



HEADLINES

June 2010

Holidays for Pupils 2010-2011

School Finishes
Wednesday 30 June
2010 at 12 noon

New School Term begins
Wednesday 1 September
2010 at 8.55 am

Halloween Holidays
Friday 29 October –
Fri 5 November 2010
(inclusive)

Christmas Holidays
Thurs 23 Dec 2010 –
Monday 3 January 2011
(inclusive)

Half Term
Mon 14 – Wed 16 Feb
2011 (inclusive)

St Patrick's Day Holiday
Thurs 17 & Fri 18 March
2011

*Easter Holiday
& May Day*
Mon 18 April –
Mon 2 May 2011
(inclusive)

May Bank Holidays
Fri 27 May
& Mon 30 May 2011

PRINCIPAL'S INTRODUCTION

The weather over the last few weeks has been what we often describe as typical 'exam weather'. All our pupils have been engaged in examinations, either internal or public GCSE, AS or A-Level. Reports will soon be issued to all parents of pupils in Years 8-11. Parents are invited, should they wish to discuss this report, to contact school.

The good weather has been a real bonus for our sporting programme. Sports' Day on 16 June was a great success with Rory Squires, Oliver Mullan and Tom McClelland setting new records. The Cricket teams have been very active with very encouraging results.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award continues to go from strength to strength. A group recently received Silver Award certificates in Craigavon. Year 10 pupils have been on their first training expedition and the Gold Group is currently in the Lake District completing their Assessment Expedition.

We were very encouraged by the Education and Training Inspectorates report on our school. The Staff and the Board of Governors will continue to work hard to make further improvements. The ETI has the confidence in the school to address the challenges. Some extracts of the ETI report are included elsewhere in Headlines.

On Friday we welcomed our New Year 8 intake. Our comprehensive induction programme should ensure that they, very quickly, become part of the Limavady Grammar School family.

At the end of this term Mr Ferguson will be retiring, Mrs Moles will be taking early retirement and Miss Monteith will be leaving as she relocates following her forthcoming marriage. Mrs Armstrong will also be leaving us. On behalf of the school I thank them for their exceptional service and wish them well in their next step of life. Having served as temporary Vice Principal since November, the WELB has recently appointed Mrs Henry as Vice Principal (Teaching and Learning/Curriculum and Finance). We wish her well in her new post.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone connected with our school a safe and enjoyable summer.

R Wilson

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Winners of Spring Draw

First Prize	-	Nintendo Wii	-	Angela Carton, Drumahoe, Londonderry.
Second Prize	-	iPOD	-	Bill Strahan, Limavady
Third Prize	-	Digital Camera	-	Neil Wilkinson, Limavady

Extracts from recent ETI Standard Inspectors Report

- *The parents indicated very strong support for the work and life of the school.*
- *The pupils talked enthusiastically about the support provided by their teachers.*
- *The school has very good comprehensive arrangements in place for safeguarding young people.*
- *The school gives good attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity*
- *The quality of the careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) is very good.*
- *The provision for pastoral care within the school is good. There is a comprehensive induction programme for new pupils.*

Parents can access this full report at www.deni.gov.uk or may obtain a copy by contacting the Principal's Secretary.

GERMAN SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMME 2010

Congratulations to Daniel Simpson (Year 13) who has been successful in gaining a place on this year's German Scholarships Programme, which will take place from 7 July – 6 August. This is a prestigious international programme with a very competitive application process, so it is a real achievement for Daniel to have been selected.

Participants travel around Germany in international groups, spending an introductory week in Bonn, visiting cities such as Cologne, Berlin and Munich, as well as spending two weeks with German host families and attending school lessons with their host partners.



The programme is fully-funded by the German government and provides a unique opportunity for pupils to get first-hand experience of German life and culture and to improve their language skills at the same time.

We send our best wishes to Daniel and look forward to hearing about his experiences when he comes back.

Pupils who might be interested in applying for a scholarship in the future can find out more about the scheme by visiting the website www.ukgermanconnection.org/scholarships or by talking to myself or Mrs Mills.

Mr I Sampson

'ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH SPEAK'



In March/April this year, two Year 8 pupils (Conor O'Neill and Thomas McNeill) took part in a public speaking competition entitled 'Environmental Youth Speak'. The competition was run by local government and aimed at increasing environmental awareness, particularly in relation to the issues surrounding waste management. Both boys took part in the local heats at Limavady Borough Council with Thomas winning the section and progressing to the regional finals in Magherafelt.

Although Thomas did not win the regional final, he delivered a very thoughtful and convincing speech of which he can be very proud. He is pictured receiving his certificate from Frank Mitchell (UTV).

Mr R Hayes

KAJIADO 2011

Plans are well under way for our third trip to Kenya in June/July 2011. A team of thirty-six staff and pupils will be going and the visit of some Kenyan friends in early March reminded us of the importance of our Kenyan links. Following a delay due to rain early in the year building work has recommenced at the school site near Kajiado; it is intended that part of it will be officially opened and ready to receive pupils in January 2011.

Our programme of fund-raising continues. A very successful Fashion Show at the home of Mr & Mrs Leslie McKee raised £2,337; our Sponsored Walk in April brought in £6,000 and our team in the Belfast Marathon raised a further £1,000. Particular thanks are due to Cornfield Care Centre, Mr Billy Dickson, Mr Brendan Gormley, Alexander Gourley, McCloskey & O’Kane, & W B Thompson & Co for their sponsorship. Also to Mrs Elaine Squires who, for the second successive year, raised £250 through her participation.

On Saturday 19 June Mr & Mrs James Carson of Tyler Park opened their garden for the afternoon, donating the proceeds to Kenya.

A **car wash** is also planned for **Saturday 26 June** in the school car park from **10-30 – 3-30pm**; your support will be very much appreciated!



One of the most original fund-raising activities comes from **Ryan Lusby (Year 12)**. A year in production, Ryan has just published ‘**If Stones Could Speak**’, ‘a photographic treasure hunt across the rich built heritage of the walled city of Derry/Londonderry.’ He obtained sponsorship from Foyle Civic Trust, including the provision of a first prize of a specially commissioned gold acorn necklace worth £2,500 and five runners-up prizes of silver oak leaf brooches each worth £250. The book was launched in the Verbal Arts Centre on 9 June and three days later in the Green Museum in Roe Valley Country Park where the

Mayor of Limavady Borough (Councillor Michael Carten) was present to congratulate Ryan. The book costs **£9.99** and the competition runs until June 2011, with all the profits going to charity; 50% to our Kenya fund.

Ryan, his parents and sponsors deserve great credit for their vision and hard work. We wish him well with this venture. The book is a great excuse for a walking tour of the city. Copies are available in the Council Offices and can be ordered through school by phoning Mrs Sandra Mullan in the office at **7776 0950**.

Other dates for your diary later in the year include:

- **Friday 17 September:** Table Quiz.
- **October:** a traditional barn dance.
- **Friday 12 November:** ‘Showstoppers’ – not to be missed!

Our sincere appreciation goes to everyone who supports us in any way. If you have any ideas for fund-raising events, large or small, please feel free to contact us.

Mr B Dunwoody

LAW SOCIETY

On Saturday 24 April at 7.30am, the Law Society met up inside the school gates to travel to the mock trial competition in Belfast. Most of the bus journey was spent trying to cram the facts from the case into our heads in the last minute but the whole team was in high spirits as we travelled to Belfast.

Just after 9 o'clock we arrived at Laganside Courts and were all nervous but excited about what was to come. Most of the other schools arrived at the same time as us and as we walked through security we saw just how well prepared and professional they all were but, like us, they were all double checking notes and practising their interrogations. We put our belongings through security, gathered up all our things and made our way up to courtroom 13 where we were to be given our brief.

We were told that our cases would start at 10 o'clock and that we had until then to prepare ourselves. Our first case was against Oakgrove Integrated School and the prosecution were to go up against them. Alex and Jenyth were the first and second prosecution lawyers with Nicole and Katherine as witnesses. After a pep talk and a bit of last minute note making, the trial started. It was very close and we were at the edge of our seats in anticipation for the verdict but unfortunately there wasn't enough evidence to prove our case and the victory went to Oakgrove. We weren't too disappointed though because Oakgrove was a hard opposition and it wasn't the verdict that counted, it was the marks.

We left the courtroom and had lunch that had been provided for us by the courts service and afterwards we went into courtroom 15 for the defence team's case against Foyle and Londonderry College. Ciara and I were first and second defence lawyers with Katie and Harkiran as the witness and the defendant. A few minutes before the trial began we made our way down to our seats and sat nervously waiting for the magistrates to enter. Once the trial had begun, Foyle put forward their case and it was a flawless one too but our team fought back as hard as we could, leaving their witnesses at a loss of words more than once.

When the magistrates re-entered the court we weren't too sure what to expect but when it was announced that the defendant was not guilty we were ecstatic. However, we had no time to celebrate as our case had run over time and the results were being announced in courtroom 13.

Unfortunately we hadn't won over all and Bloomfield College had been successful. We were disappointed that we didn't win but were still really happy with our performance.

As we got back onto the bus for our journey home we ate the rest of our food and congratulated each other.

I would like to thank Mrs Sandhu and Mr Lowry for accompanying us and I would also like to thank Mr Crawford for helping us with the case and teaching us 'to think on our feet'.

Olivia Hesketh (Year 10)

PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE YEARS 8-11 (from Monday 10 May – Friday 18 June 2010)

8V	97.4%
8W	96.2%
8X	94.7%
8Y	97.1%
8Z	94%

9V	96.4%
9W	96.4%
9X	93.6%
9Y	95.2%
9Z	96.6%

10V	94.2%
10W	94.1%
10X	94.8%
10Y	96.5%
10Z	94.2%

11V	94.4%
11W	93.7%
11X	89.5%
11Y	94.9%
11Z	92.5%

Congratulations to pupils in 8V who achieved the highest attendance percentage (97.4) during this period.

As we wish all our pupils and their families a pleasant summer holiday, we would join with Translink to encourage all young people to be careful when travelling by private and public transport. Translink has issued some timely reminders about bus safety, which are relevant for all pupils now and in September.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Signal – let the driver know you want on the bus. | 7 Store your bags safely. |
| 2 Stand back from the kerb when the bus approaches. | 8 Stand behind the driver when getting off the bus. |
| 3 Wait for the bus to stop. | 9 Never walk in front or behind a bus as the driver has restricted view and might not see you. |
| 4 Let passengers off first. | 10 Give your seat up for the elderly. |
| 5 Never distract the driver | |
| 6 Don't push or shove. | |

Remember: respect other passengers, say no to stoves, don't graffiti buses and there is CCTV on all buses.

Mr N Handforth

