



## Sports update Oct - Dec 2024

Welcome to our sports newsletter for the second term of 2024-25 in St.Fintan's. It has been another busy and exciting few months for our students and teachers across all sports. Below you will find some updates from our sporting endeavours so far this year. *Virtus in Arduis*.

### *Basketball*

Senior basketball lost out to a strong Belvedere college side in the league quarter finals and have concluded their season. The team were missing several players and can feel a little unlucky not to have progressed.

Our U16 team reached the plate semi-final and lost out in a tight battle against Moyle park college.

### *Rugby*

1st Year Rugby have had another positive term with notable victories over Temple Carrig Greystones, High School Rathgar and St. Andrew's College.

2nd Year Rugby continued their season with an excellent win over CUS while Junior Rugby are now preparing for the Fr. Godfrey Cup which begins in January.

Senior Rugby secured their place in the prestigious Leinster Schools Senior Cup for just the fifth time with a third place finish in their group in Senior Division 1A.



## Special Sporting achievements

**Joe Sheppard, Oscar Finnegan, Cillian Bredican, Conal Kenny** - all four students were part of the Clontarf Minor hurling squad who won the Dublin A championship for the first time in the club's history. Joe Sheppard captained the side.

**Dan Ring** - represented Ireland at U18 level in soccer against Japan, Croatia and Portugal recently. Named U17 LOI player of the year.

**Ms Kay Bannon** - recently honoured by the European athletics association for her outstanding contribution to coaching in athletics.

**Mr O'Dwyer** - one of the lead coaches with Na Fianna Senior hurling team who recently won Dublin and Leinster championships.

## Soccer

Senior soccer had an excellent win in the Leinster cup round of 32, beating Clongowes convincingly. Unfortunately, the team exited the league competition after a defeat to Malahide CS. We now face St. Kevin's College in the last 16 of the cup.

Our U17 soccer team look well placed to progress to the next stage of the Minor League. An excellent 1-0 over Swords CC was followed by a 2-2 draw with St. Kevin's College Finglas. We play our final group game against St Declan's Cabra. It is great to see a squad with students from 3rd year, TY & 5th year working so well together. They have shown a huge level of hard work and skill in the first section of games.

Our TY team are awaiting their round of 32 fixture against St Oliver's CC in Drogheda after an excellent 3-2 win away to Heywood Community School.

The U15 soccer team have had a terrific start to the year. The team finished top of their group at division 1 level. Their final game was a thrilling 5-5 draw with Beneavin. They will now look forward to the North Dublin finals in the New year.

Our First year team have gotten off to a great start with a superb win v Coláiste Choilm in their opening game.



## *Hurling*

Our Senior hurlers produced an excellent performance in the Leinster championship to beat Banagher College of Offaly by 4 points. This was the first time a North Dublin school has won at this level in over ten years. In the preliminary round, the team travelled to Kilkenny and lost out to a strong Johnstown CS team. They now face a tough quarter final v Dublin South Colleges.



Our Junior hurling team lost out to Johnstown CS of Kilkenny in their shield semi-final and their campaign has now concluded.

Our Second year hurlers played an enjoyable challenge game v St.Paul's, coming out on top in difficult conditions. Our First year hurlers enjoyed a terrific outing to Terenure where they took part in a blitz with several other schools.

## *Gaelic football*

Senior football played their last group match in the Leinster A championship against Scoil Íosa of Malahide where they turned a 7 point deficit around at half time to win by a point, which resulted in qualification from the group. The team went on to play Mullingar CS in the preliminary quarter final, losing out on the day but showing great character and determination to make the game competitive.



Our U16 team have started their campaign and despite performing very well, have had two narrow losses to Coláiste Eoin and Ard Scoil Rís. They now move on to face Benildus and Terenure in the coming weeks.

## Frisbee

This term has seen a number of the school's frisbee teams get onto the court for some competitive matches. 40 Junior students and 32 Senior students played tournaments at the National Sports Campus in Abbotstown in November.

All teams showed great skill and teamwork which will stand them in good stead for the Dublin Cups taking place in the New Year.

## Badminton

The U19 badminton team competed very well this year but unfortunately didn't progress out of their group. The U16 badminton team have won their first three games in Dublin and are set to qualify for the Leinster knock out stages. U14 badminton will start in the New Year.

## Athletics

On the 6th of November, St.Fintan's won the minor Cross Country event at the Raheny Shamrock Invitational in St.Annes Park. Danny Davis won Gold with Callum Scanlon claiming silver in the 1km race. Other notable finishers included Cillian Morton who finished 7th, Danny McCabe who finished 10th and Josh Dewilde who finished 12th out of 160 participants. A phenomenal result from a constantly improving Minor squad. Special congratulations to Ms Kay Bannon who has recently been honoured by European athletics for her coaching contributions. Kay is picture below accepting her award with former students and top athletes, Mark Smyth and Tinaye Mukanya.



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Thank you to all of our students, teachers, staff and parents who give so much to sports in St.Fintan's. We would like to wish all of you a happy and healthy Christmas and look forward to a successful 2025.

