



Primary Basketball – Results

Team	Villa	Padua	Iona	SPLC	SPC	SLC	ATC
6A MVP	34 – 46						
6B MVP	28 – 29 Oliver Crowley						
6C MVP	24 – 39 Matt Dillane						
6D MVP	35 – 41 Charlie Spokes						
5A MVP	18 – 27						
5B MVP	11 – 37						
5C MVP	18 – 26 Ed Davies						
5D MVP	8 – 26 Spencer Hoddy						

Basketball – Around the Grounds

6A

6B

The first round of this AIC season saw the boys thrown into the thick of it against the highly competitive Villanova side. Villa is revered for their disciplined execution of the full-court press, which allows them to build huge leads against teams who succumb to the pressure.

It was awesome to see the 6B's use teamwork and communication to navigate the press with relative ease, refusing to let Villa fall into a comfortable lead. Constant hassle on defence led by George Player gave Villa a taste of their own medicine, forcing turnovers that resulted in several important buckets. These were instrumental in ensuring a back-and-forth game until the final buzzer. After 40 minutes of being pushed to their limits, a put-back off an offensive rebound saw Villa take a decisive 29-28 lead in the dying seconds of the 4th. MVP Oli Crowley displayed great ticker taking it to the rack in a keyway overpopulated by green jerseys, consistently getting the ball to drop when it seemed impossible. Big man Josh Pola pushed the tempo on both sides of the





court. He was constantly sprinting back and forth to get ahead on the fast break and make it back on defence. Cooper Lewis played the style of basketball that wins games, with purposeful and well-timed off-ball movement, passing, and shot selection. Despite the unfortunate result, every member of the squad showed they have what it takes to compete, and I look forward to the remaining 6 games.

6C

In last Friday night's basketball game, Matt Dillane emerged as the standout player, earning the well-deserved title of "Man of the Match." With exceptional skills, he consistently found room under the basket and scored crucial points for the team. The game marked a fantastic start to the season, witnessing the boys' remarkable improvement and enhanced teamwork as the match progressed, setting a positive tone for the future. Though the victory slipped away, there were a few key areas for improvement during training this week. I'm looking forward to a great season with the boys.

6D

Flying out of the blocks was the perfect start for the 6D basketball team. A couple of early baskets to Isaac Walter set the tone early. This turned out to be the biggest lead of the game as Villa stayed within a couple of points of Marist until the 3rd quarter. Leo O'Rourke and Gian Air were strong in the paint and Caleb McCluskey made some very important steals to keep Marist in it. Unfortunately, a run of 5 minutes proved costly as Villa led by 13 points. Charlie Spokes did his best to reduce the margin but it wasn't enough as the boys went down by 6. 35-41.

5A

5B

5C

A tough day on the basketball court for the 6C lads today with a loss to a Villanova team that just wouldn't let us get into the game. The first real game for many of these lads young men with lots of learning happening on the court this afternoon. Great scrambling saw us moving closer to the opposition score, but we just couldn't put together the run of points we needed to take the lead. Mason Clarke did well under the basket getting some good rebounds. Harry Stevens and Pat Hambleton worked well together in the second half and is a combination that will continue to have an important impact over the coming weeks. Finally, MVP Ed Davies was dynamite at both ends of the court stealing a lot of ball and scoring a lot of points.

5D

Due to an unusually lengthy trial process this year, the boys came together as a team with no training prior to our first game. Villa displayed why they are historically successful with very aggressive offense and defence. The boys gritted out a 26-8 loss however some good offensive work led by Spencer Hoddy saw the boys within reach until mid-way through third quarter. All boys are to hold heads high, and all showed promising signs for their first year of basketball at Marist.

