

Headlines

**September
2005**



**Holidays
2005-2006**

School closes for
summer on
Thur 30 June 05 at 1 pm

School reopens on
Thurs 1 September 05
at 9 am

Autumn mid-term break:
Monday 31 October 05

-
Friday 4 Nov 05 (incl)

Christmas Break:
School Closes at 1 pm
Wed 21 December 05

School reopens at 9 am
Wed 04 January 06

Spring mid-term break:
Monday 20 February 06
and
Tuesday 21 February 06

St Patrick's Day:
Friday 17 March 06

Easter Holidays:
Monday 10 April 06
-
Friday 21 April 06 (incl)

May Day Holiday:
Monday 1 May 06

School closes for
summer on
Friday 30 June 06
at 1 pm

PRIZE DAY CHANGES

It has been our tradition to allow all students to attend Prize Day even if they aren't in receipt of a prize. It allows them to see their friends, to hear and see the Annual Report, and to listen to the music.

However, the number in the hall has grown and grown over the past years, so that we wish to make attendance at Prize Day optional for students from year 10 and above, while remaining compulsory for years 8 and 9, prize winners and those in the musical groups.

Those not wishing to attend may have the half-day off school (**from 12.30 pm**). It is important that such students **go straight home**; buses will be provided at 12.30 pm. If there are any students in the streets of Limavady in the afternoon then our decision will be reviewed, and during next year's Prize Day non-prize winners will be supervised in the afternoon in classrooms.

EXCELLENT EXAMINATION RESULTS AT LIMAVADY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

We were delighted to discover that 71.5% of all grades at A-level were A or B. This result has placed us in 53rd position in the UK in the Daily Telegraph and 56th in the Daily Mail. Over the past three years this figure has gone from 51% to 61% and now to 71.5%. We were pleased that 65% of our students achieved better than 3 C grades. Straight A grades were obtained by 21 of our 107 students:

Leah Armstrong, Emma Campbell, Richard Carey, Sarah Cooke, Joy Ferguson, Debbie Goligher, David Hardeman, Aaron Keys, Andrew Macqueen, Aimee McClenaghan, Orla McGinnis, Megan McGonagle, John McGregor, Claire McLoughlin, Hilary Nicholl, Ashley Pearson, Gillian Quigley, Glynn Robinson, Perry Semple, Ruth Smyth and Conal Spellman.

In A-level maths, Andrew Hamilton and Richard Boyd were placed in the top five in the United Kingdom, yet they are only in year 13!

A week later we were pleased to see a similar excellent performance by our GCSE students and their teachers. The percentage of students gaining A/A* grades rose from 46.9 to 48.7.

Outstanding performances were recorded by the following students all of whom achieved straight A/A* grades:

Monica Anand, David Canning, Anna Copeland, Jonathan Crawford, Andrew Currie, Joanne Davies, Andrew Gibson, Gillian Given, Laura Hamill, Peter Henderson, Rachael Hung, Linda Irwin, Matthew McCartney, Michael McGilligan, Jill McGregor, Suzanne Reid, Sarah Robb, Emma Ross, David Smyth and Eimear Toner.

We were pleased to find that Sara Robb had been placed in the top 5 in the United Kingdom in the GCSE Spanish examination.

SPORTING HONOURS FOR LGS PUPILS

Jason Smyth a sixth form pupil at Limavady Grammar School began to take his athletics more seriously when he joined Sparta Athletic Club in September 2003. There, under the expert coaching of Stephen Maguire, NI and Irish Athletic coach, he won his first Ulster Medals in the 100 m and 200 m sprints, and went on to do the double at the Irish Schools' Championships that year. His excellent performance last year resulted in his selection for the Junior Commonwealth Championships in Melbourne, Australia where he finished 9th in the 100 m and 11th in the 200 m.

Since then Jason has done the double in both the Ulster and Irish Schools' Championships this year. He set a personal best of 21.77 secs in the 200m at the Irish Junior Championships and a personal best of 10.85 secs in the 100m in Crete this year. It was during the summer that Jason achieved outstanding results when he competed in the Open European Championships in Finland for the partially sighted. He not only won the 100m and 200m but he equalled the world record of 10.96 secs in the 100m and set a new world record of 21.84 secs in the 200m.

Jason really is a remarkable athlete who has achieved more in two years than many athletes achieve in a lifetime. He is a quiet, modest young man who is totally dedicated to his sport. We are all so proud of his achievements and wish him well in his future athletic career.

Throughout the summer months Limavady Grammar School has had 4 boys involved in Ulster Rugby squads. Johnny Hunter, Chris Craig, Lee Smith and Niall O'Connor have been training with Ulster Schools U19. Lee and Niall have also trained with Irish Schools U19.

Niall however has impressed the most at present - to such an extent that Neil Doak the Ulster U19 coach has requested that the schoolboy represent the U19 XV. This is a side made up of those boys who have finished school.

Niall is at present involved in the inter-provincial campaign that kicked off on Saturday against Munster - Ulster won by 20 points to 10 with Niall contributing 10 of his side's points - a try, conversion and penalty. His display was described as almost faultless and he has been accepted into the Ulster Rugby Academy - an honour usually only bestowed on schoolboys at the end of their school careers. Niall plays against Leinster in Navan this weekend and finishes with a game against Connaught the following weekend in Belfast.

All of Limavady Grammar School wish him the best of luck and look forward to him, not only returning to the school team in two weeks time, but having a long and successful rugby career.

This year Steve Moore and Stuart Thompson represented NI U17s on their cricket tour of South Africa. Steve also toured Yorkshire with Ulster Schools in July and went on to play for the Irish U17 team.

Our own 1st XV team has lost some stalwarts this year as they move on; Andy Macqueen, Jason McDermott, Marc Neil, Steven Lowry and Jonathan McNerlin have contributed much and enjoyed their cricket.

Well done and congratulations to all concerned.