



# TERM TIMES

Volume 3 Issue: 10

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

## Editors Welcome

Welcome back to the Term Times. It has certainly been a busy term leading up to Christmas, and this edition is packed full! A massive well done to all of the students who have just completed their Christmas exams. We hope everyone has a well-deserved break, and what better way to start it than a new, exciting edition of the Term Times! Merry Christmas!

Lara Fanning and Zara McCarthy

- **Editors:** Lara Fanning and Zara McCarthy

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## Student Council Christmas Jumper Day



On Wednesday, 11th of December, the Student Council held a Christmas Jumper day in aid of Jigsaw Ireland. Jigsaw is a national mental health service that provides support to young people aged 12 to 25. They will be working incredibly hard in the run up to Christmas, ensuring that no one feels alone during the holidays. All staff and students were invited to dress up in their most festive outfits in aid of this excellent cause. Mercy was covered in Santa hats, tinsel and more, full of Christmas cheer!

Thank you to Ms Dignam, Mr Howard and the Student Council for organising this brilliant fundraiser!

**JIGSAW**  
Young people's  
health in mind



# Sports and Extracurriculars at Mercy

Throughout the second term of this year, our extracurricular teams were very busy! Many hard-earned wins and tough losses alike were faced.

Firstly, congratulations to our Senior Camogie team on their brilliant performances and wins over St Finian's College and Coláiste Eoin Hacketstown this term. These victories secured the girls a place in the Leinster Semi-Final!

Another massive congratulations to our Senior Gaelic team who gave consistent brilliant performances and also made it to the knockout stages in their league.

Unfortunately, the odds were not in Mercy's favour in the end. Commiserations to both of these senior teams who lost their respective knockout matches at the end of the term, bringing their campaigns to a close. Both teams fought to the end, leaving everything on the pitch. Thankfully the future is bright, with lots of talent coming through in both the Gaelic and Camogie teams. We look forward to seeing the Junior teams in action in the new year! These games also marked the final matches of all the 6<sup>th</sup> Years on both teams; Emelie, Cara, Muireann, Aoibhín, Issy, Annie, Zoe, Olivia, Ava, Abbie, Sarah, Libby, Grace, Chloe. They have represented Mercy so well throughout their time and will be missed. Thank you to Mr. Lane, Ms. Leavy and Ms. Buchanon for all of their hard work coaching Mercy Camogie and to Mr. Howard and Mr. Lane for their dedication to coaching our Gaelic team. While neither team got the result they were hoping for, it has been a brilliant season for both nonetheless!



*Senior Gaelic team*



*Senior Camogie team*

Congratulations to our Junior Gaelic team who qualified for the knockout phase of their competition this term. This was achieved through incredible hard work, as seen throughout all of their games. We wish them the best of luck in January as their games continue. Well done to all the players and their coaches Mr. Lane and Mr. Howard.



*Junior Gaelic team*





U16 Basketball team

Hard luck to our U16 Basketball team who came up short by one point against Our Lady's Greenhill, Drogheda in their quarter final this term. Our Mercy girls displayed incredible teamwork and leadership and never let their Mercy spirit waiver throughout the game! A big well done to all the players on a fantastic season and thank you to their coaches Ms. Dignam and Ms. Farrell for all of their hard work and dedication.

Well done to the Junior Soccer team on a great game against Loreto. The girls led until the final 3 minutes, where Loreto equalized to make it a 4-4 game. A fantastic performance was given by every single player, showing great skill and perseverance. Well done girls!



Junior Soccer team

## Fashion

Congratulations to Beth Brady in 5<sup>th</sup> Year who was the Overall Winner of the Project Fashion Young Designer of the Year Awards in November. Beth was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Advanced category and the Outstanding Achievement Award! Beth modelled designs of her own creation including her amazing Junk Kouture outfit 'Eyecatcher'.

Well done Beth!



## Volunteering



Tys Maria and Ava volunteered this term with their local charity *Ability Equine Assisted Therapy*. This group provide brilliant supports for children and adults with cognitive, physical or emotional difficulties. The girls helped out at the Christmas bag-pack in Dunnes Stores on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December.

# LCA Update

## Leadership In Sport

The Leadership in Sport program was delivered to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year LCA students by Meath Local Sports Partnership on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup> of October. The program was packed full of the following activities:

- **Day one: Leadership Skills** - communication, observation, disability & inclusion and components of planning an event.
- **Day two: Program Planning** – gaining knowledge of sports to be delivered during the event including Boccia, Cornhole, Curling and Zumba.
- **Day three: Event Management** - linking in with Prosper Meath to deliver a 2-hour event over 3 consecutive weeks. This would include a warmup, games, dancing and a cool down.

## Community Sports Event

Ms. Loftus and the LCA students invited Prosper Meath to a community sports event developed and ran by the LCA classes. This event took place in Navan O'Mahony's and many activities were delivered such as Dance, Pickle ball, Curling, Boccia and Cornhole.



Prosper Meath also visited the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Year LCAs this term to teach them a number of signs from the *Lámh* sign language.





# Cinema Trip

6th year LCA class enjoyed a trip to the Arc Arena in Navan for some bowling and a movie to celebrate all the girls' hard work this term. The girls funded this trip using the money raised in their Style and Shine Studio!



By Orlaith Moyles, 6<sup>th</sup> Year

## TYs in DCU

Emma, Eppie and Caroline from 4B have been attending a course called Early University Entrance (EUE) in DCU since the start of the school term. They each go to DCU one day per week, from 10am to 4pm, to study 1<sup>st</sup> Year college level material. Read all about their experiences below!

### Caroline: Engineering



Caroline attended DCU every Tuesday this term to study Engineering. She chose this course because she has a huge interest in the subject. She has completed two modules called 'Materials' and 'Electronics'. Her last day of the term was the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. She sat an exam, but this was for experience only. Caroline really enjoyed it as she learned lots of new information about the subject. The best part of the experience for Caroline was meeting so many new people from all across the country! Throughout her time this term, she learned all about circuits which involve a lot of calculations. The module 'Materials' was more theory based, and she learned about various materials and what they are used for, such as polymers and ceramics. Caroline cannot wait for Semester 2 where she will be studying another two modules called 'Software Development for Engineers' and 'Engineering Mechanics-Statics'.

# Eppie: Business



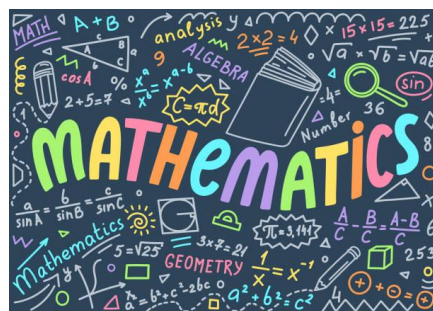
Eppie goes to DCU every Monday to study Business. She chose this course because she really enjoyed the subject of Business in Junior Cycle and wanted to learn more about the topic. She has explored many different elements of the subject so far in DCU, including managing accounts, utility, several types of markets and microeconomics. Microeconomics is the study of how individuals and companies deal with problems of scarcity. She sat an exam at the end of the term on all of the topics she had completed - 2 hours of Accounting and 2 hours of Microeconomics. Eppie has really enjoyed her time in DCU and is going to continue for another semester in the new year. She really enjoyed the classes and making many new friends. She would recommend the course to anyone who would like to trial a college level subject.

# Emma: Physics



Emma goes to DCU every Thursday to study Physics. She chose this course because she was interested in the subject and wanted to learn more about it, beyond what was taught at Junior Cycle. She also wanted to know what college level Physics would be like. She completed two different modules this term: 'Motion and Energy' for the first half of each day, and 'Light and Optics' for the second half. Emma learned that college level Physics is very heavily based on calculations, and more time is spent on Applied Maths questions than written theory. She enjoyed meeting new people that were interested in similar areas to her, but the work was very tough and a step up from Secondary School, which was definitely a struggle. Emma has applied for Semester Two and she is very excited to study either International Relations or to continue with Physics.

Overall, the girls' experience in DCU has been great and they would highly recommend the Early University Entrance course. There is something for everyone with 11 courses available!





# Music at Mercy



## TY Show Preparations

Preparations are well underway for the Transition Year show in March. The dancing and singing has all begun! Thanks to our wonderful choreographer Gráinne Kennedy for all of her hard work so far. We can't to see what you all come up with. Roll on March!



## 6<sup>th</sup> Year Music Trip

Our Leaving Cert Music classes took an educational trip on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December to the National Concert Hall for *Music in the Classroom 2024*, where they heard a live rendition of Tchaikovsky's 'Romeo and Julliet Overture'. The girls all had a wonderful day out. A big thanks to Mr. Feeley and Ms. McCabe for bringing the girls!

## Christmas Carols!

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of December our TYs got into the festive mood by doing some carol singing in Tesco. They had a jolly time, and the people of Navan loved it!



As per our long-standing tradition, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, our Leaving Certs went carol singing in Navan Shopping Centre and in St Mary's Church Yard in aid of Meals on Wheels. This is a brilliant cause as Meals on Wheels do incredible work, providing Christmas dinners to lots of people over the holidays. It was a great day for everyone and a great stress reliever for our 6<sup>th</sup> Years during their Christmas Exams. Thank you to Mr. Burke, Mr. Feeley, Ms. Hickey, Ms. O'Sullivan, Ms. Mooney and Mr. McCormack for accompanying the girls and spreading some festive cheer!



On Thursday the 12th of December, the whole school headed down to St Mary's Church for our Annual Christmas Carol Service. It was a wonderful afternoon full of music and, as always, was a wholesome opportunity to get our school community together before we break for Christmas.

The service included a variety of performances including *Schola*, our Traditional Irish Music group 'As *Tiúin*', and the debut performance of our new *Tuesday Choir!*

A joyful rendition of 'Ding Dong Merrily on High' played by *As Tiúin* put everyone in high spirits. The Tuesday Choir made their public debut with a beautiful performance of 'Somewhere in My Memory' followed by the incredibly moving peace 'Blazing Sky' performed by *Schola*. Of course, the classics such as 'Silent Night' and 'O Come O Come Emmanuel' were not forgotten.

Overall, this beautiful service brought the whole Mercy community together and brought the year to a peaceful, joyful close.

Thank you to all of the teachers and students involved for all of their hard work in what is no doubt the busiest time of year for the Music Department!



***As Tiúin*, Mercy's own Traditional Irish Music group!**



Find out more about our fantastic Music Department here at Mercy over on our Instagram Account!

**@mercynavanmusic**





# The Irish Election

**On the 30th of November, Irish people took to the polls, but who and what were they voting for?**

The results of the election are in and all 174 seats in the Dail have been filled. 59% of the Irish population came out to choose who they wanted to represent them, but what did they want?

The largest party, winning 48 seats, is Fianna Fáil (Soldiers of Destiny), who brand themselves as ‘The Republican Party’. They are a centre or centre-right party and are commonly referred to as conservative. They formed after a split from Sinn Féin in 1926 to take their seats in the Oireachtas, which Sinn Fein would not. They are currently led by Micheál Martin, who was Taoiseach from 2020-2022. From 1932 to 2011, they have always been the largest party in Ireland.



The second largest party, with 39 seats, is Sinn Féin (We Ourselves), led by Mary Lou McDonald. They are a Republican and left-wing democratic socialist party. The original Sinn Féin was formed in 1905 and were active in the War of Independence where they associated with the IRA. The party split before and after the Irish Civil War which led to the two traditionally dominant Irish parties of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael. For decades after, their association with the IRA during the Troubles left them a small and unrepresented party. They went from winning 0 seats in 1992 to a record number this year. They often brand themselves as an alternative to the two main parties who have been in power for the last 100 years.

The third largest party, winning a total of 38 seats, is Fine Gael (Tribe of the Irish), led by Simon Harris who has been our Taoiseach since March. They are also a centre-right conservative party with very similar manifestos to Fianna Fáil. They promote more economic liberalism than Fianna Fáil but the main difference stems back to the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921, ending the Irish War of Independence, where Cumann na nGaedheal (precursor to Fine Gael) supported the Treaty and Fianna Fáil opposed it.



Other smaller parties include the left-wing parties of Labour and the Social Democrats who both won 11 seats, People Before Profit with 3 seats, Aontú with 2, and Independent Ireland with 4. One party who had a disappointing result was the Green Party, who dropped from 12 seats previously to only one in the new Dáil. Independent candidates with no party also won 16 seats between them.

To form a government with a majority to govern, two or more parties will need to form a coalition. Our last government made history as forming the first Fianna Fail and Fine Gael coalition, and it is expected they will do so again. However, it may take several months for the parties in question to reform the government.



# Politics and Society Guest Speaker

This term, the 5<sup>th</sup> Year Politics & Society class were happy to have Judge Justice Mary Costello in to speak to us about her role as a judge and how she fell upon a career in law.

Judge Costello was eager to chat to us and ready to answer any questions thrown at her! She explained her reasons for pursuing a career in law and what such a career involves. She told us that she has always wanted to help other people, throughout her whole life, and this career path offered her the opportunity to do just that. She was always aware that it was a male dominated area, but she did not let that stop her. She ultimately wanted to change this as she believes in equality between genders. Judge Costello began her career as a lawyer and slowly worked her way up to becoming a judge. Currently, Her Honour works on drug cases and family and custody issues, to name a few. She works in the Circuit Court. This court deals with both civil and criminal matters revolving around civil, business and family law, although Costello has never worked on any cases involving murder or any similarly serious matters. She enjoys working on all kinds of cases; however, she finds criminal cases involving issues such as drugs the most enjoyable for her to partake in.



*An tSeirbhís Chúirteanna*  
*Courts Service*



Judge Costello explained all the ways in which your background does not matter at all, once you are passionate about what you want to pursue. Judge Costello herself came from a farming background and wound up being the first judge in her family. As she said, “What men can do, women can do too.” This is something that really stuck with us and inspired us as a class.

The 5th Year Politics & Society class were incredibly grateful for an opportunity like this to be given to us. The talk with Judge Justice Mary Costello helped shape many students’ ideas for their future. Some students are now interested in pursuing a career in law, while others have decided that it's not for them. It was an extremely educational experience overall and we would like to thank Mr. Cahill and Antoinette for organizing the talk, and Judge Justice Mary Costello for showing us what a career in law can be like for a woman.

**By Denisa Ruxandra Olenici, 5th Year**





# Christmas Shoebox Appeal



Read all about this year's annual Shoebox Appeal in this interview with Clodagh Fox from 4C

Clodagh is in TY 4C and helped run the Shoebox Appeal in Mercy this year, so we asked her a few questions about it! She was also elected as the treasurer for the appeal.

## 1. How was the Shoebox Appeal organised?

Firstly, the class split into groups with assigned group leaders tasked with making posters, promoting the charity and encouraging the school to get involved, and finding a suitable room to store the shoeboxes in. I was tasked with the job of counting and managing the money as the treasurer. Some girls went to Jacksie Kiernan's and collected shoeboxes for other students to fill. They wrapped them during school and handed them out at lunch time to any students or teachers who wanted to get involved!

## 2. Where did all these boxes go?

The boxes were collected in Room 27 and then brought to the Sewing Room to be stored. After several days, when all the boxes had been collected, they were brought to Team Hope. Team Hope organises the Christmas Shoebox Appeal every year. They also supply clean water to different countries, along with volunteers travelling around the world, to help countries suffering from conflict.

## 3. How successful was the Shoebox Appeal in Mercy?

In total, TY 4C collected 69 shoeboxes, which is the most this school has ever donated to Team Hope! We raised a total of €173.75 for a very worthy cause.

## 4. Were you faced with any challenges?

Unfortunately, we did not collect that many boxes in the beginning, with only 13 shoeboxes being donated. It was during the last week of collections that all off the boxes came pouring in! We think this was because it was not promoted in the best way, and we did not have enough time overall. Although it was, in a way, all thrown together, in the end it was a brilliant success, a fantastic experience, and lots of fun for everyone involved.



# Social Media and Authenticity

From Gen Z thinking that Millennials are cringy, to Millennials thinking that Boomers believe everything they see on the internet, it's obvious that each generation views each other differently when it comes to internet usage. While each generation has differences, I feel that most people consume content on social media in the same way, just in a different light. This made me think about the issue surrounding authenticity in social media, and how it is pretty much consistent, just repackaged every few years. Many people could say that social media right now is more authentic than the often-fabricated posts that were put out in the 2010s, or blog posts from the 2000s that seem toxic when you read back on them now.

In the last few weeks, I've seen the debate surrounding authenticity in social media rise, with many people bringing up the lack of sincerity and an ability to read the room, especially in music and art spaces online.



One of the best examples I've seen of this is the singer Ethel Cain, who makes music that's more on the solemn side, and focuses on storytelling through her music. However, she somehow has managed to attract a very unserious fanbase through apps such as TikTok. While I agree that jokes are okay if they're not harmful, I also feel that there should be balance between jokes and taking someone's genuine art more seriously, which is why I do understand Ethel Cain's point of view. I would be tired of seeing the same five jokes on my feed everyday, instead of being able to discuss the art I had made in a meaningful way.

I think the lack of analytical thinking in media engagement is because of the rise of short form content. This could be a reason why the debate around authenticity in social media is getting popular again, because not many people are going to read or listen to a twenty minute long song analysis when they can watch a clip of an AI cat on TikTok instead. This makes me think, is there still a major authenticity issue online?

By Emma Markey, 5th Year



## Interview with Ms O'Sullivan

This term, we interviewed our Acting Deputy Principal, Ms O'Sullivan. We asked her some questions about her new position that the student body might like to hear about. Thank you so much to Ms O'Sullivan for taking the time to chat with us!



**Q1: What was the process to become a Deputy Principal like?**

The process was intense! It started with expressing interest to CEIST and completing a detailed 18-page application form, addressing seven leadership competencies and the four domains from the *Looking at Our Schools* framework. The interview began with a 5-minute presentation suitable for Open Night, which I enjoyed preparing in advance. This was followed by a panel interview with five members, including Ms. Meagher and Mr. McCormack, who asked a wide range of questions beyond the application, requiring diverse examples.

I leaned on my experience as Programme Coordinator, managing teams of students, teachers and other professionals. The rigorous process allowed me to demonstrate my leadership and programme development skills.

**Q2: Why did you decide to become a teacher?**

From a young age, I've been deeply drawn to the Arts, finding joy and purpose in storytelling through literature, theatre, song, and music. These creative outlets have shaped who I am, and I've always felt a strong desire to inspire that same love of the Arts in others. I was fortunate enough to have incredible teachers throughout primary and secondary school, as well as very supportive parents who recognised my passions and encouraged me to develop my strengths in these areas. I wouldn't have pursued a career in teaching if it weren't for the transformative experiences I had in Choir. Choir gave me not only a sense of belonging, but also invaluable leadership opportunities that helped me grow. I accompanied school choirs on piano and directed my first choir aged sixteen. I am so very grateful to the FCJ Sisters and my music teacher Rhoda O'Connor in Limerick, who inspired my love of choral singing.

My goal as a teacher has always been to inspire students to embrace their own creativity, to help them find their voice, and to foster their confidence in exploring their unique talents.

**Q3: What are some of the biggest lessons you have learned so far as a Deputy Principal?**

One of the most important lessons I've learned is that no matter how prepared you are, the unexpected will always happen. Every day in education is different, and adaptability is essential. I've also realised that, like laundry, my to-do list is never-ending! While I strive to stay on top of tasks, I've learned to prioritise and accept that there will always be something new to address.

**Q4: What is your favourite part of being Deputy Principal so far?**

My favourite part of being Deputy Principal is the daily interactions with the school community. My office is in a central location, and everyone knows where to find me. It is energising to be so accessible, engaging with students, staff, parents and others throughout the day. There's a lovely energy in this space that fuels my passion for the role.

This office holds special meaning for me. When I first started teaching at St. Joseph's, Ms. Mulligan was Deputy Principal in this office followed by Ms. Meagher and then Ms. D'Arcy. I've been hugely inspired by these leaders, and I feel a strong sense of connection to this space because of them. It's a place where problems are solved, meetings are held, and all sorts of conversations take place; sometimes it's chats, sometimes tears, laughter, rants, and the occasional angry outburst. Despite all of this, it's a stress-free zone, for me anyway! It's a space where people come together to connect, reflect, and move forward, and that's something I deeply value in my role as Deputy Principal.

**Q5: What are your key daily responsibilities?**

As Deputy Principal, one of my key responsibilities is overseeing the supervision and substitution scheme. Each morning, I ensure substitute teachers are deployed where needed and that adequate supervision is maintained throughout the day. My mornings also involve tasks like checking attendance and punctuality notes and following up with Year Heads or parents if patterns arise. Uniform checks and any necessary follow-ups are sometimes part of the routine as well.

Each day includes several meetings; these can range from pastoral care to disciplinary matters or providing support for a specific issue. Parental communication is also a significant part of my role, whether it's discussing pastoral concerns, discipline, or clarifying school structures. I meet daily with the school leadership team, and I'm incredibly grateful to Ms Daly and Mr McCormack for their guidance and mentorship. They've been instrumental in helping me grow into this role. I am also deeply grateful to Ms D'Arcy for her wisdom and encouragement in helping me navigate this role, especially in the beginning.

Despite my administrative duties, I still teach, and it's a highlight of my day! I have Sixth Year English, Fifth Year Choir, and TY Community Care. Teaching my Sixth Year English class over in Mount Carmel (where no one can find me) is a particularly cherished part of my schedule! Fifth Year Choir is very exciting at the moment as we're preparing for a major Choral concert planned for March - *Faure's Requiem*.

## Q6: What are your goals for the school in the 2025?

Inspired by Catherine McAuley's words, "We should be shining lamps, giving light to all," I aim to be a source of positivity, promoting respect and building a strong sense of community. I am committed to achieving quality in teaching and learning, ensuring that students feel supported in their journey and encouraged to pursue their talents with kindness and respect. Equally important is supporting our staff by fostering collaboration, professional growth, and mutual respect. At the heart of my work is a commitment to being just and responsible, creating an environment where both students and staff thrive and are inspired to make a positive impact.

I am currently serving as Acting Deputy Principal, a temporary role that I feel incredibly fortunate to hold. This opportunity to be part of the school leadership team is one I deeply value, and I am grateful to everyone I've worked with or taught during my time here for helping to prepare and shape me for this position. When I think back to the first class I ever taught here, Sixth Year Choir with Sr. Ciarán Egan, I feel immense gratitude for my teaching career at this remarkable school and for all the people who have profoundly influenced and enriched my life through my work. I've been truly blessed.

Interviewed by Aoibheann Fitzsimons and Zoe McFadden, TY

## A Special Message from Elfie Fitzinsel

Last but certainly not least, we were delighted to have a new student in Mercy this term, coming all the way from the North Pole!

Of course, Elfie Fitzinsel's final wish before she returned home was to have her article printed in the Term Times! Enjoy!

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS





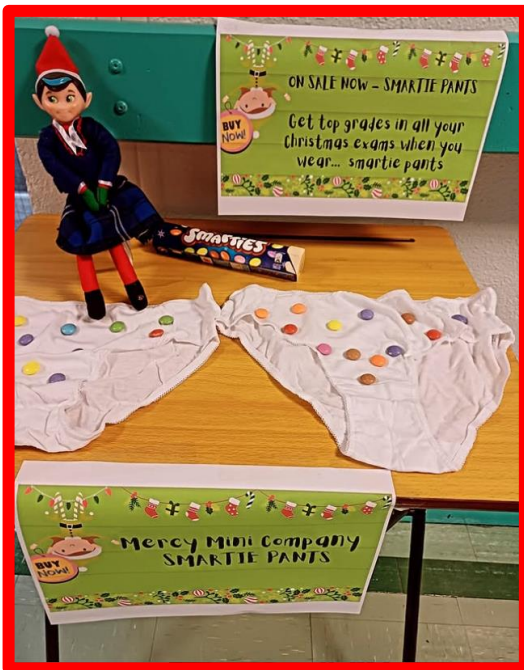
Hi everyone! I'm Elfie, as you probably all know. I heard about the Term Times Newspaper back home in the North Pole. It's really quite popular up there and I had to keep up to date with the school before I came to visit! It was my biggest wish to write for such an amazing paper someday and here I am!

Well, I have had the most jolly time in Mercy over the last few weeks. I got off to a bit of a rocky start, apparently wearing elf attire is breaking the uniform code...

But I soon got kitted out in a lovely Mercy uniform and the fun began!

My first class was P.E. which, I must say, is quite different here to what I'm used to in the North Pole. No ice skating or sledding! Nonetheless, I'd like to think I educated my class as best I could by showing them how to fast track Sleigh-Level Fitness Training with zip-lining. Mr. Lane was not too impressed, but we all had great fun!

I did find myself stuck up there for a little while, but it gave me a good chance to meet everyone as they walked by, and I got to miss Maths!



I heard about the TY Mini Company Christmas Fair and decided to put my own entrepreneurial skills to the test! Between you and me, I also was hoping for some money to buy myself a cookie in the new canteen!

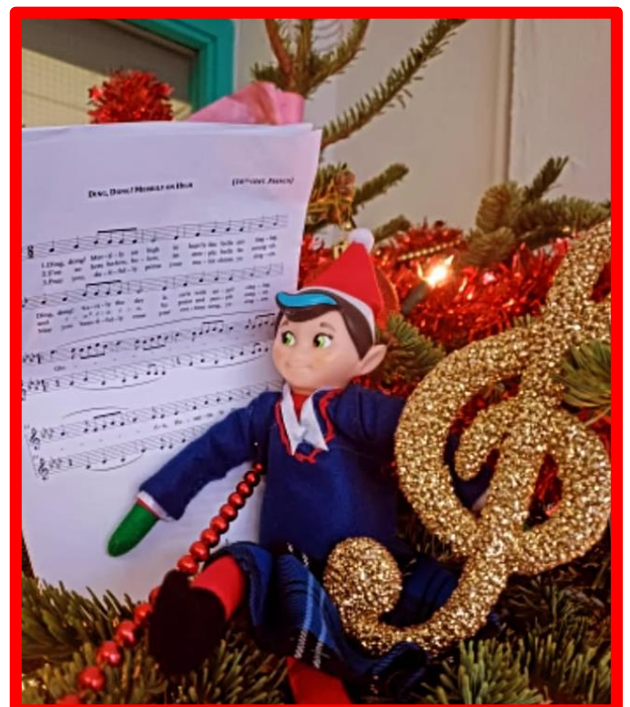
My business was called **Smartie Pants**. These Smartie Pants are guaranteed to get you good grades if you wear them during your exams! (Send me a letter if you would like some once summer tests roll around.)

I can't say it was the biggest success, but plenty of people bought the smarties!

I have to say, I often take part in the Annual North Pole Christmas Carol Service, and the Mercy Carol Service was certainly up to par. I was working very hard in Choir to perfect my carols!

I loved every minute of the Carol Service. You might not have seen me there; I was given VIP seats up in the gallery. An excellent view! Both Schola and the Tuesday Choir were outstanding! They nearly brought me to tears! I especially loved hearing some Irish traditional music. That's something you don't get back home.

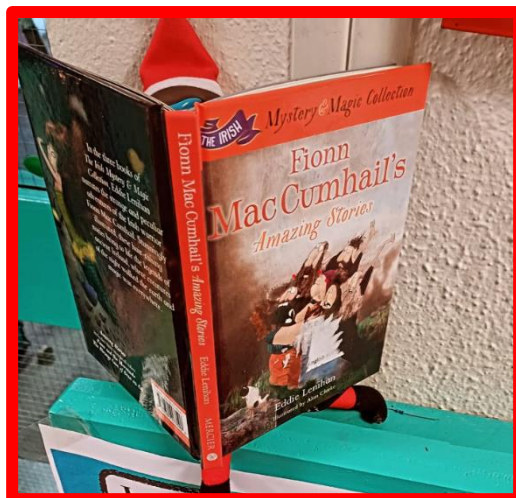
Unfortunately, Mr. Feeley did not accept my request to join Schola for a few weeks, despite my audition leaving him speechless! However, I still sang my heart out with everyone and enjoyed every second.





Everyone seemed quite stressed about the Christmas exams, so I showed them all how to relax and have fun with my favourite games such as Bingo!

I also found an amazing library right here in the school, over in Mount Carmel! There was such a selection of books, it was hard to choose, but I eventually went with 'Fionn Mac Cumhail's Amazing Stories'. If I wasn't an elf, I would certainly be a warrior and adventurer like Fionn!



Just as I was starting to feel a bit homesick, my granny sent me a lovely letter, keeping me up to date on the news back home. It's getting busy up there now!

She also asked me to light a candle for all of my new friends in Mercy sitting their exams. I hope Granny Fitzinsel and I gave you a sprinkling of luck!

My own exams were a breeze, but the Geography one in particular left me feeling a bit homesick. I have loved every second of my time here at Mercy, but now I have to head back to the North Pole as the Christmas preparations truly begin! I just want to say thank you to everyone in Mercy for making my time here so special and, you never know, maybe I'll be back next year...

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**By Elfie Fitzinsel**



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS



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## Other Information:

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**Any Inquiries?**

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**Follow our Social Media!**

**Instagram:** @mercy\_navan

**Twitter:** @Mercy\_Navan

**Website:** <https://www.mercynavan.ie/>

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Mercy Navan**

St Joseph's Mercy Navan

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