

## Marist Primary Basketball – Round 1 vs. Villanova College

	Result	MVP
5A	Villa 54 Marist 23	
5B	Villa 52 Marist 11	Orlando Kelly
	<p>It was clear to see that Villanova was a more complete team than us with players knocking down step back mid range shots where our team struggled to make layups. The game has shown what the group needs to work on as a collective (man-to-man defense being a main priority). The boys still managed to keep their heads held high throughout the game and not let the scoreboard reflect their attitudes from start to finish. Furthermore, the game displayed some great signs for what the rest of this season has to offer. The boys played a selfless brand of basketball and did not hesitate to pass the ball to a teammate that was in a better position. Orlando Kelly took on our 'Point Guard' role bringing the ball up the court and did so in an unselfish manner making mature passing reads earning the MVP for round 1. Although it was a rocky start to our season, I expect the boys to bounce back well for the upcoming weeks.</p>	
5C	Villa 25 Marist 3	Harry Kirkman Joseph Byrne
	<p>A tough start to the official AIC season for the young lads of the 5C basketball team. They came up against an extremely well drilled and talented Villanova. A first real game for most of these boys, Marist stand outs today included Aaron Doyle who made great use of his speed in chasing down the opposition offensive players managing to steal a lot of ball. MVP Joe Byrne showed excellent work at both ends of the court. His fellow MVP Harry Kirkman worked superhard in defense showing great scrambling skills and was able to be a real bother to the opposition. Harry also scored our first points of the season with a sweet free throw. What I love about this team already is how willing they are to look for and pass to their teammates. There are no selfish players in this team, which will helpfully bode well for the rest of the season.</p>	
5D	Villa 20 Marist 3	Toby Patricks
	<p>Our first game of the season against a well drilled Villanova team with experienced players was always</p>	

going to be a tough task. Down to eight players for the game, each and every boy gave 100% and beyond, as most were required to play more time than normally would given we did not have a complete team.. Every boy in the team did not give up no matter the score or the minutes they played. Special mention to George Coulter and Callum Murphy for their ongoing defense as they proved at times frustrating for the opposition and great play all around by Toby Patricks. This team has an awesome group of boys who will work and play well together throughout the season and look forward to having a full team against Padua this week.

	<b>Result</b>	<b>MVP</b>
<b>6A</b>	Villa 49 Marist 41	Harrison Heisel
	<p>Going up against villa in week 1 is no easy task for anyone but our boys were ready for the challenge which was shown with a very competitive 40 minutes. Villa opened up the scoring early with the game going back and forth through the first half with Villanova having a 15 point lead going into half time. Villa capitalised on the pressure our boys were under during the third stretching their lead close to 20, our boys rose to the challenge lead by Harrison and strung together some key stops and turned that into fast break buckets. At the end of the day villa held on just long enough for the final buzzer but there's lots of good to take away and with some more trainings and games under our belts this group could prove to be very special.</p>	
<b>6B</b>	Villa 30 Marist 20	Abel Storey
	<p>Effort is not always rewarded with good results. The boys tried very hard against a very strong Villanova team that dominated at the right time. Excellent individual efforts across the board but probably not yet the team cohesion that we need to win against a team as strong as this. This team will get much better as the season progresses but I am very pleased with the effort on a tough first round.</p>	
<b>6C</b>	Villa 26 Marist 22	
<b>6D</b>	Villa 39 Marist 17	Mitch Belyea

	<p>On Friday night, Marist College Ashgrove's 6C basketball team faced Villanova College in a spirited contest. The game began positively as our boys executed the game plan well in the first quarter, resulting in a tied score of 10-10. However, as the game progressed, we strayed from our strategy, allowing Villanova to dominate and ultimately win with a final score of 39-17. Mitch B stood out as our top performer, scoring 11 of our 17 points and earning the Man of the Match title. Despite the outcome, this game serves as a learning experience for our team to maintain consistency and focus throughout all quarters. We will analyse our performance, make necessary adjustments, and continue to work on improving our teamwork and execution in preparation for future games.</p>
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