

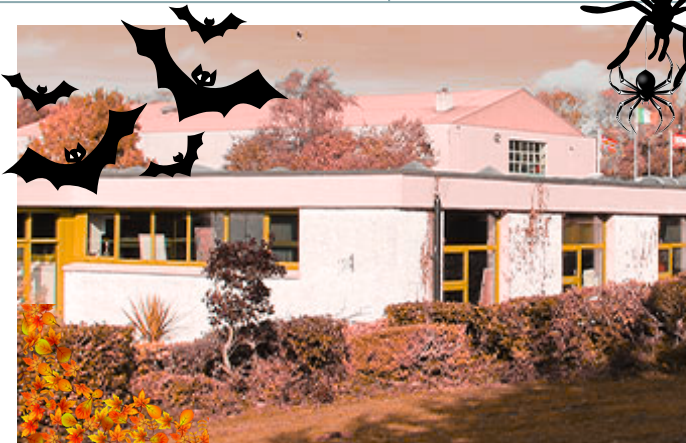
Portmarnock Community School

Portmarnock Community School Newsletter

Issued - /09/25

What's New!

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL! AS WE START THIS NEW TERM, WE WELCOMED THE INCOMING FIRST YEARS WITH TEAM-BUILDING ACTIVITIES TO HELP INTRODUCE THEM TO THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND GET THEM TO BECOME MORE COMFORTABLE WITH THEIR PEERS AND TEACHERS. ALL YEAR GROUPS ATTENDED THEIR INTRODUCTION DAY AFTER A LONG, RELAXING SUMMER BREAK. WE HOPE EVERYONE CAN EASILY SETTLE BACK INTO THE ROUTINE AND ENJOY THIS SCHOOL YEAR. MANY EXCITING THINGS ARE TO COME THIS TERM, WITH THIS YEAR'S TRANSITION YEARS BEING THE FIRST GROUP TO EXPERIENCE THE NEW TY PROGRAMME.



WE HAVE STARTED BACK WITH OUR ACCELERATED READING PROGRAMME, WHICH AIMS TO MAKE READING MORE RELAXING AND ENJOYABLE FOR STUDENTS. THIS YEAR WE HOPE TO SEE AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF BOOKS READ BY ALL YEARS! WE ZONE IN ON THE FIRST AND SECOND YEARS FOR THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAMME. THE LIBRARY ALSO OFFERS THE GAMES CLUB, CHESS, AND FREE READING AT EVERY LUNCHTIME, EXCLUDING FRIDAYS. PLEASE ENJOY YOUR LUNCH IN THE CANTEEN BEFORE ENTERING THE LIBRARY. OTHER ACTIVITIES OUR SCHOOL HAS TO OFFER ARE TENNIS, SELF-DEFENCE, ATHLETICS, FOOTBALL, GAELIC FOOTBALL, CAMOGIE, HURLING, AND BASKETBALL. SOME OTHER AREAS OF INVOLVEMENT INCLUDE THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR CHOIR, STUDENT COUNCIL, DEBATING, ORCHESTRA, AND YOUNG SOCIAL INNOVATORS. THESE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES OF THE SPORTS AND LEISURE SIDE OF OUR SCHOOL. FOR STUDENTS WHO ARRIVE EARLIER AT THE SCHOOL, WE OFFER BREAKFAST IN THE CANTEEN EVERY MORNING WITH A VARIETY OF CHOICES. ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AT 7:30, WE HAVE ATHLETICS WITH MS MALONE ON THE PITCH UNLESS THE WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE BAD. THERE ARE TWO COMPETITIONS FOR THIS, THEM BEING CROSS COUNTRY AND SANTRY. CROSS COUNTRY IS IN APRIL AND SANTRY WILL BE HELD IN MAY.



Upcoming Trips

--6th Year English trip--
--Music trip to London--
--politics and socitey trip--

THE NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIP

The National Ploughing Competition started as an early morning bus ride for our TY students. A sleepy, yet optimistic atmosphere, fully equipped with very stylish wellies. We arrived in Offaly at 10 in the morning, before getting the go ahead to wander amongst the many Massey Ferguson tractors.

A giant maze of many different farm machines that could only be identified if heard from another person's conversation or if it was a tractor. An area more close to home for our students were the stalls full of many different farm grown or produced items.

Many of our students took part in small events at the ploughing at some of the stalls. One of which was Re-Turn the new company with a bottle return scheme every parent now lives by. Their game was to spin a wheel and win a prize. The fortunate of our TY students took home the pinnacle of fashion, bucket hats. It was safe to say the free merchandise led to a snowballing collection of free stuff to be bragged about on the way home.

Some of the TY students caught a glimpse at our President on his way to open the competition. Michael and his wife Sabina, rode through the crowd in a car waving to those enjoying the beautiful day. The day remained lovely since the rain held off.

We made our way back to the bus tired, yet very joyous from the great trip!



U19 GIRLS BASKETBALL



The girls match took place in Dunshaughlin Co. Meath against a strong side.

As the match commenced the other side had a fast start with 4 points in the first 4 minutes. PCS responded by giving us 2 points. Throughout the match people were getting subbed on and off. When

Ava Brogan got put on, she was running up and down with a smile on her face and just being happy to be put on. As soon as she got the ball she scored 2 points for us. Later on she got the ball again and in total she got a total of 6 points

for us. The last few minutes we were losing by 9 points, as soon as the buzzer went off Laura took a shot from the half way line, it sadly

*not go in but it was still really good. In the end we sadly lost. Final score: 40 to 31



U19 GIRLS BASKETBALL

The girls match took place in Dunshaughlin co. Meath against a strong side.

As the match commenced, the other side took a fast start with 4 points in the first 4 minutes. PCS responded fast with Ria Mullan and Naomi Crilly scoring 4 points. After a very tight game of back and forth up and down the court, Ellie Reen scored making the score 12 -6 at the first quarter to the opposition.

The second half started strong with PCS scoring back to back points by Naomi Crilly and Poppy Mullan leaving the quarter completely dominated by PCS.

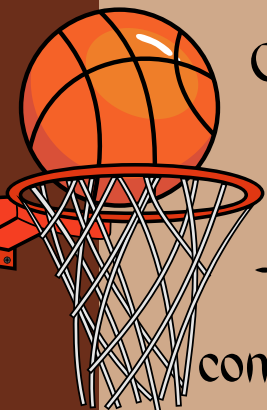
As the third quarter picked back up the opposition started to make a comeback with a close game but the girls kept the defense strong.

The 4th quarter was a close game with both teams fighting for the game but PCS defense was just too strong for the opposition to comeback as the other team missed a game winning point in the dying seconds.

player of the match Naomi Crilly.



U16 BOYS BASKETBALL



On October 1st, PCS took on a strong Lusk side at home.



The match started at a fast pace with both teams constantly taking the lead. The first quarter ended 10-13 to the away team.

The 2nd quarter, both teams entered a tough battle with not many points being scored til near the buzzer. Ryan Mullen took PCS back into the game with the home team winning 19-16.

In the third quater the game began picking back up with each side battling it out for the win Sam Dinan and Ryan mullen taking shot after shot to put PCS infront but the away team grabbed a late basket to give them a 1 point lead

The 4th quater was an intense action packed match with shot after shot, Ryan Mullen taking the lead for PCS but LCC just about winning it with late game action to end it 34-43.



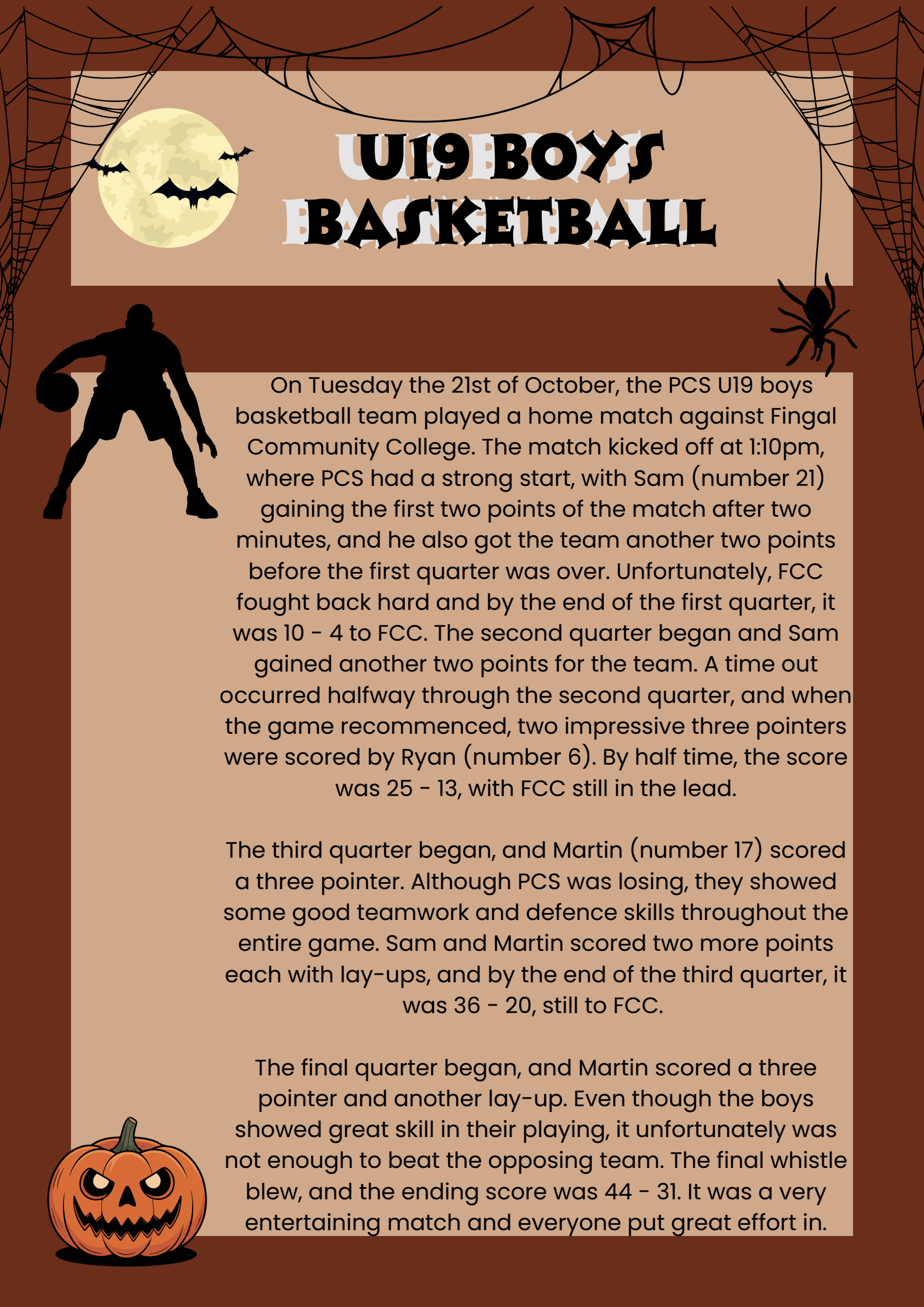
U19 BOYS BASKETBALL

On Thursday the 18th of September, PCS took on St. Fintans at 12:15 for a friendly. We knew this was going to be a tough match as St. Fintans are a division above, but it was a great performance from both teams. The match was delayed by ten minutes, so tip-off was at 12:25. Within the first minute, PCS had scored the first point of the game. It was scored by no. 6 Kyle. St. Fintans then got possession and ran up the court, scoring and making it a tied game. The first quarter ended with the score being St. Fintans 13 and PCS 10. During the second quarter, St. Fintans managed to score another lay-up, building their lead more and more as the match continued. PCS continued to battle for possession, no. 4 Martin scored a three-pointer. St. Fintans. The other team retaliated by scoring 2 additional layups. While taking the second layup St. Fintans no. 7 was fouled and made his one free throw ending the second quarter with the score being St. Fintans 27, PCS 15. Although we were losing, PCS never dropped their heads and continued battling. After a few minutes we regained momentum and PCS no. 9 scored a lay up. The St. Fintans quickly retaliated with a lay up which was also followed by a shot scored by no. 11. Overall it was a very quick three shots. The final shot of the third quarter was a three pointer taken by no. 4 but it sadly hit the rim resulting in the third quarter ending with St. Fintans 36 and PCS 21. There's a minute and thirty eight seconds left and PCS are down by 11 when no. 4 makes a great steal and runs up the court scoring another 2 points, No. 4 gets fouled on that basket and makes the shot which was the final score of the game. The end score was St. Fintans 44 points and PCS 37 points. All players were amazing and gave it everything they had.

LINK TO FULL ARTICAL:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_zvwO4X6suuYFBNBw5BqZ5GjJW4l2wnrck5clGDwCoU/edit?tab=t.0





U19 BOYS BASKETBALL



On Tuesday the 21st of October, the PCS U19 boys basketball team played a home match against Fingal Community College. The match kicked off at 1:10pm, where PCS had a strong start, with Sam (number 21) gaining the first two points of the match after two minutes, and he also got the team another two points before the first quarter was over. Unfortunately, FCC fought back hard and by the end of the first quarter, it was 10 - 4 to FCC. The second quarter began and Sam gained another two points for the team. A time out occurred halfway through the second quarter, and when the game recommenced, two impressive three pointers were scored by Ryan (number 6). By half time, the score was 25 - 13, with FCC still in the lead.

The third quarter began, and Martin (number 17) scored a three pointer. Although PCS was losing, they showed some good teamwork and defence skills throughout the entire game. Sam and Martin scored two more points each with lay-ups, and by the end of the third quarter, it was 36 - 20, still to FCC.

The final quarter began, and Martin scored a three pointer and another lay-up. Even though the boys showed great skill in their playing, it unfortunately was not enough to beat the opposing team. The final whistle blew, and the ending score was 44 - 31. It was a very entertaining match and everyone put great effort in.



CAMOGIE



The points were
scored by:



Sorcha Lowery
Emma Hayden
Leah Gallagher



The goals were
scored by:

Laura Leonard
Cadhla McAnally





CAMOGIE

On September 19th, the senior girls camogie team battled against Colmcille, as a friendly match to start their season.

At 10:50, the game began with a point scored within the first three minutes by the opposing team.

The girls fought passionately for possession and scores. Both teams gave a rattling performance. Sophie Crilly stepped up as the substitute goalkeeper for PCS and made many amazing saves.

It was a tough match yet our seniors persisted and came out with a fantastic win.

PCS took the win by a point, a good start to their season.

Cadhla Mc Anally committed so much to the match, that her hurl remained a martyr on the pitch after it split.



U16 GIRLS GAA

On the 17th of september 2025 our U16 girls faced Malahide Community School in St. Sylvesters GAA Club.

PCS didnt have the strongest start with Malahide scoring the first few points. We didn't score until the 12th minute, when Sorchu Lowrey scored a point from a free and shortly after scored a goal.

Unfortunately PCS didnt score anything else for the whole first half and things did not look to be going their way, Ms. Fallon changed up the team at half time hoping things would change an we started the second half with a point from Evelyn Barret but it wasn't enough to stop MCS from continuing to dominate. Kate Bamford scored a penalty late in the second half and the girls performance was not reflected by the score



Senior Girls Football

On Friday the 3rd of October, our girls played a football match against Santa Sabina. In the first five minutes, Santa Sabina were up by 2 points. After a struggle to get the ball up the pitch, Sophie McDonnell scored a goal 15 minutes in. Snead and Alana went on for Nina and Amy. .

Alana carried the ball down the pitch, which led to a penalty that was scored by Mia; this boosted morale before half-time.

At half-time, the score was 2-5 to 1-3, so Portmarnock had a nice lead. This carried on through the whole 2nd half with help from a few points from Sorcha Lowery and a goal from Elie Rian. This led to Portmarnock getting the win with a final score of 3-8 to 2-7



Junior Boys Football

The match kicked off at 01:15 and St Benildus got an early goal. The lads tried fighting back by scoring goals but the defence line was too strong so the coaches advised them to go for points.

st benildus weren't far ahead at half time with the score being 3,2 to 1,10.

The second half kicked off and PCS got back into the game scoring a few goals and many points.

PCS fought hard and held a lot of the possession but st benildus still had some great counter attacks

The game ended 6,8 to 5,16 to PCS

2nd year football
PCS vs St Benildus





-2ND YEAR BOYS GAA FOOTBALL MATCH-

PCS
VS
Colaiste Eoin

The match started at 2:10pm on Tuesday the 23rd of September with a quick point from Colaiste Colm but was quickly equalised with a point from PCS player - Harry Johnston - sporting proudly the number 8 jersey.

The score steadily climbed as both teams racked up points and goals with an incredible save by the goalie, Adam Grant, just before the half time mark.

By half time, the score was 4-6 to Colaiste Colm and 2-5 to PCS. Morale was high after an inspiring team talk given by Mr. Dunne. More notable points emerged, scored by Harry Johnston, but it just wasn't enough as Colaiste Colm just secured the victory after a long and tiresome match.

the Final score was 8-12 to Colaiste Colm and 2-11 to PCS.

The Man of the Match was number 8, Harry Johnson however it was a tough choice as the whole team fought their very hardest.



SENIOR BOYS GAA

Overall, the lads didn't play their best football as at times they were losing the ball cheaply, they weren't tracking their runners and there weren't enough big tackles made to make the interception in the defensive halves. There were glimpses of magic in certain parts of the game but overall wasn't enough to win the match. I also didn't think the lads



Score:

St. Marys 7-16

6-5 PCS

UI16 BOYS GAA



On the 9th of October, 2025, the under 16s boys gaa, coached by Mr Black, took the trip to Louth. Bright and early we made our journey to Ardee St. Mary's Gaelic football club. Kick off at 12, the team was ready and hopeful for the match ahead but unfortunately Ardee got a stronger start and kept it up.

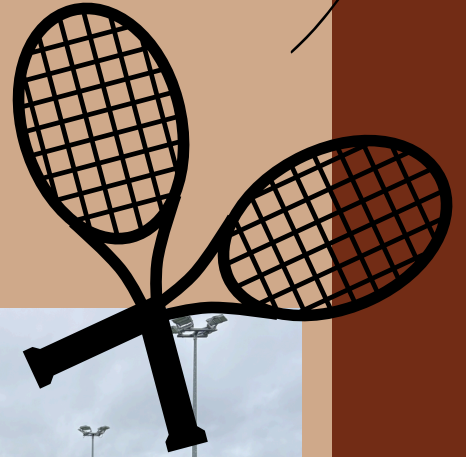
First point for PCS was scored by Eoghan Madden along with another point ending the first third of the match with a score of 2 goals and 7 points to Ardee and two points to PCS

the team went back determined to fight back, points going back and forth scored by Ryan Bolton and PCS players left us with a comeback in the second part of the match with a score of 1 goal 7 points to PCS and 3 points to Ardee. After the second part of the match the boys felt confident to go out and fight again but unfortunately so did Ardee and they came back with an amazing score of 2 goals and 5 points to Ardee to 1 point for PCS, leaving the final score for the match 1 goal and 10 points to PCS and 4 goals and 15 points to Ardee.

An unfortunate loss for PCS but a well done for not giving up!!



Tennis Day Out in Donabate

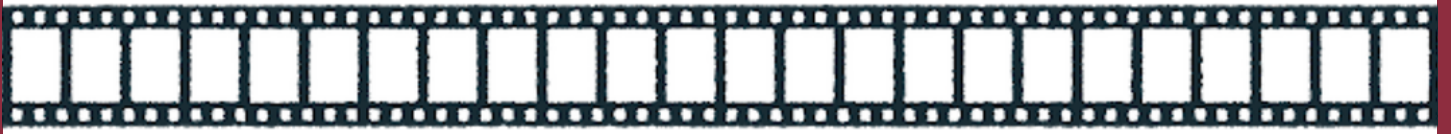


Students in PCS enjoyed a day out playing Donabate Community Collage in a series of friendly tennis matches. The day displayed great teamwork and skills between both schools

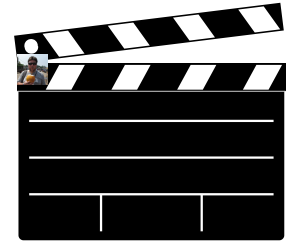
PHOTOS OF THE MONTH



MOVIE AND TV SHOW REVIEWS



DEXTER TV SERIES REVIEW:



Dexter is a popular Netflix show about a serial killer called Dexter Morgan who only hunts other serial killers. However, rising suspicion occurs when the police discover where Dexter hides his bodies and a race begins to uncover the true identity of the **BAY HARBOUR BUTCHER**.

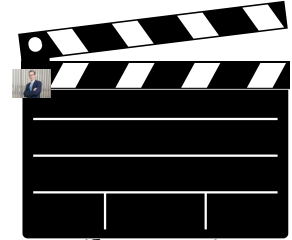
I would give Dexter an 8/10 for its' exciting story and deep characters. There is a constant upbringing of suspense as detectives bridge closer to discovering his real identity. The characters in the show are developed fantastically into the storyline, allowing you to grow attached to them as the story goes on.



MOVIE AND TV SHOW REVIEWS

Woe, This Series Was Good

Wednesday, one of the most anticipated shows on Netflix, dropped their second season finale on Wednesday, 3rd September.

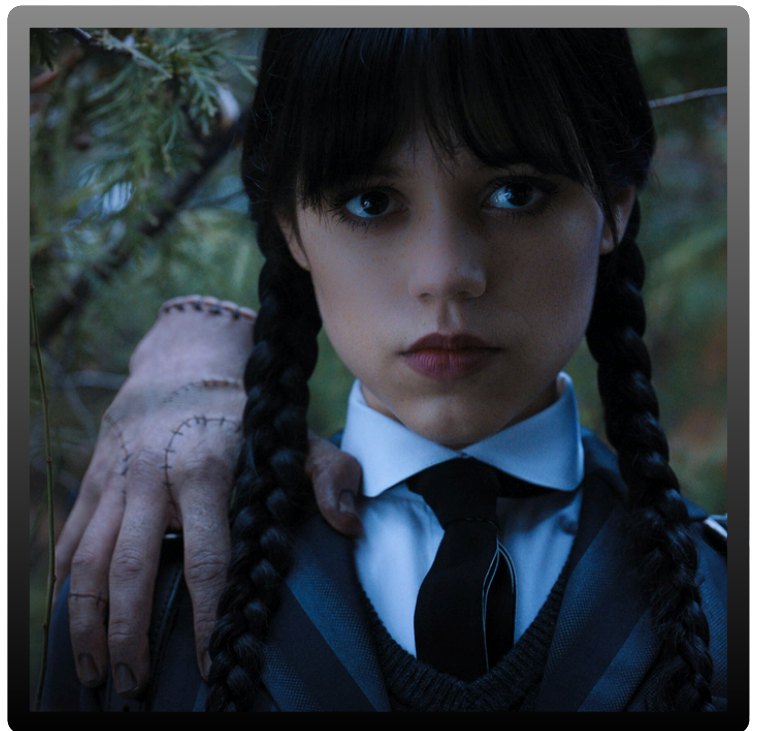


The show follows Wednesday, from the iconic Addams Family movies, who ventures to a new school, Nevermore, as an “outcast”, those who do not conform to usual “Normie ways”. Wednesday, who claims to be a black-hearted novelist who thrives on solitude, is challenged on her personal philosophy throughout the year- dodging best friends, hugs and most distasteful of all - a love triangle.



Wednesday seems sure she'll be able to transcend the restrictions put in place at Nevermore - longing to escape the system unsuited for her dark facade and aptitude for trouble. However, when a homicidal maniac turns up to terrorise the students of Nevermore, her fellow “friends”, she begins to feel like she's going to like this school after all.

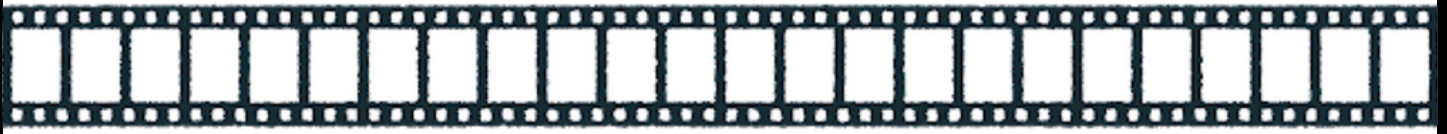
The perfect mix of mystery and mayhem - bound to capture the attention of all it's viewers. But will Wednesday be able to capture the truth - or will she die trying?



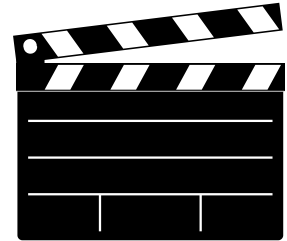
This spooky series receives a five-star rating from me. It is the perfect series for cold, Autumn nights - and those of us who enjoy suspenseful scenes with comedic undertones and high school settings. Woe, this series was good.



MOVIE AND TV SHOW REVIEWS



When connections fray, there will be a price to pay



Everything's connected, like a cobweb. This film is a cobwebbed thriller, based on bits and pieces of every classic cliché horror/ thriller film.

When Peter, an alienated schoolboy struggling with making friends, starts hearing a strange knocking behind the walls- he can't refuse investigating further. The walls seem to talk back - but what's answering?

This film is a grappling horror, perfectly capturing the character's entrapment and uniformed nature through it's gloomy atmosphere.

Check your walls - make sure nothing is living with your cobwebs, before it's too late - for your friend, sister, or monster trapped inside.

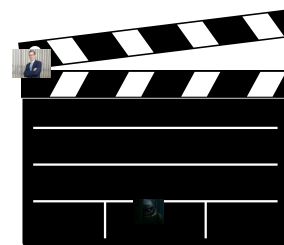
Everything's connected, stuck together on a cobweb, so you better trust who you decide to stick with, like Peter, or don't.

This film is bound to keep you guessing, but the question is - is it the right answer?



MOVIE AND TV SHOW REVIEWS

Looking for an excuse to eat cinema popcorn? Don't choose this movie. No popcorn will be eaten.



This captivating new horror film will have you wishing you never bought the popcorn. Weapons takes my first five-star horror film rating of the year. The film follows the story of a small town, narrated by a third grader, and how one night at 2:17AM, 17 children from a single classroom ran out of their homes and never came back.



Justine Gandy, bombarded by witch accusations and grieving parents, is the collateral left behind by the tragedy. She is the teacher of the classroom, dedicated to solving the mystery. The classroom isn't empty. All but one student have disappeared. His name is Alex.

Justine needs to get to him, needs the answers, longs for closure and for her street suffering to end, but Alex won't talk.

Will the police department give in to the parent's claims, or will they approach the mystery without following assumptions? What is going on inside of Alex's head - when do we get to see his perspective?

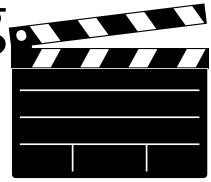
A film guaranteed to capture the audience's attention - for those who aren't afraid to explore the unknown. Will we ever figure out what happened to those kids? A perfect mix of suspense and unknowing. The use of dramatic irony elevates the film to this five-star rating.



MOVIE AND TV SHOW REVIEWS



Things just keep getting stranger...



20 minutes can make all the difference.....

Mike, Will, Dustin and Lucas spend their nights playing Dungeons & Dragons. On one particular night, when told to head home, they plead for 20 more minutes of the game, to no avail - until the game turns into their reality, and there's no escape.



Will Byers goes missing that fateful night, and another mystery appears - her name is Eleven. She wields great power, and the gang can't turn her down, drained and drenched in the middle of the night - washed of her humanity, in more ways than one.

The gang set out to find Will Byers; however, the search seems to be more close to home than thought... And it's not long before they realise what they're really dealing with—an otherworldly force—and the only person who can stop it is Eleven.

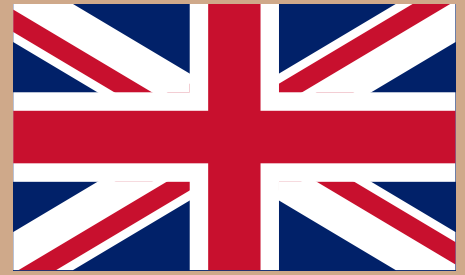
Will they put the fate of their friend in Eleven's hands? Can she be trusted? Or is this all part of her own game?

Where is Will Byers? Things just keep getting stranger....



MUSIC TRIP TO LONDON

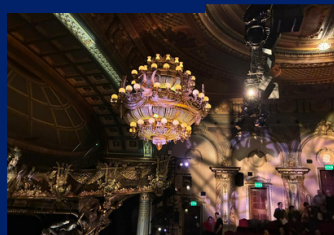
OCTOBER 2024



Tuesday-October 14th

On the 14th of October, the music students went to London for a three day trip. They met in Dublin airport at six am. The first landmark they visited was the royal college of music museum where they discovered old musical instruments artefacts and the Kurt Cobain unplugged exhibition.

Later that evening, they ate dinner in Pizza Express and made their way over to His Majestys Theatre to witness the breathtaking five star musical Andrew Lloyd Webbers Phantom of the Opera.



Wednesday-October 15th

Wednesday was spent visiting famous landmarks such as the crown jewels, the London bridge, the Globe Theatre, Big Ben and Buckingham palace. After a long day, the group made their way on a thirty minute journey to experience the hollogram show of the infamous pop group band- Abba Voyage. The students and teachers sang their hearts out to the well known loveable hits of Abba.



Thursday-October 16th

On Thursday we started our day by heading over to Tottenham Court road to do some shopping and have lunch. Afterwards we went onto the coach and explored The Natural History Museum with collections such as dinosaurs and volcanos as well as zoology botany and mineralogy. Later on we got back onto the coach and had a 2 hour drive through the city to get to the airport then we were ready to go! our flight took off at around 12:45am.

