

Sullivan Upper School Monthly Newsletter

Laura Beacom - World Record Holder

Laura Beacom, Year 11, has become a Guinness World Record holder for sport stacking. Laura put 30 sets of cups up into pyramids and took them down again in 1 minute, 36.781 seconds, beating the old record by two seconds. The World Record attempt took place in Rome in November and Laura broke the record on her third attempt.

For the full story please follow the Belfast Telegraph link below:

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/sport-stacking-record-breaker-laura-14-is-a-real-cup-winner-37617644.html>

Congratulations Laura on this amazing achievement. Year 8-10 pupils were impressed when Laura demonstrated her skills in Junior Assembly.



RUGBY NEWS

Ulster U19 dramatically beat Australia Schools with a last minute try to record a 22-17 victory against the touring side. Australia had earlier in the week dispatched Munster and the following weekend beat Ireland U19 leaving the Ulster side, which contained Sullivan pupils, Conor McKee (Year 14) and George Saunderson (Year 13), as the only team to beat Australia on their tour. George scored a great try. Congratulations to both boys!



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year!

Dates for Diary - January 2018

F	4	School Development - Day 2	Pupils do not attend
F	4	Yr10 Parental Consultations	1.00-3.30
M	7	School Development - Day 3	Pupils do not attend
M	7	Yr11 Parental Consultations	1.00-3.30
Tu	8	Spring Term starts	All pupils to attend
Tu	8	Health Appraisal Yr8	9.00-1.00
F	18	Early closure at 12.40 - preparation for Open morning	Buses at 12.45
Sa	19	Open Morning	9.30-12.30
W	23	LLW (Yr11) Digital Masterclass	9.00-11.00
W-F	23-25	Yr10 Subject Choice Interviews	9.00-3.30
Th	24	Yrs 11-12 Boosters Vaccinations	9.00-1.00
Tu	29	Yr13 Parental Consultations	7.00-9.30

BADMINTON

Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys Badminton Team – Peter Blair, Harrison Black, Patrick Hamilton and Zach Cochrane - who came second in the boys' tournament at Ballyclare. In the tournament the boys defeated RBAI, Ballyclare HS and Coleraine Grammar but lost out to Wallace.



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Sky Gamechangers



On Wednesday 5 December 2018, two Year 8 pupils, Hamish Johnston and Selena Byrnes, were accompanied by Mrs Hutchinson and set off from Belfast City Airport bound for Heathrow, destination Sky studios, as the pupils had been invited to take part in the Christmas edition of the Sky programme, Gamechangers. This is a sports quiz programme aimed at 9-12 year olds where 3 teams compete against each other. Each team is captained by a famous sports personality and our 2 pupils had been invited by former pupil Aimee Fuller (2 times Winter Olympian in Snowboarding) to be in her team. The other 2 captains were Serena Guthrie (England Netball) and Alfie Hewett (Wheelchair Tennis player). Aimee, Hamish and Selena competed in various quiz rounds, both physical and mental, culminating in a Christmas-themed obstacle race.

Coincidentally this programme is produced by former pupil Emma Self (née Marshall) so it was great to meet Emma and hear about her work at Sky Sports. After a full day of filming, the exhausted pupils and teacher were escorted back to Heathrow for their flight back to Belfast. This was a very exciting and memorable experience for all involved and it was a privilege for us to be asked to be a part



of it. You will have to tune in to Sky Mix on Saturday 22 December 2018 at 5.00 pm to see how Aimee, Hamish and Selena got on.



U13 Girls Hockey Club members before their Christmas fun competition.

Well done to Conor McKee (Year 14) and George Saunderson (Year 13) who have been selected for an Irish U18 camp to take place over Christmas holidays from 28-30 December.



2nd XV Cup

Well done to the 2nd XV who are through to the quarter final of the Cup after previous wins against Coleraine Grammar 7-0 and Down High School 28-10.

RADAR NI

All Year 8 pupils enjoyed the trip to RADAR NI in December where they learned facts on litter pollution through a series of interactive workshops. They had great fun whilst picking up tips on how to protect our local environment.



Politics Society

The Politics Society welcomed Rachel Woods, a Green Party Councillor for Ards & North Down (and former pupil of Sullivan) on 23 November 2018. Topics discussed included Brexit, the voting system, local politics and community matters.



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The Comedy of Errors

The Senior School Drama Society put on a performance of William Shakespeare's 'The Comedy of Errors' in The Charlie Grime Drama Theatre in early December. The cast worked incredibly hard juggling rehearsals, school examinations, work shadowing and the Formal. Despite minor upsets, including a cast member losing her voice and another ending up on crutches, the pupils rose to the occasion and produced a high energy, fast-paced and enjoyable performance. It was a rewarding

experience for cast and crew and we are indebted to the director Ms Bowman whose tenacity and enthusiasm inspired us all. We are eager to develop the considerable acting talent in Sullivan and are already planning our next production for 2019 (by Lucy Cinnamon 14A).



Thank you to staff and pupils who supported
Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.
It was a great success and raised over £2000
for the charity.



Former Pupils

Former pupil Darren Cave and current Ulster skills coach Dan Soper came in to school to talk to Year 12s about career opportunities in sport. They kindly took a short session with the 1st XV.

Former pupil and current Ulster Academy prop Peter Cooper received his first senior cap for Ulster when he appeared off the bench in their victory against Uruguay earlier in the month.



Rowel Friers (Year 12) recently won the prestigious Cesar Franck International Competition 2018. There was intense competition from all over the world and the largest judging panel Rowel has had to face to date.

Sullivan Army Cadets

The Sullivan Army Cadet detachment has been collecting food items for donation to the Newtownards foodbank.



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Fencing: Sullivan at Round 2 of the NI Junior Foil Series

Sullivan Upper Fencing Club played host to Round 2 of the 2018/19 NI Junior Foil Series last Sunday 9 December 2018. Originally to be held at RBAI in Belfast, it was relocated to the SU Sports Hall due to unforeseen circumstances.

Nineteen SUFC fencers took part in Round 2, with SU fencers winning a total of 8 medals across 6 age group categories.

U12s

The U12 Girls category perhaps provided the SU result of the day, with year 8 pupil Sophia Cahill taking gold in her first ever competition. Meanwhile, in the U12 Boys, year 8 Oliver Playfair, also in his first competition, finished 3rd to take a bronze medal.

U14s

Charlie Beimers finished just outside the medals in 5th place in the U14 Girls, while Alex Atkinson made the semi-finals to take bronze, denied a place in the final by a narrow 14-15 defeat by the eventual age group winner. In the U14 Boys, Alexander Penny, Arnav Arava and Finn Neely all made the quarter-finals, while Keir Murray, Adam Caldwell, Lewis Currie and Cameron Kitchen finished in positions 9 to 12.

U16s

The U16 Girls category was, as in Round 1, dominated by Sullivan fencers, with Victoria Morris again winning gold, Izzy Evans taking silver this time and joint third place bronze medals going to Ruzi Statham and Anna Vaughan. Positions 5 to 7 were taken by Cece MacMahon, Rachel McKillen and Angharad King. As in Round 1, Cormac Kitchen was the only SU entrant in the U16 Boys, again finishing third to take bronze.

Round 3 takes place on Saturday 12 January 2019 in the Sullivan Upper Sports Hall.



Sophia wins U12F gold



U16 - Victoria gold, Izzy silver & Ruzi bronze



SUFC with coaches (minus Lewis Currie)



Alex takes U14F bronze

Girls Hockey news



final.

Commiserations to the U14As who lost out on penalty run-ins after a very exciting match with Lurgan Junior High school in the 3rd round of the Junior Cup. It was 0-0 after full time with Sullivan dominating much large periods of the match but unfortunately being unable to capitalise. They now enter the Shield competition to be played after Christmas.

Congratulations to the 2As who defeated Dromore High School 2-1 in the 3rd round of the McDowell Cup. It was a very close and tense encounter with Evie Stokes scoring both of the Sullivan goals, the second coming seconds before the final whistle was blown. They now face Rainey Endowed in the quarter

Octane attended the **Young Enterprise** Christmas Trade Fair at St George's Market selling some handmade and up-cycled items. They will be attending on Open Day in the Silver Robin in January.



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Year 10 Geography students and staff successfully took on the challenge of cycling the length of Malawi (853km) to raise money for Christian Aid.



Year 10 Geographers were involved in a Trade Workshop run by Christian Aid to help them understand how the current world trade systems are unfair and hold back the development of the poorest countries.



The Upper sixth rugby players enjoying their formal. It is great to see so many boys still representing the school at rugby.

U12 Rugby

Well done to all the pupils who have represented the school in rugby in their first term. The



The U12s have started their school rugby career brightly with well over 35 boys representing Sullivan. They have recorded wins against Regent House, Bangor Grammar and Armagh Royal.

Fairtrade products being enjoyed by Yr 10 as they learn about the importance of these goods to farmers in low income countries.

