

# Girls Basketball

We had our most successful year in girls basketball this year. Our Under 16 girls team won the South west region for the first time. We also made it all the way to the A National Cup Final in January which was the first time we reached that stage of the tournament. The girls improved all year and the future is definitely very bright for this group.



Our Senior team also competed very well this year and also made the trip to Tallaght in January competing in the U19 A league playoffs. This was a great experience for the team and with all the players, with the exception of Aoife Bourke, returning next year, it promises to be an exciting year ahead for girls basketball in our school.

Our second year girls also qualified out of the region and missed out on a place in the All-Ireland semi final by just one basket scored with 8 seconds to go against Pres Kilkenny. Congrats to the girls on a great year.

# Basketball season 22/23

## SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

Our senior boys claimed the southwest schools 'A' basketball title for the 3rd year in a row beating Coláiste na Sceilge in the final. They won a further 3 rounds of the league before they were defeated in the All-Ireland quarter final. With most of the team returning next year, the team looks to be in great position for a title run next season. Four of our current players Eddie Sheehy, Coren Hughes, Donal O'Sullivan, Evan Boyle, and two of our past players, Daniel Bowler and Jack Dakissia (pictured left), were all members of the Tralee Warriors U20 squad who won the National title in March.



*"Sports and extracurricular activities are a huge part of the life of every school, but no school I have ever seen or competed against in my six years in Mounthawk have had such prestigious and diverse sporting representation as I have witnessed here.*

*What I love about Mounthawk is that we have a vast variety of sports here, instead of specialising in just one sport or two. For all of these sports to thrive and succeed there is a need for dedicated and devoted teachers who sacrifice their free time to keep their sport alive in the school. This is exactly how I experienced my mentors, Mr. Dowling, Ms. Moriarty and Jimmy Diggins. Their commitment was second to none. They shared their extensive knowledge of the sport and that combined with their enthusiasm and dedication, cultivated the best environment for development you will find.*

*This environment allowed us to achieve in Basketball at the highest level. It gave us an appetite for winning which we satisfied year after year, winning at least the regional finals every year and giving almost every recent player to pass through this school experience on the national stage. For Eddie Sheehy, Darragh O'Connor, myself, and many more on my team, that amounted to one gold, three silver and two bronze All-Ireland medals. Each of us will cherish these long after we have left this school, but what we will look back upon even more than the medals is the positive atmosphere and encouraging environment Mr. Dowling always maintained, regardless of how poorly we were playing. That forged a sense of comradery amongst our team, leaving us with fond memories of our time here, which we will not forget anytime soon."* **By Dónal O'Sullivan**



## 2ND YEAR BOYS BASKETBALL

Our 2nd year boys (pictured left) had a very good year. They finished 3rd in the Southwest region, qualifying for the national competition. They then traveled to Dublin for the group stages where they qualified for the All-Ireland Semi Finals. They played St Malachy's, Belfast and in a game that could have gone either way, they lost out by a single point. We look forward to seeing much more of these young players going forward.



## UNDER 14 BOYS BASKETBALL

It has been a tremendous year for this group of

young athletes. They sailed through the group stages of the cup and got all the way to the final without defeat. In the final the lads were down 16 points at one stage but they rallied their way back to win the game by 2 points, holding Colaiste Éanna scoreless in the last quarter. What an achievement for our U14s who have a great future in store.

