

Principal's Report to the Parents' Association

October- November 2024:

- Portmarnock Community School students were delighted with their Junior Certificate results on 9th October. Congratulations to all the Junior Cert students on their impressive results.
- 6th years completed study and revision skills seminars last week; the engagement and feedback from the students was very positive.
- The first year 'Freshers Fair' event run by senior students and the PE department was a huge success with strong numbers of students signing up for extra curricular sports and activities from camogie to tennis.
- GAA fixtures have been taking place with 2nd years narrowly losing out to St Aidan's community school, and the girls under 16 Gaelic football team securing a hard fought victory against Saint Dominic's College Cabra.
- Transition Year Journalism class launched their brand new monthly TY Newsletter in September; October's edition will no doubt be filled with exciting descriptions of their encounter with the team from Reptile Haven who visited on 6th October and the teambuilding day that followed on the 7th with a series of activities facilitated by Teamworks in the sunshine.
- Congratulations to Ava D'arcy and Charlie Fitzgerald, new Head Girl and Head boy and their Deputies Anna Keogh and Rhys Gilmartin- congratulations to all 20 newly appointed prefects.
- The Spanish Department hosted a Spanish Quiz for Junior students and the prefects hosted a friendship quiz for 1st years last week- all part of supporting the transition to post primary school and learning through alternative activities.

- The Day School students have been reaching out to their counterparts in the Adult Ed classes by volunteering to act as hosts and guides during the opening weeks of the new Adult Education Term
- Climate Action and Sustainable Development Design Review Day- attended by Ms Williams by invitation from Oide- a workshop to finalise resources for use in Professional Learning Experiences for teachers of the new Leaving Cert subject (Navan 9th October)
- On 16th October, Transition Year students hosted student delegations from Malahide Community School and Malahide & Portmarnock Educate Together schools to undergo training for the North Dublin Planet Youth surveys later this year. <https://planetyouthpartner.ie/north-dublin/> (Planet Youth is an international evidence-informed primary prevention model, developed by the Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis (ICtSRA) at Reykjavik University. It was initially developed in order to reduce substance use rates amongst young people. The model uses a whole population approach and offers the opportunity to improve health and life outcomes for young people in many areas. It works by directly targeting the risk and protective factors that determine their substance use behaviours and enhancing the social environment they are growing up in. By reducing the known risk factors and strengthening the known protective factors the problems associated with adolescent substance use and related negative behaviours can be reduced or stopped before they arise.)
- School is closed to students on Thursday 7th November to facilitate Oide training for Senior Cycle
- Monday 11th November PPAD-E Literacy Test - All 1st year students for morning classes 1-4. Classes as normal periods 5 to period 9.
- **November Assessments** will begin for:
- 5th and 6th years on Monday 11th November

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd years on Thursday 14th November
- Final day of exam timetable is Wednesday 20th November
- Leaving Certificate 2024 Awards Evening will be held in school on 19th November
- Careers and College Expo evening on November 28th