

Review 2011





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Editorial

Once again, it has been a busy year at the High School of Dundee and, as always, our pupils have thrown themselves into an astonishing range of activities with their customary enthusiasm and commitment. It is always a pleasure, when editing the Review to get a first glimpse of everything our pupils have been doing, seeing their talents, energies and abilities put to such impressive use. I hope you enjoy reading about this year in our school as much as I have enjoyed recording our pupils' achievements.

Mrs Jane Phillips, Editor

Rector's Report

Our High School's Good

Given the wealth of excellence and range of talents in our FP body I have been inviting former pupils to be our Guest of Honour at our annual Prize-Giving celebrations and this year was no exception.



It was a great pleasure to welcome Brian Taylor and his wife Pam as our guests in the Caird Hall this year. One of the questions I have been asking myself this past year is "Yes, we are better, but distinctive?" Brian Taylor MA FP is certainly both! Brian Taylor's Big Debate, the BBC Scotland radio programme focusing on topical news and politics issues, was broadcast from Trinity Hall on 10 September 2010. It has been a pleasure to welcome Brian to school at both the beginning and the end of the past session.

The rigour of learning is of course at the heart of what we do in school. In the wonderful production of *Our Country's Good* Captain Watkin Tench proclaimed, with – to the character – unwitting irony: "If you want to build a civilisation there are more important things than a play... teach them to farm, to build houses, teach them a sense of respect for property, teach them thrift...but above all teach them how to work, not to sit around laughing at a comedy." He is of course right on one level at least, and once again we can look back on a year of serious hard graft by our pupils as they prepared for their SQA exams. However, this perspiration is also guided by inspiration and aspiration, by creativity, and a wish to broaden horizons.

This was reflected in another set of excellent SQA results in 2010.

F5 pupils achieved a Higher pass rate of 92.2%, matching the results of the last two years. 50% of all papers were A grade passes and a fifth of all candidates achieved 5 straight As. 43% of pupils achieved at least three A grades and 59% achieved 5 Higher passes.

F4 pupils also performed extremely well, achieving a 97% pass-rate at Intermediate 2. In addition, 91% of Standard Grade papers were passed at Credit level. For the second successive year three quarters of all exams were passed at the top grade, equalling last year's record. 40 pupils achieved 8 straight As, and 74 (64%) managed at least 7 top grades.

F6 pupils achieved a very high standard for Advanced Highers, with 48% of papers passed at A grade, and 74% passed at A or B. Two pupils gained an outstanding total of 4 Advanced Highers at A grade.

These results are all above the average for independent schools in Scotland and are substantially above all other schools including all independent schools in Dundee, Perthshire, Angus and Fife.

I normally avoid mentioning individuals as so many have achieved their best. However, it is appropriate on this occasion to congratulate last year's leaver Rachael McLellan who achieved the best SQA exam results of all pupils in Scotland. She achieved the top marks nationally in Modern Studies, Economics and in the History final exam. Another pupil, Meriel Young, achieved top mark in Scotland for her Advanced Higher Chemistry investigation. This all reflects the quality of learning and teaching here, and the support provided across the subjects and ability range within the school. Perhaps it is therefore not surprising that each year 90-95% of leavers move on to university. This year Business, Medicine and Law were the most popular subjects but the cohort of 95 pupils opted for 38 different subjects at 21 different universities, including 9 in England.

Our staff are of course our greatest resource, and as teachers they take their responsibilities very seriously, to excellent effect.

One of the themes of our school improvement programme is broadening horizons, both metaphorically and literally. Literally speaking, over the summer holidays in 2010 just under 30% of the Senior School roll, plus 15 staff, were away on a range of school trips and expeditions (CCF Camp, two parties to Peru, Iceland, Malawi, France, Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Silver expeditions). Such activity illustrates the Integrated Curriculum in action, reflected very strongly in the "D of E" programme. This year 86 pupils achieved Bronze, 52 Silver and 25 Gold, a wonderful record.

Metaphorically, horizons have been expanded in all sorts of ways. We are conscious of our global, national and local responsibilities, for example, so it was wonderful to see that we had raised £26,000 through charitable fundraising.

Two further improvement themes this past year have been furthering creativity and the spirit of enterprise. A wonderful initiative was the Careers Fair, followed by the Business Breakfast, coordinated by pupils. The successful business campaigns of our two award-winning Young Enterprise companies, Pinnacle and Spartan Enterprise, was followed by a F4 Enterprise Day.

Meanwhile creativity in terms of performing and fine arts was also much in evidence throughout the session. The fact that Ailsa Purdie's poster design was selected as the official poster by the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, and that Gail Watson won the prestigious Leng Gold Medal for unaccompanied singing are the tip of a very large iceberg of musical, theatrical and artistic talent. Those of you who attended the Junior School's musical History Rocks!, the Senior School show Tin Pan Ali and the end of year play Our Country's Good – so inspirationally staged on the Frigate Unicorn – the outstanding Caird Hall concerts, or the Carol Service will be able to testify to that!

This summer we welcomed the World Schools' Debating Championships to the High School – a wonderful achievement led by a colleague who is the Scotland team manager. Our new pitches at Dalnacraig will enable us now to focus on the next stage of our development of the city centre campus – much food for thought.

Finally I would like to express my sincerest and warmest thanks to a number of people without whom my job would be impossible. The Directors and my colleagues on the SMT have been superb to work with and we are fortunate to have an excellent staff team – teaching and supports staff – of over 200 colleagues. My thanks go also to the Parents' Association for their assistance at many functions, and to the Old Boys' and Old Girls' Clubs for their commitment to the school and support on many levels.

Financial support has come to us from the Appeal Trust Fund alongside a number of other philanthropic trusts and charities such as the Nine Incorporated Trades and the Guildry. And one final note of congratulations to the High School Foundation which this year celebrated its 10th anniversary.

The last word must go to the F5 and F6 Leavers, however. Callum Leese and Katie Sadler were outstanding leaders of a lively sixth year team. They have carried the torch handed down over 772 years and now hand over to their successors to take it on and illuminate new ways forward. As ever there have been the odd bumps along the way but I am proud to have shared your journey this year. The young people in our care are exceptional – grounded, confident, without being arrogant, with a sharp sense of social conscience and genuine warmth. They are a forest of trees which can now help ensure we grow to resist the encroaching dangers of cultural and moral climate change. In the words of Abraham Lincoln: "Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing."

They are the real thing, and we will miss them.



L4 and 5	L7	Form 1	Form 2
The Robbie Prize for Public Speaking Hannah Alijani	Academic Merit Prize Katie McLennan Charlotte Morrison Catriona Murphy Gregor Vagg	Academic Merit Prize Taskeen Bailwal Sally Burnett Miranda Cook Scott Macandrew Maya Nurbhai Zhenteng Shen	Academic Merit Prize Molly Duncan Ella Hudson Linsey Paterson Caitlin Richardson Carys Stirling Ryan Wilson
The Old Girls' Prize for Piano Katie Bonnyman	The Leng Silver Medal for Singing Verity Brown	A S Drummond Prize for Public Speaking in Forms 1-3 Harriet Wood	Tie for International Recognition (Choir) Daniel Baker Euan Strachan Rhys Paterson
Tie for International Recognition (Gymnastics) Sarah McKenzie	Tie for International Recognition (Skiing) Scott Buchan	Academic Merit Prize Alexander Mill White Prize for all-round ability in Form 1 Girls Anushka Pathak	Tie for International Recognition (Skiing) Fraser Buchan
The Marshall Prize for Descant Recorder Jamie Daniel	Old Girls' Prize for Creative Writing in L7 Malcolm Campbell	Florence Whytock Memorial Prize for Dux of Form 1 Girls Ciara Mitchell	Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra) Olivia Ritchie
The Prize for Woodwind The Special Prize for Chess Siddarth Sripada	Hutton Prize for Environmental Studies in L7 Ailsa Conway	Alexander Mill White Prize for all-round ability in Form 1 Boys Robertson Prize for Dux of Form 1 Boys Kenneth Matheson	Old Boys' Club Prize for Creative Writing in Forms 1-3 Charles Arthur
L6	The Prize for Brass Angus Fraser		Andrew K Paton Memorial Trophy for All-Round Sporting Ability in Form 2 Boys Harry Ogilvie
Academic Merit Prize Greg Binnie Eilidh Fish Kieran Forster Nena Nurbhai	The Prize for Strings Mhairi Miller		Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra) Larg Prize for Woodwind (Grade 7 or above) Alasdair Rennet
Academic Merit Prize The Russell Trophy for Chess Brian Lim	The Prize for Bagpipes Emily Wilson-Pearce		Academic Merit Prize Leng Silver Medal for Singing (Girls) Sophie Kelly
	Academic Merit Prize The Stark Cup for Public Speaking Hannah George		Neil Fraser Cup and Prize for all-round ability in Form 2 Boys RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2 Boys Alister Goodfellow
	Academic Merit Prize Walter Smith Memorial Prize for Drama in L7 The Prize for Guitar Alice Inman		RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2 Girls (joint) Sophie Kroboth
	The Prize for Piano Old Girls' Trophy for all-round ability in L7 Mariam Alijani		Prize for all-round ability in Form 2 Girls RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2 Girls (joint) Eilidh Lockhart
	The Dr Rita Forrest Prize for Art in L7 The Woodman Trophy for Mathematics in L7 Prize for Proxime Accessit Elle Wyatt		
	E M Stewart Prize for Dux of the Junior School Alex Smith		

Prize list

<p>Form 3</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Barbara Braid Daniel Davidson Michael Fergusson James Mather Angus Milne</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Choir) Stephanie Baker Karyn Joss Alison Ross</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Equestrian) Catriona Wallace</p> <p>Chris Rae Prize for Games in Form 3 (Boys) Christopher Jollands</p> <p>Chris Rae Prize for Games in Form 3 (Girls) Alice Burnett</p> <p>Larg Prize for Bagpipes Jack Hamilton</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize A S Drummond Prize for Public Speaking in Forms 1-3 Andrew Kelly</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Larg Prize for Guitar (Grade 7 or above) Scott Lothian</p> <p>Intermediate Chess Club Trophy and Prize Girls' Chess Trophy Jenny Zhan</p> <p>Jane Spiller Prize for Dux of Form 3 Boys Marshall MacLeod</p> <p>Jane Spiller Prize for Dux of Form 3 Girls Hannah Arnold</p>	<p>Form 4</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Kirsty Gray Campbell Macleod Morven Millar</p> <p>Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble Lewis Davie</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Scouting) Christopher Acheson</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Hockey) Georgina Black Susan Graham</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Choir) Sarah Hay</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra) Ailsa Purdie</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Larg Prize for Piano (Grade 7 or above) Harry Carstairs</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra) Charlotte Collison</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble Leng Gold Medal for Singing Gail Watson</p> <p>RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 4 Boys Jakob Kroboth</p> <p>Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux of Form 4 Girls Louise Pattullo</p>	<p>Form 5</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Laura Lee Grant Macfarlane Cameron Richardson Hannah Thomson</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Athletics) Callum Edwards</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra) Gabriela Manley</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Choir) Elliot McKillop</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Golf) Josh Jamieson</p> <p>Robert Biggar Prize for Higher Geography Ellen Andrew</p> <p>Isabella Hunter Award for Higher Art Michelle Arnot</p> <p>D Arnot Shepherd Travel Scholarship Lucy Arthur</p> <p>Prize for Higher Computer Studies Patrick Cartlidge</p> <p>G H Philip Prize for Public Speaking Zara Evans</p> <p>Prize for Higher Philosophy Jessica McGoff</p> <p>Spankie Quaich for Higher Technological Studies Ross Mitchell</p> <p>Prize for Higher Physical Education Ailsa Summers</p> <p>Prize for Higher Managing Environmental Resources Peter Vannet</p> <p>Glenday Award for Higher Biology Sean Walker</p> <p>Larg Prize for Strings (Grade 7 and above) Joanna Waller</p> <p>Graeme Matheson-Bruce Prize for Higher Music Tie for International Recognition (Choir) Jennifer Allan</p>	<p>Beckingham Trophy and Chess Club Prize Tie for International Recognition (Choir) Oliver Baker</p> <p>J B Meiklejohn Prize for Mathematics in Form 5 (Boys) Sandy Wardlaw Memorial Trophy and Book Prize for Higher Chemistry King Hang Chan</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Christopher and Philip Daft Prize for Higher Physics William McBride</p> <p>E M Stewart Prize for Higher English Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble Joanna Tait</p> <p>Prize for Higher Drama London Angus Association Trophy for Reading and Public Speaking GH Philip Prize for Public Speaking Holly Maxwell-Stevenson</p> <p>Academic Merit Prize Edinburgh-Angus Club Prize for Higher Classical Studies Edinburgh-Angus Club Prize for Higher Religion, Moral and Philosophical Studies Niall Moorjani</p> <p>D Arnot Shepherd Travel Scholarship Dennis J Paterson Prize for Dux of Form 5 Boys Stewart Rodney</p> <p>Tie for International Recognition (Debating) Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble Dennis J Paterson Trophy and Prize for the Best Speaker in the Inter House Debates J B Meiklejohn Prize for Mathematics in Form 5 (Girls) James Stevenson Memorial Prize for Higher French Edinburgh-Angus Club Prize for Higher History Edinburgh-Angus Club Prize for Higher Spanish Caroline S Low Prize for Dux of Form 5 Girls April Shepherd</p>
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2011

Form 6

Form 6 Leaver Award

Duncan Ashford
Jamie Bannister
Alex Batchelor
Euan Baxter
Callum Birtwistle
Jasmine Brown
Lynsey Brown
Suzie Brown
David Bruce
Declan Buchan
David Burnett
Amy Clark
Cara Davidson
Claire Dobson
Fraser Dougan
Fraya Drummond
Kenneth Drysdale
Nairoz Elharik
Benjamin Flack
Rory Foote
Muhammed Gari
Brett Hampton
Jessica Harris
Craig Johnstone
David Johnston
Charlotte Keatch
Ailsa Kilgour
Charles Law
Connor McCollam
Ollivia McGregor
Lauren McNamara
Glen Milne
Jamie Milne
Roseanna Morgan
Ben Mowle
Connor Murdoch
Rebecca Oakes
Emma Pattullo
Jory Peters
Rebecca Reid
Gemma Riley
Henry Rymer
Amy Shearer
Kevin Singh
Robyn Stewart
Christopher Stout
Gareth Stubbs
Gavin Tallett
Susanna Taylor
Jack Thomson
Kasia Thomson
Morium Uddin
James Walton
Ramsay Walton
Connor Webb
Elizabeth Webster

Dott Prize for Dux in Music
Form 6 Leaver Award
Eilidh Campbell

Eiko Takahashi Prize for Excellence
in Modern Languages
Form 6 Leaver Award
Connor Gardiner

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Form 6 Leaver Award
Catherine Gordon

Bain Prize for Outstanding Service
to School
Form 6 Leaver Award
Hannah Henderson

Dr John M Morgan Prize for
Outstanding Service to School
Form 6 Leaver Award
Bilal Hussain

Bain Prize for Outstanding Service
to School
Form 6 Leaver Award
Kiera Ingram

Gordon Grant Trophy for Games
Form 6 Leaver Award
Calum Keddie

William More Prize for Dux
in Applied Mathematics
Form 6 Leaver Award
Alistair Lynch

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Form 6 Leaver Award
Anna Mackenzie

University of Dundee Advanced
Entry Certificate
Form 6 Leaver Award
Kathryn McIntosh

Mhairi Henderson Cup and Prize for
Dux in Physical Education (Girls)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Hannah Sampson

Armitstead Trust Prize for
Dux in English
Form 6 Leaver Award
Elizabeth Scott

D Arnot Shepherd Travel
Scholarship
Form 6 Leaver Award
Angus Smith

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Form 6 Leaver Award
Fraser Sinclair

William Laird Prize for Scottish
Studies (History)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Jill Stevens

Armitstead Trust Prize for Higher
Modern Studies
Form 6 Leaver Award
Sophie Taylor

William Laird Prize for Scottish
Studies (Geography)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Madeleine Thomson

University of Dundee Advanced
Entry Certificate
William Laird Prize for Scottish
Studies (Scottish Literature)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Victoria Birks

Brian McNeill Prize for Dux
in Biology
Dr Evelyn Gow Prize for Science
Form 6 Leaver Award
Siobhan Chien

Tie for International Recognition
(Equestrian)
Dott Memorial Prize for Dux
in Mathematics (joint)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Mike Harley

Games Merit Scarf (re-award)
Tie for International Recognition
(Squash)
Form 6 Leaver Award
David Jones

Dallas Allardice Cup and Prize for
Dux in Physical Education (Boys)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Callum Leese

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux
in French;
Form 6 Leaver Award
Helen Main

Block Prize for Creative Writing
in Forms 4-6
Southgate Prize for Musical
Ensemble
Form 6 Leaver Award
Kirsty Mitchell

Tie for International Recognition
(Cadet Forces)
Edinburgh-Angus Club Prize for
Dux in Modern Studies
Form 6 Leaver Award
Lucas Paas

Dr John M Morgan Prize for
Outstanding Service to School
University of Dundee Prize for
Excellence in Economics
Form 6 Leaver Award
Calum Purdie

Larg Prize for Brass (Grade 7
and above)
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Form 6 Leaver Award
Katie Sadler

D Arnot Shepherd Travel
Scholarship
Form 6 Leaver Award
Rector's Prize for Deputy Head Boy
Matthew Wood

Sibbald Prize for Dux in Geography
Low Prize for Latin and English
Bain Prize for Outstanding Service
to School
Form 6 Leaver Award
Madeleine Adamson

Bain Prize for Outstanding
Service to School
W E Crichton Prize for Dux
in Spanish
Simon Newton Memorial
Trophy for Commitment
in Music and Sport
Form 6 Leaver Award
Lauren Clayson

University of Dundee Advanced
Entry Certificate
Caird Prize for Higher Business
Management
Dott Memorial Prize for Dux
in Mathematics (joint)
Form 6 Leaver Award
Ross Macdonald

Sir John Leng Prize for Dux
in History
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Rector's Prize for Deputy Head Girl
Form 6 Leaver Award
Heather Pringle

G H Philip Prize for Public Speaking,
Larg Prize for Vocal (Grade 7
or above)

Bain Prize for Outstanding
Service to School
Southgate Prize for Musical
Ensemble
High School Quaich for Best
All-Round Instrumentalist
Form 6 Leaver Award
Gillian Craig

T S Murray Prize for Dux
in Chemistry
Jacuk Prize for Dux in Physics
Frank Young Prize for Dux
in Natural Science
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
Form 6 Leaver Award
Cameron Milne

The Rorie Trophy for Inter
House Debating
Inter House Shield for
Champion House
Wallace Lowson Prize for
Head of School (Girls)
Katie Sadler

Erskine Prize for Head
of School (Boys)
Callum Leese

Rector's Prize for Proxime Accessit
Alistair Lynch

Harris Gold Medal and David Gray
Book Prize for Dux of School
Cameron Milne

Prize list 2011

Welcome



Clare Laird-Portch

Head of Business Studies

Clare joined us in January 2011 as Head of Business Education. She is an Old Girl and returns to the High School following the good decision to head back to Scotland after many years away.

Clare studied Business at Oxford Brookes University. She worked for American Cyanamid in the US for her Internship, before becoming a Buyer in London for Innovations, then The Outdoor Group, where she was responsible for designing and sourcing all the Eurohike equipment ranges. A change of direction took her back to University to complete her PGCE, before taking up her first post at Cranleigh School, teaching Business and Economics, as well as, Assistant Housemistress to 100, 11-18 girls. Presented with the challenge of setting up a Business department from scratch, together with coaching her main sport of rowing, Clare then moved on to the Oratory School near Reading. Finally, with her department now one of the largest in the 6th Form and keen to test her own rowing skills for one last time, Clare moved back into Oxford as Principal Teacher of Business for d'Overbroeck's College whilst she raced for City of Oxford Rowing Club. She achieved her rowing goals last year, retiring from the boat to coach Junior and Senior squads in the Club.

In addition to rowing, Clare is a keen skier and has travelled extensively including taking school expeditions to Bolivia and Namibia. She has already been kept busy heading out into the hills with her Duke of Edinburgh group and setting F4 their first Enterprise Challenge.

Iain Strachan

PE

Iain has quickly fitted in to HSD and become a valued member of the department. His skills have been crucial to maintaining and allowing our pupils to develop their skills mainly in the field of hockey but also in and around the realm of 'fitness'. He has a considerable amount of experience gathered through many different stages of his career. His military background has given him transferable skills such as first aid and a deep seated desire for personal fitness. More recently he has been involved in all types of sport, analysing both individual and team performances at the highest possible level. In all these areas he has gained numerous qualifications. His administration skills have also been much appreciated and assist the department in the smooth running of both its weekly programme and the organising of the major events such as hockey tournaments, sports day and the swimming gala. We hope he can continue to assist in this manner.



Ashley Quigley

Geography

The start of the new term welcomed Miss Ashley Quigley to the department. Ashley has been a wonderful addition to the team as she completes her Probation year at the High School of Dundee. She grew up in Northern Ireland and is one of nine Quigley siblings. Ashley graduated with an MA Hons Geography and History at the University of Dundee in 2009 and followed this with a PGDE in Geography at the University of Edinburgh 2010.

Ashley has been actively involved in school life over the last year including; a founding member of the Eco Schools Committee, Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Group and 'Write-On' Creative Writing Club. Outside school she enjoys Musical Theatre, running, cycling and travelling to new destinations throughout the world. Her favourite destination in Scotland is the Cairngorms and she has dreams of visiting Vancouver in the future.



Rob Petrie

Depute Head, Junior School

Rob Petrie was born and educated in Perth where he attended Perth Academy from 1985 to 1991. During his time at school he was a keen rugby player playing and training five nights a week and at weekends for his school, county and The North and Midlands squad.

In 1991 Mr Petrie moved to Aberdeen to attend Gray's School of Art where after four years of study he graduated with an Honours Degree in Fine Art. Throughout all of this, Mr Petrie had been playing in bands, developing his craft as a rock musician which was to be his chosen career path after graduation. This slowly faded into the background as the real world beckoned and more viable career opportunities needed to be explored.

After Graduation Mr Petrie began working with children at government funded summer play groups and becoming the assistant manager at an afterschool club and eventually moving onto Camp America opportunities where he worked on the shores of Torch Lake in Northern Michigan. Upon his return it was to his delight that was accepted to the Post Graduate Certificate in Education at Northern College's Aberdeen Campus where most importantly he met his wife Ashley, a High School of Dundee F.P. They both graduated in 1999.

Mr Petrie was then employed for over eight years at Muirfield Primary School teaching classes from P4 – P7. Laterally he ended up as a semi specialist science teacher working with Learning and Teaching Scotland to create the Improving Science in Education document and resources. During his time there he completed his Scottish Qualification for Headship, again with his wife Ashley by his side in the same cohort where they were recognised as the first husband and wife graduates of the course.

His most memorable musical experience happened during this time where he became one of the first musicians to play at Edinburgh Castle as a venue for the festival. The band was invited by the Chinese government to play at the Nanning music festival the following year in southern central China.

Mr Petrie moved from Muirfield Primary to Mill O'Forest Primary School in Stonehaven where he took up his first management post as Depute Head there. While there his first daughter, Hannah was born and the family made the decision to move closer to home and the Grandparents.

Mr Petrie says it was a dream job to secure the Deputy Headship of the Junior School. He says the first year has been an excellent experience, meeting such dedicated professionals and being welcomed so warmly into the community. He is loving being involved in the wider life of the school as well.



Lisa Carrie

Junior School

Lisa joined the High School in August 2010. Graduating from the University of Dundee in 2003 with an MA (Hons) in History and American Studies, she returned to the University to undertake post graduate studies, graduating in 2004 with an MPhil in Transatlantic Studies. In 2005, she completed her Post Graduate Certificate in Primary Education, and then began her probationary year at Stracathro Primary, near Brechin. Lisa moved to Ladyloan Primary School, Arbroath in 2006, and spent four years there teaching various age groups from primary one and seven and a few in between! She was involved in ICT, particularly with Glow which is similar to Highway. She also ran the Heartstart course for primary seven pupils in order that they could learn vital emergency first aid skills.

Lisa has enjoyed her first year at the High School, particularly the opportunity to visit Paris with L7. She has found the children to be enthusiastic, polite and hardworking! She has enjoyed getting to know some of the L4s and L5s through the L4/5 Photography Club.

In her spare time Lisa loves nothing better than watching Formula 1 or visiting Murrayfield to cheer on Scotland.



Katie Macleod

Junior School

Katie was born and grew up in and around Dundee, having been a Senior School pupil at the High School of Dundee herself. On leaving school, she applied to Edinburgh University to study primary teaching – a dream she had always had since the days of playing school with her siblings. She was accepted on the Bachelor of Education course in Primary Education at Moray House in September 2004.

Four years later, she graduated having spent some time at both Wormit and Liff Primary Schools during her university career. At the conclusion of her course she was allocated Corstorphine Primary School in Edinburgh to complete her probation year with a large Primary 7 class of thirty-three – not a size that we see at the High School!

Following this year of teaching, she was successful in obtaining a one year contract at Morrison's Academy in Crieff with a much smaller class of thirteen pupils in Primary 5. In June 2010, Katie applied to the High School, a little wary of returning to her roots so soon but quickly realised she enjoyed being a part of the school community again and had missed its ethos. This year she has been teaching L3 along with Mrs Cargill and has relished the new experiences she has had. Being involved in this year's nativity was a wonderful experience and she was impressed at the acting skills of L1 to L3- seeing visions of a few on the big screen in years to come as a result! She is looking forward to staying on next year and seeing her present L3 pupils moving up the school.

This session, Katie has enjoyed coaching the L6 and L7 girls' hockey team as part of her co-curricular activities having been a 1st XI player in her days at the High. She is looking forward to getting more involved in activities and clubs next year, having now settled into the routines of school.

Katie has received a wonderful welcome to the school and would like to thank her colleagues for their support and encouragement across her first year here.



Graeme Merry

PE

Graeme has come (back) to the High School after a very round about route. He was the youngest of three to come to HSD, following Caroline and Alistair, but left us at the end of L5. He attended Ardvrek in Crieff followed by Glenalmond, before returning to Dundee and Abertay University to focus on sports coaching, where he eventually found his passion for teaching. Following a year gaining experiences in New Zealand he came back to teach in Scotland at Arbroath HS, Glenrothes HS and as a visiting specialist on the primary circuit in the Aberdeen area before joining the High School. He is a welcome asset to the Department, offering a considerable number of skills to the pupils. He has played national league rugby and has considerable interest in golf, tennis, football and more recently developed a passion for running (half marathons), although his main aim is to compete at a good level as a triathlete. We wish him all the best for his time at HSD.

Shona McKenzie

PE

Shona has previously worked at the High School as a supply teacher, but in August 2010 returned to the PE Department as a part-time teacher. She hails originally from Kilwinning in Ayrshire. After graduating from Moray House she taught in Sunderland, Kinross and Auchterarder. In 1998 she got married and then in 2001 took some time out to be Mum to Sarah who has also joined the school this session and is currently enjoying life in L5.

At school, university and beyond Shona has played a number of sports, but netball is her first love. She has played for Scotland at all levels and is presently a Pathways coach for the North of Scotland. The school teams have benefitted from her expertise and this year the High School were the only school to have two teams in the Scottish Cup finals which were played at Meadowbank Stadium in Edinburgh. The Form 2 and Form 3 teams both finished in 2nd place in their respective competitions, but all the girls agreed it was a tremendous experience.

The Junior School hockey teams have also had a successful season, benefitting from Shona's enthusiasm and expertise. This year they have trained and played on the astro at Mayfield, but all are thrilled at the prospect of getting new astro pitches at Dalnacraig.

It is in the Large Gym at school that Shona teaches many of the L1-L3 classes and her bubbly, friendly personality has ensured all the pupils have not only gained new skills and knowledge, but have also enjoyed their time in the PE Department.

Shona has entered into the life of the school wholeheartedly and is a valued member of the staff of the PE Department and we are delighted to welcome her back to the High School.

Ronnie Husbands

Classroom Assistant

Ronnie joined us in January 2011 as a Classroom Assistant, having worked as supply cover in the junior school in late 2010.

His parents are originally from Barbados, but Ronnie is a born and bred East Londoner, although he did live in his parents' homeland for three years as a child.

Before settling on a career in schools, Ronnie worked in a cinema and also tried his hand at being a tree surgeon for two years, a job he found very interesting. In 2001, however, he began working as a teaching assistant in London.

Having married a Scottish girl from Forres, Ronnie moved to Dundee in April 2010. He has a son Malaki, who is three years old and his weekends are spent with his family.

Ronnie enjoys travelling and learning about different cultures – he has visited India, Columbia, Morocco and Sri Lanka, as well as visiting parts of Europe. Ronnie enjoys trying out different foods and he also enjoys keeping fit, spending time in the gym when possible.

Beth Charlett

Reprographics Assistant

Born in Burnley, Lancashire, Beth was brought up in Broughty Ferry. She attended Monifieth High School and went on to study Fine Art at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art in 2004, where she gained a BA (Hons). After graduating, Beth was awarded the John Kinross scholarship by the RSA to study in Florence. Beth embarked upon a change in career and worked for Includem, in Edinburgh, working with some of Scotland's most chaotic and vulnerable young people. She returned to Broughty Ferry in 2006 and had her son, Noah-John. Beth and her partner Alan are expecting a baby girl in July. Beyond the world of stationery, Beth runs a children's art class on a Saturday morning, enjoys pottering in the garden and – when she gets the chance – she loves to travel. Beth says she feels very settled at HSD and will miss the department while on maternity leave, but... she'll be back!

Other news

Gordon Fyall

Head of History

We are delighted to report that Gordon Fyall has been appointed as Head of History here with effect from the beginning of the 2011-12 session. We wish him success, happiness and fulfilment in the post.

Scott Graves

ICT Support

Scott has passed Microsoft exams this year which gives him the credentials of Microsoft Certified Desktop Support Technician (MCDST) <http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/certification/mcdst.aspx>

He's done well taking time to attend night classes and passed his two exams with flying colours at the first time of sitting.

Bill Joss

ICT Support

Many thanks to Mr Bill Joss who has been such a support to the Music Department in his role as supply teacher during Mrs Magill's absence this session.

Hatches and Matches

Gayle Spinks

Chemistry

The new arrival - Rachael Catherine Spinks, born 14th July 2010, 7lbs. A real sweetie and as blond as her mother!

Gordon Fyall

History

It has been a good year for Gordon, who not only was appointed Head of History but – even more exciting – became the proud dad for the second time when his wife gave birth to Callan Thomas on 31st October 2010.

Lee Craig

Mathematics

Fraser James Craig was born during all the snow on 1st December 2010 to Lee and her husband Mark. We do not know yet whether sister Olivia was more impressed by her new brother or by the exciting opportunities for building snowmen!

Christine O'Ready

HR

Welcome to the smiling Rosie, who was born to Christine and her husband Jimmy, on 4th December 2010.

Lynsey Smith

Modern Languages

Congratulations to Lynsey and Wayne on the birth of her daughter Mia Helen on 12th February 2011. Mia is doing very well and the whole family has settled happily to living in London for a short period.

Morag and John Mordente

Junior School and Mathematics

We must congratulate Morag and John Mordente on the birth of their son Luca Giovanni on 7th March 2011, a little brother for Sophia.

Jason McAuley

Music

Congratulations to Jason and Emma on the birth of their son Joel Jason McAuley on 14th May 2011, a brother for Amy, Lewis, Chloe and Finlay.

David Summerville

Modern Languages

Congratulations to David and Tori on the birth of their daughter Nicola on Saturday 14th May 2011.

Iain Cowieson

Drama

Iain and Allie Cowieson are to be congratulated on the fact that the adoption of their son Owen has now successfully gone through due process. They are both delighted, as are we.

High School Grandparents

Congratulations to those members of staff who became grandparents this year. Some were grandparents for the first time, while others were old timers!

Wendy Fowler was delighted at the arrival of grandson Oliver, who was born on 28th July 2010.

Brian Kyles was a proud granddad on the birth of his first grandchild, a baby girl, Holly Heather Susan Kyles, born on 31st December 2010.

Ann Oliver, though an old hand at the grandparent game, was nonetheless delighted to welcome Kirstin Isla, who arrived on the 2nd February 2011.

Dory Burt of the Learning Skills department became an excited granny for the first time, to baby Samuel Francis on 6th February 2011.

Dawn Keogh was thrilled to welcome Amalie on 3rd March 2011. This is the first child for her daughter Bethany, who is an FP of the school, and Bethany's husband Zander.

Love is in the Air!

Denise MacDonald

English

Denise Wilson became Denise MacDonald in Easter 2011 when she married her fiancé Craig. They were married in Las Vegas and were accompanied by Denise's daughter and son, Nicole and Mark, who were pupils at the school only a few years ago.

Colin Stuart

Guidance/Computing

During the Easter holiday, Colin Stuart married his fiancée Elaine at the Hotel Broughty Ferry, and afterwards jetted off for a few days of sun and culture in that wonderful city, Barcelona.

Clare Hulbert

Junior School

Congratulations to Clare Hulbert, on her engagement to David Proudfoot.

Barbara Quigley

Congratulations to Barbara on her recent election to the position of Minister for St Andrew's East Parish Church in Glasgow. Barbara left us in April and from the messages we have received from the Wild West, she has settled down well and is enjoying working in her new parish. It has been quiet around the school since she left and we miss her substantial and imaginative contributions to life at the High School!

Bruce Beckett

Director of Sport

Bruce joined the High School as Head of PE in August 2002 and was promoted to the position of Director of Sport in 2006. During his eight and a half years with us Bruce oversaw a number of important changes in the teaching and delivery of physical education and games.

The most notable of these was, of course, the completion of the Mayfield Sports Centre and the associated move of the PE Department to Arbroath Road. This had major implications for the organisation and content of PE and has had a major impact on the nature of sport at the High School. In addition, he oversaw a wide-ranging programme of co-curricular sport and was responsible for the management of the Mayfield Sports Centre, which is of course open throughout the year to outside groups as well as our own pupils.

Thanks are due to Bruce for his contributions not only to the development of sport, but also to the broader life of the High School, and we wish him well for the future.

Daryl Meechan

Hailing from Glasgow, Daryl came to the school in August 2009 and quickly made his mark in the English Department. He was an enthusiastic, and creative teacher and shared his passion for writing and film with his pupils. Daryl had the idea of entering pupils for the Pushkin Prize Competition and was delighted when two of the High School entrants were selected as prize-winners. Daryl was also the prime mover behind the creation of Kwyll, the creative writing magazine, which is now well-established and which is published twice a year and can be read on the school website.

Daryl left us in August to take up a post at St Aloysius College in Glasgow – his old alma mater! – and we wish him well in his new position.

Eleanor Grady

Chemistry (maternity cover)

Our thanks to Eleanor Grady for two terms of maternity cover. Eleanor fitted in effortlessly – a mixture of previous experience, professionalism and good humour meant that she very quickly became part of the team and delivered excellent lessons to all classes. Her organisation was exemplary – in both preparing lessons and reporting/commenting on pupils her preparation and attention to detail was truly superb. She showed a keen interest in the wider life of the school and enthusiastically took part in all activities – even in her last week she was giving up her time to take part in DoE training on the Sunday. We wish her and her family well for the future.



Ian Wilson

Ian Wilson retires after 32 years' service in the High School's History Department, 27 years as Head of Department. Mr Wilson has been a popular, respected and dedicated teacher in his time at the High School, being innovative both within and outside the classroom. His enthusiasm and passion for the subject has inspired countless pupils (and staff!) to pursue their study of the subject well beyond the school environment. Under his stewardship, four pupils have achieved the highest mark in SQA exams at either Higher or Advanced Higher level with many others gaining the highest of grades.

Ian led several highly successful trips to Berlin, developed the History 'Burnhouse experience' and who could forget his performance as Robert the Bruce on his tractor during the re-enactment of the Battle of Bannockburn at Mayfield! In a sporting context, Ian led the 2nd XV rugby team for many years, coached the cricket team and more recently has been the High School's 'Mr Golf!' In his time coaching the Rugby teams, he was involved in the tour to Canada where there is no substance to the rumour that in Vancouver the staff were put on a curfew by the players! As the golf guru, Ian was the driving force behind the staff golf tours to Arran and of course, the prestigious end of term staff golf competition held at the royal Caird Park 9 holes, arguably the 5th major.

Ian however, is a technophobe. His solution to IT malfunction is to slam, hit and kick machines; the Bonar photocopier is already looking forward to his retirement!

Ian is looking forward to a well-earned retirement where he will have time to improve his golf swing, aim to publish his long awaited work of fiction and spend time in Marbella with his wife, family and a pina colada!

Everyone at the school wishes Ian a happy and relaxing retirement.

Farewell



Isobel Goddard

I have always believed I would never truly reach retiring age, instead I would teach indefinitely, enjoying all the usual ups and downs of every school day, until something, way off in the far distance, stopped me. As I recently looked at my options and choices, I realised what that famous author Primo Levi meant when he wrote: "If not now, when?"

To leave the High School of Dundee will be a huge change in my life because I have simply enjoyed teaching here so much, from the moment I walked in some twelve years ago. It will challenge me emotionally, intellectually, and professionally to let go of a career, begun in 1971, which has sustained all the beliefs and structures I put in place to guide my life. I think teaching here in the High School, has brought out the best in me as a teacher, allowing me to approach young people in a respectful, caring, and professional way with humour and integrity. Teaching here has been a privilege and a pleasure, and I will take through the rest of my life, wonderful memories of hundreds of young people reaching heights and achievements they never dreamt or believed possible of themselves, in which I hope I may have played a tiny part.

Many thanks to everyone.
Isobel Goddard



Joe Rainey

Joe joined the High School just two years ago but in that short time, he quickly fitted in and made his presence felt, getting himself involved in the life of the school at many levels. He was responsible for the hugely popular Guitar Hero sessions at lunchtimes and set up the Animation Club, from which came the winning pupil two years running in a national competition. Joe showed an interest in work done elsewhere in the school and assisted both in PSE and in the Business Studies Department. Ever willing to roll his sleeves up, he also helped with the Charities Committee and taught and took pupils out on expeditions as part of their bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. Joe is leaving to teach business studies and computing in Williamwood High School, where we wish him every success.



Lyn Cargill

Lyn qualified as a teacher (with Distinction!) from Dundee where she went on to teach in various state schools. After her marriage, because her husband worked at St Andrews University, she transferred to Cupar in Fife where she worked very happily until the birth of her first son.

Lyn left teaching until both her sons Ross and Euan went to school. She then worked as a supply teacher for a year.

Lyn came to the High School of Dundee in 1988 and has enjoyed the best job in the world: "I have worked with the most amazing children, along with some excellent colleagues and have had a challenging and satisfying career. The projects have been so stimulating and rewarding in terms of teaching and my enthusiasm for the job has never waned in all the years." Lyn has been involved with Girl Guides, Rainbows, teaching recorder and Scottish Country Dancing, and most recently she taught embroidery which is a great personal hobby of hers. "It is with great regret that I leave, although I hope that a whole new chapter in my life will open. My eldest son gets married in October which is so exciting and who knows what the future holds?" Lyn would like to thank all of the people with whom she has worked so harmoniously over the last 23 years.

Niall Gallagher

PE

Niall joined the School in August 1997. Fresh faced from his studies in Edinburgh, this borders lad was immediately taken by surprise over the PE kit (or lack of it) worn by the boys in his first class! Over the next 14 years Niall worked tirelessly in the PE Department and was instrumental in the start of Higher PE at the High School. Niall should be commended for the time and effort he has put into school rugby. He has successfully coached school and district teams of all ages, many of his charges have gone on to play district and international rugby (following in his own footsteps – Niall toured Australia with the Scotland Schools team in 1993). Niall was also involved with two trips to Murrayfield for Scottish Schools Cup Finals; as fate would have it, both were lost to Dollar! This was not his only experience at the national stadium; he played there for the High School FP side on a number of occasions, in 2003 picking up the shield, a yellow card and the nickname 'Baloo the Bear' from Bill McLaren! He also captained the FP's for two seasons. His most ambitious project was the tremendously successful rugby tour to South Africa.

Caroline Morrison

Caroline Morrison, our Bus Auxiliary who accompanied pupils on the buses to and from Mayfield, left the High School in May 2011. We wish her well for the future.

In Remembrance of Tom



Tom Durrheim

The whole school community was shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of Tom Durrheim, at the end of the summer holiday.

Tom loved the High School and taught here for over thirty years, since he started as a young teacher in 1980. He was a fine teacher of English; he had a great and enduring love of literature and he passed on this enthusiasm for his subject to his pupils. Tom was knowledgeable in many areas of literature – he would enthusiastically discuss *The Knight's Tale*, or Shakespeare's *Othello* as readily as the poetry of Edwin Morgan or Ian McEwan's *Atonement*.

Tom contributed much to the life of the school: he helped with rugby, took public speaking and chess clubs; he wrote and produced plays and acted as stage manager for numerous school productions; he assisted in taking pupils on trips abroad; he played in a staff – pupil rock band; he was Santa Claus for generations of junior school pupils!

Such enthusiasm for taking part was actually characteristic of Tom and his dealings with everyone. He was a stalwart of many a Burns Supper – his Tam O'Shanter was legendary – and would be at every staff gathering, a genial and good-natured member of the company. He was a generous and much loved friend to many within the school and beyond. He is deeply missed and will be remembered with great affection by staff and pupils of this school which meant so much to him.



Many Happy Returns to the Foundation



The Development team work to encourage and maintain strong links with the whole school community, former pupils, former parents and friends across the world.

They keep the school family in touch with each other and the school, by arranging regular class reunions, as well as through the two main communications, The Pillars and the e-newsletter, Highlights.

The team also supports the vital work of the High School of Dundee Foundation, the charity which co-ordinates all the fundraising events for the school and provides much needed finance for bursaries and this year is celebrating its 10th anniversary.

The Development Office is the focal point for alumni contact and Highlights now reaches over 3000 school contacts from Waikanae in New Zealand to Anchorage in the United States and the team are in regular e-mail contact with FPs across the globe. During the last school year, there have been a number of class reunions, including the return of the class of 2000, the classes of 1979 and 1980 who had a joint gathering and more recently the 50th reunion celebrations of the class of 1961! The groups meet for coffee in the school, to be welcomed by the Rector and the chair of the Foundation, Sheena Leadbitter and they are often joined by some of their former teachers. A tour of the school then follows with FPs enjoying visiting their old haunts. After a photograph on the Pillars, the groups head off for lunch and an evening dinner, which with all the catching up, often go on into the wee small hours!

Several new school events have been supported by the Development team this year. Firstly, there was a Careers Fair held in September where F4 – F6 pupils went to hear about a variety of careers from FPs and former parents and friends of the school. This proved very popular and a great help to pupils when making their choices for University and beyond. The second event was a Business Breakfast, a networking event for F5-F6 pupils, where they were able to speak to a number of local business people in an informal setting. Former Pupil and successful City Businessman, Jim Pettigrew was the keynote speaker, inspiring the pupils with his motivational approach to business.

Meanwhile the team has been working with the Rector and a steering group of FPs from a range of age groups, to develop a new Former Pupil Association, open to members of the existing Old Boys' and Girls' Clubs, as well as all FPs, staff and former staff. A constitution has been written and history will be made when the Association holds the inaugural meeting on 31st October 2011 as this is the first time that there has been an association for both sexes. The Development Office will be mailing everyone during September with full details of this exciting new association.

During the year, the Foundation has organised a variety of fundraising initiatives in support of the bursary programme. The year started with a new golfing event called Drive for Dough. Sixteen teams of four golfers gathered at Scotsraig Golf Club in Fife to take part in the competition. The golfers played for about 4 hours before returning to the clubhouse for a buffet supper with an auction and raffle. The event was so popular that it has become an annual favourite in the school fundraising calendar.

Meanwhile the 770 Club, the Foundation's small lottery has gone from strength to strength; with over 140 members it is able to raise enough money for one 100% bursary whilst enabling members to enjoy a variety of cash prizes each month. With bursaries still in mind, a group of local doctors have grouped together to donate on a monthly basis to a bursary funded especially by medical professionals. The group will be able to fund 2 full bursaries over the course of their 6 year commitment. The doctors meet annually with the Foundation Trustees and Executive to be updated on the work of the school and to be thanked for their valuable contribution. The Heritage Club also meets on an annual basis and this year has seen their numbers swell, as the group who are all members have pledged to donate money to the school in their Will. A number of significant pledges have been received by the Foundation and the generosity of these donors continues the long tradition of fundraising at the school and helps the school to plan for the future.

In June, Dr and Mrs Andrew Reid very generously hosted a fundraising Garden Party on behalf of the Foundation. The theme of the day was 'Strawberry Fizz' and guests enjoyed a sparkling drink, strawberries and shortbread in the most beautiful garden setting. During the course of the afternoon, Sheena Leadbitter and the Rector cut an anniversary cake, celebrating 10 years since the founding of the High School of Dundee Foundation, during which time many hundreds of thousands of pounds have been raised for the benefit of the school. Sincere thanks go to everyone who has donated to the Foundation and helped the pupils during that time. Many Happy Returns to the Foundation!



Class of 1961



Class of 1980



2010

September

F6 pupil Matthew Wood shared his experiences of the relief effort in Pakistan, after he was caught up in the flooding in the country in August 2010.

Matthew, who was in the area as part of a British Schools Exploring Society expedition, had intended to spend the five-week trip climbing and carrying out scientific studies. However, after the flooding began, Matthew's team switched their efforts to supporting the local rescue attempt.

The School held collections in support of the Pakistan Flood Appeal, and donations from staff and pupils were in the region of £1500.

Also in September, the Learning Skills Department held its 11th Book Fair, which proved yet again to be very successful. Instead of the usual 60% commission we usually raise towards books and resources for the school, Scholastic gave us 100% commission which amounted to £2216.53.

We could not run the Book Fair without the support and enthusiasm from the parents of the PTA who help run the Fair during the week and also all those parents and pupils who support it by buying and reading the books - thank you!



October

F1 and F2 pupils raised funds for Barnardos at a Hallowe'en disco organised by the Interact Club. Around 100 pupils took part in the event, taking part in a variety of traditional Hallowe'en activities including a fancy dress competition for the best costume.

A year in the life of HSD



November

The High School held its annual Remembrance Parade on 12 November 2010. Head Boy Callum Leese, and Head Girl Katie Sadler, together with Junior School Pupils Iona Wallace and Stefan Baldacchino, laid a wreath on the School memorial.

Also in November, a Quartet from the High School came a creditable third out of fourteen in a Piping competition.



December

Despite a very snowy start to the month, two major productions went ahead successfully before the end of term. Around 400 pupils performed in the Christmas Concert in the Caird Hall, while Junior School pupils took to the stage in the annual nativity production.

January

Pupils successfully completed the Bronze award in the international Eco-schools programme.

The programme aims to make environmental concerns a central part of the life and ethos of the school, and requires pupils to work closely with staff and senior management to work on green issues. At the High School, both the Junior and Senior School have pupils involved in the scheme, which has already seen participants carry out an environmental review, complete a subject audit to see what is learned about the environment across the curriculum, and hold an assembly on the topic.

With the support of staff, pupils are now working towards the Silver award, and examining the topics of waste minimization and energy use.

February

More than 100 pupils took to the stage in the School's annual celebration of piano music.

Every pupil who has lessons in school took part in the Piano Day, including a number of seven-year-old Primary 3 pupils who started lessons just six months previously.

2011

March

In March, Trinity Hall played host to a live broadcast of Brian Taylor's Big Debate.

Over one hundred pupils and members of the public, including delegations from other local schools, posed questions on issues ranging from dog licences to renewable energy.



Also in March, the school welcomed Scotland's Lord Advocate, the Rt. Hon. Elish Angiolini, QC.

Elish Angiolini was the first woman, the first Procurator Fiscal and the first Solicitor to be appointed to the role of Lord Advocate, and she gave pupils a fascinating insight into the law and our justice systems.

Ten acts went head to head in the final of the High School's Got Talent show on the last Thursday in March.

Held to raise funds for Comic Relief and Barnardos, the talent show featured dance, comedy sketches and musical performances during the performance in Trinity Hall.

The event was organized by members of the School's Interact Club, the Junior branch of Rotary International. The audience, made up of more than 300 pupils, staff and parents, voted for a worthy winner – Elliot Killick, singer and guitarist.



April

Two School teams were pipped at the post in the Netball Scotland Scottish Schools Cup.

The F2 and F3 teams each played in the final of the Silver section of the competition. Both teams played very well, with the F2 team losing by 12 goals to 10 in the closing minutes of the game against Lomond. The F3 team also fought bravely, but were eventually beaten 32 goals to 16 by St Ninians. All the girls were delighted to be awarded a silver medal.

May

Former Pupil Alistair Low was named as Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club 2011-12.

Mr Low studied at St Andrews University, where he graduated with a degree in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics in 1964. He went on to qualify as an actuary in 1967, and from there pursued a career in benefit consulting, before retiring in 2000. Alistair Low became a member of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club in 1968.



fringe

5 - 29 August 2011
Original artwork by Ailsa Purdie 15
High School of Dundee, Dundee
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June

Ailsa Purdie, 15, was announced as the winner of the 31st Edinburgh Festival Fringe Society Schools Poster Competition.

Alisa was one of 1232 pupils from 69 schools all over Scotland that took part in the competition. The judges praised her use of colour, design and humour. Her design was used throughout the Fringe on the merchandise taken home by some of the millions of people that visited Edinburgh during August.

Former Pupil Lauren Pringle was elected President of the Oxford Union.

The Oxford Union is recognised as the world's most prestigious debating society, and the post of President has previously been held by individuals including Boris Johnson, Benazir Bhutto and William Gladstone, amongst dozens of other notable names.

Lauren, who left the High School in June 2009, is reading Law at Wadham College in Oxford.

July

Keen golfer Joshua Jamieson was crowned the Scottish Boys Stroke Play Champion after an exciting finish at Nairn Dunbar. Josh, now in Form 6, was also selected for the Scotland side for the Boys Home International in Wales in early August, and the Duke of York Young Champions Trophy 2011, which took place at Royal Liverpool Golf Club in September.



Form 6 pupils marked the end of their time at school with the presentation of a cheque to Barnardos.

The money was raised through various initiatives by the Interact Club during the course of the year, including a talent show, the sale of candy canes at Christmas and by selling pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

The end of term donation brought the total raised this year to £3003.57, with £569.25 already donated to the Cash for Kids appeal, and £500 previously presented to Barnardos.



Morgan Hutchison, F5

Anna Lockley, F1

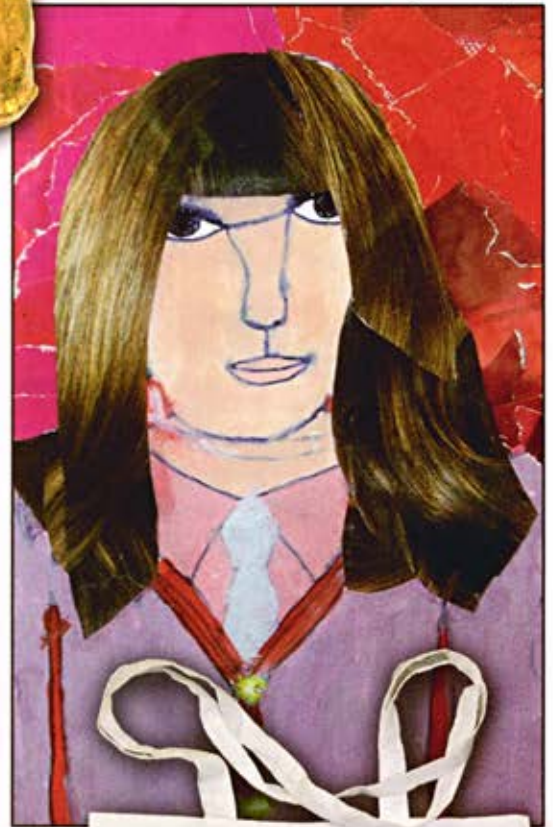


Aneesah Javed, F4

Megan Ross, F1



Tabitha Fleming, F4



GALLERY



Kirsty Stout, F4



Antonia Grier, F3



Michelle Arnot, F5



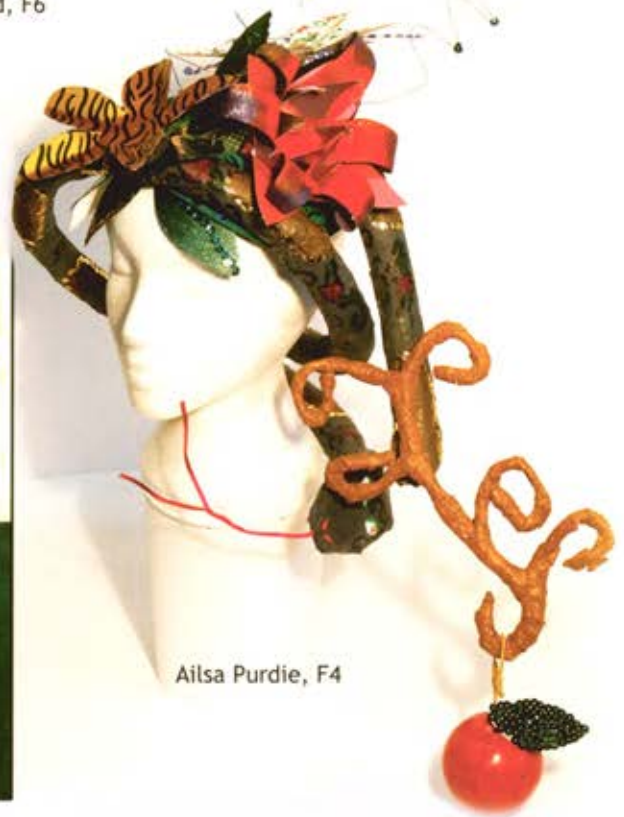
Rebecca Reid, F6



Sarah Hay, F4



Nairoz Elherik, F6



Ailsa Purdie, F4



Zhenteng Shen, F1



Anastasia Polakova, F2



Karyn Joss, F3

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Spartan Enterprise (top) won first prize of £100 and a cup for their business plan, while Pinnacle (middle) took first prize and £60 in the Trade Stand category.

Spartan Enterprise impressed the judges with their proposal for the sale of branded water bottles. Pinnacle partnered Scottish biscuits with pots of Mackays preserves in specially presented gift packs and developed the Scottish theme in the design of their stand.

Two F5 Enterprise classes also made their first steps into the business world, learning about the highs and lows of selling through introductory small product ventures including Christmas chocolate decorations and personalised keyrings.

November 2010 saw a group of F6 Economists invited to the Economics Society Seminar at the Royal Bank of Scotland Headquarters, Edinburgh. The all-day event was attended by schools from throughout Scotland with lectures given by top University lecturers on topical issues.

In March, some of the F6 members of the department helped to make the Business Breakfast a huge success.



Business

Enterprise has been a core activity in the Business Education department this year. There were two highly successful Young Enterprise teams taking top spots in the Tayside Awards.



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The 770 Club

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the start of the High School of Dundee Foundation, the organisation set up to co-ordinate all fundraising efforts for the School.

Fundraising has always been a very important part of the School and current pupils benefit from the generosity of earlier generations, who helped develop the current facilities and provided support for pupils in financial need.

One of the current initiatives is the popular 770 Club, set up in 2009 as part of the School's 770th anniversary celebrations.

The 770 Club is a small society lottery open to all staff and board members, parents, family and friends of the school and is helping to raise funds for much needed bursaries and at the same time members have the opportunity of winning a cash prize every month.

To become a member we ask for a monthly subscription of £10. For this, you will receive 10 unique numbers each of which will be entered into a monthly prize draw. For the cost of only one cup of coffee per week, you will have the chance to win a top prize in the monthly draw, which, with maximum membership, could be as much as £1000.

By clubbing together, we can provide much needed bursaries for pupils and enable them to experience the kind of education associated with High School of Dundee.

Help to celebrate the Foundation's 10th birthday and continue our heritage of raising funds for future generations of pupils by joining the 770 Club.

To receive the club joining pack, please email development@highschoolofdundee.org.uk or call the Development team on 01382 220056.

Chemistry Review

The session started with the good news that Meriel Young, a member of the 2010 class had won the prize for the best Advanced Higher Chemistry Investigation in Scotland – well done to Meriel and her supervisor, Mrs Spinks.



Following this national award the Chemistry Quiz team, ably guided by Mrs Sinclair, raced through all of the preliminary rounds as usual but were narrowly beaten into second place at the Tayside and Fife final of "Top of the Bench."

This year the Chemistry Club and the Biology Club joined forces to provide a wider range of experiences for Form I pupils. Activities have ranged from fireworks to reproduction in brine shrimps. We were granted places for two teams of four to compete in the Salters' Festival of Chemistry in June and held a chemical indicators competition to select the teams.

Two Form III boys, Andrew Kelly and Nassim Branine also won places at this year's Salters' Chemistry Camp at St. Andrews University – you'll have to wait for next year's Review to find out how both the Form I teams and Form III boys got on.

Further up the school, we were lucky enough to have two experienced Chemistry Undergraduate Ambassadors from the University of St Andrews helping out in the department. One organised CREST Silver Award research projects for 15 Form IV and Form V pupils. This required the pupils to carry out 40 hours of geological research with rock samples from the University's collection. All fifteen pupils achieved the award – many thanks to Dr Taylor and Charlotte Moakes for their support.



Dr Taylor had a busy year promoting Chemistry and we were all pleased when his blog made it to the final ten in the UK wide "Teacher Blog of the Year." His presentation on Classic Chemistry Demonstrations at the Association for Science Education annual conference was very well received and technician for the day, Mr Brett, was extremely relieved that everyone left without having their eyebrows singed.

Many thanks to all pupils and staff for their hard work in the department throughout the year and particularly to our new technician, Mrs Pimbley, who has fitted in seamlessly and provided support to everyone with a smile.

It has been a memorable year for the English Department, where a whole host of theatre trips, author visits and cross-curricular projects have helped to stoke the vivid imaginations of our pupils.

English

As ever, writing continues to play a vital role in the daily life of the department. Our in-house magazine, 'The Kwyll', has continued the long tradition of writing in The High School, promoting the talents of budding writers in Forms 1-6. All pupils had the opportunity to meet at least one published author this year. The internationally-renowned authors Melvin Burgess ('Junk') and Nicola Morgan ('Fleshmarket') shared their insights on the writer's craft with pupils in Forms 1 and 2; while local talents Neil Forsyth FP ('Bob Servant - Hero of Dundee') and Gordon Anthony ('In the Shadow of the Wall') provided useful advice to the senior pupils on self-editing and how to get published and FP and successful journalist Martell Maxwell (her novel 'Shameless' is published by Penguin) spoke to F5. We were also delighted to play host to a range of guest speakers including Gary Mitchell from The Mary Slessor Foundation; and Dame Elish Angiolini, the first female Lord Advocate who spoke on, and fielded questions about, her long and varied legal career.

Theatre trips took place regularly throughout the year, from the powerful dramatics of Romeo and Juliet at The Lyceum in Edinburgh, to more light-hearted fun at The King's pantomime in Glasgow. Watching Snow White and the seven dwarves kung-fu fighting an army of zombies is an image many of us shall never forget! Meanwhile, Gordon Robertson F3 had the honour of reading extracts from the memoirs of the poet W.S.Graham for a global audience on BBC Radio 3 in November.

In November, we embarked upon a joint project with Art and History to educate pupils in Form 2 on the significance of remembering our fallen soldiers in the two World Wars and other conflicts. Simply titled 'Remembrance', our aspect of the project saw pupils study the works of war poets, including Laurence Binyon and Wilfred Owen; as well as creating their own poems, letters and diary entries, all written from the perspective of soldiers. These were added to a display, 'War Words', which stood in the foyer of the Main Building.

In February, we launched a major reading initiative called 'The Big Book Swap' which aimed to promote reading throughout the school. Staff and pupils were encouraged to donate second-hand books which they would be happy to recommend to another reader. Over 500 donations were made and, on World Book Day (3rd March), everyone was welcome to come to Baxter Hall and select a book of their choice - absolutely free! This was a roaring success and a great way to commemorate World Book Day.

Overall, we hope this has been a rewarding and exciting year for our pupils... and one which has continued to challenge them to excel in their English studies and beyond!



The Geography Department has made a point of going places this year.

Geography

Summer 2010 will be a memorable one for many of our F4 and F5 pupils. They spent a week exploring the unique and diverse features of a volcanic landscape in the wake of the Eyjafallajokull eruption in Iceland. The most common utterance of the week was a resounding WOW as pupils saw first-hand the creative, yet destructive power of cascading waterfalls, erupting geysers and powerful waves as well as the aftermath of nature's fury on the island of Heimaey. We are now looking forward to returning to Iceland in the summer of 2012.

The start of the new term welcomed Miss Ashley Quigley to the department. Ashley has been a wonderful addition to the team as she completes her Probation year at the High School of Dundee.

September is always a busy month as the milder weather lends itself well to conducting field work. Every week was occupied with a trip from sea to summit. The F3 spent time investigating the features of glaciated environments in Glen Clova, while the Higher MER and Geography pupils spent a glorious morning at Tentsmuir National Nature Reserve observing the changes along sand dunes.



The Advanced Higher group resumed their annual sojourn to the Kindrogan Field Studies Centre in Enochdhu where they participated in a variety of field work activities in a bid to investigate physical features and processes to equip them with the necessary field work skills to complete their own field work study as part of the AH portfolio. This year the Advanced Higher pupils benefitted from the expertise provided by the Undergraduate Ambassadors Scheme at the University of St Andrews as well as visiting lecturers from the Department of Human Geography at the University of Dundee.

The annual trips to the Yorkshire Dales in November and March provided an action packed weekend in and around the picturesque village of Malham. Pupils spent time exploring the Yorkshire Dales National Park and familiarising themselves with the many features and uses of limestone environments.

Feedback from our F2 suggests that natural disasters and hazardous events is one of the most popular areas of study so we indulged their curiosity by taking all of F2 to Our Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh. Here they had time to consider the human costs of a super volcano and what this would mean for life on planet earth.

As the year continues to unfold we are looking forward to introducing a new unit with our F1 that explores the country of China and the changing influence it is having on people and places. Miss Stewart is now considering an expedition to China in 2014 to experience first-hand the diverse geography on offer.

Open Morning

The culinary talents of our pupils were again on display at Open Morning when Lucy Thomson, Rachel Allen Form Two and Ellie Wyatt and Kristin Vagg, L6 cooked a wonderful array of foods which they have made during their coursework. Visitors were suitably impressed and a big thank you goes out to everyone for giving up a Saturday morning.

Inter-departmental Projects

The department has been heavily involved in inter-departmental projects throughout the session involving pupils from L1 to Form Three. The L1 pupils planted potatoes in the planters in the playground in June and harvested them in September when they were in L2. They then came across to the department and made Potato salad. L1 also made Easter nests. L3 made a dessert related to foods grown near the river Tay as part of a Geography project and flatbreads as part of their History project on ancient Egypt. L4 made pizzas after studying Italy. L5 were involved in cooking through their Adventure Service Challenge.

A Form One English class designed a chocolate bar after studying Roald Dahl's 'Boy' and then as a Christmas treat came to the department and produced it. A Form Three French class made crêpes on Pancake Tuesday and the lesson was carried out entirely in French.

Exchange visitors

The department was happy to welcome our exchange groups from Spain and Germany and both groups thorough enjoyed the opportunity to do some traditional Scottish baking as Home Economics is not available as a school subject in these countries.

Fair Trade

The department chose to raise awareness of the Fair Trade movement during Fair Trade Fortnight in February. Chocolate and banana muffins were made by pupils in L5 to Form Six in class using Fair Trade ingredients and donated for sale at morning break. Along with other Fair Trade products they all disappeared like "hot cakes".

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club has proved this year to be even more successful than last with a packed room and large quantities of waffles and hot drinks consumed weekly. High Helpers have been the mainstay of the club and the unstinting loyalty of Form Three pupils, Ray Lynham and Andrew Kelly, Gordon Robertson and Euan Strachan, Form Two pupil Ellie Hawkes and Form Six pupils, Keira Ingram and Lauren Clayson deserve special mention. All the profits from the Breakfast club have benefitted others at home and abroad. The charities supported this year have been the Corabia foundation in Romania, Asthma Scotland, the Coronary Care unit, Ninewells and Pump Aid, Malawi.

Even more lolly!

The sale of fruit juice ice lollies in the summer term has again proved to be a great success and the unseasonably warm spring has helped to swell the coffers of the Breakfast Club. Over 1000 lollies were consumed during the summer term.

Our food parcels provided some Christmas cheer to families in Romania.

Many charities and projects have benefitted from the profits made from Breakfast Club this year so a big thank you goes out to all the helpers and customers for their continued support.

Home Economics

It has been a very busy year in the Home Economics department with the emphasis on involvement.

The year 2010-2011 has been another surprising year in the library. There have been four author visits, L2 and F6 have chosen books for the school library, L7 pupils have chatted to pupils in Turkey and both senior and junior school pupils have enjoyed a range of exciting competitions.

Author Visits

This year we have had four very different authors visiting the school, starting with Nicola Morgan in October.

Nicola is an award winning author of over 90 books for children and teenagers, including *Fleshmarket*, which is studied by some of our pupils in form 1. Nicola spoke to all form 1 and form 2 pupils in Trinity about writing and getting published. She read some extracts from her latest novel, *Wasted* and had the pupils thinking about luck and chance when they played Jack's Game. Nicola also joined our reading groups for lunch in the library where they chatted to her about *Wasted* and asked her opinion on Harry Potter.

In November, pupils in the junior school had a visit from Chris D'Lacey who writes *The Last Dragon Chronicles* and *The Dragons of Wayward Crescent*.

Pupils were entertained with tales of dragons, lost pigeons and polar bears. Chris proved a huge hit with pupils in the junior school and since his visit in November his books have never made it back to the shelves, always being taken out by pupils. As L5 pupils had recently been doing a dragon project Chris kindly took ten minutes out of his schedule to visit their classrooms and view their dragons. He was very impressed with the pupils work and commented on the wonderfully imaginative pictures they had created.



In March we had a visit from another award winning author, Melvin Burgess. He again spoke to form 1 and form 2 pupils. He also held a writing workshop for keen writers in form 4. During this workshop he explored the key elements in fairy tales and how they can be re-written in a modern setting yet keep the key elements. Pupils then had the chance to write the synopsis for a story based on one of the fairy tales, and see if the rest of the group could identify which fairy-tale it was based on. This was an interesting technique for creative writing and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed being a part of it.

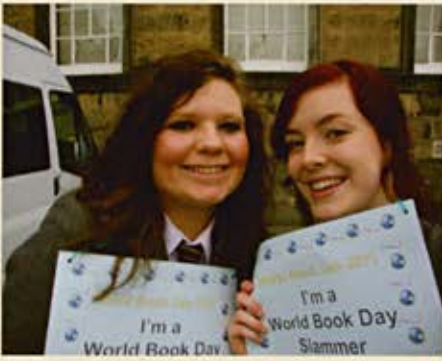
In late June, infants in junior school had a visit from Matthew Fitt, the well-known author of books in Scots. Matthew, who has visited the school before, met pupils in L1, L2 and L3 during his visit.

Book Choice

This year we took the brave decision of allowing pupils to choose books for the school library. It began with our book rep from Scotia books bringing a large and varied selection of picture books and chapter books to the library. L2F were the lucky class, each pupil got the opportunity to choose two books from the selection on display. Those two books were then added to the library collection with a book plate attached, detailing the pupils name. Pupils really enjoyed this experience and feel proud to see their name on a book.

The next opportunity for allowing pupils to choose stock arose when the school received a Waterstones gift card for £450 from Dundee Book Events. It allowed our team of F6 library prefects to go down to our local Waterstones store and each choose some books for the library. Again the F6 prefects got to put a bookplate in the books they had chosen and the books will become part of our collection here in school. Their selection was very impressive and included popular economics/finance books such as *Freakonomics* and *Superfreakonomics* by Stephen Levitt and Stephen Dunbmer, the founding of Facebook told in *The Accidental Billionaire* by Ben Mezrich, *Whoops! Why Everyone Owes Everyone* and *No One Can Pay* by John Lanchester, and Kazuo Ishiguro's *Remains of the Day*.

Library



Webchat

During a conference last year I met a librarian who works in the British Embassy Study Group in Ankara, Turkey, an English-medium school for children aged 3-12. The possibility of a web chat between our pupils was discussed. Thinking that this would be easy, (surely all we would require was a webcam and some willing pupils?) we embarked on this project. It turned out that we needed a little more technical support and a few trials first, but I can confirm that on Thursday 19th May six pupils from L7 had a web chat with pupils in Turkey. They chatted about their favourite books, their hobbies and recommended books to each other. We got a tour of their library and our pupils were very impressed with their tree house! Perhaps a future feature of the library here? This is certainly a link that will continue and another web chat has been arranged.

Competitions

Again this year we ran the High IQ competition in October. After a fiercely fought final our winner was Paolo Crowe, 1L12. This year was the last year that Mr Wilson would be our Quizmaster and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his help and support of the High IQ over the years.

Another great competition, which was open to all pupils, was to design an arena from the chart-topping series of books Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. We had four very different and very creative entries. The winner was Megan Ross, 1WA2. Her winning design was featured on the Highway.

We also had the annual competitions this year, The Christmas Advent calendar, Book Brother and Weakest Link. All were well attended and enjoyed by staff and pupils.

Every year the library is put to many various uses by pupils and staff and this year was no exception. During the horrid winter weather we became a refuge for junior school classes and were lunch hall, classroom, meeting area and cinema for L1's on many days. During the final few weeks of term we will be transformed into changing area for the junior school production. Although pupils and staff find many unusual ways to use the library we are still very busy with everyone using the library for its more traditional roles; researching their favourite hobby, catching up with the daily newspaper, typing up essays or simply finding a quiet spot to disappear into a new world with a good book.

Mathematics Report

Scottish Champions!

Once again the High School entered Enterprising Maths, a national competition for teams of four pupils from Forms 3 and 4. The qualifying round for independent schools was held at George Watson's College, Edinburgh in October. Mr Middleton accompanied the enthusiastic team which consisted of Chris Acheson, Harry Carstairs, Hannah Arnold and Jamie Mather. 30 teams competed fiercely in a variety of different mathematical challenges and our team finished the day in third place and so qualified for the National Final.

The final took place in the magnificent Hunter and Bute Halls at the University of Glasgow. 58 teams from all over Scotland had qualified for the final but it was the High School who came out on top after five challenging rounds, which lasted all day. This was a fantastic and well deserved result from a very talented team of young mathematicians.

Pictured are the winning team of Jamie Mather, Chris Acheson, Hannah Arnold and Harry Carstairs.

Scottish Mathematical Challenge

A large number of pupils entered the Scottish Mathematical Challenge this year. This competition, which has been running since 1976, is a problem solving competition which is open to all pupils in Form 1 to Form 6. The following pupils did exceptionally well and have been invited to the Award Day in Stirling on 8th June:

Junior Division

Gold

Sophie Kelly F2

Silver

Emily Cosgrove F1

Middle Division

Gold

Hannah Arnold F3

Bethany Cessford F4

Akdas Hussain F3

Andrew Kelly, Pallavi Pillai and Kenny Matheson received a bronze award. Well done to everyone who took part.

UKMT Maths Challenge

The UK Mathematical Trust runs three annual Maths Challenge contests: Junior, Intermediate and Senior. This year pupils from Forms 1-4 competed in the UK's biggest National Maths Competition. Unfortunately, pupils from Forms 5-6 were unable to compete this year due to exam commitments.

The Intermediate Maths Challenge held on February 3rd saw Form 4 gain 7 certificates. Gold certificates were awarded to Chris Acheson, Louise Pattullo, Harry Carstairs, Campbell Macleod and Gail Watson. A further 2 Silver Certificates were awarded. Chris Acheson was awarded best in school and along with Louise Pattullo qualified for the follow on Olympiad round. Both were awarded a Certificate of Participation. Harry Carstairs was awarded a Certificate of Participation in the European Pink Kangaroo follow on round.

In the same competition Form 3 were awarded 12 gold, 13 silver and 15 bronze. Gold award winners were Hannah Arnold, Jamie Mather, Daniel Davidson, Cameron McCrimmon, Angus Milne, Marshall Macleod, Andrew Kelly, Molly Wilson, Pallavi Pillai, Sadik Chowdhury, Akdas Hussain and Scott Lothian. Hannah Arnold was awarded a Certificate of Merit in recognition of her achievement in the Olympiad follow on round while Jamie Mather, Cameron McCrimmon, Marshall Macleod and Angus Milne were awarded a Certificate of Participation in the European Pink Kangaroo follow on round.

On May 6th it was the turn of Form 1 and 2 to compete in the Junior Maths Challenge. A total of 81 certificates were awarded: 21 gold, 31 silver and 29 bronze. Joshua McLaggan F2 achieved best in school and along with Sophie Kelly and Corry Norry, both F2, and Scott Macandrew F1, qualify for the follow on Olympiad round which will be held in June.

Congratulations to all the pupils who were awarded certificates from the Maths Competitions and we look forward to continued success next session.



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CLOSED SUNDAY AND MONDAY



In October, Form 4 pupil Harry Carstairs has had his skills in German recognised with a prize from the Goethe Institute in Glasgow.

Harry secured second prize in the Intermediate category in the Institute's October language competition, after constructing a series of phrases in German.

Following Damon Ednie's successful trip last summer, Mila Georgieva and Ray Lynham, both in Form 3 have gained places on a summer language programme in Germany after entering a national competition. They will travel to Wolfsburg in August as part of a UK-German Connection initiative, designed to develop and promote international co-operation at school level.

It is the first time that two High School pupils in the same year group have gained places on the scheme. The two-week programme consists of daily lessons, activities and excursions, and participants stay with a host family during the trip. The scheme provides an opportunity for pupils to get first-hand experience of German life and culture and improve their German language skills at the same time.

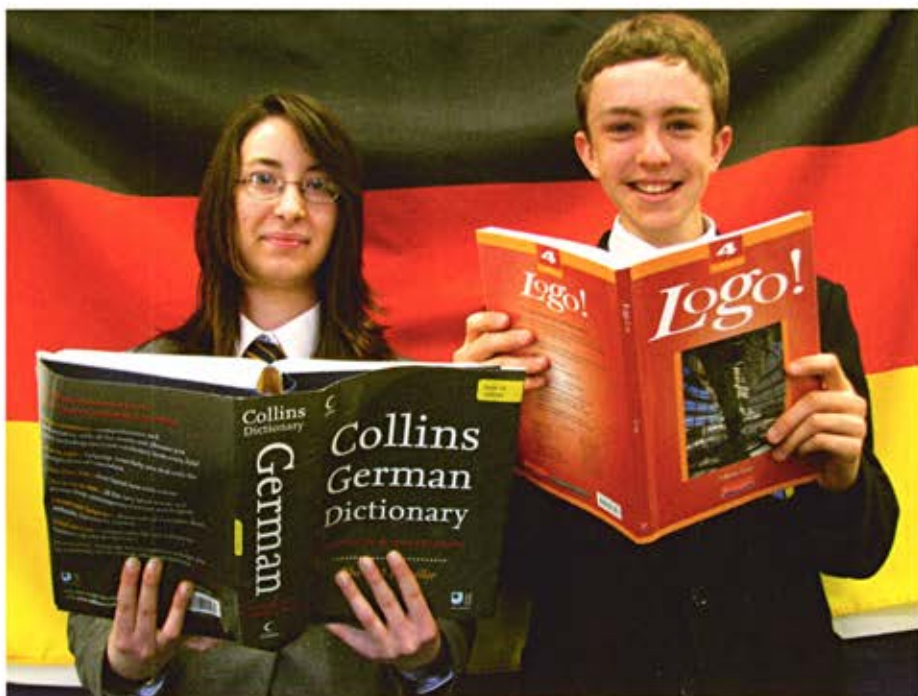
Mila said: "I'm really excited to be going on this course as I have heard people have enjoyed it very much in the past. I'm a bit nervous to be staying with a host family whom I've never met before, but it will be a great opportunity to make new friends."

Ray added: "I am very happy to have been awarded a place on this course. I am really excited and looking forward to the trip."

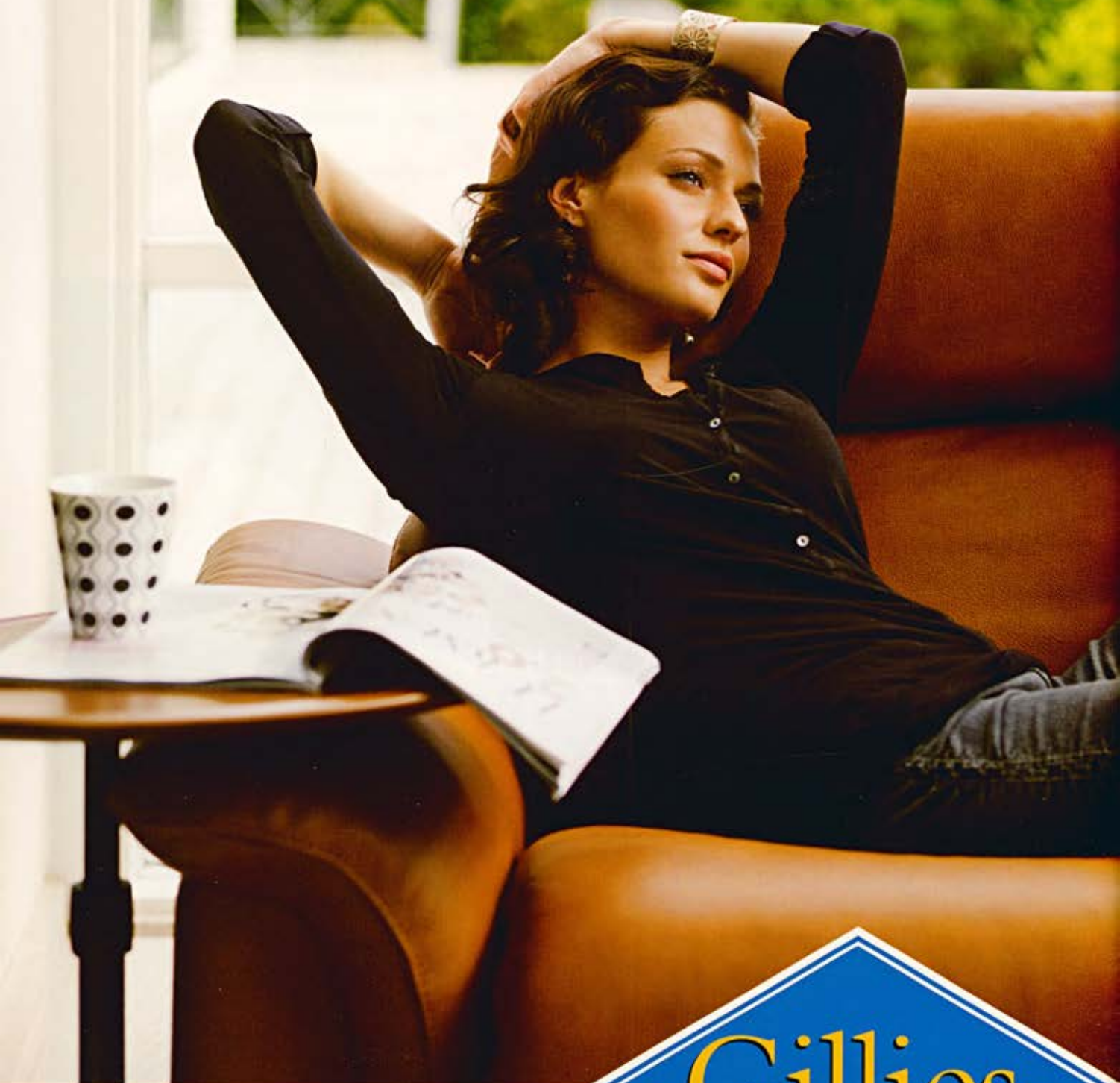
Just 36 pupils from across the UK are selected to take part in the programme each year.

German

This has been another very successful for German pupils at the High School.



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No sooner had the session begun than rehearsals were in full swing for the F2-3 production of Tin Pan Ali in November and preparations were taking place for the Junior School Musical, History Rocks, which was staged in Trinity Hall. Also being planned was the Music Trip to Austria.

Our singers have been very successful in the various National Youth Choir of Scotland auditions. Stephanie Baker, Karyn Joss, Alison Ross, Sarah Hay and Jennifer Allan have all secured places in the National Girls' Choir and Katie Paas in the National Girls' Training Choir. Rhys Paterson, Daniel Baker Euan Strachan Elliot McKillop and Oliver Baker have also successfully auditioned for the National Boys Choir.

This year the Leng Silver Medals were won by Verity Brown, L7, and Sophie Kelly, F1. We were delighted to have nine competitors representing the school in the Gold Medal Competition and even more delighted when Gail Watson in F4 won the girls' Gold Medal.

In the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland auditions Ailsa Purdie, double bass, secured a place on the summer and winter tour, and cellists Charlotte Collison and Gabriela Manley along with violist Joanna Waller were invited to take part in the Spring Academy course. Alasdair Rennet, saxophone, auditioned for the National Youth Jazz Orchestra of Scotland and was invited to attend the Summer School at Strathallan. In addition Alasdair has been offered a place in the Saxophone Ensemble which will be playing at the opening of the 2012 World Saxophone Championships in St. Andrews.



Music

As another session draws to a close it is, yet again, amazing to reflect upon the amount of music making that has gone on during the course of the year and to the commitment and loyalty shown by our pupils and staff alike and to the many pupil achievements.

In September Louise Pattullo and Laura Lee, violin; Joanna Waller, viola; Ailsa Purdie, double bass; Siobhan Chien, clarinet and Katie Sadler and Eilidh Affleck, both trumpet were invited to play 'Side by Side' with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Performing movements from Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition in a concert presented to schools in the Caird Hall.

In the Dundee Rotary Club Young Musician of the Year Competition four of our young musicians, Eilidh Affleck, trumpet, Siobhan Chien, clarinet, Laura Lee, piano, and Joanna Waller, viola performed in the semi-final with Eilidh and Joanna securing places in the final.

The Senior String Ensemble were delighted to have the opportunity to perform a very stylistic and creative composition by one of their members, Lewis Davie, F4, entitled Minuet for the Courts in D minor. Lewis, along with other members of the String Ensemble, has recorded his composition and it has been entered for the BBC's Young Composer of the Year Competition. We wish Lewis all the very best.

Our pipers have had a very busy and successful year playing at both the school's Remembrance Day Parade and a charity event at Dundee Dental Hospital in November. They also gave a magnificent performance at our Spring Concert A Night at the Theatre and performed at Sports Day and prior to Prize-Giving in the City Square. In the Scottish Schools Quartet Competition, held at Erskine Stewart's Melville College, two quartets entered with Ben Flack, Cameron Pringle, Tom Ogilvie and Angus Milne gaining third place out of fourteen bands.

In the Arbroath and District Music Festival many of our guitarists successfully competed. Alfie George, Alexandra Jovanovic and Jamie Macmillan were first, second and third respectively in the Guitar Solo class, Level One. Level Two saw success for Alice Inman who was placed second, Level Three for James Currie and Callum Bennet who were first and second and at Level Four Duncan Strachan was second.

In the duet class Scott Lothian and Duncan Strachan won first place with James Currie and Callum Bennet placed third. In the Grade Five and above class Alasdair Rennet, saxophone, was second and he went on to win the Senior School Age Instrumental Recital Open Class. Also at Arbroath, April Shepherd won a Piano Sight-reading class. In the opposite direction, at the Perth Festival, Sam Cunningham won the French Horn solo class.





Before the October break the Senior String Ensemble gave a wonderful performance at one of the University of Dundee's lunchtime recitals in the Chaplaincy Centre, while November saw us stage our first ever Voice Day. We were delighted to welcome the renowned soprano, Patricia McMahon who gave such wonderful direction to six of our senior singers at the inspirational masterclass she led in the afternoon. We were delighted that she remained for the evening recital to hear the wonderful performances from thirteen of our senior singing pupils who performed in a variety of styles with works from composers such as Schumann, Mendelssohn, Bernstein and Lloyd Webber to mention but a few.

The following evening saw the Senior String Ensemble back in the Caird Hall as guest artists at the annual CLIC Sargent concert presented by Tayside Health Board. Yet again they produced a polished performance of seasonal music and vocalists Gillian Craig and Kirsty Mitchell, both F6, joined them for beautiful performance of Away in a manger. Christmas is always a busy time musically and this year was certainly no exception despite the miserable weather, performing at the Carol Concert members of the Senior Girls and Boys Choirs and a Wind and String group entertained patients at the Carseview Centre in the grounds of Ninewells Hospital.

The highlight for our pianists was the Piano Day which took place in early February in Trinity Hall. It was a spectacular occasion with over a hundred piano pupils taking part. It started at lunchtime with a recital by our piano teachers.

In the afternoon all pianists played to each other in their year groups and many parents came along to listen. The Junior and Senior Piano recitals took place in the evening to large and appreciative audiences.

The Senior School Music Competition took place over two days in March. There were two hundred individual performances by competitors who took part in twenty nine classes from Grade Three upwards.

This year we decided to part from the norm and theme our Spring Concert. A Night at the Theatre was a feast of music and staging from start to finish. With input from the Drama Department and sound and lighting effects provided by Caird Hall staff this was an unforgettable evening's entertainment. All of the schools choirs, orchestras and bands took part as well as featured pianists, violinists, vocal soloists and duettists, solo piper and Indian dancer, Kiran Chita, with music from films, musicals, opera and ballet. The evening got off to a rousing start with the Pipe band's performance of The Gael from the film The Last of the Mohicans and ended with highlights from the musical Hairspray performed by the amazing Concert Band. A truly memorable evening's entertainment!

Such was the success of this themed concert that plans are now well advanced for "A Celebration of British Music" as our Spring Concert theme in 2012 to coincide with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the staging of the Olympics in Britain next year.

In the Marrayat Hall on a balmy summer's evening a few days later the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Big Bands, clarinet, saxophone and brass ensembles and various Junior and Senior Guitar ensembles presented a Summer Ensemble Concert featuring much light hearted and upbeat music on a balmy summer's evening. Some of our younger musicians were introduced to the delights of playing incidental music at a social event. The High School of Dundee Foundation's 'Strawberry Fizz' Garden Party provided such an occasion and 'The Jazz Boys', consisting of Form 2 wind players accompanied on drum kit and piano by Harry Carstairs, thoroughly enjoyed making music in a beautiful garden setting.

Next session promises to be just as busy with many dates already in the diary for our musicians!

This is an extract of the Music Department's Report. The full version of the report of their very busy year can be read on the school's website: www.highschoolofdundee.org.uk



Physics

Particle Physics Master Class

On Tuesday, 14th of June we along with James Lucocq, Campbell MacLeod, Jakob Kroboth and Chris Acheson, F4, were lucky enough to attend a Particle Physics Master Class hosted by The University of Glasgow. During the day, we had the opportunity to learn about the Large Hadron Collider in CERN, various properties of subatomic particles, the world of quantum physics, accelerators, colliders and the Big Bang. It was a fascinating day, in which we experienced some of the excitement of research in a rapidly-developing field, with hands-on sessions in particle detection and analysis of real collider data, led by experts working at CERN and Fermilab. Our thanks go to Mr Hancock for accompanying us and assisting in the experiments. William McBride, Chris White and Daniel Barton (F5).

Take 60 girls from 3 different high and put them in Physics, and you will get the 'Girls in Physics' day at Dundee University!

We were invited to attend a physics event at Dundee University on Thursday 22nd April 2011. 33 second and third year girls, accompanied by Mrs Fletcher, participated in eight enjoyable workshops: civil engineering, an RAF talk, ultrasonic sensors, the electromagnetic spectrum, motion tracking, bridge building, hydrogen cars and liquid nitrogen.

The last workshop had to be by far the best, based on the fact that we made ice cream!

We would like to thank Mrs. Fletcher for giving us the opportunity to go there and all the people who gave up their time and a lot of effort to organize this day. It was a truly enjoyable and educational experience. Thank you!

Kirsty Mellor and Jenny Zhan ,F3

Bell Rock Lighthouse Trip

On the 11th of June, Mrs Fletcher, Dr Taylor and a number of other staff took a group of excited children to the *Signal Tower Museum* in Arbroath. It was a wet, miserable day and the sensible people (so just the teachers!) were in their waterproofs... those that weren't, were doomed for a soaking! We then began our journey to the lighthouse which is situated 11 miles off the coast of Arbroath. On the way there we blew up balloons and tied them to the front of the boat, we were determined to throw the Bell Rock lighthouse the best birthday party ever!

When we arrived back, shivering and drenched but in high spirits, we walked to the Bell Rock restaurant for a delicious lunch. When we were warm and dry again, Mrs Fletcher surprised us all with a 200th birthday cake for the Bell Rock from the High School of Dundee.

In the afternoon we went to the Signal Tower Museum where we found out lots of interesting things about the lighthouse and the people who built it. We then visited the RNLI Arbroath lifeboat centre, where we learnt about the RNLI's work in Britain.

All in all we had amazing day out and are very grateful to Mrs Fletcher and all the staff who gave up their Saturday to come with us!

Maya Nurbhai and Ciara Mitchell, F1



Duncan travelled to London to receive his award which was presented on 29th October 2010 at the Institute of Engineering and Technology by Dame Ann Dowling, Head of the Engineering Department at the University of Cambridge. Dame Ann commented, "I was so impressed by the achievements of the Arkwright scholars, who combine academic excellence with a wide range of other skills and hobbies. It is great to know that these talented and creative young people are thinking of careers in design and technology. The UK has a real need for engineers who can contribute to addressing some of the challenges that face mankind, such as meeting our needs for energy, water and food in sustainable ways and building a robust economy, based on products and services that people want."

Scholars are selected following a rigorous selection process comprising an application, Arkwright aptitude paper and an interview. Scottish Technology students do not build permanent projects and so Duncan spent many lunchtimes perfecting his computer controlled lift bridge. During the interview Duncan presented this special project work to a panel of interviewers and discussed his commitment to Technological Studies.

Duncan follows in the footsteps of Sir David Anderson, former pupil and engineer of many projects, including the Forth Road Bridge. Duncan is interested in civil and structural engineering and has been sponsored by the Institution of Structural Engineer's Educational Trust. He is pictured with Cynthia Hearing representing the Institution of Structural Engineers.

Graphics at the High School

The beginning of the session saw the school upgrade to Windows 7, which was a good move for the graphics students because it has allowed them to use the latest professional 3D modelling software. The introduction of Inventor has been a long process and we are grateful to Mr Christie and his team for making our dreams come true. Students have been thrilled by Inventor, the 'easy to use' and yet 'industry standard' software. Some examples of Higher work by Lauren McNamara F6 and Russell Bearn's F5 are shown below.

Technology and Graphic Communication Department

We began the year with the rewarding news that Duncan Strachan F5 had been awarded an Arkwright Scholarship.



The High School of Dundee PE Department has had another extremely busy session with a considerable amount of success in numerous sporting arenas.

All these successes are far too many to mention here individually in this short article however they have been well deserved by the amount of commitment and hard work done by both the pupils and the staff.

The department is immensely proud of all our sports people and wish them great success in future years.

PE



Within the rest of the Review we have hopefully covered a considerable number of these successes. There are reports on the many activities that our pupils commit to week in and week out. This is done in all kinds of weather both at their practices and their regular inter school competitive matches during the week including the many Saturdays. The very heavy sporting fixtures calendar can only be fulfilled by the understanding and agreement of academic staff that have to regularly allow children out of their classes as well as helping supervise / travel with / officiate at all the matches. Of course we also have to thank the regular family taxi services provided by parents who transport their children to and from these fixtures / practices at all times of the day.

We continue to 'punch above our weight' in all the activities that we compete in but are not prepared to rest on our laurels. We intend to further improve our performances (this is the pupils wish) and ensure we continue to produce performers of the highest quality in as many sports as we can. The introduction of specialised Strength & Conditioning sessions and closely monitored personalised fitness sessions for those that show a desire and a requirement have been held since the start of the summer term. Interestingly enough some of these practices have two of our young talented former pupils passing on their considerable knowledge who are qualified specially in order to help in this field!

In addition the school, as you know, has invested in physical resources such as the Mayfield Centre with its state of the art activity platforms including an excellent fitness suite available to pupils and staff alike. The centre manager is available to help to tailor an individual programme to your needs to help the health and wellbeing of all concerned.

To finish, it would be remiss of me, not to mention the present development of the astro pitches at Dalnacraig. The implications to HSD sport are almost incomprehensible. This facility will undoubtedly keep HSD sport performing at the highest level possible. In these exciting times for sport it is also important to realise that the school has some new initiatives in the planning stages with the purpose of continuing to support and develop the future sporting talent of HSD and hopefully these will be unveiled as soon as practical.

The PE Department greatly appreciates all the considerable support of all those involved in sport at HSD and look forward to this continuing in the future.

Thank you
Graeme Spowart
Acting Head of Department
Physical Education
PT Guidance (Airlie)



Club reports Dundee Schools Athletics Championships 2011

The High School of Dundee Athletics Squad ran, jumped and threw their way to success at a sunny Caird Park on Thursday 16th June; returning home laden with medals and trophies! We were crowned age group champions in 6 out of the 8 categories; Form 1 Girls, Form 2 Boys, Form 3 Girls & Boys and Senior Girls & Boys. There were excellent performances from all of our pupils; a real standout being Reece Paterson who won four gold medals, breaking the 100m and 200m Dundee Schools Records for his age group and collecting the Allan Wells Cup which is presented to the most outstanding sprinter of the meet.

Other record breakers included hurdlers Callum Edwards in the Senior Boys and Craig McNally in the Form 2 Boys age groups respectively. Not to be out down by the boys Eilidh Reynolds, Form 1, blew away the opposition with her record breaking 200m run. Finally our Senior Boys placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in every event they entered – quite an achievement considering there were 2 boys from our school in each event. There were many more outstanding individual and team performances, too many to mention! A big “Well done” to all who took part and made this such a successful championships for the High School of Dundee.

This year has been an enjoyable but at times frustrating one for the hockey teams. Having had the worst winter in a century, many of the matches were cancelled. We determined High School girls were desperate to get out on the hockey pitch and live up to our red-hot reputation. When we did get to play, the rewards were great. The 1st XI, having kept our mindset going through the worst of the winter months, had many great games. Battling through the early stages of the Strathallan tournament, we only just missed out on winning the semi final. We also hosted the Midlands indoor tournament at Mayfield and came a very close second behind Strathallan.

Club reports Girls' Hockey Report

But the best victory came at the very end of the season. At the inaugural Kilgraston Invitational Tournament, the 1st XI breezily made our way through the beginning stages of our pool, defeating teams such as Kilgraston and Robert Gordons. This led onto an extremely tense final against St. Georges.

We came out victorious much to all of the girls delight. Definitely a day to remember.

The 2nd XI has also had a successful season. They joined the 1st XI in the Kilgraston Tournament and put up a fantastic fight against the teams they faced. The teams lower down the school have also had an excellent year despite the weather. Forms 1, 2 and 3 have had a particularly exciting season, doing incredibly well in the majority of their matches against other schools. This is very encouraging considering this young talent will soon be the representatives for the senior teams at the school.

Many of the hockey girls have been involved in the district squads this season, with six girls representing Midlands U16 and U18 both indoor and outdoor. In particular, Georgina Black and Susan Graham demonstrated such ability at the Inter-district tournament at Peffermill that they were selected for the U16 Scottish Hockey Squad trials. We all wish them the very best of luck.

Excitement was intense at the Inter-House Tournament in March with the girls demonstrating their passion for their sport was matched by loyalty for their house. All the Houses turned out in their full colours, face paint and all. The morning was superb with Lindores winning a hard fought tournament.

Heather Pringle







Sports Day Gallery



Club reports Netball Report

It has been a successful netball season for our F1-3 netball teams. The 2nd and 3rd year teams were entered into the Scottish cup. Both teams made their way to the Silver Cup Draw and from there proceeded to win all their 1st round matches, including the 3rd years who won theirs 40-1 against Lossiemouth. The 3rd years were lucky as their quarter-final opponents pulled out so they were clear to the semis! As were the 2nd years after winning their quarter-final. Both teams won their semi-finals and made their way to the Meadowside stadium in Edinburgh for the final. Unfortunately both teams lost but the 2nd year match was very close with only 2 goals in it. Although defeated, both teams remained in high spirits after an excellent season.

Jenna Low and Laura Johnston

Club reports Senior Rugby Report 2011

Our rugby season was summed up in the first game, where after an epic encounter and the scores tied, Alistair Lynch, a veteran stalwart, was gassed by the Robert Gordon's Tullangi, winger in the last minute for a try. After this close defeat the Spartans were again narrowly taken at the hands of St Aloysius – yet we remember this tragic defeat, savoured the taste of loss and vowed never to be beaten at this ground again. Fortunately our season perked up! This was inspired by our two main men: Mr Gallagher and Mr Beckett. One has to note their commitment to our cause, offering their Christmas holiday as a sacrifice to our training. Their words inspired us more than anything: "Bleed the badge" and "I'd pay money to see that".

Having being knocked out of the Bell Lawrie Cup we fused together as a team and made it to the quarter final of the plate. We were drawn against our deadly rivals St Al's. The whole 1st XV team has to be commended on their combined effort in this match – including Mr Gallagher – as we pulled together to claim a famous victory, perhaps the most satisfying any of win we'd savoured. After this match we were spent, there was nothing left in the tank and this showed in our next match against Glenalmond. Although we made up for this as we 'tackled' all the hookers in Glenalmond.

We were devastated. We had all pulled our weight and more – and in some cases this was a considerable amount of weight- for months, as the weather had put paid to the schedule. However we all look fondly back on the year, culminating in our defeat of St. Aloysius at the Battle of Millston.

The Class of 2011 will look back fondly on our eight years playing Rugby at the High School of Dundee. Be it the 'almost' unbeaten season in L7, or our seven other years of outrageous defeats; all of it has been loved.



Club reports Swimming Report

High School of Dundee pupils have had another busy year competing in the swimming pool. The season kicked off with the Nancy Riach (Midland District Championship) held in October, consisting of all freestyle events.

The under 16 boys relay team of Alex Sharpe, Callum Rennet, Harris Brown and Jamie Mather finished in 1st place with an impressive time of 1.53.95.

Special mention should go to Harris who was a last minute call-up, making a mad dash from rugby training at Mayfield to Olympia with 5 minutes to spare! Alex also finished 4th in the individual event. Soon after followed the Tayside Schools Championship.

In total 4 gold medals were won; 4x 100m boys 15-16 relay – Callum Rennet, Adam Powrie, Harris Brown, Alex Sharpe, Alex Sharpe in 200m backstroke and myself (Claire Dobson) in 100m and 200m freestyle. Silver medals went to Callum Rennet in 200m backstroke and Alex Sharpe in 100m freestyle. While Jamie Mather and Alasdair Rennet both bagged themselves bronze medals in the 200m breaststroke and 200m backstroke. Also Claire Mather was reserve for her final and Eilidh Grant came 4th in the girls under 12 50m freestyle.

Swimmers finishing in top positions at Tayside Schools qualified for the Scottish Schools Swimming Championships in Glasgow. Alasdair Rennet came 15th in the 13-14 200m backstroke and 14th in the 100m backstroke. I managed a 5th place in the 17-19 200m freestyle and a 6th in the 100m freestyle.

Once again the school swimming gala was held at Olympia in January. This is always a very enjoyable event with the whole school, including the teachers, participating in various events. Although the competition was rather tough, Airlie came out on top in followed by Lindores in 2nd, Aystree in 3rd and Wallace 4th. Of course a mention should be made to the staff relay team who won the staff v pupil race again! Next year though I have faith the pupils will win!

Well done to all the swimmers who took part in the various galas this year. Keep up the good work – I hope to hear of lots of HSD success again next year!

Claire Dobson

Club reports 1st XI Boys' Hockey Report

This has been another very successful year for boys' hockey. It has been a year of many highs, a few disappointing lows and some middle-ish ground in-between. The 1st X1 this year had an especially good year with many victories and fantastic opportunities to develop as a team.

We benefited from two additions to the team this year. Both Josh Jamieson (Form 5) and Duncan Ashford (Form 6) brought new skills, knowledge and attributes to the team thus we all gained new experience and learnt immensely from them. Everybody in the team this year developed and furthered their hockey skills through commitment, hard work and the occasional brutal fitness session which our coach, Mr W Nichol, was more than happy to supply us with. By coming together as a team, we produced our best hockey season to date.

In the 10/11 season, we experienced many victories which really helped to nurture a desire to win within each member of the team. No matter what the weather threw at us, the team was always ready to take on the opposition and fight for that win. Of course we experienced defeats but they only spurred the team on to further develop and become stronger. This is the first year where the team has truly come together showing the strength and value of teamwork. Through playing competitive matches such as in the Scottish Schools Cup and in the Sevens Tournament, we gained valuable knowledge about competing at such a high level of hockey. This new knowledge and skill set will continue with us into next season. The whole team knows that there is so much more that we can achieve together and can't wait for the beginning of the 11/12 season.

Peter Vannet 5WA2

Club reports 2nd XI Boys' Hockey Report

This year hasn't been the most successful for the 2nd XI Boys' hockey team but although we may not have achieved the greatest successes out on the field, we have learned from our mistakes and grown stronger as a team: there will be no stopping us next season!

This has been my first season as a part of the 2nd XI and I have enjoyed the team's unlimited capacity for "social hockey" and fun. However, in spite of there being low pressure everyone has bright, competitive spirits and a strong desire to 'muck in' and achieve the very best as a team.

The high level of commitment meant that weekend and after school training was well attended with everyone trying to improve their individual hockey skills as well as trying to integrate and perform well as a team.

As a result of our hard work and after our first couple of defeats we managed to pull out our first win of the bag (albeit a close call) with us beating Edinburgh by a nail-biting 4-3. However, after this fixture there was no holding us back, leading to many more successes. With sustained effort and commitment, the team responded admirably to all the challenges that the season threw at us.

However, without the help of a few good men, this would not have been possible and I would like to thank them for giving up their time and patience: Mr W Nichol, Mr A Wood and a special mention to Mr J Salisbury. Without their expertise and support many practices and games would not be possible and I would like to thank them for their invaluable contributions.

With their continued support we feel we will have an awesome season 2011/12.

Club reports Equestrian Team Report



Once again the High School Equestrian Team entered the Scottish Schools Equestrian Championships held at the impressive Gleneagles Equestrian Centre with a team in each of the Intermediate and Senior age group classes. The event combined dressage with show-jumping and both team and individual prizes were on offer in a fiercely contested competition involving schools from all over Scotland.

The first team to compete in the rain was the Intermediate trio of Abbie Clark F2, Amie Fearon F2 and Olivia Macalpine F1. The girls tried their best but it was not to be their day as far as the team prizes were concerned. Abbie however did finish as the fourth best individual with a very good dressage test, and a clear round in the show jumping.

It was then the turn of the Senior team consisting of Rebecca Reid F6, Barbara Shaw F5 and Marisa Shaw F2. Again the girls tried their best but finished out of the prizes in a tough field of 12 teams.

The teams accredited themselves superbly and were immaculately turned out on the day. Unfortunately both teams were handicapped slightly by having just 3 members. Thanks are due to all the riders and parents for their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication and also to Mr Middleton for acting as chef d'equipe and photographer.

Intermediate team: Amie Fearon on Kizzy, Olivia Macalpine on Mia and Abbie Clark on Golly Gosh.

Senior team: Marisa Shaw on *Zahara Dark Mist*, Barbara Shaw on *Daisy Do* and Rebecca Reid on *Lizzie Longstockings*.

Club reports Cartoon Club Report

"If you can
dream it,
you can
do it"

Walt Disney

These words, by one of history's greatest cartoonists, have served as inspiration to my budding illustrators during an action-packed year in Cartoon Club. My members have continued to study the skills required to become a cartoonist, and spent time drawing a variety of facial expressions and reaction shots. We then moved on to producing caricatures of famous faces, from Charles Dickens to Lily Allen, before trying our hands (if you will excuse the pun!) at creating new superheroes and their counterpart villains. Most recently, we have designed album covers 12" LPs and looked closely at the unusual styles found in Japanese Manga.

For Open Morning in November 2010, ten members of the club worked together to produce a huge wall mural in Baxter Hall. In just under three hours, this once blank canvas was brought to life with a host of brilliant cartoons, sketches and doodles, and a veritable rainbow of bright colours. My thanks go out once again to those keen volunteers who gave up their Saturday morning to help!

Our next big project took place in February 2011, when Cartoon Club joined forces with Mr. Rainey's Animation Club to create a short film. After weeks of hard graft, the end product was a 20-second film which received its world premiere at the joint assembly for Forms 1 and 2. The theme of this assembly was 'Teamwork', most appropriate given the diligent efforts of the pupils involved. Many thanks once more to those involved.

As I write, we press on with our lofty ambitions to illustrate a 12-month calendar, proceeds from which will go to charity. Another idea which has been mooted is to create an interactive cartooning App, which would potentially be available for download to mobile phones across the globe. Time will tell if Walt's wise words will ring true and these ideas come to pass – but we'll be sure to have a lot of fun either way!

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2010-11 golfing year has been one which has been marked by success, but more importantly fun and enjoyment for the pupils who participated.

The school enjoyed great success in the Angus Schools Championships at Carnoustie, with Andrew Clarkson and Tom Ogilvie winning the team handicap trophy and Jamie Milne and George Sampson finishing a very creditable 2nd in the scratch team competition, despite bleak conditions.

In the St Leonards National Junior Golf Championships at St Andrews, Dundee High's competitors performed brilliantly, with Campbell Gibson winning both the Scratch and Handicap under 11 trophies (no mean feat). The highly promising Henry Sampson won the under 15 handicap competition, despite strong opposition from across the British Isles, with a splendid net 66.

The Stuart Gordon Trophy was won in decisive fashion in another outstanding display of accurate golf by Campbell Gibson, who rounded off a terrific year. In the Boase Medal, Scottish Youth International and scratch player Josh Jamieson produced a dazzling performance at Kirriemuir Golf Club, finishing his 2 rounds with 73 stableford points, to win the competition.

With Ailsa Summers also an international, a host of highly promising younger pupils coming through the school and very high levels of participation, golf is probably in a healthier state at Dundee High than it has ever been.

This is my last year at the school and therefore my last in charge of golf. As with the Rugby and Cricket teams that I have coached throughout the last 32 years, it has been immensely pleasurable to be associated with pupils who have represented the High School family with such good nature, good humour and enthusiasm. The Boase Medal at Kirriemuir was my last duty in charge and although we had 25 golfers playing 2 rounds in the middle of the Club's medal day, I had no fewer than 6 members approach me at various points in the day to express their genuine surprise at the way in which our pupils conducted themselves: polite, well-mannered and considerate. A surprise to them perhaps, but as I pointed out, at Dundee High School there are many values that still survive...

I pass my best wishes on to Mr Merry of the P.E. Department, who will be taking over from me and I hope that golf continues to thrive in the school.
IERW





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Junior School Year Group News

L1 Fire Brigade Visit



On the 7th June the Fire Brigade came to visit L1. We are learning about all about people who help us and the firemen and women came to visit us with their fire engine. Shona showed us the fire engine and turned on the hose. We sprayed the playground and watered the trees. We tried on the boots and the helmet. Shona turned on the lights and the siren was very loud. It was fun. Shona and the firemen are brave.

Heidi Crowhurst, L1H

L1 Police Visit



On 8th June the police came to visit L1. We got to sit in the back of the police van and PC Scot switched on the sirens. The van goes to help people if they crash, the police put up signs that say stop. PC John showed us his bike, he wears a helmet and sunglasses. PC Elaine told us about her costume. She has handcuffs, a spray, a baton and a radio. She hits people on the leg if they chase her. The police are here to help us.

Iona Kennedy L1H

L1, L2 & L3 Animal Antics Fun Day



On Friday 27th June L1, L2 and L3 all dressed up as animals for Fun Day. We had a great time. I dressed up as a dog and the teachers were ladybirds. We went to Mayfield and Mr. Merry played games with us in the big hall. Miss Christie was there too, she was a cat. It was the best day and in the afternoon we were tired. I played cat and mouse with the parachute.

Daisy Porter L1H

L3 River Tay Challenge Day



Our River Tay challenge day was on the 16th March. I went to school wearing my tartan dress. First I made my bridge out of junk, it was so fun. I did it with Finlay and at first it was hard but it became easier because I had a little bit of help when I looked back at my plan which I had made the day before.

After we had made a bit of our bridge we went to Home Economics. I made a fruit delight with raspberries, custard, apples and topped it with oatmeal. Afterwards, I came back to finish my bridge. Later the class went to the hall. We danced the Flying Scotsman and the L1s came to watch us. Mrs Rose and Mrs McLaren came to watch too. It was such a fun day and I would like to do it again.

Melissa Mitchell L3M

On Wednesday the 16th March I went to school wearing tartan ribbons because it was River Tay challenge day. The first activity I took part in was making model Tay bridges from junk. I was really excited.

After that I went to do Home Economics with Mrs Madden. We made fruit delight using raspberries, apple mix, and custard and topped it with oatmeal. We had to put the mix into a pot then add custard in. After break we did a Scottish dance called the Flying Scotsman. Our audience was Mrs Rose, Mrs McLaren, Miss Hulbert and Mrs Reid. Miss Hulbert's class saw the dance and my little sister was there. I was glad.

I liked the River Tay challenge day, it was fun.

Emma Porter L3M

On Wednesday 16th March it was our River Tay challenge day. We had to come dressed in tartan and I was wearing a scarf around my body like a sash and had ribbons in my hair. I was full of excitement and couldn't wait to get to school.

The first activity I took part in was going over to Home Economics where Mrs Madden showed us how to make Fruit Delight. We used raspberries, custard, apples and then we topped it with oatmeal. After that we made our model Tay Bridges from junk and I was working with Olivia. We used lots of junk to make it as strong as we could.

After break we went up to the hall to dance the Flying Scotsman. Mrs Rose, Mrs McLaren and L1H came to watch. We had a great time and danced really well.

After lunch we tested the strength of our bridges. Melissa and Finlay won the best design but Harini, Fraser, Dominic and James bridges held 40 books each and won the strongest design.

My favourite part of the day was doing the Flying Scotsman, it was really good fun and I had a great day!

Phillippa de Vos L3M

On Wednesday, 16th March we had our River Tay challenge day. I came into school wearing a touch of tartan. Everyone was excited about the challenges that lay ahead. First we built model bridges from junk. My partner was James and our bridge looked strong.

After break we went along to Home Economics to make fruit delight which was made out of raspberries, custard, apples and oatmeal. When we got back we started to finish off our bridges but then it was time to do some dancing so we went up to the Margaret Harris Hall to dance the Flying Scotsman to the L1s, Mrs Rose and Mrs McLaren.

At the end of the day it was time to judge the bridges. I was nervous but our bridge won a prize because it held 40 books! It was a great day.

Dominic Westwood L3M

On Wednesday, 16th March it was our River Tay challenge day. We all wore tartan for the big day and I was so excited at the activities we were going to do.

Our group went to Home Economics first to make fruit delight with Mrs Madden. We used apples and raspberries mixed up with custard and topped with oatmeal. When we were finished we washed our hands and lined up at the door. We came back to class to build our bridges. My partner was George. We did very well but then we went to dance the Flying Scotsman. My dance partner was Emma and Mrs Rose, Mrs McLaren and L1H came to watch us dance.

The whole day was fantastic and when I went to sleep in my bed, I thought all about it.

Malachy McCrimmon L3M

On Wednesday 16th March, L3C and L3M had a brilliant day because Mrs Cargill and Miss Macleod arranged a fantastic challenge day. We built bridges and had a great, messy time. Mr Petrie judged the best designs and we tested them for their strength. We danced the Flying Scotsman and entertained the L1s. Then we baked Raspberry Delight using good Scottish ingredients. It was delicious! I hope we have another challenge day.

Theo Strachan L3C

On Wednesday 16th March we had another great challenge day. We built amazing bridges with card, tubes and other materials and painted them. Mr. Petrie judged them for their design and we tested them for strength. We danced the Flying Scotsman and Mrs McLaren, Mrs Rose and the L1s came to watch us. They said we were excellent. We went to Home Economics where we made a delicious Raspberry Delight. Some of us wore tartan. The day was great fun. I would love another challenge day.

Annabel Dow L3C

L3 Egyptian Challenge Day



On Wednesday 10th November, L3 enjoyed an Egyptian challenge day. We dressed up with a white plain T-shirt and belt. We made mummies out of modroc. It was very messy! Then we baked flat bread at the Home Economics Department with the senior teachers. It was fun! After that we played sweetie senet. That was my favourite because when you won you got to eat the sweets! Then we made chariots with the help of Mr Cargill. That was one great day! I would love another challenge day!

Rohan Tauro L3C

On Wednesday 10th November we dressed in an over sized T- shirt with sandals. The girls made hands and put nail varnish on the hands. My favourite part was the mummy-making. We put mod roc on the newspaper shape that Mrs Cargill made. I had a very messy but fun day.

Christina Kennedy L3C

On Wednesday 10 November we had an Egyptian Challenge day. We made mummies out of mod roc. It was fantastic but we made a bit of a mess. We constructed Egyptian war chariots which were amazing. We baked flat Egyptian bread at Home Economics with Mrs Madden and Mrs Farnan and enjoyed eating it with houmous, carrots and cucumber. The bread smelled and tasted delicious. L3C enjoyed it. I would love another challenge day!

Zak Boyd L3C

L3 Christmas Party



L4 Crannog Visit



L4H and L4R spent a very interesting day at the Scottish Crannog Centre on Loch Tay. They learned about the way of life for the families who shared their home with their animals and also tried their hand at some ancient crafts including woodworking.

L4 Gardening Club



Our club meets on a Thursday after school. This year we have been busy planting potatoes, rhubarb, bulbs and bushes, re-potting the horse chestnut trees and thinning a number of bushes. We had to replace a few plants due to the cold winter, but were pleasantly surprised at how many of our plants did survive. We particularly liked the display of tulips in the Courtyard Garden. We have been learning about the different types of compost needed for plants.

L4 Roman Challenge Day



As part of their history project work, the L4s held a Roman challenge day this year.

L4 Table Tennis Group



Pupils who joined the L4 Table Tennis Group this session have been meeting on Fridays in Margaret Harris Hall. Bat and ball coordination skills have been practised before progressing to the table game itself. Pupils developed their forehands, backhands and serves and had fun with rallies. Target games such as driving balls through hoops and directing balls into trays helped to emphasise and improve aim and direction.

L4 pupils proved light on their feet and nimble which helped around the tables. Alertness and plenty of enthusiasm also helped to ensure fun and enjoyable sessions of table tennis. Valuable help was given by older Junior School pupils willing to share their skills and time. Rachel Guest, Alex Vagg, Lucas McConnach and Jack Sampson of L7 assisted in the first part of the year. Neil Bennett, Campbell Gibson, Stefan Baldacchino and Gregor Vagg offered their services in the second part of the year. This voluntary assistance from L7 pupils as well as their patience and enthusiasm proved very helpful to the younger players.

Each L4 group concluded with a mini table tennis tournament and every player was awarded a certificate of participation. Skills have been practised and improved, sporting behaviour has been acknowledged and encouraged and pupils have enjoyed being together and positively engaging in the fun and fast-moving game of table tennis.

Miss M Cardno and Mrs P Halliwell

L4 and L5 Photography Club



In photography club we have learned to do lots of things. It has given us inspiration on how you can improve the photos you take. We have learnt how to switch the camera on. We know that it is very important to wear the wrist-strap. We have learnt how to take photos, and look at them on the camera and the computer. We know how to take photos in black and white and in sepia and how to put these into a slide show. We have taken photos in the school playground and garden. At the end of May we entered a competition run by the Royal Horticultural Society. If one of the photos wins the "Photo of the Month" competition, we will win a gardening book for school.

By the members of L4 and L5 Photography Club (Group 3)

L5 Adventure Service Challenge



This year, 14 L5 children have taken part in Adventure Service Challenge. This has involved a range of different activities, some in school and some out of school. At the very start of the year, we learned about the Hindu festival Diwali and for this beautiful Rangoli patterns were created in the courtyard garden using coloured sand and pulses. Just before Christmas the group began planning and organising a visit to a local nursing home to entertain the residents with Christmas songs and poems. The start of the new year saw the group learning first aid and all about safety in the home and we all past a mini first aid exam. The Home Economics department invited us into their kitchens to make fairtrade banana and chocolate muffins for Fairtrade Fortnight. Alongside this, we learned about the charity and how vital it is that farmers are able to earn a fair living to support themselves and their families. Art activities and model-making have also featured in our programme this year. This club has allowed the children to work as part of a team, develop skills in different areas and have lots of fun in the process.

L5 Science: Summer Term



In Science we have been studying invertebrates. During this project, we have had worms, a slug, spiders and butterflies in our classroom. We got 10 Painted Lady caterpillars and watched them grow and then turn into chrysalises and come out as butterflies after about eight days. We have also had a Leopard slug in our classroom. We had to get leaves and twigs to put in the slug's tray. Each day we also had to water our slug to keep it moist. We also managed to find some spiders in the school garden and put them into observation pots, for everyone to look at. We fed the butterflies on sugar water and when they had all emerged, we released them on a bright, sunny day in the Junior School Courtyard Garden.

We have all learned lots about different invertebrates and have enjoyed seeing the real creatures.

Willie Laird L5P

L6 Challenge Day – Monday, 21st February 2011

We were very excited about our Challenge Day because, although we didn't know exactly what we would be doing, we knew that it would be fun. We had already learned a bit about fair trade during our Rainforest study and this was the day when we learned why it is important.

The main event of the day was a cocoa bean game. L6 was divided into various groups, including independent farmers, fair trade farmers, chocolate companies, supermarkets and shoppers. It was a fast-moving, exciting game as each group tried to work together, show enterprise and make as much money as possible, and all without cheating!

By the end of the day, we had learned a lot and we all decided to buy lots of Fair Trade chocolate!

By Aengus McCrimmon and Adam Al-Agilly, L6C

L6 Christmas Party 2010



Our Christmas party was very unusual this year because it took place in the Large Gym rather than the Margaret Harris Hall because of the fire alarm problem. This didn't stop us dressing up in our best party gear – everybody looked fantastic.

We started with a Christmas quiz, won by Kieran Forster and Charlie Stanford. We played lots of great games. One of the most difficult was the Starburst Game during which we tried to unwrap and eat as many sweeties as possible while wearing adult-sized ski gloves. The Snowman Game was good fun though there were many accusations of cheating. The snowmen did look pretty good considering each had been drawn by six different people, each wearing a blindfold! The snack was very tasty and we wish the teachers would encourage us to eat chocolate and crisps every day!

After weeks of practice at PE, we were finally able to show off our dancing skills. We tried the Gay Gordons, Military Two Step, St Bernard's Waltz, Canadian Barn Dance then finally the Dashing White Sergeant. It was a great afternoon and already we are looking forward to the L7 ceilidh next year.

By Stephanie Mitchell and Kirsty McRobbie, L6C

L6 Trip to Dalguise

On Friday 6th May, L6 departed on their annual trip to Dalguise. Our accommodation block was called Ordie and was very comfortable. Every room even had its own shower room. Unfortunately Ordie was situated at the top of a steep slope which kept us very fit. The food at Dalguise is very tasty (most of the time) and includes cooked breakfasts, lots of choice at every meal and a salad bar at lunch and tea time.

The highlight of Dalguise is the activities. Our favourites were the Giant Swing with fantastic drops, the Zip Wire with huge speeds and abseiling with dramatic heights.

We had groupies to guide us through the visit. Their names were Lauren and Danni. They taught us many songs including The Banana Song, The Shark Song and The Day I Went to Sea. They all had interesting actions and funny words. There were also instructors to guide us through activities safely.

Evening entertainments included Whacky Races, open air Cluedo and the famous disco.

Overall, we really enjoyed Dalguise (even in the torrential rain) and would love to go back.

Eilidh Fish and Nena Nurbhai, L6A



We were very pleased to be elected on to the Junior School Enterprise Team this year and immediately got to work. Having decided to produce and sell Christmas cards, our first task was to organise a competition for all Junior School pupils then choose 4 winning designs from all the wonderful entries. The winners were Hannah George, Hannah Alijani, Abhisri Chaudhuri and Melissa Mitchell. After that, we had to practise our marketing skills. We did manage to sell lots of cards and make a small profit although a week of snowy weather closing the school made this quite a difficult task.

More recently we have organised the 'History Rocks!' T-shirt competition. Hannah George from L7 produced the winning design for T-shirts while many other great entries provided artwork for tickets, posters and programmes.

Hopefully, after all our hard work, we will be able to make a further contribution to WWF/Sky Rainforest Rescue Campaign.
Alastair Munnoch, L6C and Blair Wilson, L6G



In February, as part of our History topic, L6 received a surprise visit from three men, two dressed as Jacobites and the other dressed as a Redcoat. We were gathered in Margaret Harris Hall, having a discussion about our Junior School musical, when suddenly the door burst open and the Jacobites charged in screaming with the Redcoat following.

The Jacobite men talked to us first explaining their weapons and clothes. They showed us weapons like a mace, a broadsword, a claymore and a dirk which is a small pocket knife which could be stuck into a Jacobite's shield as an extra weapon.

Then the clothes were explained and the tallest boy and girl in the year, Callum Paterson and Lucy Morris, were dressed in clothes that a Jacobite would have worn. The clothes made them look really different and funny.

After that, the Redcoat spoke to us about his weapons and training. Redcoats had weapons like swords and maces but they also had a gun known as a musket that could only fire one shot before having to be reloaded. Their training sounded very disciplined and difficult.

Having the actors visit really helped us to visualise and learn more about Jacobites after this. We really enjoyed this part of our topic.

By Anoushay Okhai, L6A



On 14th March, L6 visited the Botanical Garden in St Andrews. It is an amazing place. There is a huge variety of plant life that is diverse and complex in many different greenhouses, including a Hot House (rainforest zone), a Temperate House (temperate zone), and an Alpine House (high mountain zone). We saw how plants have adapted to conditions in each of these climates.

L6 was organised into five groups and we all had the opportunity to try three activities. This was unfortunate because we would all have liked to try all five!

A popular activity was 'rainforests in a bottle'. Large bottles were filled with lush plant life like spider plants, ferns and mosses. The bottle is very misty, moist and humid because the water is evaporating and condensing all the time. It is like a miniature version of the water cycle.

We also studied the structure of a daffodil where we cut up a daffodil then observed them through a microscope.

We learned about how plants attract pollinators like birds, beetles, bees, flies and even lizards! We learned how plants have adapted to harsh conditions. For example, desert plants have spikes to protect themselves from animals, thick bodies to keep vital 'sap' and colourful flowers to attract pollinators.

We really enjoyed our day and hope that we can go back one day.
Abhisri Chaudhuri and Andrew Lang, L6C

L7 Netball Report



Each Wednesday the netball girls meet at Mayfield to practice their netball skills.

Throughout the year the L7 netball team have taken part in many tournaments. These included the Winter League where we were successful as runners up, the Kennedy Cup, in which we also came second and the Directors' Trophy, which we won. We also reached the final stages of the Summer League Knockout.

The L6s this year have also performed very well, to reach the semi-finals at Ward Road Gym, in the Miss Ward Trophy. We would like to wish them good luck for next term and in future events.

During the third term, the L7s had their annual staff v pupil match, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Amazingly, the final score was a tie and it went to a shoot-out. In the end, the L7s won by one goal.

We would like to thank Mrs Gallagher for all her commitment and effort with the girls throughout the year.

Ailsa Conway and Olivia Hayhow, L7

L7 St Andrews Ambulance Association Cadets

In September 12 pupils took on the challenge of the St Andrews Ambulance Association First Aid Course! During the 20 intensive weeks Mrs Halliwell and Miss Cardno taught us dozens of life-saving skills. At the end of each part of the course Mrs Gill came to examine us, with a big test at the very end. Thankfully we all passed!

During the course we learned many new things like CPR, the recovery position, how to help someone who is choking and lots more. On the course we also learned how to bandage broken arms and treat cuts. To practise some of the skills we made fake scenarios and then we had to treat the injuries that had occurred. We had scenes from car crashes to kitchen disasters – we usually managed to help the casualties!

All the things we learned on the course are extremely useful and very good skills to know. If you get the chance I would definitely recommend that you put down your name for this course, as you never know when you will need to help someone.

Logan Thompson L7



Junior School sponsors Mashimoni School

The Junior School embarked on a particularly worthwhile charity project this year – sponsoring four pupils at the Mashimoni School in Nairobi, Kenya. The four children, Bilha, Morgan, Joseph and Lillian, attend a 'squatter school' – a school which provides food and education for children who are either orphans or who have parents classified as destitute.

During the course of the year the Junior School pupils have taken part in different activities to raise money for the school. In October they created a Christmas star out of silver coins to raise funds to help the children at Mashimoni celebrate Christmas. Then in November, the pupils participated in Africa Day. Each pupil brought in £1 to purchase a visa which allowed them to travel from classroom to classroom, taking part in a variety of activities which were both fun and educational. They learned about the music and dance of Africa, as well as exploring the food, art and environmental problems the country faces.

Over £600 was raised which was more than enough to fund the sponsorship for the children for another year.

Each class in Junior School has been linked with a class in Mashimoni School and have been sending and receiving letters from the children. We were updated throughout the year on the children's progress and were delighted to read about their successes.



Marco Polo Restaurant Dundee.

Located in the city centre of Dundee's new waterfront development, Marco Polo is the ideal setting for modern dining, it can also be perfect for a short business lunch or a meal with loved ones for a special occasion. Open from lunch until late, Marco Polo believes that it is different from the rest, it shows elegance, friendly service along with staff that strive to give you the best experience in fine dining.



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CHRISTMAS BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN

FOOD REVIEW

By Dawn Geddess

flik

We ate:

Imam Bayildi

(Sauteed aubergine, courgette, pepper and onion cooked with a tomato sauce and garnished with garlic and parsley served with homemade bread)

Laham Bajine

(Homemade wrap topped with minced lamb, tomato and parsley)

Wood Stone Baked Fillet of Honey Scottish Salmon

(Served with a tagliatelle of vegetables and creamy mash)

Tandoor Charred Sicilian Chicken

(Char grilled fillet of chicken cooked with marco polo sauce served with rice and salad)

Iced Strawberry and Champagne Parfait

(Served with balsamic strawberry compote and poppy seed tuile)

Peach Cheesecake

(With Cinnamon poached apricot)



Marco Polo is Dundee's newest and trendiest restaurant. Just opened in August, the chic and cosmopolitan establishment is situated on Dock Street, Dundee. We visit on a Tuesday evening and as soon as we arrive we are both seriously impressed with the stunning decor. The ambience is intimate and relaxed.

The menu is impressive and includes a great variety of dishes from all over the world. Once settled in at our table we order starters. I have never tried Imam Bayildi before and am not disappointed. It's a Turkish dish which is slightly spicy and extremely tantalizing - who says vegetarian cuisine is boring!

Kevin has Laham Bajine for a starter, it's very generous and moreish, but thankfully not too filling as we are both looking forward to our main courses.

Our mains arrive and they look amazing. My salmon is absolutely delicious, it is served on a bed of the creamiest mash I have ever seen or tasted, with juicy carrots and courgettes. The salmon is cooked to perfection and the honey glaze makes this dish very tasty indeed.

Kevin's Tandoor Charred Sicilian Chicken is equally enjoyable. The chicken is very tender and the Marco Polo Sauce is spicy and fragrant.

Usually I'm too full up for dessert but the menu is just too tempting! I order Iced Strawberry and Champagne Parfait, perfect when you want something sweet without being completely stuffed. The champagne makes this creamy dish sparkle ever so slightly on the tongue. It is surrounded by the juiciest strawberries ever, gorgeous.

Kevin's dessert was the Peach Cheesecake, always a winner. It is light, creamy and very delicious.

We leave full, relaxed and happy after a fantastic nights dining. We will be back!

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L7 Paris Trip



62 pupils travelled to Paris by coach accompanied by seven members of staff. Extracts from their diaries provide an insight into their experiences...

And, in the words of Kerren:

"Dear Diary, I have LOTS to tell you!"

Monday/Tuesday: Overnight travel and arrival in France

"I slept for six hours which doesn't sound like much but it is on a bus full of excited, chattering L7s!"

James

"People say that being on the bus is a drag, but I'm afraid I was asleep for most of the time!"

Mhairi

"I'm so, so, so, so, so, so proud of myself because I was the first person in the whole year to order food in French!"

Lewis

"When we were travelling I saw many sights I hadn't seen before, including the beautiful French countryside."

Emily

"I was very pleased with my room and the people in it."

Rebecca

Wednesday: Eiffel Tower, River Seine cruise, Arc de Triomphe, Paris by night

"Today we had a jam-packed day of touring Paris.... It was a really good day."

Iain

"What an action packed day we have had..... Today, I was very proud of myself for going to the top of the Eiffel Tower."

Alice

"We went on the River Seine, it was beautiful. There we saw Notre Dame and lots of bridges. The weather was great and very warm. We also walked up the Champs-Elysees and saw the Arc de Triomphe, where we saw the flame that represented an unknown soldier."

Jennifer

"After we had our supper, everyone went on the 'Paris by night' trip. It was super and I loved it when the Eiffel Tower started to sparkle at 9pm."

Alex

Thursday: Eurodisney and quiz night

"I loved today! We went to Disneyland! When we were ready to go the bus broke down so we had to travel in the Metro. It was fun."

Katie

"Disneyland....it was so great no words can explain this experience."

Lewis

"I went on four different roller coasters. On Space Mountain, I had my eyes closed the whole time because it was so scary, but the second time I forced my eyes to stay open, it was so cool!"

Emily

"We watched the final parade which I thought was so amazing and magical."

Emma

"...time flies by quick when you're having fun and soon it was time to leave. It was a great day!"

Jennifer

Friday: Montmartre, Sacre Coeur, Aquaboulevard, quiz evening

"Sacre Coeur was awesome. My favourite part was its appearance. It had a big dome and pretty little turret-like things. It was completely white so it contrasted with colours in the sky."

Kerren

"I really like my caricature and I can't wait to show it to my parents."

Rebecca

"We went to Aquaboulevard.... I went on lots of the flumes and jumped in all of the big waves. Everyone had great fun! I have had an amazing day but I am sad the trip is almost ending."

Alex



/History Rocks!/Tinsel

For this year's Junior School production, a cast of L6 and L7 pupils took the audience on a musical journey around the world. The story began in China over 1000 years ago and ended in the present day in a world where the internet and world travel are part of daily life.

The pupils got the chance to work together with their peers while at the same time developing their musical and theatrical talents. It took months of preparation and rehearsing, with a few moments of highs and lows along the way, but finally the curtain was raised on June 14th for four sell-out performances.

As always, the whole school community rose to the occasion, producing fantastic costumes, props and scenery. Senior School pupils supported the Junior School, working as the technical crew, and we even had former pupils helping backstage.

None of this could happen, of course, without the continued support of friends and relatives, who helped in many ways and who also proved to be an enthusiastic and supportive audience.

This year our nativity found us in the garden of a beautiful house where a beautiful, but lonely, little fir tree was wishing and wishing someone would magically come and decorate her branches in time for Christmas day.

With the help of Tinsel the Christmas fairy, the mischievous Frosties, the cheery toys, the glowing fireflies and the hardworking squirrels, her Christmas wish came true.

All the children and staff yet again pulled a great Nativity out of the bag. I have to admit however that there were times in the run-up to our two performances that we wondered if we could perform at all. Due to the unexpected heavy snowfall and subsequent problems we were all placed in an extremely difficult position.

I was delighted however at the overwhelming support and team spirit shown by all. For those of you lucky enough to be at one of the performances I'm sure you will agree that in true High School of Dundee tradition the children and staff rose to the occasion and gave a show to remember. Many thanks to all involved and let's hope we have a stress-free Nativity 2011.

Julie Rose



L1 Creative Writing
Royal Wedding



Our class made crown for the Royl wedding of Prince Wilym and Kate. My crown was pink with red loops and sparcls. Kate wore a vale and a wite dress. Wilym wore a uniform.

Annan Stuart, L1W

We made flags and crowns for the Royal weding. My crown had a shineey jule on it and my crown was green. Prince William wore a red uniform. Kate wore a byutafal white dress and a viel. They got married in Westminster Abbey on April 29th.

Lachlan Smith, L1W

L1 Creative Writing
The Puppy

Sam was a puppy. One day he was playing with his ball in the mud. He had so much fun but he got filthy. When he got home he was in trouble. He was dirty Mum was cross. Oh no Sam thought. Mum thought he should have a bath. Oh no said Sam. I don't like baths! Sam was clean Sam was happy. What a shiny dog I am. I am so lucky he thought. He fell asleep.

Cherry Stuart, L1H

Sam was a puppy. One day he was playing in the mud with his ball. He got dirty. He went home and Mum was cross and he was very dirty. Mum shouted at him and he got grounded. He thought that means he wasn't allowed to jump. Mum decided that Sam should have a bath. Sam didn't like baths so he was sad. As soon as he was clean he was very very tired so he went to his basket and fell asleep.

Zamin Okhai, L1H

L1 Creative Writing
Diaries



On Friday it was our Animal Antics Fun day. I was a crocodile. I loved shark tig it was crocotastic! Andrew was a lobster. We snapped people.

Archie MacDonald, L1H



On Saturday I went to a barbeque and I made a new friend. Her name was Safia and there was a slide. It was the best time ever.

Ellie Reid, L1H

On Saturday my Dad cycled for forty one miles my Dad was almost in the middle. He got a medal he was great.

Jan Van Der Kuyl, L1H



I went to football and I scored a goal. When I came home I went to walk the dog with Sammy at Crombie.

Amy Paterson, L1H

Creative Writing

L2 Creative Writing

Winter

Icicles twinkling and sparkling from the icy rooftops.

Animals hibernate so peacefully and quiet in their burrows.

Squirrels bury their golden brown precious nuts.

These are the signs of Winter.

Warm hot chocolate, coffee and tea sips through chattering teeth.

Shiny glass snowflakes slowly fluttering from grey skies.

Warm fires burning and crackling.

These are the signs of Winter.

Sneha Sripada, L2F

L2 Creative Writing

The day my monster escaped

It was late at night in school and everything was quiet except for a popping noise coming from L2F's classroom. Daisy was popping the children's papier mache balloons when she realised the door was open. Daisy crept to the door and tiptoes out of the classroom! She giggled through the corridors, passed L1H's room until she reached Mrs McLaren's office. When she got there she saw the house points on the wall. She knew she was in Airlie so she wanted to rub out all the other houses points but how would she get up on the shelf where the house points were? Daisy noticed the drawers. So she climbed up the drawers and on to the shelf. Then she found a rubber and a pencil. She rubbed out all of the Wallace's, Lindore's and Aystree's house points. Then she added 1000 more house points for Airlie. Daisy saw the time on the clock. It was nearly morning. Quickly Daisy ran back to the classroom and fell asleep. The next day when Mrs McLaren got to her office she went mad! She was so mad that she fainted!

Jenny Bonnyman, L2F

L2 Creative Writing

My monster



My monster is called Jelly. She has a circular body, cylinder face and she is thin. Also, she is medium height and has long, wavy, pink hair. Jelly, orange, purple, red, pink, dark blue, dark green and light green. Also she has a large head, long hair, big feet, two ears, one eye, two earrings, two fingers on each hand and rectangular teeth. Amazingly she is pretty and beautiful, kind and wonderful. Jelly likes to eat pies as well as sweets.

Anna Leonard, L2A



My monster is called Mr Fat. He is extremely fat and has a light green and dark green tummy. Mr Fat has three legs. Amazingly he has ten yellow eyes and a pig nose! Also, he has four arms. He dislikes school, cycling and eating. However, he likes eating teachers and art. Unfortunately, he is rude and disobedient.

Xander Gibson, L2A

L2 Creative Writing

Postcards from Antarctica

Dear Miss Alexander,
After many days we have reached Antarctica. It is extremely cold. It is -80 degrees. There are baby seals and penguins. I love seeing them swim in the water. Penguins slide on their tummies across the ice. I have to wear warm clothes.

Emily McDougall, L2A

Dear Miss Alexander
Finally we have reached Antarctica. It is very very very cold! There are lots of seals and penguins. I love seeing ice blocks. We eat roast penguins. The place is covered in ice.

Sophie Elder, L2A

L3 Creative Writing
Fireworks

I can smell the smoky light sparklers.
I can hear hissing and the parents oohing
and aahing whilst looking up high.
I can see the glittering fireworks in the
dark night sky.

Olivia Wadland, L3M

I can hear the fireworks popping
in the evening air.
I can see the colourful fireworks
swirling and glittering.
I can smell the smoking bonfire,
hissing and popping in the dark.

Emma Porter, L3M

L3 Creative Writing
The Sound of Silence

Have you ever heard?...
Energy coming from the sun
or cheese growing mouldy,
Anyone dreaming or an ice lolly
becoming frozen in the freezer,
Dogs hair growing or paint
drying on paper,
Soil soaking up water
or screws becoming loose,
Cold water becoming warm
or dust flickering,
Air moving in a balloon or
your hands becoming sweaty,
Ink disappearing from a pen
or clothes becoming dirty?
No... These are the sounds of silence.

Campbell Morrison, L3C

L3 Creative Writing
Mixed-up Fairy Tales

Puss in boots broke into the three
bear's house and ate all of their porridge
before getting turned into a giant turnip.
Goldilocks had a jealous stepmother
with a talking mirror who dreamed
about marrying a grumpy giant.

Maia Ramzan, L3M

Aladdin was walking along when he
saw a beautiful house that had seven
dwarfs inside as well as porridge. One
too hot, one too cold and one just fine
to eat before being late for Prince
Charming's ball.

Fraser Houston, L3M

L3 Creative Writing
Tay Bridge Disaster

Last night, on the 28th December
1879, the Tay bridge collapsed in
Dundee during a blustering gale
which has left 75 people missing.
Last night the 5:27pm train left
Burntisland with engine 224.
A violent storm was raging,
sweeping down the River Tay.
Just after 7pm the train reached the
bridge at Wormit. It set off across the
River Tay but didn't reach Dundee
because the bridge collapsed. Only
46 bodies have been found out of
the 75 passengers whose tickets
were collected at St. Fort station.
Thomas Bouch's marvellous bridge
isn't so great any more.

Harini Kumar, L3M

L3 Creative Writing
The Great Pyramid

Khufu's enormous pyramid stands
in the vast desert of Giza. Inside the
jet black chamber all you can see
are the shimmering jewels.

Dominic Westwood, L3M

The tall magnificent King Khufu's
pyramid has a hidden, dusky
chamber. Inside was the fabulous
famous pharaoh's shiny gold and
beyond, his coffin.

Adam Flynn, L3M

L3 Creative Writing
Winter Fun



Mums and dads love to decorate the
trees. Fat snowmen getting built in
every little spare minute. Horses staring
as they watch the lovely snow. Brilliant
skaters whooshing past me. Laughing
children throw snowballs at the walls.
Sledges zooming down icy hills.

Melissa Mitchell, L3M

Sledges toboggan down icy hills.
Children laugh and dodge as they
throw snowballs. Boys and girls giggle
and fall on the slippery ice. Horses
neigh as they watch the sparkly snow
dance towards the ground. Skiers zoom.
Fat snowmen are cheerful and smiley.
Good and graceful skaters spin round
and round.

Sarah Morel, L3M

L4 Creative Writing
James and the Giant Peach

The Daily News

Aunts Squashed by Giant Peach!
We return to the Ramshackle house. Remember the giant peach? It has somehow escaped from the garden and squashed Miss Sponge and Miss Spiker! It crashed through the fence, rolled down the hill, rolled through several fields and went hurtling through a village. People are fleeing for dear life and screaming for help, but everyone else was doing exactly the same. The peach kept on rolling and went straight through a famous chocolate factory. A long brown stream travelled to the village, where people were eating it and some were even swimming in it. The peach reached the White Cliffs of Dover where it fell off into the sea. If you go there you might see the giant peach still floating there.

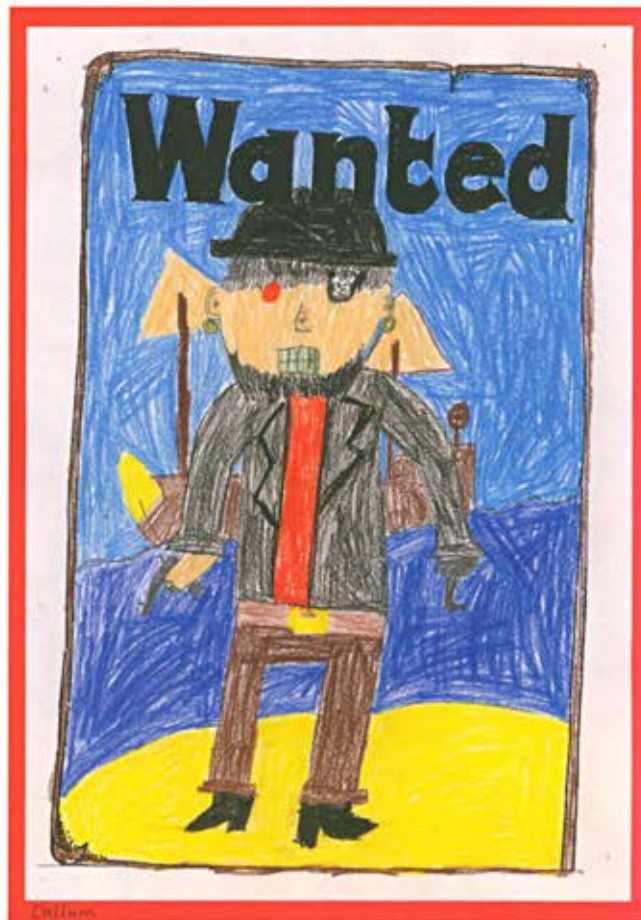
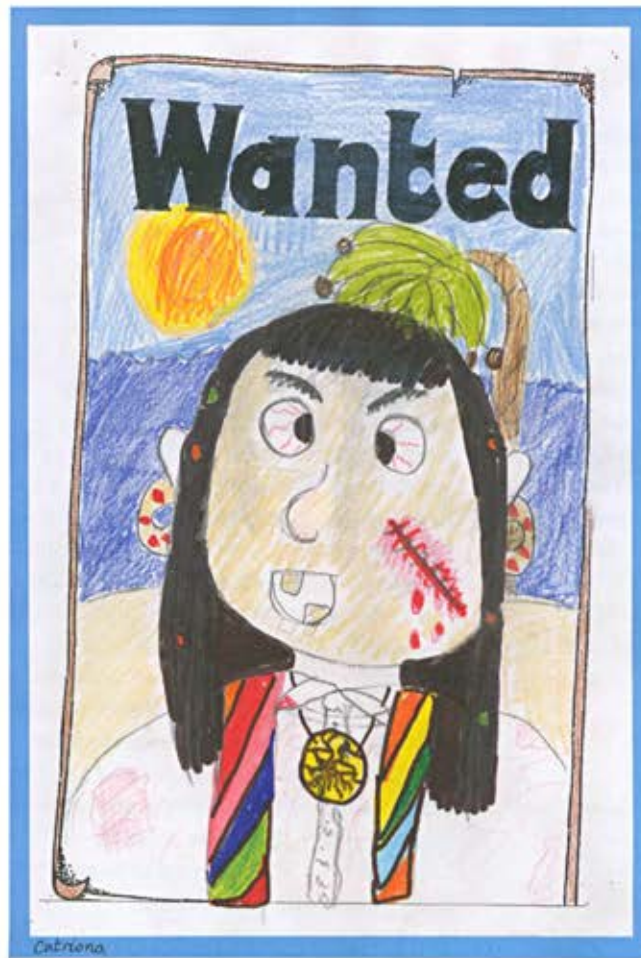
What will be the next stage of the story?
Ollie Campbell, L4R

L4 Creative Writing
Fruitastic!

Astonishing news! A peach has grown to the size of a house! It started when two ladies, Miss Sponge and Miss Spiker, saw a peach on a tree that had never even blossomed! The peach started to swell up faster than a man pumping up a balloon! They are wondering if it is going to get any larger!

Miss Sponge and Miss Spiker will be super-stars at this rate. Reporters, camera men and helicopters are coming from all over to world to see this glorious sight. I was interviewing them this morning when Miss Spiker said that it was her gorgeous face that brought about the peach, Miss Sponge said it was her charming grin that brought on the magic of the peach.

Come and see this marvel. It is at Ramshackle House. It's one shilling for adults and half-price for children under six weeks old, double for people with cameras and triple for reporters. Written by your reporter Ailsa Millar (and your weather girl for BBC radio 100).



L5 Creative Writing

Spike the Dragon

My dragon is called Spike. He is a bright red dragon. Spike is called 'Spike' because of the big blue spikes along his back. His talons and claws are as sharp as knives. Spike has a long, dark red tail and small red leathery wings. His bright blue eyes twinkle in the sun. He is so strong that he can lift up one hundred and twenty-four ten storey buildings with one claw! Spike is very clumsy and he always trips over the same stone every time he walks out of his cave.

Katie Bonnyman, L5C

L5 Creative Writing

The Great Outdoors

Beside a lovely, clear, sapphire blue lake lies a massive, jagged snow-covered mountain. Birds sing their mountain song. The water laps against the edge of the lake, making a splashing sound. Emerald green trees are standing like tall soldiers guarding the lake. A fragrance of damp leaves floats through the air. People can hear huskies barking in the distance. Rusty red paths wind in and out of the garnet green bushes. Delicate flowers are almost dancing in the wind. Branches on the tall trees creak – in danger of falling to the forest floor. It feels magical to be in such a natural place.

Katie Murray, L5C

L5 Creative Writing

The Winter Garden

In winter the garden was a very different place. Near the gate were tall, snowy trees. You could hear the robins singing. In front of the picnic table there was a big sheet of shimmering ice. A big, shining snowman stood next to the flowerpots. You could hear ice cracking. The snow was very crispy and crunchy. From the gutters of the house icicles fell and smashed against the ground. Next to the bushes you could see a frozen gnome. The bench was iced all over. The statue was frostbitten. The gleaming gate was coated in ice and the latch for it was frozen. The winter air was fresh and clean. The white snow was freezing to the touch. The winter garden was a fun and enjoyable place to be.

Hamish Allen, L5C

L5 Creative Writing

Our School

The tall pillars stand like statues against the grey school. There are green trees that surround the school. The thin bars from the gates keep the children safe as they stand like guards. The thick glassy white windows sit very still as the children study. The big blue bins and signs stand out against the dark brown and grey school. The red, white, yellow and blue flags sway from side to side as the wind blows violently. The triangular roof stands on the school like a lonely Toblerone on its own on the shelf in the shop.

Ailsa Macdonald, L5G

L5 Creative Writing

The Giant's Garden

The giant's garden was a spectacular sight in winter. There was a frozen waterfall standing by the shiny lake. The sparkling branches on the trees shone in the dark sky.

Glistening snow crunched as people walked across it. The powerful wind whistled like fast cars driving past. The singing birds sat noisily upon the trees branches. Happy children were screaming as they played in the snow.

The scrumptious Christmas pudding was cooling on the window ledge and the smoky fire puffed out the chimney. The smell filled the air. There was a strong musty smell coming from the pine trees.

The soft, fluffy snow was cold to touch and the frozen icicles felt freezing too.

Emily Beaton, L5G



L6 Creative Writing
Christmas Riddles

My first is in Santa but not in snow
My second's in present but never
in glow
My third is in turkey and also in hen
My fourth is my last, the same once
again
I'm a symbol of Christmas, topped
by a star.

Lauren Forbes and Kirsty Stewart, L6C

My first is in hat but never in tree
My second is in stocking that Santa
fills for me
My third is in sleigh up, up and away
My fourth is in elves, hard at work
every day
My fifth is in turkey yummy as can be
I am prickly so don't come near me.

Morven Wright and Eleanor Anderson, L6C

L6 Creative Writing
Limericks

A foolish young man called Joe
Went out in his pants in the snow
As he tried to fly
To the Isle of Skye
His underwear slipped below

Kieran Forster, L6C

When making his way to school,
He dawdled, trying to be cool
He went to the Head
And the Head said
You're a teacher, be on time, you fool.

Alastair Munnoch and Abhisri Chaudhuri, L6C

L6 Creative Writing
Remembrance Day

Soldiers
Remembrance Parade
Twenty million men were killed
Two minute silence
Sorrow

Weapons
Guns, bombs and bullets
There were shells, tanks and bayonets
Cruel barbed wire
And fire

Poppies
Special flower used
First World War ended in France
Fighting stopped for good
Hurrah!

Kieran Forster, L6C

There was an old man from Tring
Who wears very expensive bling
He fancied a girl
When she gave him a twirl
So he gave her his best diamond ring.

Stephanie Mitchell and Kirsty McRobbie, L6C

L6 Creative Writing
Mr. Tarquian Scruton



Mr Tarquian Scruton is the teacher of science. He is a timid and shy man with a thin, skinny build. He wears a long, almost see-through shirt. Being shy and timid he recoils and hides away in his office. That is the reason why people rarely see him during the day. If you are ever to walk past his office, you can smell the odour of pickled shrimps, pickled gherkins, mustard and horseradish. This is what he eats during the day.

When people do see him, it is usually in a science lesson. Being a science teacher, he likes to concentrate on teaching one thing and that one thing is mould. He is completely, utterly, absolutely obsessed by the stuff!

Nobody ever listens to him. His long, thick, black, greasy, hair is considered disgusting and revolting but Mr. Tarquian Scruton insists he is growing a mould farm in his hair.

Mr. Tarquian Algebene Scruton is the strangest, most sickening man there ever was.

Andrew Lang, L6C

Desmond Swindle

On a busy motorway to London, a sleek, black Range Rover was making its way to a client. The driver was Desmond Swindle. He caught his reflection in the rear view mirror and smoothed his dark, gelled-back hair.

He was wearing a smart, grey suit, grey tie and a dark purple shirt with silver cufflinks. It was all from Gucci, paid with tainted money. He let out a sigh of relief as the rain cleared and the sun came out. From the door compartment, he brought out a pair of shiny designer sunglasses and smiled as he peeled the high-price label off. His handsome face was lightly tinted with stubble and his perfectly straight teeth were too white to trust. There was a sense about him that he had had plastic surgery many times. The Range Rover then turned off at a junction to the airport and just like that, it was gone. Lost in a maze of unexpected people. Business as usual for Desmond Swindle.

Malcolm Campbell, L7

Bravery is a crisp white
It smells like the sweat of
a persistent boxer
It tastes like the dirt walked
on by a veteran soldier
It sounds like the heart beat of
a spy on a mission
It feels like the steering wheel
of a racing car
It lives on the battle field,
all the time

Sandy Adamson, L7S

Cheerfulness is a rosy colour,
It smell like a blossoming flower,
bursting at the scene,
It tastes like gorgeous,
vibrant pink icing,
It sound like birds chirping
on a summer's day,
It feels like the finest silk
next to your skin,
It lives in my room.

Olivia Hayhow, L7S

Alone it makes me sad,
No one to share my thoughts with,
my anger with.
Fury builds up inside,
But it is not mine,
it belongs to the ghost,
Haunting me with sadness.
Tears gently roll down my cheek.
I am alone,
And there is no one to help me.

Iona Wallace, L7C

In the corner of the dimly lit room a sly cat-like creature peered around the wall, checking to see who was watching. He scuttled across the room like a desperate mouse trying to get to a piece of cheese. He came into clear vision. Fagin. His hair as red as a fire and eyes as black as coal scanning the room once more. He quickly edged out four of the bricks in the mossy wall and snatched out a large wooden box.

He flipped open the lid, his grimy hands fingering all the sparkling jewels. Fagin dug through the box excitedly. Oliver woke up to the sound of rattling pearls and peered around the corner. Fagin's worm out emerald green coat just coming into sight.

Fagin swiftly turned around and glared at Oliver. He grabbed a fork and put it to Oliver's throat. Oliver's eyes, as large as coins, stared back at Fagin.

Verity Brown, L7C

Mrs McOdious sat behind her huge teacher's desk watching like an eagle over the children. She smelt faintly of lavender and a sickly smile was plastered over her face. She rapped out the command for silence. As the clock on the brickwork wall struck one, she started to patrol the classroom like a soldier guarding his territory. Probing around the orderly rows of desks, her eyes were search lights looking for any misbehaviour. Then she glided back to her desk, silently. Mrs McOdious hated children.

Elle Wyatt, L7D

Visit highschoolofdundee.org.uk
for more writing by L7.

The Discovery

Charles Arthur, F2

Gaius was exhausted. The stifling hot weather had sapped his strength throughout the course of the day. His knuckles were red and painful from where the Blacksmith had struck them. It wasn't the first thrashing he had taken from his master and it wouldn't be the last. Gaius was punished for daydreaming more than any other offence. He tried not to but sometimes his concentration slipped...

"Look out!" cried the Blacksmith in alarm. Without noticing it, Gaius had let his grip on the cast iron pot slip. He could only stare in horror as a puddle of molten iron spilled across the workshop floor. He braced himself for the beating that would undoubtedly come next. When he realised that he was not on the ground, taking multiple blows of fists and feet as he should be, Gaius opened his eyes. The Blacksmith's face was scarily calm. "Get out and don't bother coming back". The words were spoken softly but somehow had more force and power behind them than the loudest barbarian war cry. Before his master could change his mind, Gaius picked up his cloak and bolted out of the door.

Somehow the streets of Rome seemed more appealing than his own house when he considered the punishment he would get when he arrived there. He decided to walk. To distract himself from what might happen when he got home, he thought of the only thing he ever thought about: being a soldier. Nothing in the whole world seemed more appealing to Gaius than the prospect of being a legionary, fighting for the expansion and safety of Rome and her Empire. It was his thirteenth birthday in a few weeks. After that it would only be three years until he could enlist as a soldier. Gaius hadn't decided what legion he would join yet but it would all depend on where he wanted to go. He could choose any Legion in any place in the Roman Empire, but there was only one obstacle between him and his goal; his mother.

Gaius's mother had a will made of iron and seemed to be able to get anyone to do anything purely by constant arguing and nagging. She was never like that when Gaius's father had been alive. Gaius's thoughts were interrupted as a group of teenagers, a few years older than Gaius, came out from a back alley. He groaned aloud as he noticed one was Lucius Tiberius, son of one of the most wealthy slave sellers in Rome. His cronies all laughed at something he had said. One of them pointed at Gaius as he whispered in Lucius's ear. The arrogant boy's smile grew even wider as he swaggered towards Gaius. "Well, well, well, if it isn't little Gaius," Lucius sneered. "Grab him!" The older boys charged towards Gaius and he was lifted off of his feet, only to be smashed painfully back down on the hard, stone cobbles. He struggled to breathe as Lucius stood astride him. A fist came out of nowhere and smashed into Gaius's face. A warm spurt of blood splattered his tunic as he felt his nose break. "That will teach you not to show me up in public!" raged Lucius. The boy was still sore from the time Gaius had tripped him up into a pile of horse droppings by accident, but Gaius was sure that it was just an excuse for Lucius to beat him.

Gaius swiftly sprang up and sprinted towards the nearest corner. He could hear angry shouts and curses behind him but he didn't look back. When the shouts had faded into the distance, Gaius darted into an alleyway. Realising it was a dead end, he backed into the wall at the end of the alley. Gaius's heart shot into his mouth as the wall crumbled under his weight. As he fell backwards, he wondered why he hadn't hit the ground yet... Then he felt the crushing impact as he hit the bottom of the hole. Gaius woke with a start. His head was throbbing and his back ached as if his spine was expanding. It was pitch black and he realised that he had probably fallen into somebody's wine cellar.

He stood up and walked in one direction until he found a wall. Gaius followed it around the room, trying to find a door but with no success. He had never been afraid of the dark, whatever Lucius and his friends liked to say about him, so he

wouldn't usually panic at all about being in a dark cellar on his own but this time, there was definitely something not right. Gradually his eyes became accustomed to the dark...

Gaius's jaw dropped as he saw what lay in front of him. There were five altars, all pointing towards him and on each one, a skeleton wearing a Roman Centurion's armour and uniform. He slowly crept towards them as if they could leap up and grab him at any moment, until he realised he was being childish. As he approached the closest altar, he noticed that four of the Centurions were wearing exactly the same thing but one, was the distinct clothing of a General. There was also a standard at the head of each skeleton. Judging by the intricacy of the men's armour, they were all of considerable wealth. Gaius blew the dust from one of the standards and gasped as he saw the distinct Hercules emblem of the Primigenia (First Born) Legion. They were disbanded many years ago, when their commander was exiled. The standard fell over unexpectedly and caused Gaius to step back in shock. He stumbled backwards and tripped up, and he prepared to fall over for what he swore would be the last time that day. It was a very soft landing and heard a tinkling sound as he landed. He opened his eyes and gasped at what he was lying in.

The horde of treasure that he had fallen onto must have been worth a fortune. There were goods from the far corners of the Empire: Ivory tusks from Africa, Bottles of dye from Carthage, Glass ornaments from China and above all, Gold. There were stacks of Gold bars, piles of gold coins and golden decorations. He was rich! Gaius swore to Jupiter that he would get the Primigenia back onto the senate scrolls, even if it was the last thing he did.

Ten years later, Gaius was standing at the head of his legion, saluting to the Emperor on the balcony as the crowd cheered in appreciation of Primigenia and all of its victories. Gaius's eye looked in pride at his legion. He had finally satisfied his oath.

Wife

Kirsty Mitchell, F6

The woman gazed into the mirror, considering what she saw. People must often, she supposed, see different than the day before. Today her face looked drawn, tired. Lines had slowly crept in, like sad little spiders, reminding her that time was ambling away. Her once glossy black hair had faded into a non-committal grey. The porcelain complexion, once so greatly admired and envied had now drained and seemed washed out. Even her most expensive perfume now lingered unpleasantly, almost rotting. Darkened bruises under her eyes, like smudged secrets, almost shouting what everyone else already knew. Looking around the room, in which years had withered away and the life with them, she saw little evidence of a marriage or partnership. Photos were tucked away in a drawer, long forgotten, gathering dust. The yellowed corners were barely touched or the posed faces glanced at. The obsessively tidy bookshelves, filled with books that seemed to steal the time, care and attention that a wife was owed. The opulent decanters which winked spitefully at her. Tidy house, tidy mind. The house which was deadly silent. Carpets barely walked on or worn. Furniture straightened at acute angles and dusted daily. Even the cushions seemed aggressively ordered. The mantelpiece empty except for one clock, ugly and loud. So many minutes had been spent anxiously watching the hands twist, awaiting his arrival home.

The heavy thudding of footsteps sounded, laden with anger and frustration, the familiar awakenings of apprehension. Trembling hands that she did not recognise cleared a space on the coat pegs for his jacket and scarf, the same every day. His body filled the doorway as he brushed the snow from his shoulders, a proverbial shadow now cast over the hall. She scuttled behind him, gently and submissively closing the door, feeling an icy air from him, or the porch. Most of her energy was spent concealing her fear, the tension palpable during the long walk to the lounge.

The television buzzed into life and the dull chatter of a game show host cut through the fog of uncertainty. She made a knot with her skirt, untied it, knotted it, untied it, knotted it. Slam! She jolted into stillness as the slaps of a hand on wood made her flinch; ever so slowly wiping her clammy hands, refusing to meet his steely gaze. He breathed more heavily shifting his weight further back into his seat, flexing his knuckles and fingers. Her heart pounded as she tried to focus on the programme. Words slithered in and out of her ears, worming around her brain as she tasted the dry, prickly roof of her mouth. She scratched at the upholstery, picking at it, desperately trying to unravel a thread or even a stitch. Exhaling shakily, she chewed on her lower lip, gnawing furiously as if it would make time pass more quickly. A look from him was all she needed to stop.

The gentle rumblings of cars passing reminded her where she was. She slipped past his heavy feet and into the kitchen. The pie in the oven was swelling, looking almost pregnant, and filling the room with a golden, buttery scent. She liked the rhythm of cooking. It was predictable and methodical. Slicing the vegetables into perfect cylinders (orange, green, orange, green) she allowed herself to relax. The warm steam nipped at her hands and cheeks, polishing them into a vibrant red. The kitchen was gleaming, as it always was. Hours and days spent buffing, shining, and scraping. Hardly enjoyable but it was therapeutic and served a purpose. Everything in order meant it was quiet; she could sit still when everything was in its place. His voice filtered through into the kitchen, questioning and demanding. She was quick to comply, slicing the pie into even chunks, scattering the vegetables and potatoes in even piles just how he liked, wiping the rim of each plate for gravy splashes and imperfections.

She trod carefully on the carpet, anxious of spilling anything. She gently set the plate down on the table by his side and waited until it was apparent he didn't need anything else. She watched him from the corner of her eye, his jaw convulsing as he wolfed down the meat, tearing the flesh apart like a lion with a carcass, gravy dripping down his chin. She shivered, concentrating on her meal, sawing her food gently into squares, and then triangles, hoping he would finish soon. Most of her food seemed unappetising now, congealing and cold. The clock watched her, reminding her. His eyes glinted in her direction, an indication that he was finished. She could barely carry the plates, as they slipped in her hands, slimy, like bars of soap. Trembling in the kitchen, she found the little packet, small, transparent and innocent. She crushed the tablets with the back of the knife. The pills broke surprisingly easily, into particles first then dust. His usual drink fizzed and spat as she poured it, as though it could tell something was different. She took a deep breath and poured the remaining powder into the glass. It clouded over for a minute and then it was gone.

As she sat opposite him, his lips pressed to the glass. She felt the tension ebb out of her. He took a few fortifying gulps. She turned away to look outside and heard his breath quicken as he gasped for air. The spluttering stopped and the room went quiet. Outside the snow fell gently, coating the garden and making everything still again.





Outdoor Education Gallery

More than 100 pupils have been active members of the School's Combined Cadet Force during the past year, participating in a varied programme of regular training and events.

The year began with the annual Recruit Camp, with Form 2 pupils completing an intensive programme of training at Barry Buddon to introduce them to the basic skills necessary for cadets.

In November, the Contingent held its annual Remembrance Parade.

Autumn and Spring training saw the contingent rotate through a series of core activities, including Skill At Arms, Map and Compass, Drill, First Aid, Fieldcraft and Fitness Assessments, among others. Cadets also had the opportunity to fire on a DCCT range, courtesy of RAF Leuchars.

In mid-March, the unit was visited by Colonel Charles Coull, Deputy Commander (North) of 51 (Scottish) Brigade, as part of its biennial inspection. Seventy cadets from Form 2 – Form 6 took part, and Col Coull witnessed activities including leadership training, drill, rock climbing and First Aid, among others. He was welcomed by a Guard of Honour consisting of the oldest cadets, and a performance by the School's Pipes and Drums.

For the first time this year, F3 cadets also had the opportunity to join an additional Bushcraft club, which gave them an opportunity to learn survival skills, and culminated in an overnight camp in May.

The highlight of the year was once again the annual Cadet Camp, held this year at Wathgill in North Yorkshire. During the course of the week, the cadets took part in high-wire activities, obstacle courses, a range day, tactical skills, Adventure Training including climbing, water sports and archery, leadership activities and orienteering. The week culminated in an overnight exercise with an ambush and night patrolling.



CCF 2011





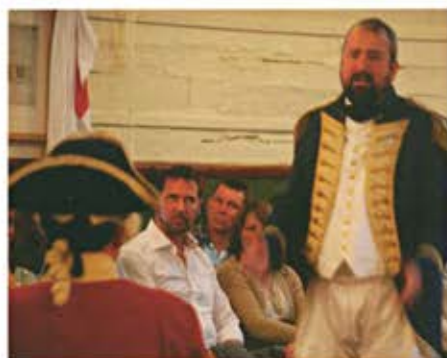
Our Country's Good

In June, The High School of Dundee staged a performance of *Our Country's Good*, a play by Timberlake Wertenbaker. The play follows the true story of the First Fleet of 1787, after their arrival to a British colony in Australia. To promote unity and order amongst the convicts, an officer of the Fleet arranged for them to perform a play, despite the reluctance of superior officers. *Our Country's Good* traces their story from his initial idea to the convicts' opening night.

The production, under the direction of Lindsay Drummond, took on a unique twist and was staged on the HM Frigate Unicorn. The ship would not be entirely dissimilar from the one that took the convicts to Australia in 1787, a perfect environment to re-enact their struggles. This unconventional staging was handled brilliantly, and brought an immersive atmosphere to the play – even the seagulls cawing outside contributed to the ambience. Further adding to the experience were the innovative uses of special effects, such as projections, gauze and voiceovers, giving the play a very professional quality. The cast interacted with this environment exceptionally well, and, with the help of their traditional costumes, it was easy to imagine their characters living and breathing on the ship.

Despite dealing with many heavy themes involving convicts, class and capital punishment; the play was surprisingly humorous. The witty dialogue was performed with perfect timing and enough conviction to have the audience laughing throughout. The actors also dealt well with scenes of pathos, sorrow and struggle. The cast was universally strong, with every performer bringing something unique to his or her role. The production was essentially an ensemble piece, and the collective effort put in by the cast was evident. Their enthusiasm, creativity and exceptional performances made for (to quote the play directly), "a pleasurable, intelligible and memorable evening".









Tin Pan Ali Review

Forms 2 and 3 worked intensively on the exciting musical 'Tin Pan Ali' from November 2009 to November 2010. This was a time in our life that we will never forget, thanks to all the hard work and intensive rehearsals. The show went down a treat!

Furthermore in 2009, auditions were held for this musical to give everyone a chance to perform their talents and shine. Nerves were running high during the auditions, but the end result was extremely successful as the cast list was displayed on the drama board.

After lots of rehearsals, the intensive rehearsal week became closer and closer. During this hard working time, the cast pushed their performing abilities to the limit. Not long after, we were trying on our character costumes and dress rehearsals were soon to start.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement, yet many of us could feel our stomachs twisting and turning into knots, but the strange thing about it, it was a good feeling.

Finally! It was the first opening night of our musical. Backstage was madness, while the audience waited for our performance. Many cast members battled against their nerves as we waited patiently and quietly in the wings. Eventually, the show opened with a lively dance number, and it was brilliant performing what we had been rehearsing for what seemed like a very long time. Euan Strachan and Alison Ross gave a heart-warming portrayal of Ali and Morgiana's love, while Daniel Baker gave a hilarious performance of Carooni. Everyone had the time of their lives and by the end of the first night, the crowd and cast was beaming.

With massive support from many of our teachers and friends, we performed another three nights, and loved them all! Before we knew it, it was our last night. This was our biggest performance yet as we had a full house, and we were longing for this experience to never end. As the cast left the Tin Pan Ali stage for the last time, there were tears in many of the cast's eyes.

Looking back, this was a fantastic experience for the entire Tin Pan Ali cast. We wouldn't change it for the world. We learnt many new things and had great fun during the process. Although Tin Pan Ali had finished, it has left us all with many new friends and new skills to allow us to continue performing in the future.

This experience created many joyful memories that we will never forget...

Katie Lumsdaine and Alison Ross

Taking on the Debating World

While not, this session, rewarded with the silverware which we have brought home in previous years, School teams at all levels have maintained a strong presence on the Scottish debating scene.

Senior debaters competed in the major university tournaments, with April Shepherd and Hannah Thomson placed 17th out of 108 teams at Durham, and April finishing 16th out of 216 on the speaker tab. They also reached the semi-finals of the Mace. In May, some brand new and very enthusiastic Form 1 pupils participated in the junior competition at RGC in Aberdeen, got the buzz, and have been practising furiously since.

However the major event of the year - indeed the major event of the debating careers of all those associated with High School debating - took place in August when the World Schools Debating Championship was held here in the City of Dundee. A long time ago, away back in 2007, Team Scotland had returned from WSDC in Seoul, Republic of Korea, proudly bearing the winners' trophy. In that team there were two Dundee pupils; Netan Dogra of Grove, and our own Neil Dewar. A few weeks later their respective school coaches were invited to a meeting by Dundee City Council to explore the possibility of Dundee hosting the event. And so it was, that four years of planning and preparation later, the world came to Dundee and was pictured in our playground.

With almost 420 participants from 48 nations, this was the second biggest WSDC in the 23-year history of the Championship. They were variously accommodated in the University of Dundee residences at Seabraes and Belmont, with about 70 guests also in the University of Abertay Dundee's new Opal block. All nine Dundee secondary schools, along with Webster's High School in Kirriemuir, hosted debates for three of the preliminary days. On Sunday 21st August the High School of Dundee welcomed not only all of the tournament delegates, but 35 visiting parents, some from as far away as Hong Kong and New Zealand, plus about 150 staff and pupils from other schools across Scotland. 50 of our pupils put on their uniform and came in to act as stewards, chairs

and timekeepers for the 24 debates which were held in the morning, with a further 24 after lunch. Thanks to the help provided by a whole range of people the day went remarkably smoothly and many compliments were paid to the School by tournament members about the efficiency of the organisation, the quality of the lunch provided, the architectural interest of the buildings and in particular the warmth of the welcome afforded to the international visitors by staff and pupils.

The following week, our pupils were rewarded for their support of the event by being allowed, if they wished, to attend the Grand Final in the Caird Hall. In a cracking debate, opposing the motion "This House Believes That autocracy is doomed in the age of Facebook", Singapore defeated Australia to become the first Asian winners in the history of the Championships.

Team Scotland, defeated in the semi-finals by Australia, finished 3rd - a very creditable achievement. The fact that for once, the School did not have a representative in the debating team was compensated for in other ways; in addition to hosting an entire day of debates, we provided both singers and our string ensemble as the musical entertainment at the Opening Ceremony in the Bonar Hall, University of Dundee.

The Grand Final was chaired by our FP Fiona Dewar, now a barrister, who also gave the keynote speech in the evening.

Scotland has won the championship three times, starting in Winnipeg in 1990. In London in 1999 the winning team included Fiona; in South Korea in 2007 her brother Neil was a member of the victorious Scottish line-up and is currently co-coach of Team Scotland.

His school debating partner Lauren Pringle, who either with Neil or with Scott Ralston during her time at school won every major Scottish trophy and was a member of Team Scotland in

Washington DC 2008 and Athens 2009, has been elected President of the Oxford Union for Hilary Term 2012, following in the footsteps of luminaries from Gladstone to Benazir Bhutto. Lauren helped with the organisation of WSDC Dundee as a stalwart of the tournament logistics team, as did Gavin Illsley, a former European University Debating Champion who was a member of Team Scotland in Peru in 2003. All of these former High School pupils were pictured on the stage of the Caird Hall after the closing dinner and awards ceremony.

This was a huge event both for the School and for the City and may not happen again in Dundee for ... a very long time! School debating carries on though, with practices and competitions to enter at all levels. If you would like to aim for local and national involvement, leading perhaps to international achievement, your first step should be to Mrs McGrath's classroom on Monday and Thursday lunchtimes.

WSDC Dundee 2011 Participants

Argentina	Nepal
Australia	Netherlands
Bangladesh	New Zealand
Barbados	Nigeria
Bermuda	Pakistan
Canada	Peru
Chile	Philippines
China	Poland
Croatia	Qatar
Czech Rep	Rep of Korea
England	Romania
Estonia	Scotland
Germany	Serbia
Greece	Singapore
Hong Kong	Slovakia
India	Slovenia
Indonesia	South Africa
Ireland	Sri Lanka
Israel	Sweden
Japan	Thailand
Kuwait	Turkey
Lithuania	UAE
Mexico	USA
Namibia	Wales





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Charities

This has been another busy year for the charities. With the hard work of the High Helpers and the staff Charities Committee, the whole school was involved in fundraising for a number of good causes. The first major event on the calendar was the Macmillan Cancer Relief "World's Biggest Coffee Morning". More than 500 pupils and staff were involved in buying and selling crisps and juice on the Pillars, decorated with balloons and Macmillan banners for the occasion. The £600 total gave a powerful kick-start to the session!

In November, the sale of poppies in advance of the Remembrance Day event was well-supported by staff and pupils. As is now customary, Bonar and Baxter were the scenes of chaos as High Helpers sold doughnuts and hot chocolate in aid of the charity Help for Heroes, who support wounded servicemen. Over £300 was donated to this worthy cause.

Not long afterwards, the annual Christmas Fair took place. With 12 charities represented, Baxter and Trinity were absolutely packed. Local craft groups were present, selling everything from cushions to jewellery and scarves. An Elves' Grotto was run by senior pupils to provide a range of exciting activities for younger children. Brodies coffee shop again provided refreshments and a raffle was held, raising £130 for Cystic Fibrosis. The day's total (including the earnings of individual charity stalls) reached £2800. The 12 charities each received £91 from the school.

The staff Christmas card continues to be a hit, and in December £480 was donated to the Dundee Branch of Contact the Elderly. The school's closure due to the snow at the beginning of December (when the house fundraising challenge usually begins) hampered fundraising efforts since most of the planned events could not be rescheduled

towards the (already hectic) end of term. Despite this set-back, £350 was raised for Save the Children's "Gift of Joy" campaign.

The annual Christmas Concert was also an ideal opportunity for raising money, and not one which was missed by the school community. In just one evening, £3,500 was raised for Tayside Children with Cancer and Leukaemia, who support families with children who suffer from cancer or leukaemia.

The Breakfast Club has enjoyed continued success within the school. The main team of High Helpers, who help with the running of the group, were supported by a rota of almost 50 pupils, which was, in itself, an organisational achievement. The success of the Breakfast Club would not have been attainable without the great deal of support received from the Home Economics department!



Charities to benefit from the work of this dedicated team include: Sentebale, Corbia Foundation, Plan International and Coronary Care at Ninewells Hospital. The provision of "elephant toilets" in the developing world has also been supported through Pump Aid.

Over the summer holidays in 2010, Lukas Paas spent three weeks in Lesotho, in Africa, working with Sentebale. Whilst in Africa, he assisted with maintenance of facilities and worked with the orphans supported by the charity.

Another overseas venture supported this year was The Corbia Foundation, which was recommended to the school by Mr Stephen Russell, our janitor, and his assistance with this fundraising was greatly appreciated. Stephen and his family regularly visit the project in Romania and this year took with them presents for Christmas time. As part of his efforts for the charity, Mr Russell cycled from Dundee to St Andrew's and back, raising over £600!

Every year, the school sponsors two children through Plan International – Peter Okelo Oyola in Nyanza and Lea Casica in Sarnar West, and the Breakfast Club were again instrumental in meeting the school's annual contribution to the project. Also, as in previous years, we have tried to support local organisations

and so the Ninewells Hospital Coronary Care was supported by the Breakfast Club in the summer term. The hard-working team at the Breakfast Club (and, of course, all the hungry customers) have raised over £2000. Thanks go to Mrs Madden and Mrs Ross, who without whose hard work this would not happen!

Individual staff members have helped many charities through their achievements, including marathons and sponsored walks. Mayfield Centre Manager, Craig Webb, completed a 10 day cycle from John O'Groats to Lands' End and together with sponsorship for running the London Marathon (which he completed in 3hs 50mins), raised £1500 for Help for Heroes. Events have also been organised on a number of occasions by staff and pupils who have personal reasons to support charities. In March the whole school were involved in the event held to mark Red Nose Day. Although the school events were brought forward a day to accommodate the school calendar, a massive £2650 for Comic Relief was raised by swapping the swathes of grey and blue blazers with red t-shirts for a day.

All these events and more have made for a busy year in the Senior School but the Junior School, not to be outdone by their older counterparts, have also been busy. In the highlight of the Christmas



events, a substantial sum was raised at the Junior School nativity for charities chosen by those involved. The Junior School have also been involved in raising money to pay for the sponsorship of pupils in a school in the Mashimoni Squatters' School in Kenya. An Africa Day was arranged by the pupils and 50p coins were used to create an enormous star in Margaret Harris Hall. They helped to raise over £1000 between these two events alone.

The sixth year Interact Club has also done a power of work, organising charitable events and helping the High Helpers where extra man-power was needed! With a final push in the last few weeks of the session, the aim of £5,000 is within sight.

Everyone in the school should be thanked for creating an environment where everyone can support charities, giving as big a commitment as they can, from helping out once a term to helping organise new and exciting events every day. It is, unfortunately, impossible to list every event and charity supported by the school.

Well done to absolutely everyone involved with the charities in the school in any way. The money couldn't have been raised without the support of staff, pupils and parents of the school. Thanks to every individual contribution to the school's charitable work, including the original ideas of staff and pupils, over £22,500 has been raised for various causes in the past year. This certainly gives an ambitious target for next year – congratulations, everyone!

Andrew Kelly (F3)



Hadrian's Wall trip 2011

On the last Friday of term the Form 1 pupils who study Latin and those Form 3 pupils who study Classical Studies, a party of thirty, boarded a bus to visit Hadrian's Wall.

First stop was the Roman Army Museum at Greenhead near Carlisle. We were greeted in Latin by a Centurion in full kit. The poor quality of his Latin, pointed out by Mr Meehan later, could perhaps be explained by his great distance from the centre of civilisation. He soon realised that he would have to revert to the Barbaric language of the natives to be understood by uncouth Scots from Dundee and in this language he told us about the pros and cons of army life. He soon had some volunteers being drilled by a very scary drill-sergeant – Miss Owens in armour.

The museum had been modernised since our last visit. A 3D film explained the building of Hadrian's Wall, and new exhibits and artefacts explained the life of soldiers on the wall. Inspired by all this most of the party then went to the museum shop and bought wooden swords.

Then a short journey to the fort of Vindolanda and a talk by the archaeologist supervising the on-going excavations of the second century AD barrack blocks. Fascinating and unique archaeology was being found. A temple to Jupiter Dolichenus had been found inside the fort, a murdered child under a bedroom floor, and the foundations of round huts either built by the African soldiers of the emperor Septimius Severus or by Scots refugees of the second century, as well as the stunning wooden and leather finds the site is famous for.

Here also was a newly refurbished museum displaying the fascinating wooden and leather finds, horse harnesses and people's shoes, and the famous wooden writing tablets that given a written account of daily life in the fort. The visit was hardly long enough before we needed to return to Dundee.

Classics Trips



Five teachers and thirty-six pupils gathered at the school gates rather bleary eyed and chilly. It was, after all, half-past four in the morning as we boarded the bus for Glasgow to wing our way to sunny Italy.

We had a busy and exhausting schedule as we took in the incredible sights and sounds of Rome: the Colosseum, the Roman forum, the commercial heart of ancient Rome and some of us climbed the Palatine Hill where the palaces of the emperors had once stood. We also visited the Vatican and Vatican museums to see the fabulous collections of ancient art as well as the extraordinary ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

Day four found us heading south to the Bay of Naples, where we went to Herculaneum, buried by mud in Vesuvius' eruption and fabulously preserved. Another highlight of the trip was the ascent of Mount Vesuvius.

Next day we had an early start to Pompeii for a full day visit of the amazing remains of this Roman city.

Too soon the adventure was over and we were back at the school gates, this time at one in the morning. We were all tired but with so many memories and experiences of a beautiful country.

For a full report of this wonderful trip, see: www.highschoolofdundee.org.uk/latest/news/768_trip_report-classics_2011



Drama Trip to Italy



London Art Trip Easter 2011



20 pupils along with three staff members spent four days in London at the beginning of the Easter holidays.

During our visit we went to many art galleries including the Victoria and Albert where we took part in a project design workshop. We also went to the National Portrait Gallery where we took some inspiration from the portraits and did our own versions of them using a mixture of media. The Saatchi Gallery however was the most popular gallery that we visited due to its unique and modern artwork and was described by a pupil as being 'a really eye opening experience.'

In the evenings we ate in lovely restaurants, went to a night time opening at both the Tate Modern and Tate Britain galleries as well as going to see the brilliant West-End show 'Dirty Dancing'. Getting to and from the places we visited we took the tubes which many pupils found 'very confusing but fun' but we also walked which allowed us to get a great feel of the general atmosphere of London.

Everybody had a brilliant time and felt it helped us prepare for our written exam in June as well as give us inspiration for our own design projects.

Lauren Barnett and Sarah Douglas, F4

At quarter past six on the morning of Sunday the 19th of June, 44 students and teachers boarded a coach headed for Austria, with nothing to accompany them but a rucksack, blankets, and a trailer full of musical instruments.

One sleepless night on the coach later, we found ourselves in the scenic village of Golling, nestled in amongst a vista of mountains and valleys, a feature prevalent in much of Austria. Despite our exhaustion, we had just enough energy to perform a rehearsal for the week's upcoming concerts – a remarkable show of stoicism from pupils and teachers alike!

On Tuesday morning, we had a walking tour of Salzburg town centre, and saw a number of the sites where the musical "Sound of Music" was filmed, including the convent and the magnificent Mirabell Gardens, where we performed later in the week. In the afternoon, we had our first performance, in a care home for the elderly. The concert went according to plan and was very well-received. We were even told someone had taped the concert to send a copy to Canada!

In the evening, we went to a concert in the Mirabell Palace, featuring work by Mozart, Schubert and Brahms. We were all very much impressed by the performance, especially since the musicians didn't use music.

Our next performance took place at the lakeside town of St Gilgen, the home of the St Gilgen International School. There, we were happily welcomed by the members of the school, and given the rare opportunity to play in the house of Mozart's mother (more specifically her attic). After a quick dip in the water, also enjoyed by our teachers Mrs Scott-Brown and Mr Armstrong, we visited another nearby community by the name of Mondsee, where we enjoyed the various sights, including the church in which the wedding scene from "The Sound of Music" took place. Not content with playing just one concert that day, however, we returned to St Gilgen one last time to perform at the town's bandstand. Luckily, we completed the show with only seconds to spare before torrential rain and storms swooped in over the valleys.

On the Thursday, we saw more rain, Austrian style! When we visited the amazing Berchtesgaden, Hitler's home, we were unable to see much because of huge amounts of cloud on the mountain. Sadly, our concert in the Mirabell Gardens had to be called off, though luckily we were able to re-arrange the event for the Friday afternoon. That night, a ceilidh and disco took place at the café across the road from the hotel, hosted by an impromptu band of pupils and Miss Simpson.

Our last full day in Salzburg saw us travelling to a nearby salt mine, where we were awestruck by underground lakes and foreboding tunnels that surrounded us, before returning to the city to watch an hilarious adaptation of "The Sound of Music", puppet style!

We would all like to acknowledge the fantastic work put into this trip by all the teachers that made it perhaps one of the best musical experiences we have had to date. Although Austria is now a far-off memory, the exceptional times we had will remain with us forever. Many thanks to Mrs Melville and all the teachers who accompanied us on the trip!

Lewis Davie, F4 and Andrew Kelly, F3

The full report of this trip can be found at: highschoolofdundee.org.uk

Music Trip to Austria





Peru Expedition



Ski Trip Reports



F3 Ski Trip Report 2011

It was Sunday 2nd January at 3am after saying our goodbyes we boarded the bus. Some were anxious about being away for week without our parents, but I can tell you now, we all had a blast!

A typical day on the ski trip: 7am - Wake up everyone! Straight after breakfast we packed a bag with sun cream, ski gloves, helmet, goggles, lip balm, sunglasses and anything else we might need. After a short journey, we had arrived at the slopes! It was so bright and sunny; you could see the snow sparkling in the sunlight like sugar, we soon had our ski boots on, had collected our skis and mustered at the bottom of the slopes eager to meet our instructors.

As soon as we returned our skis back on the racks for the next day, we were given about an hour to spend time in the shops of Sestriere. The most popular stop for everyone had to be the creperie.

There was entertainment organised every night. There was a quiz night and outdoor ice skating at a picturesque rink. Another night we went swimming to an indoor pool, we had a great time even though it was absolutely freezing! We also had a movie evening, and on the 2nd last night of our week in Pragelato, our instructors presented us with certificates and an official badge to show how well our skiing had improved that week.

I hated having to leave Pragelato, I'd had such a great time in the snow; the skiing and the freedom was amazing. I had never skied in my life before and to be honest I was incredibly nervous, but after this experience, I'd ski down a slope any day!

Grazie! X
Alison Ross, F3

F4-6 Ski Trip Report 2011

On 2nd January, 18 pupils from F4-6 embarked on our journey to the picturesque ski resort of Valloire, France.

The group bonded very well, as we made friendships with people from different years we'd have never spoken to otherwise. The skiing instructors were brilliant, and no matter if you were doing 360 degree ski jumps or simply trying to find a way of gracefully getting off a ski lift (an art which I don't think I ever quite mastered), there was a group and instructor for you!

We explored the town of Valloire, buying crêpes and trying to speak what little French we knew to the locals, but all we really wanted to do was get back onto the slopes the next day, and experience the feeling of freedom which we had all become addicted to.

When we all went down a run together on our final day, it was a brilliant feeling for us all to be together and it gave us all a real sense of accomplishment as we could really see what we had all achieved. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say thank you Val(oire) Vannet and Mrs Christie for a brilliantly organised and fantastic week skiing, we'd all go back in a heartbeat and it was a terrific start to 2011!

Holly Maxwell-Stevenson F5

The full ski trip reports can be found at:
www.highschoolofdundee.org.uk



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Spanish Exchange

Leg 1: St. George's Málaga students in Dundee

It was Saturday 26th February 2011 when the exchange pupils' bus pulled up alongside the playground.

As Pedro entered his home for the next week, we, my family and I, allowed him to get settled in to his new surroundings. Most of Saturday was spent in the same manner, as Sunday was to be a busy day. It was a fairly early start as we headed to Edinburgh the next morning to watch a Six Nations rugby match between Scotland and Ireland at Murrayfield.

I looked over to Pedro and saw his face break into a smile as the sound of bagpipes roared behind us. Scotland's 21-18 defeat barely dampened what was a fantastic day out. Unfortunately most of the weekday excursions were for the Spaniards only. However Pedro had nothing but good things to say about each and every outing: Edinburgh (ghost tour), The Scottish National Museum, Making shortbread in Home Ec, Tour of McManus followed by a workshop with Mrs. Angus, Famous Grouse Experience, Pitlochry, St. Andrew's, Anstruther's Fish and Chips, and The Fisheries Museum.

Fortunately, the Scots were included in the trip to Bannockburn and Stirling Castle on Tuesday. Pedro and I had an enormous amount of fun, as well as gaining much knowledge from the experience, proven by our victory of the Stirling Castle quiz. We were awarded our prizes during the Friday night Ceilidh. It was a great way to round off a wonderful week of activities.

Written by Jamie Clarkson F3

Leg 2: High School of Dundee students in Málaga

The exchange to Málaga took place from the 27th May to the 5th June. As we walked out of the airport all our exchange partners and their families were waiting to greet us with a big sign that said "Bienvenidos a Málaga!".

The Saturday was filled with fun and amusing activities. The girls got to visit the very posh Marbella and Puerto Banus; needless to say there was a lot of window shopping involved. The boys went paintballing and had the bruises to prove it.

On Monday we went to Cordoba, we visited the Mezquita which used to be a mosque but is now a Catholic cathedral. The following day we spent at St. George's then went to Granada to see the Alhambra.

We spent a day seeing the sights of Málaga. Ms Aguero took us to eat churros con chocolate, which were delicious. We then went to the Picasso museum and did a workshop creating Picasso themed artwork. That night was the disco and the talent show. On the final day of excursions we visited the caves of Nerja, which were absolutely breath-taking!

As we drove to Pablo Ruiz Picasso Airport with our families it began to sink in that we would be saying goodbye soon. We all promised to stay in touch and we definitely would love to go back to Málaga.

Written by Ranjini Mohanlal F3

A full report of this trip is available at: www.highschoolofdundee.org.uk

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