

Brownlow Integrated College

Newsletter

Issue 23 December/January 2015



LONDON & LOS ANGELES HERE WE COME!



For those of you that have been living on Mars for the last few weeks, it will come as an incredible surprise to you to learn that Brownlow Integrated College's one and only Dr. Ronan Blaney, teacher of English, has been nominated not only for a BAFTA, but has been short-listed for

an Oscar (YES, AN OSCAR!) for his short film entitled "Boogaloo and Graham". This is such an incredible achievement and we are all very proud of Dr. Blaney. The film is about two young boys growing up and raising chickens in Belfast in the height of the "Troubles". It was filmed in East Belfast and Dr. Blaney, who wrote the film-script, was also involved in filming.

Being nominated for a BAFTA means that Dr. Blaney will have to travel to London to an awards ceremony on the 8th February, where he will be judged alongside four other films in the "Short Film" category. The winner will be awarded the trophy on the night. The awards ceremony will be aired on live TV.

As if that's not enough excitement, Dr. Blaney will then fly to the Oscars award ceremony in LOS ANGELES,

U.S.A., on 22nd February (that's Mrs Darrah's birthday by the way and she would just LOVE Los Angeles!), where he will again be judged alongside four other films and a winner will be presented with the iconic Oscar's trophy. We wish Dr. Blaney luck for both ceremonies. (See Pg 3 for more)



What is a BAFTA?

BAFTA is an acronym for British Academy Film and Television Awards. The BAFTAs take place at the beginning of each year and recognise the best films, actors, music, costumes etc. from

films produced in the previous year. Although they are called the British Academy Awards, they recognise films from around the world.

Who has won an Oscar?

The Oscars (or Academy Awards) are the American version of the BAFTAs. Past winners include Cate Blanchett, Meryl Streep, Natalie Portman and Jennifer Lawrence as Best Actresses and

Colin Firth, Daniel Day-Lewis and Russell Crowe in the best Actor category. Best Pictures include "The Return of the King" and "Titanic". Dr. Blaney will be mixing with the stars of Hollywood!

10L Pupils explore Integrated and Shared Education at NICIE Stormont Conference

Three pupils from 10L, Maja Ochojska, Andrew Weir and Eoghan McCrory, attended a conference at Stormont in December organised by NICIE. The conference was in the Stormont Hotel, although they were lucky enough to visit Parliament Buildings beforehand.

Pupils from Integrated schools throughout Northern Ireland got together to discuss the merits of Integrated Education and to explore how it differed from Shared Education.

At the moment the government is encouraging schools to become involved in Shared Education, where two or more schools will bring pupils together for a variety of activities, from lessons, sharing equipment or premises, to excursions. It is felt that this will encourage children to build relationships and

"Integrated Education is the vaccine for hatred."

-Professor Robert Enright
University of Wisconsin,
Madison, U.S.A

will foster understanding between the communities in Northern Ireland.

Whilst it was agreed by pupils that Shared Education has its merits, it was overwhelmingly decided that Integrated Education provides opportunities to make lasting and meaningful friendships outside of a child's community, to ask about and explore each others differences and similarities in a safe environment and to value each other as people.

Pupils then had the chance to express their conclusions to members of the Education

Committee.

Below are the views of some members of 10L on the importance of Integrated Education:

"If we use Shared Education we're not telling people that it's OK to be different."

"We learn to be OK about people being different to us."

"With Shared Education you might get to meet different types of people but you don't really get to know them."

"At BIC you talk every day, not just once a week."

"At BIC People will treat you the same, no matter what religion or nationality you are."



Maja, Andrew and Eoghan pose in Stormont Parliament Buildings before the NICIE conference.

Icthus Christmas Markets Visit December 2014



Pictured left are members of the Icthus group who went shopping in Belfast's Castle Court before Christmas and attended the Christmas markets. Pupils from year 8 to year 12 enjoyed a lovely evening. They even bumped in to Mrs Williamson, who took the photograph! Thanks to Mrs Thompson and Mr Wright for organising the event.



Some members of 9L with their talented, soon to be famous English Teacher Dr. Blaney



Dr. Blaney talks about being an Oscar nominee....

Q How did you find out you were nominated for the Oscars?

A. My brother phoned me in tears. After that my phone didn't stop ringing!

Q How do you feel about it?

A. It's very gratifying to write a story and have it recognised in this way. I feel overwhelmed and extremely proud of the film.

Q Are you excited about going to Hollywood?

A. Very excited! I just received an email invitation from the "Hollywood Reporter" to a party in Beverly Hills!

Year 11 Mini-Enterprise December 2014

Our Year 11 Business Studies class took part in the Young Enterprise Company Programme through the first part of their GCSE year.

The class as a whole decided on a viable business idea and invested £15 each, making themselves shareholders in the business and creating start-up capital.

The company became known as Brownlow Enterprise with Darragh Gray as the Managing Director, Bailey Fenner as Finance Director and as a company they had to make key decisions on ordering products, pricing, advertising, division of human resources etc.

The products they sold were a range of festive chocolates from Fosters (the mallow sticks were fantastic!) and personalised canvas bags.

Both products exceeded our sales expectations and repeat orders had to be made to keep up with demand.

On December 10th we were invited to the Young Enterprise Trade Fair, where we had the opportunity to sell our products to the public at the Outlet in Banbridge and see what other schools had produced as business ideas. Unfortunately no awards were won but the experience was second to none!

After the trade fair the bills were paid and profit was totalled up. A massive £540 was accumulated and split between the Shareholders in the business. So for originally investing £15 they received £36 when the company closed, doubling their original investment through dedication and teamwork ...and a lot of ironing!

Pictured below are some of the Year 11 Business Studies class who set up a very successful mini-enterprise in December. L to R Darragh Gray, Luke McFeeters, Bailey Fenner, Rebecca Griffin



SRC Skillbuild January 2015

Below are year 11 and 12 pupils who took part in the SRC Skill build this year. Several pupils were successful, including Ieva Augstinaite from year 11 who came second in hairdressing.



Open Morning January 2015

At Brownlow we host an open morning every year to allow potential new students to get an insight into our school culture and facilities. this year it took place on Saturday the 17th of January, we were happy to have a large number of visitors and hear such positive feedback from the children and their parents. We look forward to seeing some of them again in September as our students.

Term One Rewards Day

One of our school's aims is to encourage and reward good behaviour and Rewards Day is one way to do that.

On Thursday 18th of December our whole school travelled to Belfast to watch a movie and afterwards go shopping for Christmas presents.

Students and staff alike enjoyed the fun day out of the classroom and we are all looking forward to the next one!



Mentoring News

A big thank you to our KS3 Parents and Pupils for a fantastic mentoring day Wed 10th December. Excellent attendance was much appreciated by teacher mentors and we look forward to working together again at our next KS3 Mentoring Day, Wednesday 13th May 2015.

KS4 Mentoring Day 2 takes place Monday 23rd February for pupils in year 11 and 12.

Year 11 Mental Health Awareness

Pictured below is a group of year 11 pupils who participated in a series of mental health awareness sessions with the Smashing Times Theatre Company and The Samaritans counsellors . This took place on the 8th of December. Information on the Samaritans is available on the school notice boards. Contact number for Craigavon is 38 333 555.



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Mr Weir's Magic numbers for January:

The number 987 654 321 is multiplied by 9. How many times does the digit 8 occur in the result?

A.1 B.2 C.3 D.4 E.9

BROWNLOW
BREAKFAST CLUB



EVERYONE WELCOME!

Every morning from 8.15am
in Miss Gilmore's HE room.

20p per day