



# GLENLOLA NEWSLETTER

Jan 2025  
Issue #29

Your gateway to the latest news, events, and accomplishments within our vibrant school community.

Upcoming events

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You can keep up to date on upcoming events on our website.

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Left to right: Dr. C. Larmour(Curriculum Vice Principal), Romy (Deputy Head Girl), Keira (Head Girl) and Lucy Crehan

## NI Curriculum Review

In October 2024, the Education Minister commissioned Lucy Crehan, an international expert in education policy, to carry out a review of the Northern Ireland Curriculum. Lucy visited Glenlola this week to observe lessons and discuss the curriculum and its impact with staff and pupils.

## GCSE and A level trip to Stormont

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January, Year 12 and 13 Government and Politics pupils visited Parliament Buildings, Stormont. Anne Marie, one of the fantastic Education Officers from the NI Assembly Education Service met our group and took us to a committee room where she explained the background to the NI assembly, the most recent election, and the current parties in power.

Following this four MLAs from different parties came to speak to our group: Phillip McGuigan [Sinn Fein], Alan Chambers [UUP], Connie Egan [Alliance] and Peter Martin [DUP]. Each MLA gave a brief background to their political position and then the floor was opened for pupils to ask each MLA questions. There was a wide range of issues raised; the potential for a referendum on an 'All Ireland,' the potential for amalgamating the UUP and DUP to create one NI Unionist party and the progression of legislation on violence against women and girls in Northern Ireland.

The final part of our visit was to sit in the Public Gallery and hear part of the plenary session in the Debating Chamber. Matthew O'Toole, leader of the Opposition [SDLP], spoke on the issue of Custodial Facilities, specifically the Protection of Rights and Safety of Prisoners, a lively exchange of views was heard. It was fascinating to see the Assembly working in practice and a thoroughly informative and enjoyable trip for everyone.



## Year 9 Christmas Crafters

Just before the Christmas break, Year 9 pupils were invited to come and make their own mini bobble hat Christmas tree decoration at lunchtime. After receiving some top tips from our Junior School Prefects, the Y9 pupils went on to produce some wonderfully festive creations.

A cardboard tube, some wool and the obligatory sweets and Christmas tunes was all that was needed. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Year 9.







## Top Sparx Achievers

A huge congratulations to our 'Bright Sparx' who went above and beyond to earn the most XP points in their Sparx Maths this term! Every completed task, whether compulsory homework, bookwork accuracy, or optional independent learning boosts, contributed to their XP score.

Well done to these dedicated pupils for their hard work and commitment to mastering Maths—keep shining brightly!

## Annie!

Our talented pupils brought the beloved musical "Annie" to life with vibrant costumes, spectacular choreography, and musical brilliance. The production was a feast for the eyes and ears, showcasing our students' talent in every way.

The incredible hard work of our pupils over the past few months paid off as each performer took to the stage and shone! It was an unforgettable performance that left everyone humming along and cheering for more!









