

The GGS Grapevine

News, success and learning from Grantown Grammar School (www.grantowngrammar.highland.sch.uk)

Welcome to this month's news page where we keep the whole of our learning community up-to-date with all of the exciting news and opportunities for youngsters at Grantown Grammar School.

Our news...

■ Our Christmas music concert will be next Thursday (December 12) in the main hall at 7.30pm. Tickets will be available from today (Thursday) from the main office. £4 Adult, £3 concession.

■ Congratulations to the senior girls' netball team who defeated Gordonstoun 43-27 on Friday in the Scottish Cup.

■ A reminder to parents that we are endeavouring to post copies of all school bag mail on our website so check it on a regular basis.

■ Congratulations to LS Assistant Anne Sullivan on gaining her BA Hons in Business Management.

Diary dates

- December 10 - junior disco
- December 13 - senior prom
- December 17 to 19 - school show
- December - end of term
- January 6 - start of new term

Celebrating success!



MASTERCHEFS OF THE FUTURE? (Left to right) Jack Smith, Julia Smolarz, Rowi Langmuir, Nuala McInnes, Zoe George, Amy Beckwith, Suzie Sim and Khali Fraser.

Budding chef can take the heat

GGs pupil Jack Smith has proved he is a whizz in the kitchen by qualifying from the school for the regional heats of FutureChef!

Right pupils went head to head in the school-heat which named Jack Smith (S4) winner; cooking pan seared salmon with a sweet chilli glaze, crushed new potatoes, French green beans and a dill mayonnaise.

It is a four-staged nationwide culinary competition run by The Springboard Charity and is open to all 12 to 16-year-old budding chefs.

The contest gives the opportunity for young talented students to participate in a competitive environment. Working through four stages with an industry mentor - the ultimate accolade - Springboard's FutureChef winner is up for grabs!

The grand national final is hosted by Westminster Kingsway College London, and judged by industry and celebrity chefs. Finalists cook a two-course meal for three people with a basket of ingredients.

Good luck, Jack!



WRITERS: The successful authors reading their short stories.

Pupils' poetry is published

PUPILS from Miss Ruth McEneaney's S2-4 classes have had their own short stories published in an anthology entitled 'A Twist in the Tale'. Pupils had the challenge of coming up with a complete story in 50 words. The pupils published were Scott Laing, Lewis Taylor, Lucy Garrow, Henry Kerr, Marcus Sellars, Blane Clark, Natalie Ross,

Fin Whitaker, Lewis Booth, Chelsea MacDonald, Kristers Reinsons, Toby Harrison, George Kerr, Jake Smith, Rowi Langmuir, James Crilley, Suzie Sim, Jimmy Pajon, Rachel McGovern, Adam Forsythe, Hannah Nelson, Leanne MacMillan, Claran Cullen, Archie Bremner, Beathag Atkinson and Lexie Rattray.



Triumph for GGS

Jo Crane (pictured) has claimed the Under 12 Girls' NOSCA Dirt Citi Mountain Bike Series title, having scored three victories which came at Laggaidh, Grantown and Abriachan.



UP-HILL JOURNEY: S3 Pupils preparing for their ascent up Meall a'Bhuachaille.

Young performers shine at festival

MORE than 300 young musicians from across the region took part in the Highland Young Musicians Concerts Festival on Saturday, November 23, at the Macdonald Aviemore Highland Resort's Osprey Arena. GGS had 20 pupils from S1-S6 representing the school.

The council's director of education, culture and sport, Hugh Fraser, congratulated all the young musicians. He said: "I'd like to thank all the young people and their instructors for their hard work and commitment over the year to make today such a resounding success. "The festival has given the



MAKING MUSIC: Tom Strang, second from the left in the back row, playing in the big band.

performers a great opportunity to entertain and demonstrate their musical skills whilst assuring the audiences that youth music-making in Highland is flourishing and developing at the highest levels."

A trip into the Great Outdoors

ALMOST a year ago we were given the opportunity to extend our outdoor education programme into third year by organising a residential experience at Badagulsh Outdoor Centre near Aviemore.

The opportunity was the starting point for what has been an excellent learning experience for all our S3 pupils and the staff that went with them.

A small group of staff spent most of the current school year planning, organising and fundraising for the first S3 Badagulsh experience so that every pupil in the school

year had the opportunity to take part in a number of different activities which included geography fieldwork, team building, canoeing and orienteering or mountain biking.

This involved learning, extending their life skills and working as a team with their teachers, to ensure everyone's stay away from home was a really positive experience.

The year group was split into two with half going Monday to Wednesday and the other half Wednesday to Friday.

The whole time pupils were kept busy, pushing themselves

to achieve high standards.

For the trip, pupils had to plan and prepare prior to going. They made up posters with value lines of personal qualities and looked at skills that would be involved to be successful in the activities.

They also planned and prepared all of their own food in home economics. While on the trip pupils were on a rota and had to carry out duties around the lodge such as preparing the food, setting the table and cleaning up after themselves - which was the hardest part of the two days for some of them!

Teacher profile: Lawrence Phin

- Role: Teacher of Science and Outdoor Learning
- Subject(s): Science, mostly Physics
- Time at GGS: August 2013
- Hobbies and interests: Being outside, skiing, canoeing, mountain biking, walking, reading, babysitting.
- Favourite book: Captain Corelli's Mandolin.
- Favourite film: Gregory's Girl.
- Special powers: Being able to see past everyone as I'm seven feet tall.

