



15 January 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian

By now you will know that I have succeeded Dr McGuinness as Principal. I consider it a privilege to have been appointed to this school and to be able to build on the excellent work done here. I look forward to working with our dedicated Board of Governors, our supportive and skilled staff, our enthusiastic pupils and, of course, you as together we work in the best interests of all our young people.

The challenges presented in the current economic climate mean that, more than ever, academic success will be crucial for our pupils. As a school we will continue to provide an effective learning and teaching environment. Success, however, can only be achieved when pupils, parents and staff work together. I would encourage you to continue to support your son/daughter in his/her studies. One simple way that you can be involved is through regular monitoring of the homework diary. We will continue to encourage our pupils to be meticulous in recording their homeworks. Homework is an essential part of the learning process and should consist of both written and learning activities set by the teachers. It is important too, however, that our young people become independent learners and so I would expect, especially as they progress through the school, that our pupils organise and engage in additional private study to enable them to consolidate their learning. You can play a role in talking to your son/daughter about their school-work and in providing a quiet and suitable place for them to complete their homework. With school examinations now imminent can I encourage you to support your son/daughter in every way possible.

Limavady Grammar School provides a comprehensive extra-curricular programme in which large numbers of pupils participate. Where possible, please encourage your son/daughter to be involved in some aspect of the extra-curricular programme in school, or in worthwhile out-of-school activities as these will contribute to their overall personal development.

I look forward to getting to know you over the coming months. When there are issues which are giving you cause for concern, please do not hesitate to contact the school to make an appointment to speak with a relevant member of staff as it is important that issues are dealt with early on. For your information the following parents' meetings have been scheduled for this term.

Year 12	Tuesday 10 February 2009	7-8 pm	Choosing subjects for AS level
Year 10	Tuesday 17 February 2009	7-8 pm	Choosing subjects for GCSE
Year 10	Tuesday 24 February 2009	4-6 pm	Teacher consultation
Year 9	Thursday 12 March 2009	4-6 pm	Teacher consultation
Year 11	Tuesday 24 March 2009	4-6 pm	Teacher consultation

In addition some of you may have younger children transferring to post-primary education. Our P7 Open Night is scheduled for Monday 09 February 2009 from 6.45 pm.

I would encourage you to read our monthly Headlines publication which is sent home, and when convenient, to consult our school website www.limavadygrammar.org.uk

Finally I would like to wish Dr McGuinness well in his retirement. He has given long and faithful service, over two periods, to Limavady Grammar School and has led it to the flagship position that it enjoys today. As we work together, I trust that we can continue to build on this legacy.

Yours sincerely

R Wilson
Principal

Limavady Grammar School, 3 Ballyquin Road, Limavady, BT49 9ET