

OMAGH ACADEMY

SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER

Happy Easter from all at Omagh Academy

'FOUND EWE' WINS INVEST NI STEP 'N' ZONES COMPETITION



Pictured with (right) Stephen Wightman, Invest NI, and (left) Nathan McAuley, YENI, are Omagh Academy pupils Ryan Armstrong, Jack Henderson, Philip Rainey, James Vance, Lucia Cathers, Nicole McCrory and teacher Mr Bingham.

Omagh Academy has won Invest Northern Ireland's 2014 Step 'N' Zones Competition, with a business idea for Found Ewe, an app which uses GPS to monitor flocks of sheep. The competition was held during Global Entrepreneurship Week (17-21 November 2014) and attracted over 1,278 pupils from 49 schools across Northern Ireland. One team of pupils from each event was chosen as the regional finalist and was invited to compete in the final event which took place on 23 January in Invest NI's Belfast office. The competition challenged the pupils to develop a business idea with support around idea generation, market research, branding, finance and planning. The winning team, Found Ewe, developed an idea for an app which uses GPS to monitor flocks of sheep. The judges were particularly impressed with the team's presentation skills, strong USP and customer focus. The school will receive the top prize of £1,000 and £100 high street vouchers for each member of the winning team.

(Press release courtesy of INVEST NI)

TOP PERFORMING CO-EDUCATIONAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL IN NORTHERN IRELAND

According to the School League Tables published in 'The Irish News' on 9th February 2015, Omagh Academy is the top co-educational grammar school in Northern Ireland. The league table was based on A Level examination results and placed the Academy 3rd overall behind two single sex girls' schools. This result was confirmed in the A Level league tables published in 'The Belfast Telegraph'. Omagh Academy is also the first controlled school to be ranked in the top 10 at A Level. The pupils and staff are delighted with this exceptional achievement. The top five placed schools are listed below:

1. St Dominic's, Belfast
2. Thornhill College, Londonderry
3. Omagh Academy
4. Rathmore Grammar School, Belfast
- 5= Rainey Endowed Grammar School, Magherafelt
- 5= Lumen Christi College, Londonderry



RELEASE DATES FOR GCSE AND A LEVEL CLASSES: REVISION OVER EASTER

Study leave for Year 12 and 14 classes will commence around Friday 8th May (final dates to be confirmed), with Year 13 some weeks later. This does not leave much teaching time in the new term and pupils are advised to make effective use of the Easter holidays for revision.



The Academy Orchestra



The Jazz Group

The Senior Choir, conducted by Mrs Bingham.



SPRING CONCERT

The Music Department at Omagh Academy treated the filled-to-capacity Strule Arts Centre to a feast of music at last week's concert. Recognised within the community as one of the 'must-attend' events of the year, the audience enjoyed a wide range of music from Classical favourites by the Academy Orchestra, to pop, jazz, world music and bluegrass by various ensembles, finishing the programme with songs from 'Shrek, the Musical'. Pupils from Years 8 - 14 all had the chance to perform and participated in many ensembles featuring, Choirs, Brass Bands, Percussion, Guitars, Woodwind, Pipers, Strings and Ukuleles. The musical items were of an exceptionally high standard and staff and pupils are to be congratulated for providing a great evening of entertainment.



Raisin' the Bar Bluegrass group.



Andrew Nethery and the Ukulele Orchestra perform 'Uptown Funk'.



Sounds of Africa Ensemble, led by Mr Ronan McKee.

Pipes and drums led by Mr Mark Carmichael.



Members of the Junior Brass Band.



Shrek soloists, the Duloc Dancers and members of the Senior Choir deliver the finale.



With thanks to Jude Browne Photography



ECO- SCHOOLS

Over the last few months the Eco-Schools committee has been busy improving the Eco garden in school. With the money awarded from the Challenge Fund bird food, and bird feeding stations were bought along with bird and bug boxes. The ten bird boxes and two bug boxes have been put up around the school grounds. The pupils fed the birds throughout the winter months and then took part in 'The RSPB's Big Schools Birdwatch' in February.

One of the local biodiversity officers, Rose Cremin came into school to give the pupils a presentation on 'Biodiversity recording'. This is a project that we will be continuing to work on over the next few months. An atlas of mammals in Ireland is being created and everyone is asked to contribute. Currently County Tyrone has the lowest level of data submitted. Please help us to change that by going to <http://mammals.biodiversityireland.ie> and submit any records of mammals that you have seen this year.



At the start of March trees and hedge plants were received from 'The Woodland Trust'. On Tuesday 10th March these were planted down in the Eco garden. Time was also spent weeding the herb garden and doing a litter pick.



On Wednesday the 11th March the Eco-committee accompanied by Mrs McColgan and Mrs McLaughlin visited Tullyvar landfill site. It was a very interesting and educational trip which highlighted the complexities of disposing of waste. In two years time the site will be full and it is not known yet what will happen then. This is why the Eco-committee is encouraging staff and pupils to 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle'. We are still recycling clothes and shoes through the 'Cash for Clobber' campaign and we would greatly appreciate any donations of clothing. The money raised will be donated to charity. We are also recycling old batteries, ink cartridges and reading glasses in school.

Mrs McColgan

INTERVIEW SKILLS DAY

Tuesday the 10th of March was Interview Skills Day for Year 13 pupils. The vastly experienced John Morrison from Sentinus led the morning session in the Assembly hall. His session covered everything from advice on completing application forms, dress code, body language and basic interview technique. During the afternoon session, pupils attended an individual mock interview for a career/Higher Education course of their choice. These were conducted by representatives from the world of work or the Careers Service NI. The plenary session at the end of the event was led by Mr David Bradshaw from Invest NI and Mrs Regina Gormley from the Human Resources Department at South West College. This was an extremely worthwhile experience for the Year 13 pupils who will have interviews in the near future.

Mr Hamilton

CAREERS TALK



James Smyth (Contracts Director) with William & Henry Alexander (Civil Engineering) delivered a presentation to pupils in Years 12 and 13 who are interested in Civil Engineering.

A LEVEL HISTORY CONFERENCE

On Wednesday, 18th February, schools from across Tyrone and Fermanagh arrived in Omagh for the Academy's annual History Conference. The morning session featured two lectures, one on the Home Rule Crisis and a second which covered the reaction of the Conservative Party to the Third Home Rule Bill. Particular attention was paid to the Liberal government's handling of the Ulster Crisis and to the respective leaders of Unionism and Nationalism Edward Carson and John Redmond.

In the afternoon, the conference was addressed by the well known writer and broadcaster, Eamon Phoenix. Dr Phoenix's lecture, "The decline of the IPP and the rise of Sinn Fein" included numerous references to the political developments in Tyrone and Fermanagh during the 1914-1918 period.



Dr Eamon Phoenix

Among the schools attending the conference were Omagh CBS, Loreto Convent, Omagh High School, Enniskillen Collegiate, Mount Lourdes, Armagh Royal and Limavady Grammar.

Mrs Gregg

A LEVEL ICT STUDENTS WORK WITH McCLINTOCK P.S

Two A Level ICT students Eliza-Kate Beattie and Laura Gilmour visited McClintock Primary School for four weeks to teach the pupils programming skills and how to use a Raspberry Pi. The P6 and P7 pupils have learnt how to code a 'flappy bird' and racing car game using Scratch software. They also had the opportunity to write Python code to control a set of traffic lights using a Raspberry Pi. We continue to thoroughly enjoy our links with this rural primary school.

Mrs Donnelly



TRUE COLOURS



On Tuesday 10th February, Year 11 and Year 13 Art and Design students accompanied by Miss Sproule visited the 'True Colours Exhibition' held in the Ulster Museum in Belfast.

Hosted by CCEA, the 'True Colours Exhibition' is a unique exhibition of outstanding art work by some of the brightest young artists and designers in Northern Ireland's schools and colleges. It showcases a selection of the best and most interesting work of 80 students produced for summer 2014 GCE and GCSE examinations.

The students gained a lot of inspiration for their own unit work and were able to view the work of two Omagh Academy students which was on display; Brooklyn Cathers' AS exam unit and Victoria Lyons' A2 unit.

Miss Sproule



Rachel and Shannon getting inspiration from one of the 80 displays of art work.



Chelsea and Davina admiring an exhibit belonging to Year 14 pupil Brooklyn Cathers.



MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT EVENTS AND NEWS

- Thursday 19th February periods 1-6: Eight Mandarin YCT Level 1 Summer 2014 candidates were invited to a prize giving ceremony in South West College and a celebration of Chinese New Year with traditional Chinese activities, such as Kung Fu, Tai Chi, paper cutting, knot making, calligraphy and cookery demonstration. These candidates are due to sit their level 2 exam in March, along with other Year 10 pupils.
- Friday 20th February periods 7-9: 25 Year 9 pupils were invited to see a French play in Sacred Heart College by Onatti Theatre Company: "The World's Gone French".
- Friday 27th February periods 3-6: 'Languages Open Doors' Conference with QUB School of Languages, hosted by Omagh Academy Modern Languages Department. OLC Schools attended: CBS, Loreto, Sacred Heart, Dean Maguirc.
- Paris Trip for Years 11-12 French students: Wednesday 11th – Saturday 14th March
- Year 13/14 French Work Experience in L 'Hay-les-Roses (Omagh's twin town near Paris): Saturday 28th March – Friday 10th April. Students will be hosted by French families and will be working in a variety of places: the town library, 3 primary schools, townhall, in a club for the elderly, in town-planning or in a vocational school. The students are: Year 14 Megan Jordan, Beth Hamilton, Rena Timsit. Year 13: Jenny Hemphill, Rebecca Sharkey and Leanne Hall
- French Exchange Omagh Academy/College Pignan, Montpellier: May (in local families) and June 2015 (in French families)
- AILO (All Ireland Linguistics Olympiad) results of Round 1 just in: Out of 3000 entries from across Ireland, 25 from Omagh Academy, we have three candidates who have qualified for the next round in Dublin City University in Glasnevin on March 25th: Hannah Patterson Year 14 French, Jenny Hemphill Year 13 Fr/Sp and Jonathan Kirke Year 13 French. Indeed, one of these candidates has come 4th out of 1300 pupils: Jonathan Kirke: A huge well done to him!

SUCCESS IN FRENCH DEBATING COMPETITION

On Friday 6th March, Hannah Patterson, Rena Timsit, Jenny Hemphill and Rebecca Sharkey participated in the NI French Debating Competition. They were up against Thornhill College and defeated them fair and square with their passion and quickfire language! Rena Timsit was named as 'Best Speaker' of the debate. They go on to the next round later in March, so we wish them all the best! Thanks must go to Mrs Karine Miles who spent many after-school sessions training the girls.

Mrs Henderson





YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Young Enterprise have had yet another successful term. Whilst attending the Foyleside Trade Fair, they sold lots of products and their sales leader Sarah Semple received a special mention for her great entrepreneurial spirit. They also attended the largest trade fair in the region at Rushmere Shopping Centre. Making lots more sales, they also received awards for 'Best visiting Company' and 'Outstanding Individual' again awarded to Sarah Semple. They recently faced a panel of judges in Omagh's Business Centre for their main competition. After a poised and animated presentation, the team had to face questions from all of the judges. The group were pleased with their performance and await their result. The result will be announced at the Young Enterprise 'Celebrating Success' event on Thursday 26th March at the Titanic Quarter.

Miss Fahy



Scripture Union has had a busy Spring term! At the end of January 29 pupils, 4 teachers and Paddy and Jill Crozier from CEF attended the Senior SU weekend at the Faith Mission Centre in Portadown. We had a great time of fellowship and fun. The inter-school SU formal was held in Corick House in February - 24 Omagh Academy pupils attended. We also sent some pupils to the SU Unite event at the Ulster Hall on Saturday 14th

March. Each Thursday lunchtime 30 senior pupils come to Room 11 for our weekly meetings and 50 plus pupils attend Junior SU on Friday lunchtimes. We plan to finish the term with our Parents and Friends evening on Thursday 26th March - our guest speaker is John Graham, an ex Academy Head Boy. Looking forward to the summer term, plans are in place for our SU BBQ at Dungannon Park on Monday 22nd June. The SU teachers would like to thank our SU pupil committee of Stewart Young, Caleb Charters, David McLean, Ellie Aspinwall and Rebekah Creane for all of their planning and hard work this year.

Mr Bingham

PUBLIC SPEAKING



Samuel McKeown and Kyle Sawyers (Year 10) took part in the Environmental YouthSpeak competition in February.

LITERACY WEEK



Samuel Clements was the winner of the Year 8 'Super Speller' competition.



Leah Neill was the winner of the Year 9 'Super Speller' competition.



Year 9 pupils enjoying games in the Library

STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to: Mr Arbuthnot (Zander) and Mrs Melarkey (Madeline) on the birth of their first born children.

We thank Mr Suarez for covering Miss McMurray's maternity leave.

We welcome Mr Kerrigan and Mr Forker who are covering the maternity leaves of Mrs Melarkey and Mrs McConnell.

The new term begins on Monday 13th April.



Pictured are Year 8 pupils who won prizes for World Book Day.





Open Night 2015



CROSS COUNTRY

Omagh Academy's E District Cross Country runners performed very well at Necarne in February with the Minor Girls, Junior Girls, Inter Boys and Senior Girls teams all qualifying for Ulster along with some individuals. Well done to these Year 8 girls who claimed 1st, 2nd and 3rd place at the non championship event!

1st – Anna Dixon

2nd – Erin McCann

3rd – Clara Harper

E District Cross country results 2015

Team qualifiers

Minor Girls – 3rd place overall

5th LAUREN ARMSTRONG
16th NICOLE NETHERY
17th SARAH DICKSON
22nd CHARLOTTE EVASON
23rd DANIELLE NETHERY
26th KATIE BALLANTINE

Junior Girls – 3rd place overall

14th JESS HOOD
16th ELLA DUNCAN
17th NEAVE NETHERY
18th LEAH SHORT
21th NIAMH TRACEY
24th EMMA HAGAN

Senior Girls – 2nd place overall

6th JENNY HEMPHILL
7th NAOMI MORTON
8th CARI MCKINLEY
14th NAOMI DUNCAN
18th REBEKAH CREANE
19th SONYA GIBSON

Intermediate Boys – 3rd place overall

7th JAKE LIGGETT
20th JAKE IRVINE
22nd SCOTT BALLANTINE
36th PETER AIKEN
39th OISIN SHIELS
43th JACK STEENSON
45th HARRY EVASON
58th CHARLIE MCKINNEY



Mini Girls 1st, 2nd and 3rd



Pupils who qualified for the Ulster Championships at Mallusk.

Individual qualifiers

Mini Girls –

MILLIE ISAACS – 14TH

Mini Boys

TOM COWAN – 8TH

KYLE CUTHBERTSON – 12TH

Minor Boys

JACK MOORE – 13TH

Junior Boys

NATHAN YOUNG – 15TH

Inter Girls

LAUREN KEE – 15TH

All teams performed well at the Ulster Championships at Mallusk, but could not match the standard of some excellent schools who specialise in this event.

MUSIC NOTES



Best wishes to Mr O'Hare and members of the Brass Band as they compete at 'The Brass Band League NI' Contest in The Alley Theatre, Strabane on Saturday 25th April, 2015.

Best wishes to Head Boy and A-Level Music student, Calvin Davison, as he competes in the final of 'The Catherine Judge Memorial Award' at Queens' University, Belfast on Saturday 18th April, 2015. Calvin is one of twelve finalists. This award was initiated by the Bank of Ireland and the Award is open to students all across the island of Ireland who have achieved at least Grade 8 (ABRSM, LCM, Trinity, DIT or CIT) or Senior Certificate (RIAM) on their chosen instrument or voice and who wish to pursue third level musical education.

OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL YOUNG ACHIEVERS EVENT

Congratulations to the Young Enterprise company 'Mini Mixers' and to Omagh Academy Brass Band who were recognised for their success by Omagh District Council at their recent celebration event on 6th March. Thank you to Rachel Irwin and Hannah Thompson for representing the Brass Band; Nathan Garrett and Ryan Elliott who represented Mini Mixers.

Thank
you

Thank you for your generous support of the SOS BUS (NI) at the Annual Carol Services in December. A total of £925.00 will be handed over to the charity in April. Representatives of the charity will be visiting school to address Year 14 as part of the General Studies programme.

U18 FOOTBALL REPORT



On Wednesday the 25th of February Omagh Academy played St. Joseph's College, Londonderry in the quarter final of the NI U18 Schools Plate. After an evenly contested opening ten minutes with little chances, St Joseph's made the breakthrough with a free kick from 30 yards. St Joseph's then doubled their advantage only a couple minutes later after a goalmouth scramble. After a disastrous spell from Omagh it was then 3-0 with another long range effort.

Omagh gathered themselves towards the end of the half and as a ball broke to Andrew Gilfillan, he crossed finding James Edgar who nodded home from 6 yards, leaving the score 3-1 at half time.

Omagh started the second half as strongly as they ended the first, constantly pressurising St Joseph's and with about 20 minutes remaining scored a second goal. Ben Sproule found James Edgar at the edge of the box who turned the defender smartly and finished low into the bottom corner.

Omagh Academy pushed for a third goal and if it was not for some great goalkeeping the game would have ended all even. Unfortunately the goal never materialised and St. Joseph's progressed to the semi final.

Andrew Gilfillan (14C)

TAG RUGBY TEAM



HOCKEY NEWS



The 2014-15 hockey season is drawing to a close with all fixtures due to be completed before the end of March. Since Christmas, frozen pitches and bad weather have led to a few cancellations, meaning a very busy start to February.

The 1stXI who drew last year's Ulster and Irish champions Lurgan College in the Senior Shield. Frozen pitches meant that preparation for this match was not what it should have been. However this did not deter Omagh's determination to beat their old rivals. Despite a more even game than previous meetings between the 2 sides, Lurgan's Ulster and Irish players came out on top with a 2:0 victory. Cari McKinley's squad were despondent, yet proud with their efforts.

2BXI GIBSON CUP SEMI FINAL



The 2BXI who were desperate to repeat last year's efforts in reaching the Gibson Cup final have performed brilliantly this year. Going into the semi final of the competition, they were unbeaten all season having most recently played Friends School Lisburn in the ¼ finals. Winning this match 2:0 safely put them into the semi final stage, where Ballyclare High school were the opponents. Despite a shaky start, Omagh soon started to get into their stride, and their slick passes ensured many circle entries. Jeni Lyons, Chloe Hood and Rebecca Gibson up front all had good chances but Ballyclare's defence and goal keeper where strong enough to keep the ball out of the net. Meanwhile at the other end,

Hannah Roleston in goals did not enjoy a quiet afternoon, and alongside Hannah Catterson, Shannon Nethery, Alana Armstrong and Lauren Kee had to work hard to defend their circle. Midfielders Bethany Swann, Amy Forbes and Luci McKeown who was carrying an injury worked tirelessly to link up with their forward line, and it was a counter attack from midfield which led to the opening goal from Jeni Lyons, who from the top left side of the circle neatly finished from a reverse strike. In the second half, Luci McKeown had to be replaced in central midfield and the young Jess Hood more than filled her place with some excellent work both in attack and defence. Despite Ballyclare enjoying more possession than the first half, Omagh did have their chances to increase their tally, but were twice denied by some excellent Ballyclare goal keeping to prevent Jeni Lyons and Chloe Hood scoring who both only had the GK to beat. With minutes left on the clock, Ballyclare took a quick free and passed the ball into the circle to their centre forward who slotted the ball home to level the score at 1:1. The game finished a draw meaning extra time and possibly the dreaded penalty strokes had to decide the winner. Omagh knew they had the talent and experience to beat their opponents but they would have to take their chances if they arose. The 10 minutes of extra time belonged to Omagh, who dominated in all areas of the pitch. Several breaks on goal excited the crowd and spurred on Omagh to finish the game off. Nicole Donnell saw her great strike just pass the right side of the post, and Jeni Lyons watched as her two chances on the left side of the circle did not trouble the keeper. The final whistle sounded for penalty strokes to decide this year's finalists. Both teams looked nervous, and Omagh were relieved to have practiced their strokes in training. After both Alana Armstrong and Nicole Donnell scored, Hannah Roleston saved a Ballyclare effort. However, Omagh were unfortunate to see their last 3 strokes hit the post and saved by Ballyclare who took advantage by scoring their remaining strokes. With Ballyclare jubilant, Omagh were distraught, and were left to rue their missed chances throughout the match.



The U14s also reached the semi final of the Junior Plate competition following wins against Foyle College, Royal School Dungannon and Bloomfield Collegiate in the ¼ final. Following recent defeats by Lurgan Junior High and Rainey Endowed, this squad knew they would have to perform better if they were to progress. They travelled to Edenvilla in Portadown where they met Sullivan Upper on a very wet day. From the first whistle, Sullivan showed they had skill and pace up front and were soon ahead when after 2 minutes an attack down the right side was crossed to a free player on the left post, who left Nadine Hunter with no chance in goals. The remainder of the game saw Sullivan the dominant team, however Jess Hood's side were not going to give up easily, producing a few attacks of their own. Despite winning a few penalty corners, they could not produce any real threats on goal. Sullivan's many attempts on goal were well dealt with by Hunter in goals as well as the defensive line up of Grainne Murphy, Cara Moore, Emily Buchanan and Neave Nethery who was superb at right back. Time unfortunately was not on Omagh's side as the final whistle blew to sound the end of the competition for the young squad. Sullivan deserved the win and are wished all the luck in the final.

The U13AXI have impressed throughout the season, having won every match until their last fixture vs Friends High school where they drew 0:0. Led by Lauren Armstrong, they will look forward to their Junior Cup run next year!

WEST OF ULSTER LEAGUE FINAL 2015

Omagh Academy 1: Cookstown HS 0

On Monday 16th March, Omagh Academy 1stXI again played Cookstown HS in a bid to lift the West of Ulster League title for a record 15th year in a row. It was Omagh's turn to host the occasion, and the home side knew their defence of the title was not going to be easy, as a draw was the outcome on both occasions this season already. For the Year 14 pupils Cari McKinley, Sarah Graham, Naomi Duncan, Naomi Morton and Holly Nelson, this game was to be their last in Omagh Academy colours, as they will soon embark on a new journey at university. Therefore the determination to win the title was even more apparent, especially following a season full of highs and lows for this squad.

From the first whistle, the home side set out with pace and purpose. Their link up passing was immaculate, putting the hard work they put in through the many hours of training into practice. The right side of Naomi Duncan, Heather Moffitt and the young and enthusiastic Holly Swann who had an outstanding work rate looked strong in attack, and the left side of Holly Nelson, Naomi Morton and Jenny Hemphill played with patience and intelligence to gain territory. The central core of the pitch was made up of captain Cari McKinley and vice captain Sarah Graham who rarely made a mistake all day, Chloe Frazer in midfield and Claire McFarland up front who scored the only goal of the day from a neat pass in from Frazer. Claire showed her cool to slot the ball home from a tight angle. The five minutes before half time belonged to Cookstown who had excellent play down their right side. Omagh's left defence were superb in keeping the ball out of the circle and away from danger.

The second half started even better than the first from Omagh who were determined to add to their tally. Despite enjoying the majority of possession and pressure, Omagh could not find the killer instinct in the attacking 25 or the circle. Omagh knew that Cookstown were still in the game and were therefore eager to get another goal, however despite more chances from Christine Donaghy, Claire McFarland and Holly Swann, together with many penalty corner opportunities, the home side entered nervously into the final ¼ of the game. Cookstown to their credit never gave up and enjoyed a period of pressure in midfield, especially down their right side. The final 5 minutes belonged to the visitors, who were pressurised Omagh's left defence. However, they stood firm with some excellent defending to ensure that Hannah Roleston's goal was rarely under threat. To the home side's relief, the final whistle blew to ensure the league title was Omagh's for another year.

Cari McKinley accepted the 51 year old trophy from its founder Mr R. Stevenson lifted the trophy and spoke with emotion to thank her team, the opposition, umpires and coaches. The squad and coaching staff would like to thank Mr Arbuthnot and Norman Purdy for umpiring throughout the season as well as all the support from parents and sponsors. Best wishes and thanks also go to the players who leave school this year to university.



Squad:

Hannah Roleston, Sarah Graham, Naomi Duncan, Cari McKinley, Holly Nelson, Heather Moffitt, Naomi Morton, Holly Swann, Claire McFarland, Jenny Hemphill, Christine Donaghy, Sophie Smyth, Chloe Hagan, Luci McKeown, Megan Swann.

PUPILS CHOSEN TO REPRESENT THE WESTERN BOARD IN THE AREA BOARD HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Well done to the following pupils who have been selected to represent the Western Board in the upcoming Ulster Area board tournaments.

U15: Lucy Brunt, Jess Hood, Nadine Hunter, Emma Donnell, Amy McCollum, Neave Nethery



U17: Hannah Roleston, Christine Donaghy, Heather Moffitt, Holly Swann, Sophie Smyth, Luci McKeown, Chloe Hagan



We are hoping to run our annual hockey camp again this year in late May. Details will be forwarded to pupils and will be made available on our Facebook page.

Mrs Dickson



FAREWELL!

Year 14 Hockey leavers pictured from left, Naomi Duncan, Sarah Graham, Cari McKinley, Naomi Morton and Holly Nelson.

RUGBY ROUND UP



Having progressed through the early stages of the 2014/15 rugby season in impressive manner the 1stXV entered the Schools Cup at the 3rd Round stage.

Their opening fixture would see them make the long trip to Belfast to face Grosvenor Grammar School. The squad deservedly recorded a 20-5 victory despite a nervy performance. The win would set up a second away fixture, this time to Carrickfergus Grammar School in the 4th Round. A 'professional' approach was taken and the squad travelled to stay in Carrick on the Friday before the game. This preparation paid off as an exceptionally impressive display by the forwards set up a comprehensive 26-7 victory to take the Academy into the Quarter Finals for the first time in 8 years.

The luck of the draw never seemed to be on Omagh's side as the 1stXV were once again drawn away from home. This time Coleraine Inst would be the opposition. Preparations were meticulous with another overnight stay organised. Unfortunately the run would end in Coleraine. A slow start ultimately cost the Academy the game as the squad fought manfully to claw back a 15 point deficit. With the score poised at 15-9 for much of the game Omagh just couldn't squeeze out the plays to cross for the all important try. Coleraine would get one final try to take the score to 22-9 in favour of the home team and break Academy hearts.



A fine cup run and one every member of the Senior Rugby Squad should be proud of.

The season was brought to a close with another impressive victory, this time over Ulster Clubs U18's. A 19-0 win was sealed with two Adam Stephenson tries and one from Fintan Lagan

The 2ndXV also had their cup run brought to an end in February following defeat to a strong Wallace High School team. Omagh defeated Bangor Grammar school in Round 1 in horrific conditions at Campsie, before meeting the much fancied Wallace side. Omagh stayed within touching distance of the visitors for much of the game, however, Wallace managed to produce two fine scores to clinch the game 29-10.



The Medallion XV were bitterly disappointed to be ousted from their main Shield competition at the first Round. Missing talisman Taine Lagan for the away trip to Portadown affected the belief of the squad and a disorganised performance resulted in a 10-3 defeat.

To the squad's credit they immediately picked themselves up and recorded resounding victories over Cambridge House (39-0) and Larne Grammar (48-0) to set up a Medallion Trophy Final against Strabane Academy.

The squad travelled to Dungannon for the final in buoyant mood and deservedly came away with the Trophy. Four Taine Lagan tries sealed the victory by 22-0 but two further tries were disallowed, one by Glenn McKinley and the other by Morgan McKenna. A huge WELL DONE to coaches Mr J Lagan, Mr J Williamson and their team.

Mr Hunter



The Medallion XV