



Science Newsletter – June 2008 Edition

Contents

VISIT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER.
THE BIONIC HUMAN.
JOINT HISTORY AND SCIENCE TRIP.

Visit to the University Of Ulster

The Bionic Human

Dr A Boyd of The University of Ulster, delivered a lecture entitled 'The Bionic Human', in school on 4th June 2008. Students in St Mary's College, were also able to avail of this opportunity as we were linked by video conferencing.

Dr Boyd posed the questions 'Can we replace our 'worn-out' body parts with space age materials?' and 'Are we on the verge of building 'The Bionic Human' by repairing many of our body parts indefinitely?'

He explained that advances in computer technology, material sciences and the understanding of chemicals genes and virus are bringing us nearer to solving some of the problems raised by illness and disease.

This was an excellent presentation and the audience paid rapt attention throughout.

A big thank you to Dr Boyd and Mr M Logue and students from St Mary's College who participated in the event.

Joint History and Science Trip



All year 8 pupils participated in this joint trip to Dunree Fort, Buncrana and The Inishowen Maritime Museum, Greencastle.

In it's spectacular natural location, Dunree Fort is rich in wildlife. Students were treated to a wildlife exhibition and were introduced to birds of prey. They were also shown around the military museum. Fort Dunree is a Martello Tower and the museum charts the history of the tower using interactive technology and visual displays.

The Inishowen Maritime Museum is located in the old coastguard station in Greencastle harbour. Pupils were shown nautical memorabilia and a range of Irish boats.

The museum has a state-of-the-art Planetarium. It was demonstrated to pupils how mariners used to navigate with the stars and they also had access to an astronomy show.

Finally students watched Ash Mc Fadden in the construction and launching of rockets.

A big thank you all the supervising teachers and to the staff at Dunree Fort and The Inishowen Maritime Museum.