

Strathearn News

Office Bearers 2010/2011

Head Girl: Katie Entwistle

Deputy Head Girls: Rebecca Lattimer & Katie Stringer

Games Captain: Katie Dickson

Deputy Games Captains: Kerrie Craig & Rachel Scott

BARBOUR HOUSE: House Captain: Naomi Wilkinson. Deputy House Captains: Jordan Hawthorne & Amy Scott

BOUCHER HOUSE: House Captain: Katie Cummings. Deputy House Captains: Tessa Chamberlain & Kate Hicks

McCAUGHEY HOUSE: House Captain: Helen Beattie. Deputy House Captains: Rachael Irwin & Claire McGarrell

WATTS HOUSE: House Captain: Katie Spratt. Deputy House Captains: Brenna McEwen & Susannah McGowan



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



Members of the Junior Drama Club auditioned for our production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* in March of this year, with the Lower Sixth Drama Committee holding the casting vote. They then began rehearsals in earnest after Easter, often working many lunchtimes and after school to rehearse under Miss Ferris' direction.

The dress rehearsal was performed in front of a 300 strong, live audience of Primary six pupils from Penrhyn and Strandtown on 22 June. The show was a huge success, and all the younger pupils were highly entertained by the humorous adaptation of Roald Dahl's novel. The superb evening performance on 25 June was a credit to everyone who took part in it, and absolutely delighted the proud parents and friends of the cast and crew.

Every member of the central cast of parents and children, who visit Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory, gave a great performance, as did Rosanna Good as Willy Wonka himself. Praise must also go the first year band of Oompa Loompas and our young narrators.

The crew were also fantastic in their backstage help, with Lara Dobson taking her first leading technical role organising lights, sound and painting. As all backstage crew and actors are in the junior school, their highly professional performance is even more outstanding. The Drama Department would like to applaud all the girls, and also thank every staff member who supported the show!

TRIPS & EXHIBITIONS

World Challenge - Croatia

Best wishes to the eighteen senior pupils and two staff who have packed their rucksacks and are heading for the mountainous landscape of central Croatia on 26 June. The team will spend eight days camping, kayaking, canoeing and trekking through national parks and along the rocky coastline. In temperatures in excess of 30 degrees, it is set to be a real challenge, but the team have been thoroughly prepared and are ready to go. We look forward to hearing more of their adventures in our next newsletter!

History Trips

On 4 June, Form One enjoyed a private viewing of the latest version of *Robin Hood* at the Strand cinema. On 11 June, Form Four GCSE classes visited Stormont for our annual educational visit to the Assembly buildings.

The Junior Orchestra Trip

The Junior Orchestra has had a very busy year, playing at two major events, and as a small 'thank you' for all their hard work, a visit to Wigwam roller rink in Bangor was organised for 16 June, where everybody had a chance to demonstrate their skating skills. It was a very enjoyable conclusion to the year's activities, and the orchestra is looking forward to another busy term in September.

Art & Design Exhibition

The GCSE Art Exhibition took place on 27 May, followed by the AS and A2 Art Exhibition on 9 June. As always, the artwork was amazing, so congratulations to all the young artists whose work was showcased at the events.



Geography Trips

First Form Fieldwork

June is the time when first form geographers investigate their local area. Classes have been walking down to the Strandtown shopping area, along the Belmont Road. They have carried out an environmental quality survey of the area and have surveyed the public on their shopping habits, trying to work out how far people travel to use the services of Strandtown.

Fourth Form Fieldwork

Sixty-nine girls carried out their GCSE fieldwork in Newtownards in early June, studying the changing functions in the central business district and finding some quality time to relax with an ice-cream or a burger in Conway Square. The pupils collected large quantities of data that will be used to complete their controlled assessment task.

Individual successes congratulations to....



Hannah Craig, 2T, who achieved a Distinction in her Grade Four Piano Theory Examination.

Victoria Richmond, 2T, who achieved a Distinction in her Grade Four Piano Examination.

Clara Kerr, 2T, who was placed fourth in the U14 Championships for Traditional Irish Dance, which took place in Priory College, Holywood.

Susie Griffin, 1T, who has won an Endeavour Award at the School of Music.

Lucy Spratt, 3A, who has achieved a Distinction in her Intermediate Foundation Ballet Examination.

Lauren Keenan, 3A, who passed her Grade Six Flute Examination with Merit.

Jessica Gunning, 3A, who passed her Grade Three Piano Examination with Merit. Jessica also did a successful sponsored walk for Uganda.

Sophie Craig, 3T, who passed her Grade Four Singing Examination with Merit.

Issy Dawson, 3T, who passed her Grade Four Theory Examination with Distinction.

Sarah Eccles, 3T, who passed her Grade Two Violin Examination.

Trip to the Linen Hall Library

On 16 June a group of junior library assistants, accompanied by Mrs Collins and Mrs Atkinson, visited the Linen Hall Library in Belfast. They viewed the seventy posters from the Library's famous Troubled Images Exhibition in the Vertical Gallery, featuring political posters from all sides of the 'Troubles'.

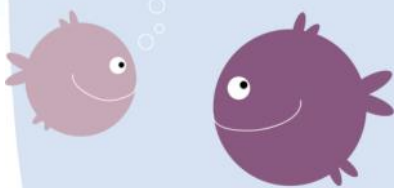
Mr John Killen, the Librarian, then spoke to the group about the Library's impressive collections and showed the girls some of the oldest, most valuable and important books and documents from the Library's archives and store. These included an original newspaper page from the *London Gazette* dated 1690, which related details from the Battle of the Boyne as it was being fought, and three books printed before 1501, which were kept in specially made boxes.

The group then had a look at the Joan Lingard exhibition featuring a number of translations of her *Kevin and Sadie* series, after which Mr Killen very kindly brought from the archives a first edition of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, a privilege not afforded to everyone. The visit ended with a visit to the gift shop and, most importantly, the coffee shop, before everyone returned to school.



Welcome!

On 23 June we welcomed our new intake of first formers, who came to visit the school and meet their Form Tutors and their new classmates. We look forward to seeing them all again at the start of the new term!



MINI SAGAS The Adventure Starts Here

Mini Marvels: Four girls from forms four to lower sixth have had their mini-saga published in the *Young Writers* anthology. They are: Rebecca Beattie, Chloe Blain, Shannon McLeese and Shamara Thompson. The anthology is available to read in the library.

Published Poets: Twenty-two girls from form one to lower sixth entered the Young Writers poetry competition *Past Poets - Future Voices*. All twenty-two are to be published in an anthology to be released very soon - look out for it in the library. The poets are: Olivia Brown, Jennifer Graham, Lauren Graham, Lucy Robinson, Nina Graham, Aimee Richardson, Katie Murphy, Stephanie Devlin, Jessica Hawthorne, Emma Thompson, Shannon McLeese, Sarah Lamont, Jill Fergie, Rebecca Beattie, Stephanie Erskine, Lara Sweet, Sophie Martin, Lisa Irwin, Eve Allister, Anna Ross, Katie Jackson and Fiona Gibson.

Prizes for both competitions have yet to be decided - we will keep you posted!

The Sythes Award 2010



The Sythes Award for English Prose is open to pupils of Strathearn in fourth, fifth or sixth year. The titles for this year's competition have been posted on the internet site. The prize is one hundred pounds and all entries should be submitted to Ms Erskine in Room M8 by 15 September.

Tesco Vouchers

Every year we collect Tesco vouchers for Schools and Clubs and purchase additional resources for the school with them. Last year Strathearn and Penrhyn together collected a staggering 74,783 Tesco vouchers. This year, we have collected over 62,000 vouchers. Every voucher counts, so thank you, and all your friends and relatives who helped achieve this marvellous result!

SCHOOL RESUMES ON MONDAY 30 AUGUST - 10.00am - 12.50pm

Berlin Trip

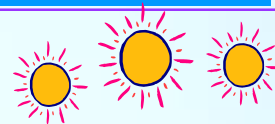
On 15 June thirty fourth formers, accompanied by Mrs Hoare, Miss Murphy, Mr Bradley and Mrs Wyeth set off on a Joint History/German trip to Berlin. The beautiful weather was a huge bonus and added to everyone's enjoyment.

The group visited several historical sites, such as, Cecilienhof where the Allies met after WW2, the Wannsee villa where the Final Solution was discussed, the Reichstag, the Berlin Wall Museum, the Story of Berlin Museum, the Nuclear Bunker and Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, which were all of great value for those studying GCSE History.

There was also opportunity to see the sights of Berlin and, of course, go shopping. For those doing GCSE German it was a great chance to practise the language.



Athletics



CO DOWN DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the Co Down Athletics Championships the Minor and Junior athletes produced some excellent results. The Junior Team (2nd and 3rd Year) won the overall trophy. The Minor Team was placed second (just 3 points behind the winners). The results are as follows:

JUNIOR: Isla Lockhart - 1st Triple Jump and 1st 100m. Deborah Campbell - 3rd Triple Jump. Elly Drinkwater - 1st Long Jump. Sophie McKinney - 2nd High Jump. Natalie Wallace - 2nd Javelin. Sophie Gribben - 2nd Hammer and 6th Discus. Catherine Sheridan 3rd Hammer. 4x100m Relay - 1st (Lois Wilson, Lauren Wheeler, Deborah Campbell, Isla Lockhart).

MINOR: Aimee Irwin - 2nd Long Jump. Lydia Millar - 4th Long Jump. Megan Marrs - 3rd High Jump and 4th 100m. Shannon Booth - 3rd 100m. Robyn McCollum - 3rd Shot. 4x100m Relay - 2nd (Laura Middleton, Shannon Booth, Nicky Montgomery, Megan Marrs).

INTERMEDIATE: Claudia Bedford - 1st High Jump. Stephanie Jemphrey - 2nd Hammer and 4th Shot. Hannah Martin - 3rd Hammer. Hazel Jordan - 1st Long Jump and 2nd High Jump. Francesca Brown - 3rd 3000m. Morgen Hunt - 2nd 200m. Jessica Lowry - 3rd Triple Jump. Rebecca Blundell - 2nd 800m. Laura Rafferty - 3rd 80m Hurdles. - 4x100m Relay - 4th (Hazel Jordan, Morgen Hunt, Rebecca Blundell, Claudia Bedford).

SENIOR: Katie Dickson - 1st Triple Jump and 1st Long Jump. Claire Mercer - 1st 100m and 1st 200m. Rachel Scott - 2nd 100m. Rachael Wilson - 2nd Shot. Kerrie Craig - 1st High Jump and 3rd Triple Jump. Emma Brown - 4th Hammer. 4x100m Relay - 1st (Kerrie Craig, Rachel Scott, Katie Dickson, Claire Mercer).

In the overall team competition the Senior Team finished 2nd and the Intermediate team was placed 1st winning the Co Down Team Trophy.

ULSTER SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONSHIPS - Track & Field

MINOR SECTION: Megan Marrs - 3rd High Jump; Shannon Booth - 7th 100m; Robyn McCollum - 8th Shot; Aimee Irwin - 8th Long Jump. 4x100m Relay - 1st.

JUNIOR SECTION: Isla Lockhart - 3rd 100m. Natalie Wallace - 4th Javelin. Elly Drinkwater - 4th Long Jump. Sophie McKinney - 7th High Jump. Sophie Gribben - 5th Hammer; Catherine Sheridan 7th Hammer. 4x100m Relay - 1st (Lois Wilson, Lauren Wheeler, Deborah Campbell and Isla Lockhart).

INTERMEDIATE SECTION: Hazel Jordan - 4th Long Jump and 4th High Jump. Claudia Bedford - 6th High Jump. Morgen Hunt - 5th 200m.

SENIOR SECTION: Katie Dickson - 3rd Long Jump and 3rd Triple Jump. Kerrie Craig - 4th High Jump. Claire Mercer - 2nd 200m and 3rd 100m; Rachel Scott - 4th 100m. Rachael Wilson - 6th Shot. 4x100m Relay - 3rd.

IRISH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The Junior 4x100m Relay had an excellent run and won a bronze medal. (Lois Wilson Lauren Wheeler Deborah Campbell).

2nd Year Natalie Wallace was placed 9th in Javelin and will still be eligible to compete at Junior level next year.

At Senior level Claire Mercer had a 'gutsy' run in the 200m and finished 6th with a new P.B. of 26.59. Katie Dickson was placed 5th in the Long Jump and 4th in the Triple Jump.



Karate Success!

Sophie Rodgers, 4S, won Double Gold in the Northern Ireland Karate Board Championships. Sophie is now jetting off to the Junior World Karate Championships in Japan, in August. Well done Sophie!

U14 AREA ATHLETICS: Area Heat:

Strathearn had an excellent competition and was placed 1st overall qualifying for the District Final.

U14 TEAM: Isla Lockhart - 1st 100m. Anna Campbell - 2nd 800m. Lauren Wheeler - 1st Long Jump. Sophie McKinney - 1st High Jump. Natalie Wallace - 1st Javelin. Rachael Harbinson - 5th Shot. 4x200m Relay: (Lauren Wheeler, Sophie McKinney, Natalie Wallace, Isla Lockhart).

U14 TEAM COMPETITION DISTRICT FINAL:

Lauren Wheeler - 3rd Long Jump. Isla Lockhart - 1st 100m. Natalie Wallace - 1st Javelin. Sophie McKinney - 3rd High Jump. Rachael Harbinson - 5th Shot. 4x200m Relay - 1st - (Lauren Wheeler, Rachael Harbinson, Sophie McKinney, Isla Lockhart).

Overall Team position - 1st in Co Down.

U14 TEAM COMPETITION - 1ST ULSTER FINAL

Lauren Wheeler - 3rd Long Jump. Isla Lockhart - 1st 100m. Natalie Wallace - 1st Javelin. Sophie McKinney - 3rd High Jump. Hermione Anstey - 5th Shot. 4x200m Relay - 1st (Lauren Wheeler, Rachael Harbinson, Sophie McKinney, Isla Lockhart). The event was very exciting and with one event to go – one point separated Glenlola and Strathearn. A superb relay by Strathearn clinched the Ulster trophy for the 2nd year in succession. Resulting from this competition the following girls were selected to represent Co Down in the U14 Area Competition: Isla Lockhart - 1st 100m. Sophie McKinney - 1st 75m Hurdles. Natalie Wallace - 1st Javelin and Lauren Wheeler – 5th Triple Jump.

Congratulations to Elly Drinkwater who has been selected to compete on the Ulster U17 Athletics Team which will compete in the Interprovincial Competition held in June at Tullamore.

NI TRACK & FIELD AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS (CLUB)

A small number of athletes entered the Club Championships and were very successful. All girls qualified for the Irish Championships.

Isla Lockhart - 1st 80m (U14 Age Group). Sophie McKinney - 2nd High Jump (U14 Age Group). Natalie Wallace - 2nd Javelin (U15 Age Group). Vicki Wallace - 3rd Javelin (U16 Age Group). Sophie Gribben - 3rd Hammer (U16 Age Group). Elly Drinkwater - 4th 80m Hurdles and 4th Long Jump (U16 Age Groups).

In the ULSTER TEAM COMPETITION:

The MINOR Team was placed 2nd =. The JUNIOR Team was placed 4th. The SENIOR Team was placed 2nd.

Overall Team position (combined scores) - 3rd in Ulster!

The athletes deserve great credit for this achievement.



Trampolining

Congratulations to Frances Wilson, 2A, who qualified in Liverpool to take part in the British Championships to be held on 23 July. Frances successfully made the finals and finished in a very creditable fifth place out of 43 competitors. Additionally, Frances has been selected to represent Northern Ireland at a major event in Portugal. She has also successfully passed 3 out of 4 phases to represent Ireland at the World Age Group Championships in Metz, France. Her final phase takes place on 3 & 4 July in Cork; we wish Frances every success with her selection. Well done!

Swimming Success!

TENNIS

Sycerika McMahon, 4T, has made the Commonwealth Games Team. Sycerika is one of the youngest swimmers ever to reach this level, and she will be continuing her intensive training programme for this and other forthcoming events throughout the summer. Well done Sycerika!

SPORTING SUCCESSES

Congratulations to:

Shannon Armour, 2T and Hannah Eakin, 1S, who came first in a gymnastics pair in Northern Ireland and then came seventh in Britain.

Erin Larmour, 1T, who is the U12 'Player of the Season' at the Ards Junior Ladies Hockey Club.

Helen Rutheford, 4A, who was 1st Lady and 2nd overall in the Topper Ulster Championships.

Jenna Kerr, 3A, who has been selected for the U15 Northern Ireland Netball Academy and the ILGU golf coaching.

HOCKEY

Congratulations to Katie Morris on her selection for the Ireland U16 Squad. Despite it being the off season for hockey some of our top players have attended trials. At Ulster U16 level, Evie Bloor and Stephanie Jemphrey were selected from the Area Board Tournament to attend a preliminary trial at Lisnagarvey Hockey Club. Both girls are still currently in the squad and will undertake further coaching and trials before final U16 selections are made. At Ulster U18 level, Rachel Scott has been involved in training sessions along with Kirby O'Donnell. Final selections have not been made as yet – we wish the girls good luck in the training!

STRATHEARN WIN THE INTERMEDIATE ULSTER TENNIS TITLE

Preparations for tennis began before the Easter break and with five Strathearn teams entered this term has been extremely busy. Each team consists of four players, who each play one singles match and then combine with a team member to play a doubles match. The results for each section are as follows:

MINOR TEAM TENNIS RESULTS 2010 SECTION WINNERS

Strathearn Minor Team v Down High School: Won 5-1

Strathearn Minor Team v Regent House: Won 6-0

Strathearn Minor Team v Rockport: Won 6-0

Strathearn Minor Team v Grosvenor Grammar School: Won 6-0

Strathearn Minor Team v Glenlola Collegiate: Won 4-2

JUNIOR TEAM TENNIS RESULTS 2010 - SECTION RUNNERS-UP

Strathearn Junior Team v Wallace High B: Won 5-1

Strathearn Junior Team v Grosvenor Grammar A: Won 5-1

Strathearn Junior Team v St Catherine's College: Drew 3-3 L 29-28

INTERMEDIATE B TEAM RESULTS 2010 - Section Winners

Strathearn Intermediate B Team v Hunterhouse College: Won 4-2

Strathearn Intermediate B Team v Bloomfield Collegiate: Won 6-0

Strathearn Intermediate B Team v Grosvenor Grammar A: Won 6-0

Strathearn Intermediate B Team v Methodist College: Drew 3-3 W 42-33

INTERMEDIATE A TEAM RESULTS 2010 - Section Winners

Strathearn Intermediate A Team v Down High School: Won 6-0

Strathearn Intermediate A Team v Rockport A: Won 6-0

Strathearn Intermediate A Team v Regent House: Won 6-0

Strathearn Intermediate A Team v Victoria College B: Won 6-0

SENIOR TEAM RESULTS 2010 - Section Winners

Strathearn Senior Team v Sullivan Upper: Won: 6-0

Strathearn Senior Team v Bloomfield Collegiate: Won 6-0

Strathearn Senior Team v Carrickfergus Grammar School: Won 5-1

Internal Tennis Competitions

Once again a very strong entry in both the four Inter-Class Doubles competitions and the Junior and Senior Singles competitions, highlighted the interest and popularity of tennis in school. Competition overall was of a very high standard. The results are as follows:

The Alison Mills Cup Form 1 Doubles: Winners: Anna Warden & Emily Whiteside 1A. Runners-up: Jemma Gillan & Rachel Powderly 1T.

Remaining Inter-class Doubles: Form 2: Winners: Natalie Wallace & Lauren Wheeler 2H. Runners-up: Emma Flannigan & Laura McMillen 2R.

Form 3: Winners: Charlotte Mowlood & Olivia Storey 3R. Runners-up: Alex Guy & Phillipa Harty 3R. Form 4: Winners: Jessica Hawthorne & Claudia Bedford 4T. Runners-up: Stephanie Jemphrey & Rebecca Cowden 4A.

The winner of the **Honor Braithwaite Cup** for Form 1 & 2 Singles: Anna Warden 1A. Runner-up: Natalie Wallace 2H.

The winner of the **Hewson Cup** for Form 3 & 4 Singles: Stephanie Jemphrey 4A. Runner-up: Alex Guy.

The Minor Team of Anna Warden, Jemma Gillan, Emily Whiteside and Ariana Gallen worked hard at practice, and were rewarded when they won their 5 match section. The team then met Friends' School in the semi-final. This was indeed a very close affair, and with Anna and Jemma dropping their singles, it was down to Emily and Ariana to win their respective matches in order to tie the fixture and ensure that the match was still there for the taking in the doubles. In the doubles, Anna and Jemma fought for every point, but lost the match 10-6 and again Emily and Ariana had to win to give Strathearn any hope of going through to the final - and win they did, securing a place in the final with a 10-3 doubles victory! In the final, the team met a very polished Victoria College. Again, although the girls gave a very good account of themselves, only Ariana won her singles and then the team narrowly lost both doubles. In the end, the girls accepted that they were beaten by the stronger team and there was much consolation in achieving second place in Ulster in this, the team's first year playing competitive tennis. Well done girls!

The Junior Team of Bethanie Chambers, Alex Guy, Ashleigh Watson and Natalie Wallace got off to a positive start in their section when they beat Grosvenor Grammar and Wallace High. A long-term injury to Bethanie Chambers meant a team re-shuffle with Alex moving up to the number one position, Ashleigh number two, Natalie three and Lauren Wheeler playing her way into the team at number four. In their last section match against St Catherine's College Armagh, the team played without Natalie Wallace and although Lauren McMillen proved to be an able deputy, winning her singles and doubles, the team just missed out on winning their section on a games count. With the match drawn at 3-3, the team lost by a single game 29-28.

Section runners-up go on to compete in the Junior Plate Competition. The team met Rainey Endowed in the quarter-final where a 5-1 result secured their place in the semi-final. A stronger Glenlola Collegiate put paid to any hopes of a plate final place when they won both doubles and two of the singles contests. Disappointing as this was, the Junior Team have acquitted themselves well this season and have performed very well.

The Intermediate B Team of Rebecca Elliott, Stephanie Jemphrey, Victoria Gibson and Rebecca Cowden, performed consistently well in every match and successfully won the section. In a cruel twist of fate, the team were drawn against our very own Strathearn A Team in the quarter-final. The girls did give a spirited account of themselves, but not surprisingly lost to their A counterparts. Perhaps there is some consolation in knowing that the team was defeated by the eventual Ulster Champions. Well done girls!

For the second successive year, the **Intermediate A Team** of Helen Harvey, Kirby O'Donnell, Katie Allen and Tessa Eames coasted their way through their section without even dropping one match. At the quarter-final, their B peers put them through their paces, but the result was never in doubt. The semi-final was then played at Banbridge Academy, where an accomplished display saw the girls seal their place in the final with four singles straight sets wins. Past rivals, Victoria College did not relish meeting Strathearn in the final and although we had the psychological edge, the team turned on the style in terms of their play. Helen Harvey showed all her class, ably supported by Kirby O'Donnell, both girls making light work of their singles. Katie Allen played a great match to win in three sets while Tessa Eames lost her contest. In the doubles though, Helen and Kirby played a super match, with all credit to their opponents for contributing to such a high standard of play. The girls won the first set, then dropped the second on a tie break, and then romped their way through the third to take the Ulster Intermediate title. This may be mentioned every year, but this achievement is all the more noteworthy because of the GCSE exams that the girls had to sit and prepare for. A tremendous achievement girls - well done!

The Senior Team too had the added pressure of exams. However, Katie Dickson, Emily Mills, Barbara Jemphrey and Jenny Kirk organised their time well and committed to seeing their matches through. Success in their section saw the girls earn a semi-final place against Victoria College. Again, this was a high calibre match that required the doubles to determine the outcome, but the winners were Victoria in the end and they did go on to win the title. We say a fond farewell to Jenny Kirk who has given long and loyal service to all sport in school, but particularly tennis. The records may well show that at Senior level at least, Jenny has never lost her singles – what an achievement!