



# HEADLINES

February 2009



## HOLIDAYS 2009

Exceptional Closure:  
Wednesday 11 February

Mid Term Break:  
Thursday 12 &  
Friday 13 February

St Patrick's Day:  
Tuesday 17 March

Easter Holiday:  
Monday 6 April

-  
Friday 17 April  
(inclusive)

May Day Holiday:  
Monday 4 May

Exceptional Closures  
Thursday 21 &  
Friday 22 May

End of Term:  
Tuesday 30 June  
(at 12.30 pm)

New Term Begins:  
Tuesday 1 September  
At 9.00 am

Exceptional Closure  
Friday 23 October

Halloween Break:  
Monday 26 October

-  
Friday 30 October  
(inclusive)

Christmas Break:  
School Closes:  
Tuesday 22 December  
at 12.30 pm

School Reopens:  
Tuesday 5 January  
2010 at 9.00 am

## Principal's Introduction



In the three weeks that I have been part of the Limavady Grammar School community, I have quickly come to realise what a busy place it is.

Sport continues to play a big role in school and there has been significant success on the rugby field. Our 1<sup>st</sup> XV, having been successful at Friends School, Lisburn, were narrowly beaten by Cambridge House in Ballymena in their Schools' Cup 3<sup>rd</sup> Round. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV enjoyed success against Ballyclare High School and look forward to meeting Down High School.

Hockey matches brought success against Grosvenor at U14 level and the U13 team beat Loreto College. The Hockey Tour fundraising group held a successful Table Quiz last Friday. All these efforts, on and off the field, represent commitment and hard work by a large number of people.

Some of our VI Formers had the opportunity to attend a presentation on applying for Oxford University while staff have continued to engage in relevant in-service training.

We look forward with anticipation to our Open Night on Monday 9 February and we are currently planning a meeting with P6 parents to provide some guidance on how we intend to proceed with Transfer from 2010.

May I commend all our parents for the support you provide the school as together we work to prepare the young people in our care for life.

*Mr R Wilson (Principal)*

## Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award

### *Congratulations to the following:*

Ruth Bunting	Emma Henderson	Gillian McKinley	David Ross
Lynne Campbell	Emma Hutchinson	Philip Moon	Laura Shiels
Becky Coulter	Charles Hyndman	Hannah Neilly	Trevor Smyth
Robin Craig	Hannah Jack	Alanna Nethercott	Jenny Thompson
Emma Dunwoody	Nicola McCallion	Niamh O'Kane	Julie Willis
Matthew Haslett	Catherine McElreavey	David Oliver	Andrew Wilson

These pupils recently completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award with Limavady Grammar School and were invited to the Silver Award Ceremony in The Braid Arts Centre, Ballymena on Thursday 29 January.

*Mr S Bogle*

## **Pupils with Medical Conditions**

The School greatly appreciates the support of parents in keeping our medical records up to date: please forward details of any changes in your child's medical conditions to the Office.

As there is a significant number of pupils at Limavady Grammar School suffering from severe allergies, parents are asked not to send to school foodstuffs which contain nuts or shellfish.

Thank you.

*Mr C Little*

## **Careers News - Important Dates**

**Tuesday 10 February at 7.00 pm - Lecture Theatre**

**Decisions at 16+ - an information evening for parents of Year 12 students.**

- Choosing AS Levels
- Moving to Further Education
- Training
- Employment

**Tuesday 17 February at 7.00 pm - Lecture Theatre**

**Decisions at 14+ - an information evening for parents of Year 10 students.**

- We invite you to become involved in the important decisions that your child has to make.

### **Year 14**

It is vital that Year 14 students track the progress of their UCAS application on the website. All "decision dates" must be adhered to as places will not be available after the decision date has passed. **Any problems, please see Mr Robb.**

*Mr S Robb (Head of Careers)*

## **School Policy**

The School Discipline Policy has recently been rewritten. As part of the consultation process with parents, a copy of this policy may be obtained by contacting the School Office.

*Mr N Handforth*

## **South American Hockey Tour Fund Raising Events**

**Save the date: Friday 22 May 2009** - We are holding a 'Summer Promenade' of music in school on the above date and would really appreciate your support.

Eugene O'Hagan, Tenor (one of 'The priests'), Joanna Higgins, Soprano, The Altnagelvin Hospital Choir and Claire Gordon have all kindly agreed to perform for us and we are indeed privileged that they are giving so freely of their time.

It is anticipated that this evening will appeal to music lovers from far afield, given that Eugene O'Hagan's recording with 'The priests' topped the classical charts over the Christmas period.

The evening includes a champagne reception and alfresco buffet in the school courtyard. We will give you more information regarding the purchase of tickets in the near future.

**The other fundraising event to enjoy will be a Fashion Show to be held in the School on 27 February 2009 at 7.30 pm. Please contact the school office for tickets which are now on sale - £8 adults, £5 student/child, under 5 years free.**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous support in helping to fund this 'once in a lifetime trip'.

*Mrs J Higgins/Mrs S Moore*

## **Parents' Association**

The Parents' Association will once again be holding its Annual Easter Draw later this term. The support of all families will be much appreciated.

*Mr P Jack*

## **READATHON 2009 – Get back into books!**

Pupils in English classes in years 8-10 are currently participating in our annual Readathon. Since 1997 LGS has raised over £45,900, thanks to the generosity of pupils, families and friends of the school.

Readathon is a national sponsored read where children read books in exchange for pledges of money. The money raised is donated equally to Clic Sargent and the Roald Dahl Foundation. Money raised in Northern Ireland stays here.

Parents, you can help by:

- encouraging your son/daughter to read regularly. Readathon is for fun, it's not homework or a chore!
- taking an interest and asking about their chosen books
- allowing your child to listen to a taped book
- encouraging non-fiction for those who like sport, ghosts, dinosaurs, history etc
- encouraging the use of the school library
- visiting the local library or bookshops.
- Visiting [readathon.org](http://readathon.org)

Any pupil who is unable to participate in this event must bring a letter from their parent/guardian to their English teacher **before 9 February**.

Please raise money safely - do not approach strangers. We would ask pupils to encourage sponsors to tick the Gift Aid box. All sponsor cards and monies should be returned to your English teacher between **23-27 February**. Classes 10Y and 9Z were asked about their reading habits:

### ***(1) Who is your favourite author?***

#### **10Y**

- 1 J K Rowling
- 2 Roald Dahl
- 3 Cathy Cassidy

#### **9Z**

- 1 Louise Rennison = Roald Dahl
- 2 Antony Horowitz = J K Rowling
- 3 Lemony Snicket = Marita Conlan McKenna

### ***(2) Who is your favourite character from a novel or film?***

#### **10Y**

- |  |   |                                  |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Charlie from 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'         | - | <i>Richard King</i>              |
| Willy Wonka from 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'     | - | <i>Philip Thompson</i>           |
| Hermione Granger from the Harry Potter series            | - | <i>Victoria Macqueen</i>         |
| Joe Hardy from the Hardy boys                            | - | <i>Christopher McElreavey</i>    |
| Bruno from 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'              | - | <i>Rebekah McMullan</i>          |
| Alex Rider from the Stormbreaker series                  | - | <i>Connor McKee</i>              |
| Dave the Laugh from 'Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging' | - | <i>Zara Adair</i>                |
| Harry Potter   | - | <i>Kyle Cole and Michael Way</i> |

#### **9Z**

- |                                   |   |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Mary from 'Witch Child'           | - | <i>Hannah Sharp</i>  |
| Alex Rider from 'Stormbreaker'    | - | <i>Maja McGill</i>   |
| Suitcase Kid                      | - | <i>Owen McWilliams Cimmins</i>   |
| Georgia Nicolson                  | - | <i>Olivia Hesketh, Jessica Kilgore, Ciara Robertson, Claire McClintock, Harkiran Sandhui, Larissa Rosier</i> |
| John J Rambo                      | - | <i>Terence Duddy</i>   |
| Kensuke                           | - | <i>Katie Fyrth</i>   |
| Artful Dodger from 'Oliver Twist' | - | <i>Alex Woods</i>  |
| Edward Cullen                     | - | <i>Nicole Connor, Jack O'Hara</i>  |

**(3) What is your favourite episode from a novel?**

**10Y**

The last scene in "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" which takes place 19 years later when the main characters have grown up and are living happily ever after. - *Victoria Macqueen*

When John and Elzevir are on the run in 'Moonfleet' - *Dean McGonagle*

In 'The Kite Runner' when Hassan fights off the older boys with his slingshot.  
- *Jack Elliot*

The battle in 'The Deathly Hallows' when Harry pretends to be dead. Then Voldermort is defeated and cannot return. - *Emma Carton*

In 'Amazing Maurice and his educated Rodents' when a rat names himself 'Sardines' because he saw it on a tin and thought it was 'stylish'. - *Zara Adair*

**9Z**

"Knocked Out by Nunga Nungas" when Lindsay breaks Georgia's ankle in a hockey match because she is angry at Georgia for stealing her boyfriend and wants to score. But, Dave the laugh takes Georgia home in a wheelbarrow with all her friends anyway. - *Olivia Hesketh*

In 'The Carnivorous Carnival' (Lemony Snicket) most of Count Olaf's group get eaten by falling into the lion pit. - *Alex Woods*

**(4) What book would you recommend for readers of Headlines?**

**10Y**

'Outbreak' by Chris Ryan. An exciting thriller - a real page turner and an excellent storyline right to the end. - *Dean McGonagle*

'The Seventh Tower: the Fall' by Garth Nix - A thrilling fantasy adventure series from the award-winning, international bestselling author. - *Andrew Lynch*

'Jeremy Clarkson - The World according to Clarkson' - Extremely funny, the perfect mix of humour and common sense. - *Glenn Lindsay*

'Millions' - Very funny and touching. This book will make you weep with laughter.  
- *Rebekah McMullan*

'Nightrise' - Antony Horowitz - A thriller. Twist and turns throughout - absolutely brilliant.  
- *Connor McKee*

**9Z**

'A Girl Called Blue' by Marita - Carlan McKenna. A touching story about a girl who was abandoned as a baby and taken in by nuns but just can't be adopted. - *Anna Logue*

'Artemis Fowl and the Paradox' - Clever, fast paced, a great combination of sci-fi and fantasy.  
- *Jamie Devlin-Massey*

'The Bad Begininner' by Lemony Snicket. Three children lose their parents and home in a fire. Sent to live with a relative, they are treated very badly. - *Emer Lowry*

***The English department would like to congratulate all classes so far for their enthusiasm and commitment to this worthwhile charity event. Good luck to all our readers!***

*Miss J Coid*