

Review 2013





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Editorial

Those of you who have read the Review over the last number of years will no doubt notice something of a change in this year's issue, as our magazine has a new format, focusing on the various events and news month by month as they occurred.

In editing the Review this year, I was more than ever struck by the huge range of exciting things that go on in the High School of Dundee every month...indeed, every week! As always, it has been a privilege and a pleasure to read about all the talented and enthusiastic pupils of this school and what they have been doing.

I do hope you enjoy the Review 2013.

Mrs J Phillips (Editor)

Rector's Report



Recently we were privileged to be entertained by our Guest of Honour at this year's Prize-Giving - Ricky Ross. Ricky was extremely generous in giving his time before rushing off to perform at Glastonbury and we were treated to an evening to remember. This was the first fund-raising event in support of our proposed Centre of Performing and Visual Arts in the former Post Office and emphatically re-emphasised the central role of creativity and imagination in the education we aspire to provide. It also underlined the huge range of cultural events organised by the school. A few weeks ago we heard the excellent news that Dundee had been shortlisted for the award of City of Culture status in 2017. I immediately contacted the city administration to congratulate them and say "Count us in!"

But what exactly is 'culture'? Is it broadly defined as "everything from language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music and arts"? Or, linked to Cicero's original use of an agricultural metaphor, is it more mysteriously a word to describe the development of a philosophical soul?

There is the perceived distinction between Culture and Civilisation, the clash of the Rational and Creative, the Arts and Sciences. In his famous 1959 Rede Lecture, British scientist and novelist C. P. Snow felt this clash of the 'two cultures' was a major hindrance in solving the world's problems, complaining of the narrowing of minds when, for example, "the majority of the cleverest people in the western world have about as much insight into (modern physics) as their Neolithic ancestors would have had."

At the High School we attempt to ensure that distinction does not exist, that education is truly integrated. The word Science has its roots in the Latin for knowledge. The Germans are more sensible, translating this as 'Wissenschaft', a term which is used for the analytical study of all subjects and topics, not just science, from 'Literaturwissenschaft' to 'Naturwissenschaft' to 'Wirtschaftswissenschaft' (Economics).

What we celebrate in our school today through the prizes and awards is, I hope, genuinely integrated knowledge and understanding forged in the white heat of our curriculum!

It is important that we recognise and reward excellence. We also wish to recognise notable application and effort. Perhaps we have not done enough of this over the years. It is therefore wonderful to see two new Prizes awarded this year, one for excellence, and one for improvement through hard work. The Illsley Prize for Outstanding Performance in Drama and the Betty Sword Prizes for Academic Improvement in F1 and F2 are most welcome additions to our Prize List and we thank both families for their outstanding generosity and support.

The High School of Dundee can look back on another productive and successful year. We have just under 1000 pupils on the roll, with a turnover of over £9million, and the school employs 200 teaching and support staff. The school produces a healthy surplus each year which is reinvested in resources, facilities, accommodation and of course staff, who constitute some 75% of all expenditure. Despite the ongoing financial and economic woes nationally, and the dip in the number of school age pupils in Dundee, the school roll is holding its own well, though it is clear

that the need for means-tested financial support continues to rise.

The main focus of the school remains the academic curriculum, and 2012 was another year of super examination results for the pupils of the High School of Dundee.

Our F5 pupils performed very well to achieve a Higher pass rate of 94%, second only to last year's record passes. 61.5% of all papers were A grade passes, a school record, and 25% of all candidates achieved 5 straight As. 60% achieved 5 Higher passes. One pupil achieved 100% in Higher Physics, thereby becoming the top pupil in all Scotland. Interestingly the High School had more candidates in Advanced Higher Science subjects than all the other Dundee schools combined.

As far as preparing our pupils for the next stage is concerned, it is clear that all our pupils aspire to study a course at university or, in some cases, college. It was therefore gratifying to see 100% of our university applicants received offers, despite the fact that Scottish universities have become more competitive than ever.

The Sunday Times placed HSD in 6th place nationally in its annual 'league table'. We hope that the city as a whole

is proud to have at its heart such a centre of excellence in education.

Our commitment goes beyond the classroom, and the High School Integrated Curriculum is intended to develop what used to be called character, now perhaps known as transferable skills: leadership, teamwork, communication skills, imagination and enterprise. The school's commitment to music, sport, drama, debating, Duke of Edinburgh's Award, charitable fundraising and the CCF, for example, remain undimmed. We plan to enhance it further and have appointed a new Deputy Head with the specific responsibility for the co-curriculum. We must continue to look outwards, beyond the Pillars, especially in terms of our civic responsibility. The Charities Committee, can look back on another successful year, raising a total of £32,861.63 in the course of the year, a remarkable achievement in straitened times.

And what of the future? The new HSD app, free to download, has been introduced and will enable all those interested in the school to access the school calendar, news and other information. There will be much to report!

Our academic departments have been preparing for the new National exams due to be examined for the first time in May 2014. We will keep you informed at each stage but I do not foresee any problems in preparing our pupils as thoroughly for exams as they have been for the past 774 years.

We are never perfect however, and therefore must always strive to improve. The overriding priority is the quality of the Pupil Experience, which drives everything else. In terms of our curriculum we will be reviewing the provision of modern languages in the Junior School, and are considering the introduction of Mandarin throughout the school. We will be reviewing the way we teach science in L5-L7 with a view to providing dedicated lab time. We will also introduce specialist art teaching down to L4.

In terms of structured development we wish to enhance the school as an incorporation of centres of excellence and in this our model for our developing Academy of Sport can serve as

an example. Under the principles of Participation, Performance and Wellbeing we wish to improve our provision in the following key areas:

1. Sport for All - engage and challenge all pupils through the breadth and depth of sports and physical activities, engaging them in a programme of personal development
2. High Performers - foster and develop pupils aspiring to excellence in identified sports and physical activities
3. Academic Integration – PE as an academic subject, and the need to ensure sport and physical activities are fully integrated into the fabric of High School life
4. Community - engage HSD teams and pupils in its surrounding community through sport and physical activities
5. National lead - position HSD at the forefront of sports education and attainment in Scotland

Meanwhile we are progressing fast with our new Nursery for children aged 3-5. The importance of a vibrant and high quality educational experience in the early years is self-evident and well documented. We aspire to open the best nursery in Tayside and the opportunities for active learning provided by the location at Mayfield are unparalleled in this area. We aim to begin construction in the autumn and open in August 2014

Our commitment to creativity and imagination in education was trumpeted loud and clear in the Board's decision to acquire the former Head Post Office opposite the school with a view to developing it as a Centre of the Performing and Visual Arts. This will be a multi-million pound project which will take a few years to bring to fruition but it exemplifies our need to move forward across the curriculum. Watch this (rather substantial) space!

Finally we have the whole question of Technology; specifically, the integration of one-to-one devices or tablets in learning and teaching. The iPad trial conducted over the past year in L6 and F2 placed the school at the forefront nationally in exploring the practical uses of these devices. In addition to regular monitoring of staff and pupils during the trial we issued questionnaires at the outset and conclusion of the trial to pupils, staff and parents. It will not be surprising to hear that the pupils were almost without exception 100%

enthusiastic! Parents and staff raised a few important areas for discussion – as with any meaningful trial – and these have been crucial in helping us move ahead. Given the considerable financial and practical implications, we do not wish to rush unduly but we will have a considered decision and clear way forward by the end of the summer holidays.

In conclusion, I should say a few words of thanks. The Directors work hard to identify the strategic direction of the school and the 200 staff assist me and the Senior Management Team in leading and managing the implementation of that strategy. My sincere thanks to them all! The teaching staff work hard to help the pupils succeed but the school would not function without the dedication of the many support staff – my PA and all the staff at Mayfield, in the Office and Bursary, the Facilities Manager, the ICT/ Lab technicians, classroom and playground assistants, the caterers, the cleaning staff, the janitors. To those colleagues leaving us this summer, thank you for your comradeship and professionalism, and haste ye back! To those staying I look forward to working with you to take the school forward again in August.

Thanks also to the wider school community: The Parents' Association, the FP Association, the Old Boys and Old Girls Clubs, Appeal Trust Fund, the Nine Trades, Guildry, and numerous other trusts who provide financial support.

Above all, my thanks to all the Pupils, ably led by the Head Boy, Head Girl and their Deputies, along with the House Captains and Vice-Captains.

Seeing F6 pupils on Leavers' Day reminds us graphically how successful the synergy is between pupils, staff and parents in producing sparky, talented, creative and well balanced young people in such numbers, ready to go and make their mark in the world. Returning to the theme of culture, the English poet and essayist Matthew Arnold used the word "culture" to refer to an ideal of individual human refinement, of "the best that has been thought and said in the world." Our pupils also repeatedly demonstrate that they are capable of the 'best that has been done'!

Dr John D Halliday
Rector

Form 1

Academic Merit Prize

Lily Bircham

Sarah Elgin

Eilidh Fish

Lucy Graham

Brian Lim

James Taylor

Betty Sword Prize for Academic Improvement in Form 1

Nicoll Butter

Tie for International Recognition (Flyball – dog handling)

Gregor Hands

Academic Merit Prize

Old Boys' Club Prize for Creative Writing in Forms 1-3

Joseph Carstairs

Academic Merit Prize

Tie for International Recognition (Sailing)

Anna Sturrock

Alexander Mill White Prize for all-round ability in Form 1 Girls
Florence Whytock Memorial Prize for Dux of Form 1 Girls

Caitlin Mitchell

Alexander Mill White Prize for all-round ability in Form 1 Boys

Robertson Prize for Dux of Form 1 Boys

Asad Jafferbhoy

Form 2

Academic Merit Prize

Alexander Taylor

Tie for International Recognition (Hockey)

Cameron Golden

Tie for International Recognition (Choir)

Finlay McKillop

Tie for International Recognition (Choir)

Catrina Murphy

Leng Silver Medal for Singing (Girls)

Kirsty Barron

Andrew K Paton Memorial Trophy for all-round sporting ability in Form 2 Boys

Rory Johnston

Betty Sword Prize for Academic Improvement in Form 2 (joint)

Alexander Cameron

Betty Sword Prize for Academic Improvement in Form 2 (joint)

Lewis Keddle

Academic Merit Prize

A S Drummond Prize for Public Speaking in Forms 1 – 3

Hannah George

Academic Merit Prize

A S Drummond Prize for Public Speaking in Forms 1 - 3

Alice Inman

Leng Silver Medal for Singing (Boys)

Tie for International Recognition (Choir)

Lynden Nicely

Leng Gold Medal for Singing
Tie for International Recognition (Choir)

Joshua Rawcliffe

Academic Merit Prize

Neil Fraser Cup and Prize for all-round ability in Form 2 Boys

Logan Thomson

RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2 Boys

Ivan Kapelyukh

RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2 Girls (joint)

Eleanor Wyatt

Tom Durrheim Memorial Prize for Recitation in F1-3

Prize for all-round ability in Form 2 Girls

RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2 Girls (joint)

Alex Smith

Form 3

Academic Merit Prize

Clare Mather

Sally Burnett

Clara Mitchell

Cara Walsh

Zhenteng Shan

Tie for International Recognition (Brass Band)

Louise McFadden

Chris Rae Prize for Games in Form 3 (Boys)

Nathan Moorjani

Chris Rae Prize for Games in Form 3 (Girls)

Emma Duncan

Jane Spiller Prize for Dux of Form 3 boys

Kenneth Matheson

Jane Spiller Prize for Dux of Form 3 girls

Anushka Pathak

Form 4

Academic Merit Prize

Molly Andrew

Sophie Kroboth

Eilidh Lockhart

Roisin McCrimmon

Carys Stirling

Tie for International Recognition (Equestrian)

Abbie Clark

Tie for International Recognition (Choir)

Sophie Kelly

Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra)

Rhys Paterson

Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra, Table Tennis, Jazz Orchestra)

Alasdair Rennet

Tie for International Recognition (Triathlon)

Euan Rose

Tie for International Recognition (Choir)

Rebekah Wilson-Pearce

The David Mathers Trophy and Prize for Mathematics in Form 3 and Form 4

John Halford-McGuff

Larg prize for Brass

(Grade 7 or above)

Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble

Sam Cunningham

Larg Prize for Brass

Grade 7 or above)

Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble

Alister Goodfellow

Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra and Choir)

Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble

Euan Strachan

RSL Macpherson

Prize for Dux of Form 4 Boys

Joshua McLaggan

Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux of Form 4 Girls

Caitlin Richardson

Prize list 2013

Form 5

Academic Merit Prize
Alice Burnett

Academic Merit Prize
Hannah Douglas

Tie for International
Recognition (Rugby)
Henry Sampson

Tie for International
Recognition (Rugby)
Christopher Jollands

Tie for International
Recognition (Tennis)
Alice Keddie

D Arnot Shepherd Travel
Scholarship
Rose Arthur

G H Philip Prize for Public Speaking
Zara Billah

Intermediate Chess Club Trophy
and Prize
Nassim Branine

The Beckingham Trophy and
Chess Club Prize
Michael Fergusson

Edinburgh-Angus Club Prize for
Higher Spanish
Owen Fitzpatrick

Prize for Higher Physical Education
Ailsa Johnston

Prize for Higher RMPS (joint)
India Moorjani

Spankie Quaich for Higher
Technological Studies
Duncan Raitt

Block Prize for Creative
Writing in F4-6
Alis Reid

Isabella Hunter Award for
Higher Art
Erin Smith

Academic Merit Prize
Edinburgh Angus Club Prize for
Higher Classical Studies
Jack Cannon

Academic Merit Prize
Edinburgh Angus Club Prize for
Higher Economics
Jamie Clarkson

Academic Merit Prize
Caird Prize for Higher
Business Management
Ciaran Grewar

Larg Prize for Bagpipes
Tie for International Recognition
(Angling)
Jack Hamilton

Jane Rae Prize for Home Economics
Richard Beaton Prize for Practical
Cookery
Eilidh Macfarlane

J B Meiklejohn Prize for
Mathematics in Form 5 Boys (joint)
Sandy Wardlaw Memorial
Trophy and Book Prize for Higher
Chemistry
Jamie Mather

Prize for Higher Computer Studies
James Stevenson Memorial Prize
for Higher German
Kirsty Mellor

Graeme Matheson-Bruce
Prize for Higher Music
Tie for International
Recognition (Choir)
Alison Ross

Academic Merit Prize James
Stevenson Memorial
Prize for Higher French
E M Stewart Prize for
Higher English
Sarah Emslie-Smith

Robert Biggar Prize for
Higher Geography
Larg Prize for Vocal
(Grade 7 and above)
Tie for International
Recognition (Choir)
Karyn Joss

Academic Merit Prize
London Angus Association
Trophy for Reading and
Public Speaking
G H Philip Prize for Public Speaking
Scott Lothian

Prize for Higher RMPS (joint)
Prize for Higher Drama
D Arnot Shepherd Travel
Scholarship
Katie Lumsdaine

Academic Merit Prize
Glenday Award for Higher Biology
Edinburgh Angus Club Prize for
Higher History
Marshall Macleod

Larg Prize for Piano
(Grade 7 and above)
High School Quaich for Best All-
Round Instrumentalist
Girls' Chess Trophy
Jenny Zhan

Academic Merit Prize
J B Meiklejohn Prize for
Mathematics in Form 5 Boys (joint)
Prize for Higher Latin
Tom Durrheim Memorial Award for
Essay Writing in F4-6
Andrew Kelly

Dennis J Paterson Prize for
Dux of Form 5 boys
Daniel Davidson

Christopher and Philip
Daft Prize for Higher Physics
J B Meiklejohn Prize for
Mathematics in Form 5 Girls
Caroline S Low Prize for Dux of
Form 5 Girls
Hannah Arnold

Form 6**Form 6 Leaver Award**

Yousif Al-Agilly
George Arnott
Lydia Avrit
Hassan Baig
Cameron Bennett
Harris Brown
Rachel Brown
Rory Brown
Niamh Carey
Ross Carr
Tracy Chan
Leann Chen
Ellen Clark
Gareth Clark
Blair Cochrane
Charlotte Collison
Rachael Cosgrove
Ellis Douglas
Sandy Gardiner
Oliver Grieve
Dexter Hampton
Adris Hanif
Lucy Harley
Sarah Hay
Natasha Henderson
Claire Hill
Keir Hunter
Abi Inglis
Lana Ingram
Aneesah Javed
Ailsa Johnston
Iona Johnston
Aimee Keatch
Ryan Kemlo
Logan Kilcullen
Lois King
Katherine Leys
Rory Malcolm
Anyia Matossian
Vanessa Matthew
Cameron McNamara
David Mitchell
Josh Morris
Andrew Murie
Grace Nimmo
Robert Oakes
Jack Paladini
Gavin Philp
Samuel Poon
Alexander Ramsay
Mark Rogers
Seth Scahill
Alex Sharpe
Antony Shek
Ellie Shepherd
Ruth Sinclair
Fiona Smith
Hannah Stirling
Marysia Thomson
Kerry Voice
Olivia Walker
Gail Watson
Charlotte Welts
Jake Wheeler
Nathan Wight

Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Elidh Affleck</i>	William Laird Prize for Scottish Studies (Geography) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Lizzi Peters</i>	Dott Prize for Dux in Music W E Crichton Prize for Dux in Computer Studies Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Lewis Davie</i>	Brian McNeill Prize for Dux in Biology Frank Young Prize for Dux in Natural Science Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux in German Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Jakob Kroboth</i>
Prize for Higher Managing Environmental Resources Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Lauren Barnett</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Kirsty Stout</i>	Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux in French James Smart Prize for Project Work in Chemistry Larg Prize for Woodwind (Grade 7 and above) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Morven Millar</i>	The Rorie Trophy for Inter House Debating Inter House Shield for Champion House <i>Aystree</i>
Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux in English Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Anna Bochsler</i>	The Illsley Trophy for Outstanding Performance in Drama Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Zoe Urquhart</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Dennis J Paterson Trophy and Prize for Best Speaker in the Inter-House Debates Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Cameron Tissahaw</i>	Lowson Prize for Head of School (Girls) <i>Susan Graham</i>
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Louis Chesters</i>	Prize for Higher Russian Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Darya Vinogradov-Wouters</i>	Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Jamie Dunn</i>	Erskine Prize for Head of School (Boys) <i>Cameron Pringle</i>
P Gordon Grant Trophy for Games Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Charles Clark</i>	Edinburgh Angus Club Prize for Dux in Modern Studies Sir John Leng Trust prize for Dux in History Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Sophie Armstrong</i>	Graeme Adamson Prize for Dux in Drama Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Taylor Dyson</i>	Rector's Prize for Proxime Accessit <i>Harry Carstairs</i>
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Sarah Douglas</i>	Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to School Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Bethany Cessford</i>	Alan Hall Prize for Dux in Technological Studies Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Damon Ednie</i>	Harris Gold Medal and David Gray Book Prize for Dux of School <i>Jakob Kroboth</i>
Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Jamie Dunn</i>	William More Prize for Dux in Applied Mathematics (joint) T S Murray Prize for Dux in Chemistry (joint) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>John Ferguson</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Aimee Elgin</i>	
Graeme Adamson Prize for Dux in Drama Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Taylor Dyson</i>	W E Crichton Prize for Dux in Economics P Gordon Grant Trophy for Games Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Campbell MacLeod</i>	Eiko Takahashi Prize for Excellence in Modern Languages Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Tabitha Fleming</i>	
Alan Hall Prize for Dux in Technological Studies Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Damon Ednie</i>	D Arnot Shepherd Travel Scholarship Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Kimberley Marshall</i>	Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Jamie Ford</i>	
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Aimee Elgin</i>	T S Murray Prize for Dux in Chemistry (joint) Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Cameron Pringle</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Ashley Fulton</i>	
Eiko Takahashi Prize for Excellence in Modern Languages Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Tabitha Fleming</i>	J Torrington Bell Prize for Dux in Art Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Ailsa Purdie</i>	D Arnot Shepherd Travel Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Joe Gibbins</i>	
Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Jamie Ford</i>	Larg Prize for Guitar (Grade 7 and above) Tie for International Recognition (Triathlon) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Calum Rennet</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>James Lucocq</i>	
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Ashley Fulton</i>	W E Crichton Prize for Dux in Spanish Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Eleanor Robson</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Gavin Lynch</i>	
D Arnot Shepherd Travel Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Joe Gibbins</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Rector's Prize for Deputy Head Boy Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Andrew Sadler</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Amber Merry</i>	
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>James Lucocq</i>		Dallas Allardice Cup and Prize for Dux in Physical Education (Boys) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Craig Morrison</i>	
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Gavin Lynch</i>		William Laird Prize for Scottish Studies (History) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>James Mulligan-Linforth</i>	
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Amber Merry</i>			
Dallas Allardice Cup and Prize for Dux in Physical Education (Boys) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Craig Morrison</i>		Larg Prize for Strings (Grade 7 and above) Simon Newton Memorial Trophy for Commitment in Music and Sport William More Prize for Dux in Applied Mathematics (joint) Rector's Prize for Deputy Head Girl Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Louise Pattullo</i>	
William Laird Prize for Scottish Studies (History) Form 6 Leaver Award <i>James Mulligan-Linforth</i>		Larg Prize for Percussion (Grade 7 and above) Dott Memorial Prize for Dux in Mathematics Jacuk Prize for Dux in Physics D Arnot Shepherd Travel Scholarship Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding Service to School Form 6 Leaver Award <i>Harry Carstairs</i>	

Welcome



Anne Mitchell

Fee administrator

Anne Mitchell joined the High School in December 2012. She previously worked for MMG Archbold (the chartered accountants on Bell Street) so she did not have far to move. She is happily married to Thomas and is a very proud mum of Scott - a former pupil of the school - who has gained an honours degree in Ethical Hacking and Counterbalance, and is at present working on a PhD in Cryptography. Anne is based in the Finance Office and is responsible for the billing of fees and collection of the money, with various other duties attached. Anne says that she has been made to feel very welcome at the High School from the outset by all the staff, and is particularly grateful for the support of Mr Sharp, Jill, Jacquie and Alena in the Finance Office, who have helped her to settle in and enjoy her work.



Carlijn Meeuwesen-Findlater

Carlijn Meeuwesen-Findlater joined the Classics department in August 2012 following a teaching career in England and the Netherlands. Originally from the south of the Netherlands, Carlijn graduated from Leiden University with a MA Hons in Greek and Latin Languages and Cultures. An opportunity to teach Classics while studying for her degree made Carlijn realise that she wanted to pursue a career in teaching. After graduation she spent a few years travelling back and forth between the UK and the Netherlands, as her work was in the Netherlands but her partner (recently turned husband) came from Lanarkshire. In her first year at the High School Carlijn has become involved in a variety of school activities including the Classics Club, the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Charities Committee. She has a passion for Ancient Medicine and the Ancient Greeks, and tries to familiarise as many pupils as possible with some of the amazing inventions from 2500 years ago. Her hobbies include reading historical novels and running a cinema club.

Deborah Sager

Deborah Sager has returned to Dundee after an absence of 25 years. Brought up in Fife, Debbie attended Bell Baxter High School in Cupar and then moved to Dundee where she completed an MA Honours in Psychology from the University of Dundee. Following relocation to Yorkshire, Debbie's first teaching role was in an inner-city school in Leeds which was followed by the

very different position of Head of Early Years at Moorfield School for Girls in Ilkley. A happy return to Leeds Girls' High School followed, where Debbie was heavily involved in its merger with Leeds Grammar School to form a new co-educational school: The Grammar School at Leeds.

When her two daughters left home for university, Debbie and her husband grabbed the opportunity to return to Fife and moved into a countryside home with a very active puppy. Debbie was delighted to come back once more to Dundee and begin a new chapter of her teaching career at The High School of Dundee.

Out of school Debbie enjoys walking, theatre visits and gardening, as well as accumulating antiques and vintage collectibles. She has found life in the Junior School a delight and has thoroughly enjoyed working with helpful and considerate colleagues as well as such stimulating and friendly children. She looks forward to the start of the next academic year with great enthusiasm.



Duncan Campbell

English Teacher

Duncan Campbell joined the English department at the start of this year and, when asked, nonchalantly deemed the school everything he had expected (although did admit to having insider knowledge from his childhood friend Graeme Merry). Duncan enjoys rugby and was involved in the sport in his last position at Kinross High School. Since joining the English department he has become involved in creative writing, believing sufficient and varied inspiration is the key to success in this area. His love of old movies, music from a variety of genres, and even some tales from his own youth, have all become the muse for his pupils' work. Duncan has also tried his hand at pantomime: his repertoire boasts starring as Aladdin and once having tackled a particularly challenging role as a particularly striking Prince Charming. Look out, Drama department!



Edmund Faulkes

Head of Classics

In August 2012 Edmund was appointed Head of Classics following the retirement of John Meehan. Edmund is a member of the Antonine Guard (Roman army education and re-enactment squad) and often holidays in Italy and Greece exploring ancient archaeological sites. He began his teaching career in the borderlands of Pakistan and Afghanistan teaching English to Pathan

tribesmen, before being ordained in the Scottish Episcopal Church. He taught Divinity to trainee clergy for many years before becoming a school teacher at Stromness in the Orkneys, then four years ago returned to Dundee to teach Classics at the High School.



Federica Spiezia

Federica was born and grew up in Rome, where she also studied Mathematics at 'La Sapienza' university. After graduating with a first-class degree, she taught Maths and Physics in Italian secondary schools before moving to England to study for a PhD in Pure Mathematics at the University of East Anglia.

Having completed her PhD, she moved to Perth with her Scottish husband and young family in 2001. Soon after, her passion for Maths and teaching prevailed and she completed a PGDE at the University of Dundee. She taught at Breadalbane Academy and Dunblane High School before joining the High School's Maths department in August 2012. In her first year at the High School, Federica has been fully involved in school activities, including participation in the Classics trip to her home country of Italy, accompanying pupils to a Maths competition in Edinburgh, and teaching conversational Italian to senior pupils in the Post Exam Programme in June. As a keen runner and a member of the Charities Committee, Federica organised the participation of a team of HSD pupils and staff in the Race for Life in aid of Cancer Research UK.



Guy Warner

After completing his doctorate at St. Andrews in 2001, Guy Warner had various software and network development jobs before landing the post as a trainer at the National e-Science Centre based at the University of Edinburgh. This work involved travelling round Europe and the UK, training researchers in the extremely large-scale computing concepts and software used by the Enabling Grids for E-sciencE project and the UK's National Grid Service, with experiments such as the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. At the same time, Guy was also responsible for teaching parts of an e-Science, distributed computing MSc at the University of Edinburgh. He followed this job with a research post creating a data management/fusion infrastructure and portal for social scientists at the University of Stirling, whilst also teaching student tutorial groups. In 2011 he decided to make the switch to secondary level teaching and he completed his teacher training at the University of Leeds in 2012.



Jane Crudass

Jane has stepped into David Brett's shoes as Head of Chemistry, joining us from St Leonards School. She is an experienced teacher, having also taught in Oxford, Newcastle and New Zealand. Jane grew up in Egypt and first fell in love with Scotland when she studied Chemistry at the University of Edinburgh. She loves being outdoors and has already started helping out with the school's Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. She says she developed her love of "tramping" during her time in New Zealand, when she taught at a school where the prefects wore kilts and there was a school pipe band. It is just as well that Jane loves the pipes, as the pipe band regularly practises outside her laboratory window. Jane is also a keen netball player and she coaches and umpires for the school.

Jane became a Chemistry teacher after her childhood ambition to be a Blue Peter presenter fell through. Her favourite element is Vanadium and she enjoys skiing, snowboarding, surfing and seeing the world. She is marrying her fiancé Graeme in July, so will return as Mrs Broom after the summer.



Jill Henderson

Jill joined the High School of Dundee as Financial Controller in October 2012. She was born and brought up in Dundee, and graduated from Dundee University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Accountancy Honours Degree. Thereafter Jill completed a training contract to become a chartered accountant with local accountancy practice Reeves & Neylan, now EQ Chartered Accountants. She made her first venture into industry in 2007, and joined the High School from Gemini Corrosion Services, an oil and gas service company in Montrose. So far, Jill has thoroughly enjoyed her time here, especially the variety of work involved and the friendly working environment.



Jo Downie

Jo Downie taught in Sydenham School in London for six years before joining the High School. In London she taught Social Sciences, predominantly Citizenship. Jo has found the move to Learning Skills a very positive change, and enjoys the one-to-one tuition it involves. She finds the pupils particularly enthusiastic, motivated and polite, and is really enjoying working with them. She has also found the staff to be extremely friendly and helpful, particularly

Mrs Maxwell, who has "shown her the ropes" in the department!

Jo has already become an active member of the school's co-curricular community. She takes the L6 spelling club, helps with the Model United Nations for senior pupils, and she is a member of the Charities Committee and Staff Social Committee. Out of school, Jo loves going for long seaside walks, drinking tea with friends and reading. She is also very interested in politics and current affairs, and is a keen traveller - she would love to visit every continent of the world!



Sam Watson

Sam Watson joined the Senior Management Team at the start of this year, from her previous position as the Head of Geography at St Leonards. Moving into a bigger school, Sam said she was pleased the pupils were polite, helpful and welcoming, and that she was impressed with the work ethic and everybody's push to achieve. Since joining the school Sam has pursued her love of music and, as well as being a keen pianist, she finds time to sing in the Senior Choir. Out of school Sam loves spending time with her family in the garden. In school, Sam has already made herself popular with the pupils - in particular the current Sixth Form - and staff alike, and looks set for a happy and successful career at the High School.



Neil Higgins

Congratulations to Neil Higgins who has been appointed Acting Head of Business Education while Clare Laird-Portch is on maternity leave.



Paul Smith

Paul joined the Mathematics department in August. After gaining a first-class degree in Engineering from the University of Cambridge, Paul intended to become a software engineer and worked writing GPS software for a Formula 1 company. In 1997 he was tempted back to Cambridge to do a PhD in Computer Vision, and spent a further twelve years in academia, initially as a lecturer at Cambridge. In 2001 Paul and a fellow researcher had the idea of using video cameras in cricket to adjudicate LBW decisions. Unfortunately, Hawk-Eye was trying the same thing at the same time and made money out of it. He later moved to Oxford to do research in Robotics, then to Galway, Ireland,

for Pure Mathematics research, and finally to the department of Computer Science in St Andrews. In 2011 he retrained and completed a PGDE at the University of Dundee. Outside of Mathematics, Paul sings with the Senior Choir, is a keen cricketer and tennis player, and enjoys cooking elaborate meals. However, most of his spare time nowadays is spent helping bring up his two young children!



Rhona Mckay

Rhona joined the High School of Dundee in January 2013. A Geography graduate of the University of Dundee with an MSc in European Urban Conservation, she used her geographical skills supporting learners at the Kingswood Field Studies Centre in Hexham, before commencing her PGDE at the University of Aberdeen. The formative years of her teaching career saw her circumnavigate the Angus schools before taking up a post at the high-achieving Cults Academy in Aberdeen. Thankfully, the long commute and the love of a good man brought her back to the Dundee area, where she continues to strive for excellence in the classroom environment.

Rhona enjoys the heady heights of scaling a Munro as much as she enjoys endlessly lapping up and down a swimming pool. When not teaching Geography she can be found sharing her expertise of Highland Dancing in her role as a dance instructor or chasing her dog around at dog training classes. As her first academic year draws to a close she has not only succeeded in making a name for herself at the High School of Dundee, but has also succeeded in getting on the property ladder, planning a wedding, travelling to Europe and walking the Rob Roy Way. We look forward to welcoming her back to school in August as Mrs Lloyd.



Scott McBride

Scott was promoted to the post of Head of Computing in August 2012 when he took over from David Smith. Scott intends to continue the good practice of his predecessor and is keen to drive the department forward in this exciting period of vast technological advances and curriculum changes. He will seek to raise the profile of Computing while setting pupils up with essential ICT skills, with a view to equipping them for further education and the workplace.

Farewell

Ashley Quigley

Ashley joined the High School of Dundee as a trainee teacher in May 2010. Her infectious enthusiasm made her an immediate hit with the pupils and her commitment and dedication made her invaluable to the Geography department and the wider school community. Her pursuit of excellence was a driving force for the pupils in her care and her involvement with Eco-Schools helped raise the profile of environmental sustainability at the High School. She gave up weekends to support the Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and introduced the concept of 'glamping' to this outdoor experience.

Her teaching career took a new direction in January when she took up a full-time post as Teacher of Geography at St Thomas Aquinas School in Edinburgh, where she will undoubtedly continue to motivate and inspire another generation of learners.

Sven van Sweeden

Sven joined the High School in December 2012 and has quickly settled into his post. Sven hails from Eindhoven in the Netherlands (don't say Holland!) and is married to Kairin, a Scottish girl he met there. Photography, hill-walking, yachting and kayaking are favourite hobbies of Sven's ...oh, and drinking coffee. Previously, Sven skipped the Safety Boat /Fast Response Vessel for the new Forth-crossing construction project and for the Protection Works on the Tay Road Bridge. A post in the Movement Analysis Lab in Dundee University Hospital brought Sven and his wife back to Scotland. With a broad range of skills and experience, not least his electrical and lighting knowledge, Sven is a welcome addition to the Facilities team and we wish him well in his post with us.



Carol Sinclair

After 28 years distinguished service to Chemistry and the pupils of the High School of Dundee, Mrs Carol Sinclair is hanging up her lab coat to enjoy a retirement of travel and time to herself – a challenge in itself with a husband and three grandchildren!

Carol started her teaching career in 1976 at Queen Anne High School in Dunfermline, her own choice as at that time there were no interviews in Fife and she was allowed to pick her own school! Following a stint at Madras College in St. Andrews, and time off to have her two children, Carol arrived at HSD after being recommended by her St. Andrews University professor to work under Mr Jim "Killer" Smart. Jim quickly put her through a rigorous induction process and concluded that she was an excellent

teacher, with an eye for precision. She soon became a trusted lieutenant. Mr Bob MacDonald was of a similar opinion and was very grateful for her contributions in developing huge quantities of resources for our pupils and nationally by proof-reading his 'Complete Chemistry' Higher course.

Carol has played an active role in the wider school community throughout her time with us, from organising karaoke events for the charities committee, felt-making with the art club, a 'lollipop lady' at Breakfast Club, coaching the Chemistry Quiz team, and always a supporter of musical and dramatic events.

Carol says that she has loved her role teaching Chemistry at HSD and twenty-eight-years' worth of HSD pupils, parents, colleagues and friends will undoubtedly wish her a well-deserved, long and happy retirement.

Kevin Megaw

Kevin retired at the end of July from his post as Catering Manager. He provided loyal and committed service to the school throughout the seven years he managed all the catering requirements of the school both at the school campus and at Mayfield. In thanking Mr Megaw for all the work he has undertaken and, in the spirit of his considerable experience in the services, his willingness to battle through all difficulties, we wish Kevin all good wishes for the future in whatever direction this might take him.



Christopher Rose

Less long-standing than most other retirees from the High School, Christopher Rose will retire after only six years' service as the Head of the Technology department. He started his career teaching Engineering Design and Technical Drawing at the King's School in Macclesfield. He then married Lynne and moved to teach Forces' children, initially in Dortmund in Germany and later in Münster, where he managed the computer network while being Head of the Faculty of Technology. His four daughters were born in Germany.

After eleven years, the reduction of troop numbers in Germany caused him to look for another school and he returned to Scotland, where he experienced boarding school life for thirteen years at Fettes College. He taught Electronics and managed the computer network as it grew from 20 to 100 machines. At Fettes he commanded the RAF cadet section and, while in Edinburgh, his two sons were born.

Having moved out to rural Perthshire, the friendly Community School of Auchterarder

employed him as an ICT teacher, but he was grateful to be able to return to Technology and Graphics teaching at the High School of Dundee.

Christopher has found plenty to do at the High School, teaching both Technological Studies and Graphic Communication to Higher and Advanced Higher level. He introduced the use of 3D modelling software and 3D printing - which has kept the school amongst the technology leaders in Scotland.

Christopher hopes to spend some of his retirement flying himself to new places, making furniture and studying what makes us tick, from a Christian perspective.



David Summerville

Taking his leave of HSD is David Summerville, who has been teaching French and German enthusiastically since 2006. He also played an active part in the wider life of the school, most notably as a keen member of the Charities and Eco-Schools Committees and a stalwart of the German exchange. David was also instrumental over the years in helping pupils gain scholarships from the German-British Connection, allowing them to spend time in Germany. He has been a most conscientious colleague and will be missed by Modern Languages staff. David is off to seek his fortune in the west, where he begins his new post as Head of Modern Languages and Classics in Hamilton College. We wish him well!

Linda Woodley

Linda Woodley joined the school in 1997, having taught Biology previously in several schools in Glasgow, followed by a spell at Craigie High School in Dundee. An experienced and effective classroom teacher, she has been popular with her pupils and valued as a colleague and friend by everyone in the department and many others in the school community. Linda supported the school's co-curriculum by initially helping out with the Scripture Union and then, latterly, organising it, to encourage pupils to think about some of the universal questions of life and eternity, using the Bible as their guide and having fun along the way. Her interests beyond the school include duties as a Sunday School teacher and Church Holiday Club organiser at St James Church in Broughty Ferry. We wish her a long and happy retirement with husband Alan, who is also retiring, as both look forward to spending more time with their first grandson, 14-month-old Jonathan.



Iain Cowieson

Iain arrived at HSD by an unusual route. He started a degree in Chemistry and then, having always been involved in amateur dramatics, switched to Drama. His scientific background has proved useful in Drama; he possesses a sharp analytical mind and he's never fazed by cover in Maths and Science!

Having completed his training at Moray House and then a probationary year at Madras College, Iain arrived at the High School and immediately made his presence known. The pupils loved his informal and exuberant style of teaching, they quickly learnt that by mentioning anything to do with Doctor Who, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, Star Trek, Billy Connolly, usually meant a break in proceedings discussion on the latest episode and/or an impression if they were lucky! This is not to say that he isn't a focused and expert teacher of drama - he is; and Drama's outstanding results over the years are a testament to his ability and effort in getting the best out of our pupils. He has helped many pupils fulfil their potential over the years in a creative, fun and safe environment.

As some of you may remember, Iain has happily (it always took seconds for him to agree when asked!) taken to the stage, or rather the church/ship, on two of our main productions: The Crucible and Our Country's Good - he leaped at the chance to be one of the company and the pupils absolutely loved having him in the cast; he guided them expertly through two very demanding plays. He was as excited as the pupils when the costumes arrived! Iain has always thrown himself into, and indeed relished, whole school events like Party on the Pillars, talent shows, swimming galas or Comic Relief. In all of these events he has played an integral part either organising or presenting or both. He played an unforgettable pantomime dame in Aladdin.

Iain has been a supportive, creative and caring colleague, and a wonderful teacher to his pupils. As he takes up his new post in Ghana, we wish him, wife Ali and son Owen, all the very best in their new adventure.

Bill Cochran

After 32 years of loyal and committed service to the school Bill Cochran retired at the end of July from his post of Senior IT Technician. Bill joined HSD in 1981 when he took up the post as Science Technician, supporting the Science departments - and the Physics and Technology departments in particular - and undertook a number of refurbishing projects. As information technology began to be increasingly used in various school departments, it was not surprising that IT became added to Bill's remit and he always displayed a willingness to assist staff for whom a computer was less than friendly! With the introduction of the school network, Bill became the school's Senior IT Technician and left his home within the Science departments as increasingly, over the last ten years IT has increasingly become central to much of the daily routine of the school.

We thank him for his very considerable service and contribution to the school and for all the support he has provided for staff. We wish him well for the future and hope that he has a happy and fulfilling retirement.



Sarah Fletcher

On leaving university, Sarah Fletcher began her career as a Medical Scientific Research Officer at Aberdeen University before moving into teaching at Inverness Royal Academy. After a break from teaching to raise her family - Mark and Emma, both of whom were pupils at the High School - Sarah was a part-time lecturer at Abertay University, before moving to the High School in 1989. After teaching in the Physics department for eleven years, Sarah was appointed to the post of Head of Physics in the year 2000. In addition to her successful running of the Physics department, throughout her time here, Sarah contributed hugely to the life of the school: chairing the Charities society and continuing her support for the school's charitable work, organising fashion shows, supervising trips abroad, supporting sports teams and musical productions - to name but a few.

Sarah is a well-respected member of the educational and scientific community in Scotland: she was on the Scottish Advisory Committee in 2002, advising the government on educational policy and she is a coordinator for the Institute of Physics (East of Scotland) as well as being Principal Assessor for Intermediate 2 Physics, for the Scottish Qualifications Authority. However, for nearly a quarter of a century it is, above all, the pupils of the High School who have had cause to appreciate her efforts, as she inspired and encouraged them to explore and study science - leading them into careers and lifelong interest in physics, engineering and technology.

Sarah is not saying farewell to education quite yet as she has taken up a post for a year, teaching at George Watson's College in Edinburgh. Beyond that, she has plans for spending time with her family, travelling widely and continuing her charitable work in Ethiopia. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

Congratulations to:

Lise Hudson, appointed Depute Rector (pastoral) and to Val Vannet, who became Depute Rector (curriculum). Congratulations must go to David Brett, formerly Head of Chemistry, and David Smith, formerly Head of Computing who were appointed Depute Heads, completing - along with new member of staff Samantha Watson - our new Senior Management Team.

Lucy Hegan, who married James McTurk in July 2012.

Jane Crudass, who will be getting married to Graeme on July 27th in Darlington, and will return as Mrs Broom next year.

Rhona McKay, who will marry her fiancé Gareth in July 2013.

Kirstie Mckie, who is engaged to Gavin Hawe and will be getting married during next year's Easter holidays.

New Arrivals

Donna Macdonald's son Daniel Macdonald Meneely was born on 6th June 2012.

Rob and Ashley Petrie's daughter Martha Marilyn - little sister to Hannah - was born on the 28th of August 2012.

Jason McAuley, is now father to Alfie Smith McAuley, born on 7th November 2012, little brother to Amy, Lewis, Chloe, Finlay and Joel.

Scott McBride, in addition to becoming Head of Computing, has also become proud father to Katie Ann McBride, who was born to Scott and Jillian on 18th December 2012.

Lysney Smith's daughter Lily Jennifer Smith was born on 14th June 2013 - a little sister for Mia.

Wendy Fowler has a new grandson, William Robert Walker, born on 31st October 2012 to her daughter Louise and Louise's husband Philip, both FPs from the Class of 1996.

Summer 2012

Iceland

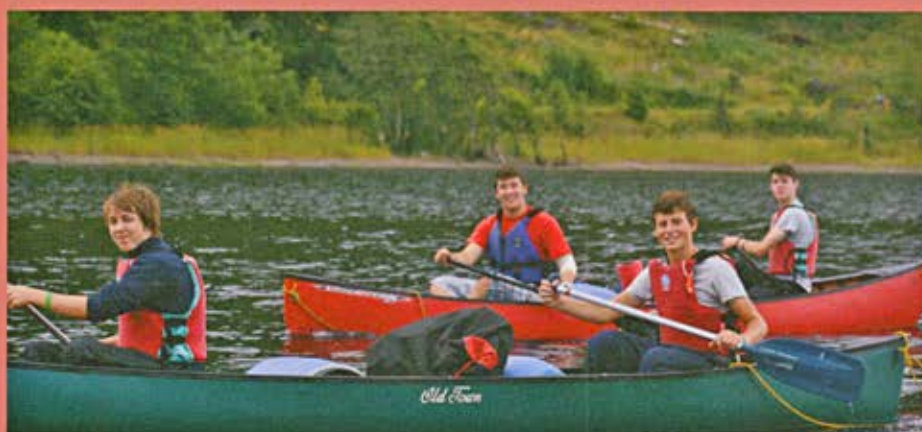
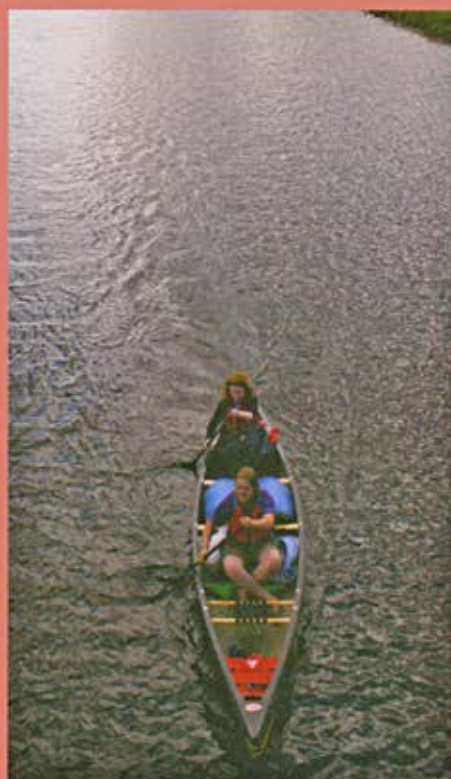
Summer 2012 will be a memorable one for many of our F4 and F5 pupils. They spent a week exploring the unique and diverse features of a volcanic landscape in the wake of the Eyjafallajokull eruption in Iceland. The most common utterance of the week was a resounding "WOW!" as pupils saw first-hand the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

The itinerary was a busy one and the pupils spent most of their time in Southern Iceland, where they were in close proximity to the 'Golden Triangle' of the Mid-Atlantic ridge, Gulfoss waterfall and Stokkur Geysir National Park. Pupils were fortunate to access the interior of Iceland, only possible during the summer months, where they saw first-hand the volcanic landscapes created by Mount Hekla.

As well as the spectacular geography, pupils were very much immersed in Icelandic culture. They resided in a local guest house and like all Icelanders, spent



each evening bathing in thermal pools to relax their aching muscles.



DofE Gold Canoeing Final August 2012

India 2012

Some lucky pupils returned to school with wonderful stories of their visit to India, which took place during the summer holiday.

Travelling across the Rohtang Pass at a staggering 4000 metres high, we made the dramatic transition from the dirt and heat of India's cities to the beautiful and remote region of the Spiti Valley in the heart of the Himalayas. Based in Kaza, each of the three groups from school who travelled to this destination had its turn in building a 60 foot long greenhouse which would be used to provide vital vegetables for nuns at the nearby nunnery. We soon learned to work with what little materials we had, having to construct the bricks, which would form the walls, from only soil and a rationing of water. Working closely with the local Monks, we began to understand the importance of the building we were creating and how it would sustain the community for years to come. After four days of intensive work, the Buddhist blessing we were given as we left, made us proud that we had contributed to this long-term and worthwhile cause. The structure was completed by the final group, meaning that the High School of Dundee has left a lasting legacy in this isolated region.

A few days of rest and acclimatisation allowed us to explore the town of Kaza and visit two of the local Buddhist monasteries. One of the groups was lucky enough to be there on the day of the Dali Llama's birthday and was able to join in with the celebrations and see many of the local children perform dances and songs outside the temple.



Spending these few days in Kaza allowed us to gain an insight into the simple lifestyle of the locals and how it contrasts with our own Western lifestyle.

A gruelling and challenging trek was met with a determined team effort which saw us to the top of our climb. The beauty of the uninterrupted natural landscape, which greeted us at the peak, made us all the more proud of achieving 5000 metres and we descended with a new found enthusiasm for, and understanding of, this remote and stunning region.

Left with only vivid memories, some might ask what we gained from this experience. Well... if gaining a more informed outlook on the world in which we live isn't a good enough reason to go on an expedition like this, we don't know what is!

Sarah Douglas and Louise Pattullo, Form 6





Olympics Report

On Wednesday the 8th of August, thirty-six HSD pupils accompanied by four members of staff began their own Olympic journey to London. Eight hours later we were seated in the North Greenwich Arena ready to watch the Olympic basketball quarter finals. After cheering, clapping and dancing through two extremely exciting matches (Argentina v Brazil and Australia v USA) it was time to head for our accommodation....but not for long! Day two began with a 5am wake up and journey to the magnificent Olympic Park. On a beautiful day we enjoyed two men's hockey pool matches (Argentina v New Zealand and South Korea v Pakistan) at the Riverbank Arena before spending the afternoon exploring the other venues and attractions within the Park. We returned home on Friday having crammed an enormous amount into our two day trip. Everyone agreed that our London Olympics Adventure had been the experience of a lifetime.



August Rugby

The month of August brought the usual excitement of the start of the school year as well as the start of the new Rugby season. The preseason programme ran throughout August, with many pupils engaged in training over the final three weeks of the summer holiday. The first Saturday morning sessions took place at both Mayfield and Dalnacraig. The number of pupils taking part was particularly pleasing, in addition to the number of parents who had come along to watch their sons start season 2012 – 2013.

Physics Successes

An outstanding achievement for Cameron

The Institute of Physics in Scotland awards prizes to the pupils who score top marks in SQA Higher and Advanced Higher Physics.

After the summer, we were delighted to celebrate the achievement of Cameron Pringle who achieved full marks in SQA Higher Physics. Cameron is only one of 4 pupils in Scotland who achieved such success—out of 10 000 candidates! In addition, the Institute of Physics presented the Physics department with an "Excellence in Physics School Award".

Headstart Award Winners

Tabitha Fleming, Chris Acheson (both studied Engineering in Newcastle University) and Harry Carstairs (studied Physics at Leicester University).

Headstart has been established for more than sixteen years as a charitable trust providing Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities and engineering taster courses to encourage young people into technology-based careers.

Taking place at some of the top universities in the country and run by inspirational leaders, the courses are perfect for finding out more about what exciting career opportunities a degree course might lead to. The broad-based engineering courses give a flavour of many different aspects of engineering and the focus courses provide an insight into highly specialised fields.



Cameron Pringle



Tabitha, Chris and Harry

August



New L1 Classes

Starting a new class...What a lot to learn!

In August we welcomed our new L1 pupils. As you can see, they were all set for the busy year ahead.

High Report

This new school year saw a new venture for the Junior School – High Report, a video news programme which was produced by a team of L7 pupils. Assisted by Mr McBride and Mrs Davie, each month the team wrote, filmed and edited a ten minute programme which reflected what was going on in and around the school. Lewis Davie (F6) wrote the theme tune, which was inspired by Schola Clara, the school song. The completed programmes are available for viewing via the Highway.



Form 1 Residential Report

The annual Form 1 Residential trip set off on the last Tuesday of August in lovely sunny weather. By the time we returned enriched on Friday, we really had experienced four seasons in four days – just ask the pupils who had to scrape frost from their tents on Friday morning!

The purpose for the trip is simple – teambuilding and familiarisation in a new, challenging environment for all: for pupils old and new, to make new friends - and for the staff, to begin building relationships that will continue for the next six years and beyond. The trip to Abernethy is perfect.

The vehicle for the relationship building was outdoor education. From canoeing, climbing, abseiling, archery, mountain biking and numerous outdoor challenges, it was impossible not to smile inwardly as the pupils, unknowingly, worked together and developed inter personal and critical thinking skills that allowed them to seamlessly (nearly more) conquer physical and mental challenges, fears and apprehensions.



At night the programme was also rich and varied. The indoor pool was used for free swimming, the sports hall for basketball, indoor climbing was always popular, footballs were invariably kicked, a treasure hunt saw pupils explore every nook and cranny, rounders was ever popular and I still have bruises from ultimate frisbee. Away from the more physical activities pupils had the opportunity to relax by watching films in the theatre, use the games room and just to chat with their friends.

The sleeping arrangements were equally varied! The logistics of such large number meant that most pupils also had to brave the outdoors overnight in a tent,

an experience for some that was maybe not a highlight, but surely never to be forgotten.

To help pupils appreciate the stunning environment, each group carried a *Scottish Nature I-Spy* book to compete for correctly identifying features. The winning team from Aystree amassed 385 points. Considering their Robin was worth five points and their Bog Myrtle ten, they did a lot of spying.

As ever, the pupils were stars, the centre staff and High School staff could not have done more and I have to thank them all for their part in a successful trip.

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September



L2 Farm Trip

L2 had a very successful visit to Arbirlot Farm this year. We visited on a particularly cold day, but luckily managed to avoid the rain clouds as we marched through the potato fields and seed barns. The children saw how the farmer digs up his potatoes and where he stores them. We were amazed at the size of some of the crop. They were certainly much bigger than the potatoes we managed to grow in the playground! However, the farmer was very impressed by the number of potatoes we had

managed to produce this year and then turn into potato salad. This was only achieved with the help of Mrs Madden over in the Home Economic Department of course! The highlights of our visit were seeing a little family of swallows swooping around the barn and preparing for their migration to South Africa and standing in the cow shed. It was a particularly smelly place, but the young calves that were only four days old, were delightful and the grumpy bulls even managed to silence the noisiest of the class. The trip was great fun and we look forward to doing it again next year.

L6 Trip to Verdant Works, Dundee

L6 went to the Verdant Works in Dundee on the 28th of September 2012. We went with Mr Cowieson and Mrs Stewart. In Drama we were making movements of the jute machines. We went to see how they moved compared to us.

When we got there we went into the main foyer and a tour guide showed us into a small cinema where we watched a short film about the Dundee jute system. We saw models of men and women workers and we got to see the machines in action. We got to feel the jute before and after it was put in the machines. There were games to play on a screen where we got to be a small boy worker washing the oil off the floor while one of the machines was in function.

It was very interesting and it was very different between old Dundee and new Dundee. It was really cool and fun to see the machines in action. It was a very fun trip and it was worth the walk.

by Cameron Dow (L6L) and Callum Elliott (L6R)

Debating

With the departure of our most recent World Champion, April Shepherd, who is to read Modern Languages at Cambridge, the start of the session involved the inevitable regrouping and some experimentation with teams to see who partnered best with whom. Our first outing was the St Columba's (Kilmacolm) annual invitational Worlds-style tournament, which involves teams of three. Andrew Kelly F5, Rachel Allen F4 and Ciara Mitchell F3 represented the school on this occasion.

Then on the 22nd of September eight F1-4 pupils travelled with Mrs McGrath

and Mrs Ovenstone-Jones to Newcastle to participate in the Northern Juniors Debating Competition hosted by Royal Grammar School, Newcastle. Three rounds of debating on demanding topics, including creating a fully elected House of Lords, stretched and developed our pupils' knowledge, and tenacity. We were delighted to have our A team placed second at the end of the third round. On the speaker tab Ciara Mitchell, F3 and Rachel Allen, F4 were placed second and third respectively out of 96 competitors. Ciara and Rachel thoroughly enjoyed participating in the final which was on the topic of forcing health professionals to report suspected cases of abuse.

World View

In September, pupils got busy drawing out a map of the world in the back playground of the school. The map was the brain child of Mike Robinson, Chief Executive of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, in response to raising awareness of the role geography plays in schools. It is a superb cross-curricular resource and it will find a place in the curriculum of every subject across the school. It also underpins, in one succinct resource, the principles of a Curriculum for Excellence, by providing opportunities for learners to actively engage with their learning across multiple disciplines.

Nineteen maps have now been installed across primary and secondary schools in Scotland and used in a variety of ways



across departments. A Facebook page has been set up by the RSGS to allow teachers to share ideas and explore different ways the map can be used in and out of the classroom.

Elsewhere in Geography, pupils were out and about on various field trips.

The Advanced Higher group to Kindrogan, Form 3 to Glen Clova, while Higher pupils went to Tentsmuir.



Crannog





September Rugby

In September, we played our first competitive fixtures against Robert Gordon's College and the 1st XV achieved its first victory against our opponents from Aberdeen. The blend of Form 5 and Form 6 pupils combined effectively in almost all areas of the field. Jack Palidini captained the side and Duncan Leese provided leadership as vice-captain. In the forward pack, Chris Jollands made an instant impression while Blair Cochrane gave an indication of the level of performances that would become his trademark throughout the season.

In early September, we discovered that we would have another fixture against Robert Gordon's in the first round of the cup. Initially, the draw had paired us with Strathallan School, but was later changed by the organisers. In our first round cup match we comfortably defeated Robert Gordon's 33 – 10, once again in glorious sunshine.

In September, we also played St Aloysius College and the 1st XV won 37 – 7. The 2nd XV were unable to play as our opponents did not have a 2nd XV side. The other games were closely contested in Dundee and Glasgow. Most games ended with either school winning by a single score.

The next challenge was a series of matches against Dollar Academy. The 1st XV won 29 – 17 with outstanding performances from all players. The defence was excellent, as was the boys' ability to retain possession and build phases on the way to scoring points. The 2nd XV fixture was won by Dollar, as was the U16 game, but this game went to the final play with Dollar converting a very good try to win by two points. Dollar enjoyed success in the other fixtures.

The final matches in September were against Strathallan School. The 1st XV lost for the first time this season and the 2nd XV and U16s lost narrowly. The F2 side won at Mayfield with excellent performances from Lewis Keddie, Kyle Davidson, Angus Fraser and Cameron McComish.

The U16 recorded a convincing 55 – 10 win against Loretto to make it into the next round of the cup. Henry Sampson was masterful at scrum half, showing the form that would later gain him selection for the Scotland U16 squad.



October

Halloween in Edinburgh

Form 1 Trip to Edinburgh

On October 31st 2012, the entire Form 1 visited Edinburgh for a spooky day out. They went on a ghost walk around Mary King's Close and visited the underground vaults, shown around by a ghoulish guide, who captivated the pupils with folktales and myths of the mysterious history of hauntings in the area. Many of the school's departments came together for this exciting trip, including members of the Geography, RMPS and of course the English department who went with the pupils. Additionally the History department provided helpful background insights and engaging field work. Despite the rain that lasted all day, a frighteningly good time was had by all on this chilling Halloween afternoon!



Debating

Rachel and Ciara attended the Glasgow University Union one-day tournament for the first time as a senior team. They had a lot of fun and finished very creditably half-way up the tab. Meanwhile Cameron Tisshaw and Jakob Kroboth, both F6, participated in the ESU Mace.



October Rugby

The month of October was a busy one for all the Rugby teams. There were matches against Culford school, who were in Scotland on tour, which the 1st XV lost narrowly 22 – 21. It was a keenly contested and demanding match for both sides. This game provided excellent preparation for the Cup Quarter Final played at Mayfield versus Dollar Academy, which was a tense affair. Both teams had opportunities to win the game. Ronan Joy scored the deciding try which took the School to another Brewin Dolphin semi-final.

In October we also played a local fixture versus Howe of Fife Rugby club. All of the games were contested well, with the

High School of Dundee winning 6 out of 8 of the fixtures and only one being drawn. The 1st XV fixture provided a moment to remember for the Leese family, when Duncan's dad refereed the game due to there being a shortage of available referees. Duncan played well at 1st 5/8 and Mr Leese acquitted himself equally well as referee! On the same day, a moment of history happened at Mayfield when the Former Pupil club played their first ever game in the British and Irish Cup.

The final game of October saw all the school sides pitted against The Glasgow Academy. Our 1st XV won 37 – 10 with the 2nd XV winning 50 – 0 and the game being stopped early. The U16 fixture was a close game that went the way of the visitors: 20 – 22. The Form 2 side won 14 – 8 in Glasgow. However, unfortunately the Form 1 sides lost in Glasgow, but both junior school sides won.



Volcanos!

Johnny Neville from the University of St Andrews ran a Geology Club for F1 pupils, as part of the UAS scheme. He developed lots of resources to help explain how volcanoes work, such as modelling lava with golden syrup. The photos show pupils trying out his Alka Seltzer model of a volcano. This was such a popular activity, we included it in our Chemistry Open Morning activities!



Lab in a Lorry comes to the playground

In October, all of our Form 2 pupils got 'hands on' experiences with practical Physics when the Institute of Physics/ Schumberger Foundation Lab in a Lorry visited the High School. Pupils had the opportunity to meet real scientists and discover the Physics behind thermal imaging, camera optics, optoelectronics, resonating wine glasses and climate change and energy efficiency.

November

November in the English Department

As cold winter days were drawing in, the English department was busy, as pupils wrapped themselves in the warm and comforting blanket of reading, while at the same time honing their writing skills.

The Literary Society was established this session by Miss Whatley-Marshall and met every fortnight to discuss books the group had read including, in this inaugural year, *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier and *The Secret History* by Donna Tartt.

While *The Kwyll* went from strength to strength, now appearing twice yearly for the fourth year in succession, showcasing pupils' writing from Forms 1 to 6, Form 5 and 6 pupils had the opportunity to work with the respected Scottish poet, Liz Niven, when she conducted a writing workshop in School in November.



Scottish Economic Society Student and Teacher Conference

The Higher and Advanced Higher Economics classes attended the Scottish Economic Society Student-Teacher Annual Conference in Perth. This event gave an insight into a collection of interesting economic problems and was delivered by university lecturers. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the event, as it gave them an idea of how economic theory is applied.

RBS Economic Update Lunch with the Rotary Club

The Advanced Higher Economics class attended a presentation by the Royal Bank of Scotland about the state of the UK Economy. This event was held at the Invercarse Hotel and hosted by the Rotary Club. Prior to the presentation, the pupils enjoyed an excellent lunch as guests of the Royal Bank; this allowed them to network with staff from the bank. The presentation was extremely interesting and useful for the pupils, as it provided a good level of contextual analysis of the UK economy.

Rugby

The month began with fixtures against George Heriotts School. Both junior school teams lost at Goldenacre, Form 1 lost at Dalnacraig and Form 2 won 42 – 3 at Goldenacre, which was a very impressive result.

The main event of the month was the Cup semi-final against Merchiston Castle School at Mayfield. Our opponents clearly took the task seriously, having travelled to Dundee the night before the match and stayed over in a hotel. Mayfield was bathed in glorious winter sunshine on the morning of the match. The underfoot conditions were pretty perfect for the time of year. There was a large crowd with pupils, staff, parents and former pupils in attendance, hoping to cheer the squad to another Murrayfield final.

The game started very positively from our perspective and, in the first half, we enjoyed much of the possession and field position. By half time we were trailing by six points. During the second half we became a little anxious to turn over ball which led to penalties being conceded which our opponents converted effectively. As the score board ticked up and the time ticked down we began to panic somewhat which led to space opening up that Merchiston exploited well to enable them to secure a deserved victory and place in the final. Although the morning was very disappointing, the players applied themselves well and will hopefully use this experience as the launch pad to even greater things next season.

The following week we had the opportunity to get things back on track which we did with another convincing victory over Robert Gordon's College.

Armistice

The annual Armistice Parade was held in the playground. The service was conducted by the Rector and Reverend Janet Foggie with the whole school in attendance.

For the first time there were three sets of wreath bearers, The Junior School was represented by L7 pupils Spencer Cunningham and Catriona Addison who handed the wreath to Head Boy, Cameron Pringle and Head Girl, Susan Graham. Susan was also Drum Major and Cameron was Pipe Major so, they

handed the wreath to the Deputy Head Boy, Andrew Sadler and Deputy Head Girl Louise Patullo, who took it inside to the War Memorial.

The service was well attended by the school community but also by the Heads of the Uniformed Services and the Lord Provost, Bob Duncan.

Lt. Col. Colin McAdam, Head of the Cadet force at the school said, "The Armistice Service is always a poignant affair, but even more so at the moment with FPs from the school and members of the Dundee community currently on active service in Afghanistan."



Form 5 Enrichment – Social Enterprise at the Charities Fair 10th November

Form 5 pupils have been learning how to set up and run a small business in order to raise funds for charity. As part of their enrichment programme the three pupil-run social enterprise companies hand-make and source products in order to run their own stalls at the school's Christmas Charities Fair. Products this year include scented candles, Christmas sacks and a variety of stocking filler gifts. Charities are selected by the pupils and the overall amounts raised at the Fair were -

Company 1 for
Save the Children -
£287.13

Company 2 for CHAS
£146.94

Company 3 for
Mary's Meals
£160.50

F3 Enterprise Day

On 22nd November all 100, F3 pupils were involved in the first national Real Business Challenge. The competition, sponsored by Coca-Cola Enterprises, is open to all S3 pupils in the UK. Designed to develop a wide range of entrepreneurial, as well as life skills, the day demands hard work from all in order to meet the tight deadlines and be ready to face the Dragons.

The first challenge of the day was the company formation and learning about the qualities of the team in order to assign appropriate roles such as CEO and Product Development Manager. Teams were selected at random to encourage pupils to learn about the need to adapt to unfamiliar working groups in order to effectively complete the task and work as an optimal team.

Moving across into Trinity, the main focus of the day began and the CEOs were made responsible for communicating the brief to their team; to develop a healthy, sustainable fruit drink.

Time then flew by as teams brainstormed product ideas, analysed those most suitable and which were conducting market research on their target markets in order to assess the viability of their innovative ideas. Once feedback had been obtained and alterations made to the initial concepts, the brand development began with logos, slogans and promotional strategies drawn up by the various creative managers within each team.

After lunch, the final deadline was given to the CEOs; they had one hour to prepare the winning pitch and presentation for the Dragons in no more than 3 minutes and 6 slides.

The secret Dragons then appeared, which this year consisted of Mr David Smith, Mrs Sam Watson & Mrs Fiona Cram. Twelve presentations and question sessions later the afternoon had disappeared, but the Dragons were incredibly impressed with the hard work and ideas generated from the whole year group.

After a long, tough meeting the Dragons made their decision, with Splash of Summer run by Harriet Wood, Ciara Mitchell, Nick Ramsay, Emma Duncan, Rebecca Handy, Rachael Chalmers, Isabelle Baldie, Victoria Vitale and Olivia McAlpine as the overall winners. The team's entry was uploaded for the Scottish final when the top 10 ideas in the country compete for a place in the national final in London. This year, the team was not selected, but hopefully next year's team will be successful.



November saw Tayside Police presenting a two lesson series of talks and workshops on terrorism and police response to Form 4 pupils studying their core Philosophy and Religion course on "Civic Engagement, Judgement and Professionalism". The course began the year with a study of Private versus Public Life and Forms of Public Life. It then moved on to study aspects of civic engagement, politics, law and personal responsibility in the new year. To raise awareness of issues raised by questions of moral responsibility to civil society, Tayside Police Community engagement officers led two classes for each Form 4 class group using the ACT NOW programme (see <http://www.tayside.police.uk/About-Us/Specialist-Units/Prevent/ACT-NOW.htm>), as the foundation for discussions on problems in society, questions of crime and punishment and personal responsibility. The lessons were led by Community Engagement Officers PC Scott Menmuir and PC Kevin O'Donnell, and assisted by Mr. Vali Hussein of the local Muslim community, Sgt. Kenneth Bell, and PC Simon Paris. Pupils worked through a



Civic Responsibility and the Police

scenario as investigators to gain criminal intelligence and piece together the crime and the suspects involved. The aim was to get pupils thinking about major issues – and in particular, major disasters – and the required response by emergency services. Along the way, pupils were challenged to think of their role in society and the inherent responsibilities we all have regarding our own safety and the safety of others. Pupils were also encouraged to challenge their

own prejudices, especially the current issues surrounding Islamophobia and intolerance. Follow-up sessions were planned after the start of the second term to take place at the Police Headquarters, where pupils were given the opportunity to meet with senior officers and see the command room. In addition, they toured the intake of prisoners and the jail cells to generate further discussions on crime and punishment.

Honour for Former Provost

John Letford, member of the support staff at HSD accompanied his father John Letford senior, to receive his M.B.E. at Buckingham Palace from Princess Anne for services to the City of Dundee, having served the longest period as Dundee Lord Provost – eleven years.



Left to right John junior, daughter Elizabeth, John Letford senior, former Lord Provost of Dundee, sons Billy and Graham.

Mathematics reports

Senior Team Challenge

On the 12th of November Chris Acheson F6, Louise Pattullo F6, Barbara Braid F5 and Marshall MacLeod F5, accompanied by Dr Spiezia, represented the school in the Regional Final of the Senior Team Challenge organised by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. The UKMT Team Challenges aim to promote mathematical dexterity, team working and communication skills, and give the pupils the opportunity to compete against pupils from other schools in the region. Our team travelled to Edinburgh where the event took place in the impressive Playfair Library at the University. They worked together as a group and in pairs to solve 3 rounds of mathematical problems. It was a fun and challenging day and the team did well to finish in 10th place out of 24.

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

As no exams were looming at the time, on 6th November, five pupils from F6 and 20 from F5, eagerly took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge and four gold certificates were awarded to Harry Carstairs F6, Chris Acheson F6, Hannah Arnold F5 and Jamie Mather F5. A further eight silver and five bronze certificates were also awarded. Hannah took 'Best in School' and Hannah along with Harry and Jamie qualified for the follow-on Senior Kangaroo competition, where Hannah, being in the top 25% of scorers, received a Certificate of Merit.

L4H Assembly

The class wondered, "How do we convey St Andrews Day in our assembly in a new way?" Well, it was decided that if 'Dr Who' visits Dundee and asks a lot of interesting questions, we could explain the history and significance of this special day in the national calendar. The assembly cast ranged from biblical characters such as Jesus and Andrew, to St Regulus and King Athelstane, and then on to contemporary Scots, who have been innovative in many different ways. 'Dr Who' learned a lot and so did we!



HSD Swimming 2012-2013

The swimming gala occupied a new date in the School calendar this year, taking place in November. What did not change was the fiercely competitive nature of all involved, as they strived to ensure their house was crowned swimming champions. Results were as follows:

Aged 9 years & under championship

1st Emily Baxter-Lindores
1st Rory Grant-Aystree

Aged 10 years & over championship

1st Kirsten Grant-Aystree
1st Conor Walsh-Wallace

Form 1 – form 3 championship

1st Eilidh Grant-Aystree
1st Stefan Baldacchino-Wallace

Debating and Young Speakers

Form 4 – form 6 championship

1st Olivia Ritchie-Wallace
1st Alex Sharpe-Airlie
1st Karyn Joss-Wallace

House championship

1st Aystree
2nd Wallace
3rd Airlie
4th Lindores

As is now traditional, the final race of the day pits Form 6 House Relay teams against the 'Staff Select'. Once again the staff were successful following a number of disqualifications - better luck next year!

At the Tayside Schools Championships there were many notable performances from our HSD swimmers. Conor Walsh won a bronze medal in the 50m breaststroke, while Kirstin Grant and Alasdair Rennet both picked up a silver and bronze medal in their two events. Kirstin's big sister Eilidh produced two excellent swims, winning gold in both

the 100m and 200m freestyle. For two stalwarts of the HSD swim team, this was their last year competing at Tayside Schools. Callum Rennet and Alex Sharpe have never missed an event during their time at School and should be commended for the effort and dedication they have shown to the sport. On the day Alex won two silver medals in the 100m and 200m freestyle events.

The times swam by Eilidh, Kirstin and Conor allowed them to qualify for the Scottish Schools Championships in January. All three did their School proud on this national level, swimming to an excellent standard. Eilidh won bronze in 100m freestyle and finished 6th in the 200m; Kirstin was 5th in 50m freestyle final while Conor narrowly missed the 50m freestyle final finishing in 8th.

Well done to all who took part in the swimming events - time to start practising now for next year!

On Open Morning the members of the Young Speakers' Club, which meets on Tuesday lunchtimes in RF03, prepared and demonstrated a variety of the activities covered by the club. Running throughout the morning were a Hot Balloon Debate, where each pupil adopts the role of a famous person and argues why they should be allowed to remain in the sinking balloon, Just-A-Minute rounds and several of the warm up games we run - including Off-the-Cuff

topics. Starting to establish themselves as a team, Rachel and Ciara took part in the St Andrews University one-day tournament, moving up the ranking to finish 11th out of 28 teams, while the B team of Ellie Scott F3 and Steven Roy F2 were only one place below them. Cameron Tisshaw and Andrew Kelly won through to the second round of the competition run by the Law Society of Scotland.

High School of Dundee

Photography Competition 2012

In November, several pupils from L3 and L4 took part in the High School of Dundee photography competition. After much deliberation and voting by staff and pupils from across the school, Andrew Loveday L3W, Sophie Elder L4C and Miss Wallace won prizes.



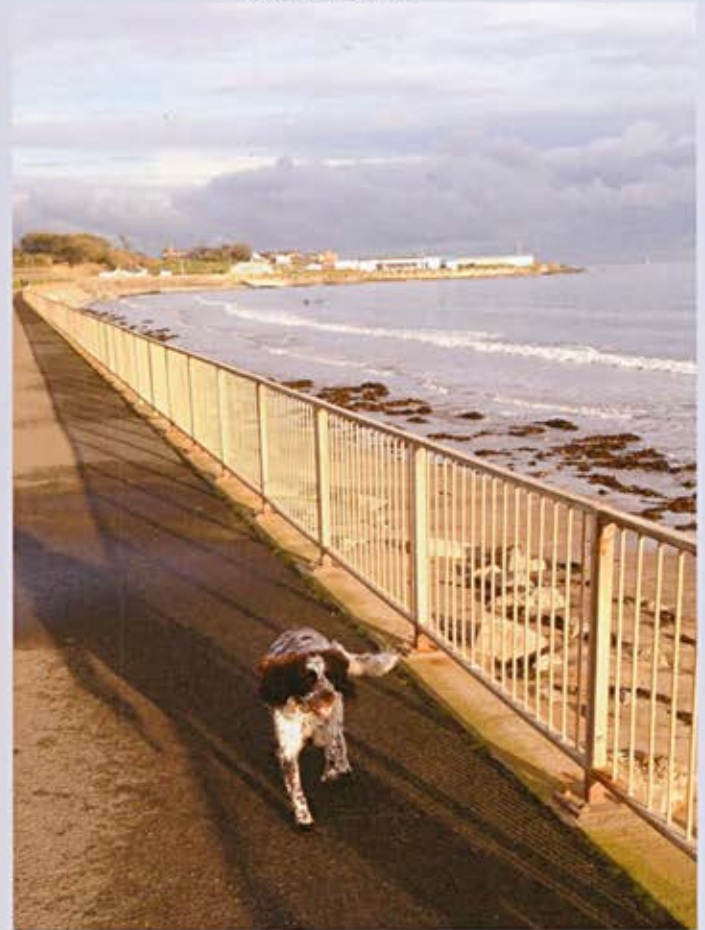
Sophie Elder, L4C



Lucy Timney, L4C



Daniel Bruce, L3W



Mrs Carrie



Ollie Hall, L3W



Victoria Scott, L4C



Elizabeth Lang, L4C



Lucy Kay, L4C



Andrew Loveday, L3W



Sarah Elliot, L4



Blair Hands, L3R

Music

a regular weekly "Performance Platform" open to any pupil in the school to perform a solo or ensemble item. The response has been enthusiastic, both from the point of view of pupils wishing to enter and the attendance levels in the audience. The concerts amply demonstrate the depth of skill in the pupils' musicianship from L5 up to F6 and will be on-going throughout the year.

HSD pupils in performance!

Pupils from the High School were involved in a wide variety of public events this session. On 24th November, the F4-6 Girls' Choir performed Vaughan Williams's Sinfonia Antartica at the Caird Hall with the Dundee Symphony Orchestra. The choral part evokes the eerie iciness of the Antarctic wastes, and the Girls' Choir (under the guidance of Mrs Scott Brown) achieved this to a very high standard in the powerful performance.

Three days later, the Antarctic connection continued with a performance by about 100 pupils in L6-F6 at Discovery Point in aid of the Friends of Dundee Heritage. The programme was wide-ranging, and included extracts from "The Pirates of Penzance" sung by the L6-7 Choir directed by Ms Morgan, in addition to several rousing numbers by the Big Band to end the show. The Friends much appreciated both the quality of music-making and the funds raised. The same day, the Chamber Orchestra gave a concert at St Paul's Meadowside in aid of Parkinson's Society which was equally appreciated by the audience and charity.

In mid-November, there was an evening in Trinity Hall celebrating the art of singing at which for forty pupils performed a variety of solos, duets and ensemble items, culminating in a collective rendition of the spiritual "Didn't My Lord". Mrs Beck and Mr Love had done a great deal of work to prepare the pupils for this enjoyable and high-quality occasion. Additionally, since the beginning of November, there has been



First Aid Open Morning

The L7 St Andrews Ambulance Association Cadets were very keen to show their skill at Open Morning.



F1-3 Outdoor Adventure trip to Glentress 11 November 2012



December

Christmas Lectures

Started by Michael Faraday in 1825, the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures are demonstration-packed, fun-filled science events for young people. The Royal Society of Chemistry organises a Chemical Christmas Lecture at the University of Dundee and in December the Chemistry department took all F3 Chemistry students along. The lecture, entitled *The Magic of Oxygen* was an explosive event presented by two Open University lecturers and High School pupils were more than happy to help out!

For the second year running, the Chemistry Department at HSD has provided a Christmas Lecture too. Dr Taylor demonstrated many of the principles the L5 pupils had been taught in the Junior School by their science teacher, Mrs Powrie. The aim was to use the laboratory facilities available in the Senior School to allow the pupils to experience some stunning demonstrations, to illustrate the science the L5 pupils had been investigating. Demonstrations included a genie appearing from a bottle, floating eggs, explosions and the traditional setting fire to Mrs Powrie. All three L5 classes attended and thoroughly enjoyed the event.



Debating

Ciara and Rachel followed the boys' team into the second round of the Law Society on the motion that This House would introduce a 100% Inheritance Tax. Ciara and Steven were placed 9th on the team tab at the Aberdeen one-day competition (the Saturdays were racking up by this time) with Ciara finishing 7th out of 64 speakers, many of whom were in Forms 5 and 6. Andrew and Cameron also took part.

As the term drew to a close, the annual House Debate took place in Trinity before an audience of Form 2 English classes. This year's motion was This House believes that we have run out of heroes and was won for Aystree from 1st Proposition by Cameron and Rachel, with Campbell MacLeod F6 and Alex Smith F2 coming a close 2nd for Airlie. The Wallace team was Andrew and Steven, and Lindores was represented by Louise Barrie and Ellie Scott of F3.

University trip report

On a wintry December day, a group of L6s and L7s spent a productive afternoon at the Computing Department of Dundee University. There, Dr Karen Petrie, one of the lecturers, gave the pupils a tour of the department and then gave the pupils the opportunity to programme a miniature robot, design their own robot and explore Scratch, a graphic programming language.



Guest Lecture by Professor Dr. Mathew Chandrankunnel

On Monday, 10 December 2012, upon the invitation of Mr. Goodey from the department of Philosophy, Religion and Sociology, the Higher RMPS and Higher Philosophy pupils received a guest lecture from Professor Dr. Mathew Chandrankunnel, who is a professor of philosophy of science and religion at Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram and Christ University, Bangalore, India. Prof. Chandrankunnel conducted a virtual lecture via Skype and spoke with the HSD pupils on subject material from their Higher course units on "Christianity: Belief and Science" and

"Morality in the Modern World" for the Higher RMPS course, and "Metaphysics" and "Moral Philosophy" for the Higher Philosophy course. He also answered questions on quantum mechanics and the debate between the determinism of Newtonian physics and the indeterminist challenge presented by Niels Bohr for a few of the Advanced Higher Physics pupils in attendance, which also touched on the "Free-Will" debate of the Higher Metaphysics course. The discussions between Prof. Chandrankunnel were lively and engaging, and allowed pupils to question fully, and discuss, these



various and weighty ideas for a full hour. The pupils all agreed that the experience was interesting and valuable for developing a fuller understanding of the concepts under consideration in their respective courses. It is envisaged that this is the first of several such discussions to be continued and further developed in 2013.

L4 Technology



L4 pupils make their Crannog board games, after visiting the Crannog earlier this term.

Christmas parties





L6 Christmas party

On Wednesday 12th December, L6 enjoyed a fantastic Christmas party. A Christmas Quiz and Riddle Game started the fun before we looked at our dance cards and took our partners for the first dance, the Gay Gordons. The Snowman Game and the Starburst Game provided more team fun while the Virginia Reel, the St Bernard's Waltz and the Dashing White Sergeant allowed us to show off our dancing skills. After a snack break, we tried the Canadian Barn Dance, which was the hardest dance of the afternoon. It had taken a long time in PE to get it right and it was all worthwhile in the end! The Flying Scotsman is one of our favourite dances. It is very fast and we had a great time making choo-choo noises going around our partners! Over all it was a fabulous Christmas party!

By Alex Laird and Kara MacRitchie (L6C).

Christmas music

In December, the Christmas season got into full swing with the Chamber Orchestra's performance at the Tayside & Fife Health Services Christmas Carol Concert, in aid of CLIC Sargent Cancer Care for Children. The large audience greatly appreciated both the orchestra's performance of carols before the concert began, in addition to their featured performance including Corelli's "Christmas Concerto" and Leeann Chen's (6Ay1) performance of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" as piano soloist accompanied by the orchestra.

The Christmas Concert took place on 12th December. It involved 380 pupils and was attended by some 1,200 people, raising £5,000 for the chosen charities: Cystic Fibrosis Trust (supported through Ninewells Hospital) and Down's Syndrome Association. The performers ranged in age from L4 to F6, with a wide variety of choral and instrumental items, both general and seasonal in character.

The L4-5 choir proved particularly popular with its two Christmas items,

and the Symphonic Band under the direction of Mrs Sneddon raised the roof at the end of the first half, with Jose Feliciano's Feliz Navidad. The concert concluded with the Symphony Orchestra playing Haydn's Symphony No.104 in a very assured performance for a group playing a whole symphony for the first time.

The same week, L1-3 took part in the annual Nativity Play, enhanced as always by a large number of solo and ensemble items sung with great assurance for pupils of such a young age. Members of Chorale and the Brass Ensemble also visited Carseview Hospital (close to Ninewells) to perform Christmas carols and other items to the staff and residents. Both events were enthusiastically received.

The school's musical celebration of Christmas came to a fitting climax, with the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols in St Paul's Episcopal Cathedral on 17th December, involving all the school's choirs from L6 upwards, as well as the Brass Ensemble and the Chamber Orchestra, a total of 220 pupils.

Junior School L7 Netball Team

Between October and December 2012, the Junior School L7 Netball team played in the Dundee District Primary Schools' Netball Association Winter League. They played five matches at Ward Road Gym after school on a Thursday against Mill of Mains, Fintry, St. Peter and Paul's, Invergowrie and St. Joseph's. The team played exceptionally well and won all their matches in their league which meant they qualified for the finals which were played on 13th December at Ward Road. The girls won their first match of the final against St. Mary's 7-2. The second game against Downfield was extremely close and the score stayed tight throughout the match. However, Downfield were eventual winners with the final score 9-7. The L7 girls were therefore second in the Winter League. Well done!



Sport in the Winter – December & January

In the months of December and January the temperature took control and, as a result, we were unable to play many fixtures. However, we did record victories against the High School of Glasgow in our first games back after the Christmas holiday. The matches versus The Glasgow Academy and Hutchesons' Grammar School were cancelled due to the weather. The cancellation of the Hutchesons' match was particularly frustrating, as we had defeated them at the Glasgow Warriors tournament as the curtain raiser to the Warriors and Gunners match. We had also secured victories over Stirling County and Dumfries.



Catriona Addison, Hannah Alijani, Anna Hudson, Ailsa Macdonald, Laura Murphy, Rachel Rose and Rachel Strachan are pictured with their medals.

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A Magical Christmas Recipe

It was late at night in the kitchen of Lord and Lady Hamilton – where the staff had tidied away their work for the day. Things had been very hectic as tomorrow was to be Christmas Eve. Chef had to prepare and cook a meal for the family's Christmas lunch. Just as Chef thought he was going to get to rest his weary head, the family pets, Twinkle the cat and Tinsel the dog and some excitable elves, had other plans for Chef on this extraordinary winter's night. With a dash of lambs, a pinch of presents, a hint of angels and a round of rocking

robins, Chef and his friends hoped to create the perfect Christmas recipe.

The 113 children in L1-3 dazzled and entertained us with their dramatic talents and obvious exuberance, proving that a High School of Dundee Nativity production is indeed the vital ingredient to a perfect Christmas.

I was delighted with how every child performed and would like to thank everyone who made this year's Nativity such a success. This year we raised £1,758.89 in donations from the Nativity a record for the event. The donations will go to the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Roll on December 2013. Who knows what the Early Years will cook up for us next?





January

Burns Supper

On Friday, 25th January the L5 held their annual Burns Supper. In the morning we took part in various activities relation to Robert Burns. In the afternoon, the Burns Supper started with Archie from L6 piping in the haggis. I was lucky enough to be given the honour of carrying the haggis in. The usual toasts were made and then it was time to enjoy the haggis. We finished the Supper by joining hands and singing Robert Burn's traditional song, Auld Lang Syne. Everyone had a great day.

Fraser Houston, L5P



Chemistry Masterclass

In January, Form 5 pupils Hannah Arnold and Daniel Davidson attended a SCIS master class at St. Andrews University. They got a taster of a typical university day, attending a lecture in the morning on drug development and infectious diseases, followed by an afternoon of practical experiments in the laboratories using a variety of techniques at an advanced level. The day was a rewarding and interesting experience for both of the pupils allowing them an insight into further education studying a science.

Debating

Despite their growing experience and increasing confidence, the younger school speakers were not quite powerful enough to qualify for a trip to finals day at either the Oxford or Cambridge UK-wide competitions; places for Scots participants are very limited and were won by more experienced teams.

Andrew and Cameron won through to the semi-finals of the Law Soc. Mrs McGrath missed this, as she had departed to Turkey in her continuing role as manager of Team Scotland at the World Schools Debating Championships. She returned thence at the start of February wearing yet another hat; Secretary of the Worlds tournament executive.

Tom Durrheim Memorial Prize

Tom Durrheim was an English teacher at this school for many years, inspiring his pupils and those around him with his passion for English. Sadly Mr Durrheim passed away nearly two years ago, and the school, and the English department, wishing to commemorate him, inaugurated the Tom Durrheim Memorial Prizes. One prize to be won was through the winning of a recitation competition within Forms 1 to 3. This took place in January and around twenty four pupils participated, reciting poems by Robert Burns, such as "My Heart's In The Highlands" and "Sic a Wife as Willie Had". The winner of this recitation prize was Alex Smith, of Form 1. The other prize open to be won by the pupils was the essay prize for Form 4 to 6. This involved the pupils working on their own to write an essay piece on a Scottish topic that was inspired by a Robert Burns poem. The winner of this prize was Andrew Kelly of Form 5 whose essay was inspired by the poem of "A Man's A Man".



History Department

"There is no such word as can't!" The History Department was delighted to welcome Mr Alistair Urquhart back to the High School to share his extraordinary and inspirational account of his experiences serving in Asia during WW2.

Mr Urquhart, a war hero who suffered slavery and torture as a Japanese Prisoner of War, shared his incredible story of almost unspeakable horrors, unimaginable suffering and unlikely survival with the full Form 2 year group in Trinity Hall. He signed copies of his book 'The Forgotten Highlander' and answered a range of questions from the Form 2 pupils who were inspired by Mr Urquhart's message.

A Gordon Highlander from Aberdeen, Alistair Urquhart was only in his early twenties when he was captured by the Japanese in Singapore. He was taken north in barbaric conditions to do hard labour, building the Burma Siam railway at the aptly named Hellfire Pass and the Bridge over the River Kwai. Despite disease, torture and beatings, being torpedoed on Japanese 'hell ships' and a close encounter with the atomic bomb at Nagasaki, he survived and returned to Aberdeen, traumatised and unrecognizable.

For almost sixty-five years Mr Urquhart kept his silence, not wishing to upset his family, before finally sharing his extraordinary life in his book 'The Forgotten Highlander.'

Now in his 90s, Mr Urquhart is one of the last remaining survivors of his battalion of the Gordon Highlanders. It was a privilege for our pupils to hear from this truly inspirational man.

Mr Urquhart said: "By hearing my story, I hope that young people will have a better understanding of the atrocities of war, and how important it is to try and make sure that it never happens again. My story is one of perseverance and I hope to show that, in life, we should always try our best and never give up."

Ashley Fulton, President of the History Society, said: "Mr Urquhart's determination and strength are an inspiration to us all. He has taught us that if you put your mind to something and have determination, anything can be achieved. In the words of Mr Urquhart: "There is no such word as can't."



L4 Roman Soldier Visit

On the 28th January 2013, L4 had a Roman soldier visit. We all went to Mrs Halliwell's room to find out about Roman research project. We were interrupted by a loud, mysterious knock on the door. A Roman soldier marched in wearing full Roman army uniform! We marched up to the hall saying, "Sin, dex" which means, "left, right!" When we arrived in the hall, we learned lots about the Roman army. We saw a Roman helmet and were allowed to try it on. We also learned about Roman weapons, Roman uniform and tactics used by the army. We learned a lot from Mr Faulkes and it was a fun way to learn!



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February

Advanced Higher History Conference: US Civil War 1861 – 1865

The History Department was delighted to welcome two of the leading UK based academics to present to our Advanced Higher pupils on the American Civil War. Dr Tony Parker, originally from Georgia in the USA, has recently retired as Head of the American Studies Department at Dundee University and now holds a position at St. Andrews University. His striking southern accent captivated the pupils as he discussed the causes of the conflict. Dr Gary Smith of Dundee University specialises in Lincoln and his role as commander in chief during the civil war. Dr Smith's presentation focused on the pressures Lincoln faced in the run up the Emancipation Proclamation and the impact that

this had on the Union war effort. Thereafter, the pupils took the opportunity to discuss the issues that they are researching for their dissertations; topics which range from slavery in the ante-bellum period, to the role of Generals Grant and Lee on the Civil War battlefield.

The conference was an invaluable opportunity for our AH pupils to hear from experts in their field of study and significantly helped with their research, ahead of their final dissertation drafts. The History Department would like to thank Dr Parker and Dr Smith for giving their time to share their expertise with us.

Debating

On 16th of February, we travelled to St Andrews University to participate in the qualifying rounds of the International Competition for Young Debaters. For some of our speakers, Louise Barrie, Alexander Berg and Callum Paterson, it was their first experience of a debating tournament and the day was made tougher by the demanding motion of This House would return all cultural and national treasures to their country of origin. Ciara Mitchell and Rachel Allen were finalists on the motion, This House would arm the police. They were extremely unlucky not to qualify for ICYD finals day.



Practical Maths

Miss Carrie's L4 maths group had a great time learning how to measure length. Excellent maths and team working skills were developed.



UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge

The Intermediate Maths Challenge held in February saw Form 3 gain thirteen certificates. A gold certificate and 'Best in School' was awarded to Scott Macandrew, while Finley Muir and Megan Ross gained silver certificates. A further ten bronze certificates were awarded.

The Ski Trip 2013

Once upon a time the kids at HSD,
Went to Italy so they could ski,
Miss Hegan, Mr Campbell and Mr Jack rather unfairly,
Made the poor children get up so very early,
But after a day of travelling they arrived at,
Their home for the week, the Hotel Passat.

The next day, full of skiing hopes,
They all went off to enjoy the slopes,
The beginners began to learn the way,
While the rest improved a little each day,
The advanced group struggled to stay on their feet,
As their instructor insisted on going off-piste.

Entertainment each night was something new,
With swimming, sledging and a quiz to do,
Then there was ice skating and a lot of them fell,
But there were a few who did rather well,
Grant managed to win "Bambi on Ice",
Along with a chocolate bar which tasted nice.

Over the trip there was a continuous fight,
Involving plenty of snowballs and cold hands each night,
Mr Campbell and Miss Hegan dumped Annie in the snow,
But Emma won the prize for her great throw,
Some fell on their head, some fell on their back,
But almost every snowball was aimed at Mr Jack.

However, a mention really must go,
To Silly Billy and Betty, an award to show,
For forgetting your Euros and falling over a fence,
Eilidh Reynolds and Robbie Ramsay are simply the best!

So to finish them off was the long journey home,
Five long hours in the airport due to the snow,
At nine o'clock they got home to Dundee,
With sleepy skiers as far as the eye could see,
After a week of skiing and plenty of laughter,
They finished their trip, happily ever after.

**By Claire Mather, Sally Burnett, Rebecca Morrison,
Grant Harley and Susie McAdam**



Winter Skills February 2013





King Matt

February 2013





Avatar Archaeology

L6 were fortunate enough to welcome avatars into the classroom in February, to guide us around virtual reconstructions of St Andrews Cathedral and Linlithgow Palace.

Dr Rebecca Sweetman from the University of St Andrews and her colleagues offered us a fun afternoon of archaeology, which first involved an insight into gladiators. We learned how they fought at the Colosseum and we learned how to spot the difference between contenders and opponents. We learned that they kept dangerous animals underneath the arena in cages.

Next we were allowed to hold some ancient artefacts from Sparta and have a go at making educated guesses as to what the pots were for. This let us understand more about the history of people from ancient times, about their crockery and possessions.

Lastly, followed everyone's favourite activity, where we used computers to travel and fly around the virtual

reconstructions of St Andrews Cathedral and Linlithgow Palace. The visiting experts have made these places look exactly as they would have looked before they became ruins. It was all three dimensional so it was easier to understand than in a book. We were even able to ask questions of people in the game and the avatars could speak to each other. It was a great afternoon and we'd love to do it again!

By Catriona Paterson and Abigail Cousins



Fairtrade Fortnight Home Economics Department – L6 to F6

To highlight to pupils the Fairtrade organisation and celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight in February, all year groups were involved. In class, pupils made banana and chocolate muffins to be sold on the Pillars, along with other Fairtrade products. As part of the lesson, pupils learnt what Fairtrade was, discussed ethical issues and explored the various

Fairtrade products available. This also linked into the topic of Citizenship which was being taught in F1PSE.

The Junior school L6 Enterprise group came across to the department to make muffins for sale at the Junior School Fair Trade tuck shop.

The Fairtrade Interval was a great success, all muffins sold out, and pupils very much enjoyed selling the Fairtrade goodies.



March

The Business Breakfast

The annual Careers Business Breakfast was held on the last week of the Spring Term. Once again it was a roaring success. The keynote speaker was Allan Watt, the Dundee Waterfront Project Coordinator, who works for Dundee City Council. He gave a very informative speech about how the waterfront will develop and the opportunities that will be opened for the city as a result. There was a large attendance at the event with an extremely high uptake from F5 pupils, all were able to make valuable contacts and some managed to arrange work experience. The Business Education Department wishes to thank all who attended and the committee who worked so hard to ensure that the Careers Business Breakfast was once again a successful and memorable event.



F5 Business students tour Mackie's factory

Just before the Easter break, the F5 Business Management students visited the Mackie's crisp factory in Inchtute. The highly successful crisps are manufactured from home grown potatoes around the area and then carefully stored to allow for year round production in the plant.

The tour started with an introductory talk by Martin Brown, Operations Director of Taylors Food Group which encompasses Mackie's at Taypack, on the history of the recently established crisp production and the systems in place to maximise the quality of the product for consumers.

A blind taste test was then undertaken by everyone, assessing 10 popular crisp brands for areas such as taste, texture and colour, with results that proved very pleasing to the Mackie's development team.

The group then headed into the factory, donned the essential factory jackets and hairnets and set off through the different sectors of the production process. Seeing first-hand the batch processing and the issues that can arise, brought classwork to life, especially surrounded by all the noise and smells of potatoes, the fryers and the different flavours being added.

Loaded up with new varieties to try and samples to enjoy with friends and family, the group headed back to school after a thoroughly enjoyable and informative tour.



Learning in Context – International Development

The Higher Economics class as part of the International Economics unit carried out a role playing exercise with the aim of understanding how different organisations whether governmental or non-governmental come together to assist less developed countries. The scenario was set in post-conflict Mali and the pupils played representatives from various organisations such as the British Army, the Department for International Development and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The pupils then had to work together to produce a plan to ensure that the immediate needs of the Malian population were met but at the same time they had to consider sustained economic development strategies. The exercise was a huge success with the classroom being transformed into a Multinational Task Force Headquarters for the duration of the scenario complete with the odd rocket and mortar attack. The pupils learnt that the solution to conflict lies in long-term political and economic planning and support and that these take primacy over any military intervention.

Berlin Trip



Debating

March began with our first trip to Edinburgh Juniors, a relatively new competition for F1-3. We were delighted to have our lead team of Ciara Mitchell and Steven Roy placed in first and second position respectively out of eighty competitors at the end of the third round. They gave a very credible performance in the final and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Rachel and Ciara continued to flourish

at senior level, placing 8th out of 45 in the Edinburgh University one-day competition.

The final senior tournament of this year took place over two days at the University of Durham, attended by teams from London and further afield and with five rounds – four of them with 15 minutes preparation time - before breaking to quarters. This was the girls' most successful performance yet; they came to grips with a very difficult prepared motion on whether the ICC should offer amnesty to Joseph

Kony, and won a room – over a group of startled English sixth-formers! – on the motion that the next James Bond should be cast as a woman. As a team they finished 36th on tab out of 104, and Ciara was thrilled to find herself also 36th out of 208 on the speaker tab, equal with a former world schools debating champion. With three years of school debating still ahead of her, she has time to improve on this ranking...

March Rugby

The Scottish climate showed how fickle it can be in the month of March. We enjoyed wonderful weather on 2 March when we had a triangular event between our Form 5 XV, our Form 6 XV and Howe of Fife 1st XV, with both senior sides recording victories. Our U16s also won a very close match. The spoils were shared throughout the other matches played.

The following week, the weather bit back and matches versus Stewarts Melville in Dundee were cancelled. The matches in Edinburgh went ahead although the photos indicate that it was one of the worst days of the Rugby season! We lost narrowly 13 – 10 in muddy, freezing conditions. The 2nd XV managed to secure a 29 – 10 victories whilst the U16s lost to a very good Stewarts Melville side.



Last away match of the season for the F6 team against Stewarts-Melville.

RBS Economic Update Conference

The Advanced Higher Class was invited to attend an RBS Economic Update Conference at the Westpark Conference Centre. The presentation covered the global economic climate and outlook. The RBS's chief economist, who has represented New Zealand at the World Trade Organisation, gave a very interesting and in depth analysis of current global economic trends. The pupils learnt a lot, in particular the issues that China faces in sustaining its current growth rate.

Public Speaking

Throughout February and March the Young Speakers were busy learning and developing new skills at Public Speaking in preparation for the English Department Public Speaking Competition. Pupils from F1-6 entered the Competition with a number of heats being held before the finalists were identified. All pupils picked their topic from a choice of Justice, Dundee and Our Planet, with each offering their own angle and personal viewpoint. The high standard of all the speakers gave the judges, Ms Whatley-Marshall, Dr Baston and Mr Illsley a tough decision. Alice Inman, F2 won the F1-3 prize with Hannah George, F2 second. In the Senior Competition for F4-6, Scott Lothian, F5 won with Zara Billah F5, a worthy runner-up.

CCF Exercise and Inspection 2013



L3 Egypt Day

The L3 had been doing project work about ancient Egypt and it was decided that it would be a useful exercise to find out about what foods the Egyptians would have eaten. The pupils came across to the Home Economics department and made and cooked some traditional flatbreads. They also were given some vegetable batons and a small tub of sour cream for their Egyptian feast.



Easter Challenge Day

We made Easter bonnets and went on a parade. My bonnet had two feathers at the top, some jewels and a ribbon round it. We made Easter nests at the Home Economics department. They were delicious.

Cameron Brown, L1P

We learned about the Easter Story. Jesus had to carry his cross up a big hill without any water to drink. Jesus died on the cross. We tasted some hot cross buns which remind us of Jesus dying on the cross. We went on an Easter bunny hunt and we found some chocolate in a bunny at the end of the Easter bunny hunt.

Charlotte Kay, L1J



Comic Relief



Fencing

Fencing is a sport that pushes people to the physical and mental boundaries, but is also highly enjoyable. I, along with other pupils and parents, have succeeded in establishing a foothold in the school for the sport. This sport is different than the usual school sports such as Rugby, Hockey, and Athletics. People of any size and age can participate; all that is needed is enthusiasm and a will to learn. In March 2013, I gathered a group of inexperienced pupils and some, who had experience, to participate in the Scottish Secondary Schools Team Championship. The results were more than I could have expected to achieve! I was looking for a day of socialising, fun, and experience, and ended up with the Senior Boys Foil team, which included myself (6th year), Cameron Pringle (6th year) and Marshal McLeod (5th year), placing 4th, and the Junior Boys Foil team, which included Alexander Berg (1st year), Charlie Stanford (1st year) and Andrew Lang (1st year), who also won the best technical fencer, placing 3rd, with the High School placing 3rd overall of the schools. I hope to help increase the already high standard of fencing at the school.

Antony Shek F6, photos by Summer Shek F5



Discovery Trip

L2 had a very successful trip to Discovery as part of our Famous People project. The weather decided to play its part by giving us an example of just how cold and windy it would be to go down to Antarctica, so we scurried quickly onto the boat to have a tour around. The Crow's Nest is always a favourite stop with much discussion about graffiti and why it is there. Also searching for the ship's cat is a great adventure. We learned about why the boat was made of wood and also discovered that the crew men had to sleep in hammocks in

4 hour shifts. None of the children was willing to give up their sleep once they learned that the men often woke up with frozen blankets! After a very quick look out on deck the wind and hail blew us inside to discover what Captain Scott and his men would have worn. Soham was the lucky volunteer who was decked out in all the gear including seal gloves and scratchy woollen jumper. There was lots of time to talk about the dangers of the cold and how to look after yourself if you ever happen to find yourself lost in Antarctica. Polly also had the opportunity to dress up in what modern Antarctic explorer's wear which is definitely more colourful than in Captain Scott's time, but in principle not entirely different. We had a super visit that made all the knowledge the children had learned in the classroom come to life.



Geography Trip



L4 Technology Challenge

Is it easy to follow a set of instructions, and then use a range of different techniques, to make a horse drawn chariot driven by a Roman charioteer? It was definitely a testing undertaking! The L4s rose to the challenge with enthusiasm: working with initiative, great concentration and attention to detail. All were justifiably proud of the finished results.



Hadrian's Wall



L4 Romans

A section of Hadrian's Wall with a milecastle and the defending soldiers.



RNLi Trip

As we have been studying the River Tay, we went to the RNLi Lifeboat station in Broughty Ferry on a trip. It was a lovely sunny day so we were hoping to make a stop off for an ice cream but we drove right by...

When we arrived, we went into the centre and up the stairs to a room with big, comfy, brown sofas. We met some of the crew. There was a man named Scott who always works there but some people had other jobs too and they come down when there is an emergency. Scott told us how we should be careful when we're playing on the beach and to never go out on a blow up dolphin. We all watched a video which showed us some of the times the RNLi have had to save people. It was really scary! Struan got to dress up in the uniform the RNLi wear when they have to go out on the boat. It was bright yellow and really cosy.

Next, we went downstairs to see all the equipment. The suits were all hanging upside down by their boots and everyone had their own space with their things in it. At the back of the room there was a door to the ramp where they launch the rig (a motorboat that is smaller than the big boat). Scott jumped into the boat and showed us some of the things they use. The ramp went down into the sea and they drive off from there. This was for when they're called out to somewhere nearby but sometimes they use the big boat if they go out to sea. We noticed that there were lots of boards with dates on them around the room and we were told that they were all the rescues the station had been called out to. Lots!

Finally, it was time to leave. We were given a sticker and a workbook to take home and headed back to school.





L6 trip to the Botanic Gardens

On a bitterly cold and icy morning last March when the snow was still lying on the ground L6 set off for their "spring" Science/ Geography field trip to the Botanic Gardens in St Andrews.

Our first activity was a tour of the garden. Having been shown many different plants, ranging from cacti to jasmine, we learned how they were pollinated by bees and other creatures. We also tasted some nectar which was just like honey, only sweeter!

Next, we learned the adaptations of many unique and amazing plants. A scary encounter came when we saw the most poisonous plant at the entire venue - the angel's trumpet. Its poison is so toxic that it can stop a man's heart in a matter of minutes... SCARY! Following this, came our third activity - making our very own rainforest in a bottle. This clever device demonstrates the water cycle which we had learned about in class. These are very successful and mine is still growing even though I've only given it a tiny bit of water. Finally,

it was time for pond-dipping. At the Garden's pond, we saw lots of frogspawn and a heron too. It was very tame and let us get up very close before it flew away. Then we did some pond-dipping of our own. In our trays, our finds included leeches, sticklebacks and tiny red water mites.

Sadly the Botanic Gardens at both St Andrews and Dundee are under threat of closure. It would be a real shame if future L6 classes were unable to enjoy this fantastic trip.

By Ollie Campbell L6C

Royal Society of Chemistry Analyst Competition

In March, HSD entered a team in the Royal Society of Chemistry Analyst Competition. The competition is open to teams, each made up of three 5th/6th year pupils, and is designed to stimulate interest in analytical chemistry as an enjoyable and rewarding activity, and to give school pupils a brief glimpse of university life. The competitors work as a team to complete and report on a number of practical analytical chemistry experiments set up in one of the University teaching laboratories. This year's experiments included analysing aspirin tablets and finding out how much iron there actually is in Irn Bru. Unfortunately, the team (Hannah Arnold, John Ferguson and Daniel Davidson, L to R in photos) did not win, but they found it good experience and an invaluable insight into analytical chemistry at university.



McManus Art Workshop

Form 3 pupils participated in an event at the McManus Galleries in conjunction with the International Printmaking Conference 2013. Pupils attended a workshop in which they experimented with different printmaking techniques to create designs for large scale linocuts. The theme was 'exploration', and together with their class time 'Tay River Project' they investigated cultural diversity and historical events within City of Dundee. The linocut designs they created will be pressed with the aid of a steam roller in the city centre at an event in the summer. The consequent artworks will be displayed across the city as part of the International Printmaking Conference.



Model UN Report - School Magazine

The recently established Model United Nations Society for senior school pupils is having a vibrant second year, with the school holding its own conference and taking part in events in Edinburgh, Earlston and Manchester. Within Model UN pupils replicate a country in the United Nations and debate on topics relating to current affairs and international issues. Delegates who compete try to remain in the character of their country and aim to persuade other countries to support their given point of view.



In December, the school held a Model UN conference for pupils both new and experienced to develop their understanding of the United Nations processes and issues. The chosen topic for the day was Capital Punishment which raised a lot of high quality debate between countries who were both for and against the motion. Eventually countries were told to form alliances and vote on the type of action they think the United Nations should take.

With the experience gained from our own conference we took our newly acquired skills to the massively impressive George Watson's conference in March, a second major conference at Manchester Grammar School and a conference at Earlston High School. Many congratulations to Cameron Tisshaw in Form 6 who became our first MUN winner as he was selected best delegate in his committee at the Earlston conference.

Pictured above are our participants at the George Watson's conference who represented Israel and the pupils who represented Myanmar at the Manchester conference. Finally many thanks to Mrs Downie for her assistance and invaluable expertise. Thanks are also due to all the participating pupils for making it such an enjoyable experience.

Spring Concert 13





L7 Paris Trip



Sixty-four pupils travelled to Paris by coach with eight members of staff. Extracts from their diaries provide an insight into their experiences

And, in the words of Ailsa, "I had a great time in Paris and I wish we could go back!" **Mrs Smith, Trip Leader.**

Monday/Tuesday: Overnight travel and arrival in France

"Yesterday, at 8.30pm we left on two coaches to go to Paris. We all said our goodbyes to our parents then went on the bus. Everyone was extremely excited. My partner was Charlotte. We talked, played games and listened to music. There were many stops during the journey at service stations. I had a croissant for breakfast and for lunch I had a lovely ham baguette in France! To get into France we had to take the Eurostar under the sea. It was great. The bus journey was fun and we got some sleep! We have all unpacked, had dinner and now we are away to play games in the hotel." **Rachel**

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

"Today was fun! We got a group photo in-front of the Eiffel Tower and then went all the way to the top of it. From the top you see all the amazing sights, like the Arc de Triomphe and Sacre Coeur. For

lunch we went to McDonalds on the Champs-Elysées. After we walked to the Arc de Triomphe; there are over 270 steps leading up to the top! Then we walked back to the bus passing lots of designer shops. We travelled to the river, La Seine, and got on a boat, spotting more famous sights, like Notre Dame. To end the day, Paris by night tour – spectacular!" **Alice**

Thursday: Euro Disney day, Eiffel Tower construction then disco

"We were woken up at 7am and down for breakfast for 8am. At 9am we boarded the coach and were on our way to Euro Disney! At about 9.50am we arrived. I was so excited! We went on all sorts of rides, like Space Mountain and Indiana Jones. After we went back to the hotel and after dinner, we had a 'build an Eiffel Tower' competition. My group's tower won the most realistic category and won the best overall! A disco followed, the disco was great.

Conor

Friday: Montmartre, Sacre Coeur, Aquaboulevard, quiz evening

"Today, we went to a massive church, Sacre Coeur, with beautiful stained glass windows. After that we went round to Artists' Square and spoke French and bought lots of cool French goods. Then we went to an amazing place called Aquaboulevard and it was so epic! There were really fast flumes that went inside and outside. We came back to the hotel on the bus after a long, tiring day. I loved the evening activities. Firstly, we drew our own caricatures, but I didn't win, then we had a French knock-out quiz. I loved it." **Jamie**

Saturday/Sunday: Depart Paris, Calais shopping and return travel to Dundee

"This morning I woke up and said, "I do not want to leave!" We had our last breakfast in the hotel and went to our dorms and packed. Everybody boarded the bus with our heavy suitcases and drove out of Paris then stopped at a place called Calais. We went shopping there for our last presents with the remainder of our euros. After shopping and lunch we headed back to Great Britain through the Channel Tunnel and off to sleep for the last time on the coach". **Lucy**

'Additional Note' comments:

"I loved everything we did. The Paris trip should be longer!" **Ciara**

"The voyage is long but at least you could chat to your friends." **Joshua**

"I really enjoyed the sight-seeing. I really, really, really enjoyed Paris. Thank you Mrs Smith and all the teachers" **Rachel**



Junior School L7 Netball Team

On 21st February the L7 Netball team played in the Dundee District Primary Schools Netball Association's Kennedy Cup at Ward Road Gym. The girls played three matches on the night against Mill of Mains, Craigiebarns and Craigowl and won them all. They had therefore qualified for the final. This was played on 14th March against Downfield. The final was a very close run game with frequent goals being scored at both ends. However, Downfield were the winners 7-6.

On Saturday 16th March the girls also played in the Dundee District Primary Schools Netball Association's Director's Trophy. The team played four games against Craigowl, Craigiebarns, Downfield and St. Peter and Paul's. They won all these round robin games and so had qualified for the final to be played against Downfield. As with every meeting between these two teams it was very tightly contested. Unfortunately once again Downfield came out on top 6-5.

The L7 girls were therefore second in the Kennedy Cup and the Director's Trophy. A great result!

Pictured to the right are Catriona Addison, Hannah Alijani, Anna Hudson, Ailsa Macdonald, Laura Murphy, Rachel Rose and Rachel Strachan are pictured with their medals.



L6 Challenge Day Report

On Wednesday, 27th March 2013 L6 enjoyed a great Challenge Day which was based on our rainforest topic.

The first challenge of the day was a Cocoa Bean Game which taught us about the benefits of Fairtrade. Independent farmers were competing against Fairtrade farmers who were always guaranteed safe working conditions and fair pay. This encouraged us to buy Fairtrade products from now on.

The second challenge of the day was using an app on the iPads called Taronga Zoo which is a real zoo in Sydney, Australia but the app allowed us to explore the zoo without actually being there. We had to investigate animals and find out about their habitat, diet and abilities. It was hard work but enjoyable.

The third and final activity of the day was a debating activity. We worked in different groups and had to look at the destruction of the rainforests from different points of view, for example, as Japanese businessmen, the Brazilian government and rainforest tribal people.

Overall, the challenge day was thoroughly enjoyable.

Fraser Coupar and Archie Frame (L6R)



April

National Galleries of Scotland competition

This year saw pupils from the High School of Dundee entering **Inspired? Get Writing!** for the second time. The competition – run by the National Galleries of Scotland - required pupils to produce a poem or piece of prose, in which inspiration had been taken from any of the works in the National Galleries' extensive collection. The competition has been running for eight years and this year, 700 creative pieces were entered from a variety of countries around the world. These were split into age categories, and for each category, there were ten awards: a winner, two runners up and seven highly commended.

Despite the huge number of entries, it appears that the success of the 2011/2012 competition has continued for the High

School. For the second time in two years, one of our pupils was awarded as highly commended, with Ailsa Purdie in F6 winning a special merit certificate. This prize meant her work - inspired by the painting **Christ in the House of Martha and Mary** by Vermeer - was publically read at the prize giving ceremony, held at the Scottish National Gallery in April. This was a very exciting and proud moment for Ailsa and her family.

Ailsa's award is a fantastic achievement, and we look forward to entering the competition again in the future. Hopefully, we will be able to continue to build on the successful foundation which has been established in the past two years!



Eco-schools Big Beach Clean-up

On Saturday 27th April 2013, the Eco-Schools committee organised a group of twelve pupils and staff to take part in the Marine Conservation Society's Big Beach Clean-up (supported by Marks and Spencer) on Broughty Ferry beach. A productive morning was spent in glorious spring sunshine tidying our much loved local beach. Thanks to Dr Fotheringham, Lucy van der Ham, Barbara Braid, Rhiannon Martin, Rory Macdonald, Hannah Douglas, Toby Reid, Beth MacIntosh, Callum Archibald, Lucy Duncan and India Moorjani.

Mr Brett



Debating

Our favourite outing of the year is undoubtedly **The Auld Hoose** debating competition hosted by Robert Gordon's Academy, Aberdeen. Open to F1-3, and aimed at novice debaters, our eight participants thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of the friendly and supportive whole day tournament. Our lead team of Ciara Mitchell and Alex Smith were placed fifth after Round 3, meaning they narrowly missed a place in the final. Isabel Campbell, F2 and Sandy Neville, F1 enjoyed their first full day of short-prep debating.

Dalguise Pupil Postcards

Dalguise is the best experience ever! The food is great and the activities are amazing! My favourite is the canoeing which was the most exhilarating time of my life! We were jumping off the jetty into freezing cold lake water. To make us even more excited, we are having waffles with toffee sauce for dessert. I miss you. But I truly love Dalguise!

Love, Adrianna

Dear Mum and Dad,
Dalguise has been fun and everything has been amazing so far. I have to tell you about these two activities that were really fun- abseiling and canoeing. The abseiling was really exciting, but I had to be quite brave to step off the huge, tall tower and climb down. The canoeing was great fun. It was quite hard steering it and making it move forwards and backwards, but the most exciting bit was being able to jump off the jetty into the pond. The only thing I didn't like was how freezing the water was!

From Cameron Davidson

Dear Mum,
I have enjoyed all of Dalguise so far and I am writing to you about the fun I have had. Firstly, I am going to tell you about the canoeing where we paddled our boats through the lake with a partner. Then, just for fun, we jumped into the ice cold water. Even though our teeth were chattering and we were very wet, it was still fun! Secondly I am going to tell you about the disco that took place on Sunday night. There were lots of good tunes to dance to and it was great! I don't want to leave tomorrow!

From Holly Sampson

Dear Dad,
I have successfully completed the 'Giant Swing'. This was breathtaking as all my friends winched Finn and me up to the top. I could see a great view but only for a few seconds because we were soon whizzing down to the ground.

After we completed the wonderful activities, we got to go back to our dorms. These dorms were lovely. We had 3 bunk beds and one toilet. I do think the room could be bigger though!

Craig

Dear Dad

I had a brilliant time today at Dalguise. The three-hour forest trail was great fun. They told us scary stories about things that had happened in the forest. When we reached deep into the forest, we saw drop bears. They are supposed to be nocturnal but the previous group had woken them up. Hope to hear back from you soon.

Yours sincerely, Jamie Meade

Dear Mum

Our stay at Dalguise has been great fun so far. We really enjoy the activities here. One of my favourites would have to be the Challenge Course, because we had to work as a team and cooperate in order to complete the tasks. Another interesting feature of Dalguise has been the drop bears. These strange animals originated in Australia, but were brought to Scotland and hunt by dropping down on unsuspecting prey from the trees. They do not seem to like deer for some reason, but seem to have a taste for rabbits.

Missing you all, Jonathan





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Thirty three pupils with four members of staff went to Sorrento and Rome this year on the Classics department annual trip to Italy. Here, some of the pupils record their impressions of the trip:

"We visited many exciting places such as Pompeii, Herculaneum, Ostia and Mount Vesuvius. Every place we learnt a lot about life in ancient Rome, but still had fun. We went to the shops and bought ice-cream and also bought souvenirs for our families. As a whole the Italy trip was a great experience. I loved every minute of it." **Eilidh**

"My favourite was definitely going to Pompeii and also the Coliseum. Pompeii was amazing, as it showed you how a Roman town really was. The Coliseum was good, as you see it so often in films and pictures, but it was amazing to see it in real life." **Adam**

"I loved going to Vatican City. As a Catholic, I was proud to go to the home of the Pope. We admired the largest collection of original Roman statues in the world, but perhaps the most memorable experience was going into the Sistine Chapel where the Papal conclave had been held. Pope Francesco had been elected Pope just two weeks before our visit. I was thrilled to see Michelangelo's Last Judgement fresco depicting the Second Coming of Christ and then afterwards in St Peter's Square outside the massive St Peter's basilica, I sat under the arches feeling very emotional looking up at the chimney where white smoke had announced the new Pope." **Andy**

"Climbing Mount Vesuvius was an amazing experience. There was a perfect panoramic view of the Bay of Naples in the sun with clear blue skies. The large crater was dormant, but the distinct smell of sulphur steaming from fumaroles left one slightly on edge. The walking stick man charged a fortune for renting us sticks!" **Sibs**

"One night we stumbled across a Good Friday procession in Sorrento. A hush fell upon the crowd and a long parade of men appeared dressed head to foot in hooded black robes, holding candles and chanting in Latin, slow marching along the main street. Some held crosses, some carried statues. The atmosphere was incredibly focused. It gave us a real authentic flavour of Italian culture all the more thrilling because we had come across it by accident." **Ciara**

"The food was fantastic! It was amazing to experience this part of Italian culture and to taste things we had never tasted before. Italians are very generous with their helpings. A large portion of pasta, together with second helpings was followed by the meat and vegetable course. Only then did we realise the pasta was just a starter. Then there were the pizzas baked in wood-fired ovens and the amazing varieties of ice-creams. We all came back heavier than we went out!" **Ellie**

Classics Trip

Italy trip Easter 2013



May

Africa Day 2013

If you had visited the Margaret Harris building this May, you might have been forgiven for thinking you had been transported to Africa! Sounds of drums and African music filled the building as the pupils raised money to sponsor five children at the Mashimoni Squatters' School in Nairobi, Kenya. As you can see from the photographs, the Junior School pupils spent the day dressed in the colours of the Kenyan flag and each class took part in several different activities which explored African culture, geography and history. They also learnt about the many problems facing Africa, from malaria to water purification. In addition to gaining a greater insight into the problems and wonders of Africa, the pupils raised £700 in total and this money will be used to fund our five children's education, food and uniform for the coming year. From the photos sent to us, you can see how valuable our support is to the children in Kenya.



L4 & L5 were learning about the big 'killer' – Malaria.

Transferred by the female mosquito in malarious areas, it is often deadly, even to tourists. However, L4 learned there are steps to take to avoid the mossaie or to help those in malarious areas by supporting charities that supply mosquito nets.

How do we catch malaria?

Infected blood is transferred by the carrier 'Mrs Mossie', when she bites.

How do we avoid catching malaria?

We can get rid of (or spray) standing water, cover-up if we are out and about, or sleep under a net at night.





Business Studies – Bibi's bakery

Fiona Pratt (FP), founder of Bibi's bakery, kindly took time out of her busy day in May to give an excellent talk to Business Management students and current cake entrepreneurs about setting up and running a small business.

Having worked in small family firms and large corporations before running her own business, she was able to give insights into the differences between

such institutions and the care required when starting up on your own.

Bibi's has been through many changes from the initial plan but found success through careful analysis and refocusing on cakes. Increasing demand has allowed for organic growth from one St Andrews bakery to Aberdeen and Edinburgh, with Glasgow to follow in the near future.

Whilst some firms are currently struggling, it was clear the future for the Bibi's Bakery niche was very positive, with new lines and products always under development. Finishing with some key advice for the current cake-baking entrepreneurs, Fiona then invited everyone to test the Bibi's product range which unsurprisingly, all were more than happy to do.



Chemistry Successes

Ryan Kemlo

Part of the Advanced Higher Chemistry course looks at drug design and Ryan Kemlo, Form 6, won the class challenge to design the best drug, using a drug design and evaluation simulator. He was presented with a certificate and a £10 Amazon voucher by the Rector.



Andrew with his certificate



Andrew Kelly

Andrew Kelly was presented with his Silver CREST Award. Andrew spent several weeks investigating a chemical challenge and modified it for use with different year groups. The work Andrew did formed the basis for a presentation I gave at the ASE Conference, training other teachers on how to use the resource. His work is recognised with a Silver CREST Award from the British Science Association.

Dragon Snot

Our three L7 classes were welcomed into the Chemistry department for a taster lesson as part of their transition to Senior School. Dr Taylor had prepared his now infamous Dragon Snot Challenge, where the children have to investigate how to prepare slime with a very particular consistency. "This wasn't just about having fun" said Dr Taylor. "They have to control their variables and graph their data in order to be able to make an accurate prediction." All of the pupils enjoyed both making and playing with slime, with one even going so far as to say it was the best lesson of the year!





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We went to Mayfield and we were all dressed as pirates. We bounced on the bouncy castles and we went climbing on an assault course.

Orla McKelvey, L1P

We went on a bus to Mayfield. I was wearing pirate clothes but looked quite friendly. My favourite activity was the bouncy castle. We had a race on space hoppers.

Amy Leburn, L1P



L1-L3 Pirate Fun Day





L1 & L6 iPad activity

On Friday the 3rd of May, the Junior School iPad class, L6R, went down to their old classrooms to give the L1s a turn using the iPads so that they could make an alphabet book.

L6R firstly went to Mrs Proudfoot's class then to Mrs Johnson's class. Each L1 pupil got an iPad to themselves with an L6 guiding them. Every pair was given a few letters of the alphabet to focus on.

The L1 project during the summer term was about animals so we decided to create a book showing different animals and the letter of the alphabet their name started with. The L6s helped the L1s create a document showing the appropriate letter of the alphabet with an illustration of the animal they had chosen. The L1s enjoyed searching for images on Google or creating their own illustrations using a drawing app.

L6R didn't know the L1s were so creative and spontaneous and thought that they were fun to work with.

Overall this was a great experience for both L6R and L1.

Report by Amy Pal-Kerr and Olivia Russell



L1 & L6 iPad collaboration

I worked with an L6 to make a page for our alphabet book. I did sounds 'a' and 'b.' I typed on the iPad and found some pictures.

Jack Anderson, L1J

I found two pictures, one was a picture of a lizard and the other was a picture of a kangaroo. I found the pictures on the internet. I enjoyed working with my L6 partner because they showed me how to work an iPad.

Fern Nissen, L1J

May saw the final meeting of the Philosophy Club

The Philosophy Club continues to provide stimulation and entertainment to between five and ten intellectual adventurers on Thursday lunchtimes. Members of the group disagree noisily (and sometimes think quietly) about a variety of topics; always generating new and original ideas, and occasionally reaching a conclusion.

Philosophers don't all agree about whether philosophy should change the world (Marx said it should, Wittgenstein said it shouldn't), but the High School Philosophy Club seems to be united in the belief that, if an argument is strong enough, it should change your mind.

Anyone who wants to think clearly about such diverse topics as the difference



between facts, laws and theories, or why music is worth listening to, and how many sides a circle has, should think about attending a Philosophy Club meeting. Failing that, they should try thinking about thinking about attending, or about what they mean by thinking about thinking.

L4 Science 'Living and Growing'

During L4's Science topic the children successfully made 'self-watering' pots in Technology and then grew very healthy runner beans.

Anna and Lizzie



Philosophy Club, 2012-13 Diary

September

- Discussed ignorance, stupidity and madness. Decided that ignorance and stupidity are commoner than madness, but that madness is more fun.
- Experimented with the Chinese Room – took us a whole week to escape – and decided that artificial intelligence might be mistaken for the real thing.

October

- Wondered whether philosophy is all in the mind, or whether the mind is a figment of the imagination.
- What do we mean by 'mind'?
- What do we mean by 'mean'?
- Are ghosts real, and do we mind?

November

- Is there any useful knowledge that is independent of human experience? If so, how do we begin to know it?

December

- Robots: what would it be like to have a robot, or to be a robot? Could robots actually think? What really distinguishes robots from human beings?

January

- Are all Cretans liars? If a Cretan told you he was a liar, would you believe him?

February

- Is God real? "Obviously!" said some; "No, God's just an idea in your mind." said others. "Well," came the answer, "ideas are real, aren't they?"
- Are ideas real, or is there no reality other than physical reality?

March

- Is everything meaningless? How many sides does a circle have? What are sounds (and do they actually exist)?

April

- We discussed the importance of being earnestly monotheistic, and some group members seem to have decided to jack it in. Algernon wasn't mentioned.

May

- If you knew in advance who would do the most damage in the future, what strategies could you use to prevent it? Imprisonment? Infanticide? Answers on a postcard to 'Jocasta, The Royal Palace, Thebes'.

Poetry competitions

Junior School Public Speaking Competition 2013

On Tuesday 21st May, 2013 the final of the Junior School Public Speaking Competition took place in the Margaret Harris Hall. There were nine finalists; Zoe Falloon from L4, Christina Kennedy and Dominic Westwood from L5, Ollie Campbell and Alex Fish from L6 and Hannah Alijani, Alfie George, Anna Hudson and Heidi McMillan all from L7. Unfortunately Alfie was not available to participate in the final which was ably adjudicated by Mr Roger Illsley. The children each recited two poems and gave a short talk on a subject only seen for the first time that evening. They all did extremely well and were a credit to their parents and the school. After much deliberation the eventual winner was Alex Fish, with joint runners-up, Anna Hudson and Heidi McMillan.

L3 Poetry Competition

Congratulations go to Ellie Reid who won the L3 Poetry Competition this year and also to our runner-up, Archie Macdonald.

All the L3 pupils entered the competition which comprised two preliminary rounds and a final. Mrs Drummond, our adjudicator this year, commented on the high standard of the finalists. She said however, that Ellie's clear voice and confident performance made her a very worthy winner.

Ellie and Archie are pictured alongside the other finalists.



Stirling Castle

On Monday 20th May, L5 went on a very interesting trip to Stirling Castle. At the castle we were split into two groups – one group had a guide and went round the castle, while Miss Cardno's group did a quiz about the castle. The guide was funny and he was wearing armour. First, we went to the gatehouse and looked at the portcullis. We then went all around the different parts of the castle. My favourite bit was the gatehouse. In the education room we looked at weapons. My favourite was the chain mace. We then had lunch sitting in the sun. Afterwards, we did the quiz and went around the castle answering questions about the things we had learned. I liked the trip to Stirling Castle because it was exciting to go round the castle and there were some great views.

Dominic Westwood, L5P



Volleyball Club Report 2012-2013

Many pupils have attended the Volleyball Club throughout the year (some are pictured on the RHS) and have participated in various friendly volleyball tournaments, festivals and Scottish Cup matches.

In the National S2/3 Festival, our girls played very well and as a result, the HSD top team finished fifth in Scotland – an excellent result. The Form 2/3 girls also managed to reach the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup Competition. However, unfortunately, they lost to Marr College.



Scottish Cup Team A&DDVA Division 2 District Cup winners



Recently we took part in Division 2 of the Angus & Dundee District Volleyball Association Leagues. Here, we played against various teams, mostly from Dundee and of Abertay Universities. So far, the Form 3 team has won all its matches, whilst Form 2 won 4 out of their 8 matches. We also played in and won the Division 2 Cup competition.

Thank you very much to our coaches for organising everything and helping us do so well.

Victoria Vitale Captain

Letter to the church organist following the L5 visit to St Andrews Kirk

Dear Mr Smith,

Thank you very much for having L5 at the church and letting us ding the bells and make a tune – it was lots of fun. I also liked the loud noise they made. I liked the bells a lot.

Thank you for letting me play the organ. I really liked how the piece which I played echoed round the whole church. That was the very first time I have ever played one. I never knew that they had to be connected to the pipes.

I also loved the lovely red chairs and the one I was sitting in was the one for the glover. It amazed me how many chairs there were and how comfy they were. I loved sitting on them and knowing what the markings on them meant. I had never realised how many things make up a church.

My favourite part was definitely when you let me play the organ and I think that I am very lucky that I got to do that. Thank you again for sparing your time for us.

Yours sincerely, Jasmine (L5)



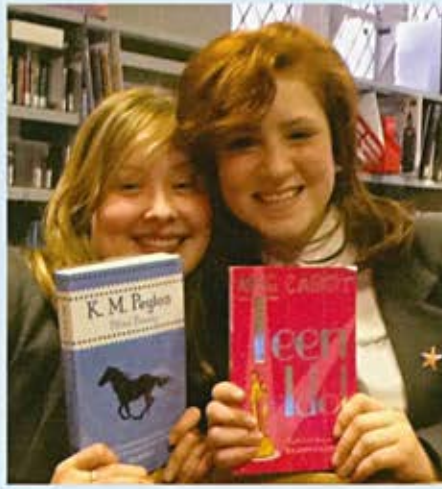
Art and Design Department visit to Tentsmuir Nature Reserve

At the end of May, a group of third-year pupils visited Tentsmuir Nature Reserve to participate in the opening of the Virtual Art Trail. This trail was designed by well-known local wildlife artist and High School of Dundee FP Derek Robertson, who is the Reserve's artist in residence for the coming year.

Derek gave our pupils a watercolour demonstration and spoke about his work, illustrating his comments with fascinating examples of his own meticulously-executed drawings and paintings. He also took our group on a tour of the Virtual Art Trail that he has created, and explained how mobile phones could be used at various points to access information from websites about the wildlife in the forest.

Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience which was made even more interesting by Derek's humorous and informative stories about his experiences as a wildlife artist.





The Library looks back over the Year

As ever, the library has been a hive of activity: learning, researching, meeting others or just good old settling down with a book! Here are some photos of events which have taken place this year – from the Book Slamming of World Book Day to HSD pupils getting involved in reviewing books for the Carnegie Book Trust: the Carnegie Prize reading group met every Thursday lunchtime to discuss shortlisted books for the Carnegie Prize. Other activities included "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" where pupils had to guess from the literary clues on the table who the guests were. L3 were involved in a project where all the pupils made posters and a short film talking about their favourite picture book- and of course, we can't forget DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) with Dr Taylor's Higher Chemistry class too!



June

Beauty and the Beast

This year the pupils in L4 to L7 put on a fantastic production of 'Beauty and the Beast'. It took place at the Gardyne Theatre from the 11th to the 14th of June, 2013. The cast involved all of the children in L6 and L7 with the L4s and L5s joining them in the choir.

'*Beauty and the Beast*' is the story of a young, selfish prince who is transformed into a hideous beast. To break the spell he must learn to love another and earn her love in return before the last petal falls from the enchanted rose.

Belle, a beautiful young woman, leaves her small village to search for her father, who has disappeared. Belle and the Beast meet for the first time in the castle where her father was imprisoned. Slowly over time they learn to love each other with the help of the Beast's loyal servants. At the end of the story the Beast is transformed back into the prince and lives happily with Belle.

The first rehearsals took place in January in the L1 - 3 lunch hall with just the principals structuring the main bulk of the scenes. As the rehearsals progressed other characters were added in, including the dancers. After the Easter Holidays the rehearsals took place in the Margaret Harris Hall, giving the 'cast of thousands' more space to work. This also meant the rehearsals got more

serious and most of the cast had to know their lines from memory.

The week before the show there were intensive rehearsals meaning the cast really had to up their game to ensure a great performance. During the intensive rehearsals, the cast came into school in their tracksuits and 'Beauty and the Beast' t-shirts that were designed by Rhea Wedderburn from L7D. On the week of the show, the cast went up to the Gardyne Theatre for their last rehearsals. By Tuesday, the show was fantastic and the cast were ready for their first performance.

Excitement was mounting as the pupils and teachers arrived at the Gardyne on the night of the show. All of the performances went extremely well and by the end of the week everyone was proud of the musical they had put on but sad it was all over.

The cast and choir would like to thank Mr Petrie, Mrs Docherty and Mrs Scott Brown for directing the musical from day one. They would also like to mention Mrs Powrie for her work with the dancers, the band for providing the music on the nights of the show and everyone else who helped behind the scenes.

By Anna, Hannah, Katie and Alfie, L7



Discover Fortunes Workshop



This was a workshop run by the Chartered Insurance Institute and was aimed at giving pupils an insight into Financial Advising as a career field. The workshop was based on a competitive game where the pupils watch five animated case studies based on real individuals. They then had to decide what percentage of disposable income the individuals should put into investments, savings, pensions or protection. This meant the teams had to analyse each scenario and really listen to what was being said in the case studies. The closest team to the solution got the most points. The game was hugely successful and enjoyable. The Business Education Department plans to run further workshops next year.



Chemistry Winners

Four F1 pupils (Anna Sturrock, Malak Metwally, Eleanor McBride and Caitlin Mitchell) travelled down to Edinburgh to compete in the Salters Festival of Chemistry at Heriott Watt University, which is organised jointly by the Salters' Institute and the Royal Society of Chemistry. The four girls spent the day competing in practical chemical challenges in the University Chemistry labs and were then entertained by a talk and demonstrations from Dr Dave Ellis, one of the University lecturers. After working hard all morning, the girls competed in the University

Challenge, where they had to use a scientific approach to find which mix of chemicals would give them a specified exact temperature. After planning some experiments, gathering data and then reviewing their results, the girls worked out the optimum ratio and achieved their objective. They were not the only successful team, but their teamwork impressed the judges enough for them to be awarded first place. The girls collected their prize from Martin McCoustra, Professor of Chemical Physics, and also won over £100 worth of molecular models for the school.



Climbing Club

We went to climbing club at Vertical World with Mrs Powrie and Mr Ross. At Vertical World we put on helmets, a harness and special climbing shoes. There were two sections that we were allowed in. The first was a boulder section and a second section which had lots of high walls of different difficulties which you had to climb with a harness. It was fun because you got to go with your schoolmates. I think everyone would like climbing and it can also take you out of your comfort zone.

Sandy Buchan, L5P

Dr Taylor, who took the girls down to Edinburgh, said "We have an excellent record when it comes to winning the Salters' Festival, having won in 2009 and 2011, so I was delighted to see the High School of Dundee winning again this year. There was supposed to be a separate festival at the University of Dundee this year, but that was cancelled and I'm glad we made the effort to travel to Edinburgh and show some of their schools how Chemistry should be done. The girls all enjoyed the day and I'm really proud of them."

Computing Event

A team of students from the Computing department competed in the Strathmore Trophy at the University of Dundee. The competition saw a team of four Form 2 students (Alex Smith, Elle Wyatt, Ivan Kapelyukh and Gregor Vagg) compete against a wide range of schools across Fife, Dundee, Perth and Kinross, Angus and Aberdeenshire.

The task was to create a pin board of eight images or videos (with accompanying explanations) to form a time capsule for a person a thousand years in the future. The capsule needed to tell this future person what makes the current students' identities (i.e.

what makes them, them!) More than just being a competition, the finished product fed into research carried out by the Computing Department at Dundee into digital identity and legacy. The HSD team (team name: Idea Athsd) created a pin board that included competing in competitions like the Strathmore Trophy, sports day and favourite books.

For the judging of the competition, a short list of eight was drawn up who had to present - to a sizeable audience in a lecture theatre, about their solution. The HSD team made it through to the final eight and Alex gave an excellent presentation that was confidently

delivered and complemented the team's solution. Unfortunately, no prizes were won this year but an excellent team effort!



Debating

The culmination of several rounds of the ESU Juniors Debating Competition involving three teams, Ciara Mitchell and Steven Roy, Hannah George and Alex Smith, and Callum Paterson and Sandy Neville saw Ciara and Steven win through to the final, which will be held in Edinburgh on the 25th September, 2013.

Having chaired the panel for the last two years, Mrs McGrath had a year off from delivering the judgment and sat on the panel for the final of the Law Society competition, which is held in the Scottish Parliament debating chamber. Several of our pupils formed part of the audience and Rachel and Steven had to present their solution to a sizeable audience in a lecture theatre.

Looking ahead to the summer of 2014, Mrs McGrath is now accepting applications from all over the country for the next Team Scotland, who will participate in the World Championships in Bangkok. She and Mrs Ovenstone-Jones are always keen to attract new members to debating and everyone will be most welcome.

Construction Club

At construction club we rotated around four different stations - Meccano, free Lego, an electronic activity and structured Lego. When it was our turn for free Lego, my group built a train. Meccano was great fun. We built a truck which could move and had windows. Theo and I thought it was a masterpiece. When it was our turn for structured Lego, we built the biggest thing I have ever built, it was a gigantic windmill. On the final week, we used an electronic kit to make a robotic dinosaur. It was great fun at construction club and at the end we all got a bag of Maltesers.

Malachy Keogh, L5P



Sailing Review

In terms of schools' sailing, the highlight of the year was on Monday 10th June at Loch Earn – The Brown Cup. After completing an intensive training weekend with national coaches, our three boat team took to the water on a breezy cold Monday to battle with 85 boats in a handicap series of races. The team of Oliver Grabowski (Form 1) in a Topper, Emily Norman and Sara Paton (Form 2) paired in a RS Feva and Nick Ramsay and William Barton (Form 3) paired in a RS Vision, sailed hard all day and eventually, after handicaps were processed, secured 11th place from the 18 teams entered.

Anna Sturrock (Form 1) has had an exceptional year in her Topper. Not only did she come 2nd individually in her class at the Brown Cup (out of 39 boats) but she is currently the top ranked girl in Scotland in the Girls Topper category – a fantastic achievement with the promise of an exciting future ahead.



Junior School Tennis Report

Our Tennis season this year saw the girls in L6 and 7 play in a number of doubles fixtures and tournaments.

As the season progressed, the girls' skills and match play showed great improvements.

On June 7th the L7 V1 of Rachel Rose, Hannah Alijani, Anna Hudson, Catriona Addison, Charlotte Sharpe and Rachel Strachan took part in the Kilgraston 12 and under tournament. All girls played well with couple number 1, Rachel and Hannah, making it to the semi-final. Unfortunately, they were knocked out by Craigclowan.

Back at school during our singles matches, this year's Junior School Tennis Championship was won by Rachel Rose.



L6 Enterprise

This has been another busy year for the L6 Enterprise Group. At November's Charity Fair, we sold spring flowers in decorated pots, sweets in Christmas boxes and Christmas quizzes to raise money for the Sky/WWF Rainforest Rescue Appeal.

The spring term saw the welcome return to the Junior School of the Fairtrade Tuckshop. Once again, our banana muffins were easily the most popular product, while cereal bars, dried fruit, bananas and chocolate wafers also sold well. We'd like to thank pupils and staff for their support and making our

Fairtrade Fortnight such a success.

During the summer term, Beauty and the Beast took over. Rhea Wedderburn of L7D won our competition to design the t-shirt for the musical then we had a very busy time collecting orders and eventually distributing t-shirts. Over 140 pupils also had a go at our 'Beauty and the Beast' quiz.

We've thoroughly enjoyed our projects this year and look forward to hearing about the enterprising schemes next year's L6 come up with.

Ollie Campbell and Alex Fish L6C



L3 Trip to Edinburgh Zoo

On Monday the 3rd of June we went to Edinburgh Zoo. When we got on the bus I was most excited. It took us over an hour to get there, but it was worth it. When we got there we had our snack. After snack we split into our PE groups and went to see the monkeys. I learned lots of facts about chimps. They were all outside playing so we didn't get to see them close up inside. We moved on to the bird house. Just as we went in, we saw some leaf cutter ants crawling up a piece of rope into another enclosure. They were taking the bits of leaves backwards and forwards.

The birds were magnificent, especially the Victoria Crowned Pigeon. We went out of the bird house and into the magic forest where we saw a marmoset monkey climbing a tree. We went outside and were lucky to see both of the Sun Bears coming out into their outdoor enclosure. They were a deathly black colour.

We then headed for the big cats and there we saw the Amur leopard, Sumatran Tiger, Jaguars and the Asiatic lion. They were amazing. Then it was time for lunch and I was really hungry. After lunch we went to see the Giant Pandas Tian Tian and Yuang Guang. Yuang Guan was sleeping and Tian Tian was chewing some bamboo. We finished by going to see the penguin parade. We were introduced to the penguins. The two species that came out were Rockhoppers and Gentoo. They came waddling past us! After a trip to the Education Centre it was time for home. What a great day!

By Archie Macdonald L3W



On Monday 3rd June L3 went to Edinburgh Zoo. We all had to be at school at 8.30am. It took one and a half hours to get there! Eventually, when we got there we could see some chimpanzees from the car park. Next, we went to have our snack. Then we got split into our P.E. groups. I was in the first group.

First, we went to see the pandas. On our way we saw some flamingos and rheas. Finally, when we got to the panda enclosure we had to wait until it was our turn to see the pandas, but we got to watch the penguins swimming around while we were waiting. The pandas' English names are Sunshine and Sweetie. The male panda was eating bamboo and the female was sleeping. Next, we went for a wander around the zoo. We saw two baby red river hogs and two adult ones. We also saw some sun bears and we saw them being fed. Soon we went to see the squirrel monkeys and there was a small building beside them like a vet's. After a while we went to go and have our lunch. Afterwards everyone went to the Education Centre. We were split into two teams: the monkeys and the lions. We were given a quiz that the monkeys won. We found out about the five threats to animals which were overhunting, the pet trade, invaders, pollution and habitat loss. Next, we went to see the penguin parade. I thought it was funny that the Rockhopper was hopping along when all of the other penguins were waddling along. Soon it was time to go. We arrived back at school at 4.15pm and then went home. I would love to go to Edinburgh Zoo again.

By Zamin Okhai L3R

Sarah McKenzie (L7D) travelled to Manchester on Saturday 1st of June to compete in the Greater Manchester Open Gymnastics Competition. She competed on Sunday the 2nd of June and got off to a great start on Vault scoring 12.5 which was her highest ever. Her next piece was the Asymmetric Bars which she had been having some difficulty with and unfortunately had a fall on that piece so it wasn't looking good at that stage. She then went onto Beam and had a clean routine (no falls) and scored 11.25 and this put her back into the running. Her final piece was on Floor where she had some new tumblers to compete for the first time. She produced a magnificent performance and again scored her highest ever – 12.45.

These final two scores were enough for Sarah to win Gold on Beam and on Floor and to win Gold overall in the competition. She was delighted and surprised to win as she had thought she was not having a good competition. It just goes to show that you should never give up!



L4 Gardening Club

With a large number of pupils keen to volunteer to keep the Junior School Garden tidy, it's been another busy year for the rota of young gardeners. Indoor contingency plans have been essential in the current climate and so Gardening

Club spontaneously experienced a range of activities from making leaf-identification dials, planting herbs and cress caterpillars in the classroom to planting bulbs, pansies, runner-beans and windmills outside. Whatever the weather, we did what we could. Thanks to the enthusiasm of the children, the garden has been looked after and kept clean come rain or shine. At last blessed with sunshine, we swapped bulbs for bunting and our trowels for treats to round off the year with a well-deserved garden party.



L5 Science Report

This year we had three science projects. When we were studying chemistry, we learned how to separate materials. It was great fun and we did lots of experiments. We took a tiny dish and put it in a stand and below it was a candle. We put in different substances to see what happened and what the end result looked like. One week we went to the chemistry lab and Dr Taylor set fire to Mrs Powrie's hand.

When we studied space, we collected information from websites and took notes about our chosen planet. Then we used our notes to put together a project along with some pictures. We learned

that in five billion years, the sun will absorb the earth.

Our last project of the year was about invertebrates. First, we were put into partners to observe worms. Then Mrs Powrie received a bath of caterpillars and created a butterfly farm. Mrs Powrie put the caterpillars in little tubes with a sugary substance. When they were about to make a cocoon, they were then put in a bigger tube. When they turned into butterflies, they were set free.

Angus Neville, L5P

With roles for villains, lovers, rugby heroes, angry parents and curiously feminine watchmen, (even singers - Robert Oakes) June's production of ***Much Ado About Nothing*** was a highly popular choice of play with the cast and the audience. The director, Iain Cowieson, described the production as having "a uniquely HSD flavour as the plot centres on the returning rugby team fresh from their victorious tour of Canada." The production did indeed have a uniquely HSD flavour with pupils undertaking demanding and stimulating roles both on and off-stage. Now in his final year, Jamie Ford, sound designer and operator, emphasised the fun, joy and anguish of being young and in love through a lively soundtrack, much of which was performed by staff from the Music department aided by pupils under the guidance of Douglas Love. The energy and enthusiasm of the whole cast gave a party atmosphere to the performance, and Mr Cowieson's editing of the text gave plenty of scope for comic moments.

Jamie Clarkson and Zoe Urquhart, playing Ben and Beatrice - confirmed bachelor and bachelorette - are to be commended for their humorous portrayals of nosey eavesdroppers deeply moved by the (false) declarations of love they are meant to overhear. Lewis Davie, playing Claude, gave an

emotional portrayal of the eagerness, intensity and distress of a young man falling in love, egged on by Jack Paladini in the role of Peter. Grace Nimmo's moving portrayal of a wronged woman, and her dignity in feigned death, was ably assisted by her companions, Logan Kilcullen and Ashley Fulton. The poignancy of a young woman wronged by a wicked plot against her was made memorable by Gavin Lynch's sudden switch from the drunken, amusing and loving father to the harsh, domineering and unforgiving parent who refused to accept his daughter's innocence. These swings of emotion were highlighted very effectively by Niamh Carey's measured delivery as Hero's mother, and the voice of reason. The villainy of the plot against Hero was exemplified by Taylor Dyson's focused rage against the young lovers, and ably abetted by the "heedless villains", Laura Johnston and Walter Buckman, who revealed their true motives to be money, or at best misplaced loyalty. Under Katie Lumsdaine's exuberant and energetic playing of Dogberry, the two readily owned up - probably just to stop him talking! Indeed Dogberry's colleagues,

Sexton and Verges, played by Pyla Bird and Katie Paas, clearly found him tiresome and tedious as they attempted to maintain a dignified masculine force behind the watchmen - not easy when the "men" insist on wearing onesies and have to be reminded to don their (fake) moustaches.

Much Ado About Nothing was a hugely entertaining and energetic production which fully utilised the talents of all involved, cast and crew, staff and pupils.



Review of **Much Ado About Nothing**



With the concept of an open netball team, this was a good way to mix and work with people of all ages and it allowed us to see the impressive ability that was brought to the team from as pupils as young as those in Form 3. This year the team consisted of individuals ranging from Forms 3-6. We had a good start to the Scottish cup, putting many victories under our belt. With these victories, after a few "hurdles", we reached the quarter final of the silver section where we travelled to Glasgow in hope of defeating Holyrood School. For the first time the team had the pleasure of playing in brand new uniform for this game, and we finally looked the part. However, in the end Holyrood came out on top with a very impressive performance. Maybe the excitement of our new uniform got too much for us! All in all, this has been a very enjoyable year of netball, and hopefully next year's squad can go on to win! I would also like to thank Mrs Mckenzie for all her hard work and dedication to the squad!

Iona Johnston F6

The Scottish Cup

This has been a very successful term for the F2 Girls Netball Team. Before we competed in the Scottish Cup, we played a few friendly matches against some opposing schools and we won all of these matches by a considerable number of goals; this really boosted our confidence for competing in the Scottish Cup.

Our first match in the Scottish cup was against Grove Academy, which we won 27-6. We then played Webster's High School and won 39-2. Our next match was against tough opposition - Arbroath High School - which has previously won the overall competition. We played very well and lost by the narrowest of margins: 20-18.

After playing the qualifying rounds for the tournament, we ended up placing into the gold section! Our first match was against Holyrood RC Secondary School, we won 17-10 and we qualified into the next round of the tournament. Unfortunately, we were knocked out of the tournament at the quarter-final stage against Albyn School with a score of 22-19. We were disappointed with losing the match, but we were missing our Captain and had to make a few changes to our starting seven. We were proud to have even got to that stage as the competition was very hard. We have worked incredibly hard and well this year and have become stronger as a team. We couldn't have done this without the help and expertise of Mrs McKenzie and we are looking forward to developing our skills even more next year.

By Olivia Hayhow and Annie Porter F2

Junior School L7 Netball Team

Between April and June 2013, the Junior School L7 Netball team played in the Dundee District Primary Schools' Netball Association Summer League. They played five matches at Ward Road Gym after school on a Thursday against Craigowl, Clepington, Blackness, St. Mary's and St. Ninian's. The team played extremely well and won all their matches in their league which meant they qualified for the final, which was played on 6th June at Ward Road against Downfield. The girls fought hard and played a very good second half which was a draw. However, Downfield were eventual winners with the final score 11-7. The L7 girls were therefore second in the Summer League winning their fourth silver medal.



Netball

This year's Post Exam Programme has offered our Form 5 and 6 pupils the most diverse and engaging range of activities to date. Form 5 pupils started the three week programme with, amongst others, sessions on Presentation Skills, the Mentor Programme and preparation for applications beyond school. On Friday, 7th June our pupils headed off for a two day residential trip to Lendrick Muir. We were blessed with beautiful sunshine and lots of exciting and challenging activities: beach volleyball, gorge walking and a highly competitive team finale, with much more on offer besides!

The second week saw our Form 6 pupils return to school as well as many pupils engaged in rehearsals for the Senior Play or away on Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. For those who remained, various optional activities were on offer: Conversational Dutch, Italian, Russian, Spanish, German and Gaelic were on offer as well as day trips to Edinburgh to visit the Scottish Parliament or the National Gallery and National Museum. A small group spent the afternoon on the beach creating and filming the creation of their own art installation, while another group had a chance to

attend a session at the High Court before preparing and presenting a mini-mock trial to their peers. Other sessions included a CSI Chemistry challenge, an introduction to UK and US governments and Cake Craft, to name but a few. Form 6 were treated to two excellent displays at Mayfield from the Police Dogs and the Guide Dogs for the Blind.

The third and final week saw the conclusion of a successful Lecture Series. With such diverse speakers as Professor Andy Newsam, who thrilled us with his engaging explanations of the solar system and beyond, to Ellis Watson, CEO of DC Thomson and his fascinating insights into how to enjoy work and life, our pupils have been incredibly fortunate to be part of this interesting series of talks.

It's was a busy three weeks, full of more opportunities that can be named on this page. Our sincere thanks to Mr Graham Rodger, PT Careers, for all of his hard work in putting together the programme and to all the staff who have worked so hard to deliver fun and interesting activities for our senior pupils.

Post Exam Programme



The 2013 tennis season was extremely successful for the Senior Team. The 1st VI won all but one match. The 2nd VI had mixed results with an encouraging number of players being part of the squad over the season. In the younger age groups the Form 2 players are to be commended for winning all their matches.

Once again the school gained success in the tournaments.

St Leonards Tournament – Winners U13 section: Heidi Sampson F1 & Susanna Porter F1

Kilgraston Tournament – Winners U14 section: Annie Porter F2 & Susanna Porter F1

The Tennis Championships also took place throughout the summer term. Congratulations must go to the following players:

Senior F4-6: Winner- Alice Keddie
Runner up- Rachael Cosgrove
Junior F1-3: Winner- Eve Cowan
Runner up- Susanna Porter
Primary7: Winner- Rachel Rose
Runner up- Hannah Alijani

Inter-house events

Seniors F4-6	Juniors F1-3
1 Lindores	1 Lindores
2 Wallace	2 Wallace
3 Aystree	3 Airlie
4 Airlie	4 Aystree

The staff versus pupils match was also a highlight of the season, with some memorable play from both sides. The staff teams were victorious, but in the 1st VI competition Alice Keddie and Katie Young were unbeaten.

The tennis squads would like to thank Mrs Spowart and Mr Fairlie for their coaching and encouragement throughout the season and to all staff who have travelled and helped with teams throughout the school.

Susan Graham (Captain)
Alice Keddie (Vice-captain)

Senior Tennis Report





Summer Ensemble



Throughout the week preceding sports day, it looked increasingly likely that we would have to rely on the back-up date of the following Saturday, with heavy rain on Friday 14 June. However, on the morning of sports day the grounds were checked and thankfully we were able to go ahead with all the events as planned, the only alteration being to move the high jump inside.

The day started with tug of war and a house 4x400 metre relay. Throughout the day the competitors produced a number of high quality performances which would have been competitive at most age grade events around the country. As the day drew to a close, it was obvious that the overall championship was very tight. The individual winners of each

championship were up for grabs, as was the winner of the house championship. The inaugural parents' race provided a short break from the pupils' events. thirty parents took part and produced creditable performances. After the success of this event, it will definitely return next year, so all prospective competitors should start training!

The whole school relay was the last event of the day with each house being represented by pupils from all 13 years of the school. Overall, the day was enjoyable and there were some excellent performances.

Congratulations to all competitors and we look forward to another dry sports day in 2014!



Sports Day







L4 Table Tennis Report

Many L4 pupils have taken the opportunity this year to participate in lunchtime table tennis. Forehand, backhand and serving skills have all been practised and developed. Many pupils have enjoyed exciting rallies and the mini tournaments have seen some energetic and action packed play. Popular activities have included hitting balls through, or into, hoops to gain points and develop aim. There has been plenty of fun in a sporting context and a good deal of progress in table tennis has been made by very many pupils. Thursday lunchtime in Margaret Harris Hall has been an active place to be. The L4 pupils have greatly benefited from the assistance of L7 pupil volunteers. The L7s have given freely of their time and have helped with demonstrations of bat and ball skills as well as encouraging the younger players. The following pupils in L7 are thanked for volunteering and for their help: Nathanael Fagerson, Tom Porter, Katie Bonnyman, Hannah Alijani, Rachel Rose, Emma Cotton, Oliver Smith, Harry Hardie, Alfie George, Catriona Addison, Rheanna Mitchell and Ailsa McDonald.

Miss M. Cardno and Mrs P. Halliwell



The Old Girls' Prize for Creative Writing

Creepy Church

Ahead of me loomed the deserted church. I took a nervous step towards it as the clouds were blown off the full moon, illuminating the old building. It had been years since anyone had been here and nature had completely taken control. Weeds and ivy climbed up the cracks in the crumbling walls like spilt paint, spreading over a sheet of paper. Branches of a tree could be seen sticking out of a hole in the rotting roof and birds had made nests in the beams. I placed my trembling hands on the decayed door, took a deep breath and entered the church.

The room was almost entirely dark. The only light came in through the roof. I cautiously crept up the main aisle and stopped as the floor creaked under my

weight. Scents of many years of dust and mould entered my nose and made me gag. In the silence of the room I could hear my heart beat against my ribs like a tight drum. My ears twitched as the sound of mice and other unwanted creatures scurried across the dusty floor. Cobwebs covered the roof, hanging down like witches' hair and tiny black spiders scuttled among the webs. The pews were disintegrated and rotten. I shivered as a cold draught whipped around my ankles.

Suddenly, a swoop of bats flew down from the roof and out of the doors, making me jump. I could feel something crunch under my foot. I didn't wait to find out what it was. I turned around and fled through the open doors.

By Katie Bonnyman L7D

Classics Department – looking back

The Olympics began the form. Three weeks of the worship of Olympian Zeus through athletic prowess and sporting excellence in London. Or as Classicists, that's how we would like to see it. For Classics and the study of Latin and Greek is at the heart of modern culture, philosophy, science and language.

The year began with Mrs Meeusen-Findlater joining the staff and quickly becoming established in the school. She has brought her interests in Ethics and Medicine to the department sharing those interests with pupils in the post exam program this summer.

Classics Club started on Monday lunch times with a regular crowd attending. We read and were bemused by a Greek comedy, played various Roman games, and watched various films on a Classical theme.

The third year enjoyed the delights of Italy in our annual trip at Easter (recorded elsewhere in the Review). We spent seven days visiting Pompeii, Herculaneum and Mount Vesuvius around the Bay of Naples and then travelled up to Rome and visited the Vatican, the Coliseum, the Pantheon, and various churches and museums. All was interspersed with generous helpings of pizza and ice-creams and the Easter processions of Holy Week.

Also enjoyed, though in the pouring rain, was our annual pilgrimage to Hadrian's Wall. At least the rain put off the midges. Latin pupils of the first year had the opportunity to see the archaeology of the frontier of Empire at Vindolanda and to climb the crags on which Hadrian's Wall was built.

Earlier in the year Mr Faulkes was seen in the Junior School dressed as a Roman Centurion in full Roman armour brandishing pilum and gladius, marching L4 through the school to the Margaret Harris Hall for a talk on Roman soldiers, the corridors echoing to the shout of sin, dex, sin, dex, (left, right).

Forty pupils attended the British Museum film, "Pompeii Live" at the DCA, an opportunity to see from a distance the highly regarded London exhibition about Pompeii.

We look forward to a new academic year with plenty more trips and adventures planned: Edinburgh, Bay of Naples, Hadrian's Wall and Dundee, where our own McManus gallery is soon to host a British Museum exhibition on the Roman Empire.



Visitors to School

In Geography, Form 1 participated in a cross cultural afternoon with visitors from China and Malaysia. Pupils were given an opportunity to write and speak Mandarin, as well as participate in a Chinese tea ceremony. These events supported pupils in their understanding of the social and political differences between China and the UK.

Visit to Glamis

At the end of the Glamis topic the L4s undertook a fascinating visit to Glamis Castle. Although the most popular part of the guided tour was the inclusion of numerous ghost stories, this was followed by artwork, a picnic and a nature walk. The educational visit was rounded off by a year group game of 'Pooh sticks' from the bridge on the nature trail. Thankfully, the weather remained fair and a good time was had by all!



Summer 2013



Rugby & Hockey Trip

At 4.30am on 1 August 2013, the Canadian tour party assembled at school to get ready to travel to Glasgow on their way to Toronto. For the next two weeks, the two rugby teams and one hockey team would play four fixtures each against Canadian opposition.

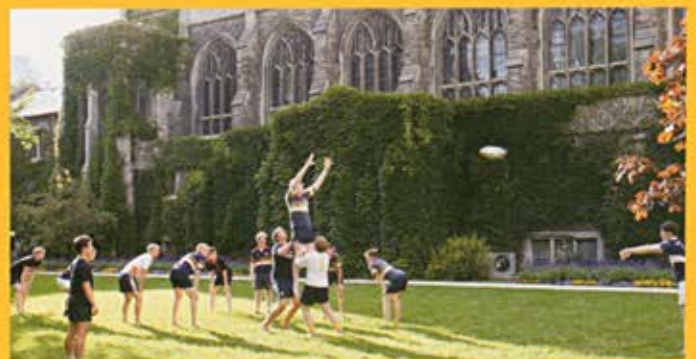
When not training or playing, the tour party was involved in white water rafting, jet boating, Canada's wonderland and sightseeing in Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa. The tour party also attended a baseball match between the Toronto Blue Jays and the Boston Red Sox. On the last day of the tour, the forty-two rugby players, nineteen hockey players and eight staff visited the amazing Niagara Falls and enjoyed a trip on the Maid of the Mist, which proved to be a great way to finish the tour.

The Rugby players came back from tour having won all their games in some style, which was pleasing for all involved. The hockey players drew one match and narrowly lost the others, one of which was against the Ontario state champions.

When the party arrived back at school on 15 August, they were tired but happy, having enjoyed a memorable tour. One pupil asked when getting off the coach "When can I sign up for the next tour?"..... Watch this space as we plan to tour in two years' time!

The tour party would like to thank our sponsors Goal Training, GRC Recycling, Insights, George Stubbs Insurance, PSL team sports, Ardrol Financial Services and Let's Talk Print. Their contributions are greatly appreciated by all members of the tour party.





Charities

Grand Total Raised
£32,861.63

As ever, our pupils have thrown themselves into raising money to help others in need! Here are pictures of just some of the fund-raising activities they have been involved in – with a list of events and the brilliant final tally of money raised. Well done and thank you to everyone involved.

September

Macmillan Coffee morning
Supports anyone affected by cancer
£408

November

Poppy Scotland
Poppy selling during registration
Helps war veterans
£712

Help for Heroes

Hot chocolate & doughnuts after
Armistice Parade
Help our injured 'Blokes'
£393.08

Various local & international charities

Christmas Fair – face painting/elves
grotto/name the golfer/stalls/raffle/
coffee shop by 'Brodiess'
£3200

Children in Need

Selling badges, Pudsey ears,
key-rings & pens
Help children all over the UK
£473.42

World Vision

House Assemblies
4 sets of farmers' tools, 9 kid goats, 4
sets of bee-keeping equipment and 40
chickens for Uganda and South Sudan
£674.39

December

National Eczema Society
Sparkle day
Helps eczema sufferers
£533.96



Charlie Kean's 'Give a Smile for Xmas'

Interact Toy appeal
Helps children in Dundee & Tayside

Cystic Fibrosis Care Fund – Ninewells & Down syndrome UK

Christmas concert
Helps those affected
£3193

Transform

Carol concert
Helps the homeless in Dundee &
surrounding areas
£624.72

Nelson Mandela Children's Fund & Marie Curie Cancer Care

Junior School Nativity
£1758.89

March

Comic Relief

Non-uniform day, whole school
ceilidh, talent show
Helps children in UK and Africa
£3208

June

Corabia Foundation

Stephen Russell sponsored bike ride
Helps children in deprived area of
Romania
£1000



Cancer Research Race for Life

'Cancer – we're coming to get you!'
£1000

All year round

Plan International, Kidney Research,
Eagle's Wings Trust & Kaleigh's Wee
Stars



Breakfast Club

Pays for a child in the Philippines to
be able to go to school: research into
kidney diseases, helps the homeless in
Dundee & raises money for days out for
terminally ill children and their families.
£1280

WWF/Sky Rainforest Rescue Appeal

L6 Enterprise Group
£170.28

A year in Guyana

Harry Carstairs F6 was raising money
for Project Trust to help local people
in Guyana.
£7055

RSPB

Linzi Peters F6 – Pin Badges
Helping birds & wildlife worldwide
£172.91

Education for Ethiopia & Children 1st Dundee

Interact
Providing education for children in
Ethiopia (Founded by Mrs Sarah
Fletcher) & supporting families
here in Dundee.
£1000



Search Consultancy: recruiting staff into the High School of Dundee since 2011

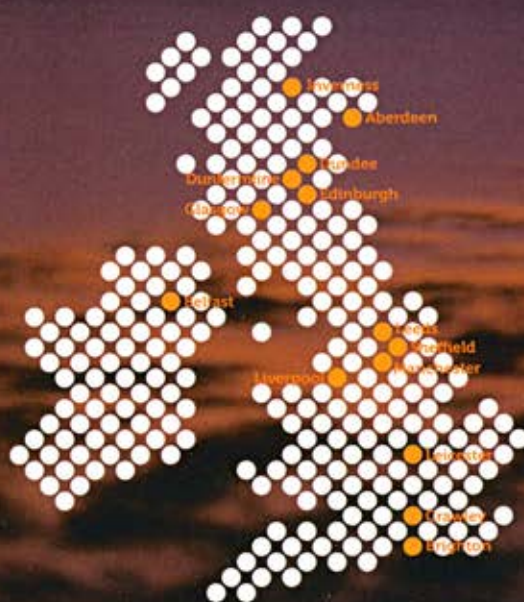
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