

Newsletter 27
March 2016

Sullivan Upper School Monthly Newsletter

Congratulations to Tom Robson (Yr12), Fergus Gibson (Yr12) and Harry Morris (Yr11) who have been selected to play hockey for Ireland in a three match series against Scotland from 25 to 27 March 2016.

Rory McIlroy answers questions from 10S



Throughout the world if you say you are from Northern Ireland people immediately think of Rory McIlroy. It's strange to think such a famous person came from our school (Sullivan Upper). It is even more strange to think he may have had some of our teachers and perhaps sat at one of the desks we use. In many ways, Rory must have been very like us and must have many great memories of Sullivan. Yet even after knowing that he came here, it didn't make receiving the answers back any less surreal. The winner of countless prestigious awards replied to our questions! However, perhaps when he returns from golf he could come back to Sullivan and become our PE teacher? One can only hope! **Lucy Fitzpatrick**

Visit the school website for the full BBC School News Report



ART TRIPS TO 'TRUE COLOURS' EXHIBITION

All GCSE and A-level Art & Design pupils enjoyed visits to the Ulster Museum to see the 'True Colours' exhibition organised by CCEA. It was an impressive exhibition featuring outstanding examples of Art & Design work created by students from across Northern Ireland. Included in the exhibition this year was another piece by Molly Fitzpatrick, titled 'Self-Obsession'.

The 1st XI girls receiving the Junior Sports Team of the year 2015 award at the North Down Sports Awards.



The girls won the award jointly with the 1st XI boys.



The Sullivan contingent who were selected for the U17 South-eastern Hockey team: Emma Hill, Jenny Beattie, Amy Rothwell, Hannah Jemphrey, Laura McCaw, Erin Davidson.

The 1st XI girls hockey team – runners-up of the Belfast Telegraph Senior Schools Cup. Congratulations to the girls on reaching the final for the 2nd year in a row and very hard luck on their narrow 1-0 defeat to MCB.



U13s boy hockey team won the Belmont Cup at Campbell.

They won all their matches against Regent, Bangor GS and Campbell College.



Congratulations to the following pupils on gaining their Silver Duke Of Edinburgh's

Award. Year 14 - Ali Kirkwood, Grace Nart, Rory Sproule.

Year 13 - Anna Best, Ella Orme, Charlie Gregg, Emily Boyd.

Dates for Diary - April 2016

Monday 21 Mar-Friday 1 April	Easter Holidays - school closed
Monday 4 April	Summer Term begins
Thursday 7-Saturday 9 April	Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice Expedition
Monday 18 April	Presentation of House Shield
Saturday 30 April-Sunday 1 May	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Practice Expedition

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International Women's Day



To celebrate International Women's Day, six Year 13/14 girls attended a conference hosted by sports journalist, Denise Watson, in the luxurious setting of the Titanic Centre,

Belfast. They were treated to a number of inspiring speeches by leading female figures, as well as performances of drama and music and art, and rounded off with a tour of the Titanic exhibition. As you can see, the young women looked very much at home on the Grand Staircase (Grace Douglas, Zara Goldstone, Lola Bingham, Katherine McKee, Claire McCrory, Emma Dunwoody) (photo by Elaine Hill).



Sam Rutherford, 9C, has been continuing his winter sailing schedule by training and competing at the London 2012 Olympic Sailing

Venue in Weymouth. Over the weekend of 5-6 of March 2016, Junior squads from Great Britain, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland arrived in Weymouth to compete in the Laser 4.7 class. Sam finished the competition as 12th boy and the top Northern Ireland male competitor. After the next NI squad training on weekend of 12-13 March 2016, which is at home here at Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club in Cultra, Sam heads for Baltimore at Easter and the 2016 Munster Championships.



1st XI boys hockey team - runners up in the Belfast Telegraph Burney Cup. Unfortunately they lost to Banbridge Academy on penalty strokes. Congratulations to the boys on reaching the final and on their successful season, winning the other senior trophy the McCullough Cup.



Action from Junior House Hockey:
1st = Praeger and Speers, 3rd Grant, 4th McAlester



Spanish Exchange 2015/2016



As a follow-up to a very successful trip to Spain last October, we welcomed the pupils and staff from our exchange school in Madrid last Wednesday for what promised to be a very busy week. The exchange pupils stayed with the families of Sullivan pupils in years 12 and 14 who

study Spanish and they were able to attend some classes during their visit. Cultural visits included a day trip to the Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge and Giant's Causeway and a boat trip across the lough to Carrickfergus (thanks Isobel's dad!). We even managed to arrange warm(ish), dry weather for (almost) all of the week! It was the most successful exchange to date and a very positive and fun experience for both pupils and staff.



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Badminton

On Friday 4 March three Sullivan teams qualified to play in the Ulster Badminton Finals. This was a great achievement. In the morning the Senior Boys team of Joe Heatley, Benn Cuthbert, Connor Trimble and Chris Cree played Royal and Prior in the final of the Cup. Despite some close games the boys lost against strong opposition. At the same time the Year 8 Girls were

involved in their Cup Final against Friends. This was a rematch of the final of a tournament earlier in the year where we were victorious in a very close match. Hannah Boyd, Sarah Baker, Lucy Cunningham and Rachel White competed in singles and doubles again in a close match. The doubles ended one each and the singles were close with the final result this time going to Friends 4-2. The standard of play for year 8 was very high and the decision was made on the closest of

margins with one set finishing 21-20. Finally the Junior Girls played in the afternoon against Bloomfield for the Division 2 league. Hannah Boyd in Year 8 was playing up alongside Erin Camlin, Ella Thompson and Jenna McKearney. This also proved to be a hard fought final, and in the end it was a 3-3 draw. However, Bloomfield won on sets, two of which on the day we lost 21-20. Sadly it proved just not to be our day despite some great matches.

Year 8 girls team - Ulster Badminton Finalists



Junior Girls Badminton Team – Ulster Division 2 Finalists



Lagan Festival of Speech Drama Art and Song

The following Sullivan pupils won significant trophies at the Lagan festival as follows:
James Butt (Yr13) won the Bank of Ireland Perpetual Cup for public speaking age 16-21;
Rebekah Sharpe (Yr13) won the RSM Perpetual Trophy for Poetry and Prose Recital age 16 & over; and Rowel Friers (Yr9) won the EPTA Belfast Cup for the best performer in the Recital Class - piano solo grade 8.

The minor, junior, inter and senior netball teams all made the EA South Eastern Region Area B League finals. This is a tremendous achievement and the girls worked very hard for it. The minors narrowly lost to Glenlola A, the juniors beat Wallace B, the inters beat Regent A and the seniors lost to Regent A. Well done to all involved.



Secretary of State visits Sullivan

Secretary of State Theresa Villiers MP recently visited Sullivan where she met a number of sixth form girls studying politics to discuss opportunities for standing for election and pursuing a career in public office. The Secretary of State spoke to 6th Form students from Sullivan Upper, Ashfield Girls, Strathearn, Glenlola, Priory Integrated College, Lagan College and St Columbanus. The Secretary of State's visit was to coincide with this

year's International Women's Day. International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.



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House Photography 2016

Year 8-10 Winners:

1st Place – David Ditty (Speers); 2nd Place – Micah Lee (Praegar), 3rd Place – David Stinson (Grant)

Year 11-12 Winners:

1st Place – Daniel Conway (Speers); 2nd Place – Sarah-Jane McEneny (Speers); 3rd Place – Donovan Draper (McAlester)

Year 13-14 Winners:

1st Place – Michael Parr (Grant); 2nd Place – Alex Hill (McAlester); 3rd Place – James Robinson (McAlester)



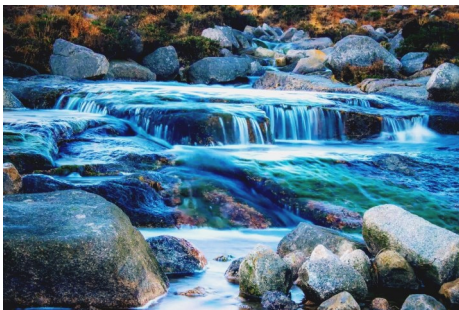
1st Place – David Ditty (Speers)



2nd Place – Micah Lee (Praegar)



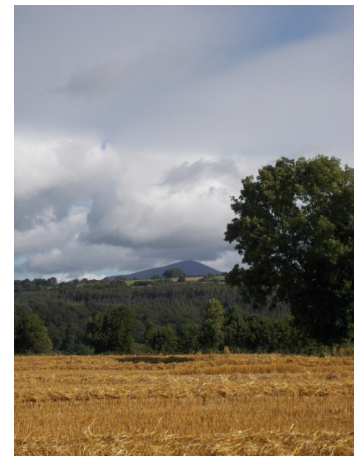
3rd Place – David Stinson (Grant)



1st Place – Daniel Conway (Speers)



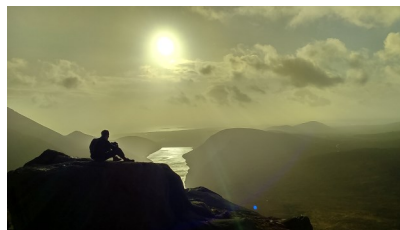
2nd Place – Sarah Jane McEneny (Speers)



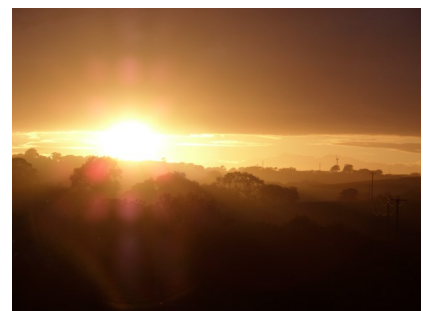
3rd Place – Donovan Draper
(McAlester)



1st Place – Michael Parr (Grant)



2nd Place – Alex Hill (McAlester)



3rd Place – James Robinson (McAlester)