St. Leo's College

A CEIST School

2nd October 2026

Student Newsletter



Mercy Day Mass

Friday 25th September 2026

11.00am

Cathedral of the Assumption

















Open Evening 2026

Our outstanding tour guides





St. Leo's College

Annual Admission Notice

In respect of admissions to the 2027/2028 school year

Admission Policy and Application Form

A copy of the school's **Admission Policy** and the **online Application Form for Admission** for the 2027/2028 school year are available as follows:

- on the school website www.stleoscarlow.ie under the Admission tab or
- on request by emailing enrolments@stleoscarlow.ie or by writing to Admission, St. Leo's College, Dublin Road, Carlow R93 PW84

Part 1 Admissions to the 2027/2028 School Year

Application and Decision Dates for Admission to the 2027/2028 School Year

The following are the dates for Admission to First Year for 2027-2028:

The school will commence accepting applications for admission to first year on	**Thursday 1st October 2026**
The school shall cease accepting applications for admission to first year on	**Thursday 22nd October 2026**
The date by which applicants will be notified in writing of the decision on their application for admission to first year is	**Friday 6th November 2026**
The period within which applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission to first year is*	**Tuesday 10th November to Tuesday 17th November 2026**

**Failure by an applicant to accept an offer within the prescribed period may result in the offer being withdrawn.*

Note: *The school will consider and issue decisions on late applications in accordance with the school's Admission Policy.*

ST. LEO'S COLLEGE EXTRA-CURRICULAR Timetable

2026 – 2027

Our School LIBRARY is open every lunchtime!

MONDAY

Activity	Time	Location	Teacher
Camogie	1.20pm	Hockey Pitch	K.Gallagher & R.Murray
Netball	1.20pm	Gym	S.Millward & A.Brennan
Folk Group	1.30pm	Music Room	A.Shiels & A. Cosgrave
Netball	4.10pm	Gym	S.Millward
Coding Club	1.20pm	Comp Room 615	C.Cradock
Minor Soccer	1.20pm	Hockey Pitch	E.Lalor & D.Brennan
Public Speaking U15	1.20pm	701	S.O'Flaherty & A.Doyle
Baking Club	4.15pm	Room 509	G.McCaul & H.Daly

TUESDAY

Activity	Time	Location	Teacher
Volleyball 3rd – 6th Years	8.00am	Gym	V.O'Neill
Basketball	1.20pm	Gym	M.Bergin, S.Woods & N.Bambrick
Art & Crafts Club	1.20pm	Art Room 501	L.Connors
Poetry Aloud	1.10pm	Room 709	B.O'Sullivan
Embroidery Club	1.20pm	Room 509	G.McCaul
Green Schools	1.20pm	Room 612	H.Daly & K.Regan

WEDNESDAY

Activity	Time	Location	Teacher
Badminton All Years	1.25pm	Gym	Y.Hickey, L.illis & C.Phelan
Football	1.20pm	Hockey Pitch	L.Kelly, G.McCaul & K.Gallagher
Club Gaeilge	1.20pm	Room 226	R.Kelly
St.Vincent de Paul	1.20pm	Cairdeas	E.Mahon & A.Brennan
Junior & Senior Football	4.15-5.15pm	St. Pats Pitch	L.Kelly, L. Teehan & K.Phelan
First Year Hockey	1.25pm	Astro Pitch	J.Collins

THURSDAY

Activity	Time	Location	Teacher
Volleyball 1st & 2nd Years	1.20pm	Gym	V.O'Neill & J.Hogan
2nd Year Hockey	1.20pm	Astro Pitch	J.Collins
Athletics	1.20pm	Track	L.Graham & A. O Keeffe
Snooker Club	1.25pm	Assembly Hall	E.Ni Shuilleabháin & C.Phelan
Human Rights	1.20pm	Cairdeas	D.Cussen
Chamber Choir	1.25pm	Music Room	A.Cosgrave

Get involved. Make friends. Discover your passion!

★ Be Active | ★ Be Creative | ★ Be You ★

TY WEEKLY!

Our Transition Year Adventures!

WEEK 4 ROUND-UP

It was another busy week in Transition Year.

WORK EXPERIENCE

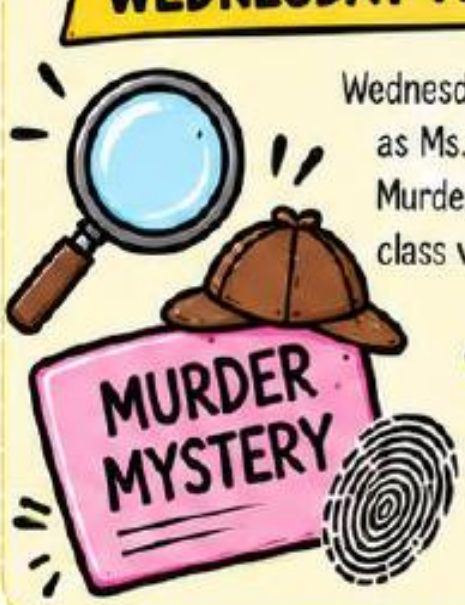


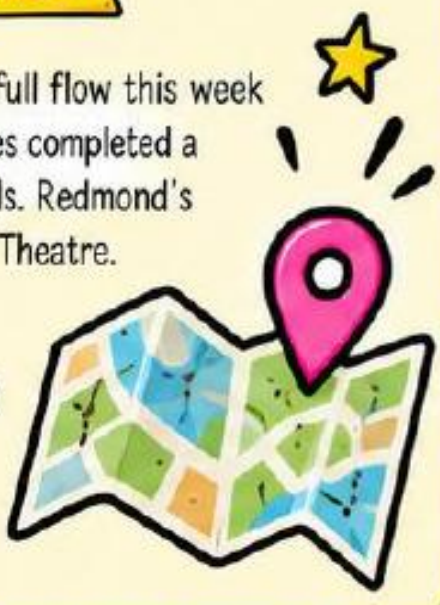
The students got their first taste of Work Experience on Tuesday. This is always a highlight of the year and opens so many doors for our girls. I would like to thank all the employers for providing a work experience opportunity for our students at St. Leo's College. This work placement provides our students with valuable experience of the work environment and helps them gain practical experience, assist with their career choices and build their industry skills. The school community is deeply appreciative of the opportunities provided.



WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

Wednesday afternoon activities were in full flow this week as Ms. Byrne's and Ms. Graham's classes completed a Murder Mystery in Carlow Town while Ms. Redmond's class visited the George Bernard Shaw Theatre.





TY WEEKLY!

Our Transition Year Adventures!

WEEK 4 ROUND-UP

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION PROGRAMME

SPEAK
SUPPORT
RESPECT

On Thursday morning, Ciara Byrne from the Sexual Violence and Harassment Unit at SETU delivered a talk to all TY students on their new Bystander Intervention programme. It is a collaborative initiative between South East Technological University (SETU) and Carlow Local Community Safety Partnership, funded by the Department of Justice. The project focuses on early prevention, wellbeing, and positive peer behaviour among young people.

The project will provide interactive training for Transition Year students, helping them identify harmful behaviours and equipping them with practical strategies to respond safely or seek support. Our students carried out a survey and offered suggestions on how to make the programme accessible for teens.

KINDNESS
AWARENESS
POSITIVE CHANGE

THURSDAY EVENING EVENTS

Thursday evening was a busy one with the Carlow Chamber of Commerce Awards in the Visual and the Open Evening at St. Leo's College. Our Transition Years volunteered their time to act as ushers and guides at both events. I am particularly grateful to the students that worked tirelessly on updating the noticeboards around school. There was a real sense of community in the air as every student worked to show off what a special place St. Leo's College can be.

CARLOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

OPEN EVENING St. Leo's College

MERCY DAY MASS

MERCY DAY

We rounded off the week by celebrating Mercy Day mass as a whole school community. It is hard to believe that we have already completed four weeks of the Transition Year journey. I am incredibly proud of how the girls have thrown themselves in to every opportunity available. They have risen to every challenge, pushed themselves out of their comfort zones and have really taken on the mantra –

'I don't have to do this, I get to do this.'

We don't have to do this. We get to do this!

Well done ladies. I can't wait to see what you do next.

Ms O' Flynn

WORK EXPERIENCE

LEARN
GROW
GAIN
EXPERIENCE

- ✓ SKILLS
- ✓ CONFIDENCE
- ✓ OPPORTUNITY
- ✓ FUTURE



I'm doing my first round of work experience in the sports department in SETU. On day one we started off by setting up the basketball court for clubs and societies day. We even built a boxing ring as an attraction. I was then signing people up for kayaking, hockey and swimming for most of the day because so many students had an interest in them. On day 2, I got a tour of the science labs which was very interesting, I also met a turtle in the biology lab. I then spent the remainder of the day counting and tracking kits for various teams which will be one of the various jobs I do more regularly like flagging pitches, taking care of the indoor basketball court or setting up training drills. - Isabelle Finnegan



Xin Hui Ho taking orders and completing her work experience log in her custom TY Journal.



Jill Gordon is at Davy's Pets feeding the parrots and the snakes!

EXPLORE
LEARN
DEVELOP
SUCCEED

SKILLS FOR LIFE

On Tuesday the 29th September, Fifth Year Art students had the opportunity to attend a workshop with renowned Irish artist **Elizabeth Cope at Shankill Castle**, Paulstown, Co.Kilkenny.

Elizabeth Cope is a highly regarded Irish painter who has exhibited in galleries and museums around the world for over 40 years. Her work is held in a number of important public and private collections. Shankill Castle is home to Elizabeth and houses many examples of her colourful and energetic artwork. As part of the trip students received a guided tour around the castle and its surrounding grounds, visited Elizabeth's art studio, and participated in a still-life drawing workshop led by the artist.

Due to a power outage the students got to experience the castle by candlelight, which only added to the ambience of the beautiful piece of architecture!



Fine Art Workshop with Elizabeth Cope





Friday 2nd October

GOAL JERSEY

Friday 2nd October

BRING €2



Wear your favourite jersey and your school tracksuit!

Donations collected in your first class on Friday morning.

Helping people in need in 18 different countries.

Thank you for supporting such a good cause!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GOAL!



Show Jumping



Congratulations to our Novice Show Jumping team that finished in 2nd place in the Kilkenny College Novice Interschools Show Jumping Competition in Warrington Equestrian Centre on Sunday.
The team also won best turned out on the day.
Team: Darci Hutton, Einín Dwyer, Anna Curry & Daisy Dalton.





Public Speaking Soap Box Competition

On Wednesday, 30th September 3rd Year student **Grace Matthews** and 4th Year TY student **Hanora O'Driscoll** took part in the **Public Speaking Soap Box Competition** in City Hall, Waterford.

The students explored the thought-provoking topic: **"Culture is at the heart of what it means to be European. But is Ireland culturally closer to Strasbourg or Sydney?"**

Both Grace and Hanora spoke exceptionally well, demonstrating confidence, enthusiasm and excellent public speaking skills. They represented the school wonderfully and did themselves proud.

A huge **well done to Grace and Hanora** on their fantastic performances, and congratulations to their teachers, **Mr O'Flaherty and Ms Byrne**, for their support and preparation.









🎁 **Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal is Back!** 🎄

We're delighted to announce that our **Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal kicks off next week!**

Every year, our wonderful school community gets behind this very special campaign, filling shoeboxes with **gifts, kindness and Christmas cheer** for children affected by poverty. Let's make this year another fantastic success!

🎄 **What can I put in my shoebox?**

Team Hope recommends choosing items from each of the **4 W's**:

🖍️ **WRITE** – Pens, pencils, crayons, markers, colouring books, paper/copybooks, sharpeners and erasers.

🧼 **WASH** – Wrapped bars of soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, facecloths, combs and hairbrushes.

🧦 **WEAR** – Socks, underwear, hats, scarves, gloves and flip-flops.

🎁 **WOW!** – Cuddly toys, dolls, toy cars, balls, skipping ropes, yo-yos, stickers, small musical instruments and sweets with at least six months before their expiry date.

🚫 **Please don't include:**

Liquids, chocolate or other food, sharp objects, medicines, breakable items, large clothing, books with lots of words, or scary/war-related toys.

🎁 Wrap a regular-sized shoebox and lid **separately**, choose whether your box is for a boy or girl aged **2–14**, and secure the finished box with a **large elastic band rather than tape** so that Team Hope can check its contents.

💶 Team Hope also asks for a **€6 contribution per shoebox** to help cover transport, storage and delivery costs.

✨ **Could your family and friends fill a shoebox and make a child's Christmas a little brighter?**

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our pupils, families and staff, this appeal is always a huge success. **Start gathering those goodies and getting your shoeboxes ready!**

❤️ **Together, let's fill our boxes, spread some joy and give the gift of Hope this Christmas**

https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/resources/







Hockey Round Up

Our Hockey teams started their seasons off this week with our Senior and Minor Teams playing Ursuline Waterford at home.
Our Senior team goal scorers were Aoife Shields & Jodie Foley.

The Junior & Minor hockey teams then faced Kilkenny College at home. The Juniors recorded an impressive win with goals from Lily Corrigan, however the Minor team just could not come to terms with the KCK attacking line.

Well done to all involved.

Reminder that Senior & Junior training takes place every Monday at lunchtime, whilst Minors (2nd Years) train every Thursday.











TY creative skills

Week 1: Brownies

Week 2: Brown bread

Week 3: Egg fried rice and homemade chicken goujons

Week 4: Homemade pizza



3rd year Home Economics decorating cupcakes with buttercream icing











PIC•COLLAGE

bonjour

FRENCH EXCHANGE

New friends, amazing memories, language skills improved, lots of fun!

New adventures await !

Hosting: 28th Jan. 2026-6th Feb. 2027

Travelling: March 5th-14th 2027







Club Gaeilge

Just Dance as Gaeilge!



Maith sibh go léir, a chailíní, a bhí ag Club na Gaeilge an tseachtain seo! Bhí an-spraoi ann!

Bígí linn an tseachtain seo chugainn!

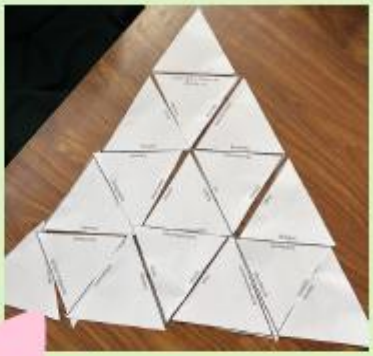
Fáilte mhór roimh gach ball nua :)

Ag dathú!





Puzail a dhéanamh!





Seasamh ióga na seachtaine



Tugann ióga faoiseamh don cholainn agus don intinn!!



LIBRARY OPEN

EVERY LUNCHTIME!

Looking for a quiet place to read, study, or relax?

- Open every lunchtime
- Read your favourite books
- Complete homework and research
- Enjoy a calm, welcoming space

Visit the Library During Lunch!

Everyone is welcome.

Read • Learn • Discover

Library Opening Hours:
EVERY LUNCHTIME
See you there!

Weekly Hot Lunch Menu

Monday 5th

- Roast Bacon served with Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables & Gravy
- Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables & Gravy (V)

Tuesday 6th

- Chicken Pasta Bake
- Pasta Bake (V)

Wednesday 7th

- Chicken Curry & Rice
- Veg Curry & Rice (V)

Thursday 8th

- Taco Fries / Taco Loaded Baked Potato
- Loaded Fries / Loaded Baked Potato (V)

Soup

Homemade Vegetable

Small Dinner €4.00 | Large Dinner €6

October

October's the month
When the smallest breeze
Gives us a shower
Of autumn leaves.
Bonfires and pumpkins,
Leaves sailing down -
October is red
And golden and brown.

Optimistic October 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list
5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	7 Look for the good in people around you today	8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward
12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation	15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead
19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you	22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?
26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?	29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month	





ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together

School Calendar 2026 - 2027

Aug	Fri 21st	LC Results	
	Wed 26th	School recommences	
Sep	Thurs 24th	Open Evening for First Years 2027-2028	
	Fri 25th	Mercy Day Mass	
	Mon 28th	**School Closed**	
Oct	Thurs 15th	6th Year PSTM	4.15 – 6.45pm
	Thurs 22nd	3rd Year PSTM	4.15 – 6.45pm
	Fri 23rd	Halloween Dress Up Day	
	Mon 26th Oct to Fri 30th Oct – Closed for Oct Mid-term		
Nov	Mon 2nd	School re-opens	
	Week beginning 9th November – Whole School Autumn Exams		
	Thurs 26th	1st Year PSTM	4.15 – 6.45pm
	Sat 28th	First Year 2027-2028 Welcome Meeting	
Dec	**Tue 1st**	**School Closed - Subject Cluster Day**	
	Mon 7th & Tue 8th	**School Closed**	
	Thurs 10th	Time to Talk Evening	
	Wed 23rd Dec – Tue 5th Jan – Closed for Christmas Holidays		
Jan	Wed 6th	School re-opens	
	Thurs 14th	**School Closed – Senior Cycle CPD**	
	Thurs 21st	2nd Year PSTM	4.15 – 6.45pm
	Mon 25th	Mock Exams for Third & Sixth Year students	
Feb	**Mon 1st**	**School Closed – Bank Holiday**	
	Thurs 4th	5th Year PSTM	4.15 – 6.45pm
	Mon 15th – Fri 19th – Closed for Feb Mid-term		
Mar	**Wed 17th**	**School Closed – Bank Holiday**	
	Mon 22nd Mar – Fri 2nd Apr – Closed for Easter Holidays		
Apr	Mon 5th	School re-opens	
	Wed 14th – Fri 16th	TY Musical	
May	**Mon 3rd**	**School Closed – Bank Holiday**	
	Tue 4th	**School Closed**	
	Tue 25th	Graduation Mass	
	Wed 26th	TY PSTM & Showcase	
	Fri 28th	Awards Day	
Jun	**Fri 4th**	**Close for Summer Holidays**	
	Wed 9th	State Examinations begin	