family gatherings, communities, counties and country. If we emigrate they come with us, the Irish are known to value their traditions and *look after their own*. Look at the



celebration of St Patrick's Day world wide. My brother-in-law Eamonn who emigrated to Australia in 1969, recounted how the Irish marched proudly behind their county banner, some counties had more followers but he quickly joined the Longford contingent, swelling their number by 50%, the flagbearer and Eamonn.



Nollaig na mBan is such a tradition for it celebrates Mná na h Éireann, the women who were central to keeping Ireland afloat over the decades. Women like my grandmothers' Mary Kenny and Jayne Doyle who stoically looked after their families and extended families. They were feisty women, well read and aware of the comings and goings in their homes and neighbourhood. Mary Kenny was a competent home manager as well as a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, big sister and confidant of neighbours who needed advice. 62 Manor Street was a three-story building housing 3 generations of the Kenny/Dunne family and my grandmother looked after everyone, the door was always open and the visitors knew there was always a cuppa and advice available.



Jayne Doyle was also a remarkable woman, she had the finest copperplate handwriting, a skill that was passed to many of her children. Jayne Smullen Doyle was born and raised in

44 Seville Place and together with my Grandad Doyle they spent their early married life in no 44. My own mother's description of 44 Seville Place was as follows "our house had eight big rooms. The front door had steps and railings up to it. We never used that door, we always entered by the side door. The ground floor had a parlour with three steps down to the kitchen. The first floor had 2 bedrooms in which the Doyle family, 12 in total, slept. The next floor housed bedrooms for Grandad Smullen and his sons, while my aunts Mary and Maggie shared the smaller bedroom on this floor." The Doyle family relocated to Great Western Square, Phibsboro after the North Strand bombings as this had been a traumatic time for them. Here Grandma Doyle continued to look after her own family but also provided dinner each evening for members of her extended family. We, the Kenny children, were equally welcome in both homes.



Mná na hÉireann traditionally celebrates January 6 by honouring the women of the household, women who historically held the main household duties such as cooking and cleaning and looking after the children. Women today have no objection whatsoever to sharing these duties with their partners. Today it is more a celebration of women and womanhood. Women today continue to make their mark in every facet of our society, in politics, in business, in theatre and entertainment.

In conclusion may I quote Maya Angelou:
Each time a woman stands up for herself, without knowing it possibly, without claiming it, she stands up for all women

mgm 2024

"My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her".
George Washington.



SCHOOL NEWS



local derby against Lucan Community College which was good enough to see them advance from their group and into the next stage of the competition.

Senior camogie versus Scoil Caitriona: Best of luck to the senior camogie team this Thursday, 18th. They play against Scoil Caitriona in their Shield semi-final.

Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

Website: www.stjosephslucan.com

St. Joseph's College

TY ice skating: Our transition year students went ice skating in Dundrum last Thursday. It was a great day out for the entire year and a great opportunity for some bonding between the group and some down time for the students.



LCVP Tour of Lucan: On Tuesday, 5th years did a tour of Lucan as part of their LCVP course. The students are investigating issues in their local community that they will put in their report for their LCVP portfolio. On their tour, the students engaged with local businesses about some issues they currently face and spoke to people in the community about aspects of Lucan life.



Soccer versus LCC: A great result this week for our under 17 soccer team. They drew 3-3 in a

Adult Education Service

The Adult Education Service in Lucan Education Centre, on Esker Hill are currently enrolling for free and flexible part-time courses commencing in January / February 2024. These Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) courses are at times to allow you to choose between one and four different subjects to fit around your busy life. Each subject is 4 hours, 1 morning per week. This can lead to QQI qualification.



The following subjects are available this term:
Spanish for Beginners; Office Procedures;
Wellbeing and the Internet;
Data Entry; Developing your Business English Language Skills; Working with Microsoft Excel; Working with Microsoft Word; Work Experience; Medical Terminology; Bookkeeping: Manual & Computerised.

For more details, contact lorrainekavanagh@ddletbaes.ie or call (01) 6283557.

Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Football: Hard luck to our senior football team who were beaten 4-14 to 2-10 by Gaelcholáiste Reachrann from Donaghmede in their Dublin League 1-4 final encounter last Tuesday. Michael O' Brien (1-01), Tyler Doherty (1-0), Luke McGovern (0-4), Reece Kelly (0-2), Killian Costello (0-1), Patrick Ryan (0-1) and Conor Dillon (0-1) got the Lucan scores but unfortunately their campaign is now over for the year.

Our u16 team had better luck in their opened their Dublin League campaign last Thursday with a 6-10 to 1-15 victory against Skerries CS. Michael O' Brien scored a remarkable 3-05 to ease Lucan to victory while Cian McCormack (1-0), Alex Leonard (1-0), Cian Kelly (1-0), Derry Ware (0-3) and Conor McHugh (0-2) got the other scores. The team then defeated Templeogue College on Monday on a score-line of 7-09 to 1-07 in their 2nd group match. Darragh Garrigan (2-02), Michael O' Brien (1-03), Conor McHugh (1-02), Henry Greene (1-0), Derry Ware (1-0), Killian Costello (1-0), and Cian McCormack (0-1) got the Lucan scores.

Science: Congratulations to our six participants at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition 2024 that was held at the RDS last week. 5th yrs Abhinav Sriram, Aniruddh Sriram and Sam Jacob won 3rd place for their project entitled "B-Well" which was entered in the *Health and Well-being* section.

They conducted surveys (a 'well-being check-in') across the year groups and they developed a working algorithm which allowed them to convert various well-being indicators into a usable index.



They also designed an App entitled *Be – Well* which collected and displayed information for the index. They were able to provide evidence-based recommendations for appropriate interventions, tools, techniques and strategies which has the potential to enhance and improve well-being in schools.

2nd yr Tadhg Bohan entered a project in the Junior Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Sciences section entitled "*Gravitational Lensing*

Simulation using Python". His project was extremely interesting and he got a lot of attention from the public passing by his stall. He presented his project superbly and with great maturity and he got lots of positive feedback and praise even though he just missed out on a coveted award.

3rd yr Hazem Ahmed, won two awards for his group project at last year's Exhibition, got a Highly Commended award for his project entitled "*Developing Genetic Algorithms and testing their viability in place of traditional Neural Networks*".

TY student Joel Emmanuel got a lot of positive feedback for his individual project entitled "*Energy Saver: A Machine Learning Model that monitors and detects anomalies in homeowners' consumption*". Joel was lucky enough to meet the Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, who was very complimentary about his project! The Taoiseach commented that his project will help foster better energy awareness among the general population and promote better energy-saving habits.

It was a long four days for all concerned and our students were wonderful ambassadors for the school throughout as they engaged with the public and faced the media with confidence, charm and good humour. Congratulations to all involved and keep up the scientific investigations! A special word of thanks to Mr. Carey and Ms. Farrell who dedicated a lot of time helping the students prepare, design and set up their projects.

Study Skills: Our 3rd and 6th yrs attended a study skills seminar in the school this week. The hands-on workshop, run by *On Your Marks*, focused on skills such as memory techniques, revision strategies, note taking, time management tools, goal setting and planning as well as the impact of mobile technology and social media. The students undertook a series of interactive activities designed to consolidate the study skills covered within the seminar. They were also given practical tools to manage their own learning and develop personalised time management techniques. Each student also received an A4 booklet that contains follow-up activities and further useful study tips and advice.

Leaving Cert: Our 6th yr students have been very active over the past week attending various LC Science Experiments Revision Workshops held in NUIM. Our Leaving Cert Biology students got the opportunity to work in the sleek modern University labs with the head of Labs on Tuesday, as well as Post Graduate lab-assistants and technicians who guided them through the most challenging and complex Leaving Cert Practicals and gave very helpful tips and advice.

POLITICAL NOTES

Cllr. Shane Moynihan – Fianna Fáil

Email: smoynihan@cllrs.dublincoco.ie

Web: www.shanemoynihan.ie

Facebook: cllrshanemoynihan

Instagram: cllrshanemoynihan

Twitter: @shanemoynihan Phone: 087-7840898.

Winter Maintenance: Thanks to all the Council's outdoor staff who have been working on winter road maintenance and public realm works especially over the past week in the coldest of conditions.

Castle Road traffic lights: The sequencing of the traffic lights on Castle Road is faulty and out of sync -I've requested that the Council repair it as soon as possible.

R136 flooding: Thanks to those Lucan residents who reported consistent flooding at the R136/New Nangor Road junction. Maintenance works will commence in the coming fortnight, following my representations.

Lucan Pool: Council management have informed us that Lucan councillors will be invited to view the works at the pool by the end of January, and there will be a briefing from the pool operator in February. I will report back following that site visit.

Cllr Derren Ó Brádaigh - Sinn Féin

Mobile: 087-2136345.

Email: dobradaigh@cllrs.dublincoco.ie

Traffic Management – Adamstown:

The Council have responded to a request, whereby I asked they liaise directly with the developer regarding poor traffic light sequencing affecting Adamstown Avenue/Boulevard and Ave/Park junctions, not yet taken-in-charge. Contact has been made with the developer. Again, I've asked that the temporary orange bollards on the Boulevard be removed.

Project Works – Lucan Village: Following Part 8 approval in 2023 detailed design of Lucan Village enhancement works were completed. This will include significant upgrades to the Village Green, Weir Promenade and Lucan Demesne entrance. Contractor procurement is underway, with works expected to commence early this year.

Direct Resident Engagement – Castle Riada:

Together with local Sinn Féin volunteers, I am knocking doors in Castle Riada this week, as we make progress through Lucan. If I can be of any assistance on anything important to you, please contact me.

Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 401 3416. Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie

Young Scientist Exhibition: Lucan was well represented at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition by students from Coláiste Phádraig CBS and Kishoge Community College who displayed brilliant projects. Well done to all, in particular the 3 students behind B-Well who came in 3rd place in their category.

Lucan Swimming Pool: Everyone was very disappointed that the pool did not open in 2023. The council stated that this was due to continued challenges for the contractor in combining the required alignment of utility connections, sub-contractor availability and supply of key materials. They confirmed that their only viable option is to continue to try to work with the contractor to get this project over the line as soon as practically possible. Local councillors have been invited to tour the building and meet the company that will manage the facility.

Gino Kenny TD- People Before Profit

Phone: 085-7211574. Email: ginokenny@oir.ie

Motion to Compulsory Purchase Derelict

Houses Defeated: People Before Profit Councillor Madeleine Johansson proposed a motion to Compulsory Purchase 10 sites in the county that are listed as derelict. The motion was defeated by 17 votes with 14 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. The 10 sites that are listed on the Derelict Sites Register are all residential and include properties in Dublin Mid-West.

Caroline Brady - Fine Gael – P.C.

- 085 2551602 info@CarolineBrady.com

CAO Applicants: Students can avail of the reduced CAO application fee if they complete applications by Saturday 20th January. Your application does not require you to have course choices finalised.

Budget 2024-Benefits from January 1st:

Minimum wage increased to €12.70. Statutory sick leave increased to 5 days. Weekly payments for carers and disability allowance increased by €12. Free contraception extended to women up to 31 years of age.

Renters Tax Credit: Tax credit for people renting accommodation is now €750 per renter. Parents paying for a child's accommodation in college can also claim it and potentially back date for the previous 2 years for €500 for each year.

Esker Lawns Cemetery: Planning ref. SD23A/0292 SDCC requested ADDITIONAL INFORMATION from applicant with regard to proposed uses, traffic and parking, ecology, surface water and SUDS. I will keep you updated.

Political Notes *Cont'd.....*

Cllr. Paul Gogarty P.C.

“Not just at election time” Tel: 087-2752489

Web: www.paulgogarty.com

Swimming Pool Site Visit:

Having requested a site visit 16 months ago, Councillors will at long last get a look at the state of works at the pool on Friday. This will hopefully give everyone a better idea of the remaining timescale. I also have queries tabled for this week’s Area Committee meeting.

Ukrainian Modular Housing Project at Backweston:

I was alerted to changes in the design last November. It took a further seven weeks for us to get formal confirmation from the Department. The nature of the amendment is minor, but regular communication is important. See update on my website under “modular”.

Bus Correct User Survey:

Keep replies coming at www.bit.ly/BusCorrect . If someone prefers to do this over the phone, please text me or leave message and I will arrange to call.

Update on Gaza Visit.

Barry Andrews MEP - Fianna Fáil

I’m reaching out to provide an update on my December 2023 visit to the Rafah crossing with the European Parliament delegation overseeing aid delivery to Palestinians.

During the visit, we learned about substantial obstacles hindering the delivery of humanitarian aid. Notably, Israel’s ‘dual use’ list prohibits items with both military and civilian applications, and the exact contents of this list remain unknown to the UN, the EU delegation, and humanitarian organisations. Items rejected by Israeli authorities include solar panels, water tubing, batteries, tent poles, generators, oxygen cylinders, and water purifiers.

The consequences of restricted supplies are dire, leading to social collapse in Gaza, where commercial markets have nearly ceased. Families resort to looting and violence as they struggle to meet basic needs.

Our delegation continues to argue for an immediate ceasefire in the European Parliament.

If you require further details, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Email: barry.andrews@europarl.europa.eu

Contact no: +32 228 45618

Cllr. Liona O’Toole – Independent

0872795274. lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

www.lotoole.com

Road Safety Improvements: I’ve tabled a motion urging the council to carry out crucial works on Dodsboro Hill (L1018), including cutting back an overgrown hedge for pedestrian safety and clearing footpath debris highlighted in a report. These works aim to enhance pedestrian safety and convenience, improving safety and accessibility for residents who regularly navigate this route, including accessing the recently relocated bus stop at the end of the hill.

Arthur Griffith Park Road Markings: I’ve tabled a motion seeking details on a prior motion addressing road markings in Arthur Griffith Park squares. The focus is on survey methodology and timeline to ensure accurate placement of markings, crucial for addressing parking challenges. I’ve advised that residents eagerly await information for informed updates, including survey details and implementation timeline. Excited to announce that Darkness Into Light Lucan has been selected as an official venue!

Don’t let the world make you bitter.

Don’t let the actions of others turn you cold on the inside.

Certain things happen that hurt us.

People come that leave us, and most of all

There are moments when we’re bound to fail.

Don’t let those things make you hopeless or unkind.

It’s okay to cry. It’s okay to be sad.

But it’s never okay to do other people wrong

Just because we have been wronged.

We’re all human. We all make mistakes.

Sometimes we break.

But don’t let pain and sadness ruin your life.

Wake up in the morning and do what you know is right.

There are moments in your life when you feel you can’t take it any more.

You want to give up.

It’s okay.

Breathe.

Inhale. Exhale.

We all have moments of weakness.

But the things that show our weak side are also the ones that make us stronger in the long run.

It’s all about taking whatever life throws at us and learning from it.

We will get through today, and

We will be stronger tomorrow.

Mind boggling..... Record 110 million people now forcibly displaced - UN

According to the United Nations, 1 in 74 people worldwide are displaced persons!

And this is the figure for 1922; one can only hazard a guess at those for 2023 given the horrendous situation in Gaza and Israel.

In theory, a place with the population of Lucan could account for around 600 displaced people.

These days, we are all becoming familiar with various terms describing people on the move all over the world – and actually changing the identity of the countries they land in, over a very short time. The Elder Lemons among us will remember the novelty of seeing Missionary Priests and Nuns, visit from ‘darkest Africa’. Many came into the schools to tell about the places they had come from.

How times change!

But we can thank our lucky stars that most of us don’t fall under any of the following descriptions:

Displaced persons: Persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters. This definition covers both internal and cross-border displacement.

Refugee: As defined by the 1951 Geneva Convention, the term applies to “any person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his or her nationality...and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it”.

Asylum seeker: An individual who is seeking international protection. According to UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, the term is used to define “someone whose request for sanctuary has yet to be processed.”

Migrant: According to the United Nations’ International Organization for Migration (IOM), it refers to “any person who has resided

away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, regardless of the person’s legal status; whether the movement is involuntary or voluntary; what the causes for the movement are; or, what the length of the stay is.” However, it is common to include certain categories of short-term migrants, such as seasonal agricultural workers, who migrate at planting or harvest time.

Chances are that we pass some of these people every day, and all just looking for a safe place to live their lives.....

Mary Mulhall



160 Years of Mount Sackville



In 2024 Mount Sackville will proudly celebrate 160 years of education in Ireland. The school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny in Chapelizod, Dublin in 1864. As part of the celebrations, we invite past pupils and staff to share your stories, photographs or any archival materials of your time here or your association with the school.

You may contribute items:

By email: memories@moundsackville.ie

By Post: Mary Delaney, Mount Sackville Secondary School, Chapelizod, Dublin 20, D20WP68

In person: Please present the material to the school reception in a sealed envelope with your name and address to ensure you have the original material returned safely.

We look forward to celebrating our rich history and our school community, past and present!

SPORTS

LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.



Lucan Harriers Couch to 5 k starting January 22nd at 7pm at the Lucan Harriers AC track
Beginners welcome! Visit the Lucan Harriers AC Facebook page for more information.

Dublin Masters XC in St Anne's Park
7th January: On a cold January Sunday, the crowds turned out for the annual Dublin Masters XC in St Annes Park. The first Sunday of the New Year is the traditional date for this event. Lucan Harriers along with so many other great Dublin Clubs turned out in force, we had teams in 3 of the races.

First up at 12.30 was the ladies race O50, O65 and Men's O65, 3000m on very soft ground through a mix of terrain of grass and forest, either way it was very soft.

Breda Smyth was first across the line for Lucan to take the Dublin O50 title congratulations, Mary Browne came in 13th altogether to take the Dublin O65 Dublin, Eileen O'Brien not to be outshone took bronze in her category.

Bernie Stapelton completing the Lucan quartet taking a hugely successful 4th place in the team event, congratulations ladies flying the Lucan flag with pride.

12.55pm the youthful O50 men were up and a last-minute change from 6k to 7K took everyone by surprise. As each race goes on the ground progressively gets softer. The course was slightly

different from other years. The team of Will Byrne, James Crowley, Rob Brannigan and Colin O Gara lined up with 84 other athletes. Will was 1st Lucan across the line in a hugely credible 12th place in a time of 27.53. The team finished 10th overall, great result to get in the top 10, this as always was a very competitive race.



Mary Browne, Eileen O'Brien, Breda Smyth

1.30pm and the 106 younger ladies were up. Lucan had Orla Mc Weeney and Sheila Mc Intyre starting and represented us with pride over a 4000m course, which was at this stage quite ripped up. Orla came across the line in 37th and Sheila in her debut Dublin championship in 90th. Well done ladies. We needed four to count for a team so unfortunately, we had no team result in this event.

Next up at 2pm were the men O35 over the 7000m course. Just pure muck on many parts of the course by the time our four men lined up with 175 others for the biggest race of the day. Jer O Sullivan looked stronger on each of the four laps to finish in 29.05, Brian Carroll 31.01, Emmet Quinn 31.44 and men's captain Damien O Sullivan 33.34 with four to count the team placed 17th overall. This is a seriously competitive race with the winner crossing the line in 23.58,

Well done to all Lucan Harriers who turned up and ran and to those who stood on the sideline cheering on their Lucan Harriers teammates. A special shout out to Auntie Sinead Farrell who provided us with nice hot tea and coffee with a few calories to boost us.



LUCAN PITCH & PUTT CLUB

Winter League

The Winter League got off to a great start last Sunday with some eighteen teams taking on the revised course.

We had some very close matches and a few shock results. Our Captain – John McDermott took the honours this week in his achievement of a hole in one. Congratulations to the ladies who secured four scalps – a great start to the league. Leading the charge was Brenda Purcell beating Ciaran Ennis. In the 11am session we had Trish Tully beating Seamus Harper and then in the 12pm session we had Trace beating John Murphy. Well done ladies keep up the good work. Our ‘author’ of the Winter League Preview Groups has done a fantastic job on his write up of the different teams and a brief history of each of the players since the year 2000. Some of our members in discussion on Sunday commented that the ‘author’ was not even born when they won their first winter league!!

Thank you to Halpenny Golf for continuing their sponsoring of this competition

Do not forget we have music after the Winter League on Sunday in the Bar from 4pm to 6pm – so come along and support your club.

Membership Fees

Membership Fees can be paid on a Sunday morning at the club house to any committee member or you can pay on line ensuring you quote your name and registration number.

New Members Welcome – Adults and Juveniles

Our Club is now open for membership. If you would like to join our Club please download an application form from the website and fill in the relevant details and return same – or email the secretary at info@lucanpitchandputt.com.

Indeed you are more than welcome to call into the Club House and ask for any committee member who will be only too willing to discuss your enquiry – best time to call is on a Sunday from 10am.

Get Well Wishes

We send our sincere best wishes to Seve McGrath for a speedy recovery from his health set back. Seve who has always been a very keen and constant supporter of all club competitions and functions will be fondly missed from Winter League 2024. Get well soon Seve from all the folk at the 12th Lock.

Sincere fond wishes to Michael (Mick) Monaghan another great supporter of Club competitions and again like Seve a forever competitor in the Winter



League. We do hope Mick that the weeks and months ahead provide good care and an upward trend for you in coping with and accepting your medical condition.

Full Zip Tops / Jackets / T-Shirts

Members please note that Dora Keane is the contact for the stock of our club zip tops / jackets and t-shirts.

Room for Hire

Please note that we have a room for hire in the evenings from circa 5pm. Contact the secretary or email info@lucanpitchandputt.com for details of same – T&C apply.

Lucan's Operation Transformation



WE'RE BACK!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Join us every Monday evening for weigh-ins (optional) at 6.30pm.

Last walk leaves at 7pm sharp.

Venue: Weston Hockey/Lucan Harriers Clubhouse, Newcastle Rd (opp. Supervalu)

Check Facebook for details:

www.facebook.com/lucansoperationtransformatiengroup

**Phone Linda 087 2795274
for additional information.**



Older people need your support!

ALONE is recruiting volunteers to provide companionship and support through their Telephone Support & Befriending service for older people.

ALONE asks that interested volunteers commit to one set shift of 2 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months.

Visit alone.ie/volunteers for more information.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

As the exhibition space in the Lucan Library is a bit smaller than what is available in the Parish Centre the members of the Soiree have been selecting what they would like to show from the photographs included in their 2023 exhibition in the Centre. It is likely that halfway through there will be a rotation of photographs. The exhibition will be mounted in the Library on Friday 26th January and will be taken down on Friday 1st March. Looking at our YouTube channel recently it was nice to see that there have been almost 200 visits to the video of the 2023 exhibition on the channel.

This week some members of the Soiree have taken advantage, if that is the word, of the cold snap to take photographs of some of Lucan's flora.



Anna also captured a great rainbow and Conor gives us hope that spring is not far off with his photo of Spring planting. He also submitted a monochrome one entitled "Light trying to brighten a dull morning in Lucan Demesne".



Returning to the word "flora" it apparently comes from the Latin name of Flora who was the goddess of plants, flowers and fertility in Roman mythology. The technical term "flora" was first used in its present meaning at the end of the sixteenth century. If you want to know more about the Flora of Ireland the website of the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland www.botanicgardens.ie is a good place to start.

Until next week stay safe!