



# Headlines



December 2011

## HOLIDAYS

**JANUARY-JUNE 2012**

School re-opens 8.55 am  
for New Term  
Wednesday 4 January  
2012

*Half Term Holiday*  
Thurs 16 & Fri 17  
February 2012

*St Patrick's Day*  
Monday 19 March 2012

*Closure Day for Pupils*  
Tuesday 20 March 2012

*Easter Holiday*  
Monday 2 April 2012

Friday 13 April 2012  
(inclusive)

*May Day Holiday*  
Monday 7 May 2012

*Closure Day for Pupils*  
Friday 25 May 2012

*Queen's Diamond  
Jubilee Holiday*  
Mon 4 & Tues 5 June  
2012

*School Finishes*  
Friday 29 June 2012  
at 12 noon

Our school has continued to be a busy place. By now all our Sixth Formers have completed their university applications. Some have already received offers while others are in the process of preparing for interviews. To support them, we ran a very successful Interview Skills Day and a number of pupils have undertaken mock interviews. We are indebted to many professionals from the wider community who have contributed to these valuable activities. In support of the wider Careers Education programme, Employability Days are planned for Years 9 and 10 before the end of term. A group of young engineers is taking part this week in a "Sentinus Team R and D" residential in Belfast as they continue to develop their knowledge of this profession.

The Parents' Association held a very successful Christmas market at which valuable funds were raised for school.

We continue to urge all our pupils to exercise extreme care when walking to and from school, especially at this time of year. I would remind you that School scarves are available for purchase in our Uniform Suppliers. Plain navy coats are acceptable for pupils to wear to and from school at this time of year. Our uniform regulations, approved by pupils through School Council, preclude pupils from wearing bracelets and the support of parents is appreciated as we maintain high standards of appearance among all our pupils.

The School production this year was 'Juno and the Paycock'. Much hard work led to excellent performances in front of two full houses. Thank you, well done and congratulations to all involved. I look forward to you all joining with us on 19 December at 7.30 pm for the School's Carol Concert which promises to be an excellent evening.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a Blessed and Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

*R Wilson (Principal)*

## COMMUNICATION

We continue to update our email address list for parents as supplied to us. Should there be any emergencies in relation to school closures, we will endeavour to communicate with parents through email. Information will also be posted on our website [www.limavadygrammar.org.uk](http://www.limavadygrammar.org.uk).

All pupils have a school email address (C2K) which can be accessed from home. During periods of emergency school closures, it is important that everyone checks this regularly for updates from school.

Snow days – should the School have to close because of snow, we will update parents via the School website or School answer phone.

## ***SENIOR LAW SOCIETY PARTICIPATE IN THE BAR MOCK TRIALS***

This year, the LGS Law Society was delighted to have once again been invited to take part in the prestigious Bar Mock Trial at Belfast's Crown Court, a competition which gives students the chance to participate in mock court cases in different roles, which are then marked by practising judges.

After months of preparation, the team set off to Belfast Crown Court for the regional final. We faced fierce competition from St Columb's College, Aquinas Grammar and Our Lady and St Patrick's College, but put forward very strong cases of our own.



The juries returned one favourable verdict out of three and the group was highly praised by judges, solicitors and teachers alike. Sadly we just fell short of gaining enough points to progress to the regional final but it is fair to say that the day was a great success.

The Law Society would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped us with preparation, particularly Miss Wright, who gave up countless break and lunchtimes over the past two months, and the barristers who put us through our paces before the final. We all thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have gained valuable insight to a number of legal professions.

*Manon Bartlett (Year 14)*

## ***ONE-EIGHTY***

There is a real buzz on Friday afternoons in the sixth form room, as up to 60 students from all year groups, get together to chat, play games, enjoy quizzes and learn more about God. The events each week are planned by a pupil committee, supported by members of staff, and are both varied and interactive. ONE-EIGHTY is the new name for the Scripture Union Group which has been meeting in school for many years. This new name was chosen by the young people to reflect the complete change of direction which faith in Jesus can make in their lives. The group is still affiliated to Scripture Union, which is a non-denominational group, and continues to follow its aims, beliefs and principles which can be found on [http://www.suni.co.uk/aims\\_beliefs\\_amp\\_principles.php](http://www.suni.co.uk/aims_beliefs_amp_principles.php)

*Mrs L Gilpin*

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

*We were delighted to learn that Ben Martin was placed first in N Ireland in A-Level English Literature and Lucy Bateson was second in N Ireland A-level ICT. These are remarkable achievements and both Pupils and Staff deserve praise. Ben will be invited to a special presentation ceremony just before Christmas.*

## **'LET'S TALK' EVENT IN LIMAVADY**

Limavady Borough Council's annual Local Democracy event, hosted by BBC Newsline presenter Mark Carruthers, took place at the Roe Valley Arts and Culture Centre. Councillors from the DUP, UUP, Sinn Fein, SDLP and the TUV arrived to answer questions from students from LGS, Limavady High School, St Mary's and St Patrick's High School Dungiven. The event was opened by the Mayor of Limavady, Sean McGlinchey, who was also sitting on the panel as a Sinn Fein representative. We put forward questions on various controversial issues including the flying of loyalist and nationalist flags in Limavady and the wearing of poppies during the Royal British Legion appeal. The heated debate was, however, well managed by Mark Carruthers who ensured there was no avoiding the question.

*Miss G Wright*

## **LOST PROPERTY**



Items currently in Lost Property include school scarves, kit bags and hockey sticks. All items will be displayed and available for collection on Wednesday and Friday during lunchtime. A fee of 50p is charged for each item collected. If the item has to be physically reunited with its owner, then 'a tracking down' charge of £1 will be applied. As all proceeds will be donated to the Rainbow Dog and Cat Rehoming Centre, anyone who refuses to pay up should feel ashamed! And, after all, if we can't rehome our LP we can at least help to rehome a dog! Last year we were able to hand over a cheque for £100 to the centre. Any items which are not collected will be donated to the Animal Charity shop in the town or disposed of before Christmas.

*Miss G Wright*

## **PARENTING NI HELPLINE - Freephone 0808 8010 722**

Every parent experiences difficulties from time to time. Sometimes they may seem small, but cause a lot of worry. Sometimes they are major family crises. In many cases it helps to talk to someone outside the family.

The Parenting NI helpline is here for you when things seem too much. We will listen to how you feel and won't judge you. We won't tell you what to do but will try to help you improve the situation.

The Parenting NI helpline provides confidential support and guidance in dealing with family issues. If you are concerned about your child's behaviour, family conflict, the impact of separation or bullying, or any other family issue no matter how big or small, the Parenting NI helpline is here to help, providing a free and confidential support service to all family members via a freephone helpline or local appointment service.

**Parenting Courses contact Head Office: 028 9031 0891.**

**Please ring (Marie) on 028 7137 2006 if you require further information.**

## **ULSTER GRAMMAR SCHOOLS' SWIMMING GALA**

Congratulations to the swim team who travelled to Larne Leisure Centre on Saturday 19 November to swim for the school. Eight Personal Bests were achieved and two swimmers, Dillon Moore and Jill Thompson narrowly missed the finals and were ranked in the top ten of their age group in the butterfly and breaststroke respectively. Well done to everyone and a special word of thanks to one of our parents, Mr Mervyn Kelly, who travelled with us. The support is greatly appreciated.

<b>Boys</b>			<b>Girls</b>		
Dillon Moore	PB Backstroke	39.44	Alberta Kelly	PB Backstroke	43.00
James Matthews	PB Butterfly	36.36	Alix Hull		
Patrick Kelly	PB Front Crawl	36.79	Jill Thompson	PB Backstroke	41.81
	PB Front Crawl	37.33	Brianna Boyd	PB Breaststroke	43.11
				PB IM	1.32.33

*Miss M Doherty*

## **JANUARY REPORTS**

The introduction of Tracking since September means that no year group, except Year 12, will be sitting exams in January. The reports sent to most parents by the end of the month will be based upon an average of marks obtained by each pupil in the first term's Tracking tests.

- Years 8-10 will receive a mark, grade and year average mark.
- Years 11, 13 and 14 will receive a grade based upon appropriate grade boundaries.
- Year 12 only will receive a mark and grade based upon their 'mock' exam performance.
- For Years 12-14 there will also be detailed comments from subject teachers.
- All other year groups will receive a much more detailed report in June.

*Mr B Dunwoody*

## **LIMAVADY GRAMMAR SCHOOL'S**

### **ANNUAL CAROL CONCERT**

*Will be held in the Assembly Hall  
On Monday 19 December 2011 at 7.30 pm  
(followed by refreshments)*

*Retiring donations in aid of  
Northern Ireland Children's Hospice*

*All Parents and Friends are Most Welcome*



**School will finish at 12 noon on Tuesday 20 December 2011.  
Buses will be available along the Londonderry and Dungiven/Feeney/Claudy routes  
at 12.15 pm.**

**Those pupils who walk home or who are going into town  
are reminded that they should conduct themselves in a manner  
that does not bring the good name of the school into disrepute.**

**The new term commences at 8.55 am on Wednesday 4 January 2012.**

