



St. Colmcille's High School Spring Newsletter

Key Dates

Monday 12th April 2010

New term begins

Monday 3rd May

May Day - holiday for all

Monday 31st May

PDD Staff only - School closed to pupils

Wednesday 30th June

End of term 12.15pm

Exam Dates

Key Stage 3 Exams

English - Tues 27th April

Science - Wed 28th April

Maths - Thurs 29th April

Thursday 20th May

Single & Double Award Science Exams (Yr11)

Year 8 & 9 Exams

Begin 24th May

Year 11 Internal Exams

Begin 7th June

Each student has received their individual exam timetable. GCSE examinations run from mid May - late June

Holiday dates & term dates for 2010-11 are now available and are published on the school website. We will send out the dates with the summer term newsletter, please advise and check with office if you need a copy sooner.

www.stcolmcillescrossgar.org.uk

March 2010

Orla O'Boyle wins the Northern Ireland final of Future Chef

Congratulations to Orla O'Boyle (11M) who won the Northern Ireland Regional Final of Future Chef 2010. Orla demonstrated outstanding culinary skills and expertise to prepare a two course meal on a budget of £8 and with a cooking time of one and a half hours. Orla will now travel to London for the final along with Miss McElroy - Home Economics teacher, Miss McCarthy - SERC Tutor and her mentor, chef Michael Gillien.



World Maths Day @ St. Colmcille's



World Maths Day is an event for students aged 5 –

18 years. It is a global education event, where all students and schools from around the world are invited to unite to set a new world

record for the numbers of questions correctly answered in maths. 191 participants from Years 8 – 11 in our school answered 74267 questions correctly. That's nearly 400 correct answers each – in 48hrs!! A prize was awarded to the highest scoring pupil in each year group.



TROCAIRE
Working for a Just World

Our annual Lenten Campaign is ongoing with all contributions going to the Trocaire Haiti appeal. Form classes have organised raffles, etc to boost the fundraising efforts and with prizes such as a signed Down shirt and tickets to see JLS this is proving very popular.

10R Trip to the Ulster Folk & Transport Museum



On Friday 19th March pupils from 10R, accompanied by Mr McPhillips and Miss Magee, visited the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum at Cultra. The purpose of their trip was to study the replica of the monoplane which Harry Ferguson, an Irish engineer and inventor, had built for his flight along the coast of Dundrum to Newcastle on 8th August 1910. Their research was part of 10R's participation in the 'Festival of Flight' centenary celebration organised by the Newcastle Lions Club. Research to date has

revealed that his journey was three miles long and that he flew at an altitude of 500 feet and he won the prize of £100 that had been offered for the first powered flight along the strand. We all agreed that the plane looked flimsy and unsafe and none of us would have been brave enough to make such a journey. Someone wondered if he had insurance!

P7 Open Night Winners

During the Open Night some departments held quizzes for the P7 children, the winners of these were:

English quiz winner - Demaire Murray (Holy Family)
RE quiz winner - Donal Carney (St. Joseph's Crossgar)
ICT quiz winner - Ben Digney (St. Mary's Primary School)
Maths quiz winner - Liam Crinley (St. Brigid's)
PE challenge winner - Fintan Walsh (Cedar Integrated)

Important Information Post Primary Review

On Tuesday 30th March each family will receive a copy of the Consultation document to be published on Monday 29th March about possible future post primary options in the Mid Down area.

Sports Section



Jujitsu

The Jujitsu Club continues to run successfully with students working towards their first grading. Gerald McAllister and David Toney from the Jujitsu federation recently visited the school to present a book on Jujitsu for the school library.



Year 11 GCSE PE

The Year 11 GCSE PE group successfully completed two days learning canoe/kayak skills at Castlewellan. Everyone involved thoroughly enjoyed the day which was topped off by great weather.



Girls Netball - East Down League

Minors - competing well
Juniors - won against Shimna College
Intermediates - drew against St. Mary's, won to Shimna College

Girls Soccer - IFA Down Winter League

Year 10/12 girls have won 2 matches and drew 1
Year 8/9 drew with Blackwater Integrated College

Year 9 Boys & Girls recently completed rugby coaching in PE lessons with David Chambers IRFU coach. We hope to follow through with competitive match against Ballynahinch/Saintfield.

Ambrose Rodgers is currently assisting in the PE Department in collaboration with the Down County Board. Many thanks to Grainne McClean (Down Ladies) for her coaching at extra-curricular Gaelic.

School Clubs

Thank you for your continued support of all clubs. This is much appreciated. Clubs continuing to run during and after school are:

The Owlets Book Club
Netball
Gaelic - Boys & Girls

Jujitsu
Soccer - Boys & Girls
President's Award
Athletics (after Easter)



New Clubs - Science & Photography

Mr D McGeown has recently started a Science Club for Year 8 students. The club is designed to help pupils with a strong scientific interest to develop the skills associated with science beyond the classroom. The club will have scientific projects to investigate during schools hours. The pupils will work in groups and plan and execute the necessary scientific investigation related to the project.

Mrs R Mulholland and Mr D McGeown have recently been organising a photography club for Year 8 students. The club is designed to help interested pupils in the skills of the art of photography, in addition to assisting the pupils in the use of software to help produce wonderful images. As part of the club we are also aiming to introduce the pupils to the "dark room" and the chemical development of camera film.



Pupil Achievements

Michelle McCavera, a Year 12 student has been awarded the Learner of the Year trophy 2010 by CEA (Council for Examinations & Assessment) in the subject of Hospitality & Catering which is part of Occupational Studies and our link with SERC.

Year 12 student, **Conor Brennan** who is U15 & U17 Northern Ireland goalkeeper has just signed a contract with Leicester City FC.

Mark McMullan, one of our GCSE Music students had a leading role in the recent musical Carousel. **Ruairi McErlean**, Year 12 was part of the stage management and **Bethany Hanna**, Year 8 also took part.

Year 12 student, **Kieren Laverty** has been selected for a Northern Ireland and Losotho (South Africa) Exchange Programme. Kieren will visit Losotho and contribute to the community and learn about new culture. Kieren has been a member of Killyleagh/Crossgar Youth Council for the past 3 years.

Year 11 students **Shane Murray** and **Alana McCaffrey** have been selected as young ambassadors for the 2010 Olympics. Our school is one of twenty schools involved.

50th Anniversary



There will be a Special Mass in Mary Mother of the Church, Saintfield at 7.30pm Wednesday 22nd September 2010.



Parents/Guardians - if you would like to receive information by email - please advise the school office of your email address.

Check out the school website for the latest news & information:

www.stcolmcillescrossgar.org.uk

Important Information

Parents & Requests to leave school early.

It is important that you state on such notes and requests who is collecting your son/daughter. We expect parent/guardian/named person to collect your son/daughter from school office only, this is for Health & Safety and Child Protection reasons. Your co-operation in this matter is appreciated.

School Uniform

The only outer jacket allowed is the black fleece lined waterproof jacket – school regulations.