



# Ursuline College Sligo



## NEWS BULLETIN – 12/03/2021

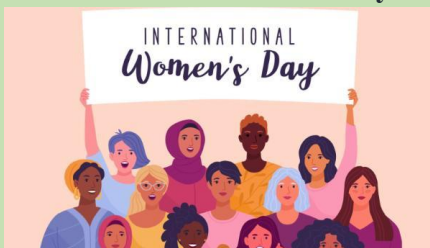
Key updates and information for parents/guardians, staff & students

### 5th Years



UCS are excited to welcome back our 5<sup>th</sup> year students on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. We know that you will be happy to get back to school and everyone at school is looking forward to seeing you all. Please remember to complete and submit your - **Return to an Educational Facility Forms** - before Monday. These have been emailed to all 5<sup>th</sup> year parents.

### International Women's Day



International Women's Day is celebrated annually on March the 8<sup>th</sup>. It has been observed for more than a century since it began in 1911. The day recognises the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women globally, and it's a call to action for gender parity. It is a day to celebrate our diversity and our uniqueness. We at UCS want to wish all "Wonder Women" a brilliant day. We are always inspired by your courage, kindness and strength. St. Angela, who is our foundress, recognised that by empowering women we could change the world. Happy International Women's Day to all Mothers, Daughters Sisters, Grandmothers and Aunts. To all the inspirational women in our lives – we salute you.



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## COVID-19 update

Following the successful return to school of our Sixth years students, we are greatly looking forward to the gradual return of the rest of our school community.

- We are providing our students with additional PPE on their return to school and have put in place increased sanitation measures to protect our students and staff.
- We have also created designated areas for our students to form pods for break and lunchtimes in line with Public Health advice.
- These new measures, added to the array of existing strategies we have all adjusted to this year, will help to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

We look forward to building on all the hard work our students have done during remote learning and we look forward to further progress in the days and weeks ahead. Most importantly, we are all hugely looking to seeing all our students face to face again.

***"We are not in the same boat,  
But we are all in the same storm!"***

## Home Economics

To mark World Book Day, Transition Year Home Economics students demonstrated their creative skills in the kitchen by making dishes inspired by their favourite books. From the “*Mad Hatter Tea Party*” to Chocolate cakes inspired by “*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*”, they really pulled out all the stops. A truly inspirational and creative display – Well done girls!!!



### Calling all budding cooks and crafters!!!

The ATHE and Seachtain na Gaeilge are running a cool competition to celebrate our unique craft and cooking heritage. Entries can be made on twitter and also on Instagram using the handle @athe\_homeec. The competition is open to all secondary school students - not just home ec students. Why not give it a go.....Details are below....



**The Association of Teachers of Home Economics presents.....**

**Seachtain na Gaeilge Competition**

Open to all secondary school students across Ireland.

**Create a traditional Irish craft or dish.** This competition runs until **Thursday 25th of March.**

Tag **@ATHE\_HomeEc** in your tweets or your Instagram posts and use the **#ATHESnaG** and **#HomeEconomics** to enter. Students can either via twitter or **our new Instagram account(athe\_homeec)** The winning traditional Irish craft and traditional Irish dish will receive a €50 One4all voucher.

Lá le Padraig fé shéan is fé mhaise dhaoibh go léir



All TYs attended the SHINE festival this week.

SHINE Festival is possibly the biggest gathering of inspirational Irish women ever. With over 80 speakers including Vicky Phelan, Laura Whitmore, Holly Cairns, Evanna Lynch, and many, many more, topics such as mental health, mindset, career, diversity, individuality, the arts, sports, social issues and sustainability were covered. There was also music, poetry, pledges, and even a treasure hunt! It is an empowering event for the women and girls of

Ireland, bringing us together to interact in a safe and positive space, and to celebrate each other.



Ladies let your light SHINE brightly.....



### Leaving Certificate 2021

The Leaving Certificate 2021 Candidate Self Service Portal is now open. Students must register for your examinations and/or accredited grades on the portal.

The portal will close on 16 March at 6pm.

Please check for a very quick guide for everything you need to know before you begin:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/306f8-leaving-certificate-candidate-self-service-portal-2021-before-you-start-guide/>

#### State Examinations and Accredited Grades – Leaving Certificate 2021

Information for students, parents and guardians  
See [gov.ie/leavingcertificate](https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/306f8-leaving-certificate-candidate-self-service-portal-2021-before-you-start-guide/) for more detailed information

##### What candidates need to know

- You must **register** on the SEC candidate portal for examinations **and/or** SEC Accredited Grades
- You will be required to **log on again** at the end of **April/early May** to confirm your levels in each subject
- Continue to **engage** with **teaching, learning and assessment**
- There are **no fees** to pay for examinations or for SEC Accredited Grades
- If you opt for both you will have your **better grades in each subject** reflected in your results.



##### Key dates

- The **SEC Candidate Portal** will open on **10 March at 12 noon** and close on **16 March at 6pm**
- **LC Oral** examinations: **26 March to 15 April**
- Portal reopens **April/May** to confirm levels (TBC)
- **LC Applied** orals: **3 May to 12 May**
- **LCA practical** performance test: **17 May to 21 May**
- **LCA practical** coursework interview: week beginning **8 June**
- Written exams: **9 June to 29 June**



##### SEC Accredited Grades

- These grades will be generated using the **estimated percentage marks** provided by schools
- Teacher **estimations** will be subject to **in-school alignment and oversight**
- After the **national standardisation process**, marks will be converted into **SEC Accredited Grades**
- Grades will be expressed in the **format H1/O1** etc.
- Parents/Guardians and students **must not** contact a teacher or other member of staff to discuss or try to influence the decision making process relating to the marks.

##### Results

- On **results day**, you will get the **better of the two** results if you opted for both
- Shortly after, you will receive the **outcomes of your Accredited Grades and/or examinations at the same time**
- The final result (on final certificate) credited will be the **better of the two results** if you sit the examinations.



Riadas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

## Random Acts of Kindness Week

Inspired by St. Angela's teaching, "Be Gentle, Be Caring, Be Kind" and in keeping with the Student Council tradition of celebrating *Random Acts of Kindness Week*, the Council invited students to mark this from Monday 8th ---12th March.

NEVER  
FORGET  
HOW  
WILDLY  
CAPABLE  
YOU  
ARE.

Students were asked to celebrate this week both in school and at home. We asked them to think of the little things that can make a big difference in someone's day.... could include baking a cake, clearing away dishes, minding younger siblings, hanging out the washing, simply making a cup of tea for someone, or even just a kind word.

BEAUTIFUL  
girl  
YOU WERE MADE  
to do hard  
THINGS,  
so believe  
IN YOURSELF



To help celebrate and acknowledge how kind our students are, we at UCS treated the 6<sup>th</sup> year classes to some yummy treats and included positive affirmations - simple messages of strength and courage.

We want to share these simple affirmations with all our young women, to celebrate International Women's Day, Random Acts of Kindness Week and Mother's Day...



To all our students: we can't wait to see you all back in school soon.....

Happy Friday!!!!