

Sailing Success

Chris Penney finished off his successful season with a convincing win at the RYA NI Volvo Youth Championships held at the end Of September. Posting bullets in four of the six races Chris was presented with the NI Youth Cup.



Rugby News

Congratulations to Guy Bell and Ben Love who have been selected for the Ulster Schools' U16 Development Squad.



New Rugby Kit for 1st XV

Our thanks to Mr Stephen Megarry of JP Corry Ltd who has sponsored our 1st XV rugby kit this season. Mr Megarry is pictured with 1st XV captain Ryan Reaney, Vice-Captain Ross Megarry and 1st XV coach Mr Wilson.



Queen's University Maths Summer School 2009

During the summer we had the privilege to spend a few days in Queen's University Belfast at the Maths Summer School. We participated in many activities that mirror university life and spent a lot of time working together in groups.

Some of the sessions included Morning Maths with Matt and Error-Correcting Codes and used probability to show how maths can be related to the real world. The classes were very interesting and covered some of the topics included in a maths degree.

The summer school was amazing and we would definitely go back next year if we could!



Kathy Hetherington, Connor McIlwain, Kathryn Maginnis and Katie Skelton (L6)

Did you see

Our L6 pupils Ruth Kelly and Chantelle McNichol on UTV promoting Deaf Awareness Week?



HIGHLIGHTS

News from Belfast High School



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Top Achievement in Northern Ireland GCSE

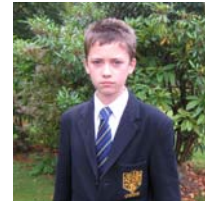
Congratulations to Sarah Clarke who was placed 3rd in Northern Ireland in GCSE Maths and to Raymond Frampton who was placed 3rd in NI in GCSE ICT.



National Poetry Day Competition Winners



Megan Cummings
Year 8 First Prize
'The New Girl'



Jordan Diven
Year 9 First Prize
'Apples in the Autumn'



Suzy Spence
Year 10 First Prize
'The Forgotten Book'



Tickets now available from the General Office - £7.50 and £5 (concession).

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE TO PERFORMANCE DATES:

Thursday 10 December
Friday 11 December
Saturday 12 December

Diary Dates

Year 8 CATs	w/c 16 November
Parents' Nights:	
Year 12	12 November
Year 8	24 November
L6 Interview	
Skills Day	17 November
German Market	8 December
L6 Politics Trip to London	13 - 15 December
Carol Service	16 December



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Kielder Challenge

A joint team of pupils from Jordanstown School and Belfast High School finished second in the 2009 Kielder Challenge Plate Final. The Kielder Challenge is a unique national outdoor adventure competition for teams of eight 13 to 16 year olds with and without learning, sensory and physical disabilities. The event is organised by Fieldfare Trust and supported by HSBC in the Community and its aim is to encourage integration between teenagers with and without disabilities and who may not normally get a chance to compete together.

Jordanstown School and Belfast High School entered the competition along with 250 other schools from the UK earlier this year and, following an impressive score at their regional heat, won a place in the national Plate Final. The team competed against 5 other teams at the 2 day Plate Final in Kielder Forest in Northumberland on 23 and 24 September and, in the closest final on record, came an excellent second place. The team also won the prestigious Kielder Shield for the team that epitomises the spirit of the Kielder Challenge.

The Plate Final comprised a series of problem-solving tasks including completing a treasure puzzle in boats on Kielder Water and negotiating rope walkways in the trees of Kielder Forest and the teams were scored on how well they worked together using all their teamwork and problem-solving skills.

The teams were praised by Peter Bull, manager of HSBC in the Community. He said: "I always enjoy going along to the final and seeing the children having fun and this year was no exception with Jordanstown School and Belfast High School really capturing the essence of the competition.

The four Belfast High School members of the combined team were Bethany Sloan, Megan Sexton, Adam White and Tom McConkey.



Congratulations to:

Craig McMaster who won the Year 8 Attendance Poster Competition.



John Mackey who won the October Year 8 Literacy Competition.



Launch of European Day of Languages

On Friday 25 September we celebrated European Day of Languages with all our usual activities. We were also very proud to play host to 30 dignitaries. They all enjoyed a continental breakfast followed by a special assembly led by linguists from the School. Pictured are Maurice Maxwell (Head of the European Commission NI), Cllr David Rodway (Belfast City Council) and Dr Eugene McKendry (Director of QUB-based NICiLT) along with Mrs Gormley and Anneke Taylor and Gavin Hastings.

Prize Distribution

Prize Distribution was held on Thursday 22 October in the University of Ulster, Jordanstown. The Guest of Honour was Mr Mark Pyper, Principal of Gordonstoun School and Great-Grandson of Mr James Pyper, Headmaster of the School from 1867 – 1917.

Mr Pyper is pictured with Mrs Gormley, Michael Adair, Head Boy and Laura Stewart, Head Girl.



Italy Trip

Thirty seven pupils from Forms 4 to U6 and four teachers enjoyed a seven day trip to Rome and the Bay of Naples at the end of October. Each day was packed with sightseeing visits to Classical sites and museums. We spent half a day wandering the ruins of Pompeii, followed by a trek to the top of Mt Vesuvius where smoke and steam from the volcano is still evident. Visits to Herculaneum, the villa at Oplontis and Naples museum completed our time in the south. In Rome we walked the length of the ancient city, touring the Colosseum – scene of gladiator fights – the Forum, and the Capitoline Museum where we enjoyed roof top views of the city below. We witnessed a papal mass in St Peter's Basilica, consumed huge pizzas, and spent time shopping and relaxing near the Trevi Fountain and the Spanish Steps. The weather was good and accommodation excellent throughout the stay. Everyone returned having learnt something new about Rome and the Roman world.



The Colosseum



Baths at Pompeii



Caecilius' House