

THE BUZZ

NEWSLETTER @ THEINSTITUTE OF EDUCATION DUBLIN

13.04.2026



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to 5th year student Maria Malas who represented The Institute in the Qatar Foundation International's (QFI) Arabic Speaking Competition (ASC) 2025-26, where she competed against students from Ireland, Canada, Sweden, Italy, the UK, Switzerland and the USA. We are incredibly proud to share that Maria was awarded first place overall in this highly competitive international event. This is an outstanding achievement and reflects her exceptional dedication, talent, and hard work over a sustained period of time. Since its inception in 2021, the competition has grown from 48 entrants to 500 last year, offering a vital platform for heritage and non-heritage learners to showcase their skills. The ASC serves as a powerful catalyst, providing a unique platform for learners to engage with the language beyond the traditional classroom, fostering authentic use and skill development. It is designed to inspire and motivate students—to showcase their Arabic skills, creativity, and confidence, while supporting proficiency aligned with formal assessments such as GCSEs, Leaving Certificate, AAPPL (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages), or OPis (Oral Proficiency Interviews).



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



On Saturday the 21st of March we had our final game of this year's Leinster Schools Chess League. Our club performed so phenomenally that they will be promoted into the next division of the league. This is our first year in the league and for many students they only embarked on competitive chess this year, so this success is a testament to their hard work. The players over the weekend of the 21st of March were Alexey Golovanov, Yuxin Tian and Sergei Vasilev. Alexey and Yuxin are pictured above and our Chess Club is pictured below, we look forward to seeing where their division promotion leads them.





STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



The Irish Senior Schools Relay Championships took place on Sunday, 22nd March at the Sport Ireland National Aquatic Centre in Dublin. The Institute had eight swimmers representing the school across four senior relay categories. They took home two gold and two silver medals—a phenomenal result in highly contested events featuring schools from all over Ireland.

First up was the Mixed Freestyle Relay, comprised of Hannah Poynton, Caoimhe Smyth, Alex Li, and Sean O'Rourke. The team touched the wall in a time of 1:50.02 to secure silver. The Girls' Medley Relay won joint gold in a nail-biting race. The team of Chloe Dawney, Caoimhe Smyth, Hannah Poynton, and Fiona Weng shared first place with Loreto Abbey Dalkey, with all top four teams finishing within one hundredth of a second of each other. The Open Medley Relay, made up of Radu Pamfil, Emilian Petrea, Alex Li, and Sean O'Rourke, certainly stole the show. In yet another extremely close race, the team won silver in a time of 1:53.71, with Kilkenny College taking bronze in 1:53.77. The final relay of the morning was the Mixed Medley Relay, where the team took home gold in an impressive win. Congratulations to Chloe Dawney, Emilian Petrea, Fiona Weng, and Radu Pamfil.

A special mention and congratulations go to four of our swimmers who were selected to represent Leinster in the Irish Senior Schools Interprovincial Championships, held later that afternoon. Selection was based on performances at the Leinster Senior Schools Championships in February. Congratulations to Chloe Dawney, Fiona Weng, Hannah Poynton, and Radu Pamfil for their individual and team contributions, which helped the Leinster team retain the title of Irish Senior Schools Interprovincial champions. Ulster finished second, Munster third, and Connacht fourth. A fantastic day for all our swimmers—your hard work, early morning training, and dedication have truly paid off.



GUIDANCE

HI STUDENTS



Welcome back to school. We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break. Congratulations to our 6th years who had their Leaving Certificate oral examinations in one or more languages during the break.

LUNCHTIME TALKS



Wednesday 15th April, 4th and 5th Years (11:00 am - 11:50am, H1-1)

There will be a lunchtime talk from Ciara Brannigan, University of Galway's Schools Liaison Officer on all the courses in the university. You are welcome to bring your lunch but please don't be late!

LATE RACE FORMS



LATE RACE APPLICATION FORMS are now in Helen Casey's office in 2-6A. It is very important that students seeking a late RACE application make contact with Helen through the appointment portal.

SPRING OPEN DAYS



Spring Open Days are a great resource for students in all years (4th, 5th and 6th year) to check out whether the campus would suit you. There are a number of college Open Days this coming Saturday, 18th April – Dublin City University, TU Dublin – Aungier Street, ATU (Galway campus) and Marino Institute of Education in Dublin. Registration is required in advance.

UCD SUMMER SCHOOL



5th year students can register for the UCD Summer School. This is a great opportunity to see the campus, as well as partake in one or more of their subjects which are spread throughout the week. Further details on their website – registration is recommended early as places are limited.

ONLINE INFO EVENINGS



Tuesday, April 14th at 7pm – UG - Pharmacy
Wednesday, April 15th at 8pm – RCSI - Pharmacy
Register in advance.

Have a lovely week ahead,
The Guidance Team



CANTEEN SPECIALS



Mon: Parmesan Spring Chicken with Mash & Greens €7

Tue: Pepperoni or Margherita Pizza with fries €7.50

Wed: Garlic Chicken Churrasco Burgers with Fries €8.50

Thurs: Chilli Beef Cottage Pie with Sour Cream Mash €7.50

Fri: The Spice Bag Crispy Fried Chicken tossed in Spice, Peppers, Onions Golden Fries & Curry Sauce €7



RANDOM ACTS OF Wildness

Have you ever considered a Random Act of Wildness or do you know what it is? It is anything that you can do on an average day to get outdoors. We invite students and staff to send images over the next two weeks and we will share them on the screens. We all know the benefits of getting out - but sometimes it helps to get a little motivation to do what is good for us! Whether you are out for a hike, a stroll with your dog or simply enjoying a sunset, please send your photos to wellbeing at studentwellbeing@instituteofeducation.ie and lets bring some nature into the school!



MASTERCLASSES



This Monday the 13th of April, we have a Chemistry Masterclass with Chloe Griffin on Rates of reaction. It is for 5th and 6th years at 4pm in room G-7.



This Thursday the 16th of April, we have a Biology Masterclass with Roisin Doyle on the Human Reproduction. It is for 5th and 6th years at 5pm Online.



REVISION CLASSES



Every Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs we have drop in revision classes in HL Maths with Hilary. For 6th years from 7:55-8:27am in 2-3 (Mon, Wed, Thurs) & in H1-1 (Tues) & for 5th yrs 8:30 - 9am (Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs) in L2-2.



Every Monday we have a drop in revision class in Economics with Rob. It is for 6th years in HG-0 / 4:30-5:30pm. Rob covers a new topic each week.



Every Tues & Fri we have drop in revision in Biology with Roisin in G-4. For 6th years from 7:57 - 8:27am. **Bring a set of Biology past papers with you to get the most out of the workshop.**



Every Wednesday we have a drop in revision class in HL Maths with Aidan. It is for 6th years in H1-0 / 3:30-4:30pm. Aidan covers a new topic each week.