

Geography

Murlough Bay: Year 9

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During October, Year nine pupils embarked on a Geography field trip to Murlough Bay. Prior to this trip, we were learning about coasts and how they change through the action of coastal processes and wave energy.

On arrival, we had to complete three tasks. We began by studying the distance an object travels along the stretch of the beach within a five-minute period. We then counted the number of waves to investigate the type of waves that were present, constructive or destructive, dependent on the wave frequency. Destructive waves dominated the coast of Murlough at that time. The final task was to complete a survey on the size and

shape of the pebbles to see which action is more effective, at the front or at the back of the beach.

Although we had to complete lots of work, it was a very fun day and although it was not raining many of us still managed to get wet. We then had lunch before returning to school. Overall, it was a great day learning outside of the classroom.





Newcastle Trip: Year 10

Ella Moore and Natalie Small



On September 28th 2022, Year 10 pupils travelled to Newcastle in County Down. Throughout the day we carried out a tourism survey and spent time evaluating the tourist facilities.

During our visit, we evaluated many different tourist attractions in the town, which included: the name of the particular attraction, the age group we think it was most suitable for (age groups were: 0-10, 11-18, 19-40, 41-64, 65+ and all), our personal rating of the attraction on a scale 0-5 and finally, a comment which helped to provide our thoughts on each venue. The final section of this task was to sketch and label an attraction that we found and then label our chosen attractions on a map.

Attractions we evaluated included: the promenade, Tropicana, the beach, Coco's, Joyland, Slieve Donard, the play park, Bloody Bridge, the big wheel, the

harbour, Nugelato, the library and the Information Centre.

Our second task of the day was to review the different types of accommodation Newcastle offers. To collect this information we walked down the main street and identified (or guessed) different accommodations we saw. Once we had made our decision we placed the data into a tally chart. Once we had found all we could, we gathered our results and placed them in a pie chart and then determined which types of accommodation were more popular on the main streets.

After we completed the work, we

made our conclusions on what we thought of Newcastle's facilities and accommodation and if the town provides good options for the people who use them.

Once we completed the evaluations, we had the chance to walk around the town to visit different shops and get food. Newcastle is filled with so many different places to visit for all age groups and there really is something for everyone.

The trip was a great chance to visit one of the tourist towns in Northern Ireland and see how that tourism impacts it or how well the town is able to accommodate tourism. It also gave us a day out to enjoy and spend time with friends, while we attempted to complete the assignment given to us. However, for some it was just a chance to get Kentucky Fried Chicken for lunch!



Geography

River Reflections: Year 12

It was an enjoyable field trip because it was very relaxed; we were with our mates and therefore it was quite fun. The actual geographical work was easy and enjoyable to collect, so it wasn't stressful. It was also funny because I fell in the river.

I really enjoyed this trip as it was very warm weather and I was surrounded by friends. It was very fun, which made it more interesting-especially when Rebecca almost fell in the river! The breaks were good as my legs were sore after walking so far. Overall, this trip was very good.

My overall experience was so good as I learnt how to measure velocity while having fun bonding with friends. My favourite memory was one of my friends being in trainers and her having to grab onto me for support, almost tipping us both in the process.

When we walked from site one to two, I fell waist deep into a big hole and my friends Lucy and Kristen had to pull me out; it was ok though as we still got all our data collected in time.

I enjoyed visiting the rocky river because Aimee lost her welly boot and could hardly get out and a few others fell into the river.

In our fieldwork investigation at the



Rocky River we measured river depth, width, velocity, and pebble size. It was a great day out and the weather was also great.

My overall experience was exhilarating, especially when I got into the freezing water to take the time for river velocity. It wasn't too bad though, as I dried quite quickly because it was roasting.

I had so much fun on the Geography field trip. My favourite part was measuring the width because we got to get into the river.

We had such good craic at the Rocky River and collected all our data after people kept falling in the mud and in the river.

I had a fantastic time! The experience of venturing across mountains was unfamiliar to me, yet exhilarating at the same time, and I hope to do it again. I had a blast!

In June 2023 we went to a river in the Mourne mountains. Not only did we find out the river's velocity and depth, but we also fell into many bogs.

Going to the Rocky River I left my wellies at home, so I had to go into the river in my white trainers! Minus the bad start, we not only managed to get the data collected but also had a great time in the process!





Magilligan

The bus journey was long, but the food was great and the banter was even better. Upon arrival at Magilligan, we were ushered into a classroom. It was such a great day out of school! We were instructed on how to collect the data on the sand dunes, collect information on soil pH, light intensity and vegetation type. Our enthusiasm was immense as we stepped into the world of sand. As we continued our journey back, the sunlight faded along with our enthusiasm and all we could think about were our growling stomachs!

Once back at the centre, we settled into

the classroom to begin some laboratory and statistical analysis. As midnight approached, Mr Reaney and Mrs Dreaning prepared us for the ultimate competition: water ping pong, jenga and stacking chairs. The competition was fierce but Lauren White was the champion of the chair stacking, whilst the boys towered at jenga. After a short night's sleep, we returned to the classroom in the morning before making our journey home via McDonald's.

I would like to say thanks to Mrs Dreaning and Mr Reaney for providing us with an amazing learning experience.



Geography

Introducing the Geography Society in Banbridge Academy



This is a place where pupils can explore Geography beyond what we do in our timetabled classes. Through quizzes, crafts and guest speakers (like Rhea from the Confucius Institute), pupils can gain an appreciation of the world of which they are the future. The Society runs

during breaktime and offers pupils an opportunity to broaden their horizons, challenge themselves and enjoy all things Geography.

Some of the things we enjoyed this past year were...

- Making Earth Christmas Decorations
- Receiving a visit from the Chinese Assistant
- Having a Geoguesser competition

School Record

BIRTHS:

To Rachel and Jonny Clarke, a boy, Vincent Henry James.

To Naomi and Mario Paolucci, a boy, Luca Adrian Massimo.

To Kathryn and Jonny Erskine, a boy, Jack.

To Ruth and Niall Thompson, a boy, Jude.

MARRIAGES:

Ellen Hall and Aaron Hoy.
Naomi McFarland and Jonny Reaney.