



# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter



May 2026

www.bpps.ie

Enjoy our final newsletter of the academic year! Lots of exciting clubs, sports and activities happening daily, alongside our teaching & learning. Sporting achievements, end of year reward trips, award assemblies, in school workshops, visits out, visits in, competition success, graduation ceremony, Wellbeing week, study hub, sports day, and state examination preparation, it has been a busy month!

## AMTCE Winners 2026



## Incoming First Year Information Evening



## Sponsored Walk



## Sports Day





# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

May 2026

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## End-of-Year Message from the Principal and Deputy Principals Bush Post Primary School

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding school year at Bush Post Primary, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all members of our school community for their continued support, commitment, and partnership. This year has been marked by hard work, growth, and many moments of pride, and it has been a privilege to witness the progress of our students both inside and outside the classroom.

We commend our students for the determination, resilience, and positivity they have shown throughout the year. Academically our students have achieved outstanding results across all year groups. Our whole school attendance has continued to improve this year thanks to the positive school environment created by our staff and students and the support from parents/guardians. Our sports teams and extra-curricular clubs had a very successful year, with many of our teams competing in many finals and in some cases becoming champions and winning individual and team awards. Each student that represented our school should be very proud and we too are proud of you, your efforts and commitment to representing Bush Post Primary. Your achievements – both big and small – reflect the vibrant spirit of our community.

We also wish to acknowledge the dedication of our teaching and support staff, whose professionalism and care underpin everything we do. Their commitment to high-quality teaching and learning, wellbeing, innovation and inclusion ensures that every student is supported to reach their potential. We are deeply grateful for their ongoing efforts. To our parents and guardians, thank you for your trust, encouragement, and engagement. Your partnership is central to the success of our school, and we value the strong relationships that continue to grow between home and school.

As our 6th Year students prepare to sit their State Examinations and take their next steps, we offer them our warmest good wishes. They leave us as confident, capable young adults and we are immensely proud of all they have achieved. We extend our best wishes to our 3rd Year students as they too prepare to sit their State Examinations. We also look forward to welcoming our new First Years in August as they begin their post-primary journey with us.

We wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in August for another exciting chapter in the life of Bush Post Primary.

Kind regards,  
Kevin Joyce, Principal  
Rosanna Hart, Deputy Principal  
James Mc Coy, Deputy Principal  
Richard Melaniphy, Deputy Principal

## Celebrating Creativity: Student Journal 2026–2027 Front Cover Design Competition

Congratulations to Ellie Behan, who has been named the winner of the Student Journal 2026–2027 Front Cover Design Competition!

The competition saw a wide range of creative and high-quality entries, making the task of selecting a winner particularly challenging. The judging panel, made up of members of the Student Council, carefully reviewed each submission and ultimately awarded Ellie a unanimous victory — a clear reflection of the outstanding creativity, originality, and visual impact of her design.

A sincere thank you to all students who entered the competition, including our talented finalists Daragh Clarke, Molly Kelly, Maxxie Conroy, Aodhán Sweeney, and Aaron Finnegan, whose work was of an exceptionally high standard.

In addition to judging the competition, the Student Council played a key role in shaping next year's journal. They worked collaboratively to refresh the inner content and contributed to updating the back pages, including the addition of more Irish language, helping to promote Gaeilge within the school community.

Ellie's winning design will proudly feature as the front cover of next year's student journal and will be seen by students throughout the school year.

Well done to Ellie on this fantastic achievement, and sincere thanks to the Student Council for their dedication and valuable contribution to the development of next year's journal.





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# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Stephen Guerin Retires

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Stephen Guerin joined Bush Post Primary School in September 1999. He was employed as a teacher of woodwork, construction studies and DCG. He has guided approximately 30 Senior groups through Leaving Certificate and close to 70 groups through Junior Certificate. He also taught on the JCSP, T.Y. and LCA programmes. During this time he helped students produce thousands of projects from bedside lockers, acoustic guitars, horse and cart, drum sets, to name but a few.

He co-ordinated the first JCSP programme in the school which was introduced by Martin O' Brien in 2001. The students were in one class and studied Irish, English, Maths, Home Economics, Art, Woodwork and Tech Graphics. The programme at that time allowed students to engage in various pursuits. Trips included a swimming programme, visiting the courthouse, hiking, kayaking and visits to the cinema. This group of students also availed of the first ever homework club set up in Bush Post Primary school by Stephen and Ciaran Mc Gooley.

He installed the wiring for the first networked computer system in the school. It is still in use today. He also ran the computer network for several years.

He did lighting, sound and sets for many of the fashion shows, concerts, musicals and Christmas carol services.

He organised a trip to Germany for fifth years where they visited Hamburg.

Stephen procured sponsorship for the school from various associations such as DKIT Sports, Anchor Tours, Bank of Ireland, Carlingford Knights, Leinster Rugby and the multi - national SAP.

Stephen was a member of the Board of Management for five years.

He was a TUI representative for over ten years.

He helped to establish the first workplace committee.

He coached boys Gaelic football, soccer and many rugby teams. Rugby was his first love in sport. Rugby has grown from a minority sport in Bush to becoming very popular today. Stephen would be the first to admit that this was not a solo effort having worked alongside Peter Grealis, Pat Hanna, Antoinette Campbell and Lisa Mulholland to promote rugby in the school. Both the boys and girls teams have progressed to Leinster finals. Several of the rugby players have won Future Stars Awards. Rugby continues to thrive in Bush Post Primary School and in the Carlingford Knights club where Stephen continues to coach.

Stephen would like to thank the students, parents, his colleagues and the management of Bush Post Primary School and LMETB for their support over his career.

# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Hub News

May 2026

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This year in the Hub has been full of fun, learning, laughter, and so many great memories. We enjoyed a wide range of activities together, built friendships, celebrated achievements big and small, and created a positive and supportive environment for everyone. From classroom activities to sensory play, art, music, and teamwork, every day brought something special. The year was topped off perfectly with a brilliant visit to Emerald Park, followed by a lovely picnic in the school track area, where everyone had the chance to relax, have fun, and celebrate an amazing year together.





May 2026

# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Graduation Ceremony



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

On Thursday 21st May we gathered in the school gym to celebrate the Leaving Certificate and LCA class of 2026. The Graduation ceremony is a culmination of months of planning and its a wonderful opportunity for the students to get involved and make the night truly memorable. The talent on display on the night was quite remarkable from the opening address given by Stella Dearey to the reading of the John O'Donohue poem 'For a New Beginning' by David McMahon. The music on the night added so much to the atmosphere in the gym and helped to create a celebratory feel. The gym was beautifully decorated and all credit goes to the 6th year students who worked tirelessly over the previous few weeks designing and painting at lunchtimes and afterschool.

Mr Malone and Mrs Gartland spoke eloquently about their respective year groups and many memories were shared and reminisced. Mr Joyce spoke on behalf of school management and wished the Class of 2026 every success, not just over the next few weeks but in whatever path lies ahead. He reminded all the students that the doors of Bush will always be open to them. He presented a glass paperweight to all the graduating class engraved with the school crest, a memento we hope they will cherish for years to come.

Our night culminated in an inspiring speech given by our Head Girl Sophie Rose Cauldwell and our Head Boy JP McKeown.

We look forward to watching closely what the next chapter holds for our 130 graduating students. Congratulations!





Ar Thriail Na Tuiscine  
In search of Understanding

May 2026

# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

## First Year Reward trip to Emerald Park

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





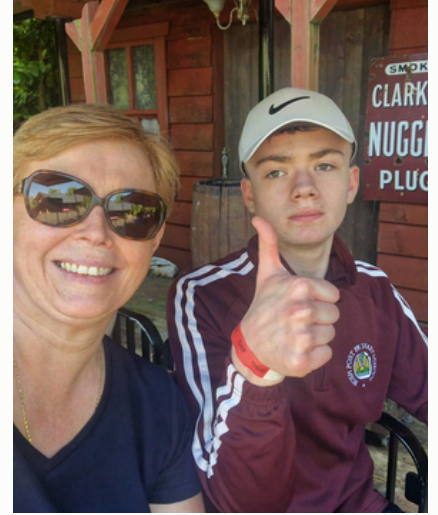
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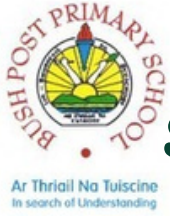
# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

## First Year Reward trip to Emerald Park

May 2026

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# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

## Second Year Reward trip to Emerald Park

May 2026

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# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter

## TY Reward trip to Cavan Adventure Centre

May 2026

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

The TY group were lucky to enjoy glorious sunshine during their trip to Cavan Adventure Centre — the perfect way to finish an unforgettable year full of fun, friendship, and great memories.



# Transition Year News

## Engineering Winners

May 2026

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### TY Engineering

We were delighted to receive 2nd place and another special award for innovation and excellence in the overall competition at the AMTCE finals in DEFI on Thursday. Our TY Engineering students made a wonderful impression on the judges and brought home the trophies for Bush! Well done to both our teams, 'Popit' & 'Lamb savers' who represented our school with distinction.

A proud achievement for all involved .



# Transition Year News Grandparents Day

May 2026

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

Grandparent's day was a great success. Well done to all involved. A wonderful day for our school community.



# Transition Year News Awards Ceremony



May 2026

Congratulations to the TY Class of 2026, who celebrated their award ceremony on Tuesday, May 26th. The ceremony was a wonderful opportunity to recognise and celebrate the many successes the students achieved both inside and outside the classroom.

Students received awards for attendance, excellent attitude to learning, and good citizenship. They were also presented with their TY certificates in recognition of the fantastic work they put into their portfolios throughout the year. A number of TY students spoke at the ceremony, reflecting on and recapping the memorable year they shared together. The TY students will conclude their successful year with a trip to the Cavan Adventure Centre.



# KTF Site visit for BPPS TY Construction Students

May 2026

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

On Wednesday 6th May, 40 Transition Year Construction studies students attended Keenan Timber Frame site in Dundalk.

We were treated to a fascinating afternoon, where we gained full access to the entire factory and got a look behind the scenes at how this company manufactures timber framed houses and buildings all over Ireland and beyond.

Our students learned so much and also had great question and answers session with the owners of the business! It was a very informative and inspirational day and we bumped into some familiar faces along the way. A massive thank you to KTF for having us and well done to all our students for representing BPPS with distinction.



## Careers in Revenue

A huge thanks to Anthony from Revenue & Customs dog unit, who visited the school with customs dog, Billy, to speak to TY students about careers in Revenue. As part of his work in Dublin airport, Billy demonstrated his ability to identify large amounts of cash, which may be the proceeds of crime. Students were fascinated at how accurate Billy was on every occasion and he even sniffed out cash that we hid on students! Billy also visited students in the Hub, and the boys really enjoyed meeting the dog and elarning about the important work he does.



## TY History

Throughout the last term, Ms Lynch's TY history class were studying local history & culture. As part of their study, they invited in our schoolk caretaker, Gerry McEaney, who spoke to the class about his first hand experience of Foot & Mouth Disease and how it impacted the peninsula, economically, socially and culturally. The students interviewed Gerry and compiled reports on agricultural & working life in Cooley. Many thanks to Gerry for his valuable input into our local history classes, it was very much appreciated.



# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Agricultural Science Trip

May 2026

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As part of their Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science course, the 5th Year class visited Meadow Bell Farm in Termonfeckin for an insightful and engaging field trip. One of the highlights of the visit was observing the farm's impressive rotary milking parlour, where approximately 900 cows are milked daily. Students were fascinated by the efficiency and scale of the operation, gaining a real appreciation for modern dairy farming practices. The visit provided a valuable opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world application. A huge thank you to Richie McDonnell and his family for facilitating the visit.



## Gaeltacht Scholarships

We had 26 very lucky students who were awarded Gaeltacht scholarships this year to various colleges throughout Ireland. These students will spend 2 weeks during the summer months immersed in the Irish language & culture of their chosen Gaeltacht regions. Comhghairdeas libh!

Pictured are: Aoibhe Carroll, Cara Mulrey, Kate Malone, Sarah Page, Sarah O'Rourke, Joanne Finnegan Mortimer, Ellen Malone, Colleen Carron, Oisín Gallagher, Sarah McDonnell, Eimear Mortimer Finnegan, Saoirse Murphy, Sophie McArdle, Aoibheann Malone, Kate O'Neill, Ben McGeown, Eabha Davidson, Clíodhna Hanniffy, Sophie Cumiskey, Róisín Brady, Sarah Conway, Lucy Fleming. (Missing from photo: Alannah White, Nora Cassidy, Aobha Jane Davies & Áine Gallagher)



## Chess Club Winner



Our Junior Certificate chess club came to a suitably climatic end as Liher Amo Leon managed to sweep a victory and receive the title of Bush Post Primary's Junior Certificate Chess Champion! Well done Liher!

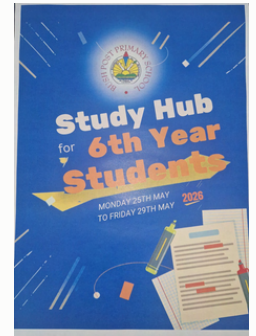


After school study will continue next term  
- every Monday, Tuesday  
& Wednesday.  
Snack provided!  
15.50 - 17.45.

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!

## Study Hub

The Bush Study Hub has returned for the final week of academic year. The initiative began last year to support 6th year students in the final run up to their Leaving Certificate exams which begin on June 3rd. The Study Hub provides a structured, quiet, and supportive environment for focused study and has proven to be a highly effective and well-received resource. Attendance has remained consistently high throughout the week with over 60 students registered. Best of luck to all 6th Year Students in their upcoming exams.



## Incoming First Year Information Evening

The school information evening for incoming First Year students took place on Wednesday, May. It was a great success, with a strong turnout from students and parents alike. The evening provided families with an opportunity to meet some of our staff, learn about school life, and gain valuable information about the transition to secondary school. Visitors enjoyed presentations on academic programmes, student supports, extracurricular activities, and daily routines. Overall, the event created a warm and welcoming atmosphere, helping families feel informed, reassured, and excited for the year ahead. A big thank you to Ciara Harkin and Sinead Brennan who met with parents and students on the night.

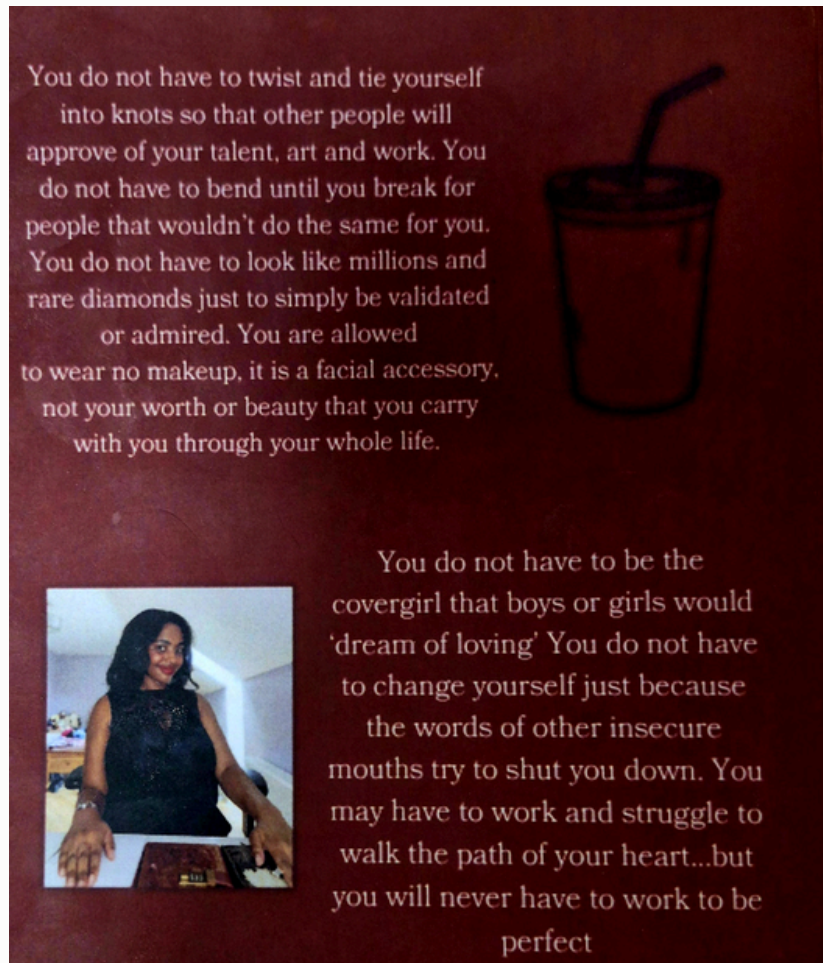
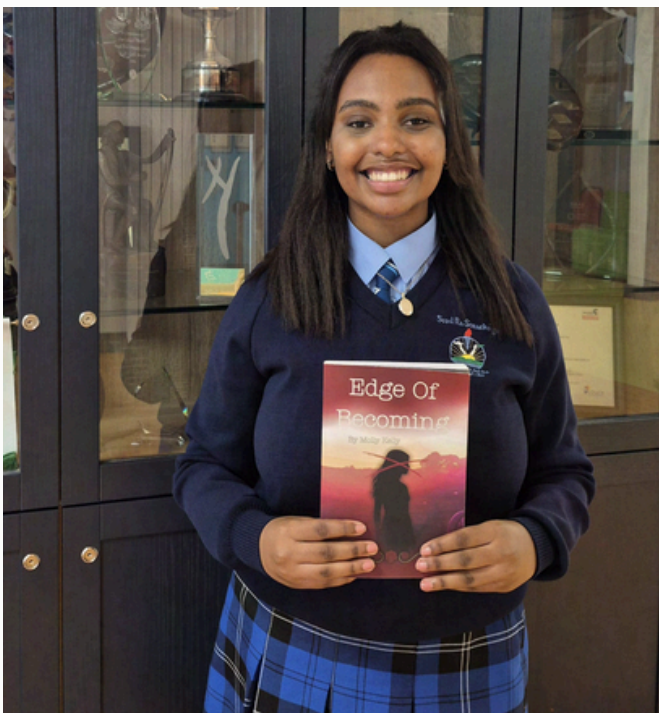


Learning Support  
SEN LEAD – Mrs. Sinead Brennan

- Role of the Learning Support Co-ordinator
- Special Educational Needs
- Applying for Student Resources – NCSE
- School Support Programme
- Irish Exemptions

## Celebrating a Wonderful Achievement

We are delighted to share the fantastic news that Molly Kelly, a Transition Year student, has written and published her very own book. This impressive collection features Molly's original poems, reflections, and writings, all beautifully complemented by her own illustrations. The book was carefully edited with the support of her mum before being submitted to Amazon Kinde Direct Publishing. Following a thorough review process by their editorial team, the book has been officially accepted for publication — a truly remarkable accomplishment. Molly's book will be available for purchase on Amazon from 5th June. Molly has received the first published book as see in the photos. Congratulations to Molly on this inspiring achievement — we are all incredibly proud and wish her every success with her book!





# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Wellbeing Week



May 2026

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Wellbeing Week took place in Bush Post Primary School from the 27th of April to the 1st of May. Students took part in a variety of activities throughout the week, promoting positive mental health and wellbeing across the school community. A highlight of the week was the chocolate and strawberries provided for our hardworking 6th students and staff. The week concluded with the 6K fundraising walk, which was greatly enjoyed by all involved. Thank you to all students and staff who completed the wellbeing survey and contributed to the success of the week.



## Third Year Assembly

Third year students attended their last assembly with Ms Boyle on Wednesday 21st May. They received important information regarding their upcoming Junior Cycle exams from exam secretary Mr Corcoran. Ms Boyle presented 8 students with their certificates for 100% attendance in third year and we said goodbye to Harry McVeigh, who is leaving us after his exams to move to Australia. We wish Harry and his family the best of luck!



Green School's Bio - Diversity Flag



## April/May Attendance Drive – Prize Winners Announced!

A huge congratulations to all of our students who demonstrated excellent attendance during our recent Attendance Drive. Coming to school every day, being on time and ready to learn makes such a difference to progress, wellbeing, relationships and building positive routines. A very special well done to all the students who made such a fantastic effort with their attendance over the past number of weeks. We know that getting to school every day takes commitment, and we are incredibly proud of you all!

We would also like to give a big shout out to our parents and guardians for the important role you play in supporting attendance. Getting children up, organised and into school each day is no small task, and your continued support helps our students thrive both academically and socially.

Best Class Attendance Pizza/Celebration Party Prize Winners

- 1 Sentanta and 1 Táin
- 2 Foy
- 3 Táin
- 4 Táin
- 5 Donnard



## We are delighted to announce the winners of our Attendance Drive Prize Draw

€20 Voucher Winners:

- Alannah McGeown - 2nd Year
- Ellen Traynor Kerly – 2nd Year
- Sean Watson – 3rd Year
- Jodie Hynes – 3rd Year
- Méadhbh Ní Shúilleabháin – 3rd Year
- Alex Dunne - TY



Family Prize:– €100 Family Voucher for the Four Seasons Hotel Carlingford  
Congratulations to Charlotte Marmiom, who won our fantastic €100 family voucher!

And finally, excitement was high for our Mystery Summer Prize Winner, Caoimhe Boyle! After much anticipation, chose a fantastic 32-inch Samsung Smart TV from a range of exciting prizes, including a Galaxy Watch, Apple Watch, JBL Speaker, and Smart TV. We hope you enjoy your prize!  
Well done again to everyone who took part — your effort and commitment have been brilliant. Keep up the great work next year!



## Celebrating Community Support

Recently, we were delighted to host a thank-you lunch for some of the services and agencies that support our school community. We are extremely fortunate to work alongside organisations that provide invaluable support to our students and families. We would like to sincerely thank all of the services who continue to work alongside us and make such a positive difference in the lives of our young people.

## Transition Workshop for Incoming First Year Parents

We were also pleased to welcome some of the parents and guardians of our incoming First Year students to a recent Transition Workshop designed to support families as they prepare for the move to post-primary school. The workshop covered a range of important topics including supporting wellbeing and friendships, school routines, attendance, communication with the school, managing anxiety around change, and practical tips to help children settle into secondary school successfully. We look forward to welcoming our new First Year students and working together with families to ensure a happy and successful start to secondary school.



## Attendance Matters



# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Home School Liaison



## Is your child starting school in September?

The **National Parents Council** in partnership with **Louth ABC** are running a **free online session** on **“Supporting Your Child’s Transition from Pre-school to Primary school”**.

It will be full of practical hints, tips and advice to support you to support your child’s transition to primary school.

**When: Monday 8th of June at 7:30 pm**

**Where: Online Sessions (Scan QR Code Below)**

Register with link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/O8yRfPDbZ9>

Have any questions?  
**Contact Us:**  
Tel: +353 1 887 4034  
Email: [info@npc.ie](mailto:info@npc.ie)



# Bush Post Primary School Newsletter Sponsored Walk



Goal:  
€18,730



Raised to date:  
€16,315

Organisations - €9800  
Sponsored walk - €6015

## Former Head Girl Evelyn Donnelly

We would like to share a wonderful update about our former student and Head Girl, Evelyn Donnelly, and all that she has achieved this year at UCD.

This year, Evelyn captained the UCD first team, leading them to an outstanding season in which they won every major competition available to them - the league, the cup, Colours against Trinity, and a university tournament - bringing home an incredible four trophies in total.

In addition to her sporting success, Evelyn was also awarded the UCD President's Award for Student Excellence. This award recognises students who make exceptional contributions to the university community through their clubs, societies, and degree programmes.

Evelyn has also been awarded a UCD Sports Scholarship for the second consecutive year, recognising her continued excellence and commitment both on and off the field.



Good luck to all our 3 and 6 year exam students! The very best of luck and good wishes to our students sitting their Junior and Leaving Certificate exams respectively. You have worked so hard and we are so proud of you and your achievements. Keep calm and collected - it will all be over soon! Remember to eat well, get plenty of sleep, keep hydrated and minimise distractions when studying.

**Exam timetables are available on the school website**

**<https://bpps.ie/>**

### Important Dates Coming up ...

- **Wednesday 3rd June - State Exams begin.**
- **August 21st - Leaving Certificate Results Published.**
- **Thursday 27th August - Return to school.**



## Protection & Prosperity Financial Service Shield

First year students were delighted to be part of the Protection & Prosperity Financial Service Shield which brought together eight schools from across Ulster and Leinster for a highly competitive and enjoyable day of football.

The Shield Final saw a closely fought local derby, with Bush Post Primary first year team edging out De La Salle College, Dundalk.

There were a number of standout individual performances across the day with Thomas Murphy recognised as Player of the Tournament in the Shield. Thank you to all involved.





Well done to Evan Hearty (Transition Year) who came second in the inter boys shot putt.



Well done to all the students who took part in the North Leinster track and field event in Santry stadium Dublin on Wednesday 6th May.  
**First Year:** Rebecca Finnegan, Clara O'Neil, Cliodhna Reilly, Emily McCormack, Laura O'Neil, Cara McQuid.  
**Second/Third Year:** Gillian Tuohy, Aoibhe Carroll, Katie Magee, Aoife O'Reilly, Kevin Wynne, Claire McGrath, Saoirse Murphy, Jade Condon, Nathan O'Hagan. **TY:** Evan Hearty.

## Bush PPS Crowned Leinster U16 GAA Champions

A glorious summer's day in May set the perfect scene in the Gaelic Grounds as Bush PPS captured the Boys U16 Leinster title with a superb 3-18 to 3-09 victory over Swords Community College. Bush made a dream start to the final, racing into an early lead with two goals inside the opening ten minutes before Swords had registered a score. The early dominance gave Bush a strong platform, but Swords responded well and worked their way back into the contest. At half-time, Bush held a three-point advantage, leading 2-07 to 2-04 after an entertaining and competitive opening half. Bush emerged strongly again after the break, settling quickly into their rhythm and steadily adding to the scoreboard. Once they fully got to grips with the game, Bush's dominance began to show all over the pitch. Strong defending, excellent teamwork, and clinical finishing ensured they controlled the second half and eventually saw the game out comfortably on a final scoreline of 3-18 to 3-09. Following the final whistle, captain Oisin McCoy was proudly presented with the Leinster trophy, marking a memorable occasion for the players, coaches, families, friends, and the entire school community. A huge thank you and congratulations must go to Mr. Canavan, Mr. Carry, and Mr. Brennan for their dedication and commitment in looking after the team throughout the 2025/2026 season. This was a proud day for Bush PPS and a fantastic achievement for all involved. Well done boys!

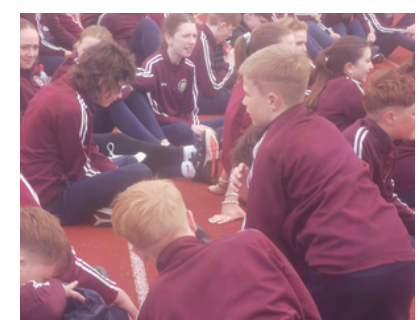


## U14 Leinster Final



Our under 14 girls travelled to Drogheda to compete in the U14 Leinster final vs Coliste Ghlór Na Mara. Our girls put out an outstanding team performance against a very strong CGNM team. The girls brought great grit and determination but it wasn't to be on the day. The girls must be applauded for their dedication and team spirit throughout the campaign. A bright future ahead for Ladies Football In BPP.

## Sports Day



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May 2026

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