



# Headlines

May/June 2008



## Holidays 2007-2008

*School finishes for summer*

Friday 27 June 2008  
at 1.00 pm

*School reopens*

Monday 1 September 2008  
at 9.00 am

*Exceptional Closure*

**Friday 24 October 2008**

*Halloween Holiday*

Monday 27 October 2008

-

Friday 31 October 2008  
(inclusive)

*Christmas Holiday*

Monday 22 December 2008

-

Friday 2 January 2009  
(inclusive)

*Exceptional Closure*

**Wednesday 11 February 2009**

*Half Term Holiday*

Thursday 12 & Friday 13  
February 2009

*St Patrick's Day*

Tuesday 17 March 2009

*Easter Holiday*

Monday 5 April 2009

-

Friday 17 April 2009  
(inclusive)

*May Day Holiday*

Monday 4 May 2009

*Exceptional Closures*

**Thursday & Friday  
21 & 22 May 2009**

*School Finishes*

Tuesday 30 June 2009  
at 12.30 pm

## Year 8 - Cricket

This has been a most successful and enjoyable season for our Year 8 cricketers. They have won all their games and the season reached an exciting conclusion with victory in the final of the Centenary Shield against Bangor Grammar School.



A bus load of players and relatives travelled for the final. The boys made 79 for 6 in their allotted overs with **Ross Allen** (27) and **Jamie Millar** (23) being major contributors.

In reply, Bangor were all out for 59 with **Tom Logan** (3 for 5), **Stephen Kennedy** (3 for 8) and **Matthew McCloskey** (2 for 11) bowling exceptionally well.



Our full squad deserves credit for some outstanding performances over the last 8 weeks. Congratulations and well done boys!

*Mr K Mawhinney*

## Cricket

The **U13 XI** reached the semi-final of the Slemish Cup only to be beaten by Foyle College. Whilst the U14 XI and U15 XI have struggled at times, the 1<sup>st</sup> XI has recovered from a poor start to the season to reach the semi-final of the Ulster Schools' Plate where they were defeated by BRA.

Congratulations to five boys who have been picked for the North West U13 XI: **Calum McGregor, Lee Ritchie, Ross Allen, Jamie Millar and Andrew Pierce** will play their representative matches in the North West area. **Stuart Thompson** represented Ulster Schools' U19 XI against the MCC and has been selected to play for Ulster Schools' in the two-day inter-provincial against Southern Schools'. Stuart will later tour the north of England with Ulster Schools' and he has also been selected for the Irish U17 side to play in Belfast in July. He has made runs consistently for the school this year, including two centuries, as well as contributing significantly to Eglinton Cricket Club.

**Jordan Magee and Simon Olphert** will represent North West U15 XI in the inter-provincial matches at the end of June and Ulster Schools' U15 on their tour to the North of England.

*Mr N Handforth*

## Girls' Football - (Northern Ireland U15 Indoor & U13 Outdoor Champions)

What a year it has been for the Girls' Football Club in Limavady Grammar school. Girls' Football started in the school 5 years ago with a very small number showing lots of interest in this sport.

Earlier this year, for the first time, the girls entered the national indoor 7's tournament, where they were also successful winning the Derry heat and then going on to win the **Northern Ireland Indoor Title** and receiving a new football kit for the school.

As we moved into June, the girls faced two major finals. On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June the Junior and Senior teams played in the **Northern Ireland Schools' Cup Finals** at Mid Ulster Sport's Arena, Cookstown.



The Junior team had to win a very strong Londonderry Heat which was hosted at Oakgrove Integrated College with 14 schools taking part in the event! The final proved to be a tense encounter with neither Thornhill nor Limavady managing to find the vital goal during normal time. In the end, it was Limavady Grammar who held their nerve, with **Becky McMullan** slotting the winning penalty kick coolly into the back of the net. The girls then had to do the same again at the national finals where all the other county winners met to fight it out for the Northern Ireland Title.

The girls performed well and beat Ballyclare High to reach the final where they were to play arch-rivals Our Lady and St Patrick's Belfast. It was a very hard match with both teams giving their all and once again to be decided by penalties. Limavady Grammar school won, 2-1 and lifted the Northern Ireland Schools' Cup.

The Senior Girls' Schools' Cup is organised differently from that of the Juniors, being a simple knockout competition. The journey started against local rivals St Mary's High School whom we defeated 7-2. They continued this winning streak by defeating Carrick College 6-0 and Donaghadee High 2-1 on route to the Final, where they were to meet current holders and hot favourites Thornhill.

This was such an achievement for the girls given the youthful and inexperienced nature of the side. It was clear from kick off that the girls were going to be challenged, however, they battled nobly to the end, coming runners up to a skilful and mature Thornhill eleven. Both sides showed tremendous sportsmanship throughout the match. This was a tremendous achievement for all the girls and they have done themselves and the school proud.

*Mrs S Moore*

## Medical News

As we now have several pupils in school suffering from a serious nut allergy, we would ask parents to avoid, wherever possible, sending any product containing nuts into school.

## Pupil Medicines

Parents/Guardians are asked to ensure that pupils have with them any medicines which they might need during the school day. Most pupils can take responsibility for carrying their own medicine.

Special arrangements can be made for pupils with specific medical conditions to keep a spare supply of medicine in school. This is particularly important for children suffering from asthma, diabetes or a severe allergy. Any parent/guardian wishing to avail of this facility must fill in an application form (M1) and return this to Reception. All medicines must be clearly named and in their original containers. Further information can be obtained from **Mrs Cromie or Mr Little**.

*Mr C Little*

## English Department London Trip 2008

On Saturday, 26 April 2008, twenty nine A level English students and three members of staff left City of Derry Airport and headed towards London Town, bound for "King Lear" at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on the Southbank of the City.

An early start meant that we had Saturday afternoon to ourselves once we arrived in the most cosmopolitan city in the world. In groups of three or four (or even more!) we hopped on and off tube trains, buses and taxis ending up either shopping on Oxford Street; or taking in the sights and sounds of Camden Town markets; or relaxing in an opera-filled Covent Garden...or even catching the matinee performance of "The Sound of Music"! (Well done to Amy, Laura and Chloe for breaking the world record in running to the box office for that one!)



A swift change of attire back at our hotel on Tower Bridge Road enabled us to walk to The Globe Theatre itself, whilst anticipating an evening of excellent drama. We were not disappointed. The Globe Theatre is a sight to behold for any literature lover... an authentic replica of Shakespeare's favourite theatre, it is an intimate open air venue made entirely from oak and using traditional craftsmanship. The production of Shakespeare's greatest tragedy was also a traditional Elizabethan version - just as Shakespeare would have intended himself - and hence, an invaluable aid to studying the play.

The actors each "played their parts", and although we felt that some of the characters could have been portrayed as more evil (Goneril and Regan, for example) we were all agreed that David Calder, playing Lear, was absolutely outstanding in his depiction of a man "more sinned against than sinning". His descent into madness was at times uncomfortable, shocking and ultimately heart breaking. Our walk "home" along the Thames, with an illuminated St Paul's Cathedral and London Bridge as our backdrop, was filled with the sounds of students discussing and debating the merits of the action on the stage - surely an evening to remember for all of us.

The next morning we rose early and split into two sightseeing groups. One went to Madame Tussaud's where they mingled with the rich and famous (and Mr Crawford!), and the other group came with myself and Mrs Farmer to experience the London Eye and a walk through Westminster. Unfortunately, we didn't have time for morning coffee with the Queen or the Prime Minister, but we felt sure they would understand that we had a tight schedule...

Sunday afternoon in Covent Garden was hard to beat, and we were truly sorry to leave and head out to Stansted airport for our flight home. It was a magical 36 hours (all that in ONLY 36 hours?!), and I must thank my two colleagues for their good natured support and enthusiasm. But I must also make special mention of the students who accompanied us - they proved themselves to be excellent ambassadors for their school and we were very proud of the way in which they conducted themselves. An absolute pleasure to take anywhere!

*(Miss C Gordon - Head of English)*

## Cinderella

Pantomime is generally synonymous with Christmas time; it's tradition! I decided in February this year to laugh in the face of tradition and stage a junior pantomime in June! Naturally I had a number of reservations about this but I decided to go along with my gut instinct and give it a go!

Auditions were held in February and it proved to be a very difficult task selecting the pupils for the cast: there clearly was a vast amount of talent in the junior school! After much deliberation the cast list was finalised- and what a cast it proved to be!

The pupils were totally committed throughout and were most generous in forgoing lunch times, afternoons and Saturdays.

After almost four months of intense rehearsals, the cast finally had their chance to shine. The Matinee was staged in front of a number of primary schools and was a real treat for the children in the audience! This performance gave the cast the confidence they so rightly deserved to have - it was clear they could do it!

Monday night's show was played to a crowd of over 200: young and old. This performance was most enjoyable for both cast and teams alike - the audience was receptive; clearly everyone was enjoying the jokes, appreciating the singing and dancing and admiring (!) the costumes.

And then came the final night - the night I suppose we had all been looking forward to for so long (and of course dreading). There were mixed emotions: excitement (knowing that this would have to be the most powerful performance yet); exhaustion (three performances in the space of two days is trying on anyone!) and of course sadness (as it was coming to an end).

I thought it would be difficult to match Monday's performance; I never imagined that it would be beaten. Oh ye of little faith! Tuesday night's show was nothing short of **phenomenal!** The hall was packed to capacity, the audience was totally responsive and the cast excelled themselves.

Outstanding performances were delivered by Matthew Alexander and Mike Lynch as the Ugly Sisters; Alice Purcell as Buttons; Manon Bartlett as The Fairy Godmother and of course Jessica Ferris and Judith Corbett as Cinderella and Prince Charming! However, **each** and **every** member of the cast was fantastic - be they Chorus members, a forgetful Baron or a dancing horse!

I was most impressed with the pupils' commitment throughout - not only were rehearsals attended religiously but their lines were learned to perfection - this is testimony to the work that they each put in at home and it made the show itself all the more professional!

As well as having fabulous actors and actresses, we also had fabulous teams working behind the scenes: The Set team, Costumes, Lighting, Sound, Props, Stage team, Hair and Make-up and of course our Musicians.

I want to stress my thanks to all of the staff and pupils who helped with the different aspects of the show and wish to especially thank Dr Collins for his Musical direction. I think it is indisputable that the music - the solos, the duets and the chorus numbers - made the show much more enjoyable and uplifting.

Talent certainly is in abundance in our junior school and I look forward to working with many of these pupils in the future. For those moving into the senior school next year, I look forward to witnessing your talent on stage in future shows - there certainly are many stars among you!

For me this experience has been unforgettable, I loved every minute working with these talented pupils and I will genuinely miss the 'craic' every evening.

I want to thank each and every one of them for making the show just perfect. I know I certainly have many memories to take away from the experience and to treasure: I hope they all do too.

They should be very proud of themselves and I certainly am **extremely** proud of them.

Well done to you all and thank you!

*Miss M O'Kane*