

Brownlow Integrated College

Newsletter

Issue 31

January—April 2017



Mourne win the 2017 Swimming Gala!



The House competition has really become exciting after Mourne won the swimming gala on 10th April. Entries from junior school were very good this year, with all of the houses being evenly represented. However Mourne's swimmers proved to be the best on the day, with stars like Grace Murray-Carr and Evan McMullan, who picked up the trophies for best

overall swimmers, both belonging to Mourne. The relays at the end were very exciting and Antrim swimmers gave Mourne a run for their money, with the Antrim girls winning the relay and the Antrim boys coming to within inches of beating Mourne and coming a close second. This leaves the house cup up for grabs this year. All depends on

Well done to all pupils who took part in the gala and made it so exciting, and to all of the medal winners in the different categories. Thanks to the PE department for organising the event. We all look forward to the final event in the House Competition calendar, which is of course Sports Day, when anything can happen!



Formal Photos 2017

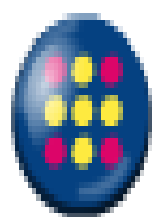


Eruptions in Geography

Year 9 was very busy and very messy this term making model volcanoes in Geography class. Mr O'Braonain gave a prize for the best model and the boys pictured below won an Easter egg each for the best volcano. Well done Ricardo, Dylan and Kian from 9M. The volcano eruptions afterwards were enjoyed by everyone except for Mr Smyth, who screamed in shock and needed first aid treatment afterwards.



In Geography we are studying volcanoes and Mr O'Braonain decided that we would make model volcanoes. We all brought in £1 to pay for the materials and Mr Smyth supplied us with chicken wire. The first thing we did was to shape the wire. Then we made paper mache with paper and wallpaper paste. This was very messy and Mr O'Braonain wore a white coat to keep clean. We shaped the paper mache onto the wire and when it dried we painted it white. When that dried we painted the top green and the bottom blue for the water and added houses and villages and towns and tunnels. I'm really looking forward to erupting the volcano to see what happens to the towns and villages. I can't wait to see them!



MyMaths.co.uk

Bringing Maths Alive

Attention Year 11
and 12

Essential Skills
Maths and
English will
continue in term
3 for Y11 and 12

Icthus Residential

Icthus is a lunchtime club in school where we talk about God and religion and other things.

On the 20th January we went on a weekend trip to the Ulster Folk Museum in Cultra and we had great craic. Me, Caolan Elvis and Daniel shared the same room.

On the first night we played a bunch of games. The one I liked playing best was when you had to pick up a cereal box with only one part of your body. Ellie won and I did the splits and I nearly broke my legs.

Stephen 8E

The Icthus group led by Mr Wright, Miss Craig, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Watson meet weekly. The group meet at either HE2 or Lab1 on Thursdays.

Every year there is a residential trip with the Icthus club and our Icthus annual trip to Cultra took place in January. I felt very excited about staying away from home during the weekend but also a little bit sad because I knew I would miss my family.

Once everyone settled in to their rooms we enjoyed some free time. We all went into Bangor and we did some shopping had a look about. Later on we played hide and seek in the dark at the residential centre. Everyone had torches and it was great fun. We ordered Chinese food and got to try different meals.

I thought the weekend was great fun but went very quickly. I am looking forward to next year already as I liked meeting people

from different year groups. I want to keep going to the club and enjoy what it has to offer.

I am a member of Icthus. We meet every Thursday at dinner with Miss Craig, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Watson and Mr Wright in the HE room or Lab 1.

We went on a trip to the Ulster Folk Museum we stayed there for a weekend. I lost my wallet on the bus and had to borrow money off Mrs Thompson. Luckily I found it again before the end of the weekend.

We played hide and seek it was fun. We stayed up all night and one night all the teachers came into our room and told us off for being too loud. I would love to stay there again but it would be fun if it was just free time!

Caolan 8E



Beetle Drive



BFF is the school PTA and recently we held a Beetle Drive in the school hall at the start of April. There was a huge supper laid on and prizes of Easter eggs for the winners. and everyone worked very hard to make the evening a success. Although numbers were small, we had great fun playing an old-fashioned family game that our grandparents would probably be very familiar with. Mr Smyth kept everyone on their toes and was very funny. There was a prize for the best drawn beetle, which Mr Downard won, and for the worst drawn beetle. We won't say who won that!

BFF meets at least once a term in the staff room and organise family events to bring the BIC community together socially. Our second Christmas quiz was very successful and so far we have raised enough money to buy a cabinet for the new defibrillator in the school office and also have contributed towards paying for buses for Christmas rewards. Everyone is very welcome to come along to our meetings. If you can't come to the meetings, please try to support at least one of our events during the year.

What's Happening?

In Enhanced Mentoring my mentor is Mr Smyth. He takes me out of class for about 5 to 10 minutes every three weeks and he asks me how I'm doing in my classwork and assessments. I like being in enhanced mentoring. I tell him what I do in class and he writes it on a sheet then gives it to me when the page is full and I give it to my mum. He gives me some tips that will help me more in my work and my assessments.

Michael 8M



When I first started Brownlow I thought it was going to be really hard. I thought I was going to make no friends because hardly anyone from my P7 group went to Brownlow. It was a big change from my primary school to high school! In the end there was nothing to worry about and I made lots of new friends. There was only one girl from my primary school that came to Brownlow and that was Katie-Ann and we are still friends to this day.

Maria 8M



I am a pupil involved in the choir with a few fellow classmates. Our teacher helps us to work together to sing and perform a piece. Our teacher's name is Mrs Norton. I enjoy singing but I don't like singing in front of people, however the choir has helped me

overcome this. You see we were going to perform at an awards assembly. I remember my friends and me standing in front of a crowd in a fairly large hall. At first I was nervous and didn't want to be there but I couldn't let the choir down so I continued to sing. By the end of the performance I wanted to do it all over again so to the choir and Mrs Norton thank you for helping me.

Kirsty 8E



On the 7th of March a man named Freddy came in to school, as he does every year, and he ran an exercise class called "Freddy Fitness".

He held a competition to see who could collect the most money for charity, and whoever won got a pink or blue water bottle.

Freddy Fitness makes exercise fun because he puts loud music and he showed us the dances and the moves that he created.

There were many prizes won, it was very fun and I would encourage you to think about it next year. It shows you how to exercise but in a fun way.

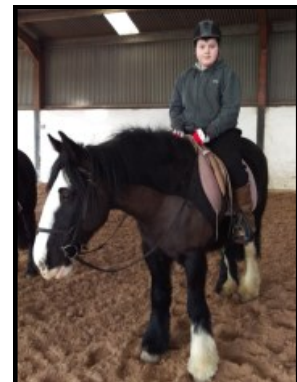


In February a group of pupils were lucky enough to go horse-riding in the mid-term break with Mrs Norton at Ballyknock Stables. The group are pictured below. For most this was a new experience and one which they all relished and entered into with great enthusiasm. As ever our young people did us proud.

Caitlin from 8M describes it below...



I went horse riding with my friend Charlie. It was in Moira and we went in a mini bus. Mrs Norton drove. When we got there we were put into groups. Some people cleaned the stables and some rode the horses. My group cleaned the stables first. It was fun. When we got to go on the horses my horse was a pony called Daisy and she was really fast. We learnt the rising trot. The rising trot is when you rise up an down in time with the horse's paces.



5-a-side News

There was a 5 a Side football tournament during lunch time run by Mr McKernan in February. We got to choose our own players and there were 8 teams. Only first year, second year and third year were involved. The players in my team were Dylan, Sam, Ricky, Ethan and Chris. I was the captain of my team. When my team played the first match we lost and we thought we were going to get put out in the first round. Last year my team came third, but this year we won! Yahoo! My team was called "The Sham".

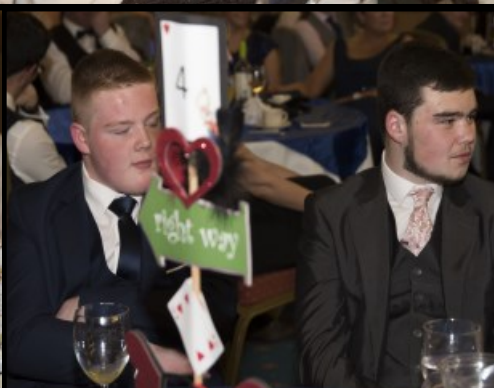
So it was the final! We all got our dinner and went and got our shoes on in the changing rooms we walked in and the other team walked in we all stood and stared at each other. We got our bibs on and we kicked off. The shams were soon 1-0 up but then we scored and finally it went to penalties. We scored, they scored and it went on until Jamie Elliot missed his and they scored - Dylan shot and it hit Lewis's foot and went over but Mr McKernan thought it hit the bench. So they won.
-By Jack

I took part in the girls 5 a side on the 20th of January and the 27th of January. Mr McKernan runs it in the assembly hall at lunch time every year. In my team there was; me, Ellie Mawhinney, Katie-Ann Fegan, Jorja Siron and Chloe Hanlon. We were called BICGFC (Brownlow Integrated College girl's football club). In the other team there was; Penny Boland, Ellie McAdam, Axien Fan and Carla McKee. We played 2 matches. In the first match my team won 3-0 and in the second match we lost 3-1 so my team was the overall winner by 4-3. I felt really excited and nervous. I felt excited because I love playing football and I felt nervous because there were so many people watching. My team is going to play again next year.

-By Cara



Year 12 Formal 2017



Integration Month -March Activities

Holocaust Memorial Day



March marks Integration Month each year, and this year it recorded the 35th anniversary of Integrated Education. To celebrate this, NICIE and pupils from integrated primary and post-primary schools gathered at Ardnavey scout hut, where the first integrated class, consisting of 28 pupils, gathered. Pupils from Lagan College, the first ever Integrated school, and Brownlow Integrated College, the first ever transformed integrated school, walked the first 5.7 miles to Stormont where 600 other integration enthusiasts joined to march the final 0.8 mile to the steps of Parliament Buildings. Here NICIE CEO Roisin Marshall gave a speech highlighting the importance of education children together. The day was topped off with a flash mob from Lagan College and a performance from former “Let it Shine” contestant, Scott McCauley. NICIE are currently compiling a history of Integrated Education. If you have a memory that you would like to share,



On 26th January Mr Callender and some KS4 pupils, Maja Ochojska, Dylan McAlinden, Cathal Wilson and Phillip Downey represented BIC at Palace Stables in Armagh as guests of the Lord Mayor Cllr Garath Keating. There was a reception and speeches, with a presentation by Mhindu, a survivor of the Auschwitz Birkenau Death Camp. People were very moved by her testimony of life in Auschwitz and surviving the experience. This was a very valuable experience for all, ensuring that the horrors of this time are not forgotten or repeated in generations to come. Mr Callender also attended the National Event in the Marketplace Theatre Armagh, to represent the college remembering the Holocaust and all genocides since.

Student Council News

Student Council took part in a consultation for the Department of Education 10 year plan for Children and Young People's Strategy. This will help lead decision making for government around a range of issues. Kristian Morrow summarises the workshop with Barnardos below.



Student Council met with a representative of Barnardos on Friday the 3rd and we talked about health and safety of kids and what is vital for a child's development and growth. We talked about things that are important for a child and were asked to order the most important things. The answers were varied but we came to an agreement. We started to talk about exams and what pressure they put on young people. We talked about how many weeks of exams we have per year and we thought it was a lot.

So what else has been happening this term..?

Congratulations to Miss Gilmore, who got married over the February mid-term break and came back as Mrs Crick. BIC wishes her and her new husband every happiness for the future.



Let's get ready to ramble...



BIC ramblers have been busy this year and have just returned from a 2 day weekend residential on the north coast, at Dunluce Guide House. Pupils have enjoyed fresh air, plenty of exercise and beautiful scenery in the mountains and along the coastline with staff and parent volunteers. Two further rambles are planned before the end of term.

One Saturday I attended Rambler's club and we went to Doan Mountain in the Mourne. We started off with a long hike up the mountain that took us around two hours. Once we got to a higher point, we had to climb up a very steep, rocky cliff face to reach the top, at 1940ft or above sea level.

It was rewarding in the end as we got a beautiful view of the Lake and the rest of the mountains surrounding us. We had our lunch there and took some very nice photos of the scenery. A memorable moment was when a girl fell waist deep into mud and had to be pulled out. Unfortunately, this took around 5 minutes as the mud was so thick and deep, and she ended up completely covered in mud. At least she was able to laugh it off though.

We walked down the mountain for the next two hours or so until once again we reached the bus and headed back to Rushmere.

The next club trip will be one at the north Antrim coast, where we will stay for a weekend, and I am really looking forward to it.



Dance Festival

Every year Mrs Quigley runs a dance festival. This year, on Monday 6th February, my dancing group won the dance festival. In my group there were five of us Caeleigh, Alicia, Dixie, Molly and me. We practiced for around five weeks to come up with a short dance with a song of our choice. It was complicated some days as some of the members from our group had to attend cross-country, but we got there eventually. On the day of the dance everyone was nervous but partly excited to show years eight, nine and ten what they had achieved over the past month. When it was our turn I was very nervous. Mrs Quinn and Mrs Kinley were judging this year, so we had to make sure it was perfect. We did our dance and we went back to our seats and watched all the other groups perform.

Then the teachers got up to announce the winners. The drama suite dropped silent and everyone waited impatiently for the results. They went through year eight first, then moved on to us. Once they called out our names for first place, I was overjoyed. I didn't know what to think or say. Then we got our pictures taken and everyone was cheering. We were all so happy that we had a dance party.

I can't wait to do the dance festival again because I love preparing for it and it was a lot of fun.

Annie Jackson 9L



I was a part of the dance festival for year 8, 9 and 10. My group came

third out of the year 9. I was in a group with Amy, Evelin and Ellen-Rose. We danced to YMCA in our pyjamas. I was wearing my penguin pyjamas. I thought the dance festival was fun, even though I don't like dancing or any form of exercise, because we got out of class and we got to see what everyone else was doing in P.E. After the dance festival I wasn't bothered about getting changed, so I walked home in my pyjamas. In the rain.

The dance festival was hard for me to do because I have really bad stage fright and anxiety. It was hard for me because I was worried that I was going to mess up and disappoint my group. It was also hard for me because I have 'patellofemoral pain' which is a pain in the knee which limits me to some exercises. My knee did hurt a lot during the dance festival but I didn't care. I just wanted to have fun (I should have cared about my knee because the dance festival made it worse !)

In conclusion the dance festival was fun.

Malia Markan 9L



The dance festival happens every year. This year it was on the 6th February 2017. It took place in the drama suite. The two judges

were Mrs Kinley and Mrs Quinn. 1st, 2nd and 3rd years all took part. There was a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for each year. My team danced to Grease Lightning. In my team there was Ellie Mc, Axien, Chantelle and Carla. We came first and won a gold medal. I felt very happy and so did my team. I am very excited for next year when I get to do it again in 2nd year and hopefully come first.

Penny Boland 8L



And to prove it's not just the girls who can dance...

I go to my dance classes on Tuesday and Friday when I get there I stretch all my muscles before I start to dance. Sometimes I will do my solo in my free time and I would practice with my dance partner or my team dance. It is fun to get to hang out with my friends from dancing. We get a break for ten minutes then we get back to dance. I love to dance in competitions I have 32 trophies and 29 medals most for first and second place.

Josh Rice 8M

Perhaps Josh will follow in the footsteps of former pupil Ryan McShane who was recently in the finals of the Irish Celebrity Come Dancing!



Term Time Activities...

I took part in **STEMQUEST** 2017. Last year our school won this competition. There were teams from other local schools such as Clounagh JHS and Lurgan JHS. Our team consisted of a Year 8, a Year 9 and two Year 10s and we had two teams of this format. The event took place in Dungannon. Our team was tied third and lost the tiebreaker. In the end, we tried our best and at least we had a laugh on the drive back.

Amy



MccClelland 9L

Angel wishes is a type of charity that raise money for sick children who can't experience things that we do such as going to the cinema or shopping centres.

So our school took part in this for a young child to go to the cinema and have a whole screening to themselves, to help them experience something fun instead of having to stay in a hospital bed. Our school raised £250 for them to see a movie of their choosing with some money left over, for them to buy some sweets or popcorn. But we also wrote on cards for them to get better soon and I'm hoping that we made a child very happy.

Tiernan Tennyson 9L



Some 1st, 2nd and 3rd years this term went to the planetarium in Armagh. It was really fun; we went in the afternoon and came back in the evening. We made rockets and went to a theatre to look at the planets and stars. There were posters, artefacts, visual and physical things, it was so much fun!

Kellie Hylands 8M



Open night was on 10th January and started at 7:00pm and ended at 9:00pm. If you were helping out you came in early.

Me and a few of my friends were helping out in maths so we came in around 6:30.

During open night P7s go around the school into different classes and see what subjects are doing. There were different things to do in each room, like in maths you could go on an iPad and play a maths game or there were puzzles on the tables. If you went into H.E there was food and drinks.

I would do this again because I got to meet and talk to people and I got to help people on the puzzles.

Cameron Truesdale 8L



Our form teacher Mr Wright organised a film club on a Wednesday afternoon. It was so we could watch and discuss a film. At the start we all had a vote, between BFG, Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Trolls. We watched Trolls and everybody brought crisps, sweets and lollies. When the film started quite a lot of teachers heard we were having a club, when they came they were amazed at the amount of snacks that we had. Mr Smith ended up watching the whole film with us, alongside Mr Wright. I really enjoyed it!

Grace Murray-Carr 8L



Trócaire's work in Honduras supports communities to improve their livelihoods, fight gender inequality and violence against women.

Trócaire boxes should be returned any time before Friday 28th April 2017 (the first week back after the Easter holidays).

KS3 pupils bring collections to Mrs Crick

KS4 pupils bring collections to Mrs Kinley

We encourage everyone to dig deep, every penny adds up to make a difference. Thank you to all the Brownlow families that have already made donations and we shall announce the grand total in the next newsletter.

Happy fundraising,
Mrs Crick and Mrs Kinley
Charity Coordinators

Year 12 formal Edenmore Golf Club

