



# Headlines



January 2008

## HOLIDAYS 2008

Mid Term Break:  
Friday 15 February

Exceptional Closure:  
Monday 18 February

St Patrick's Day:  
Monday 17 March

Easter Holiday:  
Tuesday 18 March

-  
Friday 28 March  
(inclusive)

May Day Holiday:  
Monday 5 May

End of Term:  
Friday 27 June  
(at 12.30 pm)

New Term Begins:  
Monday 1 September  
At 9.00 am

Halloween Break:  
Monday 27 October

-  
Friday 31 October  
(inclusive)

Christmas Break:  
School Closes:  
Friday 19 December  
at 12.30 pm

School Reopens:  
Monday 5 January 2009  
At 9.00 am

## Hockey News

After a shaky start to the hockey season the Under 14 XI team has now hit a winning streak. They are through to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the Ulster Junior Plate Competition and play Killeel Junior High School. Good Luck girls.

A new addition to our annual fixture list this year is Royal School Dungannon. These matches were played on Saturday 26 January - the 1<sup>st</sup> XI drew 1-1 on our new astro pitch while the Under 13 squad had a convincing win at Dungannon with a score of 5-0.

The luxury of training and playing on this new surface is now beginning to pay off!

Many thanks to all those supportive parents who turn up on Saturday mornings. Your presence does make a difference.

*Mrs J Higgins*

## Cambridge Bound



We were delighted to learn, early in the New Year, that Emma M and Liam McN have been offered places in Cambridge University. Emma plans to study Natural Sciences at Emmanuel College and Liam to study History at Homerton College.

We wish them and all our final year students well as they put in final preparations for their A levels.

*Dr S J McGuinness*

## Technology Awards



Congratulations to Technology students Gareth McG and Philip M who were runners-up in the Belfast Telegraph Value Oils Young Web Designer of the Year awards. They designed a website on the theme of 'Our Environment' which is now posted on the Belfast Telegraph website.

The boys were presented with certificates and book tokens and are pictured here being congratulated by Dr McGuinness (Headmaster) and Mr Devlin (Head of Technology).

## Spanish Exchange – December 2007

On 13 December 2007 18 pupils in Years 11 and 12 had some special visitors. For the first time in our school we had an exchange with a school in Cantabria, Spain.

When the pupils arrived they set off first to meet their hosts and then to a few of the classes to get a feel of LGS. For the rest of the day the Spanish pupils took part in a treasure hunt around Limavady, so they could learn more about the town and get used to writing and speaking in English! Then they set off to meet their host families and get acquainted with one another. Next day all the students involved in the exchange went to W5 and spent a very enjoyable day learning about science and of course, learning how to speak Spanish and English whilst talking to their exchange students.

On Monday, the pupils and their Spanish partners went on a trip to Omagh to visit the Ulster American Folk Park. The Spanish pupils enjoyed to hear about Irish history and found it different to the traditional history of Spain.

On Tuesday the Spanish students and their teachers travelled to Londonderry to visit the Tower Museum and had a guided tour of the Walls.

Wednesday morning brought a wave of emotions and after

the visitors sent off their luggage, goodbyes were exchanged. Pupils are counting the days until 10 March when we will return the visit to Santander.

It was a most enjoyable, educational and emotional visit and no doubt the return visit will be just as enjoyable for us.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Sánchez for organising the exchange, which was a huge success and thanks must also go to Mr Sampson for his participation in the exchange.

We are now looking forward to our return visit in March!



*Emma Donnell & Jessica Allen (Year 11)*

## **Careers News – Important Dates**

Tuesday 12 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

Wednesday 13 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)*

## **Medical/Dental Appointments**

As you will know registration is taken twice a day - morning and afternoon sessions. Department of Education regulations now count Medical/Dental appointments as authorised absence for statistical purposes. This is to encourage parents to make appointments for their children out of school hours. We realise that, on occasions, this is not always possible, and so the school will apply the following policy:

- A pupil, who appears for am registration, leaves school for an appointment but returns before pm registration will be recorded as present.
- A pupil, who arrives late in school with an excuse of an appointment but is in time to attend for part of that session, will be recorded present for that session.
- A pupil, who leaves school for a pm appointment before pm registration, will be recorded as absent for that session.
- A pupil, who leaves school in the morning following am registration and does not return to school that day, will be recorded as absent for the pm session.

Parents are reminded that requests for pupils to be released for all appointments should be sent to one of the school Vice Principals on the day prior to the appointment. The Vice Principal will sign the request and a permission slip will be given to the pupil enabling them to sign out at the appropriate time on the requested day. If you have any queries on this please contact the school.

*Mr N Handforth (VP)*

## **LGS FORMER PUPIL NEWS**

**Richard Boyd** who is studying at Emanuel College, Cambridge has been awarded one of the Rowley Mainhood Award for 2007-2008. This award recognises achievements in pre-admission public examinations and competition for these awards was fierce. **Congratulations to Richard on this fine achievement.**

### **Reinhardt Vonhof breaks World Atlantic Rowing Record**

**Reinhardt Vonhof**, a former pupil of Limavady Grammar School, as part of a 14-man British/Irish team has broken the world record for rowing across the Atlantic.

They started the journey on 15 December which took 33 days to complete, shaving 2 days off the previous record set by a French team in 1992.

Reinhardt studied at Edinburgh and Napier Universities and rowed for Edinburgh University.

He is a mature student currently studying for an MSc in Property and Construction Management and rows for St Andrews Boat Club.



## READATHON 2008 – Reading for all!

Pupils in English classes in years 8-10 are currently participating in our annual Readathon. Since 1997 LGS has raised over £37,000, 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.

Any pupil who is unable to participate in this event must bring a letter from their parent/guardian to their English teacher before 14 February.

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.

To encourage reading for all, our English department was asked to list their top ten favourite novels/plays.

<p><b>Miss Bell</b></p> <p>Anne of Green Gables The Catcher In The Rye The Book Thief Shadow In The Wind Great Expectations Misery Mort Good Omens They Shoot Horses, Don't They? The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-time</p>	<p><b>Miss Coid</b></p> <p>The Great Gatsby An Evil Cradling Catch 22 History Of The World In 10½ Chapters After You'd Gone The Princess Bride Birdsong White Teeth/On Beauty Dubliners ("The Dead") A Farewell To Arms</p>
<p><b>Miss O'Kane</b></p> <p>To Kill A Mockingbird King Solomon's Mines The Bluest Eye Harry Potter The Da Vinci Code Titus Andronicus Translations Dare Pelzer Trilogy Dr Faustus David Copperfield</p>	<p><b>Mr Hayes</b></p> <p>The Old Man And The Sea Shadow Of The Wind A Farewell To Arms Lord Of The Flies Angels and Demons Fever Pitch For Whom The Bell Tolls They Call Me Coach High Fidelity The Alchemist</p>
<p><b>Mr Warwick</b></p> <p>For Whom The Bell Tolls The Portrait Of A Lady Vanity Fair Heart of Darkness The Leopard On the Road/Treasure Island The Year Of The French Malone Dies The Great Gatsby Cold Mountain</p>	<p><b>Miss Gordon</b></p> <p>Great Expectations Pride and Prejudice To Kill A Mockingbird Birdsong The Great Gatsby Wuthering Heights The Woodlanders Winnie The Pooh Memoirs Of A Geisha Rebecca</p>