

Congratulations to Balrothery NS division 4 school-boy winners. In particular congratulations to 7 players from the U11 & 12 O'Dwyers team.

Balrothery NS 'Scoil Oilibhear Naofa' GAA team took on the might of St Benedicts in the Schools Finals played at Parnell park on May 13th. A strong wind in the first half contributed to a very early goal to St Benedicts and just as the Balrothery team regained composure the ball found the back of the net once again from awkward bounce. Full credit must be given to Balrothery NS as they clawed back 1 3 to level the game. St Benedicts added another 2 goals and 1 point to their tally before Balrothery responded to level the game 4 '1 to 3 '4 at half time. Strong deliberated team talks from the teachers and principal at half time resulted in a much improved and positive performance in the second half. The wind died down somewhat in the second half but Balrothery NS responded as if a Hurricane had hit shooting 4 goals and a point. St Benedicts must have felt the game was put beyond them but they too showed strength of character to attack and narrow the game to within 2 goals. Both teams showed great determination and desire but it was Scoil Oilibhear Naofa who had the majority of possession in the second half and it showed with scores tallying 6 '6 in the second half. Some nicely taken points and goals resulted in an extensive lead of 9' 10 to 7'3 which appeared to put the game beyond reach. St Benedicts however refused to give up and put pressure on the Balrothery defense to secure another goal. Each and every player on the Balrothery squad played their part in securing victory with an overall score of 9'10 to 8'3. Congratulation to the players and staff and fantastic vocal support from the kids in Balrothery National school who were the decisive 14th player on the team.

Squad members: Jamie Grassi, Cormac O'Byrne, Daniel Hughes, Darragh Mathews, Stephen Sharpe, Tommy Doran, Conor McKenna, Niall Gavin, Fiachra Cassins, Tom Downes, Fionn Hand, Gareth Sweeney, Ross Staunton, Oisin McDonald, Ciaran Morrison, Liam Halligan, Jonathan O'Carroll and Eoin Holland.