



SHIMNA INTEGRATED COLLEGE SPECIALIST SCHOOL FOR LANGUAGES

MARCH 2011 NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Sporting Success	2
Parents Council	3
Careering Ahead	3
Travellers' Tales	4
International Schools Award	4
"It's My Life"	5
Scores on the Doors	4
Very Important Notice	5
Next Generation	6
Parents' Council Fundraising Drive	7
The Month ahead	8

Bringing Home the Medals



On Saturday 19th February, Ryan McTeer became the Irish Indoor High Jump Champion at the Odyssey in Belfast. Then, on his very first competitive outing for Shimna, Morisi James won his heat and carried off the Bronze medal in the hurdles. This is a fantastic achievement.

There was great success in the Down Schools' Cross Country Championships, with Joanne Mills and Aidan Hawkins through to the Ulsters on their individual performances, along with the Minor girls' team.

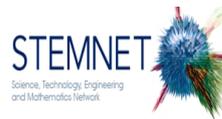
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Parentmail via
our website!
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blogs!**

Magnificent Trophy

Neil Cairns of BE Aerospace celebrated the promotion of his predecessor, Sean Cromie, and his own new role in the company when he presented Shimna with a magnificent trophy to be awarded each year for academic success in

STEM subjects - Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths. The trophy will inspire our budding engineers and celebrate the excellent achievements of our students, particularly in science, maths and technology.



Stem Success

Already

A scientific success was already achieved this month, when A level student Alex Henderson achieved a Commendation in the British Biology Olympiad. This is a national competition open to the highest achieving students in the country. Well done Alex.



Sporting Success

RUGBY

Our rugby squad had a great day at the rugby blitz, defeating Lisnagarvey, before falling foul of a Banbridge team with a real star on their side.

EQUESTRIAN TEAM

Our Equestrian Team had a particularly successful month.

Bailey's Inter schools league: Shimna college team has continued their consistent performance in this league with back to back third placings. They are currently leading the league ahead of Banbridge Academy in second place and Kilkeel High, last year's winners in third and Down High in fourth. There are two more rounds of this league left in February and March. It is going to be a very closely fought battle for the top four placings as there are only 6 points separating these teams.

In the December round of the league we had two individuals in the top 5, Primrose Dillon came 3rd and Chloe Rooney in 4th place.

Ulster schools show jumping league: the December and January rounds were cancelled due to the weather. The next date is Saturday 5th February with the final being held on Saturday 26th February.

There are two one day shows coming up, the first is Portmore in March (date to be confirmed) and the next is Monday 11th April at the Meadows Equestrian Centre. This is a charity show. Anyone interested in competing as part of a team or as an individual should let Loretta Collins know so that she can make the entry. Riders need to be competing at 85cms or above and have insurance and transport.

Another round of the BAILEYS Inter schools league was held on Saturday 29th January at Mossvale equestrian centre, Dromara.

Results:

1st Kilkeel .

2nd Down High

3rd Shimna College: Sky, Helen Sawey; Poppy, Ciara Collins; Lottie, Chloe Rooney; Burberry, Toni Quail.

4th Dromore High School, 5th Banbridge Academy, 6th St Malachys.

Hockey

Our hockey squad, in its very first season, is through to the finals, after beating Slemish Integrated College on penalty flicks. Well done, you wonderful people..

Best of luck in your final.



Parents Council

We had an excellent turnout of parents/ guardian to the consultation evening for year 9 students. We really appreciate all your support. We also appreciate the parents who come in to provide the tea at biscuits at all our consultation evenings. This service is much appreciated by staff and parents alike. If you can offer to help with one of the consultation evenings still to come, please get in touch and we will pass on your offer to Parents' Council chair, Pauline Knight.

The fundraising drive goes on, as the tickets sell for the wonderful canvas "The Tackle" donated by artist Victor Cirefice to raise money for the longstanding Parents' Council project to provide our students with a bus shelter. Please call and view the painting in the office reception area, and buy your tickets from the money office.

Careering Ahead

This is a very important term for students in year 12 and in year 10, as they make the all important choices of courses for next year. Year 12s had

the opportunity to attend a careers fair in the Slieve Donard Hotel, and year 10 will have a subject choice presentation from Sentinus. Interviews and decision making sessions con-

tinue, and students consult our choices booklets, their teachers, our careers officer and consult with you at home.

Stop Press

Shimna OldScholars Selena Northrop and Catherine McConkey won the Marketing Initiative Award in the Down District Business presentations. Selena and Catherine took Business Studies among their A levels at Shimna, and set up in business for themselves running JJ Donnelly in Downpatrick. We are very proud to host their uniform webshop on our website

Travellers' Tales



Those of us left behind during the second week of February could only hope for postcards and presents from returning travelers. Our skiers were off in Italy, where they had perfect snow, fantastic accommodation, fantastic everything if you listen to them! They even had a spot of night skiing!



Our A level work experience destinations extended to Sweden this year, with our first visit to our twin school Sunnerbo Grammar School in Ljungby. Our students visited the school, went on work experience, went ice skating, ate moose burgers and applecake.



Our A level Spanish students had an excellent time in Madrid, and look forward to receiving their Spanish partners back for the return visit, postponed from the snows of December.

You can see for yourself the progress of the A level French students on their work experience in Brittany, on the special Blog, which you can access through the FrenchBlog on our website. Our students didn't have long to wait for the return visit of their exchange partners, who traveled here the very same weekend. The French students carried out work experience in Newcastle, took part in a reception with Down District Council, visited our classes and brought me some gorgeous sweets.

International Schools Award

Hardly surprising then, that Clare Murphy and Kevin were presented with our International Schools Award by the British Council at a special ceremony in Belfast. This is a highly prestigious award which recognized all the international work that goes on throughout Shimna in every area of the curriculum.

Reports are pouring in from employers across our own part of the work, on the achievement of all our other A level students on work experience. We had students out at Queens University, Norbrook Laboratories, BE Aerospace, in banks, with solicitors, in hospitals, with artists ...

"It's My Life"

Kevin and all our year 8 students attended a presentation and workshop with the PSNI. The workshop has been run with schools throughout the area to help students think through how to keep themselves and each other safe. Our students were terrific and our team of Kevin Lambe, Amber Jennings and Marc Miles Won "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire"

Scores on the Doors

We are delighted that in their recent **Scores on the Doors** inspection our college canteen received FIVE STARS, the highest award! Well done and thank you.



If you see this, but haven't received your copy by post or email, please ring the college office, to update your email address or request by post

Very Important Notice



Every seven years we take a whole school photograph. The photograph will be taken this year on Wednesday 30th March. Be there and be beautiful and in perfect uniform!

Next Generation

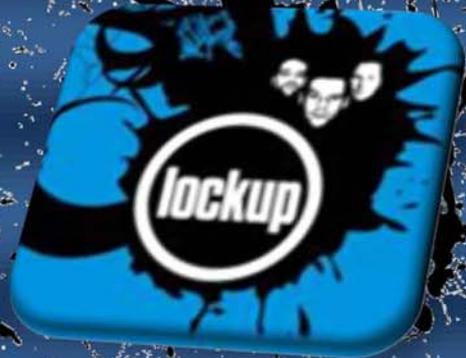
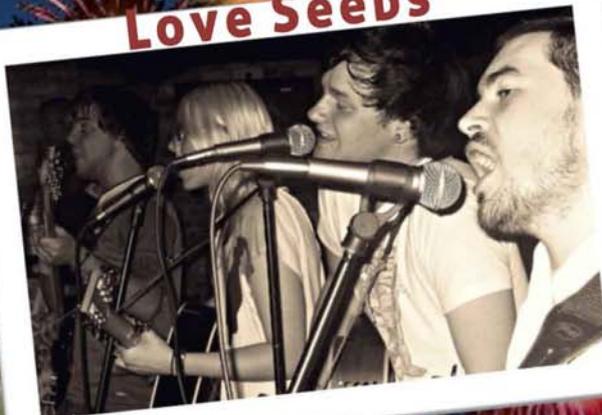
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Love Seeds



& MORE!!

For further info contact Suzie
suzie@ief.org.uk

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Monday 7TH March

AUNTIE ANNIES

44 Dublin Road, Belfast

Doors open 8pm



Parents' Council Fundraising Drive

We are delighted to announce that a magnificent oil painting has been donated to the college by artist Victor Cirefice. Victor Cirefice's work has well known for his action portrayal of sport in action, from hurlers to rugby players. The painting he has donated is a large canvas entitled "The Tackle".



The painting is to be the main prize in the Parents' Council fundraising draw. This year has seen a wonderful donation of £5,000 from BE Aerospace to build, at last, a bus shelter for our students. Year 10 students are also hard at work with their mentors from BEAe, planning the siting of the shelter and its impact on traffic flow etc. The Parents' Council has worked hard to make up the cost of the project, and is also keen to boost the coffers once more in order to continue the Council's work of supporting the college.

The painting currently hangs in the office area, and you are very welcome to view it. Tickets will be sold at the college and at all forthcoming college events. Your help in selling tickets will also be appreciated as many people beyond the college would also appreciate the opportunity to win the painting. Every family will received tickets to sell, and if everyone does their bit, we will make our total.

This is a wonderful opportunity to support Shimna fundraising and at the same time, bid for a valuable and magnificent art work.

The draw will be made at a special event to be held in March.



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The Month Ahead

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- 02.03.2011 Year 11 students sit their GCSE module examinations - the real thing!
Year 11 and 12 drama students attend a production of "Blood Brothers" in Belfast.
- 04.03.2011 Our netball squad play blitz matches all day.
A level ICT students hold a bake sale in aid of their chosen charities, Action MS and NICancer Fund for Children.
Amnesty International hold an awareness raising event at breaktime.
- 04.03.2011 GCSE PE students have their matchplay assessment.
- 07.03.2011 INTEGRATED EDUCATION WEEK
- 08.03.2011 Careers event for all year 10 students. 7.00pm meeting of the Parents' Council. All parents/guardians are very welcome. Come and help with the fundraising.
- 10.03.2011 John Nellis hosts a bake sale in aid of his Romanian orphanages appeal.

Consultation Evening for parents/guardians of year 10 students, 5.30-7.30pm.
- 11.03.2011 We host a traveling performance by students of Strangford Integrated College to celebrate Integrated Education Week.
- 17-18.03.2011 St Patrick's Day holiday.
- 19.03.2011 Students from Spain come on the return leg of our exchange programme with Madrid.
- 23.03.2011 A level students of English attend a course at Queens University.
Year 13 A level students attend a UCAS careers fair at the King's Hall in Belfast.
- 24.03.2011 **Consultation evening for parents/guardians of year 8 students, 5.30-7.30.**
- 29.03.2011 Year 10 attend a careers presentation from Sentinus.

Planning Ahead

- 04.04.2011 GCSE art examinations begin - the real thing.

Check out our website regularly for news, examination timetables, calendar dates, all our blogs.