



GLASTRY GAZETTE

March 2015

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the March edition of the Glastry Gazette. It's been another busy term in Glastry. All our new Year Eight students have settled in well to their new school and senior students and staff are continuing to work towards the inevitable exams at the end of the school year. 1st March marked the first day of Spring, so winter will soon be behind us, with the warmer weather and longer days on the horizon.

In addition to hard work, there's plenty of time for fun with the many extra-curricular activities on offer in Glastry: sports, music, drama, Environment Club, Scripture Union, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and many more. Why not try one out?

YEAR NINE PUPILS GO OUT OF THIS WORLD



The Science Department and all of our Year Nine Pupils recently visited Armagh Planetarium for a day of "out of this world activities". Pupils had a chance to make and fire their own rocket



by using a plastic fizzy drink bottle, a nose cone, some tail fins and a few other 'top secret' parts. Each rocket was made and then launched into space (around 20 metres) using only air and water.

Pupils also watched the inspirational story about the Christmas Star and even went on a virtual intergalactic big dipper ride, as well as looking around the exhibition area and seeing and touching some chunks



of asteroid and other space artefacts. The day was rounded off by a talk about what an astronaut has to undergo while on the International Space Station.



The Year Group are now really looking forward to seeing the Partial Solar Eclipse on Friday 20 March.



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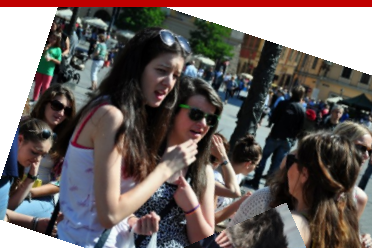
Sports Reports

Plus much much more...

**Coming to Glastry College in
September 2015**



KRAKOW 2014



HISTORY TRIP TO POLAND

Jennifer Dunbar and Johannes Eccles Y12

In June last year, members of the Year Eleven GCSE History class were offered the opportunity to visit Krakow in Poland to see the concentration and extermination camps at Auschwitz and Birkenau. Visiting the areas would help us to understand the Holocaust, which we are studying for the GCSE exam.

We set off at 6.30am from Glastry to begin the long journey to Poland. Following a three hour flight and bus transfer we arrived at the Galicia hotel in central Krakow. It was a very hot day and we all had to wear sunscreen. The hotel was comfortable and the meals provided a range of Polish delicacies which were a little different to what we were used to. There was also a large shopping centre nearby which had a range of fast food outlets, including KFC and McDonalds.

On the first day we spoke to a 78 year old German lady who had helped to hide Jewish people in her family home and it was interesting to hear how close they were to getting arrested by the Nazis for doing this. We also visited the Schindler museum, which proved to be very educational.

On the second day we headed for Auschwitz and Birkenau. Although this was a terrible place, it was the highlight of the trip, as we got to see in real life what we had been reading about in history textbooks. This was very hard-hitting, especially when we got to stand where the Jews stood to await their fate. We visited the salt mines later on that day, and this lightened the day after the emotional turmoil of seeing the concentration camp.

On the final day of the trip, we went into the centre of Krakow and were able to relax by buying souvenirs and shopping. We all had a great trip – thanks to Mrs Hoey and Mrs Harris for their organisation and the other teachers who accompanied us. It was a very memorable experience.





COLLEGE NEWS

TESCO

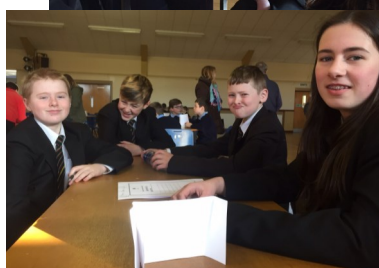
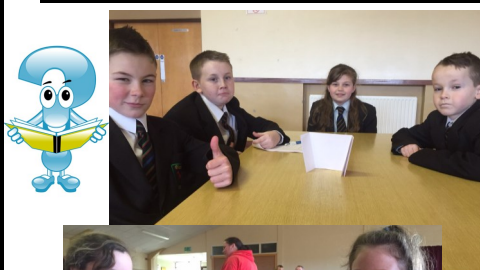


BUSINESS STUDIES TRIP

Year 12 GCSE Business Studies students visited Tesco in Newtownards in January to receive a talk and tour on Health & Safety in the store. The visit was to enable pupils to complete their controlled assessment. We visited the various departments within the store including counters, freezers, bakery and vehicle loading area. We also enjoyed tea, coffee and treats in the staff canteen and a detailed talk in the conference room.

Thank you to May Magee and her Tesco team for an excellent experience. Without doubt this will be invaluable to our Coursework.

Thanks too to Lauren Fitzsimmons (Year 12) who helped organise this visit on behalf of Mrs Connor and Mr Gilmore's class.



YEAR EIGHT QUIZ MASTERS

Three teams from Year Eight recently took part in the Annual All Ireland Credit Union Schools Quiz.

The quiz is about encouraging learning and teamwork among young schoolchildren as well as promoting the credit union movement to potential members at a local, regional and national level. The twelve pupils who took part had a really enjoyable afternoon, but sadly were pipped at the post by another local school.





COLLEGE NEWS

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS

We are collecting the Sainsbury vouchers in the Home Economics Department between Wednesday 28th January and Tuesday 5th May 2015. The vouchers are available to collect at any Sainsbury's store and online.

Last year we collected enough vouchers to get a £70 food voucher. This will help towards providing ingredients for an after school cookery class. This will be organised by the Home Economics Department to help Duke of Edinburgh pupils achieve the service and skills elements of the award. This after school class will run from March to June and will be open to Key Stage 3 pupils.

Please give your name to your Home Economics teacher as soon as possible as numbers are limited.

Please help us collect.

Sainsbury's



Support your local school

SKI TRIP 2016		Some Final Places remaining	
<p>Any pupils interested in going on the Ski Trip in 2016 should speak to:</p> <p>Mr Gilmore or Mrs Colville</p> <p>Cost - £725</p>			

INTERVIEW WITH MR GILMORE NEW ASSISTANT VICE PRINCIPAL

Earlier in the year Mr Gilmore was appointed Assistant Vice Principal. Rebecca Taylor and Nathan Lee interviewed him for the Newsletter.



1 How long have you been teaching? Have you taught in any other schools?

I started teaching in 1999, and taught in two schools in Belfast, Belfast Royal Academy and Cabinhill, before coming to Glastry.

2 Why did you choose Business Studies to teach?

I enjoyed Business Studies when I was at school and found it interesting. It is also a useful subject for the future that prepares all for employment.

3 Why did you choose to teach here?

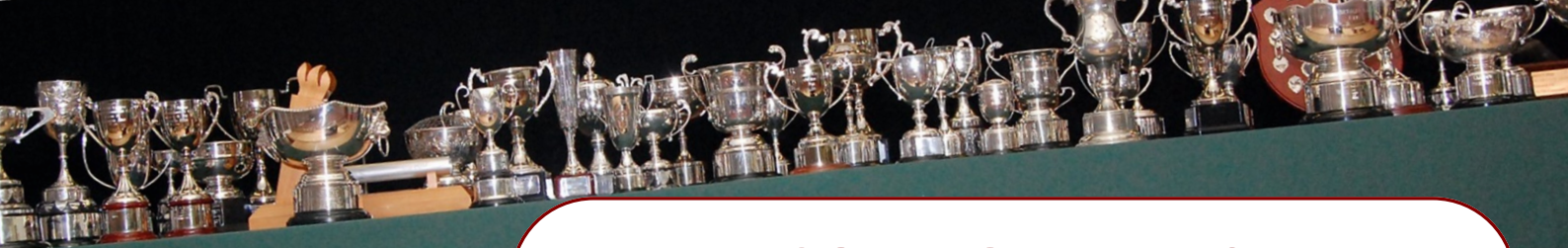
I am a former pupil of Glastry and I knew that it was a good environment and place to work in.

4 What changes would you like to see in the school?

I'd like to see the school rebuilt. Hopefully there will be a bigger canteen and more study facilities for Sixth Form, as well as better facilities for all the other subjects.

5 Would you like to be Principal one day?

At the moment, no. It is a difficult and demanding job.



COLLEGE NEWS

HAVING A SPRING CLEAN?

We would be extremely grateful if you could donate any of the following items to the Home Economics Department:-

- Empty plastic sweet containers
- Recipe books with coloured photos
- Plates
- Serving dishes
- Tablecloths
- Place mats
- Table runners
- Vases

We would like to build up a collection of different plates and place settings for use in the GCSE Food Practical. As there are usually no more than two place



MATHS FUN DAY

On 14 January staff from Sentinus visited Glastry and members of Year Nine participated in a Maths Fun Day. Year Nine were split into three groups for three sessions, with 30 stations of puzzles/challenges set up across the library & LSC. The pupils worked in pairs around as many stations as they could in 40mins.

When they completed a station, a teacher, a Year Eleven mentor or Peter Waugh (the organiser from Sentinus) checked the solution and points were awarded. Points were awarded according to the difficulty of the station. There were four levels – primary school, KS3, KS4 & KS5. Those pairs earning points for first, second and third places won a small prize and house points. Well done! The pupils appeared to enjoy the session and were particularly pleased with themselves for managing the higher level stations! The Year Eleven mentors also did a great job during the sessions.

Peter has always been impressed with the behaviour and manners of the pupils he meets in our school each year but commented that this year's Year Nine were the best he has seen so far!



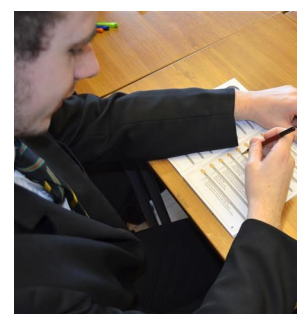


COLLEGE NEWS

YEAR NINE ROBOTICS DAY

Year Nine pupils in Glastry College got a taste of coding in the real world as they programmed autonomous robots to carefully follow a predetermined path in a similar way to robots in space exploration. The day was organised by Sentinus as part of Glastry's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) and ICT initiative and the pupils were guided through the day by some Yr 12 mentors who had experience of coding by writing their own games.

Year Nine thoroughly enjoyed the day and the best programmers of the day were Jordan Price, Jodie Maxwell, Matthew Burke and Ewan Kelly.



AMAZING BRAINS

Our Y11 and Y12 pupils recently completed seminars run by the company Amazing Brains – Y11 Drive for Results and Y12 5 Steps to Exam Success. The focus of the seminars was fourfold: to ensure our pupils understand that their intelligence is not fixed; to encourage them to realise that they can get better at all their subjects by adopting a growth mind set; to learn and develop new study skills so they have even more tools to conduct effective revision; and to identify which revision tools/strategies work best for them. With Y11 mock exams on the horizon as well as GCSE modular and final exams for Y11 and Y12 pupils in May, this was a timely and highly useful and effective series of seminars that will help our pupils to achieve their maximum potential. Accompanying these pupil events, Amazing Brains also led a Parent Power seminar where parents of pupils in Y11 and Y12 were invited to the College to learn about the growth mind set, as well as how they can help their sons and daughters to revise more effectively.

Y11 Parent 'A really interesting and valuable evening – I can now help my son to revise.'

Y11 Pupil 'This was brilliant and I now know some better ways to revise than just reading over notes.'





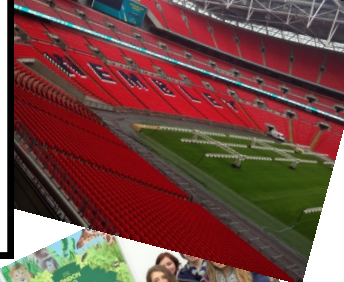
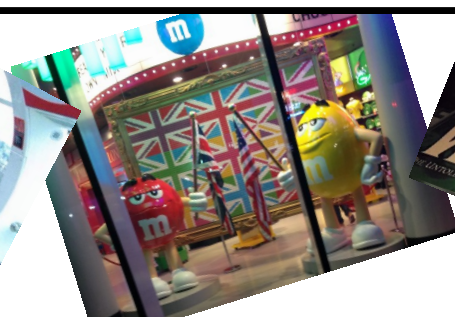
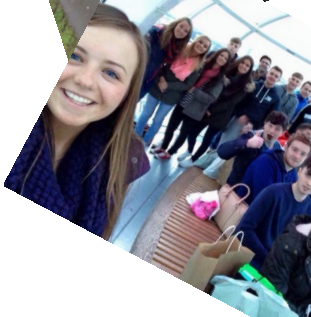
YEAR 14 TRAVEL & TOURISM

YEAR 14 TRAVEL & TOURISM TRIP TO LONDON

On Wednesday 4th February the Year 14 Travel & Tourism embarked on their trip to London for three days. As part of their A level studies the class had to organise and plan the whole trip and everyone who attended had a great time. Leaving the college at 3.30am was the hardest part of the day but we soon arrived into London and began a programme of sight seeing and cultural activities. We visited Madame Tussauds and got up close and personal with a number of famous stars. Our very own boy band group 'No Direction' managed to get their pictures taken with the 'real' stars. After lunch we headed to Oxford Street for some retail therapy and then back to the hotel to drop off the shopping before heading out for dinner and a walking tour around Leicester Square.

On Day Two of the trip the pupils had organised to split the group and go in different directions across the capital. Robert McCormick organised one group to visit Wembley Stadium, Emily Brown lead a trip to London Zoo and Hannah Milligan got some of us exercising on the Boris Bikes around London. After lunch the group all visited the Shard before going in different directions for an afternoon of culture in the British Museum, the Design Museum and Ripley's. After such a busy day we then had to sprint to the theatre to see Wicked at the Apollo Victoria Theatre followed by a very late night Chinese in Mr Kong's in China town. Once again the evening finished with a mad dash for the last train to Paddington before a much needed sleep!

Our final day involved a visit to Parliament to see around the Palace of Westminster and to participate in a voting workshop. From there we headed to the London Dungeons for a shocking experience and finally to Harrods before once again running to catch the last train to the airport. The trip was a fantastic experience and all the pupils completed their individual tasks to a high standard. Mr Gilmore, Mr Breen and Mrs Corbett would all like to publicly express their thanks to the 6th Form for a fantastic trip. Well done, team!





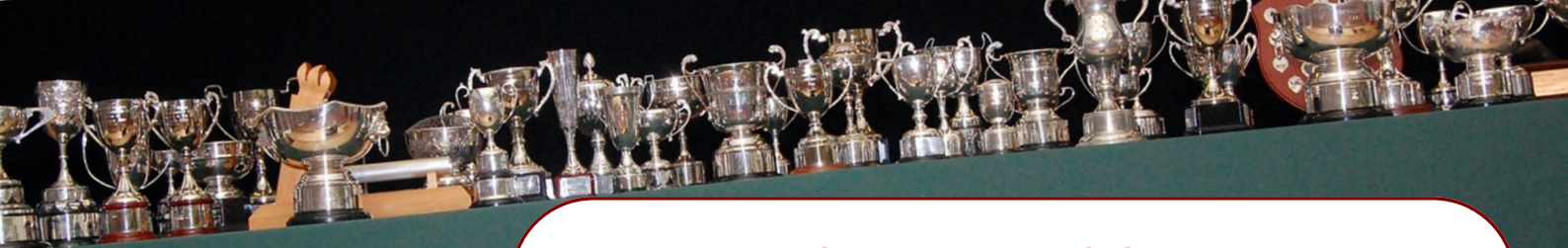
At the end of February, members of Student Council participated in a workshop organised by the Northern Ireland Youth Forum. The school is one of eighteen schools in Northern Ireland to take part in the survey, the results of which will be used to compile a report on the work of student councils in schools. Phil Glennon from the Youth Forum was most impressed by our students, how well they worked together and their mature approach to the various scenarios presented. Well done to everyone!



**ULSTER YOUTH CHOIR
CONDUCTOR VISITS
GLASTRY**

In early February Greg Beardsall, the conductor of the Ulster Youth Choir, visited Glashy to conduct an hour long vocal workshop with members of the college choirs. Greg listened to the choirs singing before offering advice on breathing and vocal production techniques. Students were able to take part in an African round and other part songs. Following the session, Greg invited students in Year Twelve or above to audition for places in the Ulster Youth Training Choir. Erin Johnston, Caitlin Warden, Luke Bristow and Jonathan Kyle were all successful and have been offered places. Well done!





SKI TRIP 2015

SKI TRIP 2015

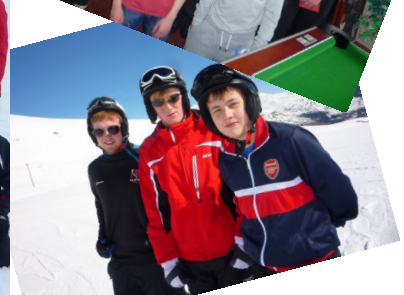
Once again the College has just had another very successful Ski Trip to Serre Chevalier in France. On Saturday 7 March, 28 students, Mrs Colville, Mr Gilmore and a few others departed the college at 2.00am and headed to Belfast International Airport to begin the epic journey to three countries. We headed to Geneva Airport before a long transfer into the mountains in search of snow. Three and a half hours later we arrived at our destination and were not disappointed with the amount of snow which greeted us. After boot and ski fit we all had an easy night watching a movie before much needed sleep. The following day commenced the ski lessons and all pupils excelled in their technique and skiing ability. Snow ploughs, parallel turns and ski jumps were all demonstrated and only a few knocks and bumps were encountered.

The afternoons were spent having lunch and sunbathing on the terrace before returning to the slopes and enduring the slushy afternoon snow.

In the evenings the Après Ski package consisted of bum boarding, ice skating, swimming, movie night, quiz night and Mr Gilmore's favourite, karaoke!! We also managed to sneak in a trip to the highest McDonalds in Europe and experience some fine dining!

All students returned home in one piece on Saturday 14 March however we did leave Ms Firth in France to continue her adventures across the Alps. A huge thank you to all the pupils who were a delight to have away and a credit to themselves and the college.

The planning for Ski 2016 is well underway, however, there are a few places still available. Anyone interested should speak to Mr Gilmore or Mrs Colville to find out more information.





COLLEGE NEWS

AS LEVEL GEOGRAPHY RESIDENTIAL TO MAGILLIGAN

The spring sunshine heralds only one thing in the Geography calendar at Glastry College – the annual AS level residential to Magilligan to study sand dune succession at Benone beach and urban characteristics in Coleraine. Pupils are required to complete a geographical investigation of a relevant element of the specification which they then use in their AS1 Physical Geography examination in June, while the urban study is used to fulfil the requirements of the skills section of the AS2 Human Geography exam.

Together with asking members of the public to complete questionnaires, mapping the land-use of Coleraine's CBD, measuring abiotic conditions, species diversity, soil pH, soil moisture, soil organic content and dune profiles in the Umbra Nature Reserve, pupils also found time to visit McDonalds a few too many times, play on the amusements at the Jet Centre, watch Will Smith do his thing at the cinema, race up the dunes, straighten hair, eat too many sweets, sumo wrestle on the beach and crown Mr Viner undisputed table tennis and arm wrestling champion of the fieldtrip for a seventh successive year! Oh yes - they found some time to sleep as well!



UCAS CONVENTION TRIP WITH YEAR 13

That time of the year has come around again when Year 13 start to think about applying for University in 2016. With this in mind, Year 13 visited the King's Hall Pavilion in Belfast to meet with exhibitors from England, Scotland and Wales as well as the local universities and colleges in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Students were given the opportunity to discuss potential courses and the entry requirements as well as find out about university life.

Another day is planned in September to visit Queen's University & Ulster University Open Days.

UCAS



FOOTBALL REPORT

IFA ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT IN BANGOR

Some of our students recently attended a Round Robin Football Competition for local schools. Glastry, Movilla, Priory, Bangor Academy, and Nendrum all completed in indoor matches in a large sports hall, with each match being 10 minutes long.

Year 8/9 Team

The year 8/9 team had a superb tournament. The team had an 8-1 win over Bangor with Becky Orr scoring 6 goals! They also beat Movilla 3-0. They lost their only match to Nendrum 1-3 in a thrilling and competitive game, and again defeated Priory 4-0 in the closing game of the tournament. All out field players scored with Becky finishing with 10 goals, Chloe -3, Ellie -1, Terri-Leigh-2, and Nadine -1. Ellen Dempster had a consistently good tournament in goals, providing us with the advantage in most games. The team finished in second place overall and should be very proud of their individual performances and team efforts.

Team- Ellen Dempster, Terri-Leigh Galloway, Nadine Keenan, Chloe McAvera, Ellie McDonald, Becky Orr.



Year 10/11 Team

The girls had mixed fortunes. Due to injury before selection we had to include a Year 9 pupil. With an ankle injury to Caitlin McCaul in the first game against Movilla, we were down a player having previously been in the lead. We then had to play a sub from the younger team for the other games and although the team fought courageously they lost the next two matches to Bangor Academy and Nendrum. However, all was not lost and the team came out fighting in the last match to beat Priory 5-1 with Dominiqua Hennessey scoring a hat-trick. Other goal scorers for the tournament included Anna Macpherson (year 9) on two and Melissa Lyttle on three.



All pupils enjoyed the tournament.

They would like to thank Jackie at the IFA for a successful tournament and getting the current Northern Ireland Captain, Ashley Hutton, along to chat to and inspire the girls. Well done, girls!



RUGBY REPORT

GLASTRY COLLEGE vs. STRANGFORD COLLEGE

RESULT 10 – 17

As I write this report I reflect on the whirlwind past ten days in the life of Glastry College rugby, starting with the excitement of the boys looking forward to their first game, in almost all cases with only the experience and knowledge from half hour sessions once a week after school. Then there was the demoralising defeat at the hands of a more 'physically mature' Strangford side, but we all went away believing that we could improve, learn, score some points and restore confidence.

The boys took to the field with confidence, set up ready to receive the kick off. The whistle blew, and battle began! The ball went straight to our backline and we showed our intention by running it back at the advancing Strangford players at pace and with aggression. The ball moved quickly through the scrum, with Ewan Kelly getting great passes away from the base and launching the backs to run and attack. The boys looked as though they had been playing together for years, with great handling and not one knock on or dropped pass from any of them.

All were playing well, with the Strangford lineouts being stolen and caught by the long arms of Daniel Donnan, and accurate throwing from Curtis Chambers made sure that we won plenty of this set piece. Humza Mughal, Isaac Kelly and Jack Stewart kept the ball secure and the vital supply line to the backs open. Then... you guessed it, Strangford won a scrum and shifted it to their biggest guy on the pitch, who broke tackle after tackle with his sheer size and pace, and ultimately Glastry hearts, by getting through to score. The conversion was added, with the score now 7-0. By half time Strangford were in a commanding position, 17 points up, courtesy of their one BIG influence. Glastry needed a break, we could all feel it was coming!

In the second half we got our just desserts. Good scrumming, providing quick ball from Kelly to Burke, through the hands it went again, a cut inside this time by McKee and a quick offload again to Burke set him through a gap. On came the power, like a V8 engine, Matthew roared away never to be caught and scored in the right corner! His first try, Glastry's first of the season - now this was getting interesting! After a narrowly missed kick, the ball was back in Glastry's possession. With a quick tap and pass from Kelly we broke forward again through the great hands of the backs, another gap opened up and again it fell to Burke to pass it through the close defence to score again, this time on the left. With 10 points now clawed back could the boys go on to win?

Again after making a conscious effort to keep the ball away from their main strike player, the boys fashioned another chance. This time the offload from Humza fell to Stewart who had 30 yards to bring the game to within one kick and glory. Stewart stretched his legs and opened up his stride. 20 yards, he looked like he was home free and on the touchline everything was in slow motion, 10 yards, then out of nowhere Strangford's big player swooped in to break our hearts, five yards short of the line.

Soon after the whistle blew. A loss, but what a glorious loss, and so nearly a great draw! The partnership of Kelly and Burke, the handling, running and passing of the backline, the set pieces by all of the forwards - all these are positives to take away from the game and build on. The rest of the boys came on: Ben Roseberry, Kayne McCormick, Aaron Kelly, Andy Ashwood, Matt Lyttle and the last fifteen minutes were played at full strength, with Strangford again relying on their big lad to do the damage. I don't want to focus on this, because the objective of the day was already achieved: playing as a team, playing with pride, playing for Glastry College! Hold your heads high!

Man of the Match goes to Matthew Burke for his two tries, but massive credit should go to all of the boys for their attitude and application. Well done, boys!

