

Flahavan's Race Report - 4th December, 2024 - Irvinestown

Race day will be remembered for the coldest, wettest race we have ever participated in. Despite the freezing conditions, all the children performed amazingly. Covered in mud and soaked to the skin every single child did themselves proud.

Fun Run Girls' Race - **Hannah Donnelly**, picked up a **bronze medal** for Eskra, followed closely by **Rosa Kerr** in **4th**, **Rose Scullion** in **6th** and **Caragh Mc Carroll** in **27th**. Out of 142 runners, Eskra were well ahead of the pack.

In the **Fun Run Boys' Race**, out of 143 runners, Eskra had **Calum Woods** leading them home in **7th**, **Leo Fox** in **10th**, **Mel Montague** in **17th**, **Dara Turbitt**, **20th**, **Caiden Quinn** in **29th** and **Dara Cullinan** in **34th**.

Next up, the senior races - there were 2 separate girls' races and 2 separate boys' races. Currently Athletics NI results display the results by amalgamating both of the girls' races and both of the boys' races based on time and not race positions. Unfortunately this change in displaying results by NI Athletics, does not reflect the reality of how incredibly well our children raced on the day.

Eskra ran in **Girls' Race Two**. Star performance of the day goes to **P5 Éabha Mullan**, who raced with maturity and confidence. Éabha played it safe for the first 700m, tucking in nicely behind her first place opponent, however, on the second 700m lap, **Éabha** made her move into **first place** and held it right to the finish line. A stunning victory for a P5 with a great racing future ahead of her and a fantastic example of hard work paying off! Right behind Éabha, **Saorlaith Shiels** was battling her way around the course, dipping in and out of 3rd place on the second lap. However, Saorlaith attacked the last hill, gaining an advantage on her opponent and claimed a well-deserved **bronze medal** for her efforts. Hot on the medal winners' heels, were the rest of the **Girls' Team**, finishing in a cluster all within the **top 20** of their race.

Eskra boys ran in **Boys' Race One**. **Conor Corrigan** made a fantastic start and got himself into medal contention right from the off. With 100m to go, Conor had to hold off a surge from a competitor behind him. Conor stormed the last hill and secured **3rd place** and his bronze medal. **Jude Fox** had a fantastic race crossing the line just behind Conor in **5th place**. **Noah Woods**,

Ronan Mc Garvey and **Conor McCarroll** put on a masterful display of team running, finishing beside each other, all within the top 10 of their race. **Jamie Campbell**, the only **P5** on the **Boys' Team**, surrounded by P6 and P7s from other larger schools had a confident run finishing inside the **top 30** of his race, gaining valuable experience for the years ahead.

Our next and final heat is mid-January, race date to be confirmed. We are extremely proud of all the boys and girls hard work leading up to this race and their efforts on the day, particularly given the dreadful weather conditions.

Thank you to all the mums, dads, grandparents and carers who turned out to support our wonderful boys and girls. Thank you to Miss. Devine and Mrs. McGarvey for cheerleading and supporting the pupils on the day.

Tracey Scullion

