

HEADLINES

APRIL 2007



Middle School French Exchange



In the final week of the spring term, we were joined by twenty-six pupils and three members of staff from the *Collège Richelieu* in La Roche Sur Yon on the return leg of our Middle School French Exchange.

Having spent a very enjoyable week in France last June, it was now our turn to play hosts and renew friendships from last year. Highlights of the trip included a day spent all together at the Ulster American Folk Park near Omagh, as well as excursions for the French pupils to the Giant's Causeway and Londonderry. A day at school gave them the chance to experience some lessons with their partners as well as to practise for the Spring Concert where they added a continental flavour with a spirited performance of "*Quand la musique est bonne*" by Jean-Jacques Goldman – one could be forgiven for thinking that Eurovision had come to Limavady!

The visit finished with the weekend spent with host families, where I'm told a good time was had by all and even the Northern Irish weather was kind to us.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents who welcomed a French pupil into their homes during this week. Without your support, we would be unable to offer exchange visits such as this with all the benefits they bring to both sets of young people. Thank you for your kindness and hospitality, which were very much appreciated by the French pupils and their teachers.

Mr I Sampson

Law Society

On Saturday the 10th of March, the Junior Law society accompanied by Mr Crawford and some long suffering supporters, set off for the Laganside Magistrates Court in Belfast. Our task was to defend and prosecute a case involving the ill treatment of one female white rabbit. Our prosecution team comprised of Jessica Allen as first prosecution lawyer, Rebekah McKenna as the second prosecution lawyer, Catherine Mullan as the first prosecution witness and Rachel Corbett as the second prosecution witness. Our prosecution case went first against Grosvenor Grammar school, with serious questioning from the two lawyers, and quick, concise answers from the witnesses. Bradley McClean, as Legal Advisor, made an inspirational speech to sum up the case. When the six magistrates, comprising of three pupils from our school, Daryl Agnew, Louise Duffy and Daniel Simpson returned the verdict of Guilty, we were overjoyed.



It was time for a break, comprising of our packed lunches and tea for the teachers and the pupils. After this it was back to Courtroom 15, where our previous case had been, and our opposition was Foyle & Londonderry College. Our defence team had Emma Crawford and Carl Mulholland as the first and second defence lawyers, Naomi Given as the defendant and Hannah Dickson as the defence witness. Under a lot of tough questions from Foyle's two lawyers, our team performed excellently. We had very witty answers from our defendant to Foyle's questions, and a certain Foyle defence lawyer was certainly shocked at how well Naomi performed under her tough questioning. Hannah Dickson had memorized her statement perfectly, and showed this with long precise answers. Our usher, Stephen Olphert performed well under pressure. Carl had put a lot of effort

into thinking of tricky questions for the prosecution witnesses to answer and Emma's summary speech was truly inspirational with a lot of emotion, and... thumping of desks.

When the final result was announced that Foyle had won the overall competition, we were naturally upset, but took some comfort in the fact that we came a close second. We wished good luck to Foyle for Nottingham and went to our bus outside the court, for the trip back to school. An enjoyable day was had by all, and we thank Mr Crawford for accompanying and helping us every Tuesday after school since Christmas.

Andrew Wilson (Year 11)

Diary Dates

Monday 07 May	-	May day holiday
Wednesday 16 May	-	Year 9 – Parents’ Afternoon (4-6 pm)
Monday 28 May – Friday 01 June	-	School exams for Years 8-11 pupils
Thursday 05 June	-	Sports Day – All Parents invited
Friday 29 June	-	School Year ends (1.00 pm)
Monday 03 September	-	New Term starts at 9.00 am

Parents’ Association Forthcoming Events

Duck Derby

The Parents’ Association are hosting a Duck Derby at the Rugby Club on Friday 15 June for the summer holidays.

There are 1,000 ducks ready for you to purchase at £1.00 each. Even as you are in the midst of your studies we can confirm that these ducks are in serious training for this unique opportunity to float down the River Roe. Their trainers are leaving no stones unturned in their quest for perfection. The Ducks originate from Ballymena where they have been taught to swim in a “quack” manner. The cost of having your very own duck in one of the races on the night is £1.00.

There will be five races and various parents and teachers will be standing in the River Roe to make sure that none of the ducks escape out into Lough Foyle!

Unless you’re in, you can’t win. So please take the opportunity of purchasing a duck for £1.00 from the stall which will be near the Reception in the Grammar School from the start of June onwards.

Jazz and Blues Evening

Whilst we are on the subject of Parents’ Association, I am sure your parents will want to come and support the Jazz and Blues night at the Recreation Club on Killane Road on Friday 11 May. Tickets are only £5.00 and three bands are playing including “School Patrol”, the school Jazz band and Limavady’s new rock and roll legends, “All Eyes On”.

Pig Race

In September we will be having a Pig Race. Watch this space for details. In the meantime I am off to supervise the ducks in training for their big night.

Please help us to help you by purchasing a duck for £1.00

Mr P Jack (Chairman, Parents’ Association)

School Development Planning

I invite parents to visit the LGS website at www.limavadygrammar.org.uk and to read through our current development plan. It has been arrived at through consultation with students through the Student Council, staff, governors and parents.

I’m in the process of updating the plan and I would like, once again, to have the views of parents. Perhaps a simple way to achieve this is for any parent who wishes to comment, to do so by dropping me a brief note. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sam McGuinness