



# CGS NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWS SHEET OF CARRICKFERGUS GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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After seven years as our **Head of Year 12** and full time English teacher, **Miss Eimear Stewart**, is moving back to her beloved Ballymena to take up a permanent post at the school she attended as a pupil, St Louis' Grammar School.

Miss Stewart has contributed so much over the years she has been with us, she will be sorely missed by all pupils and staff. She has been an amazing teacher and a dedicated and superb Head of Year. Eimear has also raised the profile of Habitat for Humanity, encouraging many pupils to get involved and also been a key part of the staff leading Scripture Union in school. Her passion, diligence and genuine care for every pupil she has worked with have been both humbling and inspirational.

We all congratulate her on her forthcoming marriage this summer and wish Mr and Mrs Scott every best wish for their wedding and life together. We hope you have a super day and pray God blesses you both richly as you move into your new home and start the next chapter as Mrs Scott. We have been very blessed to have Miss Stewart with us for seven years and she has left a rich legacy for pupils and staff.

*'May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.'*



## ***Congratulations to the CGS Prefect Team 2021/2022 & to all our Senior Prefects***

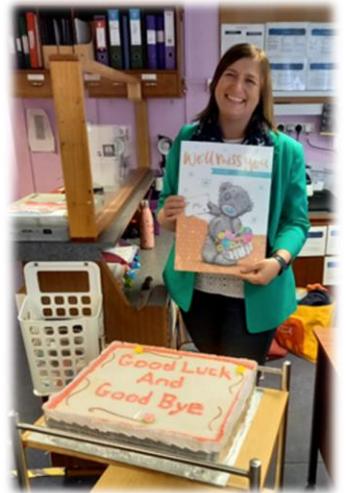
**Bronwyn Shields** (Head Girl - formerly Greenisland P.S),  
**Ben Martin** (Head Boy - formerly Woodburn P.S),  
**Amy Alderdice** and **Jay Macquarrie** (Deputy Head Girls - formerly Carrickfergus Model and Whitehead P.S) &  
**Kyle Donald** (Deputy Head Boy - formerly Eden P.S).





Mrs Heidi Kirk has been a Clerical Officer and Senior Clerical Officer at Carrickfergus Grammar School. A highly popular member of staff, Mrs Kirk was often the first port of call when parents phoned in or when a pupil went to the office. Helpful, dedicated and hugely talented are just some words we would use to describe her. We wish Mrs Kirk and her family every success and happiness in this new chapter of her life in Cornwall.

Mrs Margaret Barry has been a member of support staff at Carrickfergus Grammar School for over 25 years, culminating in her role as Senior Clerical Officer, with a particular focus on Careers. Over many years, Mrs Barry has supported thousands of our students with work experience, UCAS applications and otherwise. Her organisational skills have been legendary, and I totally commend Mrs Barry on the unassuming manner in which she has carried out her work, with great integrity and professionalism. We wish Mrs Barry a happy retirement.



Congratulations to **Jay Macquarrie**, Year 13, who has achieved a distinction in the Trinity College Grade 8 Clarinet performance. Jay has continued to work with great focus even though her lessons have been online for over a year, and to have achieved this result is testimony to her musicianship and excellent attitude to consistent hard work.

The assessor made frequent reference to her impressive attention to detail and concluded, *“There was an excellent level of personal commitment and engagement in the performance, and the ability to maintain a sense of style was well developed.”*



Well done to two of our Year 10, Carrickfergus Grammar School Girls, **Eden Cully** and **Alex Hogg**, who have been selected to play club hockey for the Ulster Elks.





## Awarding Merits at CGS

This year, over 20,000 merits were given by teachers to pupils in school, many of them during lockdown.

The vast majority of these merits were for exceptional work, but there were also large numbers of merits for acts of kindness, being responsible, outstanding manners, great leadership and displays of gratitude. Each merit given is recognition in itself, and is shared with parents via the SIMS Parent App.

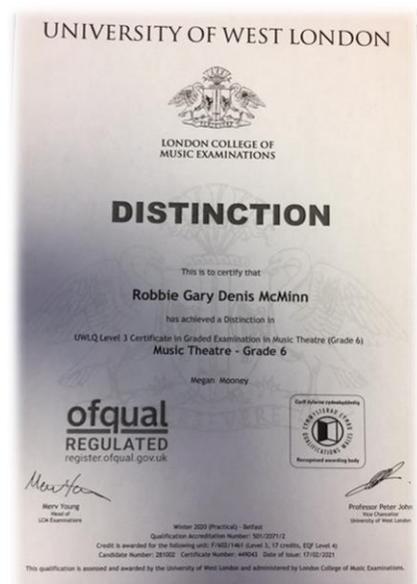
***Carrickfergus Grammar School is very proud of its students!***



**A great win for Team OutCast at our in-house Formula 1 in Schools Technology and Design Challenge. A fantastic way to finish the year with some great presentations and fast track times.**

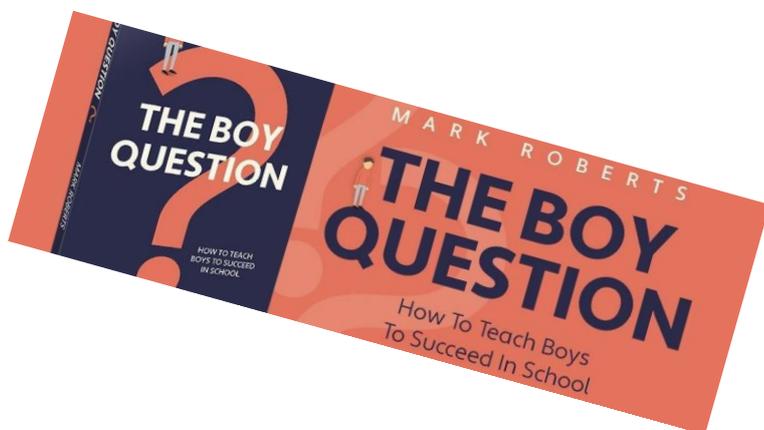
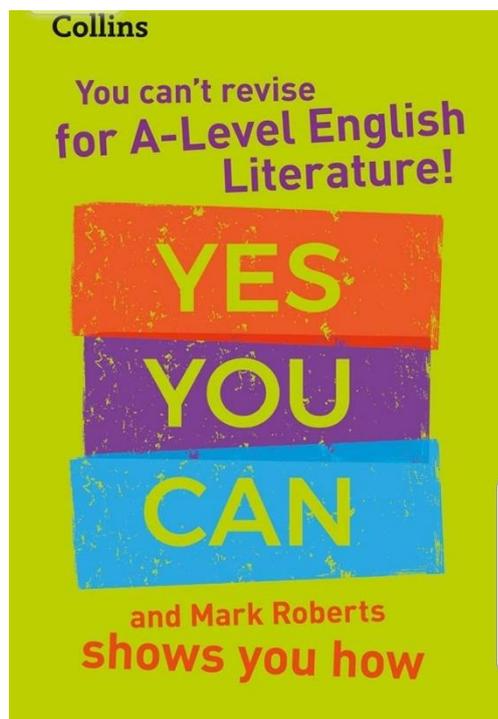


*Huge congratulations to **Robbie McMinn** from **Year 11**, who has recently been awarded a **Distinction Certificate in Music Theatre, Grade 6** at the **London College of Music Examinations**.*



*“By putting faith in me as Director of Research, finding new ways to engage pupils in the curriculum, Carrickfergus Grammar School is leading the way when it comes to new thinking in education.”*

Congratulations to Carrickfergus Grammar School’s very own teacher of English and Director of Research Mr Mark Roberts on the publication of two new books in recent months, one on the teaching of ‘A’ Level English Literature, the other on the best approaches to help boys succeed in the classroom. The latter book has the potential to have great significance for schools and teachers up and down the country. In recent weeks Mr Roberts has been interviewed by the Belfast Telegraph, has written a headline piece for the Times Educational Supplement and has written an article for the Chartered College of Teaching. In September, Mr Roberts will be delivering study skills sessions for parents of Carrickfergus Grammar School pupils, focusing on how best to support our pupils with their learning.



Let us introduce you to **Abby Redmond** who is a **Year 13 pupil at Carrickfergus Grammar School**. Abby, when not busy studying in school, plays football for Northern Ireland U19 and Crusaders Women's team who are in the Women's Premier League. Abby has also qualified as a football coach.

"I currently play for Crusaders Strikers first team. This is my second season playing and I am the youngest player on the team at just 17 years old. I started playing football when I was 5 years old, at an organisation called first kicks. When I was 8, I moved to play club football at Crusaders. I have played my entire football career here apart from one season when I was 14 in which I moved to Glentoran to play under 19's football. Alongside club, I was invited to trial for Country Antrim and started playing County football when I was 11. From this, I was successful at trials for Northern Ireland and started playing for Northern Ireland at that age group. This meant that I was playing with the best girls in Northern Ireland. Now I am playing with Northern Ireland under 19's and now we are preparing for the European qualifiers in October. Our group is tough and includes playing against Switzerland, England and the Republic of Ireland. I am constantly working and training every day to hopefully be selected for the squad however, recently I sustained an ankle injury. Playing with Northern Ireland has given me the opportunity to play around the world. I have travelled to places such as Sweden, to play against teams like Español and PSG. I also took part in the Bob Doherty Cup, in Northern Ireland, and played against England, Scotland and Wales.

The person who inspired me to play football was my Auntie Gail. She played for the Northern Ireland senior team, Glentoran and other teams in America. I always aspired to be better than my auntie and so every day that pushes me forward. She is now a fantastic coach and head of women's football in Northern Ireland. Each time I get out on the pitch I want to make her proud and prove that I can be the best. I am very blessed to have such a fantastic coach in my family who has helped me to improve, especially over this lockdown period. I love football with all my heart. I love the ups and downs, the thrills and lows, and how football can make you feel so much in just one game."





# After-Schools Sports



It is great to see both **Year 8 and Year 9** out after school for **rugby practice**. Year 8 rugby is on a Wednesday and Year 9 on a Thursday, from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Come along and give it a try!





***Year 8 Cricket at CGS***





# After-Schools Sports



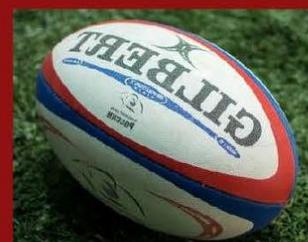
# After-Schools Sports

## Basketball at CGS



## Orienteering at CGS





# CARRICKFERGUS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## Summer Rugby Training Schedule

### Where?

School Pitches

### When?

17th, 19th, 24th, 26th, 31st AUGUST

### Times?

**Year 9 (Current Year 8)**

9-10.30

**Year 10 and 11 (Current Year 9 and 10)**

11-12.30

**Seniors (Current Years 11, 12, 13)**

1-2.30

### For whom?

Pupils in Year 9 upwards to Year 14

### How do I sign up?

Please use the sign-up sheets in the PE corridor or message the School Rugby Facebook page.

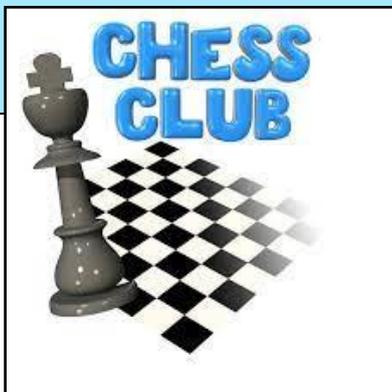
### What do I need?

Come changed ready to go, boots, trainers and a water bottle.

**Arrive 5 minutes before your session as it will start at the designated time.**

A brand new chess club is being launched at Greenisland Football Club. It started on Friday 11th June and will run on Friday nights from 7-9pm. All ages and abilities are welcome but for under 18s, parents should stay in the clubhouse with their children. The club is for beginners through to masters.

If you plan to attend please contact the organiser, Chris Dorrian, at [greenislandfcchess@gmail.com](mailto:greenislandfcchess@gmail.com)



### What's your wildest dream for Carrick?

'Positive Carrickfergus' are really serious about involving as many people as possible in thinking about the future and are currently delivering Wildest Dream postcards to every household in Carrick. They want to dream big about the future of Carrick and they want you to dream big too! Go wild! Be ridiculous! There are no limits. They're really excited to read about your dreams. The wilder the better!

### They really want the visions and dreams of the young people of the town too so...

Write down or draw your dream, drop it off at our Talking Shop or post it to us at:

Unit 8, The Courtyard  
Scotch Quarter  
Carrickfergus  
BT38 7DP

If you'd rather not post it, take a picture and send it to us at [positivecarrickfergus@gmail.com](mailto:positivecarrickfergus@gmail.com)

We'll display your postcards and ideas in our Talking Shop so you'll be able to see what other people are dreaming about. We'll also identify common themes and ideas that to inform more work with you about our collective Carrick future.

Extra postcards are available from the Grainger Centre in School

<p><b>Lewis</b> born 29 weeks, weighing 2lbs ½oz</p>	<p><b>Phoebe</b> born 27 weeks, weighing 1lbs 6oz</p>	<p><b>Sebastian</b> born 33 weeks, weighing 4lbs 15oz</p>
<p><b>Lily</b> born 24 weeks, weighing 1lb 5oz</p>	<p><b>Daniel</b> born 30 weeks, weighing 3lbs 4oz</p>	<p><b>Mylah</b> born 25 weeks, weighing 1lb 7oz</p>

**We are some of the 6 babies born too soon each day in Northern Ireland**

**Donate:**  
[www.justgiving.com/tinylife](http://www.justgiving.com/tinylife)  
[tinylife.org.uk](http://tinylife.org.uk)

**TinyLife** | Celebrating 30 Years

Charity No: NIC101869

### Pupils Taking Big Steps for Tiny Lives

Year 11 Child Development pupils have been fundraising for TinyLife, Northern Ireland's charity for premature babies. They stepped out on Monday 21st June and surpassed their target of £500, raising £560 and a further £90 in gift aid. We want to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who supported us. You can still donate by visiting

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/carrickfergus-grammar>