



Campbeltown Grammar School

News

February 2009

Business as Usual despite the Snow!

There was much excitement among the pupils as a result of the snowfall which affected Kintyre on Thursday 5 February. However, unlike many schools south of the border, we were open for business as usual. Pupils did have fun before school and at the morning interval however, as these photographs show.

Parents might be interested to know that when snow is in prospect we have an arrangement with West Coast Motors and the Police to monitor the situation on the roads and will send pupils home early to the country areas if transport looks likely to be disrupted.

If a particularly severe snowfall prevents the school from opening, we will get a text message out to parents as early in the morning as possible. If you haven't yet given the school office your mobile number, please phone or e-mail to do so otherwise you will miss out on these important messages (see contact details on the last page of this newsletter).

We will also put a message on the school website and arrange for announcements to go out on Argyll FM. Please don't phone Argyll FM for information however - contact the school.

Good fun while it lasted!



Some of the Captains and Prefects made a snowman.



Standards and Quality Report Now On-line

The Standards and Quality report for the school year 2007/08 is now available to download from the school website (see contact details on the back page). The report provides information about attainment and achievement in the last school year, along with details of the school's improvement targets.

Internet Safety Talks

Mr Iain McLean, Children's Services Social Worker with Fusions, is once again offering parents his informative talks on internet safety, this time at the S4 parents' evening on Tuesday 10 February. The talks are given on a one-to-one basis and are for parents only. They cover the dangers of unsupervised access to the internet which could expose children to inappropriate images or contacts and include short powerful films which highlight the potential problems with the ever growing social networking phenomenon as well as giving parents and carers helpful solutions to minimise the dangers and risks. Booking forms were sent home this week, but if you didn't receive one you can still 'book a place' by contacting the school office.

The Junk Food Roadshow

Pupil Report by Allyson Draime, S1

Lee from the "Junk Food Road show" came to Home Economics in CGS for a visit to influence the first years on, yes, you've guessed it, the food every child loves and treasures, Junk Food! He talked about his job as a food scientist and all the things, (good and bad) about junk food, though most of the things were a shock to us. Our treasured junk food was even worse than it sounds!

First he took two pupils to help make a healthy pizza. The toppings were tuna and sweet corn, ham and pineapple, ham and mushroom, and cheese and tomato, (all with cheese of course). While the pizzas were cooking he talked more about sugar, fat and salt and the effect they have on our bodies.

When the pizzas were cooked, he showed us how medium priced beef burgers were really made. When he was finished everyone said "from now on we are making our own". Especially after watching all the sugar and salt being added as well as some chunks of a cow's heart! Well, now we all know what junk food really is: JUNK!



Above: What are burgers made of? Something pretty unappetising to judge by the reaction!

Left: Lee leads discussion about junk food and healthy alternatives.

You can find the recipe for Lee's French Bread Pizza on the school website, along with other healthy ideas from the Home Economics team.

Songwriters' Success

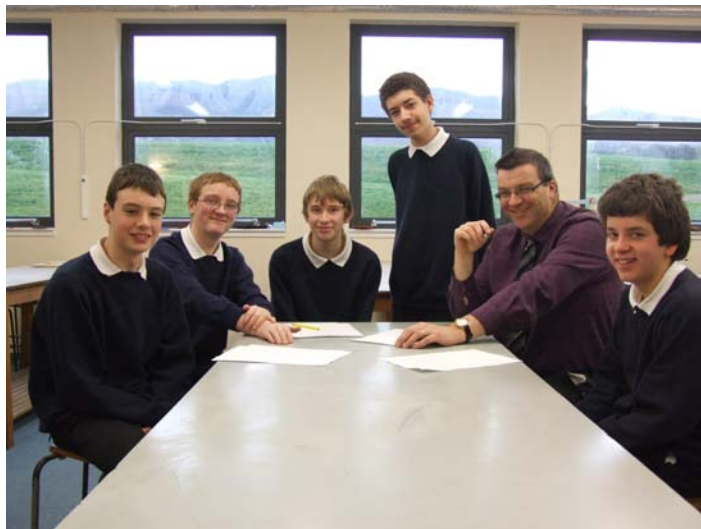
Young songwriters in the Music department have scored a big success in a national "Ethco Challenge". They won the upper secondary category in a competition to write a song about the millennium development goals. Ben Ballantyne, David Cosgrove, Mark McLellan and Lewis Semple will perform their rap "You can do it (if you try)" in the City Halls, Glasgow, on 4 March this year, along with their backing singers, Gayle McGeachy and Grace Nicoll. Photos from the event will appear in a future Newsletter.

CGS in the Hot-House

Since 2006, CGS has been taking part in a national competition called the Hot-House Challenge. This is a competition run by Careers Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise to find young entrepreneurs who have an idea for a business or a product which uses information and communications technology to solve a problem or in a way that simply makes life easier.

This year, two CGS teams beat off stiff opposition from 155 teams across Scotland to win through to the last 33. "Team Sanders", made up of brothers Jake, Connor and Peter Sanders, had to present their idea to the panel of judges via a video link to Inverness. The boys did well in their presentation and interested the judges in their idea for a "Pocket DJ". This was a sophisticated but compact music playing machine that allowed the user to mix tracks from MP3 Files or to record their own music.

Right - Team Sanders: Connor, Jake and Peter



Above - Fly 5 with their mentor, Mr Cosgrove.

The other team, "Fly5", presented their idea for a radical new service and entertainment system for use by airlines on long haul flights. They too presented their idea very well and were rewarded with an invitation to join the last 16 teams in the next round of the competition. The team, made up of S3 students (shown left to right) James Cairns, Fraser Cosgrove, Andrew Black, Alexander Palmer and Duncan Hooper, now face the long journey to Dingwall in March to see if they can progress into the final round and perhaps win a trip to Seattle to visit Microsoft Headquarters or perhaps even an all-expenses paid trip to Boston and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Look out for more news in the March Newsletter.

Messages for Pupils

Parents are asked to note that the office staff cannot undertake to pass messages to pupils on behalf of parents except in genuine emergencies. Doing so disrupts the work of the office and of classes, so we can't accept and pass on messages as a matter of routine.

Moving On

Mr Neil McKnight, Principal Teacher of Science Subjects, will be moving on after the Easter holidays to take up the post of Depute Head Teacher in charge of Pupil Support (3 - 18) at the Lochgilphead Joint Campus. His post here will be filled on an 'acting' basis in the first instance while the overall structure of promoted posts in the school is re-evaluated in the light of the current falling roll situation and in relation to A Curriculum for Excellence.

Remember the first big event organised by our new
PTSA

Friday 6 February 2009 : 7 - 10 pm

"Campbeltown Glamour School"



Feel Fit and Fine in 2009

Cardio Combat	Yoga	Hair Flair	Make-up
Indian Head Massage		Jog Scotland	Short Tennis
Golf	Sports Gear	Stop Smoking	Diet
Reflexology	Healthy Refreshments	Flower Essences	

Something for Everyone!

Tickets available 'on the door' - £5 (concessions £3)

Dates to Note

Friday 6 February	PTSA Event - "Look and Feel Fine in 2009".
Tuesday 10 February	S4 Parents' Evening.
Thursday 12 February	Valentine's Dance, 7.30 - 10.30 pm .
Friday 13 February	S5/6 Interim Reports issued. School closes for mid-term holiday at 3.35 pm.
Monday 23 February	School re-opens.
Wednesday 25 February	S5/6 Parents' Evening.
Friday 27 February	S2 Reports issued.
Tuesday 3 March	S2 Parents' Evening.
Friday 6 March	Next issue of Newsletter.

Keeping in touch

You are welcome to be in touch with the school at any time about any matter of interest or concern by letter, by e-mail, or by phone.

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