

# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter A White Ribbon School



November 2025

www.bpps.ie

Bush PP was delighted to welcome Dr. Kenny Doyle of the Men's Development Network and White Ribbon Ireland on Wednesday, 26th November, as part of our ongoing commitment to promoting equality, respect, and student wellbeing. Dr. Kenny delivered engaging and thought-provoking talks to 5 Riverstown and 6 Riverstown as part of their Social Education module and in recognition of the global 16 Days of Activism campaign.

Throughout his visit, Dr. Kenny spoke to students about the importance of building a safer and more equal future for all. He encouraged students to reflect on the impact of their words and actions and to take an active role in challenging negative or harmful behaviours when they arise. His message was clear: speaking up against gender-based violence is essential, and everyone has a part to play in creating a culture of respect.

Bush PP is proud to be a White Ribbon School, and our staff are deeply committed to supporting the White Ribbon campaign's mission to eliminate gender-based violence. To date, over twenty staff members have undertaken training with White Ribbon Ireland, strengthening our capacity to respond, support, and educate within our school community.

We are particularly grateful to Dr. Kenny for taking the time to visit us during what was an exceptionally busy week for him and his colleagues. Alongside their visit to Bush PP, they also delivered talks in UCD, MTU, and DkIT, among other locations, as part of their nationwide advocacy and education efforts.

We sincerely appreciate his contribution and look forward to continuing our work with the Men's Development Network and White Ribbon Ireland in the future.

**White Ribbon Campaign Ireland**

Starting the conversation young! Today, as part of the 16 Days of Activism, we're at Bushpost Primary School (11:00 AM - 12:00 PM) for a vital talk against gender-based violence. Educating the next generation is key to building a safer, more equal future. #EducationIsKey #BushpostPrimary #16DaysOfActivism #WhiteRibbon

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (25th Nov - 10th Dec)

**EVENT OF THE DAY**  
TALK AT BUSHPOST PRIMARY SCHOOL

**26TH NOV**  
11:00-12:00PM  
TALK AT BUSHPOST PRIMARY SCHOOL AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE  
Bushpost Primary School

White Ribbon Ireland  
www.mensnetwork.ie



## Designated Liaison Person Principal - Kevin Joyce

The Designated Liaison Person is someone who has vast knowledge and experience of working with child protection protocols and regularly keeps up to date with the necessary training for this important role.

## Deputy Designated Liaison Person Deputy Principal - Rosanna Hart

The Deputy Designated Liaison Person should be available to take over the role of Designated Liaison Person in their absence.

All staff took part in a Child Protection training day on November 25th. The information and training was very important, and staff participation was excellent.



## Music Department

The Music Department were delighted to welcome DKIT tutor, Sarah McCourt and our past pupil, Seara Lennon, to speak to our Senior Music students on Tuesday, November 18th. The talk centered on the huge variety of music courses available to study at DKIT and the career opportunities available. Seara spoke of how she was inspired to study Music in DKIT following her leading lady performance in our school musical, Hairspray, in 2020. A new Music Theatre performance course will start in September 2026. This course has recently been approved by the Teaching Council which would allow students to study Music Theatre and then continue to a teaching career afterwards. Students were very impressed with the talk and had plenty of questions about college life.

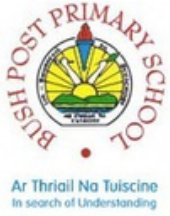


Congratulations to 6R on their amazingly successful bake sale – they raised €920 for Women's Aid. Thank you to all staff and students for their contribution.



**'Has your son/daughter achieved something outside school? We would love to celebrate it!'**

We would love to know about any achievements and hobbies outside school! Send us a photo (bushpp@lmetb.ie) and let us know about your son/daughter's interests and achievements and we can publish in our monthly newsletter and social media!



November 2025

# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Numeracy Initiative



www.bpps.ie

Winners for the Numeracy initiative which ran from September to Mid-term as a starter activity in all 1st and 2nd year wellbeing classes. The winners have received a Homework pass which is valid for one time use in a subject of their choice until 19th December.

**2nd Year: Cillian Lynch, Sarah O'Rourke, Riain White, Lucy Kelly, Charlie Mulligan – 2 Tain Erin O'Doherty, Farah Flynn, Daisy Caldwell - 2 Wilville  
John Maguire – 2 Oriel  
Aaron Conor – 2 Donard**

**1st year: Faye Mc Anerney, Mark McCormick and Conor Mc Morland - 1Tain**



Many thanks to the Wellbeing teachers for forwarding on their results. The Initiative will begin again this week and run again for term 2 with a prize awarded for the weekly winners at the end of the term.

# Transition Year News

## GAA Museum in Croke Park

November 2025

[www.bpps.ie](http://www.bpps.ie)

The TY students enjoyed a visit to the GAA Museum in Croke Park where they got to tour the stadium, learned about the importance of the GAA as a cultural & historic organisation and try out their skills! Some of the students even got their hands on the Sam Maguire! With thanks to Ms Lynch, Ms McGlone, Mr Malone, Ms P Hughes and Mr Canavan for accompanying the students.



# Transition Year News

## W5 STEM Visit

November 2025

www.bpps.ie

### Bush TY Students Attend STEM & SDG Innovation Day at SSE Arena

TY students from Bush Post Primary School took part in a STEM Innovation Day at the SSE Arena, Belfast, where the focus was on using technology to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Students explored how embedded systems, coding, and digital problem-solving can help tackle global issues such as hunger, clean water, health, and sustainability. Using BBC micro:bits, teams designed rapid prototypes aimed at supporting communities in real-world scenarios.

#### Winning Project – Aid Communication Box

The Bush winning team created a portable, animal-themed communication box designed for children at UN food and water distribution sites. Their programmed micro:bit system allowed a child to signal:

- Food needed
- Water needed
- Both urgently needed

The idea was praised for being simple, durable, child-friendly, and directly connected to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health & Well-Being) and SDG 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation).

#### A Valuable Learning Experience

Throughout the day, students engaged with hands-on exhibits, coding challenges, and talks from STEM mentors, gaining insight into how digital skills can create meaningful global impact. Bush Post Primary School looks forward to developing more SDG-focused innovation activities in TY Computer Science.



# Transition Year News

## Autumn Brunch

November 2025

[www.bpps.ie](http://www.bpps.ie)

The TY students created valuable community links by hosting an Autumn Brunch in the Home Economics room on Friday, November 7th with three residents from Carlingford Nursing Home. The students prepared baked goods, played some music on the bagpipes and guitar, played bingo and card games and had some lovely chats with the residents Una, Mary and Agnes.

The three ladies expressed huge interest in returning to Bush Post Primary for further events.



# Transition Year News

November 2025

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## TY Irish Cultural Studies:

A group of our Transition Year students recently applied to take part in a new TG4 TV quiz show and were successfully selected for a casting call. The casting took place last week, and the students performed very well as Gaeilge. They are now awaiting the outcome from the production team.

Hopefully we will see them on our TV screens soon! Well done to the TY group for their enthusiasm and initiative!



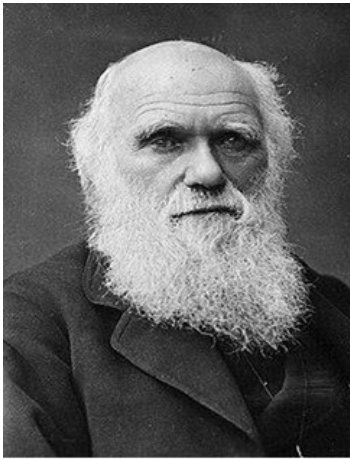
## SEPI Finalists and Semi Finalists

Congratulations to TY students Ava Murphy, Roísín Brady, Ava Murphy, Eimear Mortimer Finnegan and Lara Du Plessis who competed in the SEPI semi-final in Queen's University on 25th November. Special mention to Lara and Eimear who qualified for the final which will take place in January in Armagh!

Congratulations to the TY students on completing their first week of work experience! This is a significant achievement, and the school is proud of their hard work and the positive feedback from employers. The work experience provides valuable skills and experience that will be beneficial in the career path of our students and may even lead to job opportunities. A huge thank you to all the local businesses that hosted our students.



During Science Week students took part in a riddle per day and a 'guess the scientist' competition.



*Who is this scientist?*

*He developed the theory of evolution by natural selection.*



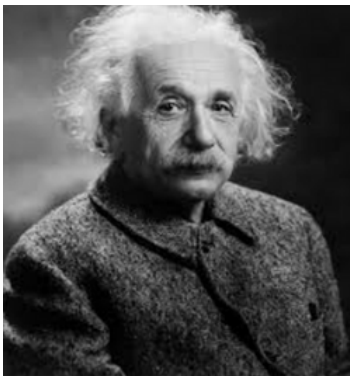
*Who is this scientist?*

*Primatologist; known for her studies of chimpanzee behavior*



*Who is this scientist?*

*Physicist, mathematician and formulated the laws of motion*



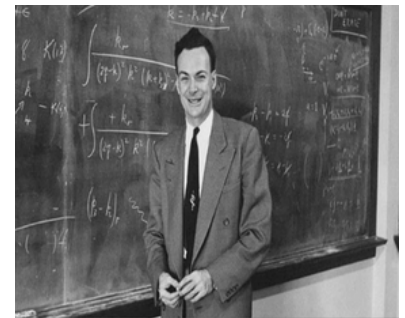
*Who is this scientist?*

*He was a theoretical physicist who*



*Who is this scientist?*

*Astronomer and physicist who made*



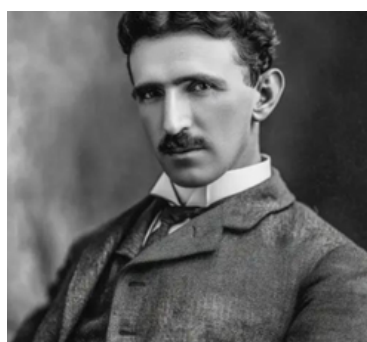
*Who is this Scientist?*

*He was an American theoretical physicist. He is best known for his work in the path integral*



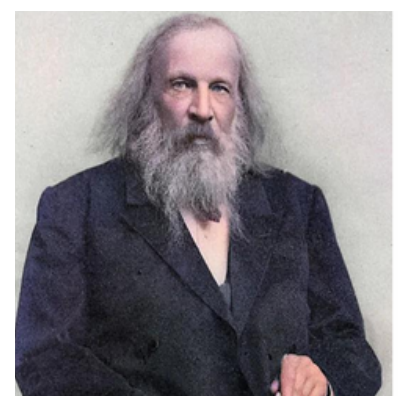
*Who is this Scientist?*

*He was an Austrian biologist, meteorologist and a mathematician.*



*Who is this Scientist?*

*He is known for his contributions to the design of the modern alternating current (AC) electricity supply system.*



*Who is this Scientist?*

## Senior Librarians



Congratulations to our new Senior Librarians who will be available on Wednesdays and Thursdays to check books in and out of our school library to Senior students during the senior lunchtime. Minatoolah Lennon, Susie Mackin, Saoirse Byrne, Beth Kelly, Chen – Xi Lin, Daisy Mc Crea Matthews, Danijela Pilipouic.

## Junior Librarians



Congratulations to our new Junior Librarians who will be available on Wednesdays and Thursdays to check books in and out of our school library to Junior students during the Junior lunchtime. Isabella Finnegan, Teghan Moran, Autumn Norris, Hayley Hoey, Grace Davies, Eliza Mc Entee, Ellie Behan, Alisa Volvova, Ellie Mae Woods, Alannah Mc Geown.

A huge thanks to Louth County librarians Sarah Mc Allister and Orla Muckian who recently visited Bush. They gave valuable insights and advice for setting up a school library. They have also loaned a core collection of books from Dundalk library to Bush Post Primary School library.



## Library Trip for First Year students

Thanks to Dundalk library for welcoming First year students last Wednesday. Students were given a guided tour of the library and its facilities. The library provided all students with a membership card allowing them to access all library facilities. A huge thanks to Ms. Slowey, Erin Redpath and Lily Rebindaine for organising a wonderful and extremely educational trip.



## Transition Year Key Dates 2025/2026



- December 8th - Enterprise Trade Show (Business students)
  - December 2nd - 5th - Christmas Exams
  - January 9th - Sports Campus Ireland Trip
  - January 20th - National Art Gallery & Cultural studies trip to Dublin
  - February 3rd - Dublin Zoo Trip
  - February 9th - 13th Work Experience week 2
  - February 26th - Parent Teacher Meeting
  - March - Queens University Trip
  - March 5th - Grand Opera Theatre, Belfast - To Kill a Mockingbird
  - April 20th - 24th Work Experience week 3
  - Kavanagh Centre Monaghan visit
  - May
  - Summer Exams
- \*\*\*\*\*Exact dates to be confirmed for some trips.

### Important Dates coming up.....

- 1st December - Discretionary day (School Closed)
- 2nd - 5<sup>th</sup> December - 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, TY, 5<sup>th</sup> Year Assessments.
- 10th December - Staff Meeting
- 11th December - Amazing Brains Study Skills for 3rd and 6th years
- 11th December - TY Community event with Carlingford Nursing Home (Ms Donnelly and Ms Hand)

**After school study  
continues  
- every Monday,  
Tuesday  
& Wednesday.  
Snack provided!  
15.50 - 17.45.**

# Bush Post Primary Green School's at the Biodiversity Conference

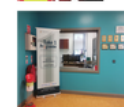
We are so proud of our students who represented our school brilliantly at the Interschools Green Schools' Conference on Tuesday, 11th November, in Trim Castle Hotel! Along with, Green Schools' Sustainability Coordinator Deborah McMahon, they had a fantastic day of learning.

Our stand showcased cross-curricular projects, data from the student survey, links with the local community, and photos of recent environmental initiatives. The conference was also a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn about best practice in sustainability from other schools and to be inspired by the achievements of their peers.

Students heard from local entrepreneurs Ann Butterly and Neil Skeffington, who shared their insights into innovation, sustainability, and the circular economy. After Neil's talk, our students impressed everyone with their confidence and curiosity, asking thoughtful and engaging questions.

They were treated to a wonderful day — complete with LMETB goodie bags, delicious food, and a warm welcome from the organisers — all very well deserved.

A huge thank-you to Fiona Clinton and all at LMETB for organising such a fantastic and inspiring event.



**We have a battery bin at Bush PP and will recycle your batteries to help our environment and raise funds for Barretstown. Please drop batteries with Ms. McMahon or into our bin at the school office.**

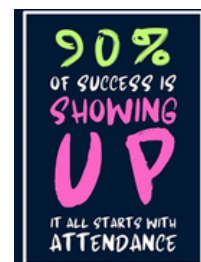




Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach a busy and exciting December, I would like to share some important updates:

## December Attendance Campaign



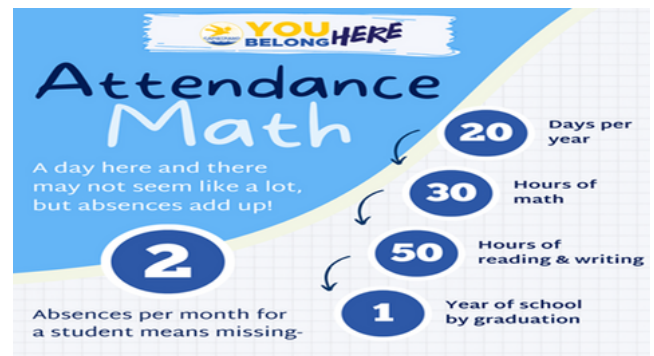
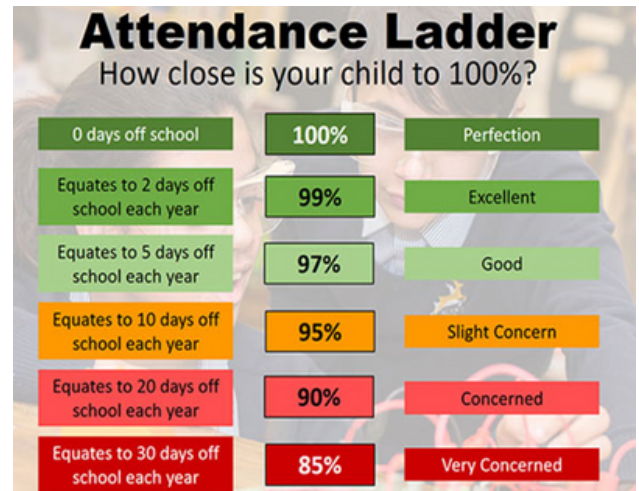
This December, we will be launching a special Attendance Campaign. Students will have the exciting opportunity to design their own attendance promotional campaign, showcasing their creativity and teamwork. Prize winners will be rewarded with a free, mystery school trip. Details on the competition and trip will be sent to students and parents. In addition, students with the best improved attendance this December will be entered for a prize draw.

We are aiming for full attendance until Friday 19th December, it is especially important, even though it is a shorter and often busier month. Research consistently shows that missing just 2–3 days in a month can reduce a student's overall progress, and students who attend 95% or more of the time achieve the highest outcomes. National figures also highlight that students with excellent attendance (97%+) are far more likely to meet their learning goals, while those who drop below 90% (equivalent to just 1 day missed every two weeks) are at risk of falling significantly behind. December is a key period for concluding projects, preparing for new learning in January, and keeping routines steady. By aiming for full attendance this month, students maintain momentum, stay connected with their peers, and ensure they are ready for a positive start to the new year. Together, let's make this year's attendance their best so far!

Update: Our Parents' Association AGM will take place on Wednesday 3rd December at 2pm, and we warmly invite all new parents and guardians to attend.

Warm regards,

Ciara Harkin  
Home School Community Liaison Teacher



## Parent Teacher Meetings

A fantastic turn out for our recent third and sixth year Parent Teacher Meetings. Thank you to our staff, parents/guardians, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year students and student volunteers on the night. Your support, collaboration, and commitment make all the difference as we guide our students through this important final year!

We truly value your insights, questions, and encouragement, and we look forward to continuing this journey with you throughout the year.



# Bush Post Primary School College Awareness Week

November 2025

www.bpps.ie

Bush Post Primary Transition Year students recently took part in Think Languages, a national initiative that promotes foreign language learning. The event, hosted at Maynooth University, featured exciting activities including campus tours, interactive cultural workshops, and French, German and Spanish taster sessions. Students also met lecturers and university students, and enjoyed a fun scavenger hunt around the campus, where they even met Seamus, the famous Maynooth University cat. Well done to BPP MFL teachers and especially Ms. Woods for accompanying the students on the day.

#ThinkLanguages #CAW2025



It was another packed house as Kay Mitchell from NUI Maynooth spoke to our 6th Year students on 13th November 2025. Kay gave an insightful talk about university life, the transition from school to college, and the importance of gaining a professional qualification.

Students were fully engaged throughout and were commended by Kay for their attentiveness and excellent questions

Don't forget — NUI Maynooth Open Days take place on November 28th & 29th!



# CAO

It's a busy time for our Sixth Year students! They've just wrapped up their November assessments and are now focused on their CAO applications. Best of luck to everyone planning their next steps — and well done to those who have already started their applications!



On Friday November 21<sup>st</sup>, we had a number of past students visit and speak with current 6th years on their College journey for College Awareness Week. It was a wonderful event with lots of advice given from Eoghan Hughes (DCU), Jess Moran (Queens) and Sean Thornton (Trinity) on a range of topics from study advice to filling out the UCAS and CAO forms and what to expect in first year. They spoke about budgeting, societies, extra supports, making friends and what to expect starting off. Thanks for your time and invaluable advice.



On 20th November, all Transition Year students and 5 Riverstown students attended the DkIT Open Morning. The event welcomed 21 schools, with approximately 1,600 people visiting over the course of the three-hour showcase.

It was an exciting day on campus, as news had just broken regarding DkIT's upcoming amalgamation with Queen's University Belfast (QUB). Students attended informative talks, explored the campus, and had the opportunity to speak with faculty members and current students.

The aim of the event was to give visitors the chance to gather useful information from staff and students in the Exhibition Centre before heading out to explore specific areas of interest across the college. As it was a normal working day in DkIT, classes were ongoing, giving students an authentic insight into college life.

A big thank you to everyone in DkIT for their warm welcome and generous hospitality.

#caw2025



# Bush Post Primary School College Awareness Week DCU, Trinity & Maynooth Open Days

November 2025

[www.bpps.ie](http://www.bpps.ie)

Sixth-year students attended the DCU Open Day on Friday, 14th December. Throughout the day, they explored a wide range of talks, presentations, and information stands showcasing the courses and opportunities available at DCU. The event proved highly informative, and students returned with a clearer understanding of the pathways open to them as they prepare for life after secondary school.



It was wonderful to see students from various year groups investing time in their future careers as they attended the Trinity College Open Day on Saturday, 29th November. Students received a warm welcome on campus and had the opportunity to explore a wide range of talks, demonstrations, and course information. The day offered valuable insights into life at Trinity and helped students further clarify their future study and career paths.

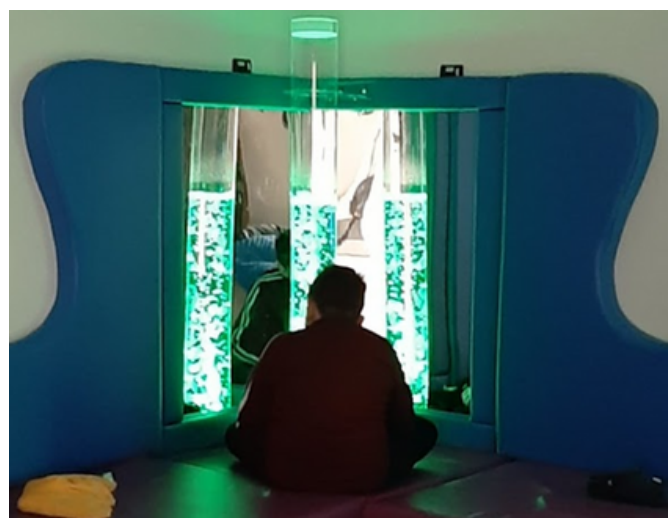


Fifth-year students attended the NUI Open Day on Friday, 28th November. The timing of the event felt serendipitous, offering the perfect motivation for students to begin planning their future careers and consider the CAO points they may need as they head into their winter exams.

It was an early start, and the Guidance Department would like to extend a warm thank you to the teachers who accompanied the group on the day. The event also provided a lovely opportunity to reconnect with past pupils and even family members studying at NUI. One student was fortunate enough to meet a relative who brought them inside the historic Russell Library, designed by renowned British architect Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin and completed in 1861.

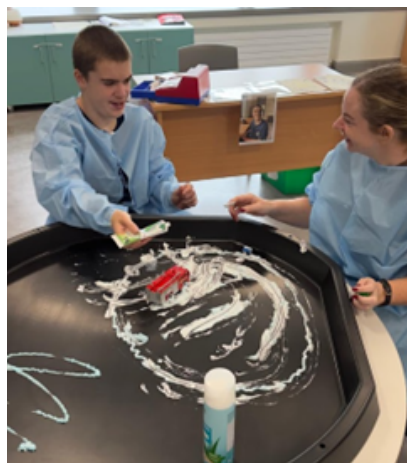
With a wide variety of stands and informative talks, we have no doubt that the students who attended gained valuable insights to support their future academic and career planning.

Hub 1 recently put their numeracy skills into action by making delicious sausage rolls in class. Students practised measuring ingredients, dividing pastry into equal sections, and following step-by-step instructions to create their own tasty treats. This hands-on activity was a wonderful way to support practical maths skills while also building confidence and independence in the kitchen. The sausage rolls were a big hit, and the students were very proud of their culinary creations!



We are delighted to announce that our new sensory room is now up and running. This calm, inviting space has quickly become a favourite spot for students to unwind, self-regulate, and take a break when needed. With soft lighting, tactile resources, and soothing sensory equipment, the room provides a supportive environment that helps our students feel safe, relaxed, and ready to learn. It is already making a wonderful difference to the school day for many of our young people.

In Hub 1, we've been enjoying lots of hands-on sensory experiences in our classroom. From messy play to tactile exploration, students have been eagerly engaging with a variety of activities that support regulation, creativity, and learning. While these sessions often lead to plenty of tidying up afterwards, the smiles, curiosity, and meaningful engagement make it all worthwhile!



## *MMA Champion*

Aaron Long (6.Riverstown) won his MMA fight in Liverpool last weekend.

Aaron trains three evenings a week in SBG Gym in Drogheda and is a yellow belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and fights at 61kg intermediate level.

Well done Aaron.



## **Senior Girls Into the Leinster Quarter finals!**

It was a tense match on Thursday 13th November as our senior girls took on St Louis Dundalk, and after a defensive battle from both sides, bush came out on top with a 5 point win scoring right till the end!

The Louis started off strong making quick runs up the middle leading Bush trailing behind... But the Bush girls were resilient and fought back scoring off their left and right boots. Just before half-time the Louis managed to sneak a few goals, but the girls kept their heads up scoring a point before the half-time whistle blew.

Losing by 5 points at half time Miss Page and Miss Burns gave the girls the talk they needed. The second whistle blew and the fresh legs off the bench made a great impact to Bush's second half. Our backs had an effortful battle against the Louis forwards trying to win the ball over every time. Our midfielders tracking up and down the pitch controlling the flow of the game and brilliant counterattacks from our forwards brought Bush over the line. Winning 24 to 19. They have now progressed to the Leinster Quarter Final. Big congratulations girls we are so proud.



New Athletics/Cross country club every Friday after school, with the view of attending events and representing the school.

All students are welcome to attend.

Ms. Connolly.

## Bush U18 GAA

Our U19 Lennon Cup Boys football team played Ardee in the Semi Final last Wednesday. In an extremely close match, Ardee got off to a good start going 8 points ahead. However, by half time Bush had reduced the arrears to 4 points. 10 minutes into the second half, Ardee had a player sent off for a second yellow card and Bush went a point ahead, also hitting the cross bar twice. In the final few minutes Ardee scored a fortunate goal and held on to win by 4 points. Well done but hard luck to our boys who put in an excellent performance, led by man of the match Jack Long in midfield. We now move on to the Leinster Cup.



Huge congratulations to our fantastic Junior & Senior girls rugby teams who are both North Leinster champions again this year. Their blitz took place on the 25th of November.