



Pres Gazette

Summer 2023

The Newsletter of Presentation Brothers College, Cork



Pres Rugby secure the Senior and Junior Cup double for the first time since 2007!

Report by Principal David Barry



Welcome to the Pres Gazette 2023 - Summer issue.

There has been so much going on in the school since the last edition of the Pres Gazette. The Leaving Certificate results were excellent with students achieving their courses of choice. To the students who received scholarships to different universities in Ireland, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate these pupils and their parents on their success, but also the teachers who worked so hard to create the positive learning environment to allow for these excellent results.

The school has had many successes since last summer and this Pres Gazette will give all of you an opportunity to see the great work of the pupils and staff of the college. The continued success of the college is due to the excellent relationship between the pupils, parents and teaching staff which allows the boys to develop into independent and innovative learners.

The Board of Management continues to strive for excellence in developing the school and supports the exceptional teaching and learning experiences provided by teachers for the pupils. These learning experiences are both in and out of the classroom. Extra-curricular activities continue to play a crucial part in the school and successes in these wide ranging areas of interest give the boys other opportunities for them to show their talents on and off the playing fields. Support from teachers who act as coaches and managers of teams allows the boys to have a wide ranging educational experience in Pres. For that the school is very grateful to staff who give their time to benefit the boys and their extra-curricular activities.

Thanks to all the players and coaches of the JCT and SCT teams for such a successful year in achieving the Senior and Junior Cup double.

As Principal, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Prefects for all of their work through the year. This does not go unnoticed as they have been excellent in help organise and facilitate the six Parent Teacher Meetings. They have shown great leadership and responsibility in putting themselves up for the role and completing the tasks required.

Finally I would like to thank editor Mr Don Buckley for all of the work he has completed to put the Pres Gazette together for 2023. To graphic designer Charlie Neville who is as supportive as ever to Mr Buckley with the design and publication of the Pres Gazette.

At the end of the school year, I'd like to wish you all a happy and relaxing summer break and I look forward to seeing everyone's safe return in late August. I hope you all enjoy the 2023 Pres Gazette.

Kindest regards,

David Barry

David Barry
Principal

Cover shows Rory O'Shaughnessy, captain Pres Senior Cup team and Frankie Óg Sheahan, captain Pres Junior Cup team with the trophies. Very well done lads!

Quercus Sports Scholars for Rugby 2022 - 2023



(l-r): Prof John O'Halloran, President UCC presents Daniel Squires with his Quercus Sports Scholarship and Maria McKnight, Bank of Ireland sponsor



(l-r): Prof John O'Halloran, President UCC presents Danny Sheahan with his Quercus Sports Scholarship and Maria McKnight, Bank of Ireland sponsor

Quercus Scholarship recipients



(l-r): Jack Cotter (Physics and Astrophysics), Ronan Barry (Engineering) and Seán Ó Coileáin (Mathematical Sciences)

UCC Sport Star Awards 2023



Johnny Durcan (Class of 2018)
UCC Sports Star for Sailing 2023



Seán Condon (Class of 2022)
UCC Sports Star of the Year for Rugby 2023

Quercus Scholarship recipients



Three Quercus Sports Scholarship recipients playing for UCC in the ALL pictured with Ms Michelle Power, Quercus Co-Ordinator (l-r) Louis Bruce, Daniel Squires and far right Darragh French



PBC Quercus Sports Scholarships recipients 2022 - 2023
Andrew Sheehan front left, Danny Sheehan front centre and Daniel Squires back, second from left.

Success of SHARE Christmas Fundraiser continues to amaze



Back row (l-r) Alec Ryan, Daniel Prestwich, (Chairman SHARE Executive), Ruben Lee, Adam Hartley, Dylon Swihart, Sam O'Connell, Liam Keville, Alex McKenna-Carroll and Christy Hosford
Front row (l-r) Chulainn Lyons, Jack Barrett, Louis Flynn, Oisín Wrixon, Ben Horgan (Vice Chairman, SHARE Executive), Maurice Minogue, Cillian O'Regan and Eoin Harrington

SHARE's ethos has always been first and foremost providing essential services to the vulnerable, including housing, food, etc. These were all impacted by Covid-19 and perhaps most importantly, the inter-generational mixing that SHARE has always facilitated had been slowed. This involved new challenges such as dealing with social isolation that had to be addressed.

This is the first year since the pandemic started that most of our operations, events and projects have fully opened back up and we are very grateful for it. Our events this year included a variety of tea and dinner parties across each of the complexes that were organised by our Student Executive. That promoted the idea of student and resident bonding. In addition, we had a Yellow Day that many schools participated in with the goal of fundraising for, and campaigning for SHARE. The year's most notable event was the Christmas Collection that the famous yellow jackets represent.

The Christmas Collection was a major undertaking and saw huge commitment from everyone in the Student Executive. Rain or shine, our collectors withstood all the elements. It was the culmination of a vast amount of planning that saw everyone out collecting for the ten days leading up to Christmas, concluding on Christmas Eve. We had new technology in our hands with the rollout of the Tap Boxes, which further allowed us to reach our collecting targets.

Our Student Executive also had the privilege of weekly visitations to the residents of each complex. Here, everyone built meaningful relationships and truly understood the ethos of SHARE. I know I can speak for everyone in the Student Executive in saying that we made friends and memories that will last us all a lifetime. It has given us new perspectives in so many different areas of life and we will carry the lessons, memories and experiences we have learned with us for a long time coming.

On behalf of the SHARE Executive, thank you to everyone who accompanied us on our journey and allowed us to achieve the things we accomplished. Thank you to Aiden Twomey, Liam Lynch, Michael Jordan, the Trustees at SHARE and of course all those who continue to work the residents at the SHARE complexes.

Daniel Prestwich
Chairman, SHARE Executive 2023 - 2023



Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Deirdre Forde with with Bishops Fintan Gavin and Paul Colton at the SHARE Crib on Patrick Street



Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Deirdre Forde presents a cheque to Ben Horgan on behalf of Avondale United AFC represented by David Madden and Noel Long

French language activities in PBC in 2022 - 2023



French Films

In September, Transition Year students of French went to the Gate Cinema to see the French film 'Les Héritiers', as part of the 33rd Cork French Film Festival. In March, 3rd Year students of French attended the school screening of 'Rémi Sans Famille' as part of the 34th Cork French Film Festival.



French Ministry of Education DELF Diploma

Well done to all the 5th Year students who passed the French DELF A1 examination organised in PBC last year. They have now received their parchment from the French Ministry of Education. This year, 4th Year students of French sat the DELF examination on 25th April. They will receive their results in a few weeks.



(l-r) Ms Mary O'Driscoll, Aaron Currane (Class 1A), Ms Alison Broderick, David Kelleher (Class 1A), Matt Connolly (Class 1E) and Ms Valerie McGonnell (French Subject Coordinator)

International Francophonie Week and Quiz

On 21st March, all 1st Year students participated in a quiz about the French speaking world in order to celebrate International Francophonie Week. Did you know that French is an official language in 29 countries in the world? Well done to the three winners of the quiz: David Kelleher (Class 1A), Aaron Currane (Class 1A) and Matt Connolly (Class 1E).

French Pen Pals

Ms McGonnell has been in contact with the Lycée Jean Macé in Rennes (Brittany) in order to give our students the opportunity to communicate with French people of their age and try and set up a school exchange for our Transition Year students. Current TY students have received a letter from their French pen pals in April.

Gaeilge



Back row (l-r): an tUasal Mac Eoi, Ruben Ó Laoi, Rónán Mac Amhlaobh, Adam Ó Riain agus an tUasal Ó Mathúna
Back row (l-r): Iníon Ní Raghailigh, Muiris Minogue, Louis Ó Floinn, Pádraig Ó Dubhghaill agus Iníon Ní Mhurchú

Comórtas Díospóireachta Gael Linn

Ag tús na bliana scoile seo, chuir mo mhúinteoir Gaeilge, An tUasal Mac Eoin (Mr Jones) in iúl dúinn go mbeadh an Comórtas Díospóireachta Gael Linn ar siúl i rith na bliana. Gan aon agó, bhí suim mhór ag a lán daoine ach ar deireadh thiar thall roghnaíodh foireann: mé féin, Ruben Ó Laoi, Louis Ó Floinn, Muiris Minogue, Pádraig Ó Dubhghaill agus Rónán Mac Amhlaobh. Chomh luath agus a fuairamar an chéad rún, thosaíomar ag cleachtadh gan stad gan staonadh.

Is fíor don seanfhocal, 'Cleachtadh a dhéanann máistreacht'. I ndáiríre, chuamar ó neart go neart agus creid nó ná creid shroicheamar Craobh na Mumhan. D'oibríomar go dian dícheallach agus b'fhiú go mór é mar fuairamar an lámh in uachtar ar an lá. Seaimpíní na Mumhan! Chuamar ar aghaidh go dtí Craobh na hÉireann i mBaile Átha Cliath ansin san Earrach. Níorbh fhéidir linn é a chreidiúint. Faraor, bhí mí-ádh orainn agus tháingamar sa dara háit. Bhí díomá an domhain orainn ach beidh lá eile ag an bPaorach. Caithfidh mé buíochas ollmhór a ghabháil leis na múinteoirí a chabhraigh linn le linn an chomórtais: an tUasal Mac Eoin, an tUasal Ó Mathúna, Iníon Ní Mhurchú agus Iníon Ní Raghailigh. Gan dabht, bhaineamar go léir fíorthaitneamh as agus chuir sé an Ghaeilge go mór chun cinn sa scoil. Mairfidh an comórtas sin inár gcuimhní go deo na ndeor fiú má mhairimid an céad!

Adam Ó Riain
An 5ú Bliain

Gaeilgeoirí na Céad Bliana



(l-r): Aaron Corráin, Ruairí Ó Nualláin, Oscar Mac Mathúna, Luke Ó hUiginn agus Oran Ó Laighin

Comórtas na bPostaeirí Na buailteoirí i Rang 1E



(l-r): Charlie Mac Éil agus Jeaic Ó Gráda

Comórtas Seanfhocail Rang 2D



(l-r): Maitiú Ó Conchubhair agus Sam Mac Coinnigh

Tánaiste Micheál Martin TD visits Pres



Members of the PBC Podcast welcome Tánaiste Micheál Martin TD to Pres



(l-r) Rueben Skuse, Deputy Head Boy, Micheál Martin TD, Jack Kingston Head Boy and Rory O'Shaughnessy



3rd Year students (l-r) Matthew O'Riordan, Micheál Martin TD, Daniel Mellerick and Alex Roche



Brian O'Leary, Sam Hernan and Ronan McCarthy interview Tanáiste Micheál Martin TD for the PBC Podcast



Tanáiste and former PBC teacher Micheál Martin TD presents a copy of his book 'Freedom To Choose: Cork & Party Politics in Ireland, 1918 - 1932' to PBC History teacher, Ms Eleanor Walsh, and PBC Principal David Barry



4th Year students (l-r) Ronan McCarthy, Ian Crowley and Cian O'Mahony chat to Micheál Martin TD



(l-r) PBC Caretaker Michael Jordan and the Tanáiste



Tanáiste Micheál Martin TD addresses an audience of History and Politics students in the Dan Donovan Theatre

History Class visits Cork Public Museum



A large group of 3rd Year students pictured outside the Cork Public Museum in FitzGerald's Park



(l-r) Ronan Bradley, Jack Murphy, Shane Kingston and Daniel Mellerick



(l-r) Cathal Cross, Ben Coughlan and Liam Fitzgerald



(l-r) Joe Carney, Ben O'Connor and Jack Murphy



Renowned BBC journalist and PBC past pupil Fergal Keane visited the school recently. He is seen with History teachers Eleanor Walsh and Caleb Sheehan

Pres staff visit Cork City Public Museum in Firtzgerald's Park



(l-r) Nora Walsh, Caleb Sheehan, Eleanor Walsh, Alison Broderick, John Scannell and Karl Sweeney, Ian Lehane and PJ Ó Floinn



Caleb Sheehan listens to an oral presentation from one of the exhibition curators.

In March 2023, a staff outing was organised to visit the Cork City Museum in Fitzgerald's Park. Although the museum is literally on the doorstep of Pres, it is a place where not too many of our staff had been to before. The outing was organised by members of the PBC History Department, Eleanor Walsh and Karl Sweeney, and included former Pres History teacher, Caleb Sheehan, and former Pres Geography teacher, PJ Ó Floinn. All of the attendees were suitably impressed by what they encountered amongst the exhibits, which focussed primarily on the Independence period of Irish history.

Eleanor Walsh



A breezy day in Fitzgerald's Park

History tour to the GPO and Glasnevin Cemetery



History and Politics students at the grave of Michael Collins in Glasnevin Cemetery



PBC students digest the 1916 visual presentation at the GPO



Senior Cycle students in Daniel O'Connell's tomb in Glasnevin Cemetery

1st Year History students at Craggaunowen Heritage Park, Co Clare



Classes 1A and 1B in the ringfort at Craggaunowen



Green School Committee Awarded their Third Green Flag for Travel



The Green Schools Committee (l-r) Emmet Brady, Alex Chircu, Umer Kiani, Ms Crowley, Ben Wrixon and Ross Daly.



Pictured are best dressed winners on Green Day, (l-r) 6th Year students Daniel Maume and Connall Curran

The Green Schools Committee had a very successful two years working on the Travel Theme. A number of activities were undertaken such as participating in Bike Week, The Big Travel Challenge, as well as carrying out surveys such as a Traffic Count Survey, Speed Survey and a Walkability Audit. One of our major achievements this year was the installation of new cycle parking for the school. Our Green Schools Committee applied for a grant for a covered bike shed which holds 20 bicycles in the hope of encouraging more staff and students to cycle to school. We were delighted to see it installed in November! This is a great facility and highlighted the theme of the flag we worked towards over the last two years.

On Friday 10th of February the Green Schools Committee, along with Leaving Cert Politics students, hosted a 'Green Day' to raise awareness of climate change and the part we can play to help the environment. We were delighted to see so many staff and students wear green, as well as making an extra effort to walk or cycle to school if possible. Jennifer from Green Schools came in and held walking debates and played 'Climate Change Against Humanity' with 1st Year students, which were thoroughly enjoyable. We gave prizes to the 'Best Dressed' on the day. We are looking forward to being awarded with our third Green Flag for the school in a ceremony that is being held on 17th May in the Radisson Hotel, Little Island. New members of the Green Schools Committee are always welcome, especially as we start a new campaign in September for our 'Biodiversity' flag.
Ben Wrixon



Students from Class 1C get into the spirit of Green Schools' Week



The Green Schools' Committee make use of one of the new school bicycle sheds

Our year in PresLink



Back row (l-r): Michael Mullins, Peter Burke, Stewart Gilbert, Sebastian Wiseman, Andrew Maume and Tadhg Andrews
Front row (l-r): Robert Barry, Andrew Stack, Devin Giltinan, Luke Mullins, Sam Hernan and Jack Bugler

This year was a very fun, beneficial and successful year for the PresLink Committee and staff. PresLink Committee members Andrew Maume and Peter Burke reflect on their time this year and how being a part of PresLink has helped them mature and how it has benefited them as people. This account also reflects on the successes of PresLink and the fundraisers organised by the committee and staff involved.

LEAF Project Workshop with Br Martin Kenneally

On the 19th October 2022, we were lucky enough as a Preslink Committee to experience a workshop in leadership with Br Martin Kenneally, a former Principal at Presentation Brothers College. He introduced the LEAF Project (Leadership Education and Formation Project) to us and explained how it empowers young people to be leaders. Br Martin spoke about PresLink and asked us why we joined the Committee. He told us his stories of his time in Ghana and Nigeria working with the Presentation Schools, which gave a great insight into the importance of the work. We heard some fantastic strategies for being a leader, such as Lead Yourself First, which encourages us to lead by example, as well as great guidelines for life, such as 'You never get a second chance to make a first impression'. Overall it was a great learning experience for the group and something we took with us through the year.

In November, Committee members Robert Barry, Andrew Maume and Peter Burke, went to Mardyke House to speak about the work of PresLink as well as the impact of the LEAF Project. A short film was shown at the blessing and opening of the recently renovated Edmund Rice Centre in Mardyke House. Tánaiste Micheál Martin opened the centre and it was blessed by Most Rev. Bishop Fintan Gavin of Cork and Ross. We were honoured to not only be a part of the film but to also attend the blessing and opening.

Visit from Ghanaian Presentation Brothers

In November, we were visited by two Presentation Brothers working in Ghana, Br Godfrey and Br Valerius, who told us about their work in Ghana and how the fundraising done by the PresLink Committee every year helps in the development of these schools. This was an extremely valuable experience for us as a group. It gave us a brilliant account of exactly how the money we raise is used for various projects. This spurred us on heading into Christmas, inspiring us to keep up the good work.

Annual 1st Year Walk

The annual 1st Year Walk was very well supported by the 1st Years. Each class group walked in the nearby area on a planned route that over looked Fitzgerald's Park and the Lee fields. During the walk, we spoke to the 1st Year students and told them about the work of PresLink. Hopefully we inspired them to think of others and they may decide to become involved in PresLink when they are in 4th Year. This event was organised by Devin Giltinan, Luke Mullins and Sebastian Wiseman.

World Cup Fantasy

The 2022 World Cup Fantasy League was one of our most enjoyable fundraisers. Over 200 students and staff members joined the league to battle it out for first place. The League was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Caoimhin Kelleher, past Pres pupil and current Liverpool and Ireland star, was kind enough to donate a signed Ireland jersey for our winner Conor Costelloe. Second place, Emmett Fitzgerald, won €40 and third place Conor Hurley, won €20. Andrew Maume and Peter Burke were extremely proud of this fundraiser and delighted with the success of it. Thanks to everyone for their support!

Christmas Activities

Our Christmas activities began with our Christmas Jumper Day. Staff and students entered into the Christmas spirit and donated generously. There were many interesting, creative and fun jumpers on show. The best jumper from each class group was rewarded a prize. We appreciated all the work put in by staff to put together this fundraiser and the enthusiasm showed by students.

On the 17th and 18th December, we had our annual Bag Packing in Dunnes Stores, Bishopstown Court Shopping Centre. The 2nd and 3rd Years were brilliant, and we would like to thank all the parents for their help with the success of this event.

The Christmas Carol Concert made a welcome return this year and was probably our biggest and most planned fundraiser. Staff and the PresLink Committee spent the days before decorating the Dan Donovan Theatre. The Theatre was looking extremely festive on the night of the concert. The guests were given non-alcoholic mulled wine upon entry to the school. The talent on the night was magnificent and extremely entertaining. Acts included Pres pupils from all year groups and from the Music Society in Pres. Committee member Sam Hernan recited a poem by Robert Frost. Irish traditional music players Micheál and Rian Gleason, Irish dancer Jessica McCrohan and singer Paula Murphy were the stars on the night. We were lucky to see so many Pres students featured ie Cameron Lee (6th Year), Ryan Li (1st Year) and Liam Ring (5th Year). We were honoured to have Most Rev Fintan Gavin, Bishop of Cork and Ross in attendance. The Concert was enjoyed by all and really brought our school community close together on this most festive of nights. As a Committee, we put a lot of work into this event and we were thrilled that it was such a successful night. We really enjoyed organising this event. The Committee would like to thank everybody that attended our Christmas Concert and thank all our talented performers for showcasing their talent on the night.

The PresLink Christmas Raffle was once again a great success due to the many individuals and companies, who so generously sponsored the prizes for our raffle. The prizes were excellent and loved by all who won them. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped source prizes for the raffle.

Whole School Quiz

On Tuesday 2nd of May, PresLink held its Annual Quiz. Over the years the quiz has brought tremendous school spirit to Pres and this year was no different. The quiz is a great source of enjoyment for the school as students not only get a chance to win prizes but also get to miss class!

To bring the year to a close, we hope to organise a Soccer Tournament for 4th Years during May.

A Message from the PresLink Committee

This has been an invaluable experience for all of us as a Committee. We learned a lot about the world and ourselves and made friends for life along the way. PresLink had a fantastic impact on our Transition Year and made it even more enjoyable. From the 13 of us, we would like to thank everybody who sponsored the raffle and to Caoimhín Kelleher for the generous donation of his jersey. We'd like to thank parents, students and staff for their consistent contributions throughout the year. Thanks also to the PBC staff who were involved in the PresLink committee. We are very grateful to Ms Sharon Gillane, Ms Siobhán McGrath, Ms Aelín O'Donoghue, Mr Enda O'Regan, Mr Liam Lynch and Ms Therése Kenneally for their constant help and patience throughout the year. They were pivotal to everything that we did as a Committee this year and we are extremely thankful.

PresLink Committee of 2023,

Andrew Maume, Robert Barry, Peter Burke, Alex Cronin, Devin Giltinan, Luke Mullins, Micheal Mullins, Sam Hernan, Andrew Stack, Jack Bugler, Tadhg Andrews, Sebastian Wiseman and Stuart Gilbert.

Andrew Maume and Peter Burke

Regional Applied Maths Team Quiz Winners 2023



(l-r): Seán Herlihy, Ms Janet Cotter, Eamonn Barry and Adam Ryan

Pres had an excellent performance in the Regional Applied Maths Team Quiz last March. This table quiz is based on the Leaving Cert Higher Level Applied Maths course and was organised by the Irish Applied Maths Teachers' Association. Each team consists of three students and must include at least one student who is not in 6th Year, comprising of Eamonn Barry, Seán Herlihy and Adam Ryan. In second place was Dylan Costelloe, David Flynn and Alec Ryan. Isaac Lee, Sam O'Connell and Alex O'Donoghue came third and the team consisting of Daniel Hegarty, William Hetherington and Reuben Lee came joint 4th. The top 2 teams competed in the National Final in Athlone on Saturday 25th March where they both put in a very solid performance. Following a very tight contest, our team comprising of Eamonn Barry, Seán Herlihy and Adam Ryan finished on the third highest score and in joint fourth place. Very well done to all the boys involved.

Janet Cotter



The two winning Applied Maths teams pictured on the day with their teacher Ms Janet Cotter

Seán Ó Coileán gets an astonishing 100% in his Leaving Cert Applied Maths exam



Congratulations to Seán Ó Coileán, who got full marks 100%, in his Applied Maths Leaving Cert examination in 2022. Seán, shown with his teacher Ms Janet Cotter, is studying Maths Science in UCC and we wish him every success in his studies.

Team Maths 2023



(l-r): Isaac Lee, Eamonn Barry, Mr John Scannell, Jack Kingston and Jack O'Connor

Team Maths is a table quiz based on the Leaving Cert Higher Level Maths course organised by the Irish Maths Teachers' Association. Well done to the following sixth year students who represented the school in the annual Team Maths Quiz for the Cork region: Jack O'Connor, Jack Kingston, Isaac Lee and Eamonn Barry and to teacher Mr John Scannell for his valued help throughout.

The team finished joint first and after a tie break round and finished second overall. They also represented the school in the National Final which was held in Maynooth University in March. A great achievement for the lads.

Jack Kingston
6th Year

IFTA Regional Senior Science Quiz winners



(l-r): Patrick Moroney, Ms Caroline Lynch, William Hetherington and Daniel Hegarty

William Hetherington, Daniel Hegarty and I are proud to have represented the school in the National Final of the ISTA Senior Science Quiz in Dublin on Saturday the 3rd December.

We qualified for the Quiz by coming second out of 37 teams in the Regional Round of the Quiz held in UCC on November 17th, in the middle of Science Week.

We put in many weeks of extra study and lunchtimes to run quiz questions with Ms Lynch. A huge thanks to her from all three of us for that of course, in addition to extra before and after school classes added by our Physics, Chemistry and Biology teachers. All the preparation eventually brought us to Saturday 3rd December when the National final was held in the Biomedical Department in Trinity College, Dublin.

41 teams themselves having won their right to compete from 16 regional competitions all over Ireland were present. A tense and hard fought competition saw Pres in third place at first score count. After two difficult rounds later we unfortunately dropped to 12th place. But after a very respectable final three rounds, we finished an admirable seventh place out of the 41 teams. This puts all three of us in the top 21 Gifted Science Students in Ireland this year, continuing a tradition of scientific excellence in the school.

We would like to sincerely thank the entire Science Department whose remarkable work throughout our time in Pres allowed us to reach this stage. Special thanks to our Chemistry teachers Mr Enda O'Regan and Mr Allen Donnelly, our Physics teacher Mr Ian Lehane and of course our Biology teacher Ms Claire Lynch, who was with us on the day in Dublin.

Patrick Moroney
Class 6A

Sci Fest winners 2023



(l-r): Fiachra Wall, Ms Claire Lynch and Luke Mullins

This year's Scientific Investigation Module led by Ms Claire Lynch and Mr Cian Bohane it was a great success. The winning project at the 'Scifest at School' Competition held on 2nd March 2023 was won by Luke Mullins and Fiachra Wall.

The project was both interesting and topical, investigating the damage that energy drinks and multiple other high sugar drinks can do to your teeth. To carry out the experiments, we used eggshells as a replacement for teeth because they are composed of very similar materials. The project tested Monster energy drinks along with Coke, Fanta and many others in an attempt to determine what did the most damage to teeth. This was an obvious project to choose being from such a strong sporting school with the promotion in the media linking energy drinks to sport, these drinks are consumed by many of our students.

To get the results, we submerged pieces of eggshell in the drinks for several hours before taking them out weighing them and repeating the process. The project was a great success and we really enjoyed the project and module. We even went on the school podcast in November during Science Week to talk about the outcome of our experimental work.

Unfortunately the Scifest at College competition in MTU clashed with our Sports Day. Considering we have had too few Sports Days due to Covid-19, we reluctantly decided not to proceed to MTU with our project.

Currently our plan is to expand the scope of our project and to do further research over the summer to prepare it for BT Young Scientist Exhibition next January in Dublin.

Luke Mullins

TY student

Class 4D

PBC PODCAST



Tanáiste Micheál Martin TD is interviewed by PBC Podcast

This year's cohort of TY podcasters produced a dazzling series of episodes and further enhanced the reputation of the PBC Podcast as one of the most successful school podcasts in the country.

Season 3 has garnered thousands of downloads, both here in Ireland and from countries as far afield as Japan, Chile, Bolivia and South Africa, as well as the UK, Europe and the USA. The boys' broad miscellany of content and the high broadcasting bar they've set continues to appeal to a wide ranging audience.

Aware that there are not many forums or platforms where you can hear what the average Irish 16 year old male thinks, the boys seized their opportunity and produced a wide range of segments on the most diverse of topics: Caving in East Cork, a profile of Caoimhín Kelleher, Science Week in Pres, Seachtain na Gaeilge sa scoil, reviews and histories of classic films such as 'High Noon' and 'Taxi Driver,' a personal monologue on George Orwell's '1984,' The shelling of the Four Courts in 1922, a diary of a week working in the National Museum, the eroding effects of caffeine on teeth, sports punditry and indeed comedy sketches on sports punditry!, conversations on the best film adaptations of books, the emotional rollercoaster of life as a Schalke 04 fan (auf Deutsch) and the perils of scuba diving! Other segments featured the boys chatting to fellow students in TY about projects they were involved in, including film making and poetry as well as an end of year review of TY and how to make the most of it. An absolute must listen podcast for any 3rd Years wondering what awaits them next year.



Ireland Grand Slam hero, Peter O'Mahony, chats with TY students, Brian O'Leary and Sam Hernan



Brian O'Leary and Sam Hernan took the helm as presenters for this season and really grew into their roles. The 'Big Interview' returned and we have some fascinating radio with interviews conducted by various students with some very engaging figures:

- Tánaiste Micheál Martin TD came in to studio to talk history and politics with Sam Hernan and Ronan McCarthy.
- Pres, Munster, Ireland and Lions star, Peter O'Mahony, discussed his love of gardening, the recent Grand Slam success and the 2007 Pres v Christians Senior Cup Final.
- Oxford Professor of Medieval English and renowned poet Bernard O'Donoghue answered Ian Crowley's questions and spoke movingly of his year in Pres in 1961 - 1962.
- There was a lovely reflection on his three decades plus Pres career by retiring Maths and Irish teacher, John Scannell, in conversation with Cian O'Mahony.
- Matthew Kearney came into studio and gave a fascinating tribute to his brother and artist, Herbert Kearney (RIP), who bequeathed his incredible life size sculpture of CúChulainn and the death of Ferdia to the school.
- Steve Kelly of the RTÉ Concert Orchestra traced his passion for music and detailed life with the orchestra in an interview with Brian O'Leary.
- Our very own 6th Year, Thomas McCarthy, World No.1 Sub-Junior Power Lifter and reigning European Champion spoke inspiringly of his journey to success.

Other voices to appear on the podcast this season reciting their favourite poems included film star and former Pres boy, Cillian Murphy, award winning American novelist, Willy Vlautin, Gift Grub comedian and podcaster, Mario Rosenstock and former Cork hurling star Donal Óg Cusack. Listen out for talented poets among the teaching staff also and indeed some fine musical talent!

Huge congratulations to this special bunch of TY podcasters on a very successful year: Ian Crowley, Cian O'Mahony, Stuart Daly, Ronan McCarthy, Connor Buckley, Ruairí Ó Donnchadha, Peter Burke, Dara O'Brien, Eric Leach, John J Neville, Sam Hernan and Brian O'Leary. They have created a wonderful, rich legacy for themselves. Well done lads!

Thanks to PBC management for continued support, to staff for their patience at all times, to caretaker, Michael Jordan, to librarian Ms Sophie McKenzie for her contributions and her patience in allowing the Reading Room to regularly double up as a studio, to freelance sound engineer, Elaine Smith and indeed to all the contributors in this series.

A very special thanks to George Hook for his motivational work, voice coaching, expertise and the giving of his invaluable time over the first half of the school year.

All seasons and all episodes of PBC podcast can be accessed on Apple, Spotify or Acast.

Éanna Ó Loingsigh
Teacher / Producer PBC Podcast.

3rd Year Visit to Ballyhass Lakes



3rd Year students take on the Monkey Bars Challenge

On April 24th, 3rd Year students went on a school tour to Ballyhass Lakes, Coachford. Fortunately we were very lucky with the weather on the day and upon arrival we split into our groups. We participated in various activities, including archery, a high nets course, team challenge course and the Aquapark which proved popular amongst everyone.

The day was filled with fun and excitement for everyone. A big thanks to Mr Micheál Jones (3rd Yr. Year Head) for organising a fantastic day out and to all the teachers who accompanied us on the day: Ms Marguerite O'Flaherty, Ms Eleanor Walsh, Mr Paul Downes, Mr Liam Lynch, Mr Denis Maher and Mr Karl Sweeney.

Rory Power
Class 3E



Gaisce Awards 2022



Back row (l-r): Theo Scully, Cian Timoney, Ronan McCarthy and Robert Barry
Front row (l-r): Mr John Gleeson, Raghav Rashgotra, Andrew Maume, Leo Porion, Eric Leach and Ms Mary O'Driscoll

The Bronze Gaisce Award is a challenge by the President of Ireland to young people aged between fourteen and twenty-five, centred around self-improvement and the realisation of one's potential. To receive the award, participants must engage in three challenge areas: Personal Development, Physical Recreation and Community Involvement.

Personal Development can refer to developing a new skill or engaging in an activity beneficial to one's personal growth. For example, for my Personal Development I chose to join a youth theatre group, developing my acting and performance skills. Physical Recreation refers to a sport or other health - based activity. In this area I chose horse riding, a sport which I hadn't practised in a long time before beginning the challenge. It was a joy to reconnect with an old passion of mine after so long. For Community Involvement the participant must volunteer in a community - based activity to help others. I did Debate Mentoring for my Community Involvement, helping junior debaters improve their debating skills. It was very rewarding for me to be a part of others' self-improvement journeys.

Those participating in the Bronze Gaisce give an hour per week of their time to each of these activities for thirteen weeks. Upon completion, participants must select one activity and continue it for a further thirteen weeks. I chose to continue with my youth theatre group, which I found incredibly enriching, and which gave me a newfound love for theatrical performance.

In order to complete the Bronze Gaisce, my fellow participants and I must go on an Adventure Trip. For this we have chosen to do a twenty-five-kilometre walk. I especially look forward to completing this final step of the programme, working together with my peers to achieve our shared goal. I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of Gaisce and believe I have gained hugely from all the activities. I now feel a deep sense of satisfaction and achievement as I approach completion, and I eagerly await my receiving of this award, knowing that I will have earned it.

Ronan McCarthy
Class 4E

Class 6A of 2023



Back row (l-r): William Hetherington, David Flynn, Niall Collins, Dylan Costelloe, Rueben Skuse, Daniel Healy and Patrick Moroney
Middle row (l-r): Ronan Murphy, Jack Kingston, Adam McNulty, Ben Cashman, Leon Sahn, Oscar Nangle, Seán Herlihy and Eshan O'Sullivan
Front row (l-r): Emmett Fitzgerald, Tom Colbert, David Barry, Aaron Sheahan, Charlie Collins, Colm Smith, Olan Ó Siocháin and Thomas McCarthy

Class 6B of 2023



Back row (l-r): Joe MacNamara, Max Geary, Ethan Barry, Olivier Nadal, Rory O'Shaughnessy, David Bennett, Daniel Hegarty and Isaac Lee
Middle row (l-r): Jack O'Connor, Darragh Lynch, Olan O'Donovan, Mifuel Barbosa-Fleming, Ronan McAuliffe, Ross Daly and Seán Lang
Front row (l-r): Ronan Dwyer, Seán Keville, Tom McCarthy, Andrew Cuddigan, Zach Dunne, Umer Kiani and Rowan Murphy

Class 6C of 2023



Back row (l-r): Shane O'Brien, Conor Hurley, Scott Kelleher, Daniel Maume, Evan McArdle, Alex Cunningham and Luke Whelan

Middle row (l-r): Cuan Deasy, Ruan Barrett-Crean, Michael O'Sullivan, Eamonn Barry, Alex Doyle,
Aodhán Cooke and Luke Sweetnam

Front row (l-r): Cameron Lee, James Kelleher, David Collins, Patrick Brophy, Adam Noel, Jerry Murphy and Andrew Scannell

Class 6D of 2023



Back row (l-r): David Burke, Tom Coughlan, Ronan Hennigan, James Wixted, Liam Buckley, David O'Dwyer and Max Healy

Middle row (l-r): Mark O'Connell, Evan Lee, Ian Van Sinderen, Peter Wall, Alex Davenport and Jude Malley

Front row (l-r): Kevin McColgan, Mark O'Mahony, Dara McMahon, Oliver Bogue, Naoise O'Sullivan, Aarom Alam and Jabir Rahman



A fond farewell to the Class of 2023

We would like to wish all Leaving Certificate students the very best of luck in their exams and every success throughout their future careers. We're really proud of them all!



Class 6E of 2023



Back row (l-r): Jamie Walsh, Killian Twomey, Rory McCarthy and Max Dillon
Middle row (l-r): Adam Sorensen, Samuel Johnson, Luke O'Donnell, Ben O'Connor and Mr Craig O'Driscoll
Front row (l-r): Louis Crisp, Connall Curran, Rory O'Donoghue, Ronan Power and Edward Barrett

Class 6F of 2023



Back row (l-r): Fionn Roussel and Eoin Browne
Middle row (l-r): Fintan O'Flynn, Dave Carthew, Cian Murphy and James McCarthy
Front row (l-r): Jay O'Mahony, Oliver Cregan, Ben Hutchinson, Alex Quin and Niall Brady

Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy 2023



(l-r) Jack Kingston, Head Boy 2023 and Reuben Skuse, Deputy Head Boy 2023

Prefects 2023



Back row (l-r): Dylan Costelloe, James Wixted, Eamonn Barry, Ronan McAuliffe, Ross Daly, Olan Ó Siocháin
Front row (l-r): Oscar Nangle, Seán Herlihy, Jack Kingston (Head Boy), Reuben Skuse (Deputy Head Boy), Leon Sahn and Thomas McCarthy

Voices of Pres, Voices of Cork - a radio series



Éanna Ó Loingsigh, and Presenters Ronan McAuliffe and George Hook

Fergus Finlay

'It embedded within me the culture, ethos and spirit of a great, great, school - Pres was my foundation and my rock.'

Moss Finn

'The loyalty because of the institution is unerring. It's a wonderful thing and it's a thing that broadens across the world, If you're part of the PBC institute you have friends everywhere and they are loyal friends.'

Eoghan Harris

'Pres was an extraordinary school.....a pluralist school.....I was set up for life by Pres..... Pres was a magnificent school, still is.'

Bernard O'Donoghue

'Pres was my launching pad.....'

Larry O'Neill

'I started school the same day as my mother started teaching here.....It's a bit of an institution really because my father went to Pres, my mother went to Pres, my son went to Pres then as well.....you make great friends in Pres from all over the city..... later on in life you're kinda proud to say you went to Pres'

Noel Spillane (what Pres meant to him)

'...security, contentment, family, education obviously and, companionship'

As the 150th anniversary of the foundation of Presentation Brothers' College approaches, a unique oral history project is underway in the school. Soon to be launched, 'Voices of Pres, Voices of Cork' is a radio documentary/podcast detailing the oral history of this great school. It is an archive of unique voices and a precious resource of stories and lore.

This series will enrich our understanding of Pres by documenting its unique social and educational history through the personal voices and memories recorded.

Broadcaster George Hook of the class of 1959 teams up with Ronan McAuliffe of the class of 2023 to present a series of documentaries produced by English teacher, Éanna Ó Loingsigh. Each episode features recorded interviews not only with Pres Brothers, teachers and alumni but also with people who have been connected with or influenced by the school in some small way in their lives.

Among the subjects explored in the series are the history of the Presentation Brothers, their legacy at home and abroad, the rich rugby, rowing, soccer, cricket and debating tradition in Pres, the artistic, creative and theatrical spirit of the school down through the years and of course its strong ethos of campaigning for social justice and caring for those less fortunate in our world. We talk to people about their journey after Pres and its influence on their careers and life choices. Parallel to this, the podcast charts the rich social history of the city and preserves stories about Pres and Cork that will enrich our understanding of both.

The diversity of voices should ensure compelling listening : among them Dan Cowhie, class of 1936, (RIP) who was recorded last May in his 101st year; Brother Matthew Feheny, now in his 90s, recounts Cork during WW2 and leaving Pres in 1959 to join his Pres brethren in Trinidad; we spoke to David Goldberg, son of Gerald; rugby legends Jimmy Bowen, Moss Finn and Michael Kiernan contribute while acclaimed poet and Oxford Professor of English,



(l-r) Éanna Ó Loingsigh, Kieran Ahern and Alessandro Gentili (former lecturer in Italian, UCC)

The diversity of voices should ensure compelling listening: among them Dan Cowhie, Class of 1936, (RIP) who was recorded last May in his 101st year; Br Matthew Feheny, now in his 90s, recounts Cork during WW2 and leaving Pres in 1959 to join his Pres brethren in Trinidad; we spoke to David Goldberg, son of Gerald; rugby legends Jimmy Bowen, Moss Finn and Michael Kiernan contribute while acclaimed poet and Oxford Professor of English, Bernard O'Donoghue recalls his year in Pres in 1961 / 1962. Founder of FEXCO, Brian McCarthy talks about Pres, Cork and his career; Eoghan Harris takes us back to Cork in the 50s; Dan Donovan's voice is heard from the archives. The women of Pres also feature while reminiscences from a wide and diverse range of alumni through the decades are interspersed in each episode.

It is hoped that the oral history of Pres will help past pupils young and old reconnect with their old school and like the Pres student podcast (PBC Podcast) reach out to our far flung ex-pat alumni. It will also provide a legacy that can be passed down from one generation of students and staff to the next. It will help to preserve the traditions, values, and culture of the school, and allows future generations to understand and appreciate the history and evolution of their educational institution.

'Voices of Pres, Voices of Cork' will also provide unique learning opportunities for Pres students. By listening to the stories and experiences of those who came before them, students can gain a deeper understanding of the school's culture, values, and traditions, as well as the broader historical and cultural contexts in which the school operates.

If any reader would like to contribute to 'Voices of Pres, Voices of Cork' in the future, please contact the school at info@pbc-cork.ie We would love to hear from you.

Éanna Ó Loingsigh,



George Hook chats to former Pres students
Larry O'Neill and Noel Spillane



George Hook talks to Michael Kiernan and Moss Finn

Wishing John the happiest of retirements!



John Scannell is retiring after over thirty years teaching in Pres. Today, he teaches sons of the boys that he taught in the early days! Graduating from UCC, he first worked in St Aloysius secondary school before joining the Pres staff as a teacher of Maths and Irish across all year groups. In recent years, he has focused on Maths exclusively, a subject that he finds great reward in teaching.

He has given tirelessly of his time to extra-curricular activities in the school. A keen soccer player in his youth, he has helped to coach school teams to success at all levels. It is widely acknowledged that the standard of play of the Pres staff indoor soccer team was greatly enhanced when he joined the team! He has coached Senior and Junior students for Quizzes run by the Irish Maths Teachers' Association. This year, and not for the first time, his 6th Year Higher Level students won the Regional Trophy qualifying for the National final. A brilliant achievement and well deserved.

John was the State Examinations Secretary in the school for many years. Months of preparation each year for Oral, Practical and Written exams, organised to precision, ensured the smooth and efficient running of the Junior and Leaving Certificate exams. He not

only dealt with the State exams in school but outside school also. He is a corrector of the Leaving Certificate Higher Level Maths papers and his students benefit from this exam expertise.

Recently, he published a Revision Book for Higher Leaving Certificate Maths Paper 1 and 2. His students refer to it affectionately as 'The Book'! Curriculums change but John's advice and wealth of knowledge as a Maths teacher is a constant to students and colleagues alike. From classroom based to online based tuition during the Covid pandemic, he has adapted his teaching style to impart the highest quality instruction. His generosity in sharing his extensive understanding of Maths hasn't changed over his many years in Pres and we in the Maths Department are hugely indebted.

John is married to Catherine and they are proud parents to Jonathan and Andrew, both Pres boys! Andrew will graduate from Pres this June and so will his Dad! John's retirement will be active for sure. He has a great love of music. Having taught himself basic piano during lockdown, he plans to begin piano lessons. He has a long list of music concerts he plans to attend and places he wants to visit so he'll be very busy. John, in his time in Pres has been a brilliant teacher and supportive colleague. He is a true gentleman and staff and students are richer for having worked with him. Best wishes on your retirement John, enjoy the adventure!

Siobhán McGrath

Rita Naughton- An Appreciation



At the end of this academic term, Rita Naughton will retire from her role as Guidance Counsellor in Pres. During her time in the school, Rita has been a key member of the Pastoral Care Team that is a central part of the school support system.

Navigating secondary school can be an overwhelming journey for students and parents alike. Students are asked to make significant decisions with regard to subjects, college courses and careers.

Over the years, Rita has been an ever-present figure with our boys as they navigate this sometimes tricky journey. It is a unique skill for a Guidance Counsellor to create the space that allows students to make their first significant decisions as young adults, whilst staying true to their personal dreams and aspirations.

During her time as Guidance Counsellor, there are countless students who have been rewarded for their hard work and celebrated many academic successes. However, there are many who have unfortunately experienced personal difficulties and traumas. For many of these students, Rita has been a crucial support in their lives. Her calm and comforting manner has allowed students to work through the toughest of situations. She

has also given her counsel to many parents and guardians during stressful times!

When Covid-19 hit us in 2020, all schools were propelled headlong into a space that we had never been in before. The stress and strain it put on students and their families was immense. The challenge of remote teaching and learning and the uncertainty of predicted grades led to unprecedented pressure on our students. It was during these tough years that Rita's presence (albeit virtual at times) was so important for our boys.

There is no doubt in my mind that Rita Naughton will leave the school having had an undeniably positive influence on so many Pres Boys. We wish her a long and happy retirement with her husband Mike and family that will no doubt involve trips home to her native Galway and many long walks in West Kerry!

Emmet O'Halloran

A fond farewell to Margaret Barry!



For over twenty years Margaret worked in the school office. She never failed to be bubbly, effervescent and glamorous. No matter how dull the weather was, Margaret would always bring a sense of colour to the school. She was always very helpful to staff, parents and students alike and had a nice word to say to everyone.

Margaret has a great love of local history and was always interested in hearing new insights into old stories. She is also a great lover of nature and animals and enjoyed spending time in her beautiful garden and walking her treasured dogs.

We all wish Margaret health and lots of happiness as she begins her next exciting chapter where she will enjoy spending more time with Michael and Fionnuala on trips to her beloved Malta and West Cork.

PBC Admin Staff

Graduate News



Frank Cooper (Class of 1985)

Frank Cooper, a member of the Class of 1985, is the current President of Highfield RFC. During his time in PBC, he represented the school at both Junior and Senior Cup level. After his education days at Pres were completed, he joined Highfield RFC. During his playing career, he was a member of the Highfield Senior Team which won the Munster Senior League in 1990. Recently, a 33 year reunion of this team was held. He was captain of Highfield U20s and later skippered the Highfield Senior Team in 1997 /1998, a squad which included Glenn Jackson who later progressed to playing at international level for New Zealand.

When Frank retired from the playing pitch, his next progression was to turn to coaching with the underage section in Highfield. There he and another former past pupil of Pres, Fergus Burke, successfully coached Highfield U18s to All Ireland success in 2009. This team included former Munster Rugby players, James Cronin and Kevin O'Byrne.

In 2012, Frank was part of the coaching team who succeeded in getting the Highfield Senior Squad promoted to Division 2A of the All Ireland League. Frank has also played a very active role in the administration of Highfield RFC. He was honoured to be asked by Ms Caroline Lyons to be her Vice President for the 2019 /2020 season, a position which he held for two years because of the Covid 19 pandemic. During his tenure as President, Highfield's Senior Team reached the Play-Off Final for promotion to Division 1A in 2023, where unfortunately they were beaten by Shannon.

Frank's two brothers, Brendan who resides in Australia and Kevin who lives in Ballincollig are also past pupils of Pres. He lives in Bishopstown along with his wife, Janet, and his daughter, Sarah, who is currently studying Pharmacy in UCC. Frank has worked in the Finance Department of the HSE for over thirty years.



Aubrey Murnaghan (Class of 1989)

Having left PBC in 1989, I achieved an honours degree in Civil Engineering in UCC. I later returned to do a Diploma in Computer Engineering after taking a year's holiday travelling and working in Australia.

Leaving UCC in 1995, I worked with Digital & Compaq in Dublin. I returned to Cork, to work for EMC in Ovens for 18 years. Dell then completed their takeover of EMC, so I am still currently employed with Dell. Although a software engineer in this field, I work in both hardware and software, so this line of work is both challenging and interesting.

I've held numerous positions over the years, primarily in sports. I've been on the committee in Highfield Squash Club, Dell Golf Society and Monkstown Golf Club, (I'm currently Mens Secretary), as well as having held positions on the Mixed, Social & Handicap Committees in the past in Monkstown Golf Club.

I've been secretary of the PPU Golf Society for the last 20 years. We have a very strong and successful society, recently having 92 members playing in an outing in Mount Juliet GC. This is one of the strongest societies in Ireland in Golf. Thanks to all the members and sponsors for making this society so successful. This year, I've the honour of being the PBC Past Pupils Union President. My aim in my Presidency is to help the PBC PPU Union grow in numbers for the coming Year, while also improving how we can increase events for past pupils, as well as managing our own database, so communication can be conveyed more readily. I also have attended all Junior and Senior Cup Rugby matches this year and am proud to see us achieve the double this year, for the 5th time in our history, which is a magnificent achievement for all involved, students, teachers, coaches and their parents.

I'm proud to see my nephews, Joe and Michael Hennessy, doing very well in PBC and on their way to becoming successful young adults, both academically and in sports.



Peter Cleary (Class of 1993)

Peter followed a long family tradition of attending Pres, as his two brothers, Roger and Adrian, father Jim and uncles Noel and Donal. Having attended Beaumont Boys NS, Peter only knew three other boys starting Pres at the same time. Any anxiety he may have had about making friends was soon forgotten, as he seamlessly assimilated into the school. He followed the exploits of both the Junior and Senior rugby teams which happily coincided with a number of successes. Peter played basketball in Pres and was coached by Mark Scannell and Jasper McElroy. After Pres, Peter got a Bachelor of Commerce degree in UCC and afterwards a Master's degree in Management Accounting & Management Information Systems, which included a six-month placement with Fidelity Investments in Boston, USA.

Following his time as a student in UCC, he began work for the Kerry Group as an Analyst / Programmer. However, having spotted an advertisement for PhD Scholarships at the University of Limerick, Peter applied and was delighted to be offered one. The next few years were spent in Limerick pursuing a PhD degree in Accounting and completing the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) professional accounting exams.

In 2002, Peter became a lecturer in Accounting in UCC. He is now a Senior Lecturer in Accounting and the Programme Director for the BSc (Accounting) degree. His current research interests include the impact of social value reporting on Credit Unions, the use of accounting information in social partnership and the disclosure of Intellectual Capital information by FTSE 100 firms. He has collaborated with academics from Denmark, Netherlands, Spain, Iceland, UK, Germany and Canada and published a textbook in Management Accounting along with numerous peer-reviewed academic journal articles and book chapters.

He lives in Cork with his wife and three daughters. The family connection with Pres continues as his nephew Josh, is currently a 1st Year student.



Stephen Randles (Class of 2011)

In Pres, I threw myself into all things sports and student life. On the rugby pitch, we lost a Junior Cup final in 2008, and a Senior Cup final in 2011, while winning two Barry Cups. I captained the first ever PBC Basketball side to win silverware in 2013, under coach Seánie Murphy. Outside of sport, I was heavily active in all things Pres life. In 6th Year, I was elected Deputy Head Boy, Prefect, as well as Student Council member, organising the Graduation Ball and the 6th Year Yearbook. In terms of academics, my love for business and entrepreneurship was nurtured in Willie O'Keeffe's Business Class. After I graduated, I undertook a Commerce Degree in UCC. While there, I got involved in organising entertainment events for the college, before going on to organise student nightclubs and events across Munster. I went on to play senior rugby with Dolphin and UCC, where I played under my old Pres coach Peter Scott. From there, I went to America and played rugby for Chicago in the US Premier Division. I also coached rugby in Pres in 2012 and 2013, helping with the McCarthy Cup squads.

I then got a 'Real Job' and spent two years in a Senior Sales Role at Keary's Motor Group, selling BMWs and Minis. I even sold a car or two to some of my former PBC teachers. In 2022, I began my current role as Export Sales Manager at Boann Distillery, owned by the business tycoon, Pat Cooney and his family. With a strong global presence, my day-to-day role involves traveling the world managing business relations and establishing the brand in all of our 75 markets internationally, all the while helping out with the creation and production of whiskey stocks back at the distillery.

Twelve years on from my time in PBC, I look back with great fondness and have a bank of memories that will stay with me for a lifetime. From battles on the rugby pitch in Wilton, to heated business discussions in Mr O'Keeffe's class, the lessons I learned, and the people I met, helped shape me into the person that I am today and set me up with a strong foundation for my business endeavours.

Art from the archives



Criofan Guifoyle, 2018

In my twenty two years teaching Art here in PBC, I have had the pleasure to witness and encourage some amazing creative talent amongst the students over the years. Some of this work exists in physical form, some documented digitally and it is an archive that brings me great pleasure to look back on and show to my classes over the years. I can always visualise the student through their individual pieces.

As we don't have a lot of wall space to display this work, for it to be seen and appreciated by the school community, I have put a selection together which I hope will bring back some memories to the art students themselves and stand as a record of the great artistic talent to come through the Art Department over recent years. When I started gathering the work, I quickly realised the task would involve making difficult choices. I want to emphasise this is a selection, limited by space available in this summer issue of the Pres Gazette, and there are many more students who are equally deserving of being represented.

I would like to wish all my past Leaving Cert Art students well, and even if you don't have the opportunity to create art right now in your life, I hope this work takes you back to the Senior Art room and the time you spent there. Take pride in the work you did, as I do. It is and has been an inspiration to art students after you, and is a permanent record of your talent and your time here in the school.

Ms Nora Walsh
Art Department



Scott Keating, 2019



Charlie Borneman, 2014



Kieran Ryan, 2010



Josh Owens, 2018



Luke Merriman, 2014



Gary Beechor, 2012



Louis Roberts, 2016



Josh McCarthy, 2013



Eoin Derham, 2009



Shems Riza, 2016



Simon Merriman, 2018



Daniel Buckley, 2015



Mark Merriman, 2016



Ryan Underwood, 2012



David Henry, 2021



John Maxwell, 2015



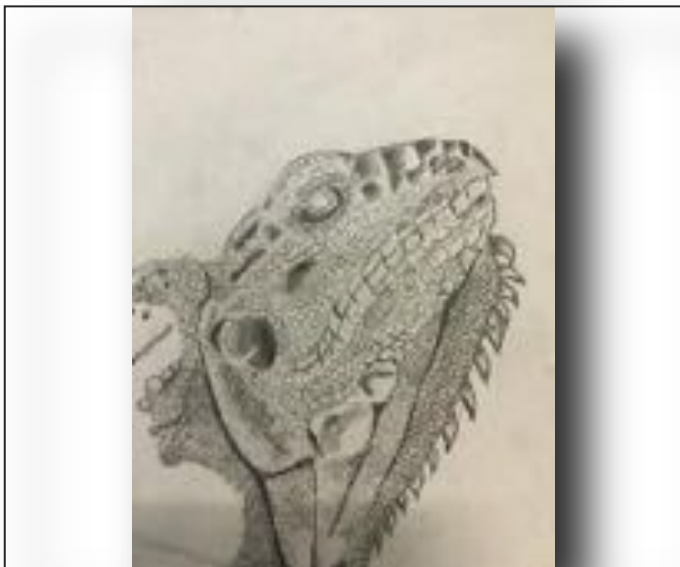
Michael Doyle, 2nd Year



Andrew Hinds, 2nd Year



Alexander McGarry Hernandez, 2nd Year



Callan Clarke, 2nd Year



Darragh O'Mahony, 2nd Year



Harry Garcin O'Mahony, 1st Year



Oscar Madden, 2nd Year



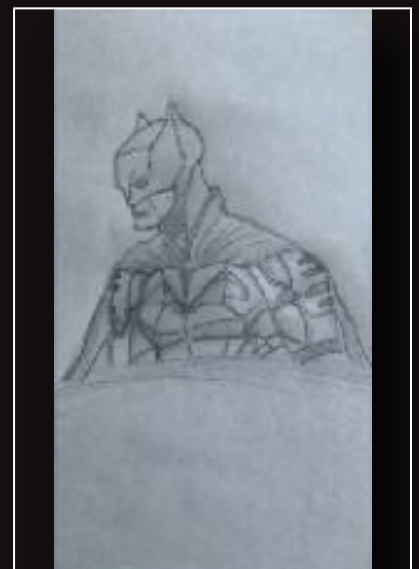
Usman Asif, 2nd Year



Matthew O'Connor, 2nd Year



Sam MacKenzie, 2nd Year



Oran Lyons, 1st Year



Photography students in Killarney on a field trip



Visiting the Crawford Art Gallery



Visiting the National Sculpture Factory



Photography students pictured at the band stand in Fitzgerald's Park

Art Department Expeditions



The PBC Art students hard at work

Our school location on the Mardyke is ideal for easy access to various art galleries and art sites. Our Art Classes can visit and participate in exhibitions and workshops organised by these various organisations. This year we visited the Crawford Art Gallery on a few occasions, going to exhibitions such as 'Behind the Scenes' a selection from the permanent collection, providing an insight into the process of making art, looking after it and restoring it. We also visited a sculpture exhibition by Corban Walker, a contemporary artist, who made this work during a residency at the Sculpture Factory in Cork. Another exhibition 'As Far As The Eye Can See' and an exhibition of print 'Radharc' were inspirational for our 2nd Years learning the craft in class. We also visited 'Meat and Potatoes' at the same Gallery, consisting of contemporary and historic artists whose muse was food.

The Glucksman Gallery is also a short walk from the school and has an excellent educational programme. Our students visited 'A Line Around An Idea' at the Gallery and TY students participated in a drawing workshop. Our 2nd Years also visited this exhibition and another 'Contemporary Art Forms in Nature' by Karl Blossfeldt, a display of 40 photogravures from 1932, capturing microcosmic images of plants and flora, in conjunction with 'Parklife' Biodiversity in Contemporary Irish Art.



The Sculpture Factory on Albert Road is also an annual visit for our TY Art Class with students participating in a tour of this facility, unique to the Republic of Ireland, presenting them with an opportunity to learn about the machinery and technical aspects of making large scale public sculptures for both national and international sites.

Other sites visited on a regular basis by our students include The Museum at Fitzgerald's Park, St Fin Barre's Cathedral and the Honan Chapel in UCC.

Nora Walsh
PBC Art Department

Pres teachers see their sons graduate



(l-r) Thomas McCarthy and his mother Claire McCarthy, Olan Ó Siocháin and his father Caleb Sheehan and Andrew Scannell and his father John

May 2023 sees both a unique and happy occasion as three staff members see their sons graduate from PBC. The pride that parents and their graduating sons feel at this time in Pres is palpable. We heartily congratulate them all and wish the boys well in the next step of their lives.



(l-r) Claire Lynch and Thomas McCarthy



(l-r) Caleb Sheehan and Olan Ó Siocháin



(l-r) John and Andrew Scannell

Debating Reports



Back row (l-r): Ronan McCarthy, Cian Conway, Aaron Alam, Miguel Barbosa-Fleming, Jack Donnelly, Adam Swihart, Cian O'Mahony, Liam Fitzgerald and Adam Wiczorek
Middle row (l-r): Evan Lee, Mark O'Connell, Ruairí Ó Donnacha, Olan O'Donovan, Oscar Madden, Michael Dan Lucey, Ronan McAuliffe, Jack Sheehan and Anaus Syed Muhammad
Front row (l-r): Mr Craig O'Driscoll, Denis Kelly, Conor O'Donovan, Jack Horgan, Harry O'Hourihane, Luke Lynch, Jack McCann, Daniel Gosling, Tadgh O'Connor and Ms Mary O'Driscoll

This academic year saw a number of competitions and inter-school activities for the members of the PBC Debating Society. This began with the October Leagues, a series of Junior Competitions hosted by various schools in Cork over the course of October. These are primarily designed to get 1st Year debaters used to the concept of multi-school debating competitions. This was a tremendously rewarding experience for all involved, especially the 1st Years, who were able to utilise the experience and skills learned during the tournament in future debates throughout the year.

Both Juniors and Seniors had the honour of representing their school in an international debate competition hosted online by Oxford University, which included representatives from numerous other countries. Six Senior debaters took part in the Cork Junior Model UN Conference 2023, a highly enriching experience where they were able to improve their rhetorical and analytical skills, as well as meet with students of similar interests from across the country. A number of senior debaters also took part in a Senior Debating Competition organised by UCC, giving them their first experience of how a College-level debate functions.

Junior debaters also participated in standalone debating competitions in Scoil Mhuire and St Francis College, Rochestown. It was in these debates, which occurred towards the end of the year, that the Junior Debaters were able to showcase how much progress they had made, and how much they had improved since the beginning of the academic year. A busy and eventful year has helped to develop and improve our debaters' skills. We look forward with much enthusiasm to next year's calendar of events.

Ronan McCarthy

Chairman's Tenure Review

The end of this academic year marks the end of my third year as Chairman of the PBC Debating Society. Without doubt, the last three years have been some of the most enjoyable years of my life, and I will truly miss debating. I was elected Chairman in 4th Year in the midst of the pandemic, and with the support of the school and the support I received within debating, we were able to keep debating going.

Throughout my three years as Chairman, I have learned to rely on those around me to help when things have gone wrong and things have... plenty of times, I can assure you! Without a shred of doubt, it's the Junior students in debating that come along every Friday, the Seniors that adjudicate and help out and the teachers involved that keep it going. Debating within Pres is a community, a fabulous one, one which I will miss beyond all belief, the Friday sessions, the competitions and the craic that it was.

It was a great three years but I haven't any concern about the future of debating in Pres. The lads there currently I know will ensure that the standard of debating will become even stronger within the school into the future.

Ronan McAuliffe
Chairman 2020 - 2023

Musical Society have had a very active year



Back row (l-r): Louis Flynn, Liam Keville, Olan O'Donovan, Michael Dan Lucey and Brian O'Leary
Front row (l-r): Miguel Barbosa-Fleming, Arron Alam, Mark O'Connell, Ms Mary O'Driscoll and Cameron Lee

The 2022 / 2023 school year proved to be very a prosperous year for PBC's own Music Society. With the instalment of new lighting and sound systems, the student-run organisation held several successful Open Mic Sessions as well as taking part in the annual Christmas Concert. The Society also acquired new guitar, bass and microphone equipment to further boost the performances of this talented group. If you have any interest in the musical arts, be it classical or modern, the Music Society is open for all to join. Special thanks to Mr David O'Riordan and Ms Mary O'Driscoll for their support in all of the group's efforts.

Miguel Barbosa-Fleming

Biology Field Trip to the National Park, Killarney



5th Year Biology group pictured in Killarney, 21st April 2023



(l-r) John Wigginton Barrett, Greg Loughed and Barry Keane



(l-r) Perter Cullinane, Ben Wrixon and David O'Mahony



(l-r) Eoghan Aherne, Ben Wrixon and Peter Cullinane

5th Year Ski Tour to Italy



(l-r) Ian Lehane, Peter Scott, Alison Crowley, Craig O'Driscoll and Evette Murphy

The Annual PBC 5th Year Ski Tour hit the slopes of the unsuspecting sleepy village of San Valentino in beautiful Italy last February. The young men who toured were a credit to themselves, their parents and the school for the duration of the trip.

In the first instance, they showed fantastic respect to the hotel, the instructors, myself and all my colleagues for the entire tour. Any cross words were very few and far between and even if deserved, they were forgotten about immediately by everyone.

Secondly, they showed great resilience. Not everyone took to skiing immediately but all kept getting up and going again and again, despite falls, fatigue and frustration. In the end, each and every one of our beginners mastered a red slope at a very minimum, and all seemed to be quite proud of their achievement. The smiling faces of 55 boys hanging up their skis on last and second last days in particular were a joy to behold.





A special note of thanks must go to our group of advanced skiers who are forced into lessons even though many of them can ski as well as most instructors. They showed great patience, giving their time to their friends who were beginners when not in lessons, and most importantly they killed nobody (despite some of their best efforts!!!). Hopefully they also learned a little along the way.

Overall, this was another truly fantastic trip. Thanks to the parents and PBC Management for supporting the trip. Huge thanks also to my colleagues who gave up their personal time to ensure the trip could happen. But above all, thanks to the lads. Their attitude, whether it came to skiing, indoor soccer, table quiz, cross country running / butt sliding, was superb and their good natured competitive spirit was very evident for all to see.

On a separate note, Guiseppe from the gorgeous local pizzeria 'Pizzeria Risorante Picalmino' wants to say 'Grazie' to the lads for putting the last of his kids through college. I wouldn't blame them. The pizzas were truly sensational!!!

Peter Scott
Ski Tour Leader





The Class of 2023 as 1st Years back in 2017



Class 1A of 2023



Back row (l-r): Peter Crisp, Harry Geary, John Paul Hegarty, Taylan Gillis, Logan Robertson, Cian Lucey, Lochlan Hutton and Will Daly
Middle row (l-r): Billy Mallin, Jos Keating, Nathan McCarthy, Donagh Murphy, David Kelleher, James Herrick and Oisín Mowlds.
Front row (l-r): Daniel Morrissy, Ruairí O'Callaghan, Tom Gibbons, Charlie Lyons, Liam O'Riordan, Aaron Currane, James Tuite and Greg Cantillon.

Class 1B of 2023



Back row (l-r): Rory Nolan, Maksim Jezkovs, Conor O'Keeffe, Finn Cooney, Calumn O'Kane, Josh Newton, John Noonan and Sam Byrd.
Middle row (l-r): Jack McCarthy, Cormac Rodgers, Conor Minogue, Jack Hartnett, Leon Murphy, Benjamin Lynch, Ronan Dillon and Sam Sexton.
Front row (l-r): James Kenefick, Conor Looney, Cian O'Donovan, Oscar Manning, Harry O'Hourihane, Michael Hennessy, Andrew Hutchinson and Jack McCann.

Class 1C of 2022



Back row (l-r): Ben Ryan, Daniel Buckley, Odhran O'Keeffe, Ben Kelleher, Callum Harrington, James Geary, Eoin MacEaney and Josh Cleary.
Middle row (l-r): Harry O'Brien, Matthew McCarthy, Cian O'Flaherty, Daithi Kidney, Tom Cromie, Sean O'Brien, Pdraig Sheehy and Sean Neary.
Front row (l-r): Corey Browne, James Maume, Conor Duane, Samuel Pallisser-Kehoe, Fionn Lehane, Oran Lyons, Jack Murphy and Tom Collins.

Class 1D of 2022



Back row (l-r): Conor O'Donovan, Josh Keegan, AJ Sheehan-Giltinan, Charlie O'Dowd, Oscar McMahon, Daniel Collins and Ronan Boland
Middle row (l-r): Jack Sheehan, Rory J Murphy, Edmund Burke, Shane Healy, Tom McCarthy, Dawid Wierzbicki, Darragh Cross and Harry Garcin-O'Mahony
Front row (l-r): George Hook, Cian Barry, Abeer Muhammed, Luke Lynch, Greg McCarthy, Christopher Pope and Teddy Quinn.



1st Year students of 2023

We warmly welcome all our new 1st Years into the Pres family and hope they enjoy their years here.



Class 1E of 2023



Back row (l-r): Peter Whitnell, Barry Bourke, Danny Milner, Luke Higgins, Brian Keegan, Rua McSweeney, Jack Ringrose and Ollie Neenan
Middle row (l-r): Mark Finglas, Patrick O'Sullivan, Rory Walsh, Cillian Barry, Logan Keating, Jack O'Grady, Matt Connolly and Rory Murphy
Front row (l-r): Gabriele Pisa, Ryan Li, Louis Hepworth, Daire Hurley, Ben O'Brien, Fionnan Wrixon, Luke O'Mahony and Charlie MacHale

Peer Mentors 2023



Back row (l-r): Ronan Dwyer, Adam Noel, Peter Wall and Andrew Scannell,
Middle row (l-r): James Kelleher, Luke Whelan, Tom Coughlan, Luke Sweetnam, Jerry Murphy, Adam Sorensen and Emmet Fitzgerald
Front row (l-r): Dylan Costelloe, Thomas McCarthy, Jack Kingston, Reuben Skuse, Seán Herlihy and Ian Van Sinderen

Classics Tour to Rome 2023



Students on the famous Spanish Steps in Rome



Students pose outside the Colosseum

Another enthralling year for Pres Rugby!



The victorious 2023 Senior and Junior Cup Squads

Another enthralling year in PBC Rugby, Senior Cup Champions, back-to-back Junior Cup Champions, back-to-back McCarthy Cup Champions. PBC have now contested the final of every competition at age grade in Munster Rugby in the last two years. Our Bowen Shield and Barry Cup teams were just pipped in their respective finals by CBC, with our Senior team taking revenge for a 1st Round defeat with an emphatic 24-0 win over our rivals on the hill in an outstanding final performance that will live long in the memory of all those in the Pres family.

PBC have been well represented this past season at Munster U17, U18, U19 and U20 levels. This was also the case at international level, having key members in the Irish Grand Slam winning teams at Senior and at U20 level, past pupil representatives at Irish Universities, and current and past pupils representing PBC at Ireland U18 Schools and U19 level.

We have record numbers, over 350 pupils playing rugby on a weekly basis. Three years ago, PBC Rugby, as an entity, knew we had to change our approach to coaching the game we all love. We modified our approaches and techniques and attempted new things while adhering to our original vision, using patience and faith in the process hoping to achieve our goals. Our overall aim was to introduce the 'Pres Way' of playing Rugby. This was embodied in how our teams approached the game, bringing in a system which empowers our boys and our young men to be decision makers and play makers in their own right. In short, a way of play which was clearly evident in how our teams played this year, and particularly visible in our Senior group.

Our 1st Years had great wins throughout the year, not only against our rivals on the hill but also against the might of Blackrock College in Wilton. We travelled the length and breadth of the country playing in Bray, Dublin, Kildare, Limerick and Tipperary, representing the school excellently on all occasions.

Great thanks is due to all the coaches at each level, who give tirelessly of the time. Their commitment knows no bounds, and without their efforts we would not be able to run PBC Rugby.

Our investment in Wilton is on-going. Our High Performance Centre will be open, all going well, in early June. We must shoot for the stars if we are to succeed. We are also hoping to upgrade the floodlights at our rugby facility there this summer and our grounds maintenance will continue throughout the summer period.

We in PBC Rugby wish to sincerely thank our sponsors, without whom none of these projects would be possible. We look forward to long and fruitful relationships into the future with all involved in PBC Rugby. Our annual Golf Classic will take place again in June and we look forward to meeting everyone at this occasion.

Thanks also to all those who do trojan work behind the scenes, the ancillary staff in PBC, in particular, Marita Kidney, Michael Jordan and Barry O'Connor. A particular word of thanks to Mr Willie O'Keeffe who does an unbelievable amount of work in the background to make sure PBC Rugby is a smooth operation. We are greatly indebted to all those stalwarts.



The victorious 2023 Senior Cup Squad

PBC Rugby is very much a team effort we are constantly looking for new people to help us out. Please come and join us in Wilton to help if you can, or just for a chat and a coffee. 'Ní neart go cur le chéile!' There is strength in numbers. We look forward to seeing you all in Wilton next season, for what hopefully will be another hugely successful year in PBC Rugby.

Is mise le meas,

Brian McMahon
Games Master PBC Rugby



The victorious 2023 McCarthy Cup Squad

Keeping it in the family!



(l-r) Brothers Bobby and Scott Kelleher with the Junior and Senior Cups



(l-r) Brothers Olan and Max Dillon with the Junior and Senior Cups



Back row (l-r): Niall Brady, Zach Dunne, Mark O'Connell and Liam Buckley
 Middle row (l-r): Ben Cashman, Rory McCarthy, James Kelleher, Luke Sweetnam and Ronan Dwyer
 Front row (l-r): Max Healy, Dave Carthew, Ronan Hennigan, Ben Hutchinson and David Bennett



Grand Slam hero Peter O'Mahony recently visited the school with the 6 Nations and Triple Crown Trophies. He was accompanied by Jacob and Danny Sheahan who brought the U20 Six Nations trophy with them. The lads are seen above with PBC Principal David Barry, Senior Coach Ger Burke, SCT Captain Rory O'Shaughnessy, JCT Captain Frankie Óg Sheahan, McCarthy Cup Captain Rian MacFarlane-O'Shea, SCT Vice Captains James Wixted and Michael O'Sullivan, and JCT Vice Captain, Fionn O'Sullivan.

Munster Players 2022 - 2023



Munster Rugby
(l-r) Rory O'Shaughnessy, Tom Coughlan, Gene O'Leary Kareem and Ben O'Connor



Munster U19 Rugby
(l-r) Ben O'Connor and Rory O'Shaughnessy



Munster U18 Rugby
(l-r) Tom Coughlan and Gene O'Leary Kareem

Ireland Players 2022 - 2023



Ireland Rugby (l-r) Gene O'Leary Kareem, Ireland U18 and Ben O'Connor, Ireland U19



May and Edwin Weldon holding the Junior and Senior Cups at the recent PBC Rugby Victory Lunch

Edwin and May are thrilled with Pres' double success!

All in Pres Rugby were delighted to see our friends and staunch Pres supporters, Edwin and May Weldon, at the recent Victory Lunch on 26th April. Edwin worked as groundsman in Wilton for over twenty years and was associated with many winning Cup campaigns. Since he has retired, May has been at his side supporting Pres when the Cup games come around every February. The double won this season was particularly satisfying for them as they were able to enjoy the success with their grandson, Kian Murphy of Class 5A.

Tennis Corner



PBC U16 Tennis team (l-r) Tommy Fitzgerald, Johnny Fitzgerald, Chris Conlon, Colman Shanley, James O'Regan and Conor Keigher



PBC U14 Tennis Shield team (l-r) Jack O'Mahony, Dave Nolan, Oscar Manning and Matt Connolly



PBC U19 Tennis team (l-r) Harry Murphy, Ashton Dwyer, Chulainm Lyons and Alex Ryan



PBC U14 Tennis Shield team (l-r) Conor Minogue, Matthew McCarthy, Corey Browne and Bobby O'Sullivan

Exciting times for Presentation College Rowing Club



1st Year Rowers 2022 - 2023



Andrew O'Leary took the gold medal home at the National Indoor Rowing Championships



Golden success for our 1st Years (l-r) Josh Keegan, Daniel Collins, Daithí Kidney, Brian Keegan and Donagh Murphy

The 2022 / 2023 season is in full flow. The long winter training is behind us as regattas begin to take place up and down the country. It was a fruitful Head-of-the-River season for Pres RC with plenty of wins and top three finishes in Erne, Shandon and Cork Heads-of-the-River. The Junior 18 squad again showed their competitiveness by going head to head with the strongest crews in the country and consistently finishing in the top spots. Notably, at the National Indoor Rowing Championships, Andrew O'Leary stormed to a gold medal finish in the individual 2,000m category in a blistering time of 6mins 11secs to become officially the fastest Junior 18 on the rowing machine in the country! A brilliant achievement Andrew! He was also part of our winning relay team at the Championships, along with Rex O'Sullivan, Eoghan Ahern and Adam Hartley, which signed off a great day at the event for the club.

At the Munster Schools Indoor Rowing Blitz, our new 1st Year recruits got to race for the first time, along with our 2nd Year squad. The 1st Year team of Donagh Murphy, Daithí Kidney, Daniel Collins, Josh Keegan and Brian Keegan managed to take home the gold in their very first race! The 2nd Year team of Gabriel Whelan, Bob Lee, Shay Rooney, Michael Dunphy and Matthew O'Connor also claimed top spot in their event! Well done to both sets of lads.

Skibbereen Regatta was the first 2k race of the season on the water and took place at the end of the Easter break at the National Rowing Centre, Inniscarra. The event sees crews from across the country race in the first championships distance event of the season. The Junior 14 Quad of Iarlaith Timoney, Shay Rooney, Matthew O'Connor and Louis Dineen had a great row to win their final and start the regatta season with a bang! The Junior 18s finished second in the Four and Eight behind St Josephs of Galway, who are the current national champions. Another great showing from this squad. These positive results mean that all squads are eagerly looking forward to further racing this year!



J18 8 on the podium (l-r) Leo Porion, Darragh Buckley, Adam Hartley, Sam Hernan, Noah Giltinan, Andrew O'Leary, Rex O'Sullivan, Ben Mullane, Eoghan Ahern and Eamonn Colclough, President of Rowing Ireland

Last year was another successful season for the rowing club with all squads performing strongly in competition. Most notably, the Junior 18 squad created Pres Rowing history by becoming the first ever Pres Junior 18 8 to finish on the podium at the National Championships! A historic feat for this dedicated group. The crew of Eoghan Aherne, Ben Mullane, Rex O'Sullivan, Andrew O'Leary, Sam Hernan, Adam Hartley, Darragh Buckley, Leo Porion and cox Noah Giltinan had a great row to finish behind winners St Josephs of Galway, and runners-up Enniskillen Royal Grammar School, the two standard bearers in this event. This was an outstanding achievement for the young crew in one of the most competitive events in Irish Rowing. This crew is underage again this season and we are hoping to better this result at this year's Championships! Very well done lads!



The historic Pres Junior 8 in action at the National Championships



(l-r) Andrew O'Leary and Noah Giltinan in their green jerseys representing Ireland

In August of last season, Andrew O'Leary and Noah Giltinan were selected to represent Ireland in the European Men's Junior Coxed 4 at the 2022 Coupe de la Jeunesse, which took place in Castrelo de Mino, Spain. This was a huge honour for the two lads and a well-deserved achievement for all their hard work. The event is held over two days with boats racing each other in the same category each day. On the first day of competition, the Irish four qualified comfortably for the 'A' Final. In the final however, they didn't have their best row and finished in sixth position, 9secs off the podium. Sunday was better, and the crew really began to find their stride. They again qualified comfortably for the 'A' Final, and this time were determined to put up a much better performance in their last race of the completion. In that final with 500m to go the Irish crew sat in third position, only 1sec off first place. However in the sprint for the line, they slipped back to finish in 5th, only 1 boat length off the Bronze Medal position. This was a much better race from the lads and they showed their true capability as a crew. Both Andrew and Noah are involved in the trialling system again as the Gazette goes to print and we wish them all the best as they both aim to represent Ireland again.



Cutting glass down Lough Mahon



Passing Pairc Uí Chaoimh on a cold morning



The Junior 16 Four heading to the Old Town

Over the Easter break, 22 rowers from the Junior 16 and 18 squads travelled to Amposta, Spain for a week-long training camp. The camp would provide the rowers with a change of scenery from the Marina, and hopefully some warm and sunny weather! Two sessions per day saw the squad clock up 200km of rowing by the end of the week in great conditions. When not on the water, the rowers enjoyed downtime in the quiet town of Amposta while recovering for the following days training. On the final day of camp, the group headed to an adventure park for a well-deserved break from the boats! A big thank you to Ms Cathy Hennessy, Ms Shannen Dawkins, Mr Eoin Hennessy and Mr Stephen Hayes who looked after the group for the week. We are also very grateful to Irish Rugby Tours for their help organising the trip.



The combined Junior 16 and Junior 18 squad at the warm weather training camp in Spain



A post recovery swim is on the cards for the rowing squads after their training camp exertions

Over the Easter break, 22 rowers from the Junior 16 and 18 squads travelled to Amposta, Spain for a week-long training camp. The camp would provide the rowers with a change of scenery from the Marina, and hopefully some warm and sunny weather! Two sessions per day saw the squad clock up 200km of rowing by the end of the week in great conditions. When not on the water, the rowers enjoyed downtime in the quiet town of Amposta while recovering for the following days training. On the final day of camp, the group headed to an adventure park for a well-deserved break from the boats! A big thank you to Ms Cathy Hennessy, Ms Shannen Dawkins, Mr Eoin Hennessy and Mr Stephen Hayes who looked after the group for the week. We are also very grateful to Irish Rugby Tours for their help organising the trip.



A stunning reflection of the lads going through their paces



Our 1st Years win gold at the Munster Schools Indoor Rowing Blitz

Thank you to our coaches

Finally, best of luck to all our squads as they continue on to regatta season and move ever closer to July's National Championships. A huge thank you must go to all the teachers and coaches who dedicate so much of their time to coaching rowing in Pres. Without your efforts, it would not be possible to provide such a successful rowing programme in the school.

Eoin Hennessy
Rowing Coordinator

1st Year rowing began again in January with training on Mondays and Fridays after school in the gym, and on the weekends in Shandon Boat Club at 12.45pm on Saturday and Sunday. Further days may be added as we head towards the summer months. We have a large group of 1st Year rowers signed up but new members are always welcome to come and give rowing a try. If anyone is interested, they should contact Ms Cathy Hennessy or Mr Eoin Hennessy. They'll be very welcome in Pres Rowing!

Thomas McCarthy European Powerlifting Champion



I can remember my older brother James joining a gym in the summer of 2017. He was doing a Junior Cup preseason. I was just finishing 6th Class and wasn't entirely happy with where I was physically. I noticed he was getting bigger and more athletic, so one day I decided to go along with him. He introduced me to the bench-press, deadlift and squat. Back then I couldn't even bench the bar. I had to start with 5kg dumbbells and squat and deadlift weren't much better. The most I could manage on either was 50kg, but I stuck with it. I went to the gym 3-5 times a week from then on with the goal of being physically stronger for rugby and feeling better about myself in general. By 3rd Year I was obsessed. Going to the gym was the highlight of my day. I looked at videos and photos of people online and aspired to be like them.

As lockdown hit in 3rd Year, I started to notice I was getting stronger than most other people my age. I never thought what I was lifting was impressive, because I was constantly comparing myself to others online that were sometimes twice my age. During lockdown I decided I had nothing better to do than chase a dream and the one I had set my eyes on was an Irish powerlifting Sub Junior (18 and under) deadlift record in the U83kg weight class. It sat at 242.5kg a far cry from my personal best of 170kg at the time. Powerlifting is a sport where you have three attempts at each of squat, bench and deadlift. There are individual medals for each lift but the total of your best lift in each contributes to your total for the overall medal. I trained almost every day of lockdown even overtraining at times.

A year later, I did my first competition in August of 2021. My parents were sceptical and I was a bag of nerves. Everyone in the warm up room were so friendly and inviting.

It was a great experience, everyone was shocked I didn't have a coach. I managed a 200kg squat, 105kg bench and a 252.5kg deadlift leaving me in third place in a very competitive U20 division. However, the 252.5 wasn't a record because the competition wasn't an official IPF competition. Two months later in October, I signed up for an official competition and I achieved a dream that I had set over a year previously. I broke the Irish deadlift record but unfortunately it was taken only 48secs later by another lifter! I failed my attempt of 260kg to reclaim it.

A few months later I got a coach online and I never stopped training. I went from strength to strength and fortunately never got injured. Eventually I did another competition in June 2022 in Belfast in which I deadlifted 275kg squatted 235 and benched 112.5kg. That night I received an email from the Irish powerlifting head coach inviting me to compete for Ireland in the world championships in Istanbul that August. It was a dream come true I watched international lifters all over the world and wanted to be like them. I trained hard five days a week that summer without missing a single session.

Although I was predicted 12th place according to the official rankings, I knew I was capable of first overall and a deadlift world record. I was convinced I'd do it. However, on the day I didn't perform at my best. Managing only 110kg in bench, the lightest in my weight class even though I had managed 122.5kg the week before. On my last deadlift even after failing my second and third bench attempts, I was still in the race for first. The weight I had to deadlift just so happened to be a new world record deadlift by 0.5kg (287.5kg). It felt like fate I was convinced I had it after



Thomas McCarthy European Champion

deadlifting 285kg easily the week previously. It didn't budge, I was absolutely heartbroken. I could barely get out of bed the following weeks. I missed out on the overall podium finishing 4th. I could have played it safe and gone for second by deadlifting 275kg which was a weight I had repped in training but I didn't want any 'What ifs'.

I was invited to compete for Ireland at the European Championships in Poland but I also wanted to focus on Senior Cup and the Leaving Cert. I decided to accept it anyway. I knew I was capable of a world record and it was my last year in the age class. I had one last shot. I did rugby 4-5 times a week and powerlifting 5 times a week. It was incredibly tough but Mr Burke, Mr Lehane, Mr Bohan and Mr Buckley always supported my endeavour. The week before I left for Poland, I deadlifted 300kg, squatted 255kg and benched 130kg. I was as prepared as I could ever be. When I put on the Éire singlet that morning I knew even with the small weight cut I had to do, there was no way I was going to leave Poland without achieving my dream after everything I had sacrificed to get there. I squatted 250kg a national record and only 5kg off the European record, then I benched 125kg which was a far better result than Istanbul and finally I deadlifted 288kg which was a world record for only 72secs, with a lifter from Poland taking it by 1kg! It left me with a total of 663kg which was the biggest total that day making me European champion. It was also the biggest total all year for any U83kg Sub-Junior making me the number one ranked in the world for 2022. I just missing out on the biggest Sub-Junior total in any weight class in Ireland ever by only 2kg! Powerlifting is taking off within the school with James Murphy in 5th Year setting a new Irish deadlift record of 283kg in the U93kg Sub-Junior Class at Junior Nationals



Thomas on his way to a gold medal

at the start of April at only 17. He also totalled 613kg making him currently the strongest Sub-Junior in Ireland in any weight class this year. His coach Adam Duane is also a past pupil of Pres who has represented Ireland at the highest level at the World Championships totalling 647.5kg at a body weight of just 71kg, coming 8th in the world in the U74kg Junior (U23) Class. There are many more of up and coming powerlifters in Pres who I'm sure will go on to leave legacies of their own. The work ethic fostered by Pres is one that leads to success in every sector of life.

Thomas McCarthy
Class 6C

James Murphy Irish U93kg National Junior Powerlifting Champion



(l-r) Ronan Dunwell, Adam Duane coach and James Murphy



Irish deadlift record holder James Murphy

5th Year student, James Murphy (17) recently set a new Irish deadlift record of 283kg in the U93kg Sub-Junior class at the National Junior Powerlifting Championships. He totalled 613kg for his three disciplines, making him currently the strongest Sub-Junior lifter in Ireland in any weight class this year. James is coached by Pres past pupil, Adam Duane (Class of 2020), and trains out of the Phenom Gym on the Marina.

Adam is an excellent powerlifter himself, competing in the 74kg category at the 2022 Junior World Championships, a remarkable feat considering that he has only been competing in powerlifting events for less than two years! Another Pres student, Ronan Dunwell (Class 4D) is also under Adam's tutelage at Phenom, and is making rapid progress.

The development of all the lads will be keenly observed in the months and years ahead! We wish them well!

The Ronan Scott Memorial Golf Competition is another huge success!



Congratulations to the winning team (l-r) Seán Deasy, Ronan Nangle and Richie Haly

The 16th edition of the Ronan Scott Memorial Golf Day was held in Lee Valley GCC in May 2022. The day itself commemorates our friend and colleague, Ronan, who sadly passed away in January 2006. The event was won in impressive style by a team captained by Ronan Nangle and featured Richie Haly and PBC student and current Irish U16 Boys champion, Seán Deasy.



(l-r) Conor Scott, Adam Scott and Richard Scott



(l-r) Trevor Spring, Moss O'Herlihy and PBC Principal David Barry



(l-r) Caleb Sheehan, Willie O'Keeffe and Ian Lehane



(l-r) Michael Harty, Gary Squires and Liam Tuohy



(l-r) Greg Lougheed, Aidan Lougheed and Simon Lougheed



Seán Deasy

Seán Deasy Irish Boys U16 Champion 2022

5th Year student, Seán Deasy, playing out of Douglas GC, won the Irish Boys U16 Golf Championship by three strokes, at Lucan GC in August 2022. Seán had rounds of 69, 68 and 68 for a total of -7, a three shot margin over Royal Belfast's Finlay Eager in second place. Eager started the final round three clear of the field, but a tremendous back nine, with four birdies, sealed the deal for Seán. More great performances are expected of Seán in the near future. We wish him the very best in his golf career.

PBC Soccer



Pres U19 Soccer Team 2023

Back row (l-r): Ian Van Sinderen, Thomas Egan, Ronan O'Shea, Max Healy, Neville O'Leary, Leon Henson, Charlie Cummins and Sam Murphy.

Middle row (l-r): Oliver Bogue, Luke Sweetnam, Tom McCarthy, Patrick Brohy, Rory Moloney, Jack Kingston, Robert Barry, Jerry Murphy, Luke O'Donnell and Seán McBride.

Front row (l-r): Mr John Mullarkey (Coach), Leon Sahm, Andrew Scannell, Deckie Fitzgerald, Zach Dunne (Captain), Charlie Collins, Cian McGrath, Sam O'Connell, Dara O'Brien and Mr John Kavanagh (Coach).



Pres U17 Soccer Team 2023

Back row (l-r): Ronan O'Shea, Sam O'Connell, Leon Henson, Tadhg Daly and Deckie Fitzgerald

Middle row (l-r): Jack O'Sullivan, Danny Nestor, Tom Barry, Peter Burke, Fiachra Wal and Ben O'Connell

Front row (l-r): Seán McBride, Luke Barry, Robert Barry, Daire O'Brien, Cian Sweeney and Thomas Egan

Soccer is flourishing in PBC



Pres 1st Year Soccer Team 2023

Back row (l-r): Ms Rebecca Walsh (Coach), Rónán Boland, Josh Newton, Charlie O'Dowd, Jack McCarthy, Tom McCarthy, Daniel Buckley, Patrick O'Sullivan, Shane Healy, Edmund Burke, David Kelleher, Luke Higgins, Logan Keating and Mr Shane Twomey
Front row (l-r): Odhran O'Keeffe, Luke O'Mahony, Ryan Li, Ollie Neenan, James Kenefick, Callum Harrington, Tom Gibbons, Tom Collins, Peter Crisp, Fionnán Wrixon, Cian O'Flaherty and Greg McCarthy.

1st Year Soccer Report

Coaches: Shane Twomey, Rebecca Walsh

There was much to be proud of with this year's group. An impressive campaign in the Munster Cup ended at the semi-final stage with a narrow 1-0 defeat by a solid Tralee CBS side. In an even game where both sides had chances, Pres were incredibly unlucky not to level the game- hitting the underside of the crossbar in the final seconds.

The Cork Cup campaign ended prematurely following a defeat to a strong Midleton CBS side in the early stages. A sluggish first half saw our boys two goals down but the character of this side was evident in a resilient second half performance, pulling a goal back with fifteen minutes to go. Once again it came down to the final seconds but Midleton held firm and progressed. Although the season ended in disappointment, the future is bright for this very talented group of youngsters.

U19 Soccer Report - Senior Munster Cup

The U19s started their Munster Cup campaign away to Coláiste An Chraoibhín. After a dominant win, they were then drawn at home to Carrigtwohill CC. Pres started the game well and took an early lead. From there on the scoring continued in what was a stellar performance. The game finished 8-0 with goals coming from Conor Dalton, Luke O'Donnell, Ronan O'Shea, Sean McBride, Sam O'Connell and Zach Dunne.

Next up, they faced a strong Ashton side, where after a slow first-half they emerged as 3-1 winners. At the Quarter-Final stages, Pres faced a very strong Douglas CS side. PBC took the lead thanks to a Sean McBride goal, but Douglas responded well and scored two goals in quick succession. After relentless pressure from Pres in the second-half, they finally scored an equalizer to make it 2-2 to send the game to extra-time. However, late in extra-time, Douglas CS grabbed the all-important winning goal.

Zach Dunne

Senior Cork Cup

PBC started the Senior Cork Cup with a convincing 6-0 win over Terence MacSwiney Community College. The second round was against Ashton. As the two had already met in the Munster Cup there was a noticeable tension between both sides. The game started off at a high intensity with both teams attacking relentlessly. PBC started to gain possession as the first half wore on. The first-half ended 0-0 with PBC on top. The second half was a more dominant half for PBC. The game ended 2-0 with goals coming from Sean McBride and Charlie Cummins.

The quarter final was against Edmond Rice College, Carrigaline. PBC began strongly, with chances coming from all angles. The first goal came from Barry Collins, who finished well from close range. The half-time whistle blew moments later. PBC started the second half strongly and got two quick-fire goals, one from Sam Murphy and the other from Barry Collins. Edmond Rice, with nothing to lose, began pressing high. The pressing eventually paid off with a lovely struck ball from outside the box. They continued to press and got their second. Despite the setback, PBC remained calm. A piece of individual brilliance from Charlie Cummins gave PBC some breathing space, 4-2 to PBC. However, Edmond Rice weren't finished just yet as they got another goal to pile the pressure on. PBC held on to the lead and came away with a 4-3 win. They will now face old rivals CBC in the semi final.

Luke O'Donnell

U15 Soccer Report

This year's under 15 squad suffered two narrow defeats in this season's cup competitions. The Munster Cup saw them lose 1-0 in a closely fought game with Carrigtwohill. Both sides had good chances but Carrigtwohill won the game with a late counter attack. The Cork Cup saw a defeat to CSN on penalties after a tense encounter which could have gone either way.

Conor Power, Coach



Pres U16 Soccer Team 2023

Back row (l-r): Daniel Burke, George McSweeney, Barry O'Driscoll, Devin Delea, Tiago Fleming, Oscar McCarthy and Charlie Desmond

Middle row (l-r): Dylan Lynch, Charlie Nestor, Ted Connolly, Jonathan McLoughlin, David Nolan, Liam Cummins, Andrew Hinds and Sam McKenna-Carroll

Front row (l-r): Michael O'Keeffe, Shane O'Shaughnessy, Adam Daly, Hugo Maguire, Ben Doyle and Alex Moloney



Pres U15 Soccer Team 2023

Back row (l-r): Tom Kelly, Tommy Fitzgerald, Paul Kelly, Johnny Fitzgerald, Sam Warner

Middle row (l-r) Conal McBride, Conor O'Mahony, Oscar Naughton, Robert Sheehan, Daniel Wiseman, James Healy, David Nolan, Billy O'Connell, Darragh Pomeroy and Mr Conor Power (Coach)

Front row (l-r) Jack Browne, Peter Collins, Jack O'Mahony, Danny Jim Ó Donnchadha, Alex Moloney, Ben Doyle, Liam O'Brien and Andrew Hinds

Sports Day 2023







Athletics Report



Junior Cross Country Team (l-r) Paul Kelly, Liam O'Brian, Andrew Hinds, Tom Kelly, Matthew McCarthy and Harry Geary

PBC Athletics continued its fine tradition of success this year, with many athletes representing the school at varying levels in both the Track & Field and Cross-Country Competitions. Our Track and Field athletes excelled at every level last season, with three individuals qualifying for the National Finals. Matthew Wilkins started us off strongly with a silver medal in the Triple Jump, which he soon followed up with a solid 6th place finish in the Long Jump. Both excellent results, particularly because he's new to the sport! Matthew was subsequently invited to compete in the prestigious Tailteann Games. A notoriously high standard event, Matthew competed well and finished 3rd in the Triple Jump and 7th in the Long Jump. He is still young enough to compete in this age category again this year! Next up was Conor Twomey in the U16 Mile, where he placed 10th in a very competitive field. A very impressive performance. Finally, Oscar Naughton competed in the Junior Pole Vault and Discus. Both highly technical events, Oscar performed brilliantly and came away with 4th in the Pole Vault and 3rd in the Discus.

Our Cross-Country teams also impressed this year, with a record two teams qualifying for the National Finals in Waterford. Our minor team of Conor Looney, Jack McCarthy, Callum Harrington, Ruairí O'Callaghan, Ronan Dillon, Ben O'Brien, Charlie MacHale and Logan Robertson were up first. They navigated what can only be described as horrific conditions on their way to a superb 10th place finish. The team showed huge resilience and grit in an immensely challenging race, particularly for a team comprised of primarily novice runners!

The Junior team of Andrew Hinds, Paul Kelly, Tom Kelly, Liam O'Brien and Matthew McCarthy had even worse conditions to manage! They persevered and managed an 8th place finish. A fantastic result despite illness and injury!

We as a school are immensely proud of our athletes and all they have achieved in the last 12 months. A special thank you to parents and staff for all the support that contributed to our success!

All roads lead to the Mardyke Arena next as this year's Track and Field season gets underway with the South Munster's starting on the 6th May. Best of luck to all athletes competing, hoping they come home laden down with medals!

Shannen Dawkins
PBC PE Department



Minor Cross Country team (l-r) Conor Looney, Ronan Dillon, Ben O'Brien, Charlie MacHale and Ruairí O'Callaghan

All Ireland Athletics Championships



(l-r) Conor Twomey U16 Mile participant and Oscar Naughton, Junior Pole Vault and Discus bronze medalist



Matthew Wilkins, Silver Medallist in the Junior (U17) Triple Jump at the National Finals

Cork Senior Gaelic Football Championship



Back row (l-r): Greg Loughheed, Conor Dalton, Peter Lavery, Harry Wixted, Cian McGrath, Barry Keane, Daire Cuthbert, Paddy Walsh, Liam Buckley, Sam Murphy, Jerry Murphy, Dave Coughlan, Thomas Egan and Barry Collins
Front row (l-r): Eddie Coughlan, John Wiggington-Barrett, Ronan Power, Dave Carthew, Fintan O'Flynn, Ricky Barrett, James O'Leary, Harry Murphy and Eoin Murphy

Pictured above is the team who played Coláiste Treasa from Kanturk on 27th April 2023. The match took place in Mallow GAA club. Despite a strong show from Pres, unfortunately we lost by a goal. A whole hearted display saw us come from nine points down to put huge pressure on Kanturk.

Pres lads power the 'Barrs to the Cork County Senior Hurling Championship



(l-r): Ethan Twomey, Sam Cunningham, Ben Cunningham, Ben O'Connor and Brian Hayes.
Missing from the photo was JJ O'Connor.

Under 16½ Gaelic Football, Munster Championship Season Summary



Back row (l-r): Daniel Burke, Dylan Lynch, Michael O'Keeffe, Cillian Murphy, Thomas Egan, Frank Balfry, Harry Murphy, Dave Coughlan, Joe Hennessy, Barry Collins, Shane O'Shaughnessy, Ricky Barrett, Tiago Fleming, Cian Woulfe and Seán Herrick
Front row (l-r): Luke Mullins, Tom Murphy, Daire McStay (Captain), Ronan Bradley, Jack Murphy, Jack Tompkins, Finbarr Murphy, Con O'Donoghue, Michael Mullins, Barry O'Driscoll and Alex Roche

Spanish Point: First match of the season for both teams in January 2023 but no second chances as it's a straight knockout competition. On a 4G pitch in the UL Arena, there was a strong wind in favour of Pres in the first half. We worked the ball well using the wind to our advantage with scores coming mostly from out the field. With the wind to their back in the second half, Spanish Point were able to come within two points, but a consistent Pres managed to keep the scoreboard ticking over leading to Pres leaving with a four point victory of 3-10 to 3-06 to start the season.

Cashel: A very shaky start for Pres in Boherlahan-Dualla with three goals in rapid fire succession coming in the first ten minutes from the Cashel full forward line. However, a calm and collected Pres managed to work the ball well through the middle of the field with goals from Thomas Egan and Shane O'Shaughnessy. With a goal in it in the end, Pres managed to see out a win with a score of 4-07 to 3-07.

Tarbet: An important game, in March 2023, with a path to the semi-final on the line in the UL Arena. Pres showed great scoring ability with goals coming from Jack Tompkins and Thomas Egan to help see out a clear victory over Tarbet Comprehensive. A very assured game from the Pres back line also helped keep a steady build of momentum with Pres with a finishing impressive score of 6-8 to 2-3.

Kenmare: A tough start for us in terrible conditions in Banteer as Kenmare dominated possession with well-worked scores coming from their full forward line. With conditions clearing up, Pres struggled to get the score board moving with frustration coming from multiple missed goal chances. Ultimately, Kenmare finished with a comprehensive victory with the score ending 3-13 to 1-10 ending Pres' season.

This was the first time we competed at this age grade and the season overall was a successful start. We also won a challenge match against Bishopstown in between the Cashel and Tarbert matches.

Mr Larry Tompkins came on board as our coach and his training sessions had strong attendances. A sincere thank you to Mr Tompkins for his involvement. We greatly appreciated the input of Mr Liam Lynch and Mr John Connaughton.

Panel of Players: Alex Roche, Barry Collins, Barry O'Driscoll, Cian Wolfe, Cillian Murphy, Conn O'Donoghue, Daire McStay, Daniel Burke, David Coughlan, Dylan Lynch, Finbarr Murphy, Frank Balfry, Harry Murphy, Jack Murphy, Jack Tompkins, James O'Leary, Joe Hennessy, Luke Mullins, Michael Mullins, Michael O'Keeffe, Rickey Barrett, Ronan Bradley, Sam McKenna Carroll, Seán Herrick, Shane O'Shaughnessy, Thomas Egan, Tiago Fleming and Tom Murphy.

Daire McStay
Team Captain
(Class 4E)

Dan Cowhie RIP - Obituary



Photo shows (l-r) Paul Cowhie, Dan Cowhie RIP, PBC Principal David Barry and Joe Cowhie

Dan Cowhie, who had the distinction of being Pres' oldest living past pupil, passed away at his home in Malahide, Co. Dublin, on April 12th last, shortly after celebrating his 101st birthday.

Dan was born in Cork City on April 2nd, 1922. His father, Frank, ran a grocery provision shop with his brother on Princes Street for many years. When the time came for schooling, Dan's parents felt he should become acquainted with the Irish language so they sent him to the Model School on Angelsea Street in Cork City.

Dan walked all the way from Magazine Road, down Barrack Street and the South Mall, his journey taking over half an hour to get to the Model School. As he passed into the school each day, he saw a very big collapsed building covered with weeds and thick granite blocks all over the place. At that time, he didn't pay much attention to it, but on checking with his father in later years, he discovered that it was the City Hall, that had been burnt to the ground by the Auxiliaries in 1920!

During Dan's childhood, his family used to go on holidays to Fennell's Bay in Crosshaven for August and September, swimming and watching the ocean liners visiting Cobh. He also loved playing cricket with two brothers, Maurice and James Aherne, who went to primary school in Pres. After bonding with them, the decision was sealed, Dan was going to secondary school in Pres!

He often played soccer in an area on Highfield Avenue, close to his home on Magazine Road, on ground that had not yet been built on. There he met Charlie Teehan (a future Irish rugby International), as well as Tim and Pat Barry both of whom played for both Pres and Con.

Dan started in Pres in September 1935, ending up in the same class as the writer, David Marcus, and Con Finn, a member of the famous Pres family, of Finn's Corner fame. During 1935 / 1936, he played rugby with the Junior group, playing in and winning the Cagney Shield Competition in 1936. This competition enabled the school to select the 1937 Junior Cup team and to his surprise, he was selected. Alas, Dan was given the disappointing news that he and his family would be moving to Kilkenny at the end of that academic year. Leaving Pres was a huge emotional wrench for him.

Dan finished his secondary education in Kilkenny, later moving to Dublin with his family, and where he entered the workforce after completing his Leaving Cert. He had a short stint in ESSO, where he was involved in stocktaking and later moved to confectionery company, Cadburys, who had recently opened a plant in Dublin. It was here that Dan fully blossomed, being encouraged to study at night for his Professional Accountancy exams, a very difficult thing to achieve when one had a full time day job. It was a task he completed with aplomb however! Later in his adult life, Dan was appointed Financial Director of Veritas Publications, where he worked until his retirement.

Outside of the workplace, Dan and his wife, Mary reared their family in Malahide, and were active members of the local community. Dan maintained his interest in sport throughout his life, in particular, his beloved rugby and also tennis, where his son, Michael, played Davis Cup for Ireland. He was a long-time member of the Dublin branch of the Pres PPU and kept in touch with Pres rugby performances through the Cork Examiner.



Dan Cowhie



Dan proudly wearing the Pres jersey back in 1936

Having made renewed contact with the school through former Pres Principal, Ken Whyte, in 2015, Dan made a long awaited return visit to Pres in early 2019. He was accompanied to Cork by his son, Paul, and was driven around Cork by his first cousin, Joe Cowhie (a Coláiste Chríost Rí graduate) and the three retraced Dan's childhood stomping ground, Wellington Square, on Magazine Road amongst other landmarks around Cork that Dan would have been familiar with many years ago. Dan also met with PBC Principal, David Barry, former Deputy Principal Aiden Twomey and staff member, Willie O'Keeffe, on his visit and thoroughly enjoyed walking the corridors and seeing familiar faces on the school walls that jogged so many happy memories for him.

Dan was predeceased by his beloved wife, Mary, and will be very sadly missed by his loving children Kathryn, Yvonne, Paul and Michael, sons-in-law Aiden and Willie, daughter-in-law Aoife, his grandchildren Sinead, Saskia, Andrew, Nicholas, Kiara and his great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Don Buckley

Pres impress at the Munster Senior Schools Swimming Championships



Louis Flynn (5th Year), Jack Bugler (4th Year), Colman Shanley (2nd Year), Aidan McGrath (4th Year) and Donnacha Leane (2nd Year). David O'Leary (2nd Year) also medalled but is missing from the photo.

Munster Senior Schools Swimming Championships event took place in University College Limerick on Sunday the 5th February 2023. Pres swimmers achieved great results and a number of personal bests. Pres also took 3rd place in the Boys 14-16 200 meter medley relay. Well done to all the athletes involved.

Ms Kirsti O'Flynn

Eshan O'Sullivan on the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup training panel



Eshan is a cricket all-rounder and has represented Pres as well as captaining Munster at both U15 and U18 level. At the age of 16, he made his debut with the Cork County 1st XI playing in the Munster Premier Division. He is now a regular member of the Munster Heat development squad and in 2022, he was selected for the Irish training squad which is preparing for the ICC Men's U19 Cricket World Cup to be held in Sri Lanka in January 2024. All at Pres wish Eshan the very best of luck.

Eshan O'Sullivan

Down Memory Lane



Sports Day 1986

A trio of PBC 'legends' on duty for Sports Day at the UCC Sports Ground, The Marddyke in May 1986
(l-r) Declan Healy, Declan Kidney and Master of Ceremonies, Mick Dunphy, on the microphone!



Reflection

May you find serenity and tranquility in a world you may not always understand.
May conflict and obstacles you have experienced give you strength to go through life facing each new situation with courage and optimism.
May you know that there are people around you whose love and understanding will always be present.
May you discover enough goodness in others to believe in a world of peace.
May a kind word, a reassuring touch and a warm smile be yours every day of your life, and may you give these gifts as well as receive them.
May you remember the sunshine when the storms seem unending.

May you teach love to those who know hate and may the teaching of those you admire become part of you.
May you find time in each day to see the beauty and love in the world around you.
May you realise that each person has many abilities but each of us is different in our own way.
May you see your future as one filled with promise and opportunity.
May you learn to view everything as a worthwhile experience.
And may you always feel loved.