

St Eunans College

TY Future Leader Primary Schools 5th class blitz

18/4/24

It was a great day in St Eunan's College today! Mr Gary Mc Daid's Transition Year GAA Future Leaders class hosted their annual 5th class blitz, with 10 local primary schools in attendance.

For the fixtures there were two groups each containing 5 teams. Fixture Group A had Glenswilly NS, Illistrin NS, Termon NS, Dunfanghy Schools (combined) and Scoil Cholmcille.

Group A seemed to show the strongest performances of the tournament, with the strongest team being Glenswilly NS showing excellent performances all around the pitch with Caolan Devine and Sean Devine having stand out performances.

Termon came out second in the group with more great performances.

Illistrin NS and Scoil Cholmcille had a tight battle in the middle of the table with Illistrin finishing in 3rd place and Scoil Cholmcille finishing 4th and Dunfanaghy in 5th place.

Group B had more great games and battles all over the field. Lurgybrack and Woodlands both won all their group games and it was down to them to play each other for the decider of 1st place.

Woodlands came out on top beating Lurgybrack by a point with final score of Woodlands 2 and Lurgybrack 1 (goals and points the same)

With Woodlands beating Lurgybrack, Woodlands finished 1st of group and Lurgybrack finishing 2nd. Magherabeg came out 3rd place in the group B with Kilmacrennan and Creeslough finishing joint 4th and 5th place.

Division 2 semi final(shield), was a tight game between Magherabeg and Illistrin it ended up in a draw with 4 points each after a last minute score by Illistin footballer Ollie Haran.

There were tight battles on the pitch and the game ended up going to penalties with Illistrin coming off the better side with winning on penalties.

The other Division 2 (shield) semi final was between Creeslough and Scoil Cholmcille.It was another entertaining game.Scoil Cholmcille got the better of Creeslough and beat them by 4 scores with the final score of Scoil Cholmcille 8 scores and Creeslough 4 scores.

Going into our first final of the day, Kilmacrennan took an early lead against Dunfanaghy. This was the highest scoring game of the day it was a thriller of a game to watch and was one of the most exciting.The final score was Kilmacrennan NS 11 scores to Dunfanaghy NS 11 scores.But this didn't end here! This game went to a shoot-out for 16 penalties with Dunfanaghy NS leaving with the plate title.

We then went into our shield final. The two teams competing for the shield was Scoil Cholmcille and Illistrin NS. The two teams never gave up and put a great battle between each other. Although the stronger team showed up and Scoil Cholmcille came through by winning the shield. The final score was Scoil Cholmcille 11 scores and Illistrin 6 scores.

Our final game of the day was our cup final. It ended in a local derby where Glenswilly faced Termon. This was a brilliant game with both teams putting up a good fight and everyone out watching was very entertained. The top players of the match were Dominic Gallagher from Termon, and 2 brilliantly skilled players Caolan Devine and Sean Devine coming against each other. Although Glenswilly had 2 standout players, it was a team effort that won it for them in the end. The winning team was Glenswilly NS who won it with 13 scores to Termon 7 scores.

Throughout the tournament we had some very talented players to be seen and it was clear that there is a lot of future talent.

Noteable performances of the day:

Termon NS- Dominic Gallagher.

Glenswilly NS- Caolan and Sean Devine

Woodlands NS- Charlie Carr and Michael Murphy.

Creelough NS- Odhran McDaid.

Illistrin NS- Ben Roche

These players made a great impression today during the tournament.

There was excellent team & individual performances today. The future of the GAA is looking bright!

Overall the day went seamlessly. It was a very successful event and everything went to plan. The attitude and performance from players and coaches was outstanding.

The primary school staff enjoyed tea and biscuits, and the players enjoyed hot food along with some drinks provided from the school canteen.

We couldn't have done this without the refreshment team so a big thanks to them and the canteen staff for providing everything.

Also in attendance today was TG4, they interviewed members of staff from our primary schools attending, neutral spectators and Mr Jarlaith Burns about their opinion on the time of year that the All Ireland Final is played. It was aired on the 7 o'clock evening news that evening.

Thanks again to everyone who turned up and came out to support.

To finish we want to say a big thanks to the new president of the GAA Jarlath Burns for travelling to Saint Eunan's Collage to enjoy the day with all. Mr Burns gave the players a great motivational speech at the end of the day, explaining to them how lucky they are to have the opportunities they have with the GAA.

Maith Sibh agus go raibh maith agaibh.

By Odhran Ryan and Thomas Dooher



Pictured is L-R: Niall Haran, Manus Friel Mr Jarlaith Burns, Thomas Dooher, Principal Damien McCrory and Donegal PRO Sinead Breen. This is the presentation of €350.00 raised for charity Aoibheanns Pink Tie in memory of our late past pupil Callum Friel.

The TY Future Leaders class ran a bake sale in the school to cover the cost of the prizes. They ended up making €350 more than they needed, so decided to donate the remainder to a charity that helped the family of past pupil Callum Friel who passed away in January 2020.

Callum was a 17 year old talented sportsman who was in 5th year in Saint Eunan's college before he passed away. He was remembered in today's blitz throughout the day.



Termon NS, Coach Cormac Cassidy



Woodland NS, Coach Shay Deasley



Magherabeg NS, Coach Ronan Bunchanan



Glenswilly NS, Coach Pauric Devine



Dunfanaghy NS, Coach Liam Mcginley



Illistrin NS, Coach Ryan Bradley



Lurgybrack NS, coach Ronan Ferry



Kilmacrennan NS, Coach Nathan Grant



Creeslough NS, Coach Zach Harvey



Scoil Cholmcille, Coach Fynn Sullivan



Player of tournament Sean Devine along with Mr Gary Mcdaid, Mr Colm McFadden, Manus Friel, Mr president Jarlath Burns!



Donegal GAA Pro Sinead Breen along with Principal Damian Mc Croary and former Donegal all Ireland winner Colm McFadden along with President Jarlath Burns



Glenswilly NS with their well deserved cup!



Dunfanaghy NS Plate winner!



Scoil Cholmcille NS Shield winners!



Snapshot of staff Mr Ricky Gallagher, Mr Gary Mcdaid, Mr Gerard Faulkner, Mr Dan Connaghan, Mr Oran Winston + Donegal GAA PRO Sinead Breen



Match shot with Magherabeg against Kilmacreenan NS



Creeslough against Lurgybrack NS



All 10 primary schools pictured along with the president of the GAA Mr Jarlath Burns!