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Issue **122**



This summer pupils and staff celebrated bestever performance at GCSE with Mr Maxwell congratulating GCSE students on their exam results, which are the best ever recorded at the school

100% of pupils at Carrickfergus Grammar School, representing every single Year 12 pupil at the school, achieved 7 or more A*-C grades at GCSE, including English and Mathematics. Moreover, 88% of pupils achieved 7 or more grades at A*-B including English and Mathematics.

63.4% of the grades obtained by the school were A*/A, and a remarkable 55 pupils achieved 7 or more A*/A grades in their subject choices.

#preparetosucceed



At A-level, Mr Maxwell paid tribute to pupils and staff as it records its best ever public examination results.

94% of all Year 14 pupils achieved 3 or more A*-C grades at 'A' Level, a 6% increase on last year. Almost 50 pupils attained at least two 'A*/A' grades in their 'A' Level qualifications, with 22 pupils attaining 3 or more A*/A grades. Almost 60% of all grades received at the school were A*/A grades. At AS Level, 96% of all grades awarded were A-C, with 53% of grades being 'A'.



CGS Pupil becomes a Sailing World Champion!

Congratulations to our very own Calum Pollard in Year 9 - World Sailing Champion, no less!

The schoolboy, who was one of the youngest competitors, went on to win the Topper 4.2 category In Italy during the summer.

I ended up with a gold medal, the first male prize and first overall prize ... it felt incredible racing on the water at such a good venue against people who race the same boat and know what they're doing, said Calum. Calum told UTV his sights are now set on the Olympics, as well as the America's Cup, one of the oldest sailing competitions.







Bonjour, je m'appelle Brigitte Gourley Meet our new French Assistant for 2022/2023



I was born and brought up in the south west outskirts of Paris in a small town called Jouy en Josas where I went to primary school followed by my years at the Lycée in Versailles, not very far from the great Palace built by Louis XIV. I did not start my initial third level education at University as I had a passion for art, painting and drawing. Initially I travelled to an art school in the Paris Latin quarter off the Boulevard St Michel. Unfortunately, following a road accident and unable to use my right arm for a few months and reluctant about returning to art school I decided to come to the UK to learn English with a view to going to university and study languages.

After completing my degree, I went on to do a Master's on the role of SME's in the French economy during the 1980 's recession followed by a PGCE. I have since, followed a teaching career and have taught French for many years while bringing up my family in Northern Ireland.

More recently I have moved away from full time teaching to part time teaching at Stranmillis College, QUB and in schools. My previous experience as CCEA GCE French examiner for the Speaking tests and my time at Strathearn College, which I thoroughly enjoyed as an assistante, will I hope, help prepare the French learners at Carrickfergus Grammar towards their speaking examinations.



Junior Commonwealth Games

Congratulations to Alex Newell who represented Northern Ireland at the Junior Commonwealth Fencing Games, which were held in the East London University Campus from 13th-16th August 2022.

He competed in both the individual and team events, fencing competitors from Canada, Australia, Singapore and South Africa. Feedback from Fencing England and the organisers praised Team NI for their behaviour and friendliness to the other competing teams.



Sport Captains 2022/23

Introducing our new 1XI Hockey Captain Sophie McCreery & new 1XV Rugby Captain Shane Gilmore, for the upcoming 2022-2023 season.

Both are extremely passionate and dedicated to their sport. On the field they are great leaders, motivating & uplifting. We know they will both do a fantastic job.

#goodluck



Congratulations and best wishes to our Senior Prefect Team for 2022/2023. Sam Wharry, Dylan Sproule, Deputy Head Boy Matt McComb, Head Boy Kuba Glowgowski, Head Girl Katie Baxter, Deputy Head Girl Emma Smyth, Lydia Nimick and Asha McClean.



Parent Reminder – Carrickfergus Grammar School operates an online payment system for school lunches.

School meals can be ordered in advance via the ParentMail App. Please go to accounts and select 'choice of hot meal'.



Breakfast Club now up & running

Starting Tuesday 20th September Venue: Room 46 (Miss Elliott's room)

Time: 08.00 - 8.30

Come along and have some toast or cereal in room 46 to get your day off to a good start!

This new initiative will be free of charge until Halloween.

Scripture Union will meet again on Wednesday lunchtimes in Room 9.

You can bring a packed lunch and eat it there. We'd love to see all year groups, with a special welcome to our new Year 8s.



Dates for your diary

Monday 12th September, 7pm 'Teens in the Digital Age' parental seminar (virtual)

Wednesday 14th September, 7pm Parent's Association AGM

Thursday 29th September, 7pm Annual Prize Distribution **Friday 30th September** Pupils not in school (Staff training day)