

HAZELWOOD INTEGRATED COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



February-April 2005

No. 155

Peace Assembly 2005

*Tracy Beare, Head of Creative
& Expressive Faculty*

Our annual Peace Assembly took place on Friday 4th March. The invited guests, including the American Consulate and the Lord Mayor of Belfast, enjoyed a wide variety of performance with dance, drama, a gymnastics display, choir pieces and vocal work.

The Assembly opened with a beautiful dance by Leanne Blair and Michael Keenan to a piece of music called *Clothes of Heaven*. This music was composed by our Lower Sixth student Mathew O'Rourke—and congratulations must go to him for this very thought-provoking piece of music.

A group of Year 10 students then performed a short drama to represent different music for different cultures. A football drama to represent racism in sport was then seen. This again was an excellent drama, showing how even football and sport are affected by racism.

A beautiful dance display was then given by Year 11 girls to the music of *Frozen* by Madonna. This dance drama reminded us of the stilted lifestyles and cultures that at times can be seen in our communities. As our overall theme for this year's Assembly was *Taking One Small Step* the dance was very appropriate and poignant.

Marcella Elwood, 11P, gave us a wonderful gymnastics display followed by a finale which included all the cast and performers.

The Choir sang throughout the Assembly and must be congratulated for their beautiful musical renditions of songs such as *Ephesium Prayer*, *Lord of the Dance* and, for the finale, *Light at the End of the Tunnel*.

This was a successful Peace Assembly and could not have happened without the professional and dedicated staff who work at Hazelwood College. Well done to all.



All the performers join in the finale for 'Light at the End of the Tunnel'

'Marcella Elwood, 11P, gave us a wonderful gymnastics display'



Dates for the Diary

28th April – 2nd May
Spring Bank Holiday, return to
school on Tuesday 3rd May

3rd – 5th May
Year 10 Key Stage 3 Exams

19th May
Year 12 Record of
Achievement Presentation
and Post 16 Choices Evening

Pupils of the Month – February 2005

8E Alicia Gillespie
8G Victoria Torbitt
8J Brendan Rodgers
8K Jamie Trimble
8R Ryan Lundy
8S Stephanie Wilson

9D Martin Weatherhead
9J Amir Belkessam
9R Natalie Doyle
9S Martin Magi
9T Amy McLean

10B Stephen Blain
10H Thomas Castles
10J Daniel McDowell
10M Ashleigh Roberts
10S Szymon Kalitowski

Classes of the Month – February 2005

8K; 9R; 10H

Year 9 boys visit the BBC

Glenn Simpson

At the beginning of the academic year a target group of boys was set up in Year 9. The purpose of the group is to encourage positive behaviour and academic success among boys. In recent years boys have been lagging behind girls academically and the gender gap is widening on a national scale.

The eight boys in the target group completed a journalistic task. The articles they wrote ranged from sports writing to exploring global warming and war, and the standard was high.

As a reward, Jonathan Hull, Michael Galway, Nial Scott, Thomas Scott, Ryan Jenkins, Chris McKelvey, Amir Belkessam and Colm Laverty visited the BBC studios in Belfast on Monday 7th March. Producer Natalie Maynes took us on a grand tour. In one of the editing studios she showed us a programme in

the making about how 'global warming' will affect Northern Ireland. If the Gulf Stream shuts down in twenty years or so Northern Ireland could be plunged into a big freeze. We saw computer-generated scenes of central Belfast in the grip of an ice age. The programme was broadcast on 23rd March.

At 1:25 pm we watched the lunchtime news go out live. We sat with the producer, director and a team of technicians directly above the studio. It was a demonstration of technical wizardry and professional cool. There was a great buzz and the boys were in live TV paradise.

The boys asked a lot of intelligent questions. The BBC staff were impressed with the good-natured behaviour and enthusiasm of the group. Later on in the studio Ryan Jenkins sat in the newsreader's chair and looked a natural for TV. Sadly I forgot my camera to record the occasion.

Staff and parents will be updated about the progress of the target group at the end of the year.

Review of *The Threepenny Opera*

Karen Cowles, 13B

Dark, black, empty stage. Five completely contrasting characters walk in slowly, but a steady tempo is already creating a synchronization between one another. A modified *Mack the Knife* are the first words we hear sung—almost spoken—by a rather small, petite, actress Niki Doherty. A stunning introduction to the sordid world created by Weil and Brecht.

Grabbing the audience's attention from start to finish this excellent rendition of *The Threepenny Opera* directed by Lisa May is a hilariously enthralling, incredibly well synchronized and controversial performance. Equally, it is seen as a very inspirational play by many hopeful young actors and actresses. I personally was amazed with the various character changes. With a swift turn to the left, a small prop added, or a prominent step forward, any characters could change immediately—from Niki Doherty's character of luck becoming pregnant by the aid of a police officer's hat, to Derek Halligan's character of Mr Peachum's change into one of Macheath's cheap whores by baring his fishnet stocking—we see exactly why it is evident that this is a 'must see' production by Bruiser.

One thing that is special about this play is that it has such a powerful script that the director saw no need to update it or adapt it in any way. The strength and power of the text still delivers an important message. A message through immense comedic timing and intense

School Choir of the Year 2005

Tracy Beare

This year's Choir of the Year regional final took place on Wednesday 16th March at the Whitla Hall in Belfast.

Forty-eight excited Junior and Senior students participated in this event. We had a lot of support from parents and this was very much appreciated by the students and staff.

We competed against six other choirs and at the end we all felt that our choir had a good chance of being placed. All the students waited patiently as the results were read out. Hazelwood received a 'Highly Commended' while St Genevieve's won the overall heat.

Congratulations must go to all the choir members for their participation, dedication to rehearsals and their overall performance and commitment to Hazelwood. Many thanks to Noreen, Eileen and Dean, who supported this event.

Pupils of the Month – March 2005

8E Jude McDaid
 8G Carl McCullough
 8J Martine Scott
 8K Natasha Murry
 8R Ashley Sheppard
 8S Colin Clarkin

9D James Gitari
 9J Cassandra Beatty
 9R Natalie Philips
 9S Rose Gilliland
 9T Linda O'Neill

10B Joleen Sloan
 10H Pat Clements
 10J Shauna O'Neill
 10M Lee Travers
 10S Robert Graham

Classes of the Month – March 2005

8G; 9J; 10H

love songs. This is a play for those times when you're just 'craving a giggle'.

It portrays the infamous villain, Mac The Knife and his marriage to the daughter of the king of the beggars, Miss Polly Peachum. The Peachum's own an outfitting shop for beggars and are horrified to hear that Mac The Knife may be able to infiltrate their business. Chaos ensues as we see this short marriage crumble and the Peachum's launch an attack highlighting the plight of the poor and the unjust nature of the world.

With the cast of Claire Cogan, Tony Flynn, Michael Condron, Derek Halligan, Nike Doherty and Sharon Morwood this was a 'must see' of the year, held at the Old Museum Arts Centre on Thursday 3rd March. Described in one word: Amazing!

Smart Cards

Will all students who have recently ordered smart cards for the cafeteria please come to the General Office to collect them.

Hazelwood College's GCSE Drama Group Presents

A CELEBRATION OF THEATRE



OSCAR WILDE

BRIAN FRIEL

FRANK WAGUINNESS

JOHN GODBER



in the

Drama Studio

on

Wednesday 4th May 2005, 7:00 pm

Refreshments

Admission £4.00

Year 8 Science Project

Hilary donnan

Anyone passing the science labs over the past few weeks is likely to have noticed the rather excessive noise levels. No, the science teachers have not gone soft on discipline in the classroom, nor have the pupils taken over! Year 8 have been involved in a project on sound.

The aim of the project has been to allow the pupils to take part in tasks which suit their individual learning styles so that they can really enjoy science and find it easier to learn. Pupils have had to complete a certain number of compulsory tasks and then choose from optional ones.

Over the last four weeks pupils have researched sound on the internet and in books. They have collected materials to make instruments. They have researched how the ear works and presented what they know to the other members of their class using PowerPoint presentations. If time allows, we intend to introduce the idea of sign language to the pupils in the hope that they will be able to learn some. Throughout this time all pupils have kept a diary of everything they have done and, from reading these, it is obvious just how much they have enjoyed the project.

All abilities have been able to take part in all the tasks and the higher ability pupils have been encouraged to extend their work as much as possible.

At the end of the project the pupils will be self assessed to find out what they have learned from it. We look forward to the results as it seems to have been extremely successful and, most importantly, fun!



*Daniel Simpson, 8E,
multi-tasking with his
rattle and drum*



*Keva Abbot, 8E, watches
Stephen Sproule, 8E, as
he gets ready to give a
tune on his bottles.*



Farewell to Sarah

Sadly we have to say goodbye today to Sarah O'Hagan, one of our office assistants.

Sarah joined Hazelwood College in Year 9 and in Year 12 chose our General Office for her Work Experience placement. When she had finished her studies she decided to work for the College as a receptionist, but soon took over the demanding task of organizing the smart cards used for the cafeteria as well.

We wish Sarah the very best of luck in her new job and, since she is going to work for a temping agency, we might just see her back here again!