

Netball Success

Congratulations to the U13 netball team on reaching the semi-final of the Belfast League.

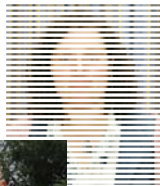


Sharing Education Programme

Belfast High School has been successful in its bid for Sharing Education Programme funding. Bidding for funding was opened to all schools in NI, and 12 schools will now receive finance of up to a quarter of a million pounds in order to develop an area of the curriculum in collaboration with other schools. As lead school, BHS collaborated with both Dominican College and Hazelwood Integrated College in order to write its project bid. The bid revolved around the development and promotion of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) within school, and marks the commencement of an exciting project which will focus on the pursuit of excellence in these areas. The Sharing Education Programme (SEP) is a 3 year programme which will promote reconciliation by facilitating collaboration. The programme is funded by the International Fund for Ireland and Atlantic Philanthropies and is being managed by Queen's University Belfast.

Staff News

Congratulations to Miss Foster, Mr Jellie, Mr Campbell and Dr Bailie on the completion of their Masters' Degrees.



Classics Department News

Jowett Sendelar Essay Competition

For the past 2 years, Year 10 pupils who study Classical Civilisation have written essays on a classical theme for the Jowett Sendelar Essay Competition, which is organised by Oxford University and attracts entries from all over the UK. Five pupils, now in Year 11, have been awarded prizes in this year's competition. Louise Murray won a merit prize, the highest prize awarded so far to a pupil in the School. Jacqui Barnes was highly commended and Alex Costley, Chris Beck and Selina Chia received commendations for their essays.



EMACT Greek Certificate



At the end of Year 9 all pupils complete a short course in Classical Greek, called the EMACT Greek certificate, Level 1. Pupils learn the Greek alphabet, Greek numbers and science, technology, mathematics and English words which we use today which have a Greek origin, along with basic information about the ancient city of Athens. Distinctions were awarded to 14 pupils.



HIGHLIGHTS

News from Belfast High School



Issue 4
Jan 2010

Orla Sheehan Pundyke

Has received an offer from Hertford College Oxford to read Chemistry.



Sian Peoples

Winner of our Design a Christmas Card Competition.



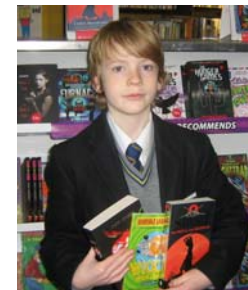
Clara Chivers

Winner of the Newtownabbey heat of the Soroptimist International Youth Award Public Speaking Competition.



Callum Reid

Winner of £20 worth of books in the Scholastic Book Fair draw.



New Access/Security System

A new access/security system was introduced on 11 January 2010. All visitors must gain access to the School via the main entrance.

New Computers

The School has taken delivery of 130 new computers which have been installed throughout the School.



Diary Dates

1st XV rugby tour

29 January to 1 February

Friends Table Quiz

Tuesday 9 February

School Disco (Years 8-10)

Thursday 11 February

Ski Trip - 13 to 20 Feb (inc)

Half Term - 15 to 17 Feb (inc)

Year 9 Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thursday 25 February

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 2 March

Christian Union Trip

12 to 14 March

Spring Concert

Thursday 18 March

Year 13 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 24 March

Easter Holidays

29 March to 9 April (inc)



Rotary Youth Leadership Competition

Congratulations to Chris Colwell who has won a Youth Leadership Competition organised by Rotary International in Ireland. The competition was open to young people aged 15 and 18 and was designed to offer young people throughout Ireland the opportunity to participate in a week-long personal development programme including seminars in Belfast and Dublin and also spending a week at Euroscola in Strasbourg. The first stage of the competition was an interview with our Rotary Club in Newtownabbey. 3,200 young people throughout Ireland entered at this stage and each Rotary Club put through one candidate to the area finals. Following the second interviews Chris was chosen as one of the winners. He now has the honour, along with the other 26 finalists, of representing Rotary Ireland at the Euroscola programme in Strasbourg and visiting the European Parliament.



Joseph

Congratulations to everyone involved in the School's production of Joseph. All three performances on Thursday 10, Friday 11 and Saturday 12 December provided marvellous entertainment and were greatly enjoyed by very large audiences.



Form 1 Christmas Party

All Year 8 pupils enjoyed an afternoon of fun and games on 21 December at their annual Christmas party. Santa even made an appearance!!!



Spelling Bee

After more than 3 weeks (17 days!) of spelling, the Finals of the KS3 Spelling Bee took place just before Christmas. Over the course of 32 matches, 77 pupils spelled over 3000 words – mostly correctly.

In the end, the best team emerged as 10P (Bethany Corbett, Jonny Morgan and Lewis Benson). 8P was second, 9S came third. All players in the final won a selection of books on English grammar, and in addition the members of the 10P team each won a £10 book token.

In the singles final Jordan Delaney of 8Q spelled his way to victory over David Shields (9T) and Bethany Corbett (10P). All went away with books, with a further £10 book token for Jordan.



German Christmas Market



On Tuesday 8 December the School organised its third 'Language Event' as part of our Specialist School status. This year the main hall at the UUJ was transformed into an authentic German market complete with Lebkuchen Männer, traditional Black Forest dancing and a 'Fairytale Corner'. Our Key Stage 3 German pupils were the hosts for the day, organising the activities for over 390 pupils from our partner schools as well as visitors from the Newtownabbey Senior Citizens Forum.

Community Service News

Well done to everyone involved in our Children in Need/Charity Day in November. The School raised over £3,000 which has been distributed to various charities. Our Community Service Group also shopped, packed and delivered 80 hampers to residents in the local community just before Christmas.



Sentinus Insight into Engineering Course
Michael Montgomery, Steven Godfrey, Ethan Haley and Jonathan Rea were selected to participate in a Sentinus Insight into Engineering Course in December.

L6 Politics Trip to London

On 13 December 24 L6 Politics pupils accompanied by Miss Hayes and Mrs Weir travelled to London on the department's annual A Level trip. Highlights of the 3 day trip included a guided tour of both houses of Parliament, a visit to the Cabinet War Rooms and an evening on the West End watching Les Misérables. There was also a little time for some last minute Christmas shopping!