



# HEADLINES

## January 2011

### *Principal's Introduction*

A Happy New Year to everyone.

Pupils have just recently completed their January examinations. These will provide a benchmark for each pupil's progress and areas which require additional focus should be obvious. I would ask all parents to support their children by providing them with a quiet facility in which to complete homework. Our school's homework guideline is approximately 3 hours per night for Sixth Form students and 12 hours per week for GCSE students and up to 10 hours per week for Key Stage 3. Consolidation of classroom learning is essential for progress.

It is important that each pupil broadens his or her horizons and I am delighted that many avail of our extra curricular programme. The Staff who support this give generously of their time.

We continue to be proud of all our pupils and it was a delight to be present recently at a presentation in Belfast when last year's Head Girl, Ruth Bunting, was awarded a Hans Sloane Certificate for high achievement in A-level Science subjects. When each pupil gives of his/her best then we are delighted to celebrate their personal success.

We are looking forward to our Open Night (details below) and hope, if you have any children in P6 or P7, to see you then.

*R Wilson*

## OPEN NIGHT

**Monday 31 January 2011**

**P7 pupils and parents are invited to attend at the following times:**

<b>Surnames</b>	<b>A-H</b>	<b>6.45 pm</b>
	<b>I-M</b>	<b>7.00 pm</b>
	<b>N-Z</b>	<b>7.15 pm</b>

**Primary 6 pupils and parents are invited to attend at 7.30 pm**

**The School Prospectus will be available on the evening.**

### *How the LGS Learning continued despite the snow*

The comment was made recently in LGS that snow days are like buses; you teach for years and years without one and then several come along at once!

The arrival of the prolonged heavy snow may have prevented our classes from happening in the traditional classroom environment but the school's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) ensured that that not all learning was forced to take snow days.

Many KS4 and post-16 classes were set directed study via the VLE and students were able to upload assignments for the attention of their teachers. Regular correspondence took place using both this website and C2K email accounts meaning that pupils did not lose out on valuable examination preparation time.

Participating teachers and students all agree that this method of learning, whilst not ideal, was certainly worthwhile and will be a likely medium for communication in any future unforeseen closures.

Senior students are encouraged to ensure that they are able to access their email and VLE accounts from home and to check their mail in the event of further emergencies.

*Mrs K Henry (VP Teaching & Learning)*

## *Allez les bleus!*

Congratulations to our French Debating Team of Carl Mulholland (captain), Jessica Allen, Patrick Jack and Naomi Given (all Year 14) which has progressed into the semi-finals of the Northern Ireland A-Level French Debating Competition, by defeating St Patrick's Academy, Dungannon, in a closely-contested quarter-final held at the University of Ulster in Coleraine just before the Christmas break. Our task this time was to argue against the motion "*Les jeunes d'aujourd'hui ont plus d'avantages que la génération de leurs parents*" (Young people today have more advantages than their parents' generation).



This provoked strong arguments on both sides but by focusing on the demands of school life today, increasing student debt, the dangers of peer pressure and the tendency for many young people to grow up too fast, we managed to convince the judges that life was, in fact, easier for our parents when they were our age. Particular congratulations go to Naomi who was judged best overall speaker. The team is now busy preparing for the semi-final which will be held in February.

*Mr I Sampson (Head of MFL)*

## *Congratulations*

*Winners of the  
Year 8 Writing Competition:  
E. Sufferin, C. Hill and C. Coyle  
pictured with Literacy Co-  
Ordinator,  
Mrs Farmer*



*The School offers its CONGRATULATIONS to Mr Bobby Rao on receiving the MBE for services to cricket and ethnic community work. Bobby was a Sports Coach at Limavady Grammar School a number of years ago.*

## *Important Dates for Parents*

Year 10 Parents' Evening – Careers (GCSE Choices)

Tuesday 1 February from 7-8 pm

Year 12 Parents' Evening – Careers (A-Level Information Evening)

Tuesday 8 February from 7-8 pm

## *Parents' Association*

The Craft Fair in November was better than ever and our thanks go to everyone who contributed towards making the event such a success!

We are delighted to be able to financially support requests from school groups and the profit from our events will benefit more pupils.

**A big thank you to ALL parents who support our efforts. Look out for our event in March in the next edition of 'Headlines'.**

*Ms S Harbinson (Secretary)*