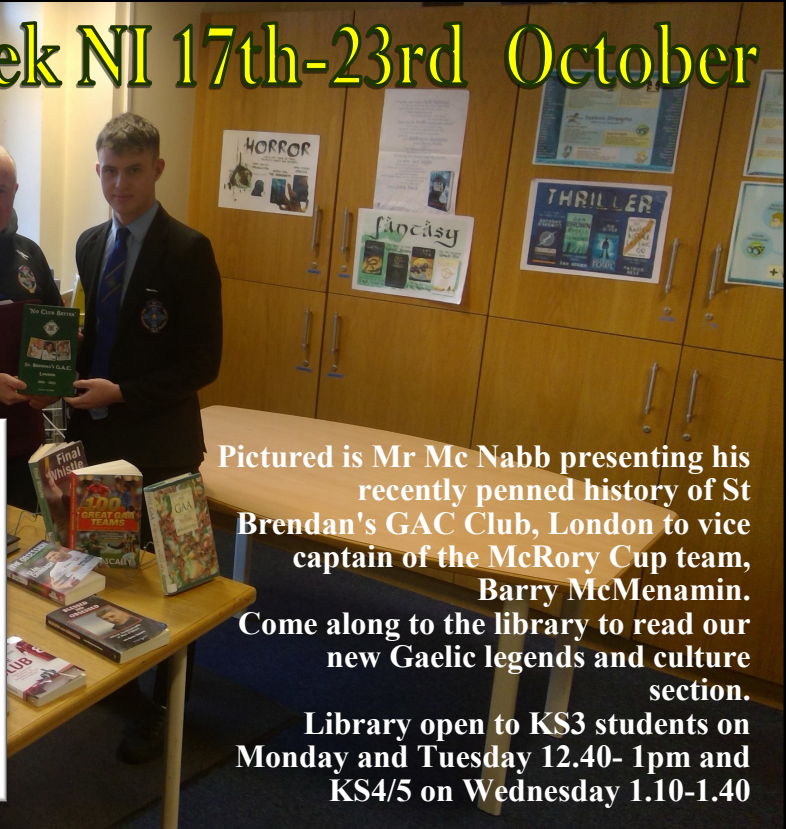




Saine Weekly

Volume 30 • Issue 7 • Friday 21st October 2022

Celebrating Book Week NI 17th-23rd October



Pictured is Mr Mc Nabb presenting his recently penned history of St Brendan's GAC Club, London to vice captain of the McRory Cup team, Barry McMenemy. Come along to the library to read our new Gaelic legends and culture section.

Library open to KS3 students on Monday and Tuesday 12.40- 1pm and KS4/5 on Wednesday 1.10-1.40

GCSE Irish

Massive congratulations to Rioghan Ó Cearullain, Cahir Mac Gafraidh and Daire Mac Salaigh who successfully completed their GCSE Irish course in Year 10.

That's correct - two years ahead of schedule!!

Comhghairdeas libh a bhuachaillí!

Also pictured is Irish teacher Mr P Donnelly and Head of Irish Mrs E



This week we recognised and rewarded the achievements of our Year 11 students. Two students from each registration group were awarded a certificate and a subway voucher to celebrate their efforts from the beginning of the new school year. Missing from the photos are 11B students Odhran Trainor and Aodhán Travers.

**Rewarding
Achievement**

11A
Cahir Keyes
Malachi Leonard

October 2022



**Rewarding
Achievement**

11C
Caolán Lloyd
Nathan Mc Gee

October 2022



**Rewarding
Achievement**

11D
Dylan Andrews
Oran Farley

October 2022



**Rewarding
Achievement**

11E
Felix Baxter-Duncan
Odhran Mullan

October 2022



**Rewarding
Achievement**

11F
Cormac Cunningham
Peter Gormley

October 2022



Sport

Our U14 Soccer team progressed to the 2nd Round of the School's Cup with a good win against De La Salle College. The goals came from Peter Garrity, Cillian Morgan, Diarmuid Martin, Conor Fyffe and a brace from Brandon Downey. Well done boys!



Our Rannafast squad started their ulster schools campaign with a win on a scoreline of Omagh CBS 2-6 St Mary's Magherafelt 0-9



GL Transfer Test Familiarisation Day

Sat 22nd October between 9-10am



On Saturday 22nd October we are opening our school between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. to give you and your son the opportunity to visit. During your visit you will be given an opportunity to:

- familiarise yourselves with the building;
- see the Assembly Hall where you will leave and collect your son on the Assessment Day; and
- see the room where your son will take the Entrance Assessment.

This will be an informal occasion for anyone who wishes to avail of the opportunity to come along to our school on that morning.

All applicants received correspondence at the beginning of this week, including their desk cards.

KEY INFO:
Drop in anytime between 9 and 10am
School uniforms not required

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIFA 23

FIFA 23, like its many predecessors, is a massively popular football simulator featuring lifelike recreations of thousands of real-world players, drawn from teams around the globe. While the gameplay is subtly improved year on year, the publisher EA Sports' tweaks tend to focus on FIFA Ultimate Team mode, which can tempt gamers of all ages to spend real money recruiting better players for their side. With each new release of FIFA comes a host of new players to unlock – meaning that youngsters can feel pressured to keep buying to compete with their friends.

AGE RATING
PEGI 3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

RELEASE RAZZAMATAZZ

FIFA 23 will be the last in the blockbuster series, before EA goes solo with its own football title next season. This 'end of an era' vibe – coupled with a huge advertising budget making the new release almost impossible to miss – will elevate FIFA 23 into even more of a 'must have' for football-mad young gamers, no matter how minor the updates are on last year's version.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CHAT

Based on a popular sport which appeals to people of all ages, the FIFA franchise draws a huge audience of both children and adults. Communication is a key element, with many players enjoying in-game audio chat via headsets. With the mixed age range of players and a lack of regulation, however, chats can often turn offensive or toxic – especially in the heat of competitive matches.

IN-GAME PROMOTIONS

Unless precautions are taken, dedicated FIFA fans can spend significant sums when attempting to improve their Ultimate Team. Most top-level players can be unlocked by simply participating in matches, but some sought-after stars can be obtained more quickly in limited-time promotions which cost a large amount of FIFA points (the in-game currency, often paid for with real money).

CIRCLING SCAMMERS

The popularity of FIFA Ultimate Team (FUT) mode has led to online scammers convincing many impressionable gamers to pay real money for non-existent FUT coins and player cards, or directing unwary FIFA fans to phishing sites. If your child gives these individuals their login details, the scammers can access not only their carefully built team but potentially your payment information.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

One match on FIFA (usually around 15 minutes, but often lengthened by extra time and penalties) almost invariably leads to another. It can be a powerful temptation for young players, regardless of unfinished homework or an approaching bedtime. If the 'just one more game' mindset starts to impact a child's daily routine, it could be a sign of gaming disorder; a recognised mental health issue.

GAMBLING-ADJACENT BEHAVIOUR

Ultimate Team has become a major feature in FIFA due to the revenues it generates. It can also be addictive, with children striving to earn coins and level up while swapping, selling and buying players. Spending FUT coins to open a player pack (which many experts have likened to gambling) is designed to be an exciting act – with bright lights, fanfare and attention-grabbing prizes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

BE SELECTIVE WITH CHATS

It's enormous fun for FIFA players to chat online with friends, even as their teams do battle in the game. It's probably the safest idea, though, to restrict contact with strangers. By turning off voice chat in FIFA and allowing cross-party chat in their device's settings, your child can speak to people who are already on their friends list but won't be able to talk to (or hear) strangers online.

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child plays Ultimate Team mode on FIFA, ensure their account isn't linked to your payment methods – so they'll need your permission to make in-game purchases. Alternatively, you could use parental controls to limit spending – or set up a pre-paid 'allowance'. When excitedly clicking options on screen, it's easy for a young person to forget the real-world repercussions of online purchases.

STAY ALERT FOR SCAMS

There are some key things to remember about potential FIFA scams. Firstly, EA never contacts users via any method other than emails to the account holder (which may well be you). Neither will they ever ask for a player's username or password outside the game itself. EA's terms and conditions outlaw the buying of FUT coins, so anyone selling them should be treated as suspicious.

AVOID 'EXTRA TIME'

If your child's spending a lot of time on FIFA 23 and seems less enthusiastic about other activities in their life, you could consider restricting how long they can play for each day with the parental controls in their device's settings. Even if they're not playing on their console or computer, there's a FIFA companion app for smartphones – but that can be limited through parental controls, too.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor of technology and entertainment website Dexerto and has been working in the gaming media for three years. A long-time fan of the FIFA franchise, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have also been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar, among others.



Sources: <https://www.windowscentral.com/your-gamer-spends-over-8000-ft-for-the-highlighting-productivity-games-designer/> <https://www.fox.com/newsroom/questions-and-answers/ea-addictive-behaviour-gaming-disorder/> <https://www.engadget.com/ea-sports-courtesy-of-for-better-regulation-of-bad-behavior-following-new-report>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.10.2022

NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Ciaran Loughran is running the Dublin Marathon at the end of October in memory of his departed nephew and our former student Conall McCrory. In advance of the marathon Ciaran is organising a 5k run on Saturday 22nd October as a fundraising exercise. Run starts at 11.30 from @PHFGYMOMAGH Ciaran would love to see as many people as possible join him on the 22nd. £10 entry, with all participants entered into a draw for some great prizes!

Telestack Trip

The strong links between our Technology and Engineering department with local industry continued this week when our AS Technology students and our Year 11 BTEC Engineers visited Telestack Ltd to see what opportunities are on their doorstep in the world of mobile bulk handling systems. Thank you to the excellent tour guides for welcoming our students and showcasing the high quality of engineering and manufacture in their Doogary road and Bankmore road sites. They are certainly an employer of the future.



Run starts 11.30am

Registration from 11am

**22nd Oct
Phf Gym**



Music Rehearsals

Monday break/Reg : Senior Trad
Group Room 55

Monday lunchtime: Junior Trad
group Room 54

Tuesday: Break/Reg Senior choir
Room 54

Thursday lunchtime : Junior choir



**Ski Meeting
Wed 26th
October @3.45**

All students going on the 2023 ski trip must attend, along with at least one parent.

Venue: [Assembly Hall](#)

**Stationery Office
Opening Times:**

Morning: **8.30am - 9.00am**

Break: **KS4 10.05 - 10.20am**
KS5 10.20 - 10.35am
KS3 10.35 - 10.50am

After School: **3.30 - 3.45pm**

