



# Ár Scoil Ár Scéal

**Ethos:** | Excellence in Education | Respect | Community | Care | Equality



**1<sup>st</sup> years 24/25** - Newport College opened its doors for the 2024/ 2025 school year with 1<sup>st</sup> year students being the first group back. Students got a tour of the school, being introduced to teachers and staff and playing some team building exercises. As students got to know each other and their surroundings, they were shown how the school runs and of how students in the school are expected to treat each other with respect, equality and care to promote a thriving community.

**Geography:** They started the week by using apples to label the layers of the earth (the crust, the mantle, outer core and inner core). Providing some small pieces of information on each layer. They then learned about plate tectonics and the 3 different plate boundaries. They used biscuits and jam to display the different plate boundaries. The students learned that earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes occur at these plate

boundaries and went to the computer room to research these natural events.



**Study Skills –** Students had the opportunity to participate in a study skills event. It was very easy to understand as it was explained very well to them. The students learned multiple techniques on how to study properly and how to prepare for a test. The

students said that it really benefited them because they now know the best way to take notes and the easiest and most effective ways to study.

**Science:** Second year science students researched different diseases and problems with the blood and heart as part of their biological studies of the Circulatory System! From cardiovascular disease to heart attacks, students are learning the importance of keeping themselves fit and healthy as part of their studies, learning key skills for life while working towards academic excellence in their studies.

**King Lear Trip:** 6th Year students had the privilege of experiencing Shakespeare's King Lear live and on stage. The students left bright and early to view the play, which constitutes a major part of their Leaving Certificate English exam this summer. Reports were positive, with students expressing a newfound appreciation of the acting, stagecraft and nuance of one of Shakespeare's most famous works.

**Art Trip:** Our Leaving Certificate Applied students along with Senior Cycle art students took the short trip to Nenagh to appreciate local art and culture. With the wonderful views from Nenagh Castle, the incredible exhibition of Art in the Tourist Office as well as a visit to the Heritage Centre and a walking tour of the many street murals, one does not need to travel far to appreciate Ireland's creativity.

**History Trip:** Senior History students also took to Dublin to tour around Kilmainham Gaol. The students were able to witness first-hand some of the most well-known sources of our nation's history. Students were shown the cells where the leaders of the Rising were imprisoned, the chapel where Joseph Plunkett and Grace Gifford had their wedding and the firing range where the men sacrificed their lives.





**Irish Nationals winner** - Clodagh Healy, came second in the Irish Nationals Dance Competition 'Craobhacha Rince Náisiúnta na hÉireann' and is set to progress to compete in Glasgow, Scotland on the world stage. Practice for this competition took over 5 evenings a week, with each class lasting for 2 hours.



**All-Ireland Wheelchair Hurling** - Huge congratulations goes to Sean Hassett who was part of the Munster wheelchair hurling team who claimed the title, beating Leinster in the All-Ireland final!

**Munster Rugby Squad** - Newport College would like to congratulate Transition Year student Ryan O'Neill for making the Munster Rugby setup. This is a wonderful achievement and a testament to the hard work and dedication Ryan has shown to reach such a great milestone.



**DCU Early Entrance Program** – Congratulations to Emmy Neumann on earning a spot in the DCU Early Entrance Program. The program is available for Transition Year students which provides enrichment courses for high-achieving students. Over 13 weeks, Emmy will be working through third-level coursework and will be required to submit work at university level standard.

**Certified Irish Angus Competition:** Congratulations to Kyle, Cillian and Sam, who have been placed one of five schools in Ireland in the Certified Irish Angus Competition. The lads spent three days at the ploughing championships where they were interviewed about their project and also spoke to the many people who came to view what their project. They also received their five calves and over the next two years they will raise them as part of the competition criteria!

**#Respect**



**Hurling:** Our U17s faced a tough match against St Albies Secondary School in their home ground of Tipperary Town. Newport turned a corner in the second half and clawed their way back to a win. There were some excellent scores from the U17s team.

**Rugby:** Students took part in a rugby team-building day in UL. They were put through their paces, they had a great time tackling the rock-climbing facilities, showing impressive bouldering skills.

**1st Year Rugby :** An in-school blitz took place with six teams playing outstanding rugby six teams were outstanding rugby. After some spectacular games, Team White came out on top.

**Girls Rugby:** 1<sup>st</sup> Year girls had the opportunity to play touch rugby at lunch times in school. There was excellent competitive games. Huge congratulations to our winning team as well as 1st years Jessica and Lily May who were both presented with sports person awards.

**Boys Soccer:** U15's played an away game in against Nenagh and were able to secure a great win with a stand-out performance from Jack Hickey up front, who scored a hat-trick. This, along with some brilliant defending from Cillian in goals and his backline saw us get over the line.





**Girls Gaelic:** This was a very tough and competitive game in which both teams showed great skill and teamwork. Borrisoleigh pulled ahead early on and maintained the lead for the match. Well done to the girls for a great performance on the day.



first ever basketball competition. For their debut game, we put on a great performance, narrowly missing out on a victory with a final score of 23-18. It is always wonderful seeing our girls getting involved in sport.

**Girls Soccer:** Borrisoleigh took an early lead with some great play and maintained pressure on the Newport side throughout the first half. Newport clawed a goal back despite the pressure, with a great finish from Eve.

**Girls Basketball:** The girls started their basketball season with a match against St. Ailbe's. This was a very special event for the girls as it was their



**5KM Walk :** Newport College took to the streets for the annual fundraising walk. This was a great event for the school community as everyone laced up their walking shoes for a trip around the town. Students, teachers, SNAs and other staff all got together with a great buzz around the school as they headed off. Although the rain did not stay away for the entirety of the walk, everyone was still happy to be out and about enjoying some fresh air after the mid-term exams.

**U19 Hurling:** Our U19 hurlers recorded another big win this week in the Limerick championship Quarter - final. The boys faced on against Croom on a wet and windy Friday as they set their eyes on the Semi-final. The game was a competitive one with Croom recording some great scores, including three well-earned goals throughout the game. The Newport College team were too strong on the day however, playing well across the field and testing the Croom defence on a number of occasions. The game ended with Newport College emerging victorious, 4-14 to 3-6.

### #Community

**Climate Literacy:** On Tuesday the 5th of November a group of 20 TY students had the opportunity to try out the new Climate Literacy subject. The students had their first lesson, facilitated by an environmental teacher, where they explored the impacts of different things on the climate such as fossil fuels and fast fashion. They looked through PowerPoints and played informative games to explain how we as people damage the earth. This was a great experience for the students, who will have the opportunity to choose Climate Action and Sustainability next year as one of the new subjects being introduced to the Leaving Certificate course.

**Green Team Initiative:** We are proud to present our student "Green Team", made up of two students from each year and a group of Transition Year students. This sustainability group will work on different initiatives going forward. The focus of this group will be on driving real change in the school relating to the Green School's initiative as well as the Sustainable Development. Students will be planting "pocket forests", working to maintain greenhouses on site at the school, and introducing changes to reduce our carbon footprint as a school community. Our school was also selected by "Young Reporters for the Environment" as one of 30 schools for a screening of "Wilding", a movie on biodiversity. This is a great start to the Green Teams endeavours, and also links with the new Climate Action and Sustainable Development course, which will be introduced in 2025.



### #Care



**LGBTQIA+ Awareness Week** : Newport College promoted lunchtime activities and a colours day to show our support for inclusion and respect in our school. During Thursday's lunchtime, members of our student council organised 'Fingernail Colour Painting' to acknowledge the initiative by painting nails in rainbow colours. Student council members also arranged a talk about LGBTQIA+ Awareness that students could attend. On Friday, Newport College facilitated a 'Colour's Day' where students wore clothes representing the colours of the Pride Flag. These events were a great success, and highlighted the importance of respect and inclusivity for all.

**Tipperary Youth Council:** Comhairle na nÓg is a service that involves children and young people in evolving local and national services and policies which aims to ask young people what they want from local policies.

We would like to convey a heartfelt well done to our Student Council members who attended the Tipperary Comhairle na nÓg Annual Youth Conference at the TUS campus in Thurles on November 7<sup>th</sup>. We would also like to say a huge congratulations to Izzy O'Connor, who successfully won a seat as a delegate! This is a fantastic opportunity!



**#Equality**

### Transition Years



**Keeper Hill** - Our TY's challenged themselves by climbing Keeper Hill. While on their excursion they were met with some wonderful views such as impressive gullies and numerous waterfalls. Sadly, the weather was not on their side as the intense rain led to a challenging climb against the elements for the group. However, it was a great team-building experience and will be one to remember.

**Gaisce Trip** - TY's journeyed down to Dungarvan, Co. Waterford to start their journey towards achieving a Gaisce Bronze Award. We started our overnight trip by participating in cycling on the Waterford Greenway. We cycled a total of 25km through Irish countryside, soaking in the sights of the old and repurposed railway track, with thankfully, a lot of blue skies. We passed through the 19th century Bally Voyle viaduct that was blown up during the Civil War in 1922 and rebuilt in 1924. This memorable part of the cycle was a highlight and on emerging from the tunnel we met a blast of green decorated with a stunning fairy trail with many colourful fairy doors. The next day, we enjoyed the Wild Atlantic Way as we surfed the waves at Bunmahon Beach. Between both activities mixed with the fun and games enjoyed at the hostel the group overwhelmingly agreed it was a wonderful experience.

**STEM Day** -The TY girls travelled to Killorglin to take part in a STEM initiative in coding. It was a great opportunity for the girls to expand their knowledge of coding. The course was founded by CoderDojo, offering coding courses to teenagers in over 100 countries. The girls completed various activities, including icebreakers, an introduction to a micro bit, and exploring how to programme it. The girls expressed some very positive feedback on their return; stating taht the event a wonderful introduction to the world of coding.

**#EveryChildMatters**