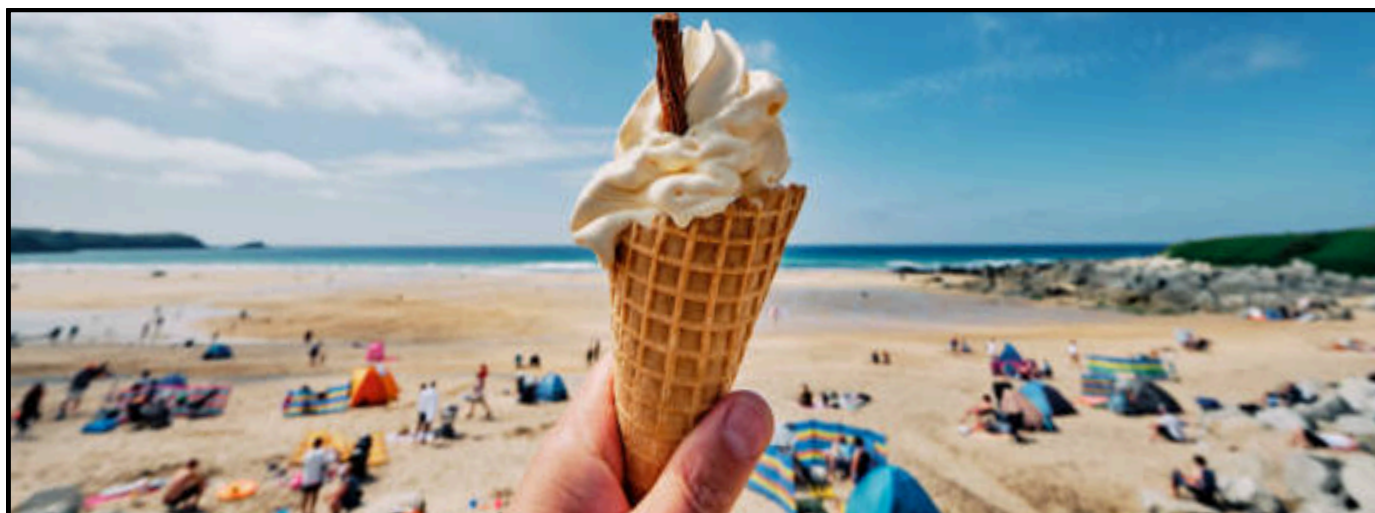




# THE LANTERN

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A PCH newsletter for the school community



## COUNTDOWN TO SUMMER

As the sun begins to shine a little longer each day, we're reminded that the summer holidays are just around the corner. But before we trade school shoes for flip-flops, there's still so much happening in school as we wrap up what has been an incredibly full and vibrant year!

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## IN MEMORY OF POPE FRANCIS

This week, we join with Catholics around the world in mourning the death of Pope Francis. As our Holy Father, he led the Church with kindness, courage, and deep faith.

His message was always clear: love one another, care for those in need, and protect our common home.

Pope Francis believed strongly in the power of young people and the importance of education. He often spoke about how schools should be places not just of learning, but of hope, friendship, and understanding.



He encouraged students everywhere to dream big, to ask questions, and to stand up for what is right. In our school community, we remember him as a leader who challenged us to live our faith with open hearts and active hands. His example calls us to be people of compassion, peace, and justice.

We pray in gratitude for his life, and we keep him in our thoughts and prayers.

*An dheid Dé go raibh a anam dílis*



## **A LOOK BACK AT A BUSY YEAR**

It's been a whirlwind of learning, creativity, and growth from day one. From the first-day-of-school smiles and our autumn community events, to winter concerts, spring science week, book fairs, sports competitions, and charity drives—there's rarely been a quiet moment!

Staff and students alike have poured energy and heart into every project, lesson, and celebration, and we couldn't be prouder of how much has been accomplished.



# TY CAMINO



On May 7th, our students will embark on an incredible journey as they set off on their Camino adventure. This meaningful pilgrimage offers them the opportunity to challenge themselves physically, reflect personally, and grow spiritually while following in the footsteps of countless pilgrims throughout history. As they walk together, they'll build resilience, deepen friendships, and create lifelong memories. We wish all our students and their teachers accompanying them a safe, enriching, and unforgettable experience on this special path.

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## GERMAN SCHOOL EXCHANGE



We're excited to announce our upcoming German student exchange. Our exchange partners from Germany will arrive next weekend, and our students and families will have the chance to host them, practice their language skills, and share in cultural traditions. It promises to be a rewarding experience filled with learning, friendship, and fun! The school will also have a German teaching assistant for the new academic year which will greatly contribute to the oral and aural component of the German class

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# MAYO/GALWAY JERSEY FRIDAY – MAY 2ND IN AID OF MALAWI SCHOOL.

## Malawi and its Challenges



- Narrow Landlocked country in South East Africa.
- Population: 21 million
- GDP per capita- 650euro per year.
- Facing many challenges. Climate change is contributing to increasingly unreliable rains and poor harvests.

Following on from a very successful fundraiser last year organised by Mr. Conor O'Dowd to support women and their children. Robert Laughlin, a past pupil of PCH and his wife have set up a foundation that focuses on women's health and sanitation in Malawi.

## Namikhate School & PCH



In 2019 a teacher at PCH launched a campaign called

LETS MAKE IT HAPPEN

That raised 11,000 euro that was used to construct a school block at the Primary School

Lat Year'S PCH Jersey Day raised 1100 that funded and ran the school for almost 3 motnhs.



# Namikhate Nursery School



Nursery School was founded in 2018 by  
Tikhala Itaye

It was created in response to  
community requests that there  
was no nursery school to support  
early childhood development

## Namikhate Nursery School Just 300 euro can run the nursery for 1 month



The Nursery School is privately funded, there is no government assistance and only operates through donations

### Running a Nursery School

#### Feeding Program

Every child is given a meal meaning over 2,000 meals are needed every year

#### Teacher Salaries

From 2 teachers in 2018, 4 full time teachers work at the Nursery

#### Maintenance & Utilities

Building Up-Keep  
Teaching Supplies  
Reading books

# JERSEY DAY



**FRIDAY  
2nd  
MAY**

Please support this worthy cause to help  
raise funds for our sister school  
**Namikhate School, Nursery Malawi.**

**€2  
DONATION**





# Congratulations SciFest Winners



Ryan Mortimer: Junior Social Sciences Award and overall Life Sciences Runner-Up

Matthew Daly: Overall Physical Sciences Award

Gearoid Halleran and Daire Hanrahan: Chemical Science Award

Sarah Reilly: Runner-up in Boston Scientific Medical Devices Award



# PCH YEARBOOK

We're excited to announce that this year's School Magazine will be published mid May

It's a wonderful celebration of student writing, artwork, photography, and highlights from throughout the year. Be sure to take a look—it's a great read.

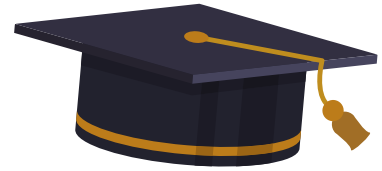


## Culture Day

PCH's inaugural Culture Day will take place this Friday in the study hall from 10am - 12.40pm. 16 cultures and countries represented by our students. There will be traditional food, costumes, games and music from our diverse student body. Due to space/time constraints, we cannot accommodate the whole student body. 3/4 classes will be timetabled to visit during each of the periods 3,4 and 5. If any teachers are free during that time, please visit and show your support to the students, who have worked hard to showcase their different cultures.



# END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS & GRADUATIONS



We will be celebrating the hard work and achievements of our 6th year students at a Graduation Mass on Monday May 19th. Look out for invitations to the Transition year graduation ceremony also.

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## GAISCE AWARDS

Congratulations to our incredible GAISCE students, Katie Gallagher, Sarah Reilly, Shannon Scully, Alva Mullin, Maggie Henghan, Megan McDonagh & Maria Murphy all TY and Keeva Reynolds in 5th Year who have successfully completed their Bronze Award! Through months of dedication, personal growth, and community involvement, these students have shown true commitment to the spirit of the President's Award. From developing new skills and volunteering their time to completing their adventure journey, each participant has pushed themselves beyond their comfort zones and achieved something truly special. We're very proud of their hard work and determination—well done to all!





# STUDENT COUNCIL CONFERENCE

Our student leaders will be representing their peers at the upcoming Student Council Conference, sharing their ideas on how to make our school even better. It's a proud moment for our young changemakers and a fantastic opportunity to develop leadership and public speaking skills.

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## ECO-UNESCO YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALIST AWARD



The ECO-UNESCO Young Environmentalist Award is held nationally every year and focuses on action-based approaches to improving the Environment. Ryan Mortimer and Aaron Lee (2nd year) entered the regional part of the competition in March, pitching their project at a cohort of judges in a "Dragon's Den" style format. They qualified from this to represent the school on the national stage next Thursday (8th May) in the National Convention Centre, Dublin.





# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Make sure to mark these important dates:

**Last day of term:** Friday May 30th

**Reports sent home:** Mid June

**Summer Assessments:** Our Summer Assessment period will begin the week of Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup>. These assessments are an essential part of our academic calendar, providing a clear measure of student progress and helping us identify areas for further development before the next academic year.

Each year group will have a specific assessment schedule, and it is crucial that students are present, well-rested, and prepared for each subject exam. To support your child's success, we ask that you give your full attention to the timetable that has been provided and ensure punctuality and preparedness on assessment days.

We appreciate your continued support and cooperation. If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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## LOOKING AHEAD...

Academic Calendar 2025 – 2026: will be posted end of May.

Thank you, as always, for your support, encouragement, and partnership throughout the year. Let's make these final weeks count!

Presentation College School Community

