



## **Principal's Report December 2011**

December got off to a spectacular start as on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> the school held its annual Talent Show. Organised by Mrs Salt and a group of Sixth Form CoPE students led by Mrs Hunniford and hosted by Lower Sixth pupils Andrew Pope and Peter Mulligan, acts from all year groups throughout the school impressed the judging panel with their various displays of singing, dancing and general musicianship. The event was won by first year pupil, Cain Thomson who showed huge confidence and charisma as he performed a show-stopping cover by his favourite artist 'Plan B'. Moreover, profits from the event were donated to 'East Belfast Mission', making the evening truly worthwhile.

The evening of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December saw a continuation of great musicianship from Grosvenor pupils in St Anne's Cathedral, where hundreds of parents, past pupils and associates of the school gathered for the Annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. All present were treated to a selection of impressive performances from the School's Senior Choir, including renditions of carols such as "O Holy Night", "In the Bleak Midwinter" and "Jesus Christ and the Apple Tree", featuring Upper Sixth soloists Amy Chambers, George Sandford and Megan Maxwell. The music provided by the Senior and Chamber Choirs provided the perfect backdrop for worship, which included readings by Head Boy Richard Anderson, Head Girl Ruth Jones, and the Dean of Belfast The Very Reverend Dean Mann. The event, as always, proved to be an enjoyable, entertaining and festive occasion.

December has also been a busy month for the school's Careers Department. On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Grosvenor welcomed over 50 representatives from various business organisations and Institutes of Further and Higher Education who agreed to share their experience, advice and expertise with our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and Lower Sixth pupils. Pupils unanimously agreed that this was a most useful opportunity for them to develop their thoughts on their future career plans.

Thinking about the future also this month were Sixth Form students who enjoyed a visit from politician Mark Harper, Member of Parliament for Forest of Dean and Minister for Electoral Reform, and Graham Shields, Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland. Whilst pupils undertook their Electoral Registration they were afforded a valuable opportunity to ask thought-provoking questions relating to electoral issues.

On a completely different note 'Congratulations' must be said to Sixth Form students Adam Clarke, David Allison, Andrew Miller, Peter Mulligan, Owen Robinson and Jack McKnight who took part in a sponsored leg-waxing event held in William Moles Hall. The boys successfully raised in an impressive sum of money, in excess of £160, in aid of the school's 'World Challenge' trip to Vietnam and Laos in July 2012.



Finally, all that remains is to wish everyone a peaceful, relaxing Christmas and a Happy New Year. The beginning of the new term on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January will be swiftly followed by our Open Nights on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January, which run from 6.30 – 9pm. Modules will also begins in early January and while pupils concerned must obviously endeavour to work hard towards these exams, they should also ensure that they relax and enjoy the holiday period.