



**HIGH
SCHOOL
OF DUNDEE**

**Review
2019**



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Editorial

It scarcely seems a year since the last edition of this magazine was published but once again I take great pleasure in offering you a true flavour of the High School of Dundee. Our young people commit to life with such enthusiasm that no day passes without something of note happening and there is often a camera present to record it. Art, Drama, Music, the CCF, Photography, Sport – I could go on.

There is indeed so much happening that some of the many exciting activities inevitably get missed in the rush. No slights are intended, and I can only apologise if your photo or article didn't make it to publishing.

I must thank, as ever, all the young people, parents and staff that have contributed to this publication with special mentions, as usual, to Graeme Mutch, Jill Watt, Lindsay Crosbie and Stuart Wright. Also, to Sammy Simpson of last year's Form 6 who spent many hours behind a camera recording so many events and to Olivia Russell and Alasdair Richmond for their attempts to organise me.

The cover image is of one of my personal highlights of the session – The Pillars in Red, part of our Armistice celebrations for the 100th anniversary of the great war. I hope that you enjoy this magazine as much as the many people who took part in its creation.

Nigel Clarke

Deputy Head

NURSERY

JUNIOR

SENIOR

Rector's Report



It gives me great pleasure to write this review report for the 11th and now the last time as Rector. It has been such a privilege and honour to lead this remarkable school since 2008. Every morning, when I come round the corner and see the Pillars resplendent in the morning sunshine I still have to pinch myself when I realise that I have been given the unique responsibility for leading this amazing institution, a feature of the educational and intellectual life of the city of Dundee, and the nation, since 1239, and one that is home during the day to over 1000 young people and over 200 staff.

It is a community - a community at the heart of the wider community. Which gives our pupils many of their special qualities. Whilst our pupils are sheltered to some extent, they are at the heart of the city and see at first hand at least some of the issues facing society.

We have made great strides in reaching out to the wider community. For example over 1900 people use our facilities every week. And each year we raise substantial funds to support local national and international charities. The total this year is remarkably around £35K. Other community highlights were:

74 Pupils and 7 Staff took part in our **own Wee Sleep Out**, we handed over the largest donation the Dundee Foodbank have ever received- 871.74kg of food worth approximately £1372.

Mass Community Outreach during F3 Activities week involved whole

year volunteering at a care home or nursery in the local community. The pupils showed imagination, initiative, compassion and kindness.

-52 pupils volunteered as part of their timetable on a Wednesday afternoon making connections throughout the community with the Foodbank, mother and baby classes, care homes, community centres, centres for adults with learning difficulties, bookshops, charity shops and donation centres.

Nothing stands still.....But I confess it has been an unusual sensation to see candidates appear for their acquaintance visits to the school prior to their interviews for my position. ...It seems only yesterday that I attended interview and toured the school in the autumn of 2007. As I toured the corridors with the Head Boy and Girl I saw a sign by some stairs, "Mind Your Head". What a lovely school that looks after the Rector in that way!

What is school for?

Surely one of the purposes is to educate the whole person. Teaching, nurturing, guiding young people is the most rewarding of professions. But it is more than a profession, it is a vocation. This is the whole thrust of the Integrated Curriculum, namely that the teaching and learning experience is not just about the 40 minute periods in a classroom, laboratory, or games hall. It is about everything else that combines to develop the young people in our care. It is our obligation as

educators to both challenge and nurture our young people in order to draw out their talents, to lead out their learning. And it should not be forgotten that they often lead us in our learning too....

My vision was and is to instil in the High School the vision of the completely Integrated Curriculum, bringing together as equal partners the three corners of the Golden Triangle of Academic curriculum, the Co-curriculum and Pupil Wellbeing and Guidance. We have made strides forward, but this remains a work in progress as it always takes a while to shift perceptions and expectations, whether parental or indeed amongst the staff of the school. However, it is crucial this process is continued.

All of this is underpinned by our Core Values, which provide a framework for all aspects of our Integrated Curriculum. This year we have linked this to an exciting initiative entitled Active Reflection which we have been rolling out from F1 upwards in the senior years. This new initiative encourages our pupils to reflect on and evaluated their own achievements across the Integrated Curriculum, so they can take 'ownership' and develop their own strategies for personal development. To be continued!!

And this is very much a whole school initiative!

Nursery Care Inspectorate

Core Values are there from the start of the HSD journey. One of the achievements I am very proud

of is of our first ever Nursery and it was such a privilege to name the building after a remarkable FP and social campaigner Mary Lily Walker. That the nursery continues to grow year on year is remarkable but, to me, not surprising, given the outstanding leadership shown by the Nursery Manager and her team. I was delighted to see therefore that following an unannounced visit by the Care Inspectorate this year they were given an outstanding report.

Academic

Once again our SQA results for Advanced Higher, Higher and National 5 and 4 place the school in the top echelon of schools in Scotland. Seriously, yes, they are important in themselves but this is equally important, as they provide a vehicle for moving onto the next stage of life's amazing journey. That is important. I congratulate all our pupils and staff on their super achievements.

UCAS and all that..

In terms of destinations it is remarkable that this year of every single one of our F6 pupils who applied through UCAS received an offer. And mostly these were first choice offers. Not all, but most. Of those who didn't apply through UCAS this year 6 are taking GAP years and will apply next year and 4 are entering college. This last category is one I welcome and we have been liaising closely with Dundee & Angus College and elsewhere to see if this route can be developed.

This is a remarkable record. In fact, for the past 10 years everyone – 100% - who has applied to study Engineering and Law have received an offer. And 9 out of 10 medical applications received an offer. 90%. One of which was a reapplication. When you compare this to the national average of just under 10% of applicants who are successful, this is a phenomenal strike rate for pupils of the High School.

Tell your friends, broadcast this from the rooftops! What are the reasons for this? Yes, of course it is the excellence of the teaching. However, there is no doubts that it is the fruit of the Integrated Curriculum

What of the Co-curriculum?

This is a crucial part of what we do. Time and space forbids me from going into any detail and our excellent PR and media relations office which publishes information on Facebook and Twitter as well as the school website but I would like to dwell briefly on a few of the highlights of the past session:

Activities Week 2019

This was the first year of the new Activities Week for F1-3. It was a remarkable success. 337 pupils travelled in 4 countries (Scotland, England, France, Switzerland) with all Senior Years staff involved in 22 different activities from 7 days to one day long. Time out of school?? No! It is part of school!! We will review how it can improve and then announce the programme for next year.

Sport

In sport a highlight has to be the remarkably disciplined and courageous performance of the U16 Rugby XV in the Scottish Schools Cup Final at BT Murrayfield, losing very narrowly to George Watson's. We should also not forget the 1st XI Hockey team who had a fine season, capped with losing on penalties in the U18 Midlands Cup final.

Elsewhere, our sailors enjoyed great success in retaining the Scottish Schools Sailing Championship (Brown Cup) for the first time ever!

Pipe Band

It has been tremendous to see the progress made by the Pipes and Drums this year, who have now been entering the competition circuit proper, and are progressing

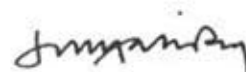
steadily up the rankings, finishing 8th in their category at the World Championships in Glasgow in August.

Armistice 2018 Centenary

Finally, who can forget the emotional and imaginative cascades of poppies on the Pillars for the centenary of the original Armistice? Designed in house and produced by pupils and staff this proved a most creative and imaginative testament to the sacrifice of the school during the First World War.

Back to my first question, What is school for?

Preparing us for the world? We don't know what it is going to look like when our pupils reach my stage of life. We have so much information - but the imparting of facts without context will not be helpful. The only constant will be change, as we see already. The 3 Rs will never stop being important but they need to be enhanced with the 4 Cs: Critical thinking, communication, collaboration and creativity. In the context of change the constant will be learning how to keep learning. Moreover, to retain your sense of retain your identity and unique individuality and navigate a way through the intellectual and moral minefields of technology and disinformation will be a major challenge. How will you cope with the terrorism of the algorithm? And? I hope that this past academic session we have succeeded in giving our young people the skills to do that, to embrace this world with confidence and achieve fulfilment and success.



Dr John D Halliday
Rector

Prize list 2019

L4 and L5

Marshall Prize for Recorder

Indira Sharma

Russell Trophy for Chess

Ram Sharma

L6

Academic Merit Prize

Fin Gray

Nellie Luxford

Lyndsey McDowall

Gemma Pattullo

Lucy Smith

Nina van der Kuyl

Prize for Guitar

Fergus Stubbings-Tilley

Old Girls' Prize for Piano

Arya Sanu

Robbie Prize for Public Speaking

Harry Groome

L7

Academic Merit Prize

Simone Finlayson

Special Prize for Chess

Krish Akula

Prize for Bagpipes

Joshua Gordon

Academic Merit Prize

Old Girls' Prize for Creative Writing in L7 (joint)

Shivani Bhushan

Walter Smith Memorial Prize for Drama in L7 (joint)

Prize for Strings

Cameron Brown

Academic Merit Prize

Old Girls' Trophy for all-round ability in L7

Amy Leburn

Academic Merit Prize

Dr Rita Forrest Prize for Art in L7

Nadia Sarraf

Academic Merit Prize

Woodman Trophy for Mathematics in L7

Charlie Zealley

Old Girls' Prize for Creative Writing in L7 (joint)

Hutton Prize for Environmental Studies in L7

John McLennan Prize for Proxime Accessit

Freya Tyson

Academic Merit Prize

Tie for International Recognition (Singing)

Leng Silver Medal for Singing

Leng Gold Medal for Singing

Walter Smith Memorial Prize for Drama in L7 (joint)

Nathan Ogston

Stark Cup for Public Speaking

E M Stewart Prize for Dux of the Junior School

Emily Macdonald

Form 1

Academic Merit Prize

Caitlin Cowie

Clara Fraser

Kaile Liu

Maya McColgan

India Simpson

James Westwood

Leng Silver Medal for Singing (Boys)

Neil Bhat

Tie for International Recognition (Dinghy Sailing)

Rory Gifford

Tom Durrheim Memorial Quaich for Recitation in Forms 1 - 3 (joint)

Kirsty Leng

Betty Sword Prize for Academic Improvement in Form 1 (joint)

Sophia Kapelyukh

Betty Sword Prize for Academic Improvement in Form 1 (joint)

Freya Welch

Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra - Re-award)

Dvořák Prize for Musical Ensemble

Robertson Prize for Proxime Accessit of Form 1

Daniel Higgins

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

Florence Whytock Memorial Prize for Dux of Form 1

Christopher Scott

Form 2

Academic Merit Prize

Madeline Fraser

Jinken Li

Hannah Mackland

Maishah Mason

Naomi Sibson

Gregor Tyson

Jan van der Kuyl

Tie for International Recognition (Water Polo - Re-award)

Anna Campbell

Tie for International Recognition (Gymnastics)

Alistair Clark

Tie for International Recognition (Sailing - Re-award)

Suzie Sturrock

Andrew K Paton Memorial Trophy for all-round Sporting Ability in Form 2 Boys

Ollie Hall

Tom Durrheim Memorial Quaich for Recitation in Forms 1 - 3 (joint)

Iona Kennedy

Betty Sword Prize for Academic Improvement in Form 2

Bella Porter

Maggie Stewart Memorial Salver for all-round Sporting Ability in Form 2 Girls

Martha Reeves

Dvořák Prize for Musical Ensemble

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

Jessica Chen

Academic Merit Prize

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

Archie Macdonald

RSL Macpherson Prize for Proxime Accessit of Form 2

Isla Hutchinson

Tie for International Recognition (Football) Prize for all-round ability in Form 2 Girls

RSL Macpherson Prize for Dux of Form 2

Alix Saddler

Form 3

Academic Merit Prize

Anisha Azad

Jenny Bonnyman

Eve Campbell

Zoe Faloon

Anthony Hingston

Ross Mauritzen

Tie for International Recognition (Singing - Re-award)

Megan Cant

Tie for International Recognition (Scouting)

Cameron Jones

Tie for International Recognition (Singing)

Olivia MacLellan

Tie for International Recognition (Sailing - Re-award)

Tom Mitchell

Tie for International Recognition (Singing)

Emily Reid

Chris Rea Prize for Games in Form 3 (Boys)

Iain Chalmers

Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble

Maya Donald

Dvořák Prize for Musical Ensemble

Rose Ryan

Larg Prize for Brass

Fraser Smith

Academic Merit Prize

Chris Rea Prize for Games in Form 3 (Girls)

Sophie Elder

Tie for International Recognition (Singing)

Leng Silver Medal for Singing (Girls)

Burgess Cup for Short Story Writing

Sneha Sripada

Jane Spiller Prize for Proxime Accessit of Form 3

Kaixi Liu

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

Jane Spiller Prize for Dux of Form 3

Ksenia Kapelyukh

Form 4

Academic Merit Prize

Anna Dalglish

Archie Gilmour

Lewis McLennan

Malavikha Sudarshan

Catriona Taylor

Dominic Westwood

Tie for International Recognition (Singing)

Laura Connolly

Tie for International Recognition (Singing)

Adam Flynn

Tie for International Recognition (Rugby)

Toluwani Idowu

Tie for International Recognition (Guiding)

Katie Tonks

Jane Ray Prize for Home Economics

Isabelle Connolly Brown

Dvořák Prize for Musical Ensemble

Aidan Fullerton

David Mathers Trophy and Prize for Improvement in Mathematics in Forms 3 - 4

Fraser Houston

Academic Merit Prize

Tie for International Recognition (Netball)

Georgia Douglas

Academic Merit Prize

Tie for International Recognition (Athletics)

Laurence Petty

London Angus Association Trophy and G H Philip Prize for Public Speaking in Forms

4 - 6 (joint)

RSL Macpherson Prize for Proxime

Accessit of Form 4

Steven Chen

Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux of Form 4

Ethan McColgan

Form 5

Academic Merit Prize

Jonathan Lang

Suzanne Stirling

Christopher and Philip Daft Prize for Higher Physics

Edward Appleton

Block Prize for Creative Writing in Forms 4 - 6

Cosmo Bobak

Prize for Higher Computing Science

David Bruce

Prize for Higher Graphic Communication

Craig Fotheringham

J B Meiklejohn Prize for Higher Mathematics in Form 5

John Gardiner

Larg Prize for Piano

Jamie McFadyen

Edinburgh Angus Club Prize for Higher History

Reece McLennan

Larg Prize for Guitar

Jamie Meade

Prize for Higher Drama

Amy Pal-Kerr

Illsley Trophy for Outstanding Performance in Drama

Catriona Paterson

Prize for Higher Spanish

Amelia Purdy

Prize for Higher Classical Studies

Harvey Saddler

Baker Trade of Dundee Prize

Holly Sampson

Prize for Higher Mandarin

Grace Tang

Caird Prize for Higher Business Management

Connell White

Tie for International Recognition (Hockey - Re-award)

Games Merit Scarf (Hockey - Re-award)

Jamie Golden

Tie for International Recognition (Orchestra)

Larg Prize for Strings

Kirstin Petrie

E M Stewart Prize for Higher English

Robert Biggar Prize for Higher Geography

Georgia Stirling

Tie for International Recognition (Netball) London Angus Association Trophy and G

H Philip Prize for Public Speaking in Forms 4 - 6 (joint)

Emily Baxter

Isabella Hunter Award for Higher Art Academic Merit Prize

James Stevenson Memorial Prize for Higher French

James Stevenson Memorial Prize for Higher German

Karolena Brown

Academic Merit Prize

Dennis J Paterson Trophy and Prize for the Best Speaker in the Inter House Debates Armitstead Trust Prize for Higher Modern Studies

Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble

Graeme Matheson-Bruce Prize for Higher Music

Alex Fish

Sandy Wardlaw Memorial Trophy and Book Prize for Higher Chemistry

Caroline S Low Prize for Proxime Accessit of Form 5 (joint)

Charvi Kanodia

D Arnot Shepherd Travel Scholarship

Glenday Award for Higher Biology

Caroline S Low Prize for Proxime Accessit of Form 5 (joint)

Eilean Mauritzen

Dennis F Collins Prize for Higher Latin

Dennis J Paterson Prize for Dux of Form 5

Cormac Morran

Form 6

Form 6 Leaver Award

Catriona Addison

Enrico Alziri

Katie Anderson

Isla Archibald

Benedict Auld

Mason Barclaywood

Senga Barron

Emily Beaton

Jack Blackhall

Sarah Boyle

Rachel Brown

Ross Brown

Sam Chesters

Joe Chiverton

Genevieve Christie

Lewis Clark

Lewis Collins

Tom Constance

Christopher Cook

Emma Cotton

Miguel Crowe

Spencer Cunningham

Ross Davidson

Hathsu Dissanayake

Sophie Duncan

Jack Eglinton

Alexander Ewing
Imi Findlay
Peter Forte
Jamie Fraser
Will Gateley
Woody Gilmour
Kirsten Grant
Harry Hardie
Alice Henderson
Danny Hockley
Rebecca Humble
Tasnim Kouli
Evie Kunwar
James Lawrie
Lucy Macpherson
Alex Martins Da Silva
Thomas McGahie
Kain Miller
Rheanna Mitchell
Katie Murray
Alexander Nagy
Julia Newman
Joe Parker
Julia Petty
Steven Pole
Matthew Rawcliffe
Alice Samson
Oliver Smith
Cameron Stuart
Jack Thomson
Jessica Timoney
Cameron Walker
Conor Walsh
Mia Watson
Emmy Wiggins
Freddie Wilson
 Tom Durrheim Prize for Burns Writing in
 Forms 4 - 6
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Akshay Anand
 Parents' Association High Impact Award
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Lucy Arnold
 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Katie Bonnyman
 Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding
 Service to School
 Form 6 Leaver Award
George Davidson
 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Charlotte Hunter-Franks
 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Caitlin Jones
 Cambridge Gavel for Contribution to
 Debating
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Bogdan Kapelyukh
 Games Merit Scarf (Curling)

Form 6 Leaver Award
Alex Mackintosh
 T S Murray Prize for Dux in Chemistry
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Ciara Macpherson
 Sir John Leng Trust Prize for Dux in History
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Shona MacTavish
 Prize for Higher Music Technology
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Emily McLean
 Spankie Quaich for Higher Engineering
 Science
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Scott Morrison
 Tie for International Recognition (Singing -
 Re-award)
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Laura Murphy
 Dallas Allardice Cup and Prize for
 Outstanding Performance in Physical
 Education (Boys)
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Malcolm Nimmo
 Games Merit Scarf (Athletics)
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Jamie Reid
 Prize for Higher Physical Education
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Iain Robertson
 Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding
 Service to School
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Sammy Simpson
 James Smart Prize for Investigation at
 Advanced Higher Chemistry
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Frances Swift
 Prize for Higher Economics
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Ryan Tindal
 J Torrington Bell Prize for Dux in Art
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Rhea Wedderburn
 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 William More Prize for Dux in Applied
 Mathematics
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Joshua Cargill

 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Prize for Dux in Latin
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Kirsten Ellis
 Simon Newton Memorial Trophy for
 Commitment in Music and Sport
 Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Anna Hudson
 Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux in French
 Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux in German

Form 6 Leaver Award
Amy Johnstone
 Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to
 School
 Tie for International Recognition (Hockey -
 Officiating)
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Katie Joss
 W E Crichton Prize for Dux in Spanish
 Eiko Takahashi Prize for Excellence in
 Modern Languages
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Sophie Levin
 Armitstead Trust Prize for Dux in English
 Edinburgh Angus Club Prize for Dux in
 Modern Studies
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Beth Lindsay
 Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding
 Service to School
 W E Crichton Prize for Dux in Computing
 Science
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Gavish Luchoomun
 Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to
 School
 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Ailsa Macdonald
 Larg Prize for Percussion
 Parents' Association High Impact Award
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Jamie Macmillan
 Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to
 School
 Wee Sleep Out certificate (3rd highest
 sum raised in Scotland)
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Mairi McAdam
 Games Merit Scarf (Gymnastics - Re-
 award)
 Tie for International Recognition
 (Gymnastics - Re-award)
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Sarah McKenzie
 Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to
 School
 P Gordon Grant Trophy for Contribution to
 School Sport
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Rachel Rose
 William Laird Prize for Scottish Studies
 (Geography)
 Prize for Higher Environmental Science
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Charlotte Sharpe
 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Dott Memorial Prize for Dux in
 Mathematics
 Form 6 Leaver Award
Sid Sripada

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Anderson Prize for Investigation at
 Advanced Higher Biology
 Brian McNeill Prize for Dux in Biology
 Form 6 Leaver Award

Hannah Alijani

Tie for International Recognition (Chess -
 Re-award)
 Beckingham Trophy and Chess Club Prize
 W E Crichton Prize for Dux in Economics
 Form 6 Leaver Award

Euan Dawson

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Larg Prize for Woodwind
 Southgate Prize for Musical Ensemble
 Form 6 Leaver Award

Aisling Ellis

Bain Prize for Outstanding Service to
 School
 Games Merit Scarf (Hockey - Re-award)
 Tie for International Recognition (Hockey -
 Re-award)
 Form 6 Leaver Award

Rachel Strachan

Jacuk Prize for Investigation at Advanced
 Higher Physics
 Frank Young Prize for Excellence in Natural
 Science
 Jacuk Prize for Dux in Physics

Form 6 Leaver Award

Luke Wyatt

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Robert
 Tie for International Recognition (Brass
 Band)

William Laird Prize for Scottish Studies
 (History)

Sibbald Prize for Dux in Geography

Form 6 Leaver Award

Connolly Brown

Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding
 Service to School

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
 Wee Sleep Out certificate (3rd highest
 sum raised in Scotland)

Larg Prize for Bagpipes

Form 6 Leaver Award

Robbie Coupar

Dr John M Morgan Prize for Outstanding
 Service to School

High School Quaich for Best all-round
 Instrumentalist

Larg Prize for Vocal

Dott Prize for Dux in Music

Form 6 Leaver Award

Ruairidh Cowieson

Games Merit Scarf (Netball - Re-award)

Games Merit Scarf (Touch Rugby - Re-
 award)

Tie for International Recognition (Netball -
 Re-award)

Tie for International Recognition (Touch
 Rugby - Re-award)

Mhairi Henderson Cup and Prize for
 Outstanding Performance in Physical
 Education (Girls)

Dux in Physical Education

Form 6 Leaver Award

Shona Campbell

The Rorie Trophy for Inter House Debating
Aystree

Inter House Shield for Champion House
 Rector's Prize for Deputy Head
 Girl

Anna Hudson

Rector's Prize for Deputy Head Boy

Malcolm Nimmo

Lowson Prize for Head of School (Girls)

Katie Anderson

Erskine Prize for Head of School (Boys)

Sid Sripada

Vannet Prize for Proxime Accessit

Joshua Cargill

Sid Sripada

Luke Wyatt

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

Euan Dawson



PROUD TO SUPPORT THE HIGH SCHOOL OF DUNDEE

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Welcome to ...

Colin Anderson

We are keen to welcome Colin Anderson to the English Department all the way from Brazil, where he was previously Head of English, as well as Assessment Manager, in at a top international school. Previously, Colin taught in schools in London but is actually originally from Dundee. He has been invaluable in sharing his knowledge of Firefly with many HSD staff. Known to be a very thorough teacher, Colin has expertly prepared the pupils for assessments and units of work. He also has a brilliant way of rewarding pupils for their efforts, not just individually but as teams.

In an extra-curricular context, Colin started The Amnesty International Club to raise pupil awareness on human rights issues globally. In addition, he has taken pupils away on Duke of Edinburgh trips to help them fulfil the requirements of the award.



David Finlay

David Finlay has quickly become a popular English teacher at High School Dundee. The pupils find him to be clear in offering explanations, nurturing and firm but fair. In no time at all, he fitted into the English team seamlessly. Keen to help the work of the department, he has led on the F1-3 Burns Recitation Competition, which he thoroughly enjoyed impressed by the commitment and eloquent nature of the participants.

As a pupil, David went to Stewart's Melville College in Edinburgh, where his talent for music was recognised. An experienced teacher, he has taught in schools in Dundee and Perth.

On a different note, we wish David much happiness and joy for his wedding this summer.



Aimée Howland

Aimée joined us on 12 August in a new part-time post as Marketing and Communications Assistant. Aimée has a Masters Degree in International Marketing from the University of Glasgow and studied in Berlin, Mumbai and the USA during her undergraduate degree. She worked as a Digital Communications Graduate at the charity High Life Highland and has gone on to start her own business in Digital Communications which specialises in the creative and cultural sectors.

Aimée has been making connections with some of you already but will no doubt meet more of you over the course of the term as she gathers positive success stories on our pupils and school life for our website, social media and school publications."



Chloe Berridge

Chloe works in our Development Office as our External Relations Co-ordinator. Describing herself as a 'people person' and having a history of customer-centric and administrative

roles, Chloe has thoroughly enjoyed building relationships with our alumni and enhancing the School's engagement with them. After completing her A-Levels Chloe went travelling, venturing to Australia where she lived and worked for a year - mainly based in Sydney, a place she calls her 'home away from home'. In this time, Chloe explored a number of other countries including Fiji and Thailand. Originally from York, Chloe moved to Dundee with her partner in July 2015.

Outside of the office, Chloe enjoys cooking, particularly experimenting with dishes from different cultures, reading, hiking the nearby Munros and mountains and ticking off as many cities and countries on her bucket list as she can.



Sarah Grimes

Sarah joined us as admissions co-ordinator in early 2019. She is happy to be back in her home town of Dundee after many years away. Sarah studied Psychology at the University of Glasgow before moving to Germany where she went on to study Montessori education, and then social pedagogy. Sarah has previously worked in settings for young children, and individuals with additional support needs and looks forward to continuing to work closely with families in her new role.

Out of the office Sarah enjoys practicing yoga, and working with animals - cats in particular!



Claire MacDonald

Claire is former pupil of the High School and was Deputy Head Girl in the class of 1994. She then studied Law and Economics (LLB Hons) at the University of Edinburgh where she was an R&A golf bursar and graduated in 1998. Claire then took up a traineeship with KPMG Edinburgh to become a Chartered Accountant and she qualified in 2001. After several successful financial roles Claire then took a year out to study entrepreneurship as part of the Saltire Fellowship programme, where she lived and worked in Boston and Raleigh in the United States. She returned to Scotland to set up her own financial consultancy working with various clients including the Idea Scotland incubator programme which was a joint venture between University of Dundee, Abertay University and DC Thomson. Latterly Claire spent 5 years working with DC Thomson in senior financial roles. Claire spent a period as Finance Director of Glenalmond College before returning to HSD as Bursar. Claire remains a keen sportswoman and continues to play golf as much as she can!



Flora Murray

Flora Murray joins us from St George's in Edinburgh where she was a key member of the English Department. It is clear that Flora has a love and passion for the subject and is keen to share this with her High School Dundee pupils. She has led and supported theatre trips, Book Day and quickly become indispensable. A creative teacher, she has inspired the pupils to create lively displays and a wonderful project on Shakespeare in which pupils made a variety of excellent resources from The Globe Theatre to his family tree.

With a love of the outdoors, Flora has been invaluable on the Duke of Edinburgh Award weekends, when she has walked in rain and shine to support the pupils. In addition, she is active in the John Muir Award and has taken pupils to Rum and Canna. She loves nature and is also keen to share her passion for the environment too.



Kate Pepper

Kate joined the High School in August 2018. An outgoing and enthusiastic member of the Chemistry department, Kate has brought her experience in the chemical industry to the classroom. Her background is in organic chemistry, achieving a first class honours degree from Bath University. She continued her education at Exeter University, completing her PhD in 2003. This was followed by a move to Scotland to join her long-time partner, now husband, and begin a role in a chemical manufacturing facility in Cupar, Fife. Following 10 years in the industry, redundancy made her rethink her career path and she started her teaching journey, which she says "is proving to be the best decision she has ever taken".

Kate has become involved in all aspects of the school including taking pupils to chemistry competitions and events. Kate is a keen member of the debating club and regularly ferries pupils all over the country to take part in competitions.



Lynsey Sangster

After leaving the high school in 2015 to undertake a working holiday visa to Australia, Lynsey started her journey in Melbourne where she initially took on a short-term contract teaching Performing Arts at Armadale primary school. During her time at Armadale, she directed the annual outdoor Christmas concert in the blazing sun which was a very different experience! She then moved up to Queensland to teach Drama and Dance at St Ursula's College. Whilst working at the college she directed High School Musical, No No Nanette and The Wizard of Oz. She also co-wrote and produced a new musical One Step Beyond which was based around St Ursula's College history and Irish settlement in Australia.



Jenny Sinclair

Jenny joined HSD as our new School Nurse at the end of October and describes herself as;

"A Dundee girl through and through having studied at Morgan Academy (where she became Head Girl) and then on to Dundee University where I completed my Nursing Degree in 2011. Having worked in Ninewells Hospital for the past 7 years, the move to Dundee High School was certainly a change but a challenge that I fully embraced. I get to enjoy School life but still like to keep my hand in with the hospital, working in Ninewells on the occasional weekend. My nursing background was predominantly spent in the Ophthalmic and Ear Nose and Throat ward, but I also spent time working in various other specialities including A&E, Medicine for the Elderly and Oncology.



Mike Stephenson

Mike joined HSD at the beginning of June as our Health & Safety Advisor. Mike is a well-qualified H&S professional with a wealth of experience, most recently at Horsecross Arts Ltd (encompassing Perth Concert Hall and Perth Theatre) and prior to that, the Edinburgh Internal Conference Centre. Mike's youngest daughter is presently at the HSD Nursery and will join Primary 1 in August - so a father and daughter team!



Katie Whiting

Katie Whiting joined the Senior Learning Skills Department in August 2018. She is a native of Dundee and started her Home Economics teaching career at Montrose Academy in 2008. Katie then went on to teach Home Economics at Monifieth High School where she later discovered her passion for supporting pupils with support needs to achieve their potential. In 2012 when the opportunity arose for Katie to change her teaching path she jumped at the opportunity and became an Additional Support Needs teacher but still at Monifieth High School.



Driven by the desire to ensure pupils who were on the Autism Spectrum were supported and challenged when in mainstream education Katie completed a PGCE in Autism and Learning in 2014. After nearly 10 years at Monifieth, Katie decided it was time for a new challenge and the opportunity to join the Learning Skills Department at HSD became available. She has greatly enjoyed her first year at the school working with Junior and Senior pupils and is excited to undertake the Acting Head of Learning Skills Position during Mrs Downie's maternity leave this academic year.

Farewell to ...

Helen Brian

Helen joined the Junior Years staff in August 2015 as part of our L6 team. During her time with us she was proactive, motivational, organised, caring, fun and much loved by all the staff and pupils.



Her smile and energy were wonderful assets that brightened up the Junior Years. Helen played a key role in the production of the last two Junior Years' musicals. She always participated fully in the life of the school and was keen to be part of the staff teams who took the children to Dalguise, London and France. She left us in the summer to move down south to take up a post at Wexham Primary School. We will miss Helen's enthusiasm but wish her the very best as she embarks on her new adventure.

Jasmine Cortazzi

Jasmine left The High School of Dundee after four years as Head of English in order to relocate to York, where her husband has secured a leadership post at York University. Previously, she worked at Madras, as Head of English, and also at St Leonard's. She also worked in Cambridge, Qatar and Birmingham for seven years. She very much enjoyed leading the team here and overseeing the work of the English Department in inspiring pupils to be high achievers. She shared her passion for Shakespeare and Chaucer, as well as a host of other writers, with her pupils.



In addition to her academic role, she ensured that the pupils continue to benefit from an array of extra-curricular activities, such as theatre trips for pupils and writing competitions.

Jasmine's future plans include continuing to teach English, whilst completing a Post Graduate qualification in Counselling and Psychotherapy.

Rooney Hall

Rooney left us in December 2018 to take up the position of Head of English at Kilgraston School having joined us in 2017 from Ashcombe School in Surrey.



Her classroom was always bright and colourful with exciting displays on all things English – as well as a corner devoted to sharks. Her pupils will remember her for her enthusiasm and dedication and we wish her well in her new position.

Jill Henderson

Jill joined us in October 2012 as Financial Controller and then on the retirement of Charles Sharp was appointed Bursar in 2016, a role she held with distinction. A Dundonian herself, she graduated in Accountancy and became a CA with Reeves and Neylan. After a spell in commerce she joined the High School and quickly set about ensuring that the highest standards of accounting policies and procedures were maintained and enhanced. As Bursar Jill quickly demonstrated a remarkable grasp of her very broad remit, both the wider aspects of policy and strategy, alongside a keen eye for detail. Her warm, personal and thoughtful leadership, her supportive approach to those facing challenges, and her friendly and courteously firm manner in managing complex or sensitive situations were appreciated by colleagues and parents alike. She built on the prudence of her predecessors and brought together all aspects of the support staff team in a collegiate and productive way. We were therefore very sorry, but ultimately perhaps not surprised, that she decided to accept the offer of an enhanced role with a commercial company earlier this year. Jill leaves us with our sincerest good wishes and thanks.



Kevin Hodgson

Kevin joined the Maths Department in October 2017 from Kinross High School. An enthusiastic, hardworking and friendly teacher, he quickly established himself as an integral member



of the Maths team. During his short time at the High School he made an impact contributing to the wider life of the school. He assisted coaching the Form 3 Rugby team, supported the Duke of Edinburgh Award pupils on their Bronze expeditions, ran a football coaching day during the Form 1 and 2 Activity Week in May 2019 and took pupils to Data Science events in Edinburgh. He built strong links with external agencies and organised for NHS Scotland to come into HSD for a data hack event. Kevin took a lead organising and coordinating events for our highly successful Maths Week 2018, involving the full the whole HSD community and will be remembered for years to come as the host of The Early, Early Show – Making Maths Count, during the Senior School assembly. We wish him all the best in his new post with Perth and Kinross Council as Principal Teacher of Mathematics.

Oliver Jackson-Hutt

Oliver joined us from St Andrews University in January 2014 as Director of Development and worked closely with the Rector and the senior team to develop the fund-raising campaigns for the school. The Campaign 2015-2020 for the centre of performing and visual arts in the former Head Post Office was the main vehicle for that and he also revamped the school's whole fund-raising strategy. The Campaign 2015-2020 continues but Oliver was offered the post of Director of External Relations at Loretto School and so left us in January 2018.

Jude McMullan

Jude has been an immense part of the HSD PE Department over the last 5 years. She joined us from Edinburgh University, having worked previously at the school as a hockey coach. Jude immediately became a popular figure throwing herself into school life with verve and gusto. She has had a massive influence on all pupils she taught in core PE classes and more recently led the implementation of National 5 PE – a 100% pass rate is not to be sniffed at! Jude also showed first class commitment to co-curricular activities. She successfully led our F3 team to the Midlands cup final, acted as Head of Hockey for a year and is now a coach of the U-16 National side. Jude also led and developed the school tennis programme while also somehow managing to fit in assisting with the CCF! Jude led and assisted on numerous Senior and Junior years' trips, sports tours and CCF camps. It is safe to say that she packed a lot in to her 5 years with us! Jude is returning to Edinburgh having successfully obtained a position at Edinburgh Academy. She will be sorely missed but we wish her all the best for the future.



Forbes Walker

Forbes left us in December 2018 to take up a new position at St Columba's, Dunfermline having been with us since 2013. As Head of the Technologies department for five years, Forbes was responsible for the development of HSD's links with manufacturers such as FMC and Michelin and for the STEM Primary/Secondary initiative which saw Engineers visiting the classroom. Forbes was a positive proponent of such exciting gadgets as laser cutters and 3d printing and successfully introduced them to the department. Outside school his projects included football coaching and converting a barn in France as a holiday home. Our best wishes go with him for his future career.



Scott Mitchell

Scott Mitchell, son of Anne Mitchell whom many will know from her time in the finance office and now at the Mayfield Nursery, completed his PhD in "Ethical Hacking" at the University of Abertay, Dundee in November of 2018. After leaving HSD in 2002, Scott went on to study in both Dundee and then Edinburgh before attending the University of Abertay. Attending is a loose term as Scott carried out all his studies whilst working full time off shore. Currently Scott works as a lead production technician for an oil company, and on a day-to-day basis is responsible for the upstream production of about 5% of the UK's domestic gas.



Alfie George

Many of you will remember Alfie George who left us June 2017 following his F4 to pursue a career in cycling. Well he's made Team GB for the World Championships in Innsbruck later this month! Brilliant news. Thanks to DGS for the tip-off!

Staff News

Once again It has been a very busy year for the High School staff and not just in the classroom. Apologies to anyone we have inadvertently missed.

New arrivals

In September, Susan Colgan and husband Michael welcomed Phoebe to the family, a sister to Julia. Richard and Kelly Bunting welcomed Isabelle Joanne in October and in November Jane Broom welcomed Calle, sister to Hamish.

In December Christine McKay welcomed first baby Hamish weighing 7 pounds 13 ounces. Christine and her husband Ross are 'both over the moon'. Scott Graves of the IT support Department welcomed Ben Stewart Graves who was born on Christmas Eve and Adam Kerr and his wife welcomed baby Imogen on 29th December.

Katie Goldie welcomed baby Felicity Anna Sophia in January and James of the IT support Department and his wife Paula Salmond of the HR Department welcomed Charlie William James Salmond on Tuesday 19th February.

More recently, Jo and Andrew Downie welcomed Grace, a sister for Lewis and Linda Anderson of the PE department welcomed Alice, a sister for Tom

Linda Smith of the Junior Years daughters have both had babies this year.... Doubling the grandchildren (grand girls as she calls them) from 2 to 4! Rhona & Martin Lawrie (both FPs had a third girl, Evie 27th February, sister for Amelie & Rosie), and Fiona (FP) and her husband Neil Wickramasinghe, had a girl, Flora on the 28th April.

Engagements/Marriages

Lucy Hegan of the History Department and Ewan Jack of PE were married on 27th December in Italy and Jillian Wallace and her fiancé (Sebastian Palmer) got engaged in April this year. They have booked their wedding for the end of June 2020.

In other news

Anastasia Lazani of the Classics dept and Iona McFarlane, our Librarian, both successfully completed the PGCE course from Buckingham University.

HELLO

EATWELL DELI

As your school's new catering team, Elixir honestly do see food differently. We have more than 20 years' experience in delivering delicious, nutritious and varied meals in schools across the UK.

Your school's friendly Catering Team are here to deliver a **fresh food experience** – **Our service is innovative with a high street twist!**

The restaurant provides a wide selection of freshly prepared food, snacks and hot & cold drinks, coupled with the best service experience in the industry.



OUR PHILOSOPHY IS BUILT ON FRESHLY COOKED MEALS THAT ARE PREPARED FROM SCRATCH EVERY DAY USING THE BEST POSSIBLE INGREDIENTS THAT ARE ALSO LOCALLY SOURCED WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

OUR MENUS

FRESH AND TASTY EVERYDAY

We have a reputation for using only the best, finest quality ingredients. Our dishes contain 95% fresh ingredients.

YOU COULD SAVE MONEY AND TIME

A typical packed lunch is likely to cost as much, if not more than the typical school meal would cost. Especially if it has products such as tinned drinks, crisps or chocolate in it.

Similarly, the nutritional value of a packed lunch falls way below that of a school meal based on 2012 national research, which established that only 1% of school lunch boxes met nutritional standards. Choosing a school meal also takes away the hassle of making them of course!

A BIT ABOUT OUR FOOD

- Marine Stewardship Council fish (MSC) is used, which meets the high standards of sustainability and traceability
- Meals contain no undesirable food additives or hydrogenated fats
- High levels of local procurement of meat, dairy, fruit, vegetables and salads used daily
- Red Tractor (farm assured) meat
- Free Range Eggs
- All menus are seasonally aligned, where possible, to meet the Food for Life standards

INTRODUCING BARISTA & BAKER - OUR NEW OFFER FOR SENIORS

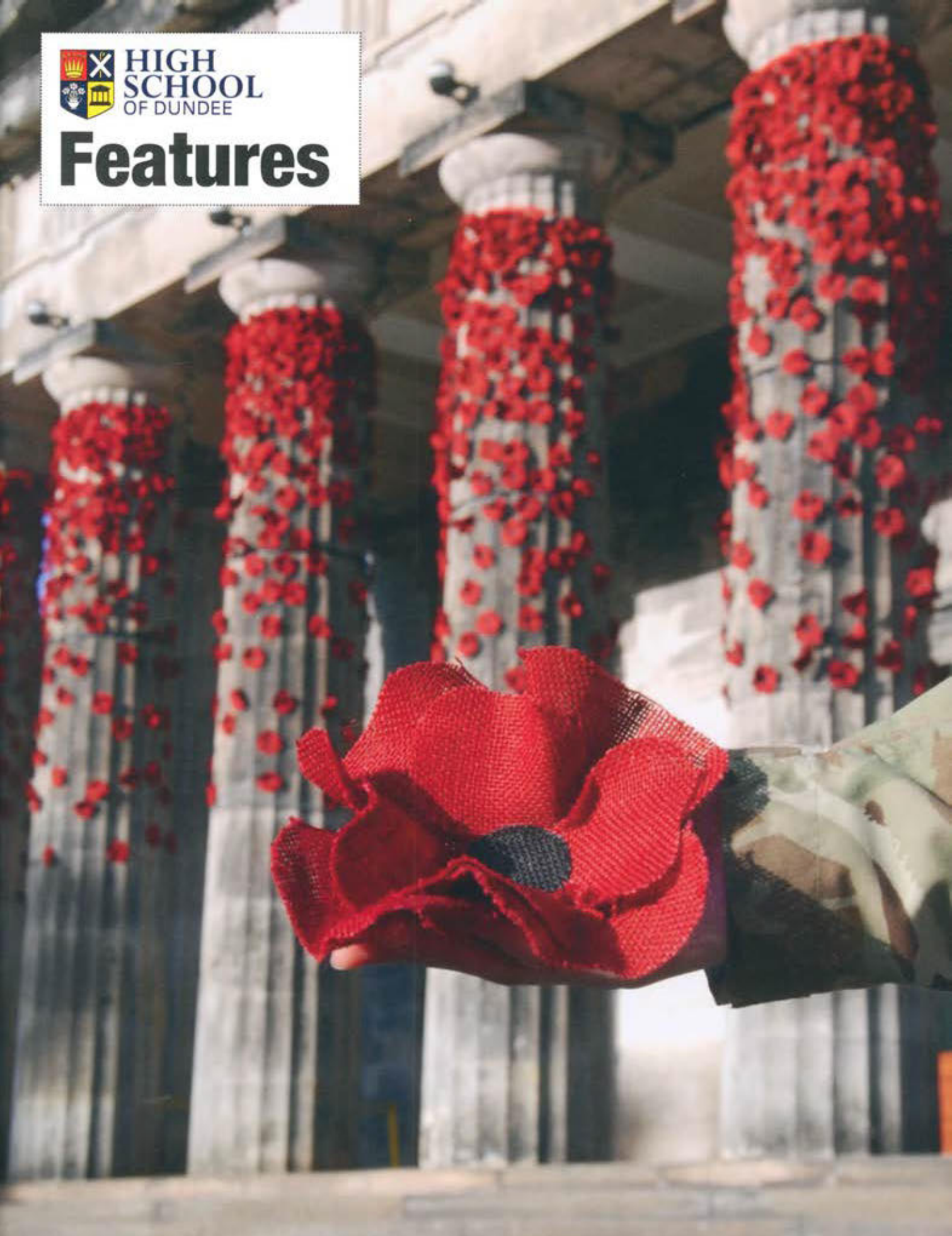
Barista and Baker is our high street inspired coffee kiosk, featuring delicious Fair Trade range of coffees, teas and cold drinks, along with fresh deli sandwiches, snacks and treats that our senior students will be sure to love.



IT'S TIME TO SEND PACKED LUNCHES PACKING!



Features



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Dan Stalker Exhibition



As part of the armistice centenary remembrance, a former pupil of the school, Lieutenant Dan Stalker, whose life was tragically lost during the conflict was remembered through an exhibition detailing his life and the effect of the war on his family. His story was recounted by his great niece, Morag Stalker, herself an FP of the High School, who kindly agreed to share his story and personal effects with the school. With the help of several members of staff, a fascinating exhibition, including banners, displays of letters, photographs and artefacts, as well as a video of Morag sharing her story was created. Officially opened on 1st November 2018, the exhibition was visited by many associated with the school. We thank everyone involved for their hard work in bringing this project together.

In her own words, Morag has detailed the journey that brought about this amazing exhibition:

"While growing up, I knew that one of my father's uncles, Daniel Stalker, had been killed in the last year of the First World War. Along with his six siblings, Dan attended the High School of Dundee and his name is inscribed on the Dux Board for the year 1907-08. He was married in 1917 in Sussex and his daughter, Mary, was born in August 1918, just a few months after his death. His widow Gladys subsequently re-married and had a son. While working in Sussex in the 1970s, I was fortunate to meet Gladys – a very spry and interesting old lady then in her eighties - who had returned to the county, and I visited her several times before she moved away to live with her son, Ian. A number of years later, after the deaths of both Gladys and Mary, Ian contacted me saying that he had some material that was clearly part of Stalker family history and should be returned to us. This turned out to be a fascinating, and very moving,

collection of letters sent to Gladys and his parents after Dan's death, including many from comrades at the front, together with photographs and artefacts including one of his HSD Dux medals, his wedding ring and military medals, along with official documents related to his death."





“Fast forward another few years to 2014, when the High School began its commemorations of the centenary of World War 1. The War Memorial, recording former pupils who served in the conflict, includes the names of all four Stalker

brothers – Dan, James (my grandfather), Kenneth and Philip – with Dan’s name highlighted in gold to show that he had died. I had wondered what to do with all the material about Dan – it certainly should not be lying forgotten in a drawer – and it occurred to me that it could illuminate the story of one of those names on the memorial. The letters, in particular, could bring home to current pupils some of the realities of war at almost first hand, the bravery of those on the line, the agonising grief experienced by wives and mothers at home. I approached Lise Hudson who was clearly excited, both as a historian and at a personal level, by such a treasure trove of material. We discussed the best way to bring everything together, and it was she who conceived the idea of an exhibition on the theme of ‘A High School Family and the Great War’.”

“The War Memorial, recording former pupils who served in the conflict, includes the names of all four Stalker brothers – Dan, James (my grandfather), Kenneth and Philip – with Dan’s name highlighted in gold to show that he had died.”

“The exhibition developed over more than a year, with particular support from Lise, Kate Pepper and Dr Halliday, as additional information came to light. I visited war memorial windows commemorating Dan in the Sussex church where he was married and in the Dundee church to which the Stalker family belonged. Clearing my late parents’ house, I found a rich seam of century-old family documents and objects which further illuminated the family’s various roles in the war. These included newspaper cuttings confirming that my grandmother, Jeanette Mansie – also a High School FP – had served as a medical officer in several Scottish

war hospitals. It is a matter of great pride to me that her name is included in the recent additions to the War Memorial among other women who served in different capacities and whose names are only now being discovered and recorded.”

“The High School’s commemoration of the Great War and the Armistice was a wonderful achievement of which I, a fourth-generation (at least) HSD pupil, felt very privileged to be a part through the exhibition. It was thrilling to see Dan’s photograph prominently displayed on the publicity material and website. Hearing his name in the list of the fallen read out by the Head Boy and Head Girl at the 2018 Armistice Parade was deeply moving, as was the stunning rendition of two of the letters – from Dr J.B. Meiklejohn, one of Dan’s teachers, and from Kenneth to his mother – in the senior pupils’ drama performance following that Parade. The interest shown by staff, pupils and others in the story of Dan and his family has been heart-warming, and I am pleased to have been able to bring it to light one hundred years on from his death.”



Armistice Parade





Following on from the success of our drill team winning the Scottish Championship for the second year running, over 100 cadets were on parade for the annual Armistice Parade. This parade marked the centenary of the end of hostilities in 1918 and was also the culmination of four years remembering the World War One and the impact of it on the world and British society. The Rector had referred to the 1914-1918 as "four years that changed the world" and the school had been involved in a variety of activities investigating these years. This had involved the annual reading out of the names of the school alumni who fallen during the Great War. The names of the fallen from 1918 were read out in 2018 by Head Boy Sid Sirapada and Head Girl Hannah Alajani during the parade. The Banner Party was commanded by Sergeant-Major Shona MacTavish and the Banners being carried by Sgt Ailsa MacDonald and Sgt Rachel Strachan. Cadet Catriona Taylor played last post and Pipe Major Robbie Coupar played the solo lament. The junior wreath bearers were Moya Craig and Charlie Lilley.

The Parade as ever proved to be very poignant with all ranks acquitting themselves most professionally.

In the new year we realised an exciting opportunity to formalise an already existing affiliation we have with Tayforth Universities Officer Training Corps, sharing staff, resources and leadership opportunities. This was done by having Lt Colonel Jarvis, the commanding officer of Tayforth U.O.T.C., conduct our annual inspection. The inspection report by Lt Colonel Jarvis stated "It was a pleasure and a privilege to be asked to visit the Dundee High School CCF. The CCF should rightly consider themselves as one of the 'jewels' in the School's crown."



The Red Pillars

As part of the High School's programme of events to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the November 1918 Armistice, the school's iconic Pillars became the setting for a unique art installation. Conceived and designed by Mr Adam Kerr, head of the school's Art Department, as a testimony to our ongoing debt of gratitude to those whose lives were changed forever by the First World War, the 2000 jute poppies were suspended by High School pupils from wire frames. The frames were then elevated to their position at the school's entrance to create the striking display that then formed the backdrop to the school's annual Armistice Parade and was much admired by the Dundee community.



HSD Remembers WW1 Female FPs

As part of the armistice centenary, the Rector, Dr Pepper and some FPs have been trying to identify and remember the female FPs who dedicated themselves, and even gave their lives, during the Great War. These women, whose contribution is often forgotten, were critical to the success of the war. Many were challenged by the belief of the day that war was not for women, but they defied this and followed their passions regardless. We have identified ten former pupils who performed a variety of roles and all have amazing stories, here is a flavour of the amazing work they did. The search continues.....

Dr Agnes Forbes Savill (née Blackadder) (1875 – 1964)

During the First World War, Agnes Savill, née Blackadder, had a very important role to play in the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Agnes, sadly widowed in 1910, went out to France for several work periods, returning to her post in London when she could, usually in the winter when there was a lull in the fighting. Her great contribution was in making the best use of a state-of-the-art x-ray car which they had been given, courtesy of the French General Le Bon. She had an acute appreciation of the dangers and mechanisms of gas gangrene and worked hard to mitigate its effects with prompt diagnosis and treatment. Her studies of the x-ray appearances of the gangrene were pioneering. She trained staff and threw herself into the work so selflessly that in July 1918, during a particularly busy period, it was noted that she looked ill and 'absolutely cavernous'. She returned to London after the war and in 1932 she was elected as the first Honorary President of the Old Girls Club.



Dorothy K Chalmers (1898 – 1983)

Dorothy was born in Broughty Ferry, her mother having braved the sea passage from Rotterdam just in time for the birth. The family lived in Duntrune Terrace, though her father, Commodor J.A.S. Chalmers, was often away at sea and her brother, nine years older than herself, was at boarding school. In 1916, as soon as she was 18 she signed up as an ambulance driver for the Red Cross.

She was in France from February 1918 to July 1919, in Trouville and then Treport. She had apparently wanted to be a dispatch rider, but this job was not open to females. After the war she returned to teach at Lowther College for ten years. While there she designed golf courses, one for the College and one for the local area. She was a fine golfer, winning monthly medals at Panmure Ladies in the 1920s and then as a member of Downfield was club champion.

In WWII Miss Chalmers served as a sergeant major in the ATS, lecturing in car mechanics – and running a dance band in her time off. She described her experience in WWII as "cushy" compared to the adventures of WWI. After the war, back in Dundee the family were struggling to get by. They rented out their house, and Miss Chalmers took what work she could find, until finally she was offered a job teaching, first in Linraig Nursery and then (four years later) in Mid Craigie Primary. She was there for 18 years until she retired in 1976. Dorothy Chalmers never married and died suddenly at home in Dens Road aged 85 in 1983.

Mary Pollock Grant Suffragette (1876 – 1957)

Mary, or May, was one of the most remarkable and spirited of FPs, and a prominent and active member of the Suffragettes movement before the FWW. May was the eldest daughter of the Rev Dr C M Grant, who was a leading figure in the women's suffrage movement himself. In



1905 Mary travelled to India for six years under the auspices of the Church of Scotland on educational work. Returning to Dundee, she quickly became a prominent and militant activist in the suffragette cause and after smuggling herself and a friend into a meeting in Aberdeen with Lloyd George she was imprisoned in Perth prison in 1913. Inevitably on the outbreak of war she was keen to be involved. From 1914 until 1916 when her father died she worked as a Voluntary Aid Detachment nurse in the Caird Hospital, Dundee. After that she was involved in war work in Gretna, Waltham Abbey and the Halifax area. In 1916 she joined Margaret Damer Dawson's Women Police Service, working first in a munitions factory and then serving in London as a

HSD Remembers *WW1 Female FPs continued*

Constable, then a Sergeant and, by 1918, had reached the rank of Sub-Inspector. She left the organisation at the end of the war. A remarkable pioneer – one of the very first female police officers. She became a loyal follower of Lloyd George and was a frequent speaker at political meetings. She entered active party politics after the war and was twice chosen as a Liberal candidate in Yorkshire, though she was never elected. In the 1930s she became a Christian Scientist and worked as a healer for 20 years. She undertook civil defence work in London during the Second World War. She remained single throughout her life. In 1953 she was disabled by a stroke. She died in August 1957 in Tunbridge Wells.

Janet Lindsay Greig **(8 August 1874 –** **18 October 1950)**

Born in 1874 in Broughty Ferry, Scotland, to Jane (née Stocks) and Robert Greig, the second of seven children. She was educated at the High School of Dundee until the family migrated to Melbourne, Australia in 1889, where she then attended Brunswick Ladies College. Her father encouraged his children to pursue tertiary education, and in 1891 both she and her sister Jane enrolled at the medical school of the University of Melbourne. She graduated from the University, with a Bachelor of Medicine, & Bachelor of Surgery with honours in 1895. The following year, she and Alfreda Gamble were appointed resident medical officers at Melbourne Hospital, making them the first two women to fill such a role at the hospital and against considerable opposition from the hospital staff. She later became the first female anaesthetist in the state of Victoria, serving as an honorary anaesthetist at the Royal Women's Hospital during 1900–1917. During World War I, Janet Greig volunteered to work as a medical officer at a military hospital in Melbourne, but as with Agnes Savill in the UK, she was told that there was "no necessity for lady doctors in the military hospitals"; As there was no Scottish Women's Hospital in Australia, instead, she was recruited to examine nurses for military service.



Hannah M Hamilton (1889 - ?)

Hannah M Hamilton was a Nurse, Staff Nurse then Sister in the Territorial Forces Nursing Service. She entered nursing and then joined the Territorial Forces Nurses Service in January 1915, aged 25, straight from Training School, and was sent to the 1st Scottish General Hospital, Aberdeen. After working at the military hospital in Aberdeen for two years she was assessed for service abroad and was then posted to Salonika where she served from September 1917 until August 1919. She will have been aware of the Scottish Women's Hospital in Salonika, where another FP, Hilda Lorimer, served. This was tough work and it began to take its toll on her health. However, after the Armistice she remained in service and was then posted to the South Russian front, to Tiflis (Tbilisi) Georgia from August 1919-Jan 1920. She was serving with the British units fighting with the White Russians against the Bolsheviks. She had had no leave for over three years by this stage and the accumulation of the stresses of her job had a serious impact on her mental health. Reports mentioned "Mental disturbance with suicidal tendencies" in Tbilisi. Another report indicated "Mental depression, caused by and in service in Military Hospital". Also mentioned hysteria also caused by influenza. Hannah was then Invalided out of the service and pronounced permanently unfit by the medical board in January 1920, thereby having to give up her chosen profession. She received a pension of £20 pa rising to £50pa. One of the female casualties of war, her life beyond 1920 is not yet known but we hope she managed to find stability and happiness.

Hilda Lockhart Lorimer **(30 May 1873 – 1 March 1954)**

Born in 1873 in Edinburgh she attended the High School of Dundee from 1889 – 1893. She won a scholarship to Girton College, Cambridge, where she gained a First. Because of the still prevalent sexual discrimination she never attended classes at Cambridge and instead was taught by tutors coming out to Girton.

In 1914 she was the classics tutor at Somerville who taught and influenced the young Vera Brittain, and is referred to with affection in the latter's autobiography Testament of Youth. As with many contemporaries she



felt strongly that she should also contribute to the war effort and so she joined the Scottish Women's Hospital which was dispatched to Salonika, an area she knew well. The SWH were of course partly funded by the Organisation for Women's Suffrage and she received funds from Somerville to support her there too. In 1917 she went to Salonika as a nursing orderly in the Scottish Women's Hospital (the Girton and Newnham Unit), under the auspices of the French Red Cross. She was awarded the Victory Medal and British War Medal in recognition of her service. Hilda Lorimer took an Oxford MA at the first opportunity, in 1920, and her Cambridge MA in 1948. She returned to Athens in 1922 and became a university lecturer at Oxford from 1929 – 1937. She retired in 1939, but remained an honorary fellow. In 1932, at the inaugural meeting of the Old Girls' Club, Hilda Lorimer was elected Honorary Vice President of the Club. Dr Agnes Savill, was Honorary President. She died on 1 March 1954 and is buried with her siblings in Warriston Cemetery in north Edinburgh.

May Whittet Martin (1888 - ?)

After attending the High School, May trained to be a nurse. By 1914 she was already a staff nurse at King's College Hospital, London. On the outbreak of war she immediately applied to join the Territorial Forces Nurses Service and was admitted on 17 August. She was posted to the 4th London General Hospital. In 1917 she was assessed for overseas service and went to France in April 1917, first attached to the General Hospital no 54, Wimereux, then Casualty Clearing Station No 29 in April 1918. She became an Acting Sister. However, the years in France began to take their toll on her health and whilst she was keen to continue, she was diagnosed with pulmonary TB as a direct consequence of her service in France. May was demobbed on 29.05.19 and awarded a pension of £150 pa from June 1920 to Jan 1921. In 1922 she received the Territorial Forces War Medal and owing to her excellent service was allowed to keep her nurse's badge. However, she was "permanently invalided out" and therefore had to abandon her nursing career – another casualty of war.

Kate Sutherland Wright (1884- ?)

Kate S Wright initially attended Harris Academy but moved to the High School of Dundee. On leaving school she trained to be a nurse, spending 4 years at Manchester Royal Infirmary, from 1909 to 1913, attaining the rank of Staff Nurse. In 1913 she joined the staff of a Care Home but in August 1914 she was accepted into the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (QAIMNS). She remained with QAIMNS until December 1919, serving in France and Flanders for nearly all that time, apart from a period of sick leave in 1916 for enteric fever, contracted in the course of her duties. She moved around a range of hospitals and casualty clearing stations during her time in France. Kate was an excellent nurse. Reports stated "Her professional ability is of a high standard, her power of initiative good. She is well suited to instruct and train orderlies. She has shown constant devotion to duty and is most kind to her patients." Elsewhere she was "an excellent nurse and manager...of a very cheery disposition. Good tempered and seemed able to get on with all those with whom she came in contact."

Annette Margaret Pattullo (1887 - ?)

Annette Pattullo was born in Broughty Ferry, Scotland, on 6 September 1887, and was educated first at Grove Academy, then at the Girls' High School, Dundee where she was a star of the school hockey team. On leaving school, she worked first as a governess for a year before going into nursing. She trained at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, from 1 January 1908 to 1 January 1912, and subsequently underwent fever training, becoming a senior nurse. She then applied to join the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and was accepted in 1913. She served throughout the Great War in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, first with No. 12 General Hospital on the Western Front from 17 August 1914, and then various field hospitals and casualty clearing stations. In 1917 she returned to England for a spell and was promoted to Sister. Annette was the recipient of five medals in recognition of her loyal and excellent service throughout the FWW and in Mesopotamia.



HSD Remembers *WW1 Female FPs continued*

Dr Jeannette Maclean Stalker, née Mansie

The daughter of Glaswegian Charles Maclean and step-daughter of a well-known Dundee minister the Rev John Mansie, Jeannette attended the High School along with her siblings, where she excelled both academically and in sport, playing for the 1st XI hockey team 1905-6. She studied medicine at University College, Dundee qualifying MB, ChB in 1915. Initially she was resident house physician in Dundee Royal Infirmary, but then became Medical Officer at the Edinburgh War Hospital, Bangour. In 1918 she returned to Dundee as Medical Supervisor of the new Red Cross Hospital, Park Wynd.

Agnes Allan (1886 – 1981)

Agnes was born in Glasgow, the only child of a wealthy, widowed, retired auctioneer and property-owner who then married Agnes' governess and had five more children. Aged 8 or 9, she went to live with a childless aunt in Dundee. A lazy pupil, in her own words, she enjoyed Dundee High School and won an essay prize ('What I do with my leisure', apparently eating toffee).

She liked French, Latin and Science; fascinated by a rabbit dissection, she spent 3d pocket money on a rabbit heart and squeezed it to see how the blood circulated. Agnes always wanted to be a nurse, but Papa said nursing was a charwoman's job and Agnes was too short and fat for the uniform. In 1912, when a friend was going to London to train, Papa gave in, but died on the day of her appointment, and relatives dissuaded her from ever starting - "It would have been a slur on Papa's character, and wealth, to have a working daughter." In 1912 she started working at Grey Lodge, helping to serve free dinners to schoolchildren, then in 1914 moved to the Red Cross. The Dundee Red Cross had its own three hospitals, Caird Rest, The Lodge in Broughty Ferry and Cox's half-time school (converted). Agnes, friendly with the Cox girls, served as a Voluntary Aid Detachment nurse at Cox's. At a wedding that year a friend said she had enrolled on a physiotherapy course in London; Agnes on the spur of the moment said, "Put my name down too." She said she'd qualify and return as a volunteer, which she did. Agnes worked in a London hospital until 1918, then went to Staffordshire for about a year and then returned to Dundee in 1922 or 1923.

BE

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Performing and Creative Arts

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Junior Years Musical

For this year's musical, the appreciative audience in the Gardyne Theatre was transported to the land of Agrabah, where Aladdin attempted to win the heart of Princess Jasmine.

Over 120 L6 and L7 pupils took part after months of preparation and rehearsal, carefully nurtured and guided by Shona Fish, Shona Morgan and Helen Brian. Their talents and enthusiasm shone from the stage for four nights.

The colourful production was an entertaining mix of songs, laughter and adventure as Aladdin and his sidekicks took on the evil Jafar. And of course, the magic of the Genie was always there to get them out of sticky situations.

As always, the production was an amazing team effort, with staff and pupils from Junior and Senior years working together to ensure the four evenings ran smoothly and already plans are underway for the next musical in 2021.





Lord of the Flies



In June, during the last week of term, there was no rest for a dedicated and talented band of actors who presented Nigel William's adaptation of William Golding's novel "The Lord of the Flies" for four performances in Trinity Hall. The dual casting by director Mrs Drummond allowed many of the young actors to experience a variety of roles. Audiences were enthusiastic in their praise for the production.

The cast brought to life the savage side of human nature as envisaged by Golding in 1954 and transported the audience to the island where they experienced the brutality of man's internal struggle between good and evil.

As the director said

"We have a fascination of wanting to see how people react when stripped of their familiar surroundings, family, freedom and basic human needs. Was Lord of the Flies a precursor for I'm A Celebrity, Castaway and, heaven forbid, Love Island?!"

Cast List

William' Cast

Ralph	Michael Anderson
Jack	Catriona Paterson
Piggy	Ryan Kilburn
Roger	Elizabeth Lang
Sam.....	Georgia Douglas
Eric	Philippa de Vos
Simon.....	Fraser Houston
Henry	Fiona Sharp
Maurice.....	Finlay de Vale
Bill.....	Eve Campbell
Perceval	Marina Lawson
Officer	David Brett & David Finlay
Additional player	Patrick Damodaran

Golding' Cast

Ralph	Lily Shaw
Jack	Catriona Paterson
Piggy	Inez Spence
Roger	Ailsa Millar
Sam.....	Amy Pal Kerr
Eric	Sarah Spalding
Simon.....	Molly Ross
Henry	Fiona Sharp
Maurice.....	Katie Tonks
Bill.....	Eve Campbell
Perceval.....	Marina Lawson
Officer	Nigel Clarke & Ellie Ashton
Additional player	Patrick Damodaran

Production Team

Director	Mrs Drummond
Stage Manager.....	Anjini Snape
Stage crew	Olivia Russell, Jason Pan, Ben Kidd
Sound.....	Mrs Sangster
Lighting/multi media	Alasdair Richmond
Costume	Mrs Fulton
Programme.....	Mr Finlay
Additional Choreography	Mrs Sangster
Box Office.....	Mrs McFarlane
Additional scenic artists, costume and prop makers	Hamish Doig, Mr Kerr, F3 and F4 N5 Drama Classes
Original poster designed by	Alasdair Richmond and Anjini Snape

Thanks

Reprographic Department, Janitors, Apex Acoustics, Colin and all our superb cleaners whose cleaning skills were spectacularly tested with this production!





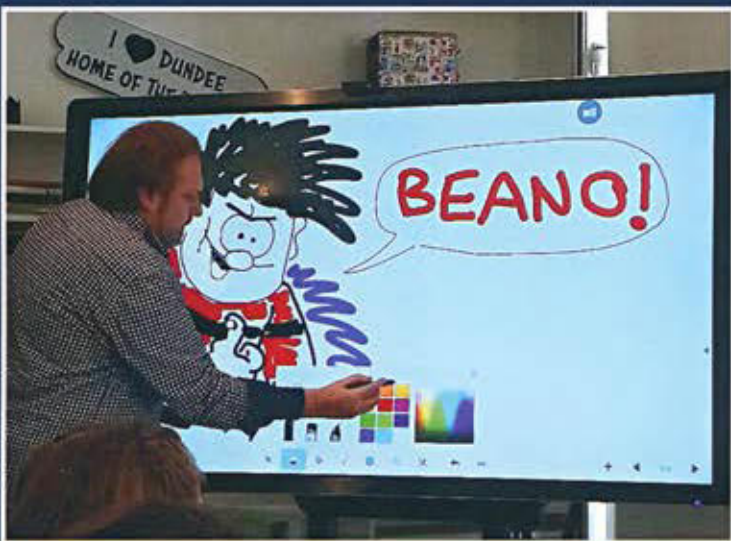
Beano Workshop @ McManus Galleries

On Wednesday 26 September Mrs Ross took 10 pupils over to McManus Galleries to take part in a hands-on practical workshop with the Beano Artist Nigel Parkinson.

During the workshop the pupils were given the opportunity to ask the artist questions and also watch him draw some of the many characters he is famous for drawing – Minnie the Minx, Dennis the Menace amongst others.

Pupils said of the workshop:

"I enjoyed the workshop because Nigel was able to draw the characters right in front of you and they looked just like the ones in the comic. I learnt that if you are drawing a face start with the nose as this is the quickest way to draw the face as the nose is central."



Cameron Gray and Freya Welch, both 1AY1 produced striking lino prints for the National Galleries Schools Competition. Their entries were shortlisted by the judging panel but unfortunately due to the 'fierce' competition this session, failed to make the final cut. The theme for this year's entries was 'water'- Freya's print of a skater on ice is stunningly simple and Cameron beautifully depicted a bear hunting for fish with lots of intricate details. Well done!



Cameron Gray



Freya Welch

Graphic Design Festival

Mrs Ross's Form 1 pupils worked on a graphic design project designing posters to raise awareness of topical issues. Three of the current Form 2 pupils were shortlisted as three of the 80 out of 1535 entries to be showcased in a celebratory exhibition as part of Scotland's largest design event Graphic Design Festival Scotland at the Lighthouse in Glasgow.

Young and Powerful was a national campaign empowering young people across Scotland to express their opinions and inspire their peer group with the power of design and communication in the Year of Young People 2018. All posters were judged by independent panels of creative leaders, young people and decision makers within age categories.

The three pupils who were shortlisted and part of the exhibition were Andrew Loveday, Angus Clark and Madeline Fraser who are now all in Form 2.

Young and Powerful's goals were driven by social aims:

- Celebrate Scotland's young people
- Engage young people with design and inspire creativity
- Showcase young talent in Scotland

- Build positive perception of young people
- Create new opportunities for young people
- Provide a platform for young people to have their views heard and acted upon and importantly, offer young people a stronger voice on issues that affect them.



Madeline Fraser



Angus Clark



Andrew Loveday

Nursery Music

On 18 February 2019 the children at HSD Nursery were treated to a music lesson with a difference. Mrs Stevenson introduced the children to the saxophone and the children performed their very own version of The Blue Danube Waltz by Johann Strauss. Joined by Mr John Letford, one of our Mayfield staff, the children enjoyed an interactive lesson on saxophone music before accompanying some jazzy saxophone music using a variety of percussion instruments.



Higher Art pupils used a breadth of inspiration for their expressive projects. Emily Baxter's talent for portraiture was evident as she perfectly captured the luminosity of her skin, using the most beautiful colour palette. Eve Jaron created several carefully observed self-portraits, all with a striking simplicity. Cameron Lyall and Ben Kidd's paintings of typical kitchen scenes were colourful and bold. Alicia Nesser, Jessica Ritchie and Holly McCarthy also all produced excellent still life paintings of objects of self-importance. Ellie Hunter-Franks composed an interesting arrangement of wartime memorabilia and depicted her subject sensitively. Sandy Bonnyman, Ellyn Monson and Sarah Spalding all succeeded in capturing a likeness with their self-portraits.



First World War Art Project

As part of its WW1 Centenary commemorations, the School displayed its Great War Portrait Exhibition on the walls of its main building - a collection of eight pieces of thought-provoking, original artwork produced by pupils in F6.

Having been asked to contemplate how their lives would have been different had they been teenagers during the time of WW1, the young artists came up with the idea of creating portraits which represent individuals or themes which they had come across in their research.

As a result, the pupils depicted on canvas their representations of soldiers in the Allied trenches lined with sandbags manufactured from jute made in Dundee; Canary Girls (women whose work in munitions factories turned their skin yellow); and the stigma of being accused of cowardice.

The striking artworks brought to light the wartime advertising promotion of makeup to the female community; the almost celebrity status enjoyed by 'Air Aces'; and the huge contribution made by the city of Dundee, including countless young men who joined up despite being under enlistment age, to the war effort.

Also represented were former pupils Sir James Alfred Ewing, who played a key role in the decoding of the Zimmermann Telegram which brought America into the War on the side of the Allies, and Annette Pattullo, who was awarded five medals on account of her outstanding military service throughout the Great War and, later, Mesopotamia.



1. 'Canary girls'

Oil on board

By Catriona Addison

The person depicted is Charlotte Sharpe (aged 17)

To help the war effort, many women worked in munitions factories, risking life and limb to supply ammunition to the frontline. This was dangerous work as they were prime targets for enemy fire, with sites routinely flattened by enemy bombs. Accidental explosions were also a problem. Explosions were not the only reason the work was dangerous. Working with the chemicals could lead to a number of serious illnesses such as jaundice (a liver disease). Even if the workers managed to evade illness, the effects of packing shells with trinitrotoluene (TNT) often lead to their skin turning yellow. This earned them a nickname of the 'Canary Girls'. Some workers were even known to give birth to bright yellow babies.

2. 'Codebreaker'

Acrylic on board

By Katie Bonnyman

The person depicted is Sir James Alfred Ewing (1885 - 1935)

On the 19th January 1917 a coded telegram was dispatched by Arthur Zimmermann, the German Foreign Secretary in Berlin. The message was sent to the German ambassador in Mexico, Heinrich von Eckardt. The telegram instructed Ambassador Eckardt that if the United States appeared certain to enter the war, he was to approach the Mexican Government with a proposal for military alliance with funding from Germany. The telegram was intercepted and

decoded by British intelligence. Revelation of the contents enraged the Americans and led to them joining the allied forces.

Former High School of Dundee pupil, Sir James Alfred Ewing helped decode the Zimmerman Telegram. He was a professor of mechanics and mechanical engineering at Japan, Dundee and Cambridge Universities. He led the 'Room 40' cryptanalysis unit that was tasked with deciphering German Telegrams.

3. 'Dundonian parapet'

Oil on board

By Sophie Duncan

The person depicted is Josh Brown-Cargill (aged 17)

On the Western Front, the war was fought in trenches. Trenches were long, narrow ditches dug into the ground where soldiers lived all day and night. They often built small sandbag walls at the sides to increase the depth of the trenches. These barriers were known as parapets. Sandbags were used so that bullets or flying shrapnel could not penetrate through. The sandbags used were often made out of jute. A large amount of this jute came from the jute mills of Dundee.

The phrase 'keep your head below the parapet' means avoid taking a risk. The soldiers would often attach a mirror to the bayonet on their rifle to see over, rather than risk putting their head above the parapet.

4. 'The white feather'

Oil on board

By Emily Beaton

The person depicted is Kane Miller (aged 17)

The white feather was a symbol of cowardice. During the 1st World War, men who remained at home were presented it in an attempt to shame them into enlisting. The Captain of the High School

of Dundee 1st XV in 1914 was William Pringle Laird. Though only 15 he enlisted in August 1914 before being sent off to the Gallipoli Campaign. Not long after Willie's 16th birthday he got 'berri berri' in the trenches and was invalided out to Malta. After recovering he returned to Dundee. Although still younger than the enlistment age some very thoughtless Dundonians showed him the four feathers and shouted at him.

This was just too much for young Willie, who asked an uncle in Broughty Ferry who worked in jute if he could get him a job anywhere in the world. The uncle found him a job in a tea planting with James Finlay, a Glasgow company.

The bold young man then set sail for South India around the Cape as no ships were allowed through the Med. He was still only 17 and he took to his new life of opening up the jungle to plant tea, made lifelong friends and never looked back.

5. Annette Pattullo'

Acrylic on board

By Alice Henderson

The person depicted is Kirsten Grant (aged 17)

Annette Pattullo was born in Broughty Ferry, Scotland, on 6 September 1887, and was educated at the Girls' High School, Dundee where she was a star of the school hockey team. Her father was a wholesale grain merchant, but both parents had died before the FWW. On leaving school she worked first as a governess before going into nursing. She trained at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, from 1 January 1908 to 1 January 1912, and subsequently applied to join the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and was accepted in 1913.

She served throughout the Great War in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military

Nursing Service, first with No. 12 General Hospital on the Western Front from 17 August 1914, and then various field hospitals and casualty clearing stations. In 1917 she returned to England for a spell and was promoted to Sister.

After the war ended she was posted to Mesopotamia in 1920 to the Base Isolation Unit, Basra, Iraq, where British troops were fighting Iraqi and Kurdish rebels over the control of the burgeoning oil industry. She then returned to the United Kingdom and resigned her position on 9 March 1921 on account of her forthcoming marriage. Her husband to be was one J Steele, civil service. For her services in Mesopotamia she was awarded the Royal Red Cross, 2nd Class.

Annette was the recipient of five medals in recognition of her loyal and excellent service throughout the FWW and in Mesopotamia. We have no record of what happened after her marriage but we hope she enjoyed a long and happy life.

6. Boy soldiers'

Oil on board

By Alex Mackintosh

The person depicted is Ross Davidson (aged 17)

The patriotic fervour that enveloped the country after the outbreak of World War 1 resulted in many young men enlisting. The rules for recruitment were simple, to enlist and fight abroad, you had to be nineteen or over (you could enlist at 18 but not serve abroad). Despite this, several Dundee men joined up and served before they turned 18. The outbreak of the First World War Great War created a national swelling of pride and many men and women committed to doing their "bit". It is estimated that 63% of the eligible men in Dundee joined the fight, equating to around 30,500 men. Dundee had one of the highest contribution

rates of any British city. Sadly, more than 4,213 of those men never returned to Dundee.

7. 'Ace'

Acrylic on board

By Rhea Wedderburn

The person depicted is Tom Constance (aged 17)

Aviation was an element of the First World War that was romanticised back home. 'Air aces' in particular achieved almost celebrity status both during and after the war as their photographs regularly appeared in newspapers.

The French first coined the term 'l'as' to describe the high-scoring fighter pilot Adolphe Pegoud and the expression stuck. The term 'ace' is generally taken to mean any fighter pilot credited with shooting down five or more enemy aircraft.

8. 'Blush'

Oil on board

By Lucy Macpherson

The person depicted is Ella Stanford (aged 15)

Before WWI, makeup was rarely used by women of 'polite society'. Altering one's appearance with powders and paints was often seen as taboo. As women started to pick up jobs that were previously occupied by their fathers and husbands many wanted to emphasise their feminine qualities as gender roles became less clear. Ads tapped into this feeling with copy like "Beauty on Duty Has a Duty to Beauty" circulating in newspapers. Women were warned about the evils of stress and strain that led to "war face," which could only be fought back with lotions and creams.

During World War advertisers promoted makeup as a symbol of strength within the female community, often implying it was their patriotic duty to look as glamorous as they could to boost morale.

Examples of Art & Design





Open Morning

N5 Hospitality pupils experienced a real life 'taster' of the hospitality industry where they prepared and served different canapés for prospective parents, producing over 1000! Very positive feedback was given from both staff and prospective parents.



The Rector's Reception

N5 Hospitality pupils were able to gain Hospitality work experience preparing a very impressive 900 canapés alongside Chartwells, the school caterers. Canapés were served to parents of HSD and staff at the Rector's Reception. Pupils found the experience rewarding and are hoping for more challenges like this in the future!



Rotary Chef and Future Chef

Pupils battled it out in the HSD HFT Dept to get through to the next stage of the Rotary and Future Chef competitions. A closely fought competition, with a fabulous array of dishes cooked made the judging very difficult. The Rotary Chef finalists chosen were Jan Van Der Kuyl, Tegan Ellis and Heather Grant who will compete in the District Round at Dundee and Angus college. Katie Tonks made it through for the third successive year to the Future Chef Final.

In the Future Chef final at Angus College, Arbroath, Katie Tonks was highly commended for her performance but unfortunately was piped to the post by a pupil from Forfar Academy. One of Katie's dishes cooked was a stunning dish of ballotine of chicken with a mushroom duxelles.

A closely fought Rotary Chef competition hosted by Dundee and Angus College saw Jan, Tegan and Heather produce 3 courses each. Although our pupils didn't win they demonstrated a wonderful array of skill including Jan cooking a spiced chicken leg with a sweet potato puree, Heather preparing Laska with prawn and chicken and Tegan, San Francisco seafood crab to name but a few dishes.



Design A Lunch

Take two teams of budding young chefs, mix with the challenge of cooking for over 350 pupils and a sought-after-title and what do you get? Design A Lunch!

For the fifth year as part of the F2 Curriculum, pupils carried out a Food Technology project in conjunction with Chartwells. Pupils learn about the stages in Food Product Development and design a dish suitable for lunch time service at the school Dining Hall. This year pupils prepared and served their dishes to both Junior and Senior Years, over 350 portions! Very positive feedback was received from F2 pupils, Chartwells, teaching staff and SLT.



Easter Nests

Pupils in L1 dressed to impress as they sported special bonnets as they arrived at the HSD Department as part of their Easter Challenge Day. The pupils rounded off their special day with a trip to the department making chocolate Easter nests. Pupils learnt about hygiene, safety, volume, weighing and measuring and food preparation. They appeared to thoroughly enjoy their visit and taking their Easter nests home.



Tunnock's Teacake Challenge

N5 Hospitality pupils have enjoyed the culinary challenge of garnishing a Tunnock's Teacake as part of their Practical Cookery N5 course. While on placement in the department Daniel Bryant, former Head Chef and Honours Student at Abertay University helped to lead the lesson where he was able to showcase and demonstrate the skills required. Pupils were then given the opportunity to put their creativity to the test and impressed staff with their superb garnishing skills.



Flatbread Report

On Thursday, 2 May 2019, L3 visited Mrs Anderson and Mrs Ross in the Home Economics Department to make Egyptian flatbreads. First, we hung our coats up and put on aprons and Egyptian hats. Then, we got our ingredients of yoghurt and flour which we had to mix together to make a dough. Next, we kneaded the dough to form the flatbread. After, we put our flatbreads in the oven to bake then we washed our hands. Finally, we decorated some bags with Egyptian writing then we put our baked flatbreads in them. On the way home, we devoured our delicious baking.



Public Speaking Competition 2019



The final of the Junior Years Public Speaking Competition took place in Trinity Hall on the evening of Tuesday 26th February. In total, there were nine competitors from L4-L7. Each recited two poems and wrote a short speech on the night, from a selection of topics. The adjudicator was Ms Jasmine Cortazzi, Head of English from the Senior School. After much deliberation, Ms Cortazzi decided to award a Commendation to Krish Akula, the Robbie Prize for runner-up went to Harry Groome and the Stark Cup was awarded to Emily Macdonald. The standard was, as always, very high and all the children should be very proud of their performances.

L3 Poetry Competition

Sincere congratulations go to Sofia Maunder who won the L3 Poetry Competition earlier this year.

Sofia was a very worthy winner. The competition comprises two preliminary rounds and a final. Our adjudicator, Ms McFarlane was charmed by her performance. She commented, 'Sofia was fantastic! She enjoyed the competition and connected with the audience. Her voice was clear and she was expressive; she conveyed the sense of the poem very well.'

Sofia is pictured alongside our runner-up, Jamie Thomson.



L4S Assembly

The L4s had thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Romans in class and so decided to focus on aspects of Roman life and the army for their assembly. Great fun was had in the learning of lines and demonstrating army formations to the audience.





Nativity Play 2018

'The Magical Christmas Box!'

I am very relieved to report that our youngest pupils managed to piece together the true meaning of Christmas!

Pupils in L1, L2 and L3 took parents and older pupils on a fun-filled adventure through their Nativity play, 'The Magical Christmas Box!'

Brother and sister, Andrew and Sarah were excited to receive a gift from their grandparents - a special box with magical powers. This led them to collect the pieces of a Christmas jigsaw and involved a number of festive characters including Santa, Rudolf, elves, snowmen and carol singers, to name but a few.

The clock was ticking towards December 25th and the young duo were in a race against time. As you may expect, the last piece was to be found under a special manger in Bethlehem and the puzzle was complete before the break of Christmas Day!

This was a magical show and one of my favourites! Pupils in L1, L2 and L3 were fantastic; they experienced the excitement of performing and enthralled the audience.

I'm delighted to announce that we raised £1800 for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) the Edinburgh Children's Hospital and the Suswa Girls Rescue Centre in Kenya. My sincere thanks go to the High School community for their unending generosity in support of these wonderful charities.

CEP







Music

India Simpson at the Great War Centenary Concert

Performance Platforms

At the end of most Thursdays in term-time, pupils can take part in our Performance Platform concerts. These informal recitals are an amazing opportunity for anyone who is learning to play a musical instrument in or out of school to gain valuable performing experience. They take place in various locations around the school, most usually in Trinity Hall. Pupils also receive advice and positive feedback on their performance by the Director of Music or another member of the Music Department staff. This year has seen around 130 pupils perform a variety of pieces on various instruments as soloists and in small ensembles.

SA

Senior Music Competition

The school's first major musical event of the year was the Senior Music Competition, an opportunity for individual instrumentalists and vocalists of Grade 5 level and above to perform, which took place in November. The graded classes extended over a day and a half with 72 separate entries from players of orchestral instruments, drumkit, guitar, piano and voice. The performers were supported by friends, family and members of staff from across the school who came to watch and show their appreciation of the work and resolve the pupils had shown. Dr Tim Ridley, Director of Music at Glenalmond

College, Perthshire, adjudicated the competition, giving warm and humorous comments, praising the pupils for their engagement with music and their wish to share it. One pupil, Hamish Petrie (F3), scored a double win both for the Grade 5 Brass and Grade 6 Guitar classes. Dr Ridley then passed the baton to Mr David Elliot, Director of Music at George Watson's College, Edinburgh. Mr Elliot judged the Premier Quaich – an evening concert given by winners of the Open Classes in the main competition. This was a sparkling event given by musicians of Grade 8 and over, presenting ten varied programmes including composers from Bach and Gluck to Gershwin and Kate Bush. Laura Murphy (F6) was given third place for her compelling singing, James McFadyen (F5) was placed second, and the Premier Quaich was presented to Ruairidh Cowieson (F6), who had performed on both voice and percussion, for his whirlwind demonstration of marimba playing – a new treat for many of the audience.

JKP

1918 – One Hundred Years: A Commemorative Concert

The Chamber Orchestra, with guest musicians, singers and readers, were delighted to be part of "HSD Remembers," an event commemorating the centenary of the conclusion of the Great War of 1914-18. The concert took place in Trinity Hall the day before the

school's Armistice Parade, presenting a narrative of the main battles of 1918, with readings and letters from serving soldiers and nurses alongside children's poems presenting the view of the War at home. There was music after each reading. All performers gave a thought-provoking and highly moving account, with words, images and music of a war where 58,000 British soldiers were lost on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, and overall 8 million personnel were killed and 21 million injured through the course of the conflict.

GS

Rotary Young Musician Competitions

The Rotary Young Musician of the Year competition began as usual in November with the Dundee Rotary Clubs' initial competition for pupils at schools in Dundee and Monifieth. Singers and instrumentalists compete for separate awards as "Dundee Rotary Young Musician of the Year." Three High School vocalists, Ailsa Macdonald, Emily McLean and Laura Murphy (all F6), and instrumentalist Kirstin Petrie (F5, violoncello) won places in the District 1010 (Scotland North) round in Kinross. The High School was only school to have more than one pupil participating at this level, marking another great year of achievement for our pupils in this competition.

LSSF

Cantabile Joint Choral Evensong with St Paul's Cathedral Choir

On Sunday 18 November, the school's elite choir, Cantabile, sang a full Choral Evensong in St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee alongside members of their resident choir. Included among the choral scholars of St Paul's choir are two High School pupils. Cantabile took the extensive programme of music in their stride, singing an introit, responses, plainchant psalm, Magnificat and Nunc dimittis (to Sumsion's setting in G), and an anthem: Bob Chilcott's "Be thou my vision," featuring Laura Murphy (F6) in a solo role. The cathedral musicians and clergy much enjoyed the service, and the pupils in Cantabile were well rewarded for their hard work with many words of congratulation and welcome refreshments after the service.

LSSF



L6-7 Choir



Concert Band and EJT



Emily McLean and Girls Choir

Autumn Concert

Over 300 pupils from L4 to F6 participated in this major event in the school's calendar at the end of November. There was no overarching theme to the concert, but the repertoire was wide-ranging, with something to cater to all tastes. The Girls' Choir paid tribute to the late Aretha Franklin by singing a medley of her greatest hits, and the L6-7 Choir and Concert Band continued in a similar vein with arrangements of well-known spirituals. Other music from the United States was represented by the L4-5 Choir's singing songs from the musical "Annie"; the combined Girls' Choir, Boys' Choir and Big Band performing Earth, Wind and Fire's "September"; and the Symphonic Band performing John Sousa's march, "The Thunderer" alongside musical highlights from the film "La La Land". British music was represented by Sinfonia's performing Adele's "Skyfall" and the Symphony Orchestra giving a rare performance of Alice Mary Smith's Symphony No. 1,

written in 1863. This last work was the first symphony by a British woman to have been composed and performed in the United Kingdom. The audience's generous donations allowed us to raise close to £1,500 for Alzheimer Scotland.

LSSF

Cabaret

After the success of the Senior Years' production of "Fiddler on the Roof" in June 2018, a group of F5-6 pupils were keen to be involved in a Musical Theatre project again in the 2018-19 session. After multiple conversations with staff and pupils, it was agreed that the Department would produce a "Cabaret" concert featuring well-known solo songs and chorus numbers from popular musicals.

Rehearsals began with F3-6 pupils in October with a blank canvas of possibilities and no plan of what songs should be in the cabaret. After a short and informal round of auditions for solo singers, and with a now forty-

strong cast, Mr Tonner and Miss Mawhinney started drafting a plot, script, dance routines and songs to stage our own mini-musical in Trinity Hall at the beginning of the Spring term. The musical was made up of solo songs from shows such as "Hamilton", "Legally Blonde", "Cabaret", and "Chicago", and chorus numbers from shows such as "Rent", "Sister Act", "All Shook Up" and "Hairspray". The songs were also orchestrated for a live seven-piece band made up of staff from the Music Department. The Cabaret concert was such a success that it was agreed that it would be run again at the end of March for all pupils in F1-2, followed by another performance for the public.

EJT

Music Medals

Our younger violin, viola and bassoon pupils have continued to enjoy achieving ABRSM Music Medals this year. The recording of a solo and ensemble piece made with their teacher or a friend is fun to do and gives the pupils a goal outwith the more formal experience of graded exams. This year, eight medals of all colours from Copper upwards have been awarded, with Nina van der Kuyl (L6) attaining the top Platinum Medal. The young musicians have had fun interpreting such imaginative pieces as "Red Hot Chilli Peppers" and "Fridges Invaded the City".

JKP

Music Exams

The ABRSM is the UK's largest music education body, one of its largest music publishers and the world's leading provider of music exams, offering assessments to over 600,000 candidates in over 90 countries every year.



Laura Murphy and Alex Fish



Cabaret cast

Pupils in all instruments and at all levels continue to challenge themselves by entering to take an ABRSM music practical or theory exam. These exams are held in the Music Department. The school hosted over 160 candidates in the 2018/19 session with a 100% pass rate. In well over half of these cases, pupils achieved passes at Merit and Distinction. In the Summer Term 2019, the pupils achieved 66% of passes at Merit and Distinction, and 34% at Distinction (bear in mind that the worldwide average is a high pass). Laura Murphy (F6) achieved Distinction at Grade 8 Singing, Aisling Ellis (F6) a Merit in the diploma-level ARSM in clarinet, and Toluwani Idowu (F4) achieved an astonishingly high mark of 145/150 in Grade 5 Singing.

In Trinity College London Music Exams, Kirstin Petrie (F5) achieved Distinction at Grade 8 Violoncello. A further seven pupils received one pass, five merits and one distinction at Grades 6-8. In addition, pupils achieved 6 Merits and 1 Pass in Rockscool and Trinity Rock & Pop exams.

SA

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Traditional Music Exams

The Scottish Fiddle exams took place over two days in December 2018, with Mr Hugh McGilp from Glasgow as our examiner. The Grades ranged from 1 to 5 (the highest Grade available), with disciplines in scales and arpeggios, aural tests on the fiddle, the choice of sight reading, or playing from ear, as well as repertoire spanning from seventeenth-century composers to the present day. Pupils are required to play different styles of repertoire, and from Grade 2 they are required to do two stand-alone pieces, as well as a medley of two to four pieces depending on the grade.

The students performed very well on the day and were rewarded with 2 Passes, 6 Merits and 12 Distinctions.

Out of a total of 150 marks, Olivia MacLellan (F3) and Jonah Phillipson-Masters (F2) were awarded 141 and 144 marks in Grade 3, Anna Kerr (F4) awarded 142 in Grade 4, and Ailsa Macdonald (F6) 145 in Grade 5, which were amongst top marks in Scotland in 2018.

GS



Chamber Orchestra backstage at the Caird Hall

Cantabile visited Bridge View House close to Magdalen Green, as well as the Dundee West District Housing Office to celebrate Christmas with the residents and day visitors by performing carols and other seasonal music.

GS & LSSF

Christmas Charity Performances

The High School's customary musical contribution to charities and local residential care homes at Christmas began with the Chamber Orchestra's performance at the CLIC Sargent Carol Concert in the Caird Hall on 6 December. After a selection of pre-concert carols, the Orchestra performed "Ding Dong Merrily on High", "The Skater's Waltz", and "In the Bleak Mid-winter" with vocal soloist Laura Murphy (F6), and finished the first half in the Christmas spirit with "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town". This is such a wonderful Christmas event supporting CLIC Sargent for children with cancer, with the Chamber Orchestra being joined by organist Stuart Muir, the Mike Bennett Brass Ensemble, the East Fife Male Voice Choir and the Tayside and Fife Health Services and Friends Choir.

Festive Fundraising Concert for the MAC

The school's Campaign Concert returned in December under a fresh name to raise funds for the new Centre of Excellence for Performing and Visual Arts - the MAC (Meadowside Arts Centre). The proximity to Christmas provided ample excuse to let loose lots of seasonal favourites, and the

capacity audience in Trinity Hall were treated to "Rudolph" by Tutti Strings, "White Christmas" by the Clàrsach Ensemble, "Let it Snow" by the Brass Ensemble, "Winter Wonderland" by String Sinfonietta and "Good King Wenceslas" by Little Heifetz - all bedecked with plenty of tinsel. The Bream and Segovia Guitar Ensembles and the Wind Ensemble brought gentle reflection to the proceedings, and an appearance was made by the school's Percussion Ensemble with an exciting array of instruments. The evening was begun and concluded by the Senior Big Band, who sent the audience out into the night air singing "Here Comes Santa Claus". The concert was a fun and heart-warming occasion, and, thanks to the enthusiastic and generous audience, raised over £1,100 for the MAC.

JKP

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols took place in St Paul's Cathedral on 13 December. Beginning with music before the service performed by the Brass Ensemble and the Chamber Orchestra, both these groups then joined the choirs and congregation for the seasonal carols. The service itself was framed by different versions of the Lutheran Christmas hymn "Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her", with Cantabile singing Praetorius's early seventeenth-century version at the opening, and the concluding organ voluntaries encompassing two different elaborations of the melody from the 17th and 20th centuries. Nathan Ogston (L7) sang the unaccompanied first verse of "Once in Royal David's

City,” and there followed the Christmas story told in nine bible readings by pupils in each of L7 to F6, Col. McAdam, and the Rector. Interspersed with these, the L6-7 Choir, Boys’ Choir, Girls’ Choir and Cantabile sang a variety of seasonal items culminating in Adolphe Adam’s “O Holy Night,” with the Chamber Orchestra joining forces with Cantabile and the organ, and Laura Murphy (F6) singing the extensive first-verse solo. We are very grateful to the Provost of the Cathedral, the Very Rev’d Jeremy Auld, for allowing us to celebrate Christmas in St Paul’s.

LSSF

Junior Music Competition

Our Junior School musicians look forward to their annual solo instrumental and vocal competition in February. Classes extend from Grade One to Open (Grade Four and above) and attracted 84 entries on fifteen different instruments as well as voice. The pupils treated audiences of family and friends to classical, folk, jazz, rock and extracts from musicals, showing warm support for one another and using the opportunity to hone their stagecraft and performing experience. Many of them had not seen each other play before and enjoyed discovering what their friends could do. Each performer was given feedback by the adjudicators, Dr Stuart Fotheringham and Mr Tonner, and all left with their congratulations for the pupils’ hard work and performances. Arya Sanu (L6) achieved two first prizes, for Grade Three Strings and the Old Girls’ Prize for Piano; Fergus Stubbings-Tilley (L6) and Cameron Brown (L7) were the winners of the Open Classes for Guitar and Strings respectively.

JKP

Piano Days

The annual Senior Years’ Piano Day took place in February this year. It is a non-competitive event and intended for anyone who can play the piano at any ability. The piano is not a main orchestral instrument, so Piano Day is an opportunity for pianists to get together and share the love of the instrument not possible in other concerts. It helps boost performance skills and give inspiration to younger players. Anyone can come to listen. There were day classes for individual

year groups, and an evening recital in which 38 pupils performed. This year, music ranged from “Beauty and the Beast” to Rachmaninov, as well as featuring pupils’ own compositions. Everyone gets to perform on the wonderfully sensitive Yamaha C5 grand piano in Trinity, which is moved into the centre of the hall for the occasion.

Daniel Higgins (F1)

Piano Day is an annual diary fixture which has featured prominently in my life since starting school. Sadly, my first attempt (in 2014 - I was in L7) was a complete disaster; I walked up to the piano, heart thumping and fingers shaking. I started to play. And I started again; stopped - and once more I tried to play the piece I’d sweated over in the previous weeks in anticipation of this performance. Failure - I stood up and walked back to my seat without playing another note.

So it was with some trepidation that I agreed to play this year. Leaving nothing to chance, I memorised the jazz piece Mr Armstrong had taught me and practised it until I could play it in my sleep. This year I was incredibly happy with the way I performed: I think it was the best I had ever played. Whilst this was about playing a piece for piano at a concert and showing the talent that our school has to offer, it was far more meaningful for me. It meant that I’d moved on from a bad experience – that I’d gained confidence about my own ability. I’ve learned that if you practise hard at something, you will be able to do it even in stressful situations. I also learned that, if you put your mind to something, you can overcome extreme nerves and challenges, such that I now know I can stand in front of strangers and not be intimidated. Indeed, I would go as far as to say that I enjoyed performing with my friends this year – I put my initial disaster behind me and walked off the stage a stronger, happier person to the applause from the audience, and I felt good!

Flory Speed (F5)

Our Junior Years’ Piano Day event involved pianists from L3 upwards in a day of performance classes attended by parents, friends and L1-L6 classes, who thoroughly enjoyed the variety of the solo performances. All High School pianists were invited whether they have their lessons in school or privately, which promotes a friendly, shared environment for performance and shows the relaxed confidence

our pianists present as they enjoy the occasion.

This year’s L3 recital focused on the links between Art and Music; all ten pianists sketched or painted their rendition of the piece performed. These designs were also shown on screen during the evening recital. Our young pianists were in good company, as the French composer Claude Debussy said “I love pictures almost as much as music”.

Two of our young pianists reflected on their experience of “Piano: 19”

Sophia Zhou (L3) said: “I liked Piano Day because everybody was watching our show and I enjoyed it very much. I loved the bit when I played ‘Baby Shark’, and the drawings that we did.”

Zara King (L7) said: “I liked Piano Day because it gave us all a chance to show others what we have learned as well as our favourite pieces.”

AWE

Preparatory Schools’ Strings Day

On Friday 1 March, Mrs Petrie and Miss Simpson set off for Kilgraston School with twenty-seven keen young string players in L4-L7. They were going to meet players from nine other schools for a Prep Schools’ Strings Day, and what a day! The players started off by splitting into groups to learn fun warm-ups using singing and movement and to play all sorts of different pieces from swashbuckling pirate themes to enchanted fairy pieces and folk tunes. We were made really welcome with everyone’s favourite, lasagne, for lunch, and fun drama and games sessions. The day ended with a short concert, bringing all the players together – all 192 of them! As Kilgraston’s Director of Music (and former High School Brass Instructor) Jason McAuley put it: “who else can say they have played in an orchestra of 192?” Our pupils showed their musical, listening, reading and friendship skills throughout the day, and enjoyed seeing how other people play and rehearse. The pupils left at the end of the day with lots of positive comments: “I loved it, it was great – I got to play violin all day” - Emily; “A good way to play with others and have fun at the same time” – Skye; “It was exciting that there were so many people there” – Caroline; “I liked the pieces we played” – Anna and Diya; and “can we do it again next year?” – Eilidh.

JKP

Jazz Soirée

In March, the Music Department held its annual "Jazz Soirée" in Trinity Hall. The Soirée, led by Mr Tonner, was an eclectic mix of Jazz and Light Music featuring the Big Band, directed by Mr Love. They performed many great jazz-band charts including "Humanism" and "I Made It Through The Rain". It was also an opportunity for some of the school's talented singers to perform with the Big Band and a jazz combo especially formed for the occasion, singing hit songs such as "La Vie en Rose" and "Route 66".

Aside from the Big Band, there were a number of soloists, including Finlay De Vale (F3) performing one of his own songs, and Lewis Clark (F6) performing an extensive piano solo involving improvisation. The programme also featured two debut groups at the Soirée: Miss Simpson led a string group playing Michael Nyman's "Time Lapse" and "One Hand, One Heart" from Bernstein's "West Side Story". Both pieces were a great addition to the Jazz Soirée programme, creating a nice contrast to the Big Band. The other debut group consisted of members of the Pipe Band and the Brass Ensemble, who performed Mr Tonner's composition "When the Devils Meet". This piece was performed the following week at the Scottish Schools' Pipe Band Championships in Livingston and provided the pipers, drummers and brass ensemble an opportunity to have a practice run before the competition.

EJT

Festival of Chamber Music

March saw the return of the Festival of Chamber Music embracing both the Dvořák and Southgate Prizes. The Dvořák Prize is for ensembles made up of pupils from F1 to F4; it is now in its second year, and attracted five chamber groups comprising piano, string and wind players as well as a clàrsach player. The groups included a pleasing number of F1 musicians who had chosen to take part by selecting music to rehearse and perform with their friends. The pieces spanned several styles from arrangements of traditional folk melodies to music from "Game of Thrones". The prize was awarded to Rose Ryan (F3), Jessica Chen (F2), Aidan Fullerton (F4) and Daniel Higgins (F1) who gave an expressive performance of 'The Night-Shade' by

Scottish composer James Oswald. The second half of the evening comprised the Southgate Prize for pupils of up to F6. The audience enjoyed performances from both a violoncello trio and a violin trio, in addition to the winning clarinet quartet of Anna Hudson (F6), Aisling Ellis (F6), Maya Donald (F3) and Alex Fish (F5), who gave a sparkling account of "March of the Little Tin Soldiers" by Gabriel Pierné. The competitions were adjudicated by Simon Graham from Erskine Stewart's Melville Schools. He greatly enjoyed the evening and complimented all the musicians on their courage in performance and team spirit.

JKP

Spring Concert

325 pupils joined forces to present an all-encompassing concert in the Caird Hall in the middle week of March. Featuring a new-look programme booklet, the concert brought together a wide variety of styles and connecting themes. These included "water", with "Clouds" from the L4-5 Choir, Sinfonia performing Handel's "Water Music"; "What shall we do with the Drunken Sailor"; and "Under The Sea" from Disney's "The Little Mermaid"; and the Pipe and Drums performing "The Duck". This year, the Pipes and Drums mustered a grand total of 55 musicians, 22 more than last year, for an overwhelming performance of the ever-popular "Highland Cathedral". Cantabile performed an arrangement of young British jazz sensation Jacob Collier's song "Hideaway" to a piano duet accompaniment, and the Symphony Orchestra closed the first half with Scottish composer Patrick Doyle's music for "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" and an arrangement of tunes by Duke Ellington.

The American theme continued in the second half of the concert with the combined Girls' and Boys' Choirs singing songs by Carole King and Cyndi Lauper, the L6-7 Choir presenting a well-known Shaker melody set to the lyrics of "Lord of the Dance", and the Symphonic Band performing highlights from the recent Hollywood musical "The Greatest Showman". The Band concluded the evening with a return to Europe with the rousing "Spanish Parade Sequence".

LSSF

National Youth Choirs of Scotland

The National Youth Choir of Scotland (NYCoS) was founded in 1996 to provide opportunities for young people, teachers and choir directors to support and develop choral singing throughout Scotland. There are 14 NYCoS Regional Choirs across Scotland, and here at the High School we are delighted to host the weekly rehearsals of the local NYCoS Dundee Regional Choir. One of our own High School staff, Mrs Stevenson, is among the team training the one hundred-or-so young people in the Dundee Regional Choir, which includes twenty-six High School pupils.

The National Youth Choir of Scotland has four National Choirs, providing singing opportunities at the highest level: the National Youth Choir of Scotland for singers aged 18-25 years; the NYCoS Training Choir for singers aged 16-19 years; the NYCoS National Boys' Choir for singers aged 10-16 years; and the NYCoS National Girls' Choir for singers aged 12-16 years. Six of our pupils are in the National Girls' Choir this year, and one further pupil in the NYCoS Training Choir: these have residential courses during the Easter holidays and give concerts across the country. This year, Laura Murphy (F6) was once again accepted into the National Youth Choir of Scotland itself, a rare honour for someone of her age, and she has performed music by Berlioz with the world-renowned Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique and the orchestra Les Siècles in the Carnegie Hall, New York, and the Philharmonie in Paris this session.

EMJS & LSSF

National Youth Orchestras of Scotland

During this year we have had a number of pupils participating in The National Youth Orchestra of Scotland for the celebration of its 40th anniversary. I played my 'cello in the Senior Orchestra course of early April under the brilliant Greek conductor Dionysis Grammenos. I loved the repertoire because, even though a couple of our pieces are well known, such as Dmitri Shostakovich's "Festive Overture" and Edvard Grieg's "Im Herbst" (In Autumn), I had never had the opportunity to play them before. I was also introduced to Alexander Glazunov's Fourth Symphony

and a movement from Dmitry Kabelevsky's Second Symphony, which both sounded sensational with such a young but talented orchestra. The concert was the highlight of the course as, after five days of intensive rehearsals at Strathallan School, we had a chance to showcase our hard work in the wonderful Glasgow City Halls. The Summer course takes place in July, and I am so excited to play new repertoire and work with Dionysis again. NYOS has been an excellent opportunity for me and so many other young people to make friends with a strong musical bond, and I feel my musical level has been challenged and improved due to the very talented staff and family-feel community around me.

Violinist Daniel Higgins (F1) took part in the Junior Orchestra course in April. After five days of hard work, he performed with them in the New Auditorium at The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. This year's conductor was Jon Hargreaves, who worked with the group to produce a varied programme of pieces including the first two movements from Dvorak's Eighth Symphony, and Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 5, as well as music by Debussy, Delius, Malcolm Arnold and Elizabeth Maconchy. As ever, April Fools' jokes were carried out, including attaching clothes pegs to people's hair and turning everyone's music upside down. Daniel enjoyed working with such a talented orchestra and looks forward to the summer course in July.

Three more of our string players, Caris Hamilton (L7), Amy Leburn (L7) and Amy Paterson (F2), attended the NYOS Training Strings Ensemble at Kilgraston last July. They worked for four days under conductor Roddy Long, learning repertoire, musical games and musicianship, culminating in a showcase concert for family and friends.

Kirstin Petrie (F5)

Brass Ensemble

The Brass Ensemble, led by Mr Tonner, has had a busy year performing at many new events within and outwith the school. At the beginning of the academic year the Brass Ensemble were out around the school grounds, entertaining new and prospective pupils and parents at the School Open Morning. Later in the session, they were also invited to perform by Pastoral Musician, Stuart Muir, at St Paul's

Cathedral. The first event saw the group perform a selection of fanfares for the official opening ceremony of the new £220,000 lighting at the Cathedral. After the success and impact of the group at this event, they were invited to take part in the Cathedral's Easter Sunday Service. This was a magnificent event and highlight of the Cathedral's calendar.

Members of the Brass Ensemble have also been involved in two competitions this year. In March, fifteen members of the group took part in the highly competitive solo brass classes at the Arbroath Music Festival. Every soloist performed very well and developed their performing skills by taking part and listening to other pupils from other schools. Fraser Smith (F3) was awarded third place in the aged 12-15 class. Later in March, the Ensemble also joined up with members of the Pipe Band to compete at the Scottish Schools' Pipe Band Championships in the freestyle section. This was a fascinating opportunity for the Brass Ensemble to be a part of the championships, and gave all pupils and staff a great appreciation of each musical discipline.

EJT

Arbroath Music Festival

In addition to the success of our brass-playing pupils at the Arbroath Music Festival in March, Megan Cant and Emily Reid (both F3) won a total of six prizes between them for their performances. Emily won for her singing of traditional song "Fidgety Bairn" and also for "I Dreamed A Dream" from "Les Misérables". Megan won not only the 12-15 age group for vocal solo, but also the under-18 class, performing a variety of classical songs. She also triumphed in the Grade 5 Vocal Recital and Light Popular Music categories, singing "Just You Wait" from "My Fair Lady" for the latter.

LSSF

Spring Strings Soirée

The Spring String Soirée took place in Trinity Hall under the theme of "Scandi Sessions: Red, White, and Blue". The first concert of the evening showcased the talents of Tutti Strings, Little Heifetz, String Sinfonietta, and the Clàrsachs. There were also highlights from the recent Dvořák Prize for Chamber Music, with three of the groups performing, including the winners playing "Aria" and "Hornpipe" from the Scottish eighteenth-century composer James Oswald's "Airs for the Seasons". Other groups provided music from "Game of Thrones" and a Concertino by Haydn. Tutti Strings, Little Heifetz and String Sinfonietta played a selection of music under the "Red, White, and Blue" theme with music from France, Britain, Scandinavia and America, while the Clàrsachs combined a modern composition from Shetland with traditional reel, "The Ale is Dear".

The Chamber Orchestra plus guest musicians and singers performed a magical evening of music from Scandinavia, France, Great Britain and America in the second concert of the evening. The music ranged from Scandinavian fairy tales in "Five Sheep and Four Goats" from Denmark, Swedish pieces by Johan Helmich Roman, and from Norway, the "Holberg Suite" by Edvard Grieg and "Take on Me" by A-ha, with vocal soloist Ruairidh Cowieson (F6). The Chamber Orchestra performed pieces by John Dowland ("My Lady Hunssdon's Puffe"), Coldplay's "Viva La Vida", and Maurice Ravel's "Pavane for a Dead Infanta". The "Red, White, and Blue" theme gave singers Emily McLean (F6) and Fraser Houston (F4) and guitarists Selina Powell and Euan Macmillan (both F4) the opportunity to perform "Skyfall" and "An Englishman In New York", with Aisling Ellis (F6) on clarinet playing the Branford Marsalis arrangement in the second piece. Musicians Ruairidh Cowieson, Fraser Smith (F3), Fraser Houston and Ailsing Ellis joined the Chamber Orchestra in "Skyfall"; Michael Nyman's "Time-Lapse" and "4'33"; a three-movement composition by American composer John Cage. The violoncellists Kirstin Petrie (F5), Sarah Boyle (F6) and Alasdair Richmond (F5) then continued the Stars-and-Stripes theme by playing the famous "Largo" from the "New World Symphony" by Dvořák, followed by singers Laura Murphy and Ailsa MacDonald (both F6) singing "One Hand, One Heart" from "West Side Story", composed by Leonard Bernstein.

GS

Leng Medal Competitions

The Sir John Leng Trust annual Silver and Gold Medal competitions were well attended by pupils from both Junior and Senior school, all of whom enjoy performing an unaccompanied traditional Scottish Song. Nathan Ogston (L7) was the winner of the Leng Silver medal in the Junior Years' competition with a rendition of "Ae Fond Kiss" by Robert Burns. Sneha Sripada (F3) won the Senior Years' Girls' Competition with a performance of "Ca' the Yowes"; and Neil Bhat the Boys' Silver Medal for singing the "Skye Boat Song". All current Leng Silver medal holders were then invited to compete in the Leng Gold Medal competition in the Bell Street Music Centre, with separate competitions for girls and boys. The High School gained further success with Nathan Ogston winning the Gold Medal for Boys, one of only three pupils at Primary level to win a Gold Medal in the last fifteen years. The High School has had pupils win the Gold Medal competition for six out of the last seven years! Well done to all the fantastic singers!

LSSF

Guitar Day

Guitar Day in late April is a performance opportunity for the sixty-or-so pupils at the High School who learn the classical, acoustic, electric and bass guitar. The pupils gave performance classes to their peers during the school day, allowing them the opportunity to experience the act of performance in more relaxed circumstances before the Evening Recital. For this, the Segovia (Senior Years) and Bream (Junior Years) guitar ensembles performed alongside many solo and duet items. The range of repertoire for the guitar is one of the widest available to any instrument, and the programme encompassed music from the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries, with European dances, studies, and character pieces alongside rock music of the 1970s and the present day.

LSSF

Music in May

The annual "Music in May" concert took place in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 14 May. The concert featured various groups and ensembles predominantly made up of pupils in L5-

F3 providing a platform for the pupils to display their hard work over the months prior to the event.

There were many excellent performances from the ensembles involved, including Little Heifetz, the Brass Ensemble, the Clàrsach Ensemble, String Sinfonietta, the Percussion Ensemble and the Concert Band. The school's Leng Silver medal winners performed their prize-winning songs, and Leng Gold medal winner Nathan Ogston (L7) treated the audience to a rendition of "Ae Fond Kiss". The concert was also an opportunity to display the four pupils that won the school's Dvořák Prize, as they were all members of the Scottish Baroque Orchestra led by Gill Simpson. The Scottish Baroque Orchestra performed a work by James Oswald titled "Autumn Suite No. 3, 'The Night Shade'", with one of the movements played by the prizewinners.

EJT

Pipe Bands

CCF Piping and Drumming Events

The High School took three groups to the Trios and Quartets competition at Glenalmond College in November, and also entered ten soloists in the Piping and Drumming competitions at Strathallan School in June. Our pupils performed creditably against stiff competition, particularly from Dollar Academy and George Heriot's School, with Liam Brown (F3) and Robbie Coupar (F6) achieving fifth and sixth place in Senior Piping behind players from those schools. Meanwhile, the High School's Competition Band was placed second in the Confined Band section of the Pipe Band Competition at Strathallan, an excellent result to close our term-time competing season.

RSPBA Pipe Band events

Following on from our debut year in 2018, the band has gone from strength to strength for the 2019 season. The band moved up the ladder at the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships, gaining ninth place overall, and moving up significantly from our placing last year. Competing in our local indoor competition for the first time, the band secured a first place in the mini-band and full-band sections, a huge achievement in such a short space of time. We have also achieved 3rd place in the Dundee City Competition and 2nd

place in the Markinch Highland Games competitions. As the Pipe Major, it is wonderful to see the pupils reacting so well to this very new, very intimidating environment with such bravery, a testament to all the hard work put in by pupils at home and in school. We have still to complete this year's round of competitions that will see the band fly the HSD flag at the World Pipe Band Championships in August for the very first time. This will be a wonderful experience and something they will no doubt remember for the rest of their lives.

School Engagements

This year had to be one of the busiest yet with twenty-four engagements organised throughout the year. The school Pipe Band has become an integral part of Dundee University's graduation ceremony, with the band playing for thousands of graduates over seven separate ceremonies. We are always aiming to give the pupils as much performing experience as possible, which they always get a buzz out of, as well as the crowd. The Band has invested in new B-flat chanters, allowing the pipers to perform with orchestral musicians and opening up a completely new experience that has seen the band perform with string groups, singers, the Brass Ensemble and the Chamber Orchestra this year alone. This has enhanced the Pipe Band's musicianship skills, showcasing a new setting in which to hear this great instrument. This is something that we will continue to do and should make for some interesting collaborations going forward. The Band is expanding at a fast rate, with the senior pupils mentoring junior pupils, giving the feeling of a Pipe Band community. It is amazing to see the Band in full flight and the joy that the pupils get from performing as part of it. Thank you to all family, friends and supporters for helping this project grow over the last few years. It really does feel exciting to be part of it.

DWSW



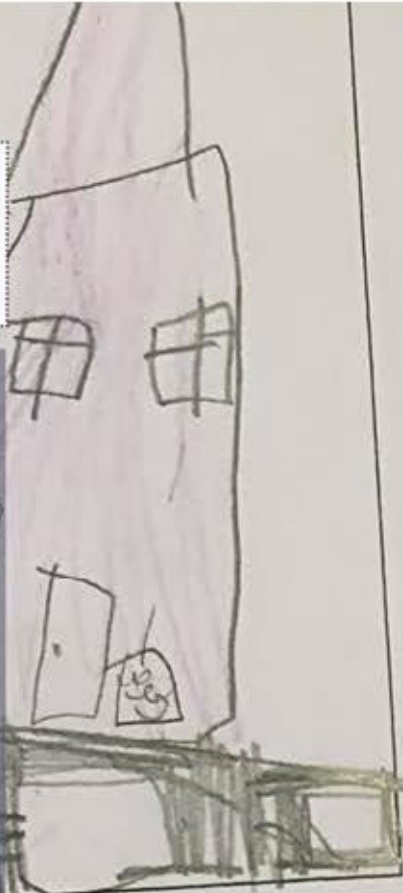


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The children
landed in an art
gallery full of
amazing pictures. One
picture was missing
The children painted

Block Creative Writing Prize F4-F6

Memories of Monsters

I live in a small town, just south of Nowhere, twinned with Dull, and as you might expect of such a location, very little of note ever happens here. To illustrate to you just how gruellingly boring it is, the most interesting thing that I have done in the past five years is successfully grow a pear tree in my tiny garden. Most days I while away by writing little poems or stories on my typewriter, and its repetitive clicking is background to my life.

So you can imagine that waking up in my attic, covered in mud, with a throbbing headache and no idea what had happened the night prior is possibly the most worrying thing that's ever happened to me.

I was awoken by the crashing noise of a truck driving down the road outside, and I could make out sounds of men shouting to each other. It sounded military, and I couldn't care less. All I wanted was a hot shower, a strong coffee, and to go back to bed. So I did my best to block out the ear-splitting ruckus of, well, something going on outside, and cleaned caked mud out of my hair, wondering at this point if I'd been drinking. It seemed like the only option, despite how unlikely the concept was.

The answer came when, after having sorted my disgusting situation out, I went up to the attic and found that the place I'd woke up in was, in fact, surrounded by pieces of paper. Each and every one was covered in hastily typewritten text and I wondered at how I hadn't immediately noticed them. I fished them all out of the squalor of the corner, and brought them downstairs and laid them all out. I've done my best to record this accurately, but the nature of this is such that detail is certain to be lost.

Don't investigate. Read these notes, and then carry on with your life as if nothing is different. In fact, when you're done, burn these notes. Most importantly, don't go into the woods just south of town. You're probably confused, you're probably scared, but you need to understand what you did and what happened.

You're probably aware of those woods I just mentioned - nice place for a walk, but pretty dense and you'd worry about getting lost. Well. Last night, you, or rather I, went for a walk in them, and, well, I'll set the scene for you: It wasn't that I knew what was about to happen. It wasn't even that there was anything wrong, but I do believe that

at some prenatal level, some sort of mechanism exists within humanity that makes us aware of when the supernatural or the uncanny are around.

Just ten or so minutes into the trees, I heard a faint sound.

The sound of a child's cry has been demonstrated to be the most easily identified sound for almost any person. It's why alarms sound the way they do - it gets your attention immediately. The thing I found in the woods was not a child. It was most certainly not human.

This thing was the epitome of every ingrained fear that exists in the psyche, the terror evolved over thousands of years to keep us safe from the unknown. And it was sitting, curled up in the foetal position, sharp, bloody fingers wrapped around its face as it cried.

The effect this thing had on me was enough to render me totally incapable of thought. I was no longer human myself. I was feral, thinking only of how I might possibly survive the next seconds. It was sure to notice me - in curiosity I had approached far too close to be considered safe - and when it did, every nerve in my body told me that I would end, right there and then.

I could have been stuck there for a few minutes, or a few hours, watching it with abject horror, unable to move myself away, when the spell was broken by a glint of light out the corner of my eye. One light became two, became many, and soon a whole line of bright lights illuminated the now dark forest. I was roused enough by this change to start slowly creeping away from the monster, still shaking, but composing myself and forcing cramped muscles to slowly edge me from death. I was several metres away, and feeling a reprieve from the being's primal aura of dread, when I began to make out what the lights actually were.

Each light was attached to a decidedly human shape, all dressed in dark camouflage and carrying guns - this small army of soldiers, despite the threat they posed to me on their own, were a source of joy, in that moment - a reminder of normalcy after my supernaturally hellish trip of the last few hours. The direction I had moved put the thing in between me and the soldiers, and I doubted I could evade either of them without moving quickly enough to be immediately noticed, so I curled up next to a particularly secluded tree to wait it out. It was at this point that what little strength my body had left gave out, and consciousness abandoned me.

I awoke in a concrete room; it was

clinically clean and I was handcuffed to a chair. There was a man standing in front of me, dressed in a white laboratory coat and holding a clipboard. The light was too blinding to make out his face.

He asked me who I was. I wasn't going to be reticent; it was obvious who had the power in that situation. When I asked him what was going on, he said that I had been found in the woods and they had brought me in to make sure I was okay.

I asked him about the creature. His face fell. He had quite clearly hoped that it was merely a coincidence that I was in the woods, in the dark, on my own, unconscious.

He gave me a finely measured response - that it was taken care of, and that I needn't worry. It was clear he couldn't say much. He told me I was very lucky to be alive.

He then approached me, pulling out a small blue pill, and told me it would let me forget everything that had just happened. I took it more than willingly. You now understand why things are the way they are. Really, I shouldn't have written this for you to read. After I consigned myself to blissful ignorance in however many hours it would take effect in, he explained to me who he was, and who he worked for. That memory is the first one I can feel going.

The world is not as it seems. A whole pantheon of gods, monsters, and horrors beyond comprehension exist, and the first and last line of defence are these people. I think he told me this more to get it off his chest than to actually educate me, but I was receptive nevertheless - fear apparently makes me, or you, very interested in any possible information related to such threats.

I put on a show of early-onset amnesia for him, and to my relief he said that they'd just let me go home. It seems they're not quite the faceless amoral organisation I'd initially chalked them up to be. These people, they saved me. From the monster, from the knowledge of such darkness, and then just let me go. It's hard to know just how much we owe these people, but one thing he said stuck with me:

"We die in the dark, so you can live in the light"

- Dear Me, From Me. -

Cosmo Bobak



Economics Essay Winner F1-F3

Should subsidies be used as a barrier to trade?



Subsidies are payments by the government to suppliers that reduce their costs, resulting in an increase in supply and therefore a reduction in the market equilibrium price. When used as a trade barrier, government paid grants are given to domestic producers to reduce their cost of production enabling them to sell their products at lower prices than overseas producers. There are many advantages and disadvantages of subsidies used as trade barriers.

Firstly, an advantage of a subsidies paid to producers is that it can result in lowering prices and an overall control over inflation. Inflation is the general and sustained rise in the level of prices of goods and services within a country. High inflation can cause falling incomes and less GDP. Government grants to producers will prevent their costs from ballooning and rapid rises in inflation. Furthermore, the stable price inflation leads to more consumer spending. This results in more tax revenue to the government and profit to the firms. Higher profit to the firms allows them to reinvest into the industry or another industry, an increase in tax revenue increases the government expenditure, in addition to welfare payments. It will allow a low and stable rise in inflation throughout the country.

Another advantage of a subsidy is that it allows a lower cost of production for firms. Payments to firms will enable them to lower their production costs, allowing them to sell their products to consumers at a lower price. A subsidy allows an increase in supply of a material while also allowing the cost it takes to produce the product to be lower. Therefore resulting in an increase in quantity in the equilibrium market.

Another advantage of a subsidy used in trade is it will protect sunset industries. A subsidy to a firm will allow them to sell their products at a lower price than the overseas competition. The protection from overseas competition will help slow down the rate of decline in and loss of jobs from large industries, allowing time for less developed industries to develop and provide new jobs and incomes. The new jobs and incomes will also result in more tax revenue gained by the government from, for example, income tax and therefore result in an increase in government expenditure.

However, there are multiple disadvantages of subsidies being used a barrier to trade. Subsidies can cause an increase in taxation on individuals and firms. Due to the large expense of imposing subsidies, the government has to increase its income through a number of different methods of government spending. The government can finance public expenditure by increasing rents from publicly owned buildings and land, or by adding admission charges to places like museums. An increase of direct taxes (taxes imposed on individuals) can also be imposed, an increase in, for example, income tax will reduce a country's demand and spending on goods and services, due to the loss of disposable income. High taxation can cause tax evasion, furthermore, entrepreneurs will gain less profit and will feel less motivated to reinvest into their businesses, resulting in an inward shift of supply. The increase in tax may also affect suppliers, due to their rising cost of production. This will result in them rising their prices to protect their profit margins, which causes hardships for people on low income. As a result of this, the government may see a rise in inflation throughout the country.

Another disadvantage of subsidies used as trade barriers is that companies can become over reliant on the subsidy and will not be able to function without the government grants. Milton Friedman pointed out, "There is nothing so permanent as a temporary government program." This reinforces how, once a firm has received a subsidy, it is extremely difficult to remove that subsidy without causing a hardship for that firm. There needs to be a consistent promise to firms that they will continue receiving subsidies. In the long run, the expense of providing subsidies for firms is very high for the government. The amount of expenditure going to firms as subsidies reduces the ability for government expenditure on other factors and resources such as roads, hospitals and welfare payments.

However, while subsidies can keep inflation low and stable, subsidies can also lead to inflation within a country. This is because when a country is at equilibrium aggregate demand, there is not a need for subsidies within the firms. However, reinforcing the

point made earlier, some firms become over reliant on subsidies and can collapse if grants are not given to them. If the government is still giving subsidies to firms when it is not needed, it can cause an increase in the purchasing power of individuals and an increase in demand. This will result in an increase in pressure over existing resources and a rise in inflation. Inflation can also be caused by the government printing new money, which is given as subsidies to firms; this is instead of the government reducing their expenditure on other factors. By creating more money, there is more money in the economy that is not backed up by production, as the amount of goods and services has not changed, which is a root cause on inflation.

Another disadvantage of using subsidies as a trade barrier is that there are other, more efficient trade barriers that can be imposed, for example, quotas or embargos. Quotas limit the number or value of goods that can be imported into a country and allow the volume of imports to remain unchanged when demand for imports increases. Embargos allow the ban on an importation of a domestic good. Embargos allow the influence of a nation economically or politically.

In conclusion, subsidies used as trade barriers can be very beneficial as a short-term investment. However, in the long run, subsidies create problems for the government and are not an efficient barrier to trade. Subsidies enable firms to develop and establish, while being protected from overseas competition, however, the government then has to continually provide paid grants to the firms to avoid the impact of closure when they become over reliant on the subsidies. There are other, more efficient and resourceful trade barriers that can be imposed such as quotas or embargoes. As a result of using these barriers to trade, firms would naturally become stronger and able to cope with foreign competition and it would also save the government money which could be invested into other factors such as hospitals and welfare payments.

Colette Wiewiorka

The Burgess Short Story Competition

Every year, Form 3 writers from across the city compete for the Burgess Cup. This year, entrants were asked to fulfil a very challenging brief: to write a piece that could only be described as a cross between Science Fiction and Historical fiction, with a focus on Dundee. And of course, our own Form 3s did not disappoint.

A number of HSD pupils took up the challenge and produced some fantastic pieces of writing; however, Sneha Sripada and Rebecca Hamilton's pieces clearly caught the judges' attention as both girls were invited to attend the awards ceremony as finalists.

Rebecca was awarded an honourable mention, receiving the prize of a book token as well as the esteemed respect of the judging panel for her piece entitled, *The Experiment*, which explored the theme of empathy and featured HSD itself as part of the story.

Sneha's story, *For Ava*, featured a novel take on the brief and reflected on how someone from the future would view Dundee as we know it today. The judges were obviously thrilled by her interpretation, as she achieved first prize and was presented with the Burgess cup by the Lord Provost.

A very successful year for HSD pupils!

The Experiment

They were a mixed bunch, two of them, Ben and Amy, were sporty and played outdoors and the other two, Ollie and Mia, played video games indoor all day. Nevertheless, they were ordinary teenagers and were friends as they walked to school with each other every day. They were excited to try out this new game and weren't sure what to expect.

Entering the room, they saw a table with what looked like Bluetooth earphones. This seemed to be a low tech VR experience they thought. Putting them on, they heard a high pitched noise and then a loud voice.

"Good Evening children," the voice said, "This game will test you and see just how brave you are. You are about to enter the Victorian slums of Dundee. Your mission is to reach the old High School in 19th century Dundee. First one there wins a prize. I'm Victor R and I will guide you through your journey. You won't be able to talk to each other or leave the game until the destination is reached. These earphones will transmit strong electric pulses to different parts of your brain, giving the illusion you are someplace else, allowing you to interact with your surroundings. Good luck!"

As soon as the voice finished, the room began to change around them. A large clock appeared in front of them and began to angrily spin back, ticking. In a few seconds, they were in old Dundee. The street was busy but they now realised that they were completely alone. Their friends, who had been beside them a few moments ago, were gone. The slums began to show the children the high level of poverty that they were in. The windows of the houses were smashed and the walls were weak and wan. A cold wind rushed through the street and the stench of cramped housing was like off meat. There was people everywhere, getting on with their daily lives in their own little bubble. The children began to amble up the street towards the school that was in the horizon of their view.

"Decision time" said the voice. In front of all the children stumbled an old woman in rags. She outstretched her hands which were dirty and covered in sores and said, "Any change for the poor?!" She looked up at them, her face was disfigured and she had a mix of black teeth or none at all. The woman's frame was shrunken and bent over and she had no shoes on, they were too expensive for her to afford but the children didn't have any

money to give her. As soon as this thought popped into their head, they could all feel a large weight appear in their pockets and they seemed to know already this was money.



Ben reached into his pocket and pulled out some coins, they were bright gold, like they had been made yesterday, the women looked at them with hunger and desire. He gently placed them into her hands and smiled at her. She nodded at him saying, "Thank you, sir. Thank you," and shuffled on to the food market. He continued his journey down towards the school.

Mia studied the women, the graphics looked very realistic, she hadn't seen anything like them. She told the old woman that she didn't have any money to give her and walked on down the street. The woman was an obstacle in her path.

Ollie scowled at the women, she was in his way. Giving her no thought at all he pushed her to the side, marching on.

Amy looked with sympathy at the poor women and went to buy her a loaf of bread and an apple from a food stall beside her and gave it to the women. The women nodded her head and with a simple "Thank you, Madame," she was gone. Amy watched her go and continued her journey.

Several other instances like this occurred and the reactions were very much the same.

Once all the children had reached their destination alone, there was a high pitched noise and they were all at the modern school. The voice read the finishing times, Ollie and Mia had drawn first.

•••

A few weeks after, Amy ran up to Mia, "Look! I got an email from the company!" The girls read the email. "Dear Amy and Ben, Thank You for taking part in the experiment. This experiment was to test the effect of video games on young minds and to see if it makes people less compassionate and kind. It was repeated with several individuals from different schools. The results showed us that those who spend more time on video games, are desensitised. Your prize for your humanity is a £20 shopping voucher. Dundee Council."

Rebecca Hamilton



For Ava

Can reality ever be unreal? Or is it something that you deem to be unreal that is, in fact, reality? September 15th, 2078, 8.28am. The precise moment we entered the chamber, into a parallel universe. Parallel in the sense that some of us would never meet again. There were four of us; Me, Diane, an aspiring author gathering inspiration for my upcoming science fiction novel. Ava, the real intelligence, a passionate scientist, my best friend. Christian, jaunty, juvenile, a renowned archaeologist. And then Jackson, our doctor, our smiles, our saviour. However, nobody could save us from what was about to happen.

Inside the chamber, it was tenebrous, like a vault possessing a secret that we were about to discover. Metal walls blocked us from the outside world, and the room was filled with emptiness. Suddenly, the door slammed shut. I shivered in the bleak gust of air behind. The VR activated.

"Good morning," it enunciated monotonously. "My name is VictoR. Today, I will be transporting you to Old Dundee. The current time is 8.30am and the arrival time is 9.30am. The programme will last for one hour, concluding exactly at 9.30am. Do not hesitate to ask me anything. Remember, your wish is my command. Are you ready?" he asked, without waiting for a response. All I recall was a surge of light, a blink, and we were there.

"Welcome to Old Dundee," Victor said, with not such a welcoming tone. "Our location is Dundee City Centre."

It was the same city, but how different it was. We walked across our city, below us, slabs of concrete on the ground resembled dominos, dotted with chewing gum. In one glance, I witnessed so many crimes. I saw a mother, if that, who could have easily been wearing school uniform. She held her baby, or what she visibly considered a liability, so carelessly, whilst swearing to her drunken partner and smoking. Everyone around us was identical, holding their cigarettes, puffing clouds of smoke into the dismal sky. I bellowed coughs back into the exhausted air. Next to me, Jackson was observing a group of psychotic drug addicts, Ava collecting the plethora of syringes for lab tests. Here, humanity was at its worst. Jackson couldn't protect them

if he wanted to protect himself. It was too late anyway for one; She swallowed some concoction, and that was it. She lost her inhibitions, she lost her vision, she lost her consciousness. She lost her life. And the public continued to walk past with their own milder tobacco, dismissed this incident for normality. We refused to believe that this was our past. Ava shed a tear.

"VICTOR! Take us away from here!" Christian yelled.

"Please specify a preference," VictoR replied emotionlessly.

"ANYWHERE!"

"Please specify a preference."

Infuriated, anguished, Christian took a breath and said, "The Keillor."

VictoR then questioned, "Who?" He kept repeating, "Who? Who? Who?"

He was breaking down, distorting. Ava was the technical expert. She would know what to do. She always did.

"Ava, come here," Christian called.

Two seconds later, Ava was obliterated by VictoR. When Christian said 'Keillor,' VictoR interpreted it as 'kill her,' and it was Ava's name that answered the question of 'Who?' Our doom was his command.

"BRING AVA BACK! Rebuild this dying city! Please VictoR!" I screamed in agony. But like the drug addict, it was too late for her. 9.30am. Back we went to 2078, safe, secure 2078. The door swung open. I trembled in trepidation. Ava only died virtually, it was like a dream, it wasn't real, I assured myself. I felt weak, drained, almost crippled. I looked behind me to see only Christian and Jackson, both old, wrinkled, withering away into the past. The reflection in the metal walls showed me that I, too, was the same. I went to 2018 as my present self, and here I was in 2078, 81 years of age.

"Go." I croaked to the guys.

Like VictoR, before I waited for their response, I slammed the door shut. The programme re-activated. However, this time, I was alone, and I didn't know when, or if I could return.

"Good morning," VictoR spoke again, in his cold, mechanical voice. "My name is VictoR. Today, I will be transporting you to Old Dundee. The current time

is 9.30am and the arrival time is 9.30am. The programme will last forever and it will never finish. Are you ready?"



5.30pm. I strolled along the Tay Bridge. Reflecting. In an endeavour to save my best friend, I failed and ruined my own life instead. Like a prisoner, I will remain in the metal walls of this chamber forever, serving a life sentence with the harshest punishment. Living for eternity in the year 2018.

For Ava

Page 1

In the distance, I see a building. A silhouette, geometric, glistening on the waterfront. A voice announces the grand opening of the new art museum, the 'VictoR & Albert.' Perhaps VictoR did obey my wishes. Perhaps he was rebuilding the city after all.

Sneha Sripada

Short Story F3

Where the Sky Meets the Sea

The girl perched on the stone wall, her hair whipping against her shoulders with the steady rhythm of the wind.

The sunset seemed to paint the sky in pastel watercolours, the different shades bleeding into each other like some peculiar masterpiece that would never truly be deciphered. The silhouette of the bridge ahead stood firm, casting subtle shadows on the surface of the midnight blue river. It was unusually calm that night; almost every other time she had visited this spot, the water had tossed around the little matchstick boats anchored in the harbour. Not far from this point, she knew, the river joined to the wide expanse of sea, so deep and cold and so unreachable to her now that it might as well have been some imaginary land she had read about once in a book with a title she couldn't quite place. She distinctly remembered the grown ups dressing up in strange clothes, loading the boats with enormous nets and sailing off out past the estuary, battling the waves like they were demons.

So long ago that was.

Now, the occasions she was able to visit this spot, she could clearly see the boats were no longer used for fishing. Sailing competitions, perhaps, or tourist trips. The fish was all imported in the backs of great lorries. Some nights she watched them crawl like ants along the hilly passes right down to the heart of the town, but their progress was slow, and it hurt to watch. A stark reminder of how much her home had changed in the years since her death.

It hadn't been their fault, but they hadn't known that, she supposed. Oh, how she had longed to see the sea, feel the freezing North wind on her face, to watch the towering columns of waves crashing down over the stern of the ships she had watched leave without her whole life. She was too young, they had always told her.

And that's why she had climbed on unseen that morning, huddled amongst the stacked barrels and rope. Or was there some other logic for her illogical decision? Jealousy, perhaps. A flare of rebellion. But maybe, she sometimes thought, she just hadn't been thinking at all.

If she thought hard enough, she could conjure away the summer night and replace it with that cruel, blisteringly cold day. The ocean spray hitting her face. Goosebumps on her arms. Fear and excitement mixed, the knowledge of the consequences awaiting her if she was caught, and yet a total detachment from the rules of home. Everything was different there. The sky was a bizarre mirage of sun that could not be felt, white clouds that only offered rain, and a blustery gale that could not be seen. If she closed her eyes and focused, really focused, then she could just about feel herself standing up, the deck swaying beneath her feet, rising and falling with the swell of the water. The railing was slippery and bit at the touch, but she barely noticed. Barely noticed, even, as the wooden floor supporting her tipped alarmingly, launching her sideways into the icy cold.

The salty substance soaked into her clothes, snatched her breath away. It was like she was falling and flying at the same time, sinking slowly into the deep. Her arms scrambled for the surface but were met with nothing but water, water, water. Lungs burning, mind screaming, heart pierced with fear. Eyes open, but there was nothing left to see. Unable to control herself any longer, she opened her mouth for absent air, and freezing seawater flooded in.

If she concentrated hard enough, she could remember the exact moment she died.

After that, well, there hadn't been much. Glimpses of her home, her family. Not long after, though, they had vanished. Left the town for a comfortable life in the city, she assumed, like so many others. Sometimes she got to sit at the harbour for an hour or two, unseen by passers-by, inhaling the smell of fish and chips. Mostly, though, she was kept here, this little Eden halfway up a hill. She was never disturbed by visitors, though maybe that wouldn't have been unwelcome. No, she was abandoned to her exile here, so close to home yet so far, the one place she longed to go just out of view.

Her body was lost at sea, but her soul was trapped tantalisingly nearby it.

Evie Campbell



Creative Stories F5

The People of the Storm

Outside, the storm battles, a seemingly endless rage between the ferocity of wind and the tenacity of ice. Above, the ceiling creaks under the unrelentless attack, solid wooden beams like brave soldiers, abandoning all bravado the second it is needed. Hours have passed since the fire has perished, slowly suffocated by the snow fall. Not one corner of the log cabin has escaped the wrath of cold, its deadly grasp creeping in to every last particle of the once

welcoming home.

Beneath a pile of Arctic winter coats, tough, worn blankets and bare duvets (all coated by a fine layer of ice), I curl around a leather-bound book, frantically trying to decipher the truth from the nonsense within. It tells of the legends, of our lessons learned, of hunting seasons, of our lives. Passed down from one generation to the next, alternating between the beautiful calligraphy

of my great grandmother, my sister's sparkly pink ink, and my mum's sensible font. Not so long ago.

Not so long ago she was alive, making apple crumble from tinned fruit because 'I heard from Sue, from the shop, just the other day - she claims it's better for you than frozen!' I remember watching



her stocking up on chocolate for the winter alongside tinned beans, listening as she hummed tunelessly along to the radio whilst making breakfast, smelling the carbonised cake from the kitchen on my birthday - at least she tried. Tucking my little sister, Aurora, into bed, patiently reading 'Sleeping Beauty' for the hundredth time, doing crosswords until the early hours. She made life like a melting marshmallow.

A while later... People started going missing. At first, they thought it was a polar bear. 'Vicious animals,' people claimed, 'them kids must've been messing around and scampered off.' A disapproving shake of the head that screams that their perfect little children would never do such a thing. 'They'll be back soon.' To be fair, this was true. But they did not return in the same form that they left.

That night, there was a blizzard. A dark, heavy chaos, the wind howling in agony, snow piling up outside - a frozen ocean. An endless night. Ominous shapes moved outside their half-dead home, casting odd shadows on the new born snow. Dark shapes, barely visible, but monitored closely by two petrified parents. They moved closer. Closer. Closer. Until finally they were in focus. Two brothers. Eerily in sync. Sallow faces, looking forward, dead eyes like marbles. Horizontal snow pounding on their backs causing no reaction. Waxworks. Inside their mother's eyes widened, as she rose suddenly from her seat. Something about her suggested a moth - the flutter towards the heavy wooden door, the magnetism towards her imminent demise, the way she effortlessly undid each chain on the door, smiling softly as her husband rushed over and tried to reason with her.

'They're not them!' he screamed, shaking her shoulders of ice. 'Listen to me', he begged, staring into her frozen eyes. 'Think about this', he whispered, as he dropped his hands to his sides in despair. She stood with wide arms wide open, looking at what were once her children. He stood like one of them, a sculpture of ice, as his children dragged his wife away.

He told this story to anyone who would listen, anyone who wouldn't listen, anyone. A dire warning of what was to come. But none of us listened. It was too weird, like something out of a book. We said, 'He was delusional, the poor man'. Later that month he disappeared, too. Now they say he's in a 'mental hospital'. Easier to accept that.

Only this morning I was one of them, laughing carelessly as I helped to lift Mum's things on to the sledge. We were joking about all she had in her bulging bag. Aurora suggested it was a mountain.

'It's early in the morning,' I told myself, 'she'll be back before you even notice that she's been gone.'

'We need the food, the days are getting shorter, she'll be just fine.' Even though I was adamant in believing the truth, I couldn't shake the worry. Like a 10-foot-snake wrapped around me, it was slowly crushing me - its naive prey. Then, just as my mum, with flushed cheeks and a thermos in hand, was ready to leave, she leant down to me and whispered something to me. It's the only reason I think I'm not going insane. Or perhaps the only reason for my present paranoia.

'He was telling the truth, Mishka.' And then, as if this had never been said, she turned and smiled at my little sister, 'Have you two girls been doing any baking recently? Your great grandma has a nice stew recipe Mi-Mi could start for me coming home.' I turned and walked away, strolled away, not even turning for one last look at her kind, smiling face. Only now am I listening.

Even then. Even then, I denied the truth, thinking, 'I must've heard that wrong...' or, 'She's getting all superstitious, probably phoned Grandma again...' Or...

I was lying to myself.

The truth was there all along.

Now I sit here, in the dark, cold night under a mountain of blankets - my sister the same in her bed. All the help I have left is in this worn book. Specifically, a note, in the neat handwriting of my mother,

'Be good and look after your sister*'. She wanted us to look after each other. Suddenly, I feel a jolt of panic. It brings me back to the harshness of reality. My hands of ice shake uncontrollably in front of me. Eyes struggle to focus on the crumpled page as I read her note again, again, again.

Only then do I notice the small asterisk* in her note. Tiny, barely visible, but there. A tiny, deadly spider - as worthy of my attention as something blunter, despite the discreetness of its warning. I turn over the page. There it is. Its pair, a note beside it. I hear a beating in my ears, hear the drumming of my heart. It reads,

'Don't run.'

I strain my neck towards the window to my right. In its right-hand corner is a colony of dark green mould, steadily creeping up the glass. Paint beside the skirting chips off from the dampness of the air leaking in. Despite the darkness outside, glints of light from the electric lamp inside uncover mounds of snow shoving incessantly at my home, gaining in strength with every second of this storm.

Shoving the pile of blankets from me, I stand upright on my feet. For a moment. Instantly I shiver violently, and grasp at any, any blanket with shaking hands before rushing towards my sweet sister's room, feeling the fresh coldness with every hurried step towards her. The harshness of this sensation clatters me back in to reality, the reality that I have been selfish, purely thinking about myself when...

Bang.

Bang.

Bang.

A knocking from the door. Instinctively I turn towards it.

Bang.

Bang.

BANG.

It gets louder, louder, more insistent with each attack of the door. This is not a plea for entry, nor a demand. This is a conquest. Fear jolts through me. I shuffle towards the door, afraid of what I will see through the glass, terrified of the icy darkness outside, petrified of seeing nothing, and realising my insanity.

The glass is dirty. There is a long, meandering crack across it. Still, I can see outside.

I wish I couldn't.

The missing boys. Their father, he who had once tried to save us. Ironic, the person who had warned us about these... He was now one of them. His very presence was proof of his warning. They stood stock still as I moved closer, six 'eyes' turned towards me. I heard a door click open.

I turn towards it. There Aurora stands, a heavy duvet weighing on her small shoulders, a worried expression on her face.

I hear a door click open.

I stand like one of them, frozen, as my mother drags my sister away.

Abigail Cousins

Creative Stories F5

C'est la vie

My quota had to be met today.

St Joseph's Hospital slumped among the other buildings that were erected beside it. The sky was painted numerous shades of grey, white and black and the sun had stopped its feeble attempts to break through the iron curtain and lounged contently behind. I walked reluctantly up the worn road bordered by withering grass. Like the sun (and many of the souls trapped within the characterless walls) the green surrounding the hospital had surrendered and succumbed to the ever-infectious grey. Many in this hospital I knew well, some feared me more than anything and others treated me like an old friend, welcomed gladly into their arms. Regardless, it was imperative that my work was done.

The doors that so many crossed for the last time invited me in, automatically shutting behind me like the swish of scythe. Inside the stagnant air had undertones of bleach, the magnolia walls deeply scored by trolleys rushing past, their passenger fading fast. Inspid prints depicting joyous scenes dissolved into yellow underneath the electric lights. I pick up the clipboard and carry out the ward round.

The first one to be taken into my clutches stared at the polyester ceiling above their bed willing themselves to see through the fluorescent strips that flicker as though they too are coming to an end and out into the sky. Further through the hospital's highly polished linoleum floor, I pass antibacterial stations perched on the wall. I can hear the thoughts of the suffering blocking out the wails of mothers who try to hold on to their children. I do not choose. I simply do. I visit respiratory, cardiology and gastroenterology and by 12 o'clock I am still short. Whilst greeting the geriatric ward, which always makes me feel unquestionably welcome, I get an emergency call. The ringtone brings me rudely awake from my monotonous work. The calling is impossible to ignore and once set in motion it must be answered. I leave from the belly of beast and escape the macabre scene that I have set into motion behind me only to begin on

another onslaught of pain.

The 11:32 train to Edinburgh was a mass of humanity, a mass of life. Strangers from every walk of life became acquainted for a short while. Soon to be acquainted for life, however short or long that would be. Only I knew that. Above the heavens opened and the sky wept. Tears raced down the train window's face traced by a little boy in a sunshine yellow raincoat trying to distract himself from the numbing boredom. Outside the passing greenery became a haze to the people on board who proceeded with life's mundane luxuries. Throughout the carriage cross words were completed, sleep was feigned and emails drafted never to be sent by the jostling voyagers. The once ravishingly red carpet spattered with old chewing gum exhaled dust as the trolley made its way offering unappetising sandwiches and scalding tea. The driver sluggishly drove her train onwards along the uncompromising tracks at a reckless speed. Muddled silence, only pierced by the colourless voice of the intercom, wove its way between the lives. All itching to make their destination, without the knowledge that the next stop would be one they could never depart from...

Without warning I watched as the vessel of lives derailed off the reassuring tracks and onto the Cliffside. Reluctantly, I began my work on the unassuming passengers of the 11:32.

A man, smartly dressed, was to be my first victim. Next, a nurse, a nanny and a student. All strangers crushed in the chaos and confusion. The windows smashed into violent fragments upon impact that fatally showered the family of four that were sat at the coveted table seat. The mother's look of love for her children, as I stopped her heart will haunt me like so many others. I gladly watched as a radiant yellow coat wriggled its way to the green verge of safety. I took a small break to check my rapidly increasing list and the passenger's shock had worn off and the relentless feelings of fear and pain hurtled into their feeble bodies like the waves that crashed into the perilous cliff foot below. Jagged rocks stretched

upwards like the teeth of lions desperate to satisfy his

gnawing hunger. The waves growled and roared to the passengers above taunting them. I stood and watched as the humans clawed and kicked each other, each person as desperate as the next to escape... Me. In all their agony to elude their imminent meeting the passengers still on board this nightmare dislodged the very ground the train was so perilously stationed on. A cacophony of screams, cries come from the breaking metal and souls erupted and the remaining humans plummeted to their salty graves. A symphony of disturbing groans from the carriages, as the driver went down her ship. I wanted to be done, if there was anyone to beg to I would be on my knees sobbing the tears of those who had painfully died and those who will have to live with the consequences.

There I was back at the accident and emergency room working overtime as I waited for the ambulance to come screeching up to the doors. For those passengers who thought they avoided my grasp the gateway would shut behind them forever. Stretchers mechanically jolted out of the vehicles and rushed passed me into a operating room. The monitor rhythmically played out a melody as surgeons panted into their masks and sweat beaded along their furrowed brow. I willed them on pleading them to succeed. The artificial sun above the table shone onto the patient illuminating the translucent ghost face. Latex gloves squeaked and I could taste the dread filling my stomach as the melody that was amplified through the room spiralled ever faster. Waltz. Salsa. Charleston. And then silence. It echoed around the room and I went to collect the last soul of the day.

I looked over my quota, successfully filled and exceeding the necessary deaths. Today it had sky rocketed towards the heavens. It pained to watch the aftermath of my honest day's work. I hated it. But who else could do the job? Who else would?

Ailsa Millar



Creative Stories F6

Revenge

Droning chants and thumping drum beats faded away. The last of the mob swarmed down towards their sorry excuse for a town, yet the ringing in my ears remained long after the dropping sun. From my vantage point at the peak of a grassy hill, about a mile from the outskirts of Scone, flickering amber glowed throughout the cottages to chase away the gloom of the evening. The thumping drums reverberated through my chest, my whole body, it slammed through my head. Pressure built throughout my toes and travelled up and up and up to my neck, making it hard to breathe. My eyeballs ached like they might burst out of my head. The darkness suffocated the amber glow of the town below until everything was black.

A single mossy tree stood upon a grass-tufted hill. One could imagine it had once stood regal, its strong boughs heavy with fruit, its leaves a dark emerald in the summer sun. Now it was grey, like a gnarled hand suffocated in vegetation, but still a focal point of the town. From one of its remaining branches, it held a floating figure. Her limbs were limp, her skin held an unnatural translucent shade. She hadn't been there long; she would be left there for a few days until someone could be sent to dispose of the body. Leaving her there served as a healthy reminder for passing travelers and locals alike; witchcraft is forbidden.

My eyes were gritty when I opened them again to see a red moon fill the burry sky, or maybe it was just my vision playing tricks. Each heaving breath caused the heavy rope that choked me to twist tighter. The midnight breeze scraped across my raw skin and whipped red strands around me. My mouth tasted bitter, but I swallowed anyway. Thoughts formed in my brain like licking flames, giving me the strength make a decision; live or die?

But the choice was made for me; the tree screeched its shock and then I was in the squelching mud. It seemed to hold me in its sticky grasp, it covered me like a snake's skin. The feeling was almost as awful as hanging like a ragdoll from that rope. Although it was no longer choking the life out of me, I could feel its phantom grasp and even years later, I could sometimes feel it slithering around my throat, the people I knew as

neighbours and friends turned strangers as they hissed venomous accusations.

Red filled my vision. How dare they? I gave them their tinctures and potions and well wishes and hexes. Not that any of it was real; most of it was just some herbs mixed together. Some of it was knowledge of plants, like Meadowsweet flowers to treat aches of the head and stomach. Before she passed, my mother had been a skilled healer, our small cottage was filled with jars and bottles of sweet and bitter smelling herbs on shelves, on our little wobbly table and sprawled across any free surface. Flowers of ruby and amber and violet and cobalt were laid delicately in rows on linen by the fireplace. She spent hours, kneeling by the fireplace with the rough skirts of her only dress sprawled around her, going through her collection in the evenings. She would sing ditties she had learnt in town earlier that day all the while, which filled the air in a staccato rhythm. Each medicine was lovingly stored and given, to ease all manner of illnesses. I was barely 15 when she died. Disease. She had caught it from one of her patients apparently. The air was soundless without her verses, the plethora of medicines were useless without her healing hand. Within a month penury loomed like a reaper without her income and so I left, for far more than her simple life could have offered.

I arrived on the outskirts of Scone a few years later, work placements for a penniless and homeless woman were few and far between, but there was plenty of farm labour. Here is the turning point of my story: I met a girl, Magaidh, glistening tears poured down her round face. She was childish and fanciful from what I'd seen and heard over the few weeks I had worked with the women of town, most of them worn and haggard like a rough ground they laboured. She was leaning against the outhouse doors as I approached, there was no way to avoid her. She met my eyes and the look she gave was pitiful. As pathetic as I found her whining, she could inspire sympathy in even the hardest soul as she spun her tale of woe. She had fallen in love with a gentleman who was going to elevate her out of poverty, they got engaged, and then there was another woman

who snaked her way into his heart and ultimately, she was left heartbroken. By the end, red fire lit her ocean blue eyes, something about her fight gave me pause and I knew I would help her, to get revenge. So we made a tonic, a mild dose of Belladonna, concealed in a bottle of wine and delivered to his door step. He drank it readily and within an hour, he looked at his lovely fiancé and he knew she was possessed by the devil; she was deceiving him and he had to defend himself. At least that was what he claimed the next day. Magaidh and I watched hand in hand as he was dragged off bloody and raving like a rabid dog the next morning, his eyes merely black pools. We stood witness as the block was kicked out from under him and he dropped violently with only the rope holding him hostage.

Magaidh came to me later that day with eyes downcast, she wore a grey shawl over her hair to cover her easily identifiable golden curls. She claimed frantically that she never meant for it to go that far, in her hysteria she gripped my wrist with delicate fingers pleading for something I didn't understand. Forgiveness? For taking the revenge she deserved? But she paid her three shillings for my services and promised to pass on word of my skills. They came in dribs and drabs at first. Old women, middle aged mothers, young girls all needing something and pleading in feverish whispers. They paid through the nose for what they needed, and it seemed I had found a way to make my mother's skills profitable.

As I made money from my business endeavors, I was finally able to afford the finer things in life; my dresses were made from imported silk, embroidered with swirling flowers and edged with lace. But it wasn't real wealth; I wanted the house, the title, the status of a lady of wealth. So, I found myself a husband. Graham. Graham was my ticket out of poverty. From a wealthy family that owned the land of Scone and most of East and central Scotland, he was the last born and would never have the status or title of his brothers. I convinced him I could give him more; I suggested an uprising. He would be king of Scotland and I would be his queen. The people were fed up of English oppression and if he followed

my instruction, I could lead him to greatness. Like a lost puppy he did his brother's bidding so I utilised him for my own gain. Graham was sent to the surrounding villages of East Scotland to collect taxes for his brother each month. I convinced him with a few whispered words to slip a few coins from the tax purse and drum up passion and money for our cause.

It only took a month for his brother, the Laird, to realise; Graham wasn't the sharpest tack and his boastful claims that he would be the next king of Scotland travelled quickly, and then everything came crumbling down. His brother waited to send Graham away on some errand, when I was defenseless. They came on a Sabbath morning, the thudding on the door was like a knock of death. I was dragged out on the street like some peasant girl and stood on display in the dank old church. The smell of damp wood undercut the

stench of aromatic candles; I guess they were supposed to ward off the evil that would cling to a woman doing the devil's work such as myself. The trial was a blur. Magaidh stood at the front of a righteous crowd and recounted an impassioned account of a woman who tricked her with wicked words and plotted with magic to murder an innocent man. That was me. She called me a witch. I watched her fascinated; the way she twisted her fingers and wrung her hands nervously. Her trembling voice. The glassy tears she let fall. It was all real, but not because she was scared of me, the wicked witch; she knew she was guilty of murder and her little performance certainly wasn't fooling me.

The verdict was clear; Witch. It was hissed and spat from the mindless crowd. I could see their outraged faces; a mask to conceal the bone-deep terror in their eyes. It brought me sadistic joy;

I might not be a real witch but I was close enough in their eyes. The rough hands that shoved made my march up the grassy hill to the tree more of a crawl. But I was determined they would not see me fall. The winds whipped around me, the rain fell sideways, the world was tilted. Then the rope loomed, and its finality seemed to quiet the crowd. I hadn't known fear until the rope had held me in its grasp. Finally, I found oblivion.

I lie in the mud a wrung-out-rag-doll letting my recollections float away with the heavy clouds. The sludge-grey night sky oozes above me and the air is vacuous after the storm that is passing. But the winds are changing, I have survived their hanging and been reborn. Now was the time for what I did best. Revenge.

Imogen Findlay

Creative Stories F6

Kick the Bucket

The scene through the window was enough to make my heart ache. A family, blanketed in warmth and love, blissfully unaware of what was to come. The sound of the television droning on in the background was barely audible underneath their laughter and conversation. It took me a few seconds to spot her, the one I was here for, sitting on the floor playing. She was in another world; indifferent to what was going on around her, oblivious to how lucky she was. It was always more difficult when they were young.

I wrenched myself away from the window and my foot made a loud crunching noise as I stumbled backwards onto the gravel. I winced, half expecting one of them to look up to where I was standing. But of course, there was nothing. Sighing, I wiped the condensation from where my face had been pressed against the glass. Enough. I knew what I had come to do.

Trudging around the house to the back door, my attempts to calm the uneasy feeling in my stomach had proved unsuccessful. My hand shook

as I lifted it to the door handle and I stared at the dark wood in front of me. Images of the smiling family flashed through my head and I began to taste the familiar metallic tang of blood from where I had bitten down on my lip too harshly. "You can do this", I whispered to myself as the door swung open softly. Tiptoeing down the hallway I tried my hardest not to make any noise that would shatter the tranquil atmosphere. Following the sounds, I had observed earlier, I managed to locate the room quickly and slip inside before I gave myself the opportunity to hesitate. As I stood pressed into the corner of the room I was determined to take up as little space as possible and preserve the lingering happiness for as long as I could. A family portrait that hadn't been visible from outside caught my eye and caused my stomach to churn. Three smiling children stared back at me from the frame, the smallest caught in the middle of the others' embrace. She was the one. I clutched tightly at the picture I had been given that now felt as though it was burning a hole through my pocket. Breathe.

In the time that it had taken me to get inside she had moved from the floor and was curled up quietly on an armchair staring intently at the television. She couldn't have been older than three and was sucking her thumb sleepily. Blonde curls hung around her face like a halo and her rosy cheeks brought to mind images of cherubs floating peacefully on clouds. Slowly, she turned her head in my direction and looked at me, scrutinising my features with wide eyes an expression that was the picture of innocence. She didn't deserve this. All I had to do was walk over and carry her away peacefully. There would be no pain.

I could picture the scene that would unfold when they realised. Her mother would panic and scream as her world disintegrated before her eyes, "She's not breathing! What happened? Oh my God, she's not breathing." Her body wracking with sobs before she could finish her sentence, rocking from side to side and clutching her baby tightly to her chest as if that could bring her back. Her father would try to stay strong,

tears welling in his eyes as he paced back and forth while he dialled an ambulance. Eventually collapsing to the ground beside his wife in a futile attempt to comfort her. Then in the weeks that followed, bunches of flowers and home cooked meals would be brought to the door by old friends and caring neighbours. Whispers of a wasted life, taken too soon by death, taken too soon by me.

A cough from somewhere in the room snapped me back to reality and the vividness of my imagination sent chills down my spine. It was the same outcome every time. Time seemed to slow down as I moved towards her, the air grew thick and it felt as if I was wearing concrete shoes as I dragged my feet along the ground. The sound of each step scraping across the floor reverberated around the room. She looked at me with wide eyes, as if she knew what I was planning to do and was somehow at peace with it. I looked up to the family portrait on the wall and back to her tiny face. I didn't even know her name. Aware that no one other than her could see me, I reached out and brushed a golden curl behind her ear then watched as the light in her eyes dimmed momentarily. I couldn't do it. I ran.

Outside the weather had gone from miserable to violent. Lashing rain soaked me to my skin and the world had been darkened by ominous clouds. A threatening clap of thunder tore through the sky and all I could hear as I walked down the street was the hammering rain on roofs. I couldn't help but let my mind wander back to the child whose picture was in my pocket. My next victim. What would they say about her? That she was funny? Kind? Well-liked among the other children at playgroup? How would they measure her life- what possessions or achievements could she possibly have at such a young age? The unshakeable weight of guilt clung to my chest like a parasite. It was always more difficult when they were young. They had their whole lives left to live, a whole world of every-day occurrences that they had yet to experience. At least they didn't know what they were missing.

Death always has a greater effect on

those who are left behind. Wondering what they could've done differently, worrying over the numerous possible ways they could fill the gaping hole that had been left in their lives. A vast expanse of emptiness stretching out towards the horizon. Broken families left to fall apart at the seams, relationships left to disintegrate. Even those who didn't know the deceased- coworkers, neighbours, the person behind the till at their local supermarket- left to wonder, 'what if it was me'? They sit and contemplate, perhaps write a Facebook status to show how truly sad it is. You cannot escape death. I am your friend and your enemy. I predict your future and steal your present. I am nowhere. I am everywhere.

I am the reason people gather possessions and achievements. Book last minute trips and out of this world experiences, before it is too late. They picture themselves lying there on their death beds and their greatest fear is looking back at their life and having nothing to show for them self. Nothing to be remembered by. They think it needs to be remarkable- skydiving or scaling Everest, making a discovery that shakes the world. It does not. Because, no matter what, after death we do not simply cease to exist. We linger. Held tightly in the memories of those who had surrounded us. Pieces of us left behind in music recommendations, recipes passed along, the worn pages of our favourite book.

I thought of the little girl, what would she be remembered by? Ten years down the line. Would it be a song? That her mother would have to reach to change if she ever heard it on the radio, because the memories were just too painful. Would it be her favourite toy? Kept in her father's drawer as a reminder of her presence, that he could hold tight when the strain of concealed emotions became too much. What about her brother and sister? They would be too young to remember her fully, snippets of her laughter held in that family portrait that had since been stuffed into the back of a wardrobe- to avoid questions from new friends and to dodge the

agonising memories it triggered every time it caught their eyes.

The weather had begun to clear up as night drew in, torrential rain had slowed to a drizzle and moonlight spiking through the sky above illuminated the soaked street. Walking back towards the familiar house, I ignored the gnawing pit at the bottom of my stomach. She wouldn't be in any pain, I reminded myself. Standing at the front door, I noticed the way the dark grey building loomed overhead. Earlier, the atmosphere surrounding the house had been warm but now it was cold and threatening. I crept through the door and swiftly made my way down the corridor and up the stairs, towards where the child lay sleeping. Each creak of a floorboard seemed to split the air in two as if warning the family of my unwelcome presence. I stopped when I reached the end of the bed where she was sleeping peacefully, golden hair fanned out beneath her head as if she was already an angel. Gradually edging closer, I watched her chest rise and fall with each breath she took, as if counting down to her last. I knew what I had to do.

Gently leaning forward, I placed a kiss on her forehead and watched as her soul floated upwards past the ceiling. I watched her grip on the teddy she had been clutching loosen and her breathing slow to a stop. I shuddered as I turned back and glanced at the grave sight whilst shutting the bedroom door. My work was done. Stillness hung dark and shadowed in the air as I made my way back down the stairs, careful not to leave behind anything that would give the family a hint of my presence. Before I left, I took a detour through the living room where the happy family had been gathered mere hours earlier. I looked one last time at the family portrait hanging on the wall and imagined it with one less child.

Katie Murray

Gilbert Murray Essay Competition

This year Alexander Milnes of Form 1 and Isla Hutchinson of Form 2 both won a prize in the Gilbert Murray Essay Competition, organised by The Classical Association of Scotland.



Jason and the Argonauts

Jason, the son of the lawful King, has begun his journey to claim the Golden Fleece in order to reclaim his rightful throne, but a danger awaits him and his crew.

A Myth tells of two great rock faces crashing together whenever anything went through...

Jason was told of a way to fool the clashing rocks, the Symplegades. You simply need to send a bird through, and as the rocks open, sail through.

And so as the rocks were opening, the Argonauts let down the sail of the Argo and sped through the great channel and away.

How Important Was Fashion for the Romans?

The Romans cared a lot about how they were perceived by others so it only makes sense that they would care about fashion. In this essay I will be exploring how important fashion was for the Romans. I will look at how clothes showed their wealth and status and how hairstyles and accessories played a vital part as well. I believe that fashion was an extremely important aspect of Roman life.

Roman clothes showed off status and wealth, particularly with togas. All men and women had to wear a tunic, regardless of their social class, though some men wore a toga on top. Some tunics could be very expensive because of the materials they were made out of. The average tunic was made of wool but linen and silk tunics were very expensive and reserved for wealthier individuals. Romans usually fastened their clothes with pins called fibulas. The more expensive fibulas were decorated with gold and gems to show affluence.

Togas were an extremely important part of fashion for Romans. They were larger and more expensive, so they were only worn by wealthy men. Citizens had to wear togas for public events like weddings or gladiator games and so it was important that a Roman chose the right one. The average citizen wore an off-white toga but more important people, such as emperors or winning generals wore purple togas with gold embroidery. Magistrates wore an offwhite coloured toga with a purple border and men in mourning wore togas of dark colours. Election candidates wore white togas, to show their honesty.

The toga that a man wore would say a lot about his status, as would the material it was made out of. All women wore a tunic but wealthier women wore a stola on top. A stola was like a long dress and was usually worn by married women. Stolas could come in many colours and were very beautiful, which is why they were reserved for the rich elite. Women might also wear a palla on top. A palla was a long shawl for when a woman was outside. The

more folds a palla had, the wealthier a woman was. Clothes were important for women in the same way that they were important for men, they showed wealth and status, things that the Romans valued greatly.

In Rome, clothes weren't the only way to be fashionable. Hairstyles and accessories could also show many interesting things about a Roman's life. A simple glance at a Roman's hair and accessories could provide a lot of information about them.

Women wore jewellery made out of gold, pearls, emeralds, amethysts and other expensive materials. They were ornately decorated with special patterns and designs to add to the value. A Roman man could buy a lavish gift for his wife to show off and compete with other men.

Rings were particularly important for Roman men. A man would usually only wear one ring so it was vital that he chose the finest one, to show off to others. The ring was also extremely important as it carried a seal to press on wax tablets, in a similar way that we would sign a document today. A Roman man's ring was a tool but also an accessory and was an important part of his daily life.

Hairstyles could also show many things about a person. They could show their age, their opulence, and even if they were in grieving or not. Young children were allowed to grow their hair as long as they wanted but when a boy grew up, he had to cut off his hair. It became a tradition, symbolising that the person had become a man. Beards were not fashionable until the reign of Emperor Hadrian who wore a beard, which prompted many men to copy him. Before then, only poor Romans had beards as it was cheaper not to cut hair. Men were also allowed to grow their hair to show that they were in mourning.

A Roman lady's hair was important too. Up until the reign of Emperor Augustus, a Roman woman would wear a simple hairstyle. During Augustus' reign, women had fancier hairstyles. Hair

became a way of showing class and status so richer women would have more detailed and intricate hairstyles. The Romans liked blonde hair so many women would dye their hair or use wigs to achieve the perfect colour.

To conclude, clothes could show a lot about class and accessories showed off how much disposable income a Roman had. Fashion showed to the world who they wanted to be, not the real person inside. Fashion was a way of presenting status and wealth, I believe that it was extremely important for the Romans, and I hope you agree.

Isla Hutchinson



Review Writing L2

Hot Air Balloon

Down below I saw dark woods, turquoise rivers, black roads and noisy towns. The balloon landed at the North Pole! I saw Santa and six of his tiny elves! Santa let me wrap up presents and tidy the workshop. He let me ride in his red sleigh. I got to drive the sleigh! I went back to Santa's workshop and he gave me some stamps for my collection.

Alastair Forbes

Down below I saw tired camels, fierce wildcats and flying parrots. The balloon landed at the pyramids! I was in Egypt! I explored Egypt with pointy pyramids, sandy deserts and tall palm trees. It felt hot. It was time to leave. I got back in the balloon and it took me to my back garden.

Patrick Galvin

I travelled thorough the clouds until I reached Sweetieland. It was exciting. I went to swim in the chocolate river. While I was there I ate lots and lots of sweet. I was sad when the key began to glow. My adventure was over.

Maia Szejkwowska

Suddenly the magic key began to glow. I got a surprise when my balloon grew and changed into a hot air balloon. I climbed in and floated up, up and away. I felt happy and excited.

Sebastian Laird-Portch

Down below I saw blue rivers, green trees, snowy mountains and small giraffes. The balloon landed in a hot desert. I rode on a furry, friendly camel. I made a pretty sandcastle too. It was time to go home. I got back in the big balloon and flew through the blue sky. I landed in my pretty garden.

Amy Davidson

Down below I saw houses and cars, farms, trees and a park. The balloon landed in Unicorn Land! In Unicorn Land I flew on unicorns over rainbows. It felt high up! When I got home I brought back a toy unicorn. That adventure was magical.

Siena Majumdar

My Holiday

On holiday I went to a car show. I liked it very much. I went there with my family. When we got to Glamis Castle we stayed in the castle grounds. I enjoyed staying there. My favourite things about my holiday were face painting and buying a necklace. We had a picnic. It was great fun and I would like to go on holiday to the car show again.

Layla Whaley

On holiday I went to Croatia. I liked it very much. I went there with Mum, Dad and Fin. We travelled there by plane and boat. The journey was fun and exciting. When we got to Croatia we stayed in an apartment. I enjoyed staying there. My favourite things about my holiday were the wedding and sleeping under the stars. It was great fun and I would like to go on a holiday to Croatia again.

Oscar Connell

On holiday I went to the Isle of May. I liked it very much. I went there with my family. We travelled there by ferry. The journey was awesome and bouncy. My favourite things about my holiday were spotting the puffins and seals and eating ice-cream. It was great fun and I would like to go back there again.

Eesha Prasad

When I am Famous

Famous Singer

When I grow up I will become a famous singer. I want to write a famous song and sing it. I will take music classes and practise singing. I would want a famous house. I would want to be in a magazine. I would open a music school. I would teach the children to sing and dance and write a song for them. The children will have many classes in their school. The music class would start after lunch.

Lauren Franklin

Famous Chef

When I am older I would like to be a chef. I am going to be famous for owning a special restaurant. To become a famous chef, I would have to learn at a famous cook school. When I am famous I will be a judge of MasterChef.

Rosie Payne

Famous Singer

When I am older I would like to be a singer. I am going to be famous for getting a world number one. I would have to promote my song worldwide. When I am famous I will have a Lamborghini.

Oliver Penman

Famous Tennis Player

When I am older I would like to be a tennis player. I am going to be famous for being the youngest British Wimbledon champion ever. To become a famous tennis player, I would have to go to my tennis classes, listen to my coach and work hard to practise with my dad. When I am famous I will have my own plane to take me on holiday to Turkey.

Alistair Yu

Famous Broadcaster

When I am older I would like to be a broadcaster. I am going to be famous for having a programme that tells you about how animals live and drink and about underwater caves and different animals in different countries. To be a good broadcaster I would go to university to learn about animals and read books and go to countries and watch them. When I am famous I will have my own private zoo. When I have lots of money I am going to buy 222 dogs.

Rory Ogg

Famous Writer

When I am older I would like to be a writer. I am going to be famous for writing stories for children. My stories would make children feel happy. To become good at this I would have to go to university and learn how to write stories. When I am famous I will like to be on the cover of a magazine. I would help other children to write stories too.

Famous Explorer

When I am older I would like to be an explorer. I am going to be famous for exploring the jungle and finding a new type of parrot. To become good at this I would keep fit and do travelling and walking. When I am famous I will have a housekeeper and I can go on holiday whenever I like. I would like to tell you about the rare parrot I found. The parrot was blue, purple, yellow and red and it likes to live on the top of the jungle trees where it is very, very hot. It eats crunchy leaves and it makes this noise, ar-ar-ar!

William Walker

Halloween Spell

A Spell to grow dragon wings

Throw in electric blue spider eggs,
Boil blood red crows' legs.
Drop in ghost white moonlight.
Tip in puke pink rotten leaves.

Lucia De la Vega-Moreno

A Spell to turn a teacher into a frog

Drop in blood red toadstools.
Throw in mint green seaweed.
Tip in ten spoonfuls of witch's hair.
Stir in slimy green frogs.

Adam Jamieson

A Spell to turn People into Alicorns

Knead neon pink unicorns' horns.
Squeeze sparkling gold Alicorns' wings.
Sprinkle royal purple rainbows.

Astrid Kiddie

Halloween Spell

Put in green milk.
Sprinkle pink unicorn horns.
Blend in rose gold shimmers.
Make this into pumpkins!

Imogen Lilley

L6 Setting the Scene

Afterwards

It had been months since it happened. It had been three months since she had seen another living soul. She had to be brave if she was to make it through...

Trudging slowly through the barely visible dirt (now mud) track, she stepped on a shard of glass. Before, this would be painful, but now it was just something that created liquid and pierced the skin. She carried on and noticed an oil drum, the burning aroma painfully pricked on her nose hairs. The stuffy, polluted wind caught her by surprise and she accidentally stumbled into an engine of some kind of farm machinery. The rust gently dug into her thigh.

A fox leaped out, not realising that an acquaintance of his was peering right through his beady black eyes, they both needed some attention but also both were unsure, so they took their different paths. Taken away by surprise, a stag fled from the scene, taking its herd with him.

This uninhabited, neglected area was one of many. Domesticated animals had long become feral but few did remain, long awaiting their owners return. An old gatekeeper's house was tucked behind a weather torn tree. Remains of humans could be seen around the shed. What seemed like a brand new padlock hung along the door. A faint scent of cleanliness lingered the nearer she got to the window.

Rattle, rattle, rattle... the noise became constant, she ducked behind a bush, it stopped... She investigated further. It was just the roof, a wave of relief swept around her, she didn't have a clue what the other people could have turned into. If she ever saw one that is...

The constant wind grew stronger and stronger, she needed shelter immediately. Looking around she couldn't see anything that would do apart from the locked shed. This wasn't a fairytale, it wouldn't just appear. Some berries grew innocently among the bushes. Starving and cold, these berries may have tasted bitter, but seeing that unless she wanted to hunt, that was the only choice. Rain poured onto her head like the gods felt sad for her. She lifted the broken window pane above her head. It did the job. Desperately she ran towards the shed. The padlock was gone! She opened the door. Maybe all hope was not lost...

Nina van der Kuyf



Disappearing World

As the thunder in the distance crackles, the clouds begin to cover up the sun. The old brick house begins to turn into ash, as simultaneously a mysterious door forms in the middle of the road. The semi-detached houses begin to crack gradually, as a mysterious man creeps up behind the buildings. The whistling of the wind rushes through the cracks of the disappearing houses. The low rumbles cause the now formed door to swing open. The infinite sky begins to display the glittering moon in the sky. The door appears to lead to nowhere. A lamp post appears to be hanging beneath the pavement!

Harrison Orr

L6 Setting the Scene *continued*

Hanging On

As the rumble of the train grew closer the rain began to fall. The people on the train stared at the boy when he whizzed past, hanging on desperately. His shoes, which had been pulled off by the man trying to help, were left by the side of the rails. He saw all the blurry, shocked faces of the passers-by and began to think that this wasn't such a good idea after all.

On the other side of the platform was a small, yellow coffee shop. He smelt the coffee even though he was only in the station for less than thirty seconds. The camera, which he was holding in his right hand, caught a glimpse of the man that had pulled the boy's shoes off, running alongside the train. He saw the pigeons going about their daily life and wished he was one of them. The wind howled around the station like a pack of hungry wolves.

The boy saw a sign saying: 11:35 Paris. Panic began to spread through the boy, the train he was on was the 11:35...

Lucy Smith

Secret Quest

Silently we sneaked onto the shore of the haunted island. The water was shimmering from the brightly shining moon.

As we were gradually approaching the island we could see a light, which was flickering briefly, coming from a scary looking house perching creepily on a distant hill. Suddenly there was an unknown thunderstorm coming from the south side of the hill. Harry and I were quietly waiting for another flicker from the light again when our small boat, which was called the harpoon, instantly crashed into the edge of the minute harbour. The harbour took you sadly twisting and turning up the hill. As we were annoyingly climbing the stairs, which was more like a long lasting mountain, we saw a darkened forest to our right. There were howling noises make their way to my ears.

The sea was now making violent waves which were quickly damaging the rope for their boat to stay on the island. And in the blink of an eye our boat was taken into the sea and never seen again. We were sure that the stairs were about to give way so we had the sense to climb the grass instead. Finally the hike was done and we had reached the top. The scary house was not as scary anymore. Now it was just a normal house on its own. We heard a smashing coming inside and there was suddenly footsteps moving from out of the kitchen into the bedroom and then into the kitchen where the door was. After a moment of hesitation we crouch under the window. Then the door handle opened and they saw quite an old lady with a walking stick. She looked like she was in shock and we thought we had seen her before. They were frightened so he lady said they could stay for the night.

Christopher Gordon

Secret Quest

Brightly, the light shone from the abandoned house, illuminating the rotting staircase which was winding like a snake around the hill.

Softly, our oars glided silkily through the ice cold waters of the fabled Lake Fantenegro, the stars in the sky above reflected on the water which was reflecting our oars in return. Perching on the hill was a creaky house which looked like it had been through the ice age and had survived. Suddenly, a shadow moved from underneath the boat, with oars poised and ready for attack, we sat still and the only thing I could hear was the sound of my heart in my head. Then all of a sudden it left, leaving us alone in the water. As we pulled the oars out of the water they caused a swirl in the clear water, whilst being pretty, were a perfect attraction for the monsters from the depths to come up and cut us in two with their razor sharp teeth. Unexpectedly, Tommy, the man with the top hat, was whistling, this was scary because the only time Tommy ever whistled was when he was scared. He whistled in the trenches of the Great War with shells being fired and exploding over our heads.

Eventually, we reached the bank, collapsing wearily on the soft sand. We stared up at the starry night sky. We sat up and saw that a monster had slinked up silently from the depths of Lake Fantenegro and had, with one blow of its icy breath, turned the boat into a massive block of ice. Now the boat was slowly sinking to the bottom of the lake. We were trapped on the forgotten island of Tasmanica. A haunted island, lying in the middle of Lake Fantenegro. With no way off.

Noises come from the house of Jim the carpenter who, when he died, turned into a ghost and vowed to haunt the island ever since. People had tried to come and steal his treasure but no one had ever come home. We were going to be the first. We were going to come home again. We would be the first.

Lyndsey McDowall



L7 Creating Atmosphere

Pip Approaches Miss Havisham's House

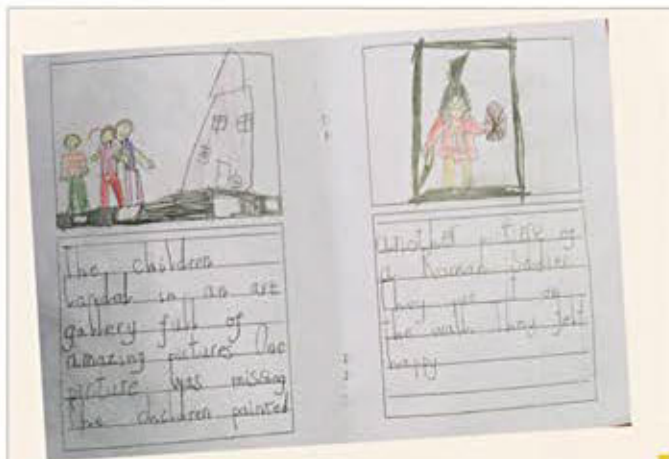
As Pip approaches the house, he begins to hear the whistling wind, running past his ears. The birds start screeching and he looks up. The mist begins to part and reveals an eerie, haunted house. His mouth drops open as he stares at the old building. Ivy creeps up the walls and the stone pillars of the gates crumble before him. As he meets the gate at the top of the path, Pip touches the mossy, damp bricks and pulls his hand away quickly. When he turns around to look at the garden, he notices the unshapen trees, and the branches swaying and cracking in the breeze. As Pip takes in a breath of smoky, moist air, he turns and pushes the gate. It screeches as if it is crying in pain then opens slowly. The grey clouds hanging over the house send a shiver down Pip's back. The paint flakes off the gate as he pushes it closed. The stale, dry leaves crunch under his feet. Pip stares up at the house and notices the smashed and cracked windows falling apart by the second. The dull sky and grey clouds make the atmosphere feel even more mysterious. Pip gathers his strength again and knocks on the door, but as he raises his hand, the door opens by itself.

Orla McKelvey

Pip Approaches Miss Havisham's House

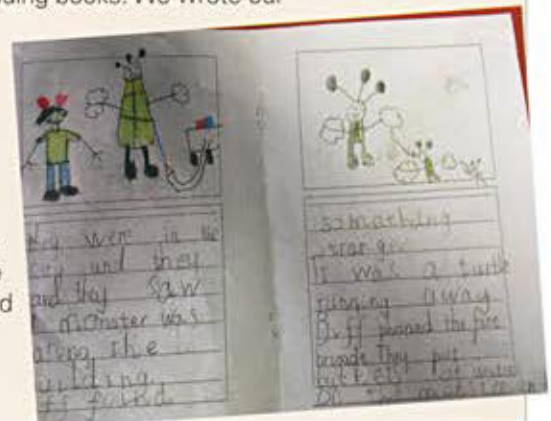
The wind howled through the lifeless trees as Pip walked gingerly up the weed-littered path towards Mrs Havisham's house. The moon glinted like a silver blade above the old house. Upon touching the rust-laden gate, Pip felt it was scratchy and crumbling ever so slightly. The gate screeched like the birds overhead. He glanced at the windows of the once grand house. All that was left of them were shards of broken glass. The leaves underfoot disintegrated at the touch of his tattered leather boots. Bits of rock, no bigger than a penny, fell down from above Pip's head from the wall above him. The house was nothing more than a hollow echo of what it used to be. Everything had lost its lustre or was dead like the leaves. The moisture in the air sapped into Pip's thin and feeble body. The air had a stale smell as a solitary wisp of smoke came out of a single chimney - no smoke rose from the other chimneys that were scattered across the slated roof. Pip wouldn't have been surprised to find, a few days later, the house was simply rubble. The black clouds above him cracked and drops of rain fell to the dusty landscape below. Large crows swooped above Pip as if they thought he was their next meal. He knocked on the yellow door knocker, that could have been once a brilliant gold. To Pip's shock, the decaying door crumbled. Upon entering the house, Pip felt very anxious. The wind, once fierce, had died down until it was no more than a breeze. Dust crept down his throat as a thick mist formed. The dust tasted older than the house itself. Harsh, echoing cries from the house frightened Pip. He leapt back in fear and fell onto the oaken floor. To his horror, he had landed next to a rat's skull. A large, black, blotchy bodied spider, drifted from its silken web, with the husks of flies knitted in it. Pip felt a cold hand on his shoulder and heard a harsh, raspy voice, "Hello Pip. I've been expecting you." It was Mrs Havisham, her crutch headed stick in hand.

Finn Picken



Magic Key Writing

In L1 we have really enjoyed getting to know Kipper, Biff and Chip who feature in our reading books. We wrote our very own Magic Key Adventure stories. Here you can read part of Hannah McLaren, Emily Crang and Nathan Smith's stories called Missing Colour Adventure, The Painting Adventure and The City. Everyone in L1 feels so proud of their stories.



Old Boys' Creative Writing prize F1-F3

Goodnight, Peter Pan

It was a cruel world. Dark and desperate times. Two parallel dimensions converged as many took their first cry, and many, their last. War was born, nurtured by despair and exhaustion. For in peace, it was the children who buried their parents, but in War, parents buried their children. From a young age, Wendy was warned to never cry out, to never show her distress. In fact, to never let any emotions twist her face. If she did, it would come. He always came. Heeding the warning, Wendy never did. For she was a child of War.

Alas, Wendy's younger siblings did not understand. Young innocent children never do. Nightmare induced wails were soon extinguished by thunderous ticking, it was always ticking before he came. Wendy paced to her brothers' bedside, using her body to shield them from whatever the grotesque figure was, forming in the shadows. She knew of such spirits, bewitching people into giving up their days of their future to power his cursed dust. Wendy reached back, subconsciously pinpointing her dagger stashed in the back of her nightdress, remembering her parents repeated phrase drilling through her mind again and again.

"If you want to survive, you must say his name. Always go for his faerie."

A pocket clock materialised as the shadow's form stopped twitching. Turning slowly as it targeted the source of fear, reaching out with a beckoning finger. Wendy drank in the spirit's appearance, dismissing the charming, but disturbing grin of a thirteen-year-old for something more sinister. She refused to let her siblings receive harm. Wendy boldly stepped forward, the frosted touch she took to her forehead, accepted. The spirit was taken back, not used to such willingness, before grinning feverishly. The clock by his side immediately began to tick furiously anti-clockwise as they plunged into a world where no light thrives and gloom rambles chaos. The three living and breathing souls in the dingy room went down to two. Wendy's siblings slept on. Neverland was the land of the cursed.

Land of the unfortunate. Land of days that never came. It was crammed to the brim with disheartened spirits, most were children who went missing. Children who fell out their prams on street corners or crawled out their cribs. Forgotten. It was a confusing place, hidden among the multiverses, stars and nebulas. With jungles of skeleton ecosystems scattered around, barely covering the curious souls who came to see the disturbance. She only just became aware of the spirit, who sat cross-legged on a rock, lounging as he admired the clock face. The shadow sensed Wendy's stare, looking up and challenged her glare with his glowing eyes. Wendy would not give the spirit satisfaction, swallowing the rising dread of never seeing her brothers again, she glowered at the phantom with an empty mask. He let his gaze drift to his clock, pleased with the numbers, before waving his hand. Something beneath the earth seemed to snap, when Wendy had a horrible thought. Before, he was trespassing in her realm, this time Wendy was trespassing in his. Or at least, she was a part of his world now. The shadowed figure rose as the dry, cracked ground gave a lurch. Wendy stood her ground, never once tearing her eyes from the all-seeing spirit. The earth paused, as if inhaling, before it began to shudder, cold breezes picked up the pace, rumbling and wheezing with ease. It was as if abandoned cogs and rusty coils deep down were sputtering into motion. Wendy's breath hit the back of her throat, eyes darted around to confirm her theory. Neverland was a ship.

Wendy scowled as salty star dust stung her face, whipped into a frenzy by the racing breeze. Her nimble fingers flickered back to check her dagger. It's frosty, bladed edge greeted her hand like an old friend. Wendy peered down as she felt something tug on her tattered nightdress. A skinny raccoon, or a little boy, Wendy wasn't sure. His frail form flickered back and forth, but the child's wise, sorrowful eyes never changed. She knelt down, cupping

the boy's hands in her own, almost flinching at how cold they were. The boy didn't object, but handed Wendy



something flimsy, fumbling with grimy fingers in attempt of not being seen. She craned her neck, squinting in the dark at the object - a tiger lily. Wendy glanced back up in confusion. Only to see the retreating figure of two ghostly, similar-looking children, one of which was the young boy she met... siblings. Wendy's heart ached, watching the raccoons amble into the safety of the woods. She was barely surprised when a little badger, bear cub, rabbit and skunk scampered them. Their shapes sputtering from woodland dwellers to weary children. Wendy inspected the fiery flower again, taken aback at what she found written there. She had struck a jackpot.

The shadowed figure had long foreseen Wendy's plan, taking her attack almost too calmly, ridding her of her left hand in the process with a lazy swipe of a mangled claw. It was too easy. Just like all the others. What he hadn't expected her to do was, in a swift motion, draw out a dagger and strike through the heart of his clock. The spirit doubled over, clutching and clawing at his deformed throat with his cold laughter trickling through the air. She had brains, more smarts than the spirit had anticipated. But not enough. Wendy stared down at the wretched soul, steel like expression veiling her smirk of victory. Her dagger twisted through the clock again and watched as the shadow gave a wince but welcomed the pain. Wendy smirked for real now, her cracked lips twisted up, letting a little emotion break her mask. Just enough to unsettle the spirit. He really thought he could still win. The spirit could hear his faerie screeching in agony but did nothing. He knew that Wendy could not stop either of them, so he let her have her moment of victory before turning the tables. That was until Wendy stooped down and whispered with horrible grin. The

Rotary Competition Inspiration

spirit barely noticed a flower - a tiger lily - slowly waft down to the ground in the breeze. Wendy did not care about her hand, her life force sluggishly watering the ground into rust. What she did care about was kneeling down, savouring the silence, before breaking it with three words. Two of those words were necessary, but she felt like throwing one more for the sheer fun of it. Two was all she needed. The spirit flashed white before shrieking, light flooded the realm as he was dragged forcefully towards his faerie. Young, impish face no longer as charismatic as it seemed. The watch's cracked glass emitted red, forcing out the deadly dagger before mending itself, trapping the villain in the process, thrumming with such power. Wendy felt a rush of happiness for the first time in years and let it dance on her face. She looked down at the watch, repeating the same phrase she whispered to the spirit just once more.

"Goodnight, Peter Pan."

Wendy was still as agile as she used to be, still wearing her raggedy nightdress from that one fateful night. It was the only benefit of never ageing, still being able to possess all her hard earned tricks and skills. Due to the loss of her left hand, she took her crooked dagger, curved from the impact of the faerie, and fixed it onto her limb. 'Captain Hook', her lost boys would joke. It was her duty to guard the pocket watch (and Peter) now, and although the faerie brought back bad memories, she would still look fondly upon the watch. Long ago, Wendy had harnessed its powers and was able to see her brothers, but only three times. Thrice and no more. A bittersweet smile made its way onto the captain's face as she flipped open the watch a third time, old habits die hard, yet she would not prefer any other way. Captain Hook gazed longingly into the horizon off the ship, her blonde hair whipped into a frenzy by the wind in a way Hook gradually learned to adore. Wendy shut the watch with a sharp click, fondly admiring the raging stars and unforgivable nebulas that sailed by. After all, it was no longer such dark and desperate times, but still, a cruel world.

Jessica Chen

Inspiration feels like the rush of confidence and determination that fills you, a feeling of relief at finding something to get your teeth in to. Complete and utter focus.

'I can do this,' you think. You know. You are inspired. Throughout my life, I've often been inspired. Inspired by people, books, places, magnificent music, events. So has everyone. So will have 99% of the people whose writing you've read.

So what?

In my opinion, the truth is that often the biggest sources of inspiration- the most powerful and longest lasting derive from emotional pain and the subsequent learning from this. We can take inspiration from anger, from loss, from injustice. Emotions that ache, ache to our very cores and battle to control us. Now, that very part of us that we hide away and see as something dark is only viewed as such because of our ignorance of it and the way that we are taught that only positive emotions breed positive outcomes. Lies. Intense emotion breeds intense focus. The use of this focus can inspire us to be better and grow.

That's why after a breakup, you'll easily eat an entire chocolate bar in one sitting or watch episode after episode of 'Friends', but then you will move forward to a better and brighter future.

Have you ever stopped to notice how the drive we get from the feeling of inspiration can be akin to the focus we get from anger? But it is mixed with sweet orange juice rather than burning vodka. The greats from history weren't always inspired by a pretty flower or nice tune. They were inspired by anger, by hate, by grief. These are all difficult emotions. For example, the Taj Mahal, that vision of white marble riding up from the gardens which surround it was created by Shah Jahan who was mourning, and full of grief for his wife, who had died in labour.

At times, there is such an untapped source of inspiration within each and every person that just erupts in useless ways without control. I'm sure that you have experienced that- everyone has. When emotion just bursts out, leaving feelings of embarrassment, regret, and guilt. We shouldn't allow emotions to control us, but instead we must master them. By focusing on them and transcending them.

Our emotions belong to us. So, logically, we should use their power for the things which we care about. Perhaps, instead of learning not to hold grudges, we should keep that energy you feel from them and learn to direct it to achieve great things. Things that matter to us, which are worth all of that energy. Let us therefore turn negative experiences into a determination which will make positive ones.

Injustice?

Fight for justice.

Betrayal?

Become better than those who let you down.

Loss?

Help others who feel the same.

This darkness within us contains the inspiration we need - and all we need to do is use it to find the Light.

Abigail Cousins



Scottish Young Writer of the Year Award

Aisling Ellis produced a thoughtful and engaging piece on 'Seen and Not Heard' which was long listed for the prestigious Scottish Young Writer Award 2019. This persuasive and informative essay presented a case for the introvert, arguing that we as a society ought to value different personality types equally and not have a bias towards extroversion.

Seen and not heard

When I was younger, I was told I was too quiet. I didn't like big groups and when I thought my "friend" was being helpful by teaching me to fit in (and basically become more "socially acceptable"), she was really shaping me into someone I was not. This led to low self-esteem, little confidence and the constant question: 'What is wrong with me? But after hearing a Ted Talk by Susan Cain, a light was finally shed on my confusion: I am an introvert and not alone.

Today introversion and extroversion are two of the most exhaustively researched in psychology. If you're introverted, you know of the bias against us and the deep pain it can cause. As a child, your parents apologised for your shyness. At school, you might have been prodded to 'come out of your shell'. If you're now an adult, you might even feel guilty about turning down an invitation to go out and instead stay at home. You may have been criticised for being quiet.

It's commonly thought that: "to be great is to be bold, to be happy is to be sociable." We see ourselves as a nation of extroverts. One third to half of the population is introverted. This means that one out of every two to three people you know are introverted. If these statistics surprise you, it's probably because so many introverts pretend to be extroverts known as Closet Introverts. They pass undetected in school, work and everyday life. The reason they do this is to blend in.

Jung's "Psychological Types," popularised the terms introvert and extrovert. Introverts are drawn to the world of thought and feeling, whereas extroverts to the dimension of the external life of people and activities. Introverts focus on the meaning of events but extroverts will jump right into the events themselves. Introverts recharge their batteries by being alone and feel "just right" with less stimulation, such as reading or doing a puzzle. Extroverts need to recharge surrounded by other people. Both introverts and extroverts tackle work very differently. Extroverts tend to rush right in, finishing quickly and are comfortable multitasking and risk-taking. Introverts often work more slowly and deliberately and like

to concentrate on one task at a time. Introverts are therefore seen as slow and, most importantly, shy and sensitive.

Nothing in life is black and white though, no one is really a pure introvert or an extrovert. If you feel you aren't really one or the other, you may be an ambivert and on the spectrum. You might sit right bang in the middle or even slide up and down the scale depending on the environment. Our place on the spectrum influences who we are friends with, how we resolve differences and show love. It's reflected in our brain pathways, neurotransmitters and remote corners of our nervous system. We all fall at different points of the spectrum. As Carl Jung stated: "There is no such thing as a pure introvert or extrovert. Such a man would be in a lunatic asylum if he existed at all."

However, we live with "The Extrovert Ideal" the belief that the ideal self is gregarious, alpha and at home in the spotlight. We idolise the person who is comfortable in the centre of everything. Introversion along with its siblings, sensitivity, seriousness and shyness are now a second class personality trait, somewhere between disappointment and pathology. Introverts living under the Ideal are like women living in a man's world in the 19th century. But we make a horrible mistake to embrace the "Extrovert Ideal". Our greatest ideas, art and inventions – (from the theory of evolution to Chopin's Nocturnes to a personalised computer)- all came from quiet and cerebral people who knew how to tune in to their inner worlds. As we know introverts find themselves focusing in on situations and will often find themselves listening to a conversation, instead of joining in.

About 70% of introverts are "highly sensitive" which means they are more likely to feel pleasantly overwhelmed by "Clair De Lune" by Debussy or an act of kindness. They may be quicker than others to feel sickened by violence and conflict. Sensitivity is not a bad thing as sensitive people are careful, reflective and deep thinkers. They are observant and avoid taking dangers by 'looking before leaping'.

Classrooms don't accommodate the introvert. These days, tables are clustered together to provide lots of



stimulation, which as we know is what the extrovert favours. Many projects are group assignments. Groups tend to follow the talker of the room. This means that people can't be in a group of people without mimicking one another's behaviour and attitude. In school, we are taught that group work is an effective way to learn by discussing and sharing. We all know that classmate who doesn't appear to be contributing and is sitting in silence. Yet we forget that solitude is an important key to creativity. As Susan Cain claims: "collaboration kills creativity". Introverts prefer to work independently, and solitude can be a catalyst to innovation.

It's not just in schools, but open plan offices are becoming more popular and to work alone would make you an outlaw of the business. People forget though that Wozniak worked alone and would come into work at non-working hours to tackle his problems. Also, Dr Seuss. He spent his work days in his private studio, where his walls were scattered with drawings and writing. Exceptional performance depends not only on the groundwork but the right working conditions. These days they are hard to come by. If introverts were allowed time to think in solitude, without being ridiculed, the quiet kid in class would have more to say. Introverts' drive to creativity blossoms in times of solitude and without their space, it will die.

Introversion isn't a disease that can be cured. Without it we wouldn't have: The Theory of Gravity, Peter Pan, Orwell's Animal Farm, The Cat in the Hat, ET, Schindler's List and Google. So next time you see someone with a composed face and a soft voice, remember that inside his or her mind they might be solving the world's problems. Don't see the introvert as a problem, see the problem as a societal preference for the extrovert. Now accept the introvert and embrace their difference in peace and quiet.

Aisling Ellis

Creative Stories F4

Dauncin with the De'il

I know as I lie here, I have not long to live. My life hangs in front of my eyes and I am reliving all of it bit by bit. As I look back, I see I have been blessed with a long and fruitful life but one also haunted with great regret and remorse. I inherited the family title and estate near Kirriemuir from my father who died after a fall from his horse. At twenty I had the pleasure of being introduced to the most beautiful woman I had ever met at a local laird's ball. We were promptly engaged and expecting a child soon after.

The weather had been kind to us and we were well into autumn when things took a sudden turn. Despite thunder and snow setting in, my wife gave birth and to our joy we found we had a beautiful baby girl. She was born with golden ringlets and large, round, almond eyes that sparkled with mischief, a firm set jaw and small perfect lips. And this is when all my unsaucht began.

The time passed quickly for us. I was kept busy with the estate but always found time to entertain our little girl. My wife was kept busy managing the servants and running the fortalice. Eighteen short years were spent with my wife and daughter until my wife was beset with fever, confined to her room where she tragically died 3 weeks later. Her face is still with me till this day. My numb old hands can still feel her lingering presence.

Her death came as a shock to all in the house as she was well liked but what stayed with me most was her dying wish, which was that our daughter should marry a respectable gentleman or laird. I had no idea of how to go about arranging a marriage so I thought I would have a ceilidh. After all, that was how I met my darling wife. (Oh, how I regret that now.) I sent word to my fellow land owners that there was to be a wolf hunt and then a ceilidh.

There was rumoured to be a huge, albino wolf rampaging the area and pillaging sheep. Myth or not I thought it would be a good sport to go out and see if we could kill the beast. All the servants in the house were aghast when I told them of my plan and they

warned I'd be "dauncin with the de'il" if I slaughtered a mythical beast. But we still went out and we still found the beast despite muttered scepticism from the household. The hunt that followed was a wild and reckless one. The trees whipped passed like spirits and the glamsy sky grew grey and troubled.

We soon found the wolf and the servants had not exaggerated when they said it was huge. The beast lurched and plunged but still we hung desperately to its guttery fur. When we finally brought down the creature the heavens opened and we were drookit by the time we returned to the fortalice; the sight of the roaring fire and the smoking pork was a joy to behold.

The thunder cracked and the rain lashed against the windows as the ceilidh went on. Late into the night, a young chiel approached me and asked if he could take my daughter's hand in marriage. I was relieved to finally have someone ask and immediately consented. They were soon due to be married in the parish and settle down. A day or two before the ceremony my daughter approached me and said that she was with child and that when her fiancé had found out, he had deserted her in the middle of the night.

Shocked by this fankle I was forced, as was the custom of the time, to banish my daughter to live with the old woman in the lodge. And so with tears streaming down my face, I sent her away never to return. I never saw her again.

News was brought to me one day that she had given birth to a baby boy. Going against all custom, I sent down some food for the bairn. A few weeks passed and again I received news about my daughter and her child. Such had been the shame of her fiancé leaving her, my darling child, had cut her baby's throat and then killed herself. The grief of this loss was too much for me so soon after my wife's death. I felt as if I had been gralloched but was still compelled to look upon her once more. The paleness of her flesh stood out as a stark contrast against the dark stone of the morgue. Her child was laid with her.

The grandson I had never met.

According to tradition, the bodies were buried at the crossroads along with other suicides. I could not just let my daughter be laid to rest in an unmarked grave, so in her memory I raised a cairn with stones from the hills nearby. The cairn became a land mark over time, known to everyone. A beacon to a girl's shame. The lonely years wore on and one day a bedraggled figure appeared on my doorstep and started havoring about ghouls who walked the woods at night. My curiosity got the better of me and I decided to ride out that same night and see if this mysterious apparition would appear to me.

The wind was writhing like a wraith that fearful night and my horse's wonderings led me to the cairn, where some years before I had buried my daughter and her son. As I drew near and reined in my horse a fearful wail pierced the gloaming and I saw through the smirr a woman running hither and thither clasping a baby with blood dripping down its neck, to her breast. I knew at that moment I was seeing my beautiful, terrifying daughter from beyond the grave. She began darting towards me which startled my horse and made him rear up. The de'il was indeed dauncin. In trembling fear, we fled from that accursed place. Looking back, I saw her for the last time.

How haunted my remaining years became, no rest, no peace, my tortured soul consumed by my guilt. Now my time on earth has finished and I will go to my daughter in the great sleep and pray that she forgives me for the wrong I did to her and that my soul can finally rest.

Anthony Milnes



Creative Stories F4

Not Quite the Fairytale

Once upon a time, in a land far, far away, there was a King and Queen who were living happily together in their grand castle in the centre of the city when they decided to have a baby. There was a huge celebration in the city, a party for the birth of the new heir to the throne. Three years passed by and the relationship between the King and Princess was closer than ever. But what came with this was jealousy. After the birth, the Queen suddenly became very unwell and therefore she had to stay in hospital meanwhile, the Princess was left with the King. During this time, the King had struggled to adapt to his new role as father. With the Princess not sleeping at night, the King became too exhausted to visit his wife. A month later when she returned home, the baby and father were closer than ever. They did everything together, hand in hand, just as the King and Queen had done before the Princess was born. One night, after the King had put his daughter to bed, the Queen sneaked into her stately room and tried to give the Princess some 'medicine' to make sure she never woke up. Suddenly, the King darted out from behind the bedroom door and smashed the bottle out of the Queen's hand. The King packed two suitcases, one for him and one for his daughter. They left the palace that night, never to return.

This is when our story begins, ten years on from that moment. King Leopold was now living in the deep, dark woods with his daughter, Princess Margaret. She always questioned him about her mother but he refused to answer her questions. It played on her mind day and night. Was mother still around? Did she still love her?

King Leopold worked down by the river, chopping down the trees during the day before returning to his countryside cottage at night. In the day, Margaret would stay in the house as she wasn't allowed out; it was too dangerous. Usually she never saw another human, but today would be different...

It was a crisp day, beautiful for winter walks and you could hear the crunch of the leaves under the thin layer of frost. As usual, Margaret had been awoken by the singing of the birds. Her dad

entered her bedroom. It was petite with a gorgeous fireplace, just like the one in her old bedroom, not that she remembered. She had pink wall paper with a castle on it. She always dreamt about what it would be like to be a princess. Little did she know what was coming up...

As her father approached, she got up and hugged him.

"Stay safe, stay warm and don't answer the door to any strangers."

"I know father you've told me thousands of times!"

Margaret quickly got dressed, made her bed and raced to the front door ready for another day of fun. Now you think being stuck in the cottage everyday was boring? You'd be wrong! Margaret opened the door and started singing. This was her favourite thing to do. Suddenly, the garden was full of animals. Squirrels, rabbits, birds, chipmunks, deer and even a turtle, were all here to listen to her soothing voice. She sang all morning.

When it was time for lunch, she went into the kitchen and began making a pot of soup. Tomato, her favourite. Father would appreciate this tonight after being working outside in the cold all day.

Just then, she heard a knock at the door. She froze. This had never happened before. Father never came home at lunchtime. Another knock. She tiptoed over to the window to have a peak outside. There was an elderly woman, at least she thought it was a woman. She had grey hair, tightly curled. She wore a thin, black coat, which draped behind her on the ground and her hood was up. All she could see of the face was a nose shaped like a coat hook. She carried a brown wicker basket, picnic like. Margaret walked over to the door, she knew father's rules but this was just an innocent woman. Her hands were clammy and she could feel the sweat beginning to drip from her forehead. She couldn't remember the last time she had spoken to somebody, other than Father. What was the worst that could happen?

"Please. It's a very cold day. I would

rather appreciate a warm bowl of soup before I continue on my journey."

How could Margaret let her leave without her request? She opened the modest door and let the teeny woman inside. Margaret led her through to the kitchen before she took down her hood. Just then, Margaret noticed her piercing brown eyes, which were quite similar to hers actually. She turned herself around and grabbed a bowl. She filled it completely with the scrumptious soup and handed it over.

"Oh, my young cherub. How can I ever thank you enough?"

Margaret gave a weak smile, she felt content. Cherub? That was what Father called her. Father would be proud of her, she had helped an aged woman but she couldn't help but worry that maybe he would be angry as she had let such a woman into the cottage. The decrepit lady unfastened the button on her wicker bag and brought out an apple. It was the rosiest, reddest and shiniest apple she had ever seen. Nothing like one that she would find in this forest.

"Take it and bite it. One bite is all it will take."

Margaret took the apple out of her hands. Those hands were woven with veins popping out of them. She had the longest nails. White, sharp and very-well manicured. Without hesitation, she politely reached out for the apple as she had been told and bit into it.

Suddenly everything began to fade. She could feel herself turning a bloodless pale. She felt as if she was being swallowed up into a deep and dark hole. Margaret wasn't thinking straight, she needed help. She fell from the chair unconscious and suddenly the only thing she could see was spinning downwards. Then darkness.

Some fairy stories have a happy ending, but not this one. There are bad people in the world; bitter, jealous and revengeful. The moral of this story is that you need to protect yourself from them.

Robyn Landsburgh





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Burns Night 2019

The annual Form 5 and 6 Burns Night took place on the 1st of February. It was the perfect event to mark the end of Prelims. The candle lit dining hall was the ideal location for the celebration of Robert Burns. Not only was the dinner table draped in tartan, but the room was filled with beautiful Scottish music. The evening started with the school's very own ceilidh band, made up of pupils.

Later, as the guests sat down for dinner, solo singers; Ailsa Macdonald, Laura Murphy and Ruairidh Cowieson gave great performances of classic Burns' songs.

Following Robbie Coupar piping in the Haggis, Alex Fish gave a striking and dramatic Address, setting the mood for the dinner. Continuing with the high standard

of pupil contributions, Freya Purdie gave a rendition of the poem 'John Anderson, My Jo'. The teachers and pupils all enjoyed the traditional meal of Haggis, neeps and tatties. The addition of speeches from Head Boy and Girl, added a personal touch to the evening as they addressed the guests. Sid Sripada gave a heart-warming yet humorous Toast to the Lassies, followed by Katie Anderson's quick witted reply.

As an interlude to dinner, the guests all took part in traditional Scottish Country dances including the Dashing White Sergeant, Strip the Willow, Military Two Step and Gay Gordons.

A decent profit of around £40 was made for charity. A brilliant night.

Rachel Rose



Burns Recitation Competition

The English Department were delighted to challenge Form 1-3 pupils to learn a Burns poem off by heart and recite it for their teachers before being selected to compete in a final.

The standard of delivery was extraordinarily impressive. Many of our competitors, although experienced, did a remarkable job of not just saying the words of Burns' poetry, they also communicated the emotion and depth therein. It was a joy for us to watch and listen to the all the finalists. Listening to young people convey poetry with such poise and skill is such a delight. The level of commitment exhibited by our competitors was inspiring.

We are very grateful to Mr Smith for judging the competition and it was very difficult to choose one winner. It was decided that two pupils should be awarded for their efforts, although all of the competitors deserve huge praise. Congratulations to Kirsty Leng in F1 and Iona Kennedy in F2 who both gave superb renditions of 'Tam O'Shanter'. We look forward to next year's competition and live in hope that the outstanding level of performance can be repeated.

Blue Planet Penguin

Last summer the school sponsored, designed and painted a penguin as part of the Maggie's Penguin Parade. The parade saw Dundee become home to 80 individually designed penguin sculptures over the summer of 2018. In September, a fundraising campaign was launched to #bringbackblue at the charity auction. The whole school community rallied round and raised £6,000 for the Maggie's Centre Dundee which was enough to successfully secure the penguin at auction!

Karlene Douglas, the School's Charities and Community Outreach Co-ordinator, said, "I'm thrilled that, thanks to the kind support of all those who contributed to the bid, Blue will be coming back to the School! Raising money for Maggie's was of course the most important thing, and it was fantastic to be able to support such a wonderful cause."



Talent Show

In the final week before the summer holidays, Interact put on a Talent Show on the pillars which included Pupil and Staff acts. The show was enjoyed by Pupils in the Junior Years and Senior School as well as passers by from the wider community.

The money raised from the Talent Show was added to a staff betting game for the World Cup to make a donation of £342.48 to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Ninewells Hospital.



Coffee Morning for MacMillan

In September the High Helpers and Interact, the two Pupil run charities groups in the school teamed up to put on a tasty display of home baking. Classes in the Home Economics Department as well as Staff also contributed to the display of cakes on offer. The busy charity bake sale took place on the pillars at break time and raised £483.10 for MacMillan Cancer Support.



Tour de Tay

In September 7 members of staff took part in the Tour de Tay cycling event, contributing £200 to Abertay University's Expanding Horizons Scholarship Fund. The participants braved the windy conditions and endured a 50 mile cycle route all for a good cause!



Events

Following the school's Armistice parade, pupils from F1-6 gathered in various locations throughout the School to buy hot chocolate and doughnuts to warm themselves up on the chilly November morning. Pupils in the Junior Years also enjoyed doughnuts in their classes with the total raised for both sales amounting to £355.04. This money was donated to the SSAFA the Armed Forces Charity.

In December, the school rallied round to collect donations for Tay FM's Mission Christmas appeal. The scheme makes sure every child has a gift to open on Christmas Day and ensures gifts are distributed to struggling families in the local community.

This year's charity collection at the annual Carol Service raised £843.32 for Eagles Wings Trust- a charity who work locally to give out food parcels and other support services to homeless families in the city.

Two collections at Aladdin and Lord of the Flies performances raised an incredible £1026.57 for the new Dundee based charity, Feeling Strong. The charity works with young people facing mental health challenges.

As part of World Book Day, the school held an Usborne Book Sale. 60% of the value of all the books sold was gifted to Kilmarnock School in Fife to help replenish their book stock. £1241.36 worth of books were handed over to Kilmarnock School.

The collection at the Junior Years Nativity raised £1550.07 and was split between NSPCC, Edinburgh Sick Kids and sponsoring children at a school in Kenya.

In Junior Years, there was a collection for Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Appeal. Donations amounted to around £610.00 and an additional £183.00 was raised to cover the postage of the boxes.



Poppy Scotland

To mark 100 years since the end of WW1, money was raised in various ways through the sale of poppies for Poppy Scotland. Rotakids organised for Poppies to be sold in the Junior Years, High Helpers sold them in Senior School and there was also a collection at Mayfield and at the Nursery. The school also sold special jute poppies to remember special connection with the jute industry and the men and women that gave their lives in the Great War from Dundee.

2000 of the same jute poppies were also used to create a stunning commemorative display on the pillars as a tribute to those who fell during the war. The total raised for Poppy Scotland through the sale of poppies was £670.02.





Christmas Festival

On Saturday 8th December, the school hosted its annual Christmas Festival.

The School's annual Charities Christmas Festival gave members of the public and the HSD community the chance to soak up some seasonal cheer, grab some early Christmas bargains and raise money for worthy causes.

Delivering a sackful of fun for all the family, the event, which took place in Trinity and Baxter Halls, featured a range of stalls run by charities, local traders and pupils selling goodies like crafts, art, cards, jewellery, festive items, homeware and more.

An elves grotto featuring face-painting and other fun activities provided yuletide magic for younger visitors, while refreshments and tasty home baking were also on offer, along with a raffle.

The event raised £1265.81 which was split between various charities including: The Archie Foundation, Marie Curie, Educate the Kids, Save the Children, Team Jak, Blake McMillan Trust, Guide Dogs and Dundee Disabled Children's Association. The event also acted as a drop off point for Tay FM's Mission Christmas gift appeal.



Rotakids

Rotakids have had a very busy year organising different events and raising money for various charities. During our first term we rolled out our Christmas Card fundraiser and made items to sell at the Christmas Fair. In term 2 we raised money by planning a Penguin Challenge Day, which was enjoyed by all. We also helped with the Swimarathon raising a whopping £2411.70. In our final term, following the success of last year's L7 Yearbook, we decided to go ahead with making a yearbook again for our present L7 pupils.

Good luck and best wishes to everyone as we all leave Junior School and move into Senior School.



From The RotaKids – Class of 2018: Maya, Amelie, Libby, Josh, Chloe, Hannah, Georgia, Jack, Bex, Corey, Flynn, Heather, Andrew, Eilidh, Ava and Leon



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Wee Sleep Out



In November, a group of 74 Senior School pupils and 7 members of staff spent the night sleeping outside in order to help raise awareness of homelessness and generate funds for Social Bite's campaign to eradicate it.

A series of Wee Sleep Outs were held across the country on the same night with HSD pupils sleeping under the stars at Mayfield equipped with only warm clothes, a sleeping bag and a survival bag.

The group raised an incredible £6213.43 for Social Bite's major Housing First initiative, which seeks to take 800 rough sleepers off the streets of Scotland by 2020.

Karlene Douglas, Charities and Community Outreach Co-ordinator at the High School, said, "We celebrated Scotland's Year of Young People by running this event which empowered our pupils to make a difference by raising awareness of homelessness and funds to help tackle the problem."

Following the success of the event, the school collected an award for being the third largest fundraiser in Scotland for their Wee Sleep Out. Mairi McAdam and Robbie Coupar (F6) attended an award ceremony with Malala Yousef to collect the prize.

Robbie was also awarded a Creative Star award by the Wee Sleep Out team and as a result he and Mairi were invited along to the Big Sleep Out at Slessor Gardens in December to report on the school's Wee Sleep Out and their experience.



Nursery Nativity



Santa Dash

On Sunday 2nd December a group of Pupils and Staff took part in a Santa Dash through Dundee City Centre. The team ran 2km and raised £150.00 for the Archie Foundation.

A dashing good time was had by all!

Sparkle Day

In December, Pupils and Staff in the Nursery, Junior Years and Senior School swapped their school uniform for a day of wearing Christmas jumpers and sparkles. In the Senior School the event raised £481.04 for Stonewall charity. In Junior Years they raised £323.00 for Edinburgh Sick Kids and in Nursery they raised £100.00 for Social Bite.



Cyclathon

In September, a team of Pupils and Staff took part in the Rotary Club's annual Cyclathon.



Comic Relief

In March, Nursery, Junior Years and Senior School learned about the work of Comic Relief and also brought in donations for the cause. In total, £1024.42 was raised for the charity. Red noses were also sold in Junior Years and raised a further £1000.00 for Comic Relief.



Foodbank Collection

In March, the school was delighted to have been able to hand over a truly gigantic donation to Dundee Foodbank! The whole school community pulled together to deliver a whopping 821.74kg of food - the largest single donation the charity has ever received to the foodbank warehouse. The school-wide collection was organised by a group of Senior Years pupils who decided to act to help tackle the issue of increased demand and diminishing stock for the Foodbank.



F5/6 Volunteers

The number of pupils volunteering on a Wednesday afternoon as part of their timetable rose to 52 this year! The pupils spend the afternoon taking part in community outreach work all across the city. Cormac Morran (F6) was awarded Volunteer of the Year for his work with One Giant Leap, Sense Scotland. Some of the placements the pupils have taken part in include: Dundee Foodbank, Maxwell Community Centre, various Mother and Baby groups, Barnardos Donation Centre, Chest, Heart and Stroke charity shop, Barnardos Charity Shop, Red Cross Charity Shop, Bridgeview Care Home, Forebank care Home, CLC Bookshops and One Giant Leap.

Staff Bake Sale

The Charities Committee held a bake sale in aid of Motor Neurons Disease Scotland during their May In-service Day. Tasty cakes were enjoyed by all and £150.00 was raised for the charity.



Mass F3 Community Outreach

Pupils at the High School of Dundee made new friends across the city, and across the generations, after embracing a community outreach event.

As part of the School's first-ever Activities Week, all pupils in F3 (S3) had the chance to sign up for visits to a number of care homes and nurseries across Dundee.

The youngsters jumped at the chance, spending each morning preparing entertainment pieces and activities, before visiting the premises in the afternoons to share them with the residents and children.

The pupils spent time in a total of five care homes and three nurseries during the week and according to the School's Charities and Community Outreach Co-ordinator, Karlene Douglas, both the pupils and those they visited enjoyed the experience greatly.

She said, "I'm so proud of how positively the pupils embraced the community outreach programme. They showed imagination, initiative and compassion when engaging with the residents and children during the week.

"The volume of lovely photos, messages and positive comments I have received about how much the care homes and nurseries enjoyed our visits has been truly heart-warming."

Wendy Smith, Activities Coordinator at Bridge View House, said, "Thank you so much to the pupils for entertaining our residents. Everyone had an



amazing time! We would love a return visit if that is possible."

The community outreach initiative was just one element of the School's first-ever F1-F3 Activities Week, a programme of events designed to enhance the pupils' all-round development by providing experiences

linked to aspects of the School's Core Values.

As a result, the youngsters had the chance to participate in a huge range of on and off-site activities based around the themes of Resilience, Creativity, Kindness, Respect and Confidence.



Race for Life

The school's Race for Life team raised a staggering £1395.00 for Cancer Research UK by taking part in the annual event at Camperdown in June. Pupils and Staff took part in a variety of events including the 5k Pretty Muddy, the 10K and the 5K.

Tough Mudder

In June, a group of Pupils and Staff took on the Tough Mudder event and raised an impressive £832.00 for Make a Wish.



Children in Need

£319.00 was raised for Children in Need when Nursery and Junior Years Pupils dressed up for Spotty Day.



Interact

This year Interact have organised various events to raise money for their chosen charities. They have raised a total of £1305.14 which has been split three ways to donate to Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre, Plastic Oceans and BEAT.

This has been achieved through a Valentine's Bake Sale, the Rotary Cub Cyclathon, a Peaky Blinders themed ball, selling Candy Canes, Oktoberfest, a Halloween Party and the Christmas Festival. They also entered two teams into the Rotary Club's annual Swimathon event and raised an additional £879.28 which was split between Rotary Club of Dundee's End Polio Campaign and RNLI Broughty Ferry.



House Chemistry Competition

This year a new House Chemistry competition was launched, with four teams taking part in three challenges throughout the year. The trophy, based on the structure of a diamond, was made with the help of the Design and Technology department for which we are very grateful.

The first challenge was entitled "The best element" and each team made a presentation to two judges, trying to persuade them that their chosen element was the best of them all. Aystree gave us an excellent talk about hydrogen being the simplest element, therefore without hydrogen there would be no other elements. Lindores made a creative 3D poster cube with lots of interesting facts about gold and its role in human history. Airlie came top of the judges scores with their talk about silicon and how important it is to the technology we use every day. But Wallace overtook their score with the Pupil Choice bonus points, ultimately winning with their talk about copper



and its importance from the Bronze age to the electrical devices we use now.

The second challenge was a quiz in which each team answered a variety of questions from a wide variety of topics including the uses of elements, chemical hazards, everyday chemicals, and Nobel Prize winners. The competition was tough and each

team (made up of Form 2, 3 and 4 pupils) worked extremely well together to solve problems as well as remembering lots of facts. The scores were extremely close but Lindores and Airlie were joint winners.

The third challenge of the year was an experiment called the Iodine Clock, where the teams were pitted against each other in a problem-solving challenge where creative thinking and accuracy were the key to beating the competition. All teams showed a great level

of skill and competed in three rounds, trying to get their reaction to change colour at an exact time set by the judge. Airlie came first and Lindores were close behind them in second.

Adding up all the scores gave Wallace as the overall winner with Airlie just one point behind! We look forward to seeing the creativity, skill and knowledge that next years' teams can bring to a new set of challenges.

Salters Festival of Chemistry

Two very enthusiastic and excited teams of Form 1 pupils headed to the University of Aberdeen on 4th June to compete in the Salters Festival of Chemistry. Although fun and enjoying the practical chemistry on offer was the primary focus, there was a certain amount of competitive spirit for the prizes that were on offer.

The students had two problem solving tasks to complete, 'The Salters Challenge' and 'The University Challenge'. The teams had to conduct experiments and write up their results whilst being adjudicated on their practical skills as well as their answers. India Simpson, Clara Fraser, Christopher Scott and James Westwood did well in both challenges but their experiment '...went a bit wrong...' and, unfortunately, did not give the correct results. Maya

McColgan, Sarah Campbell, Daniel Higgins and Kaile Liu, however, all performed exceptionally well and won third prize in the Salters Challenge. The most important outcome, though, was that all of the team members worked well together, learnt some new skills, honed their problem solving and, most of all, enjoyed the experience. A huge well done to both teams on doing so well.



Classics Club

"If you like Latin or the Roman and Greek empires, then Classics Club is for you. Classics club is run by Mr Faulkes and Ms Lazani and is held every week. We do a lot of things in Classics Club, ranging from making a Parthenon out of marshmallows to playing board games like 'Romans' where you capture countries. We also watch movies and clips about Mythology, both Roman and Greek! We sometimes act out short versions of the myths and stories. We think Classics Club is great fun, because you are always surrounded by nice people and it makes learning enjoyable."

Jonathan and Oliver Henderson



Tragic Masks

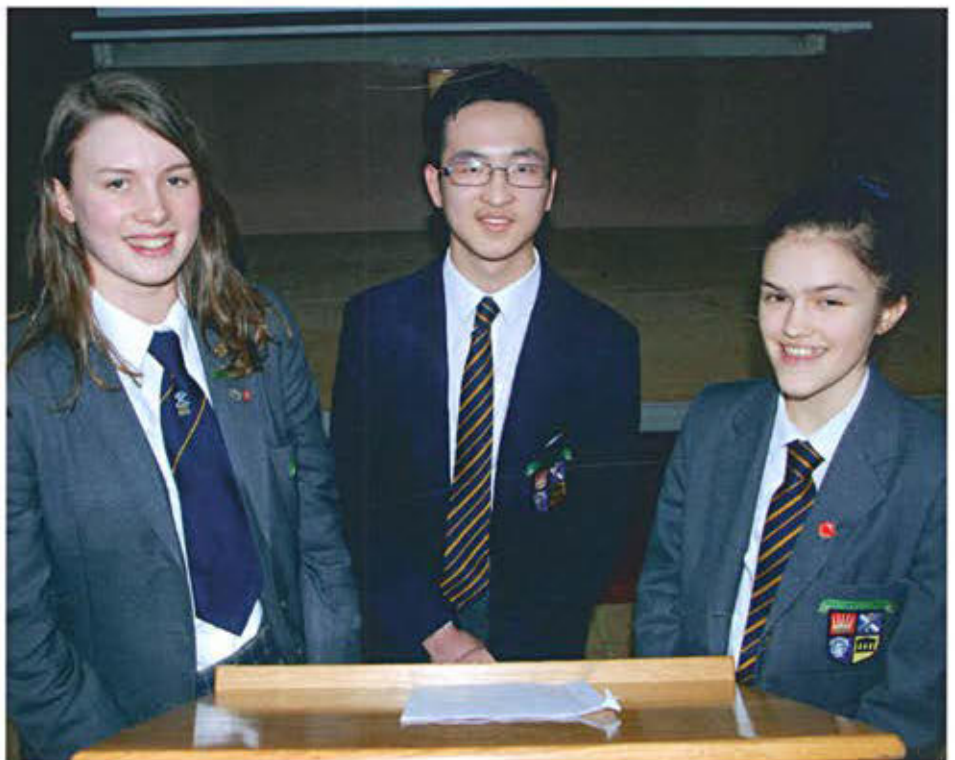


The Marshmallow Parthenon

The English Speaking Competition

Judges and staff were impressed by the range, delivery and variety of speeches and pupils who participated in the English-Speaking Competition. The standard was incredibly high and all our speakers were articulate, eloquent and had something important to share with their F1 audience.

Ksenia's speech 'Litter' won first place in the F1-3 competition. Ksenia showed charisma and presence on the stage. She had mastered her material and was not the slave to notes, in fact, she had learned her speech by heart. She spoke of the journey that your litter takes on its future path when it leaves your rubbish bin.



Steven Chen and Emily Baxter were awarded joint first place in the F4-6 speech competition. Steven Chen's speech, 'On Stage Fright' was permeated by imagery to inspire and lift you to the stars. He showed generosity of spirit in sharing his learning on resilience. Again, he delivered his speech by heart and from the heart. Emily Baxter's speech asked why it is that cinema and film can pick able bodied actors to represent characters who may be blind or disabled? What a great choice of topic! She spoke with clarity and developed a lovely rapport with the audience.

Such occasions help you to remember why you became a teacher. A sincere thanks to everyone who was involved in making the event a success: all our participants, the English Department, Irene McGrath, Dr Eddie Small, Dr Jennifer Rao Williams and Dr Halliday.



Futures Breakfast 2019

It can be daunting to think about your future career at school. To help, the school runs a networking event called the Futures Breakfast. This gives F5 pupils the opportunity to meet and network with professionals from a range of different careers. They are also inspired by a keynote speaker. This year it was Ms Annabel Murday, Deputy Treasurer of the TSB. Once more, the event was a great success with 130 pupils and guests attending, the largest to date. While the event allows pupils to get used to networking, it also provides an opportunity for them to learn about event management. Early in the session we set up a committee of F5 pupils to run the event. The role they play is crucial. They promote the event to their peers, send emails to guests, set up Trinity and then tidy up at the end. In doing this, they learn about how it takes meticulous planning over nine months to run a two hour event. We are now looking forward to next year's Futures Breakfast.

Enterprise Club

The F1 & 2 Enterprise Club gives our budding entrepreneurs the challenge of thinking outside the box. In doing this, they aim to make as much money as they can for the Archie in Africa Foundation. The first hurdle for the group is to provide a cake stall during Open Morning. To add to this challenge, the timescale to achieve this has shrunk over the last few years. This meant that the group had around five weeks to get ready. In this time, they had to conduct market research, promote their stall, decide what cakes to make and to develop their sales technique. They rose to this challenge and delivered a profit of over £70. Eager to build on this, they had a range of ideas to produce other goods to sell throughout the year. However, they settled on running a pancake sale. With the help of the Health and Food Technology Department, they produced pancakes, a steep learning curve for some. They then sold them on the Pillars, selling out in 10 minutes! Once again, we have been impressed with the creativity and confidence that up our young people show in producing, marketing and selling products. We hope that this will inspire them to be Scotland's next up and coming entrepreneur.



Student Investor Challenge

Sell, sell, buy, buy! This is the image most have of trading on the stock market. What they don't see is the meticulous research that goes into successfully trading. This is the lesson our pupils learn when they take part in the London Institute of Banking and Finance Student Investor Challenge. Involving over 5,000 teams of 4 from schools across the UK, pupils have a virtual £100,000 to invest in real time on the London Stock Exchange. The first round runs from November to January. Those that earn the most return from short term and longer term investments will make it through to the semi final. This year, we had 10 teams enter the competition. Our teams all work hard to maximise their returns, but the stand out performers were a team of F4 pupils. Ethan McColgan, Lewis McLennan, Steven Chen and Ike Charles-Ibe managed to more than double their return. This had them in first place for much of the 1st round. Marching confidently onto the semi-final, they were unlucky not to make the final. The boys and the other teams involved have created quite a buzz and we are now looking forward to entering more teams next year.



F5 Enterprise

Every year, we challenge our F5 Enrichment class by splitting them into small groups and getting them to produce and sell products at the Charities' Fair. This year we had two teams who came up with great ideas such as dried fruit decorations, tablet and other sweets. In doing this, they were able to raise around £200 for the Archie Foundation. They've also learned about the effort that goes into producing a product and then selling it on a shoestring budget.

Core Schools Economics Challenge

"Economics was invented to make weather forecasters look good." In the aftermath of the financial crisis, the subject has had a bad reputation. However, at the High School we have seen a growing demand for the subject. To meet this demand, we are always looking to enter new competitions. The Core Schools Economic Challenge is an international competition sponsored by the Financial Times. It gets a team of ten pupils to produce a video on an economic theme. This year it was, "Ten years on from the global financial crisis." With a deadline of the 1st of October, time was tight to produce a video. Our team of F4, 5 and 6 pupils worked hard over lunchtimes to create a video that focused on the impact of the crisis on the U.K. labour market. While unfortunately they were not successful, their enthusiasm has inspired others. We already have a team eager to take part in this year's competition. The theme will be, "Why is addressing climate change so difficult." Ultimately, this shows the breadth of economics and explains its growth in demand at the High School.



Geography

Geographers have participated in local, international and residential field work again this year. National 5 pupils started the course by scaling the peaks of the Cairngorms in search of the role this magnificent National Park plays in hosting a variety of tourist activities. Pupils carried out a number of different field work techniques that allowed them to assess the impact of tourism. These included Environmental Quality surveys, Land use surveys and questionnaires.

In September the Advanced Higher pupils made the journey to Spain to carry out field work in the city of Barcelona and along the Mediterranean coast. They were investigating different themes including the impact of regeneration in Barcelona, the challenge of managing mass tourism along the coast and the disappearance of natural Mediterranean habitats.

November saw our Higher pupils dodging the winter storms that bring havoc to the Holderness coast. Pupils witnessed first hand the effects of coastal erosion on the coastal communities and the challenges faced in the great debate of man versus nature in this very dynamic environment.



Halloween

Halloween is one of our favourite times of year at the Nursery. Everyone loves to get dressed up (including the Nursery Staff!) and have a fun day, playing games and reading spooky stories. This year we thought we'd try "dooking for apples" and we were very good at it!



Stay and Play in the Woods

The nursery children love going to play in the wooded areas around Mayfield. As you can see from the photos we have lots of fun in amongst the trees, playing on our tyre swing and hammock. We even had a woods themed Stay and Play week where Mums and Dads were invited in to play in the woods with us. We're not sure who had more fun!



People Who Help Us

In the Nursery we were learning about 'People Who Help Us'. Jacob's mum very kindly came to Nursery with her colleagues from the Police Station and helped us learn all about being a Police Officer. There was great excitement during the visit, we all got to sit in the Police van and we even had our finger prints taken!



Starting School

Each year in the Summer term the Nursery children make visits to the school in preparation for starting L1. We visit the classrooms, play in the playground and even have lunch in the dining hall. The bigger boys and girls always look after the Nursery children in the playground and take good care of them. The Nursery children love seeing their old friends and older brothers and sisters, often stopping for a hug!



People who help us

During term 3 our topic in L1 was People Who Help Us. We were very lucky to have several visitors to our classrooms to tell us about their jobs. Jacob's mummy who is a GP brought in some instruments that she uses. She told us what they are used for and let us use a stethoscope, thermometer and otoscope. Fredrick and Olly's daddies are dentists and let us use giant toothbrushes and models of a mouth to brush away plaque. They also showed us how many sugar cubes are in some foods. Mrs Davidson, mum of Amy in L2, is a vet. When she visited we performed surgery on a snake who had swelled golf balls and a dog who had swallowed a rubber duck. Our soft and cuddly patients made a full recovery.

The police and fire brigade visited us too, the fire engine and police car were the highlight of their visits. We are very lucky grateful to our visitors for the time they gave us and for making the learning so fun and interactive.





Healthy Eating Week

From 10th-14th June 2019 was Healthy Eating Week in the Early Years Lunch Hall. Run by the British Nutrition Foundation, the purpose of the week was to encourage UK workplaces, universities, schools and nurseries to come together to focus on healthy eating and drinking, physical activity and to celebrate healthy living. The key messages of the week were: have breakfast, eat five a day, drink plenty, get active and sleep well.

As part of the week the L1-3 children enjoyed some delicious smoothies and there was lots of fruit and vegetables on offer in order to encourage the children to try something new and have their five a day. One morning the children even enjoyed breakfast in their classrooms. During the week the children's PE lessons were particularly active and the children also recorded how much sleep they had in order to emphasise the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle.

A varied and enjoyable week was had by all!



Christmas Parties







L3R's Assembly

Our class assembly was on Friday, 22 March 2019. The theme of our assembly was World Water Day which is held every year on this day. We had a news desk where Tom and Isabella were the news readers telling us all about the importance of water. Stella and Sam reported on the wet weather. Our local reporters, Ben and Lottie, visited the L3R classroom to find out what the children had been learning about water. Jessica, the Pupil Voice Representative explained that access to clean water is our right under Article 24 of the UNCRC. The pupils in L3R explained the uses we have for water and the ways we can save water. The pupils also sang a lovely hymn called 'Water of Life' led by Alice who was playing Mrs Stevenson. Holly and Jamie interviewed 'Greg Laidlaw' and 'Finn Russell' played by Harry and William in our sports report.



Finally, our international correspondent, Sofia, reported from Africa on a young girl who walks four miles every day to collect water for her family then four miles home with a heavy bucket of water on her head. We concluded with our prayer led by Alexander and our final hymn introduced by Archie.

Apple Day

In late September the L2 year group enjoyed 'Apple Day' - to complement their work for the 'Farming and Food' topic. Apple Day is recognised in different parts of the UK as an annual celebration of apples and orchards. During the day the children saw different types of dessert apples (Braeburn, Golden Delicious and Granny Smith etc) and cooking apples. They did some apple maths (using the theme of halves and quarters) and identified and labelled the features of apples - stalk, seeds, core etc. The health benefits of apples were, of course, emphasised. As well as thinking about raw apples they also looked at apple products – apple pie, apple crumble, apple turnovers, apple sauce, apple juice (from pressed apples) and dried apple slices. They sang two apple themed songs in Music class. Parents helpfully provided an apple themed snack that day.



Foodbank Donations

While learning about harvest time as part of their Farming and Food topic, the L2s decided to hold their own thanksgiving in class. For this the pupils and parents collected together a huge range of items to donate to the Dundee foodbank. A representative from the foodbank visited the year group to collect the donations and explained to the pupils how much these would greatly help those in need. The families of the L2 pupils were extremely generous and donated a very substantial amount of food. Thank you to all of those who contributed to this worthwhile cause.

Community Model Buildings

Following their 'High School of Dundee and the Community' project, the L2s were assigned a homework task to create a design of the Caird Hall, Dundee Central Mosque or the main building of our school. In class the pupils then turned their drawings into 3D models using junk items sourced from home. Models of all shapes and sizes were formed over the course of one afternoon. These showed great imagination and creativity from all involved.



Healthy Eating Workshop

Pupils in the Early Years enjoyed a healthy eating workshop led by Chartwells and in their school dining room. A popular aspect of this was to use a variety of fruit and vegetables to create healthy eating plates with a minibeast theme. The Hungry Caterpillar inspired this project.



L2 Art

Through Art L2 pupils have further developed their knowledge of famous paintings by leading artists. Pupils created their own pictures inspired by significant pieces of work by Piet Mondrian, Claude Monet and Vincent Van Gogh.



L2 Drama

Through Drama the L2 pupils have enjoyed and reinforced their understanding of their 'Famous People' topic. Historical characters such as Robert Burns and Florence Nightingale have been portrayed by pupils in costume. Acting in role has consolidated the stories of famous people who made significant contributions to our society.



Potato Harvesting

In March last year the L1 pupils planted potatoes with Gill Lawrie in preparation for their L2 Farming and Food topic. During this they learnt how to plant, care for and grow potatoes from seed potatoes. In September, our potatoes were ready to be harvested. We had a bumper crop this year which the L2s then turned into their very own potato salad with the help of the Home Economics department. The pupils loved both their experiences of growing potatoes and of making their delicious potato salad which they took home to share with their families.



Science Club

For the first time this session, L3 pupils had the opportunity to join the school Science Club. During the six-week blocks, pupils created liquid traffic lights, experimented with sound travelling in water and air; learnt why bubbles are round, how time has been measured through the ages, why coloured pens are not always one colour and why fingerprints are unique! In addition, a trip to Dr Taylor's lab allowed L3 pupils to discover why nappies do such a good job and why 'snow' can be warm.

The science principles of density, sound waves, surface to volume ratio, chromatography and DNA are a challenge to grasp. Fun activities where the traffic light is in a boiling tube, a bottle orchestra can play a tune, bubbles can be blown inside each other, the separated colours of a pen make a beautiful filter paper butterfly and fingerprints make great little pictures are geared towards engaging our pupils in Science. Encouraging our pupils to ask 'Why?' is the key.



L4 Celtic Game

Following on from class work on The Celts, the L4s made their own board game with a Celt theme. This included pupils designing the game board, making their own stepping stone counters and thinking up ingenious ideas for their game cards. Great fun was had by all when playing each other.



Pirate Day



Easter Assembly



Textiles Club

Lucy and Isabella have given L5 Textiles Club a very positive review. Thank you, girls. It shows that you have been working hard in creative writing too!

"Textiles Club has been spectacular. We have made all different wonderful things which make us want to come back next year. Mrs Leburn has also inspired us to do more textiles things at home.

It has been the most amazing club and has been fun for us. Every week we come and have learned that you can do so much with a bit of thread, a needle and some fabric. It has been magical to us as we sew each week. There are lots of different materials and beads to decorate new creations. It has taught us to use our imaginations wildly for creating new things."



Chess Club (L5-L7)

Pupils have enjoyed participating in blocks of chess coaching and a chess tournament this session. Chess skills and strategies have been greatly enhanced through the expertise input from Mr Alastair Dawson, a chess coach who has represented Scotland at Senior level, and Mrs Smith. In addition to pupils coaching weeks, 32 pupils participated in the Chess Tournament. After playing in many rounds of the tournament, it was a very closely fought game which was keenly watched by other tournament finalists. Congratulations this year go to Krish Akula (L7) who was runner up and the winner, Ram Sharma (L5). Well done to all who participated.

Mrs Smith



L6 Environmental Focus

To support our lessons on Ocean Life and Climate Change we carried out exciting experiments thanks to the Chemistry Department, looking at the effect of carbon dioxide on sea water and using indicators to note these changes, and then using an indicator solution in the Biology Department to investigate the rate of photosynthesis in algae. The pupils were intrigued by the colour changes in the indicators and able to use their experiment experiences to inform their understanding of their previous studies and the difficulties being faced by the World's marine environments.

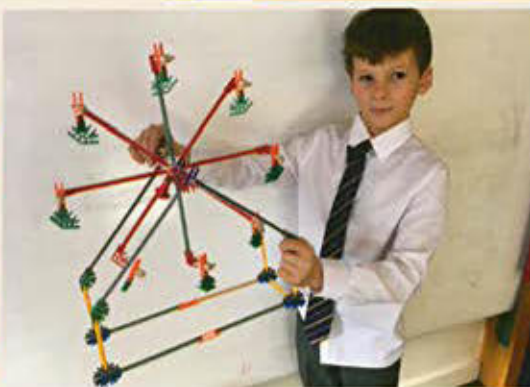
Mrs Leburn



L5 Construction Club

L5 pupils who joined the Construction Club this year have proved to be creative, innovative and engaged by their building and model making. Thursday sessions have seen pupils make use of LEGO bricks and K'NEX kits with both imagination and skill. Focus and attention to detail have seen pupils create eye-catching models such as small LEGO houses, a charming lion and a colourful ship. Pupils have engaged very positively with K'NEX materials producing models such as a catamaran, a windmill and fairground ferris wheel, a rocket, a giraffe, an elephant and even a clock tower (Big Ben style). Antonia in L5 cleverly used K'NEX materials to produce tall oilrig type structures closely resembling those which she had seen in Dundee docks. Pupils have worked both from plans provided by K'NEX and from their own initiative and ideas and models are then often used in a corridor display area. We also welcomed a visit from Andrew in the senior school (a former participant in the L5 Construction Club) who was invited to share his skills and knowledge. It has been a very productive year in the Construction Club – an arena for the sharing of ideas, creativity and model making.

Miss M. Cardno



L7 Fire Safety Talk

At the beginning of November, a group of Fire Fighters from Blackness Road Fire Station visited Junior Years in order to talk to the L7 pupils about their personal safety in preparation for Bonfire Night. The appropriate use of fireworks, such as sparklers, was discussed and the pupils were also shown examples of the types of injuries that could occur if fireworks were used irresponsibly. Where possible, the pupils were encouraged to attend organised Bonfire Night events and they were told about the steps to follow should an accident occur. The pupils thought this was an informative and beneficial talk and they enjoyed the opportunity to have a look inside the fire engine.



Mock Court Case

In November, following months of preparations, the L7 Young Speakers once again took to Dundee Sheriff Court to compete in the Mock Court Case. In advance of this the pupils had designed and created lawyers' robes, practised their court artistry skills, produced evidence and learned about laws which restrict what journalists can publish during proceedings. They also worked with Mike Kemp from Thorntons and David Sinclair from PDSO to submit legal written pleadings. Rehearsals paid off and both teams performed fantastically well in court. The defenders won their case and the pursuers won half the claims of their case. Overall the pursuers were placed first in the Tayside region and the defenders were second. The pupils also received two regional awards. Ben, Elliot and Kyle were specially selected to attend the national finals in Edinburgh to collect awards for journalism and court artistry.



'The Snow Queen'

by Iona Kennedy

'The Snow Queen' was a fantastic production. The story line was exciting and scary, funny and sad, although the production did not follow the original plot. Special effects made the show's events seem very real, along with the fantastic set. Characters were very modern and realistic. All in all, it was a great experience. We all really enjoyed it.



Olympiad Physics Challenge

This year, for the first, time some of our Form 4 physics pupils undertook the British Olympiad Physics Challenge. The hour-long question paper forced them out of their comfort zones to stretch their knowledge, understanding and problem-solving skills all whilst working to a tight deadline. The pupils showed their commitment and dedication in attending lunchtime sessions where they supported each other and took advice from Dr Brown. Although much of the content was unfamiliar, the pupils rose to the occasion and performed well with Steven Chen achieving a Gold Award (something only 5% of the entrants achieved).

Another new initiative this year was the Physics Olympiad Year 10 Online Competition which our Form 3 physics pupils had the opportunity to take part in. The pupils completed the two-part online quiz on their iPads with each part consisting of 30 multiple-choice questions. It tested both their understanding of the curriculum, problem-solving skills and their broader physics knowledge including identifying famous physicists such as Hawking or Newton. A tough challenge, as it is based around the current GSCE curriculum, our pupils performed excellently achieving 5 Gold, 7 Silver and 18 Bronze awards.



Prize Giving

This year, the school's annual prize giving ceremony took place in the traditional venue of the Caird Hall but unusually not on the last day of term. Dr Halliday delivered his address with customary aplomb and prize winners and guests heard from Sir Ewan Brown who, amongst an extensive list of career and life highlights, chaired the executive board of the Edinburgh International Festival for nearly a decade. It was for this service that Sir Ewan was knighted in 2014 for services to business, public life and philanthropy.

Form 6 received their traditional Leavers' Awards, the hand over of offices took place and Aystree were declared House Champions for session 2018 – 2019.



Edinburgh Book Festival

Almost as soon as we started back in August, L6 were off to the Edinburgh International Book Festival to see two popular authors speak about reading, writing and their new books.

Our first author was the fantastic David Walliams who entertained us with a reading from *Gangsta Granny*. He also gave us a sneak preview into his forthcoming title, *The World's Worst Teachers* and took suggestions from some of our pupils. Hopefully there will not be any familiar characters in there!

Our second event was with Steven Butler and Steven Lenton, an author and illustrator team, who checked us in to their *Nothing To See Here Hotel* with an exciting reading as well a live illustration activity. This book has been the most popular item in the School Library this year which shows how positively an author experience can influence reading habits.

L7 also visited the book festival and heard from the ever popular Robin Stevens (*Murder Most Unladylike*) and Katherine Woodfine, author of *A Clockwork Sparrow*, they explained how to write the perfect murder mystery! We also heard from Terry Deary who fascinated us with his WW1 novel *The Silver Hand* and let us in to lots of secrets about his hugely popular *Horrible Histories* series.

An extra treat for all involved came in the form of a very generous £3 voucher each for the brilliantly stocked EIBF bookshop. The children chose some wonderful books for the school library as well as buying their own.

"When we went to the Edinburgh Book Festival it was obvious to see that everyone had a great time. We saw three fantastic authors whose books we bought. The authors were Robin Stevens, Katherine Woodfine and finally Terry Deary. Then at the end we saw the authors in person and they signed our books. The trip inspired many pupils to read and to write their own stories!" By Jessica, Aisha and Caris, L7.



World Book Day

Our celebrations for World Book Day came to life when hundreds of junior school pupils donned the outfits of their favourite storybook characters. This colourful and imaginative day was the culmination of weeks of focus on reading and books, beginning with our now traditional Usborne Book Sale. As well as buying lots of shiny new titles for themselves, this year our pupils donated over £1200 worth of books to Kilmarnock School in Fife. Kilmarnock staff were able to choose nearly 200 titles for their pupils who are now enjoying their brand new encyclopaedias, phonics books and fact books.

Back at HSD, we got on with sharing shelfies in the English Department, making monster books of monsters in L6C, guessing the literary dinner guests in the library, listening to stories and hearing authors bring books to life. We also had a visit from a real live author! Local author Michelle Sloan visited our L3 and 4 classes to promote her new *Animal Adventure* series using games and activities.

Now to consider how to celebrate next year...



This year 'World Book Day' fell on Thursday 7th March 2019. It was a fantastically lively and colourful day with lots of events happening across the school. The aim of the day was to celebrate reading for pleasure and both teachers and pupils responded in style with exciting costumes, book quizzes and a "Guess Who" game in the library.

In the Robert Fergusson building the English department chose to dress up as their favourite characters from well-known books including *Macbeth*, *Lady Macbeth* and Holden Caulfield from "Catcher in the Rye". Another highlight was the staff shelfie display where several photographs of shelves were displayed, and pupils had to guess which bookshelf belonged to which teacher. While it may have seemed like a daunting task at first, with a bit of detective work most managed to match the shelves with their owners thanks to carefully chosen titles and a few small clues hidden among the books. It was so good to see such a range of subjects represented and to glimpse the kind of things teachers enjoy reading in their own time.

Thank you to everyone who made the day such a success. Keep reading!



Reading Records!

2018/19 has been a record year in the Library with huge numbers of books and online resources borrowed!

Since August, pupils have

- borrowed 13580 physical books
- borrowed 1225 ebooks and audiobooks
- Researched 14,544 articles on Britannica
- had 2187 new physical resources added to their library

The most borrowed books this year were

The Nothing to See Here Hotel by Steven Butler, Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory by Elys Dolan and The Ice Monster by David Walliams.

The most borrowed ebook was The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank.

Online Resources

Each year, alongside our physical library books, we work to develop our digital resources to ensure that the Library collection reflects the needs of our staff and pupils. We continue to use Britannica School which gives staff and pupil access to encyclopaedic articles and pointers for further online research. Over 14,000 articles were accessed this year and we expect this to increase next year as Britannica integrates seamlessly with our new digital learning tool, Firefly.

Also this year, we introduced eBooks and audiobooks for pupils in L6 -F6 using a provider called Wheelers. This has been a great success with pupils browsing and borrowing in the Library on their iPads, as well as at home. Fresh titles are added each month and the new format has engaged a much wider range of pupils than the physical books do. Every year, stopping borrowing in June is bittersweet as we welcome our lovely physical books back home for the summer, but now borrowing (of ebooks and audio at least) can continue all year long! Since their introduction in January, pupils have borrowed over 1225 items. I am particularly thrilled that no ebooks or audiobooks can ever be lost or damaged!


Here is what the pupils say...

The ebook app means that I don't have to carry a heavy book backwards and forwards from school. I also enjoy being able to get out a book as soon as I have finished the one I was reading. *Jed, F1*

HSD LIBRARY 2018/19


14,805 ITEMS BORROWED

Pupils and staff borrowed physical and digital resources from the library. They could also choose to download items from the comfort of their own home.




ARTICLES RESEARCHED 14,544

using Britannica School. This can be accessed in school and from home, helping pupils to locate good quality sources for research in class and homework.




3 MOST POPULAR

Our most popular resources this year were...



NEW BOOKS 2187

Fiction, Non Fiction, Picture Books, Early Reader, Staff CPD, Graphic Novels, Young Adult amongst others!



"A READER LIVES A THOUSAND LIVES BEFORE HE DIES, SAID JOJEN."
THE MAN WHO NEVER READS LIVES ONLY ONE."
— GEORGE R.R. MARTIN, A DANCE WITH DRAGONS

Maths Challenge

Following the submission of two sets of questions, taking several hours each, no fewer than 15 High School pupils qualified for Gold, Silver and Bronze awards in the Scottish Mathematical Council's Maths Challenge competition. Their highly skilful efforts were rewarded by participating in a workshop presented by Dr. Donald Smith of Stirling University who then presented them with their awards. Congratulations to all the winners: Charvi Kanodia, Steven Chen, Isla Hutchinson, Martin Kelly and Ramit Kanodia (all Gold); Archie Macdonald, Kaile Liu, India Simpson, Clara Fraser, Sara Okhai, Miharu Dissanayake, Jack Fleming, Christopher Scott and Daniel Higgins. Special mention goes to Ethan McColgan who not only secured a Gold Award, but did so with full marks – an exceptional achievement.



Enterprising Maths



September

A team of mathematicians travelled to Hutchesons' Grammar School in Glasgow on 20 September to compete in the annual Enterprising Mathematics in

Scotland independent schools' qualifying round. The four pupils, Kaixi Liu and Sneha Sripada (both of Form 3), together with Steven Chen and Ethan McColgan (of F4) completed maths problems in teams and in pairs, including the famous 'stations' round featuring a variety of hands-on maths puzzles. The team performed commendably against some very strong opposition, but finished mid-table and outside the qualifying positions. Nonetheless, they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

October - Mathematical Olympiad for Girls

Catriona Taylor F4 and Georgia Douglas F4, both took part in the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls, which is a competition designed for only the most able of girls. Both girls were awarded a Certificate of Participation.

November - UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge

On the 6th November, thirty pupils from F5 and F6 took part in the UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge. Three Gold, five Silver and eight Bronze Certificates were awarded, with the Gold Certificates being awarded to Josh Cargill F6, Cormac Moran F5 and Cosmo Bobak F5, with Cormac also winning the Best in School Certificate. The three Gold winners also qualified for the follow-on competition, the Senior Kangaroo, in which Cosmo was awarded a Certificate of Merit.



Senior Team Challenge

The senior team consisting of Josh Cargill F6, Bogdan Kapelyukh F6, Cosmo Bobak F5 and Edward

Appleton F5, travelled to the University of Aberdeen to take part in the Senior Team Challenge, accompanied by Mr Middleton. After three rounds of rigorous problem solving, the team finished just outside the top three.

February - UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

On the 7th February, the top sets in F3 and F4 took part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. Three Gold, six Silver and nine Bronze Certificates were awarded, with the Gold Certificates being awarded to Ethan McColgan F4, Steven Chen F4 and Jack Williams F4. Steven and Jack both qualified for the follow-on competition the Pink Kangaroo

and both were awarded a Certificate of Participation. Ethan qualified for the prestigious Olympiad, a competition for the very best pupils in the country. Ethan was awarded a Certificate of Merit, an outstanding achievement.

Gold Award Winners: Ethan McColgan, Jack Williams and Steven Chen.

March - Mathématiques sans Frontières

On 5 March, pupils from Form 4 entered the Mathématiques sans Frontières contest, where a class of pupils work together to answer a number

of mathematical puzzles, including one in a foreign language (this year about un billet gagnant). The 90-minute time limit allowed for some more hands-on maths: as well as using logic and



calculations, pupils were constructing multi-coloured nets and tracing around rolling pentagons. Although the class did not place in the top 10 (out of 79 Scottish schools), the competition provided a welcome distraction from National 5 revision.

May - Junior Mathematical Challenge

May saw our most promising Form 1 & 2 pupils doing spectacularly well in this demanding competition, achieving 12 Gold, 30 Silver and 19 Bronze Awards, including 3 qualifiers for the prestigious Junior Mathematical Olympiad, reserved for the top 1000 young mathematicians in the UK. There were a further 5 qualifiers to represent Great Britain in the European Kangaroo competition. Congratulations to all these talented young pupils and in particular the Gold Winners: Isla Hutchinson (also Best in Year and a JMO qualifier), Jinken Li, Jonah Phillipson-Masters, Rishabh Akula (all Form 2); Christopher Scott (also Best in School, Best in Year and a JMO qualifier), Kaile Liu (also a JMO qualifier), Callan Short and the 5 European Kangaroo qualifiers: Ramit Kanodia, Daniel Higgins, Archie MacDonald, Jack Fleming, Neil Bhat (all Form 1).

June - Scottish Mathematical Challenge

Once again a large number of pupils entered the Scottish Mathematical Challenge. This competition, which has been running since 1976, is a problem solving competition which is open to all pupils in Form 1 to Form 6. The following pupils did exceptionally well and were invited to the Award Day at the University of Stirling on 5th June.

Junior Division

Gold: Isla Hutchinson F2, Martin Kelly F2, Ramit Kanodia F2,
Silver: Archie Macdonald F2, Kaile Liu F1, India Simpson F1, Clara Fraser F1, Miharu Dissanayake F1, Christopher Scott F1, Daniel Higgins F1

Bronze: Sara Okhai F1, Jack Fleming F1

Middle Division

Gold: Ethan McColgan F4, Steven Chen F4

Senior Division

Gold: Charvi Kanodia F5

Well done to everyone who took part.



Maths Week

As part of the national Maths Week event which aims to show the beauty and creativity of a subject that is not always considered in such terms, Mr Hodgson led an exciting series of events. These included, The "Early, Early show" presented by Mr Hodgson at morning assemblies where he had pupil and teacher guests on his chat show sofa giving their views on Maths and a number line series displayed on the school pillars.

Junior years pupils also had the opportunity to put their numerical skills to good use when they tackled the maths problems on the actual flags which were used at this summer's Scottish Men's and Women's Open Golf Championships.

And rounding things off, an NHS Ethical Data Hack, hosted by NHS staff and data scientists, resulted in multiple commendable suggestions for the redesign of A&E services from F2 and F3 pupils.



Matt Graham

On Friday the 8th of March, Dr Matt Graham, senior lecturer in History at the University of Dundee, joined the Modern Studies department to host a seminar on South African politics to F4, F5 and F6 pupils. With an expertise in modern, sub-Saharan Africa, with a focus on South Africa Dr Graham usually lectures on subjects including national liberation movements, nationalism, political transitions and the development of post-colonial governance. On this visit however, he took time to explore the upcoming South African parliamentary elections and the many problems faced by the governing ANC party who were at the time seeking re-election for a fifth term since apartheid's end.

Dr Graham's lecture examined the problems of systemic inequality, rising crime, rampant corruption and growing voter dissatisfaction in the country, all of which was of great benefit to the Higher Modern Studies pupils.

Afterward Dr Graham enjoyed spending time with the Advanced Higher class, answering some high-level questions about the South African political system. He even agreed to be interviewed by the pupils in order to help with their dissertation research!

2019 marked Dr Graham's third visit to the Modern Studies department and we hope that this association will continue long in to the future.

Eagles Wings

The Eagles Wings Trust came in to speak to Higher Modern Studies pupils about their work with homeless people in Dundee. The pupils study Social Inequality as part of their course and third sector responses to the issue. The workshop was very informative and provided the opportunity to ask questions about the work of the local charity.

Social Science Research

F4 Modern Studies pupils worked with a student from the University of Edinburgh to aid her research into 'Public Perceptions of International Development.' The class worked with Courtney Dane to take part in a short survey then formed a focus group to discuss the issues in greater depth. The research will help Courtney complete her research dissertation and her final piece will be shared with the pupils.

Modern Studies at the Scottish Parliament

30 pupils in Forms 4 and 6 participated in a trip to the Scottish Parliament to complement their National 5 and AH Modern Studies courses on Democracy in Scotland. We enjoyed a tour of the Parliament building including the debating chamber, First Minister's Questions and a Q&A session in one of the Parliament's committee rooms with Dundee MSPs Joe Fitzpatrick and Shona Robison.



Model United Nations

In October, twelve skilled diplomats from the High School of Dundee demonstrated their internationalism by participating in the annual James Gillespie's High School Model United Nations Conference, Edinburgh. As ambassadors for their respective nations they rose to the challenge of solving a series of tough globally current problems, ranging from war to the climate crisis.

High School of Dundee Model United Nations Secretary General Jonathan Lang, alongside his deputies Charvi Kanodia and Hathsu Dissanayake, led Model United Nations veterans Cormac Moran, Nairn Wilson, Ross Clark and Amelia Purdy along with first-timers Karolena Brown, Ramit Kanodia, Alex Fish, Sarah Boyle and Imogen Findlay. Our twelve pupils represented either the UK, Italy or Turkey in the Security Council, environment, politics or economic-social committees before finally working together as a team to take on the world in debate at the General Assembly.

As always, our High School pupils were stand out performers and won a series of commendations for their contributions to the conference. Ramit Kanodia earned special mention as best junior delegate in the health committee – a very impressive feat for an F1 and first-timer!



Go4SET

The Go4SET program offers young people in Form 1 and 2 the opportunity to develop skills, inform subject choice, change perceptions about STEM and raise awareness of how studying these subjects can lead to a rewarding career.

This year, the following pupils volunteered to take part in the program,

Jan Van Der Kuyl 2Ay1
Isla Hutchison 2Wa2
Hamish Will 2Wa1
Maishah Mason 2Ai2
Pheobe Jennings 2Li2
Scott Smith 2Ai1

A key feature of the project is to provide a link with industry and this year Brian Cairns from Michelin assisted the pupils in designing a building for climate change. The work consisted of lunchtime meetings and two days at Abertay University including a day for all the teams to present their projects.

The presentation day went well and it was interesting to see how the other teams had tackled the same problem and although there were no prizes at the

end of the day the project was well received by the organizers and other teams. The project had provided valuable experience in planning and presenting an engineering project and working as part of a team.
David Preston



Nursery Mandarin

Chinese Moon Festival

The Chinese Moon Festival falls on the 15th day of the 8th Lunar month. It is one of the most important traditional events for the Chinese. The moon festival in 2018 fell on September 24th and the children of the Nursery, Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Murdoch held a joint Music and Chinese Culture lesson.

Mrs Murdoch introduced the traditional story and customs of the Mid-Autumn Festival and Mrs Stevenson taught the Mid-Autumn Festival songs and dances. The children were very enthusiastic and beat and played the instruments and danced with the Mid Autumn props. The children also had the opportunity to taste traditional fruit-pomelo.



L2 Police Scotland

In order to reinforce and develop the children's work in their PSHE lessons in the area of Personal Safety, two Community Police Officers visited L2 to talk to the children about Road Safety. The different types of road crossings that can be found were discussed with the children. They were also told about the steps to follow

in order to cross a road safely with an adult and the dangers to

look out for in these situations. The children were then involved in some practical road safety when they were taken outside by the Police Officers and their Class Teachers to practice crossing the streets around the school and the McManus Galleries.



NSPCC Visit

In February, Heather Whyte from the NSPCC visited Junior Years in order to deliver the charity's 'Speak Out Stay Safe' message. All the children from L1-7 participated in an Assembly and L6 and L7 pupils also took part in some follow-up workshops. Through visiting Primary Schools, the NSPCC aims to empower and equip a generation of children with the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse and neglect. During Heather's visit, the Junior Years children were taught to speak out if they are ever feeling worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline. The children also met the 'Speak Out Stay Safe' mascot, Buddy the speech bubble.



L6 Police Scotland

PC Scott Menmuir, who is Dundee's Community Safety Constable, came to visit L6 on two occasions this year in order to deliver talks to the children on 'Bullying' and 'Internet Safety'. The information shared during the talks encouraged the children to help others if they are experiencing behaviour which causes upset or distress and the children also learned how emotionally distressing this type of behaviour can be for people. The second talk advocated being kind and respectful when the children engage in online activities linking in perfectly with the school's Core Values.

The children thought these talks were interesting, fun and informative and they learned new information as a result of PC Menmuir's visits. They also believed that the resulting discussions prompted them to reflect on their own actions within these two areas.

Debating

A flurry of finals and a couple of quiches

Every year around St Andrew's Day, the Scottish Parliament holds a day of debating, in which a rota system attempts to include as many schools as possible. Originally pupils were paired at random with student debaters, which led in 2010 to our Rachael McLellan winning the final with a reasonable partner and in 2012, April Shepherd losing due to a less fortunate allocation. We have not since then had the privilege of being invited. However last November we were delighted not only to receive an invitation, but on the day to end up with three speakers participating, due to drop-outs. Pupils are now partnered with speakers from other schools, thus promoting friendly exchange and broadening horizons.

This proved a good day out; of the eight debaters who reached the final, two were from HSD! Despite the majority of participants being in sixth year, Ksenia Kapelyukh F3 was announced as top speaker on tab and gave a compelling speech in opening government. Alex Fish F5 went on to storm the house from closing opposition and with his partner from Perth was declared the winner. We amused the other passengers posing for photos on the train home.

Some of our other endeavours were slightly hampered by illness. The regular partnership of Alex and Bogdan Kapelyukh F6 most commendably reached the final of the Glasgow University Union tournament despite Bogdan being a whiter shade of pale when Mrs McGrath collected him in the morning, but did not have quite enough stamina to win. Alex was not well enough to participate in the Edinburgh tournament but Bogdan had an enjoyable day speaking with one of our respected friends-and-opponents from Craigmount HS. Honour there was maintained by Ksenia and Dominic Westwood F4, who were considered novices in the senior competition and promptly topped the novice tab and won the novice final.

Our new asset of Dr Pepper of the Chemistry department – who is qualified to drive a minibus! – enabled us to take three teams to the annual Northern Junior Debating Championship at RGS Newcastle, where Dom and Ksenia were really unlucky not to break but the novice partnership of Beth Macpherson and Charvi Kanodia F5 made it to the final.

The juniors had a good year, speaking in different

combinations dictated by circumstances and making a bit of a habit of topping various tabs but losing the final. Three junior teams competed in the East of Scotland day at Morrison's at which Ksenia was top speaker and Isla Hutchinson F2 finished 7th. The same pair tabbed 1st and 3rd respectively at Edinburgh Juniors and broke top, losing the final to our good friends and incipient Marxists 😊 from Douglas Academy. Ksenia and Sneha Sripada F3 made it through three rounds to the semi-finals of the SSD juniors tournament, and topped the tab at Craigmount Juniors, losing the final on a 3-2 split. Sneha was partnered with Sahar Jafferbhoy F2 for the annual International Competition for Young Debaters, in which they qualified in Edinburgh to compete in Finals Day at the Cambridge Union. This afforded them the opportunity to watch, learn from – and be defeated by! – some very experienced Canadian teams (let's face it – you don't fly the Atlantic with novices) and to speak in the Cambridge Union chamber, which is a bit of an experience when you're 14-or-not-quite. As is traditional, on arrival we took the opportunity to attend Evensong at King's.

At Finals Day in March, the Oxford Union saw Alex and Bogdan finish a most impressive 12th out of an original entry of 850 teams involving four continents (Canadians, a team from Zimbabwe, Singaporeans, Chinese and Dutch that we knew about); 116 of these teams were there in Oxford. Above them there were Westminster (who broke top and won), 2 Dulwich teams, 2 St Paul's Girls teams, 2 Wellington teams, 2 Debate Mate, one of the Eton teams (we beat the other one) and a Dutch pair, who, if they don't have a paid doctoral-student coach, will be the exception among these 11. On the speaker tab, out of 232 names, Alex came 31st, 10 points below the top speaker, and Bogdan, one point behind him, was 38th. Talking of the top speaker on tab; she's one of the Paulinas, called Liberty Osborne. Readers may have heard of her father; he has fallen into semi-obscurity now that he merely edits an evening paper.

It was impressive to watch our recent former debater Steven Roy command the chamber as he ran the tab in efficient fashion. He has been making a name for himself



The two Durham teams



Sahar and Sneha at King's College



Scottish Parliament speakers



Sneha in the Cambridge Union



Fraser and Alex win the final

on the international debating circuit as a tabmaster and in the autumn is invited to New York to run a tournament there. In other FP news, Ivan Kapelyukh continues to run debating at Imperial College London, and Ciara Mitchell, speaking for LSE, reached the final of the European Universities Debating Championships out of 194 teams. Oh, and this summer in Bangkok, Scott Ralston is the co-Chief Adjudicator of the World Schools Debating Championships.

Ciara, Ivan and Steven all came back to help to judge the annual House debate in December, which was won for Aystree by Alex Fish and Evie Kunwar, with Alex also being awarded Best Speaker. He and Bogdan made it to the semi-finals of both the Mace tournament and the Law Society competition which we valiantly continue to support, despite the reason given by this year's semi judges that the boys had not gone through to the final because 'on their (the judges') advocacy course, they'd been told never to use hand gestures'. This despite the fact that their guidelines for judges were actually written by another of our FP debaters

At the concluding senior debate of the session, at the Durham Union, after the first three rounds Bogdan and Alex were riding high on the tab and in a good position to break on the Sunday morning. Sadly Alex was again unwell, leaving Bogdan to put in a magnificent performance in round 4 where he ironmanned (i.e. gave both speeches) his way to a victory over a Dulwich team who made the final and Westminster one who broke 12th, but in round 5 just could not muster 10 minutes of material in opening Opp in 15 minutes' prep time and so missed the break. Dom and Ksenia, further down the tab at their first Durham tournament, gave notice that they will in the future be a force to be reckoned with.

The group of about 20 which meets every Wednesday lunchtime in MB15 has the opportunity to brainstorm pros and cons of current issues – either those imposed by the next long-prep debate, or whatever is on the front page of that day's newspaper – keeps itself abreast of current affairs and generally has lots of practice in researching, structuring, articulating and defending a point of view. The serious side of this is that all of these attributes feed



Alex and Bogdan at the Oxford Union



Sahar in the Cambridge Union



Winners on the train home

Rights Respecting School

Earth Hour 2019



"This year, the Junior Years participated in Earth Hour, on Saturday 30th March. We held eco friendly lessons and we created a large 2D globe to represent everyone in the Junior Years. We, as a school, joined thousands of other schools to help protect our planet."

Nina van der Kuyl, L6C

Earth Hour is linked to Article 24 and Article 29 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (the right to a safe environment and the right to an education which encourages respect for the environment).

Right of the Month

This session, pupils in Junior Years have continued to develop their knowledge and understanding of Children's Rights, through their 'Right of the Month' programme. Each month, members of the Pupil Voice team, from L1



to L7, have unpicked a specific right from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to explore what it looks, feels and sounds like when this right is being respected.

The Right of the Month is displayed and discussed in all Junior Years classes, with clear links to our Core Values and how this right can be respected within our school community. This year, pupils have explored various rights including their right to find things out, share their ideas and to have access to good quality education. Many of the rights explored have linked to other school wide events such as Children in Need and World Book Day.

World's Largest Lesson and The Global Goals

In September, all Junior Years classes had the opportunity to participate in the "World's Largest Lesson."

In 2015, The United Nations launched The Global Goals for Sustainable Development, a series of ambitious targets to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice and fix climate change for everyone by 2030. If the Goals are met, they ensure the health, safety and future of the planet for everyone on it. The best chance of these targets being met is if everyone on the planet is aware of them.

With that in mind, Junior Years pupils took part in a variety of activities to learn about the Global Goals and discuss the ways in which they could begin to work towards them.

In L1, pupils donned their "Global Goals glasses" to look ahead to 2030, when they will be seventeen years old. The children indicated they wanted a world that was fair to boys and girls, and that is clean, safe, and fair for everyone no matter

where they live. They felt strongly about fresh water, zero hunger, healthcare and animal protection and many discussed wanting to help in some way. L1 continue to refer to the Global Goals in the context of their class routines, by recycling paper and switching off lights and computer equipment in their class.

In L3, the children worked in small groups to explore Goal 2, Zero Hunger. By discussing key questions, the children explored what extreme hunger is, as well as the impact that this could have on health and wellbeing. The pupils decided to make a pledge, for the day of the World's Largest Lesson, to clear their plates in the lunch hall and to avoid wasting food.

In L4, small groups of pupils worked together to create posters highlighting a specific Global Goal. The children were particularly interested in the Goals focussed on Zero Hunger and Life in Water.

In L5, pupils have explored water and air pollution. They have created posters outlining the causes of

this and ways we can improve this problem.

In L6, pupils created short "tweets" with promises of what they could do to work towards a specific Global Goal of their choice. Suggestions included donating to a local foodbank, encouraging boys and girls to make the most of all opportunities to ensure fairness for all and the use of refillable water bottles and reusable bags.

Because of our Global Goals Discussions, L6 have agreed to reduce their use of single-use plastics by using card instead of poly pockets for their folders of work. Pupil Voice worked with Mrs Rose to ensure we will no longer use plastic bottles for our Christmas parties, but will use jugs and reusable cups instead.

Junior Years pupils will continue to think about and refer to Global Goals in our charitable work. All of this work will help us continue to work towards our Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award.



Photography Competition

As each year passes, the standard of entry for this Competition seems to get better and better. Over one hundred and twenty images were submitted, which is a tremendous effort from all concerned. To improve things, this year we printed out the images on proper photographic paper (both matte and glossy) and they were exhibited along with their descriptions on display boards in the library – many thanks to Mrs McFarlane and Mrs Hutton for their hard work in pinning them up and collating the results.

This year Mr Kerr (head of the Art and Design Department) judged the Competition. He was very impressed with both the range and quality of photographs entered. There were a large number of entries from the lower school – from L2W and L2C in particular – and many received commendations for the standard of their images. A sample of the winning photographs can be seen below. We looking forward to running the Competition again next year!

Junior

Winner - Zoe Loveday L7T

TAY RAIL BRIDGE

Where nature and humans meet in perfect harmony.

Runner Up - Nina Van Der Kuyl L6C

REFLECTION

I took this photograph on holiday in Corsica and I love the way the sunrise reflects off the water.



Secondary



Runner Up - Lucy Clarke 2A11

SUNSET IN CYPRUS

I took it when I was on holiday.

Winner - Daniel Youssef 1L11

LIGHT

First light of day sparkling over the Egyptian waters of the Red Sea.

Staff



Winner - Mrs Goldie

BABY SHARK



Runner Up - Miss Carrie

ARE WE THERE YET?

I like this photo as it captures the excitement of a car journey and the potential adventures that await on arrival at the park!



Pets

Winner - Emily Baptie L7C

FOX RED LAB, ENJOYING THE SUN

I think Rosso knows how cute he actually is, as he was ready for this photo.

Parents



Winner - Pavan Raju - father of Ansh Pavan L4F

REFLECTIONS - PRIDE OF DUNDEE

One morning, I went to get some pictures of sunrise, but discovered the beauty of Discovery during dawn and was overwhelmed. I shot a set of a few pictures and stitched them in Lightroom to get this panoramic view of Discovery, pride of Dundee.



Runner Up - Emma Forster (mother of Jessica Forster L7T)

FACE OF INNOCENCE

This is a photo I took of my youngest child on my iPhone when she wasn't doing what I was asking her to do!!

Overall Winner

Aine Hargreaves L7B

GERMAN SHEPHERD ENJOYING HIS PHOTO SHOOT

Ralph was enjoying his photo shoot and looking extremely cute.





International Education

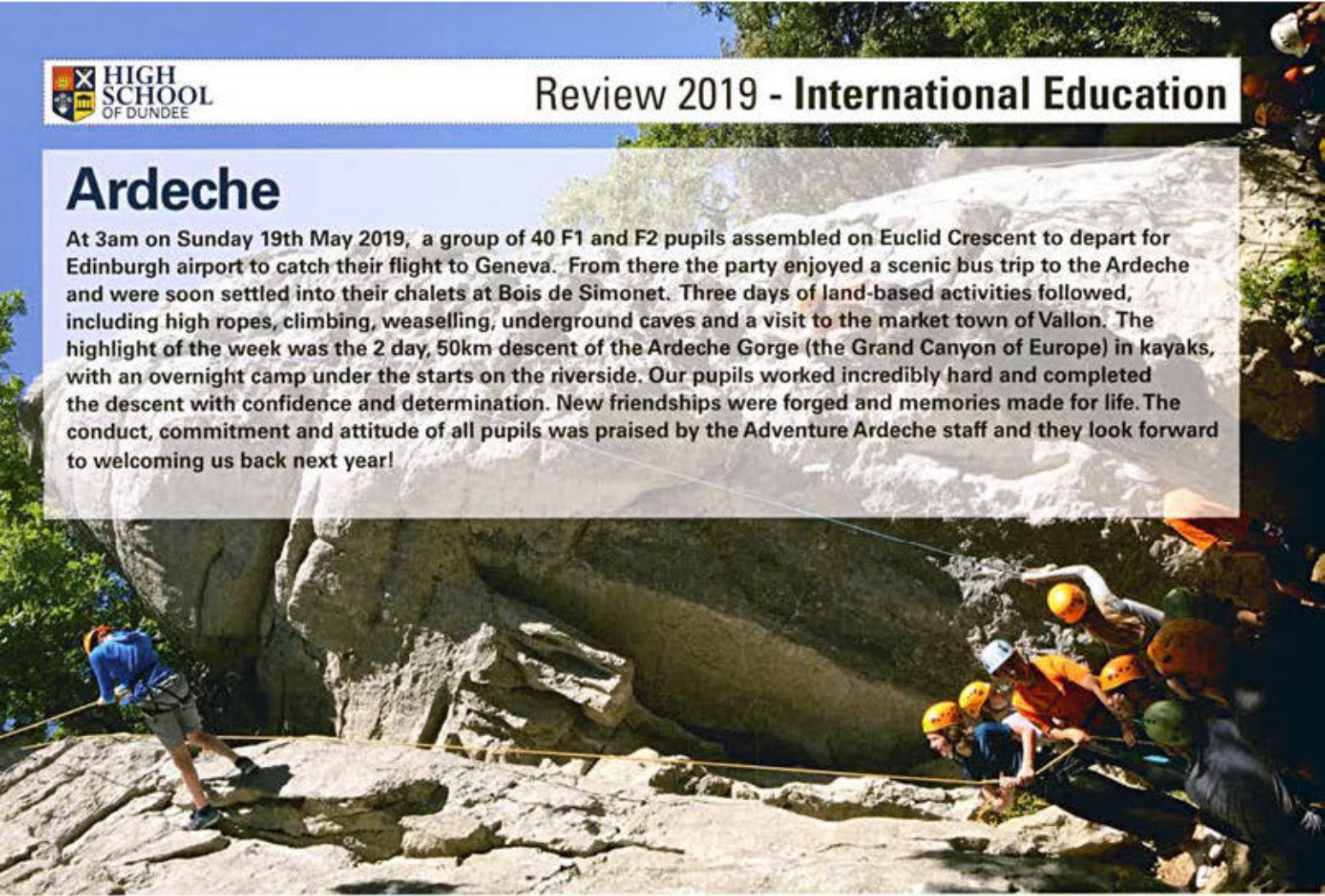


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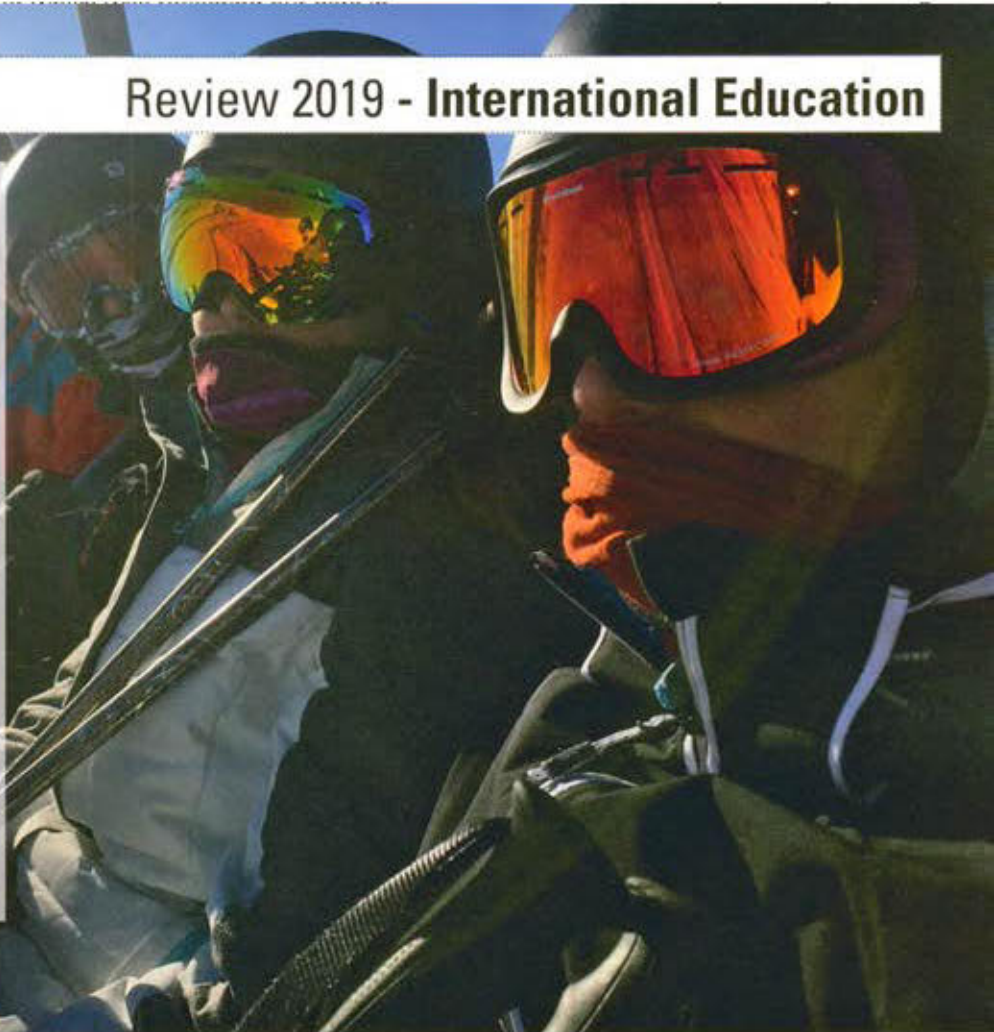
Ardeche

At 3am on Sunday 19th May 2019, a group of 40 F1 and F2 pupils assembled on Euclid Crescent to depart for Edinburgh airport to catch their flight to Geneva. From there the party enjoyed a scenic bus trip to the Ardeche and were soon settled into their chalets at Bois de Simonet. Three days of land-based activities followed, including high ropes, climbing, weaselling, underground caves and a visit to the market town of Vallon. The highlight of the week was the 2 day, 50km descent of the Ardeche Gorge (the Grand Canyon of Europe) in kayaks, with an overnight camp under the starts on the riverside. Our pupils worked incredibly hard and completed the descent with confidence and determination. New friendships were forged and memories made for life. The conduct, commitment and attitude of all pupils was praised by the Adventure Ardeche staff and they look forward to welcoming us back next year!



Ski Trip

60 F3 pupils and 7 staff headed to Alpe d'Huez in February 2019. A huge dump of snow on the first day made for tricky skiing but set us up brilliantly to enjoy a fantastic ski resort with over 250kms of varied terrain and some even conquered Europe's longest Black run, the Sarenne, standing at 16kms in length! The progression in everyone's skiing was phenomenal and the Ski Instructors were complimentary about our pupils' great attitude and application. With evenings filled with indoor climbing, bum boarding (sledging), games nights and movie nights everyone was happily exhausted by the end of a great week.





Berlin June 2019

This year, the History department took 33 F4-6 pupils to the beautiful city of Berlin, Germany. Our voyage began on the 13th of June, when we first arrived in the city. Before settling in at the Meininger Hotel, in the East side of Berlin, we were taken to explore the Olympic stadium. The size and splendour of it wowed us all, not to mention that we stood in the very place Hitler once had. From day

one we were blessed with glorious sunshine and sunburns all round! That evening Mr Fyall marched us to the Brandenburg gate — a landmark that witnessed military parades following the Unification of Germany in 1871 but also marked the division of the city into East and West during the Cold War.

Next on the agenda was the Cecilienhof Palace situated in the South Western suburb of Potsdam. Here we received

a guided tour of the Palace, which is famously known for the Potsdam Conference where the 'Big Three' leaders of USA, Britain and USSR met to negotiate an end to World War 2 and infamously led to the division of Germany and Berlin as the Cold War gripped the world. Already we were beginning to grasp the complexity of the underlying history Germany conceals.

After a nutritious lunch at the local McDonald's, the atmosphere shifted as we edged closer to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, just outside the town of Oranienburg. This experience was difficult for the majority of us, as the reality of the most horrific part of World War 2 came crashing down around us. The scorching heat was only a fraction of the horrors

the prisoners faced, yet we found it tough enough to last through the heart-breaking stories relived to us during our 2-hour tour. However, a visit to The Reichstag — the current home of the German parliament — raised us both in height and spirits. For the first time, we could fully appreciate the beauty of Berlin; with extraordinary views as the sun began to dim.



The next morning, Mr Fyall marched our team around the East of the city to Berlin's TV Tower; Berliner Fernsehturm. This tower is now a symbol of the entire city, standing at a soaring 368 metres into the sky, as well as showing us a spectacular 360-degree panoramic view, causing us to realise just how vast Berlin is. From the TV Tower on Alexanderplatz, we took a short walk in the sunshine to the DDR Museum. This exhibition demonstrates what daily life was like in East Germany under the control of the Communist government during the Cold War, giving us a very "hands-on" history lesson. After lunch, we made a journey to the well-known crossing point between East and West Berlin; Checkpoint Charlie (entering the American sector of the city). Our minds were enthralled by the extraordinary amount of information that we received from this museum, which many of us had little to no knowledge of prior to this day. We ended our jam-packed excursion with the Berlin Wall memorial museum on Bernauer Strasse. Here we had an opportunity to see the original wall which caused so much devastation and rebellion from the population of Berlin. In the evening, we enjoyed an opportunity to socialise and shop at the Alexa shopping Mall by Berlin's Alexanderplatz.

On Sunday morning we woke with aching feet, and our team set out on a walking tour of the West of Berlin. This included; the White Crosses Memorial by the river to mark the spot where several people died trying to escape from East to West Berlin during the Cold War, the Soviet War Memorial commemorating the fallen Russian Soldiers, the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, Hitler's WW2 Bunker,

the Topography of Terror (formerly the headquarters of the Gestapo and SS), Hermann Goering's Air Ministry and finally, the Victory Column — Berlin's Siegestsäule. All these sites were extremely informative and helped widen our picture of Germany's lifestyle during and after the war, and during the unescapable control of the Nazis. Due to popular plea, our day was topped off by a visit to the statue of Otto Von Bismarck, who unified the 39 states of Germany. The walking tour of West Berlin was finished with relaxing boat trip on the River Spree — an opportunity to see the sites from a different angle. Our day concluded with a fun-filled evening of ten pin bowling, which caused some rivalries between our now close-knit gang!

For our final day of adventuring, we headed to the suburb of Wannsee, where we were educated on the 'Final Solution', in which the Nazis met to discuss and decide on the details that would lead to the extermination of millions of people. After a quick stop in Potsdam for lunch, we travelled to the heart of West Berlin for dinner at the 'Hard Rock Café', finishing the trip with a wizz down the Berlin Mall slide!

We think it's fair to say that we couldn't have asked for a better trip, and we're very grateful to Mr Fyall and the Staff Team of Miss Douglas, Mrs Craig and Mr O'Donnell who made this adventure possible. We made lots of fond memories and friends of which we will never forget. The 18th of June approached us, and it was time to head home. Bye Berlin, until next time!

Emily Baxter and Kirstin Petrie (F5)





Classics Trip to Greece Easter 2019

The Classics Department Greece Trip was great fun and educational. Although there were a lot of long bus journeys we still managed to visit very interesting sites everyday.

Each location was different and exciting in its own way. We arrived in Athens at lunchtime. We got a tasty baguette from a really nice bakery and then went for a walk around the city. We went to the national gardens which were interesting and then we took the subway back to hotel where we had a lovely dinner.

The next day we visited the Acropolis which was incredible and then we went to a restored Olympic running track which we got to race on. On Friday we visited Piraeus where we saw the

last floating WW1 battle ship and a recreation of an ancient ship which was amazing. We then took a bus to Delphi where we spent the next two days.

Mr. Faulkes told us a lot of fascinating stories when we visited museums and archaeological sites. He knew lots about all the places we visited and helped us understand the significance of statues and building, and always knew a lot about the subjects.

Delphi was my favourite place where we went to see the Temple of Apollo. The temple had great history as it was the place where the Delphi oracle would tell the futures of several people. She would do this by sitting over a dead snake and breathing in its poisonous fumes, whilst telling futures

in snake language. Crazy! When at that spot, I had this sudden realisation that every famous Ancient Greek and Roman had stood in the exact area I was standing to await their destiny, and it was incredible. The feeling of being where Julius Caesar once stood was something I couldn't get my head around.

Delphi had incredible ruins and we also had free time. Me and my friends climbed a big hill with our time and we got some unbelievable pictures. I was sad to leave Delphi but Olympia was next and it was very exciting. We went to a few museums which were actually interesting but the highlight was going to the first ever Olympic stadium where I raced against my friends.



The next day we visited Sparta which had many interesting ruins and then we went to Tolon where we spent our final night. Before we went to bed we all got to go on a walk on the beach where we got to play football. On the last day we went to Epidaurus and visited the ancient theatre which was gigantic and then we went to Corinth to see the ship canal.

When we were walking around the cities we were given free time to buy things and get food and it was nice

to walk around the streets with our friends. The Greek locals were very helpful and made an effort to speak in English and explain things to us when we were walking around.

We were also put into groups which had lots of different people in them, and although we weren't forced into these groups most of the time, it meant we were able to speak to different people that we hadn't met before and make new friends.

Everyone was very disappointed to leave but we had all had a great time. I liked how though it might have seemed like we would be visiting stuff all day we still had a ton of free time. It was great to go where we wanted for lunch and not to be led everywhere the entire time. I highly recommend the classics trip to anyone no matter if they are interested in the ancient world or not.

Angus Clark, Naomi Sibson, Martin Kelly



Switzerland





As part of the High School's activities week during May 2019, a group of F1 and F2 pupils went on the Geography trip to Switzerland! Lots of fun was had by all and many happy memories were made. We stayed in Geneva, a huge European city. We visited the Cailler Chocolate Factory, where we sampled free and delicious chocolate in the tasting room and a Gruyere

Cheese Factory where we were given free cheese and listened to a cow talk about how cheese is made. Also, we visited the Mer De Glace, a glacier near Chamonix, where we explored a fabulous ice cave. Additionally, we went to the United Nations, where we were given a tour. The place was filled with gifts from other countries. As well as this, we also made time for shopping,

eating ice cream and swimming in the beautiful, clear water of Lake Geneva. The highlight of the trip was definitely spending time with my friends and getting to know other people. Overall, I would recommend the Geography Switzerland trip to everyone!

Parisa Ibrahim Hossain



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Belfast Hockey Tour



We started off the trip by going on the bus to Edinburgh airport. Whilst on the bus we had great singing and dancing to our favourite songs. Most of us were very excited to get on the airplane but some of us were very nervous as well. We landed safely and got to our hotel. We were all very excited but tried to keep the noise down for the other people staying there. We had our first match that day against Friends School Lisburn. We stayed there for a while and socialised with the opposition. We returned to the hotel and had a three course meal which was delicious. That night we had a competition where we did a taste test, a memory test, a quiz and a talent show. The next day we went shopping in Victoria square and bought lots of stuff. Then we played our second match against Wallace High School and again stayed for lunch after the match. That night we went bowling, ate crepes and waffles and spent way too much money on claw machines. The next day it was chucking it down with rain but we played our final match regardless. This was probably our best performance of the tour. After the match we went straight to the airport and got our flight back to Edinburgh before getting the coach back to Dundee and our waiting families.



We became stronger as a team and learned lots of new skills. We would like to thank Mrs Baxter and Mrs Anderson for looking after us and organising the whole trip.

Sally Connolly F2

Dundee Junior Curling Club

Each Monday from September to March, over 20 pupils from L6 onwards head to Dundee Ice Arena to take part in coaching from the Dundee Junior Curling Club. Throughout the season they have the opportunity to take part in competitions and gain skill awards as well as having lots of fun and making new friends with members from other local schools.

One of the highlights in the curling calendar is the Dundee Schools Curling Competition and this year two teams qualified from the school for the finals, which were held in Ayr in March.



HSD1 (Ben Watson, Calum Skea, Keir Chalmers and Naomi Sibson) consisted of Form 1 and 2 pupils and did extremely well, narrowly missing out on a place on the final day as they were beaten by the team from Kelso who went on to win the competition. Our more senior team, HSD2 (Jamie Meade, Innes Chalmers, Iain Chalmers and Archie Rawson) found themselves placed in a particularly tough group, but also played well, gaining a total of 5 points from their matches.

Nursery PE

The Nursery children have a weekly PE session with Mr O'Donnell and it's a real highlight of our week. In August we started the year with some outdoor obstacle courses on the pitches at Mayfield. Some of the obstacles were pretty tricky to climb for our small arms and legs but we managed and had a lot of fun along the way.



Football



A talented footballer from the High School of Dundee was delighted to be picked to play for Scotland.

Alix Saddler made her first appearance for her country when she lined up for the Scottish Independent Schools Football Association U16 side which took on England at St George's Park in Staffordshire in December.

The midfielder was, impressively, one of only three F2-aged girls to make it through to the final squad from the national trials, with the rest coming from F3 and F4.

Alix, who plays club football for Forfar Farmington, said, "I was delighted and honoured to represent my country as this was the next step in my football career. I really enjoyed the experience and would



The Senior Boys' football team performed impressively again this session, making it 3 league wins from 3 seasons, only losing a single league game in that time, away to Gordonstoun in appalling conditions. There were league wins against Strathallen, St. Leonards, Dollar Academy, Albyn and Glenalmond. This season we were pushed to the final game with Strathallen performing well and the league was eventually decided on goal difference. In the Quarter Finals, we were drawn a very difficult match against George Watson's College and ultimately, as with last season, we didn't have quite enough to beat them. The team were very disappointed as they felt they had chances to win the game but unfortunately, it was their day and the season was over. As always, the team gave everything for each other, working hard, striving to do their best. Mr Kerr and Mr McBride thoroughly enjoyed the season despite the last result but hopeful that they will learn from this year's experience and look forward to next season with confidence.





The 1st XI girls had a strong season and, although not always reflected in the final score, there was never a match where we didn't put up a good fight. From the very first match we quickly gelled as a team, setting the tone for the season ahead. We developed strong links with each other across the pitch, whether it was a hard hit from defence to a leading forward, or amongst the midfield as the ball was worked up the pitch to the goal. The hockey knowledge, positivity and support from Mrs Anderson during training and on the sidelines never failed to keep us working hard, or to keep our heads up if we conceded. Some notable victories this season include our 1-0 win against Glenalmond in the area cup round 1, and our 3-2 league match win against Robert Gordons after a fast paced game. The leaving 6th years wish all the best to the 1st XI for the next season.

Hannah Alijani



Sports Day

Due to some traditional Scottish weather, Sports Day was sadly postponed from the original Saturday event to the following Tuesday afternoon. Whilst this did curtail the number of spectators, it did nothing to curb the enthusiasm of those taking part.





Sports Day



L1-4 Yoga

L1-4 pupils had the opportunity this year to take part in a co-curricular yoga class, designed to develop physical and mental well-being. Taught by experienced teacher Lindsey Scott, the pupils took part in a variety of activities; learning yoga poses, controlled breathing and becoming aware of how yoga can encourage development of a positive mindset.



Sailing

The Brown Cup Scottish Schools Championships took place on Monday 10th June at Loch Earn Sailing Club. This event has been run by LESC for Schools for 60 years.

The event format consists of 3 races all to count with classes for Optimist, Topper & Handicap. School teams compete for the Brown Cup.

The HSD team of Tom Mitchell, James Gifford and Rory Gifford had an excellent day with Tom winning the Topper fleet, James winning the Optimist fleet and Rory finishing second in the Optimist Fleet. The combined results meant that the boys brought home the Brown Cup for the second year in a row.

F1 Netball

This year our F1 Netball team had a very successful time as they reached the finals of the Scottish Schools Netball Cup. They won 6 out of 7 matches to get to the final and could have had 7 out of 7 if we hadn't lost players to injuries/holidays. The final was played at Ravenscraig Sports Facility on Thursday 21st of March. Unfortunately the team were a little over awed by the occasion and crowds watching and lost 26-6. Never the less it was a great achievement to get there and come away with a runners up medal and I'm sure that they will rise to the occasion if they reach finals next year. Seven players from the F1 squad have now been selected for the U15 Dundee District Squad. *SMcK*



L4 Badminton

It has been another fun year at the L4 Badminton Club with plenty of action, exercise and learning. Three groups participated in the club at different times during the session. Some pupils arrived with quite a bit of playing experience, but for many this was to be an exciting new sport. For all pupils this was a time to exercise with friends and to learn and practise the skills of badminton. Everyone familiarised themselves with the features of a badminton court and had opportunities to develop their serve and their forehand and backhand shots. As well as court play there were fun activities to enhance eye/shuttle coordination and



aim such as hitting shots into hoops and playing a version of 'keep the kettle boiling' - badminton style! The most popular activity was playing doubles while pretending to represent a country at a badminton tournament. The play became fast and exciting with some very good rallies and some clever and interesting shots. The L4 pupils have done very well and made positive progress in many aspects of the game. Rachel Rose (Form 6) volunteered to help with this club and provided very valuable assistance and support. It has been an active and engaging year at the L4 Badminton Club.

Miss M. Cardno

Sports Awards Dinner



On June 4th the HSD sports department held its annual awards dinner in Trinity Hall to honour the many sporting achievements of the year.

Guest of honour Andy Nicol of Scotland Rugby fame spoke about his life in sport and presented the awards.



L7 Netball Team

On Saturday 16th March 2019 the Junior Years L7 Netball team played in the Dundee District Primary Schools Netball Association's Directors' Trophy at Ward Road Gym. On this snowy morning, the girls played four initial round robin matches with the top two teams progressing to the final. Unfortunately, the team lost their first match against Eastern but won all the others against Glebelands, Blackness and St. Joseph's which meant they still qualified for the final.

The final was played against Eastern, who the L7 team have previously played some hard-fought matches against. Even though the girls were down 3-2 at half time, they mustered up all their strength and managed to gain a lead in the second half and Eastern could not come back. The final score was 8-6 to the High School of Dundee. This result meant the L7 team have won both the tournaments that they have played in this term. Another well deserved win!

Gabi Farquharson, Jessica Forster, Caris Hamilton, Aine Hargreaves, Amy Leburn, Emily Macdonald and Freya Tyson are pictured with the Directors' Trophy and their medals.



On Thursday 28th February 2019, the Junior Years L7 Netball team played in the Dundee District Primary Schools' Netball Association Kennedy Cup at Ward Road Gym. This was a knockout tournament and so the number of matches the girls would play as part of the night was uncertain. However, the girls used all the skills and tactics they had learned from playing in their previous tournament and experienced great success. They won against Blackness 6-0, Fintry 2-1 and Eastern 9-8.

The win against Eastern was a particular highlight as the girls had been beaten by this team in the final of a previous tournament at Christmas time. The girls led 7-3 at half time in this match but Eastern made a strong come back in the second half to level the match. However, HSD managed to stay focused and score the winning goal to secure their place in the final.

The girls then went on to play St. Joseph's in the final and won this 7-3. This was a great result and a well deserved win after an amazing night of netball.

Emily Baptie, Gabi Farquharson, Jessica Forster, Caris Hamilton, Aine Hargreaves, Amy Leburn and Emily Macdonald are pictured with the Kennedy Cup and their medals.



Throughout November 2018, the Junior Years L7 Netball team played in the Dundee District Primary Schools' Netball Association Winter League. They played three matches at Ward Road Gym after school on a Thursday against Clepington, St. Joseph's and Blackness. The team played exceptionally well and won all their matches in their league which meant they qualified for the final which was played against Eastern on 6th December at Ward Road.

The final began with the teams well matched and goals were scored at both ends. However, Eastern began to pull away and were leading at half time. HSD fought back hard at the beginning of the second half but unfortunately again Eastern found their form and created a lead with the final score being 10-6 to Eastern. The L7 girls were therefore runners-up in the Winter League. Well done! A great success for the team's first tournament.

Emily Baptie, Gabi Farquharson, Jessica Forster, Caris Hamilton, Aine Hargreaves, Amy Leburn and Emily Macdonald are pictured with their medals.



U16 Rugby

The 2018 – 2019 season was been fantastic for the Under 16 rugby team and the highlight would have to be our journey in the cup. We started the run against Preston Lodge at Mayfield where we won convincingly. This was followed by a muddy, wet and windy trip to Linlithgow where we pulled through and won narrowly. Although the semi final, which we won away to Fettes, was amazing and the support from the Form 4 pupils was great the highlight leading up to the final was the quarter final away in Edinburgh against Edinburgh Academy. After conceding two early tries we clawed our way back to a narrow victory winning 20 points to 17. Then came the big day, for all the players it was an experience we will never forget, running out of the tunnel and playing on the big pitch at Murrayfield. The weather conditions did not favour our style of play, and although we didn't win the game, we should be very proud of reaching the final. The buildup was great receiving our match day shirts from former pupil Andy Nicol, and with a large and vocal HSD support the occasion was made even better.

Photo Credit: SNS/Scottish Rugby



F1 Rugby

Going into Form 1 this year, we had goals to play to the best of our ability and hopefully come through with good results. With new additions to the F1 rugby team, we trained well and as the season progressed, we started to improve as a group. After many hours of hard work and training we managed to win matches. A particularly great win was over Merchiston Castle School during the middle of the season. We were extremely happy to win by a mere two points in a hard fought game, the final score being 34-32. The season helped us develop as a team and we were really happy to end the season with some good results in Rugby 7s. We appreciate all the help and support our coaches gave to us this year and we hope to keep performing as we go up the school.

James Westwood

F1B Hockey

We were strong as a team and although we played competitively, we enjoyed the sport a lot while playing. We all had lots of fun playing 11-aside and it helped us grow as a team and start to establish our positions. Our defenders helped our goalie stop goals, our midfield helped connect us all together but also helped our forwards to score goals. Overall, we have played really well and we have stuck together and been a great team but next year we are going to try really hard to win a few more matches.

Tegan Ellis

F3 Girls' Netball

The Form 3 netball team had a very successful season in the Scottish Schools Cup. We first played 5 matches to determine our league for the rest of the competition. After winning 4/5 matches we progressed onto the knock-out round securing our place in the silver league, a step up from bronze last year. We successfully managed to make it to the quarter-finals where we were unfortunately beaten by Balerno High School in an incredibly close match which resulted in us losing 26-27. Even though this was a tough score to end our journey through the competition, we were still proud of the progression we have made this season.

Sophie Elder

Open Girls' Netball

This year the Senior Open Netball team got off to a strong start in October against Brechin. This was our first game in the National Schools Cup. We achieved a 35-8 victory. As we continued in the first round we unfortunately lost to Monifieth High School and later narrowly lost to Forfar Academy 14-12. Sadly, we could not continue into the next round of the cup as fewer teams were allowed through this year. To carry on with our netball, friendly matches were organised. We were successful in beating Brechin 21-14. Despite a few loses, it was a great year for netball as the team developed a greater bond and improvement could be seen in every player.

Rachel Rose

F3 Girls' Hockey

Overall, the Form 3 hockey team had a successful season and the experience has been beneficial to our hockey development. At the start of the season we were struggling to perform consistently well in our games but with hard work and commitment to training we began to achieve the results we wanted. A highlight was when we successfully made it through to the semi-final of the Midlands District Cup by beating Glenalmond 2-0. Although we won this game we weren't happy with how we performed so continued to work hard in training as we knew the next round would be more of a challenge. We were drawn against Strathallan in the semi-final and managed to score in the second half to win the game 1-0. We were delighted to have made it to the final as although we believed we could make it to the final it was still a bit of a shock. The final came and we gave the best performance of our season against Dollar which resulted in the game having to go to penalty strokes which we unfortunately narrowly lost. Although this was disappointing, we were pleased with how we played and proud of the improvements we had made throughout the season. We would especially like to thank Miss McMullan for her commitment to our team and believing in us, even when we didn't. We will all miss her but feel privileged to have been the last team to be coached by her at the school.

Claire Joss

F3B Girls' Hockey

2019 was an excellent year for the Form 3B hockey team. We won 9 games this season and the ones we lost we came away with triumph and accomplishment. The F3B team really has worked together not only as a sports team but as a group of friends. From August our teamwork and skills as individuals have excelled. We started unaware of the positions we felt most appropriate in to finding our place in the hockey team. The Form 3B team has truly exceeded in all aspects of hockey this season with thanks to our coaches.

Madihah Chohan

South Africa



At the end of July, 71 intrepid senior rugby and hockey players set off on the long journey to South Africa for an unforgettable two week tour focusing on both sport and culture.

Day 1

On the afternoon of the 27th July, we began our much anticipated South African adventure. Flying from Edinburgh via Dubai to Johannesburg we arrived safely and in high spirit at our first accommodation - the High Performance Centre in Pretoria. We dined on a delicious dinner closely followed by an early night in preparation for the beginning of our tour. At this point we had only lost 2 phones and a hoodie.

Day 2

We started our first full day in South Africa with an early rise and a hearty breakfast followed by a self-lead training session for both the rugby and hockey teams which finished with a "refreshing" dip in the outdoor pool to cool down afterwards. That afternoon the boys enjoyed a stadium tour and a light training session on the pitch at Ellis Park where South Africa famously beat New Zealand in the 1995 Rugby World Cup final. Meanwhile the girls prepared themselves for their first matches against Waterkloof School. With the sun setting the 2nd XI fought hard but unfortunately lost 7-0. Joined by the boys cheering them on the 1st XI played their match determined to succeed however Waterkloof came out on top winning 5-0. The girls were then treated to a post-match BBQ where they all enjoyed getting to know the girls and unsurprisingly eating the food provided. Exhausted from a tough day everyone welcomed the thought of climbing into bed.

Day 3

For all teams it was match day. The boys were to play their first match in South Africa while the girls had their second match to play. We began the day with another cooked breakfast followed by a light training session to mentally and physically prepare us for the challenge we would later face. That evening the boys travelled to Harlequins rugby club and the girls to Pretoria High School for Girls. All 4 teams played with heart and the immense sportsmanship shown from each individual right through to the final whistle was admirable. The results were mixed across the teams with the boys U16 team winning and 1st XI drawing 2-2. Both matches were followed with a meal and an opportunity to socialise with the opposition.



Days 4 - 6

After breakfast we all checked out of HPC and the rugby and hockey teams split with the boys travelling to Lesedi Cultural Village and the girls heading to Mabula Private Game Reserve. The boys' journey was one of the more eventful ones as an open mic competition was held including a tribute to Freddie Mercury with Cameron Lyall's beautiful rendition of Queens' 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. At the Lesedi cultural village we learnt about the five traditional villages of South Africa, listened to local music and watched traditional dancing. The trip was finished off with a meal consisting of traditional South African cuisine. The boys then transferred to City Lodge Lynnwood, their accommodation for the next two nights. The girls were greeted with scented towels and hot chocolate before being shown to their luxurious lodges. Whilst watching the South African sun set across the plains the girls spotted giraffes, rhinos, leopards, buffalos, hippos and lions but sadly no elephants. They then headed to their rooms for an early night in preparation for a 5 o'clock rise (unpopular with many). Their second game drive included much needed blankets and an unforgettable sunrise! Later that day the girls relaxed poolside before checking out and heading to Lesedi Cultural village. On day 5 the boys made their way to the Apartheid Museum learning about the rise and the fall of Apartheid in South Africa. Later that day they played their second match of the tour against Benoni, sadly resulting in two losses. After the match the staff and pupils of both sides split for a traditional South African barbecue consisting of numerous steaks and sausages accompanied with an introduction to British music for our new South African friends. The boys then returned to the hotel where we checked out the next morning and set off to Mabula where we were lucky enough to spot a herd of elephants only metres in front of us. That morning the girls enjoyed the apartheid museum and later that afternoon the rugby and hockey teams were reunited at Johannesburg airport where a lot of suitcase re arrangement took place as we were landed with a new 20kg baggage limit before we flew on to Cape Town and transferred to the Protea Hotel in Stellenbosch.



Day 7

After breakfast the boys transferred to the cape canopy zip lining tour. After a half hour mountain jeep drive known as an 'African massage' up bumpy tracks, they were faced with a series of eleven zip lines down the mountain. Whilst the boys were flying through the sky, the girls were trying to catch some waves at Roxy's Surf Emporium at Muizenberg. Following this both hockey and rugby teams boarded the coach and went out for tea to Hudson's grill. After a 2 hour wait, we all thoroughly enjoyed our burgers and chocolate milkshakes, they were worth the wait!



Day 8

After breakfast the whole party boarded coaches and headed to the Goedgedacht Trust Farm, a charity working to help children of the West Coast and Boland towns to break free from the cycle of generational poverty. The trust runs the Path Onto Prosperity (POP) program, aiming to help young children have a better quality of life. First, we spent the morning with the farm children dancing and playing. Then we enjoyed a home cooked meal followed by a talk about what the charity aims to achieve. In the afternoon the boys played their third match against Connect Sports and the girls played Milnerton. The 1st XV boys suffered a narrow 28-26 defeat and the U16 team also lost. The girls 1st XI lost their match 6-0 but the 2nd XI won their match 4-1.


Day 9

We all boarded the bus excited for the day's activities and the boys headed to surf school and the girls the Cape Canopy zip lining tour. The boys tucked into a fish and chips after catching some waves as the girls flew across a southern cape gorge.




Day 10

With the weather preventing us from catching the boat to Robben Island we went to the Canal Walk Mall. After a morning of shopping we left with our purses significantly lighter and everyone made their way to their matches. The girls played their final match against Pinelands School with the 2nd XI losing 2-0 and the 1st XI losing 6-0. The boys finished their tour matches against Brackenfell where the 1st XV lost 47-13. With the tour heading to an end we had our final evening meal together in a steak bar on the V&A waterfront.

Days 11 & 12

Our last day was spent on the beautiful South African coast. Standing in the pouring rain we visited Camps Bay and frequented the small tourist shops and the long sandy beach. As the weather brightened so did our spirits as we made our way to the penguin beach. We watched as the African penguins spent their time on the beach basking in the winter sun and then we moved quickly on to the delicious last lunch of fish and chips and an ice cream, enjoyed by all. We made it to the airport after an award ceremony where players of the tour and the best tourist were awarded. And then began our long journey home after an unforgettable tour.



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Out and About



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Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a challenging programme of leisure time activities, designed to encourage young people to learn new skills, help others, and experience adventure in the outdoors.

Each year pupils at the High School of Dundee participate in all three levels of the award: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. The participants create their own DofE programme by finding a volunteering, physical and skills activity of

their own interest, before undertaking a final assessed expedition after undergoing a training day and practice expedition.

Expeditions may be on foot or by canoe and include some beautiful areas of Scotland including Loch Ordie and Braemar for Bronze expeditions, Loch Tay for Silver and the Cairngorms and the Great Glen for gold.



F1 Residential Nethybridge



In September the entire F1 year group took part in our annual residential stay at Nethybridge in the Cairngorm National Park. The aims of the stay include developing teamwork, enabling the pupils get to know each other and guidance staff in their house, not to mention having a bit of fun!



F3 Dundee Geography Fieldtrip



Dundee Sheriff Court

On Wednesday, 5th June, Mrs Jack took her 4th year history class to Dundee Sheriff Court, to explore the possible career paths within the legal system, especially law. We were incredibly lucky to speak to three sheriffs: Sheriff Carmichael, Hughes and Martin-Brown. They talked to us about why they chose a career in law and answered our various questions: from "what has been your most extreme case?" to "why do you wear a wig?" We were also guided around the Courthouse by Len Digney and were able to sit in on 3 different court cases. We would love to go to the courthouse again, hopefully not as criminals!



John Muir Discovery Award

The John Muir Award is an environmental award scheme that focuses on helping young people connect with nature and enjoy and care for wild places. In June a number of intrepid High School explorers headed out for Canna and Rum to work with local rangers in removing rubbish from the islands' wild places. As one of them commented, "While doing the John Muir Award I not only interacted with others in a productive way, but also learned things that changed my opinion on the environment forever. I immensely enjoyed the trip because it pushed me to my limits and made me more confident about myself."



Easter Challenge Day



Easter Challenge Day in L1 was a bright and colourful day full of fun and activity. The children made Easter Bonnets and paraded them around Junior Years, we went to Home Economics to make chocolate Easter nests and also learned the Easter Story.



Pets at Home



Active Kids

On Friday 14th June L1 and L2 set off for a day at Active Kids. Everyone had a super time. From the moment the children arrived until we set off for home, the children had lots of fun on the astro-slide, the jelly bellies, Tractor Ted's area, the pirate ship, the fort and the trampolines. A day spent outdoors with lots of activity resulted in a very quiet bus journey back to school!





Discovery

As part of the L2s Famous People topic, the pupils took a trip to RRS Discovery to learn more about Captain Scott and his expeditions to Antarctica. The year group toured the boat to find out about the journey to Antarctica and the living conditions on board. They also learnt about how to keep warm in extreme temperatures and had to the chance to dress up in both modern and olden day explorers' clothes. The children had a great time and many soon began dreaming of their own future explorations to the ends of the world.



Farm Trip

In September, the L2s visited Newton of Arbirlot to learn more about life on a farm and how various foods are grown as part of their 'Farming and Food' project. The pupils met 'Dundee' the bull and learnt about the process of turning wheat into flour, bread and other products. They also got to see how potatoes are harvested on a much larger scale than theirs.



In the Community



As part of their 'High School of Dundee and the Community' topic, the L2s spent many enjoyable mornings visiting various locations close to the school. At the City Chambers they learnt more about the history of Dundee and the role of the local council whilst at the Caird Hall they heard about some of the famous people who have played there. They also visited Dundee Central Mosque and St Andrew's Church where they could discover more about the similarities and differences between the two religions. Next the pupils visited McManus Galleries where they could learn more about Dundee's culture and heritage. Finally, they went to see the new design museum at V & A. Here they had the opportunity to create their own towers and complete a quiz about the exhibitions. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed these trips. On each occasion they were all exemplary representatives of our school and were complimented several times on their excellent behaviour.





HMS Unicorn

In March, the L2s entered a city wide competition run by the HMS Unicorn to redesign the use of the ship. The pupils worked in groups of three to use the themes of 'Jute, Jam and Journalism' and the nine trades of Dundee as inspiration for their designs. One of our creative designers was placed second and as a result they won both classes a free trip to the ship. The year group enjoyed a fascinating tour around the ship, learning about its history and what life on like the boat was like.



Broughty Ferry Lifeboat Station

On Tuesday, 27 November 2018, L3 visited the Lifeboat Station in Broughty Ferry. When we arrived, we met the coxswain whose name was Murray and the mechanic whose name was Scott. First, we watched a video which demonstrated the work of the RNLI volunteers. Then, Tom got dressed up in the lifeboat gear which was bright yellow with a red life jacket. After, we looked at the smaller lifeboat which is in the shed downstairs. It sits on a ramp where it is launched into the river. The bigger lifeboat was sitting at the pier. Finally, we got a chance to ask questions and Murray told us a story about a dolphin which was rescued and returned to sea by their team. As we left, we said hello to RNLI Oor Wullie.



Megginch September 2018



Crannog Trip

L4 had another successful trip to the Crannog on Loch Tay this year. Despite the weather threatening to let us down we managed to stay dry all day and learned how well the Crannog kept its insulation against the cold. All the children enjoyed the hands on activities available with much team work and bits of sawdust flying around as they tried their hand at wood turning and fire making. Grinding flour was hugely popular this year although everyone agreed that it was a fine task to do for a few minutes but not the hours on end that the Celtic people would have had to do. The Crannog also laid on taste testing this year with warm fruit cordial and flapjacks just like the Celts would have made. It really gave everyone a feel for what living in Celtic times would have been like even to the point that a few children wanted to go back in time and become actual Celts. After a super couple of hours at the Crannog being filled with brilliant information by our tour guides we moved on to the other side of Loch Tay for a picnic. Some of us were brave and sat outside in the wind but a few people opted for the warmth of the bus. After that, sadly, it was time to return to school but everyone agreed that it had been a wonderful day.



Pamela Butchart

L5 pupils visited Waterstones in March to meet Pamela Butchart, one of the most popular authors in the school Library. Pamela was promoting her latest Secret Seven novel, having been invited to continue Enid Blyton's famous series. We heard a reading from the book before queuing up to have Pamela sign our books. We also invited/begged Pamela to come and visit us at school. We can't wait to see her again during the next session!



A Happy Residential Weekend

D - drenched, dreich, delicious,
A - action, amicable, amazing,
L - lively, luxury, leadership,
G - green grass, great, Giant Swing!
U - unbelievable, upside-down, unique,
I - ingenious, improving, inquisitive,
S - satisfying, strong, skilful,
E - exciting, educational, encouraging.

T - thrilling, thinking, truthful,
R - responsible, respectful, resilient,
I - imaginative, intrepid, incredible,
P - playful, party, positivity.

By Skye, Eilidh, Charlie and Rowan



Edinburgh Castle

High School of Dundee
Tayside
13th March 2019

Dear Staff of Edinburgh Castle,

Thank you so much for having us to visit! I learned so much about Jacobite history, it was like a full school day with history all the time (which I would love as history is one of my favourite subjects, and I want to choose it in Senior School). My favourite fact that I learned was about the male prisoners. Going down there into those spooky tunnels made me feel scared, like I was a prisoner there too. It was great to know about the black hole, and how sixty prisoners could be crammed into that small room and have to live there for years. Fascinating!

My favourite artefact was the cannon. I was surprised at how many people were needed to fire it and how long it took to load up but loved miming what people would have done about 300 years ago! It sounded so powerful and lethal, I wish I had seen it fire back then.

My favourite part of the day was when we were asking the officers and the soldiers questions about their lives in the army, and the Redcoat made them speak and used their arms and legs like puppets. I thought its was very unfair that the officers were paid £25 a week and the other soldiers only 12 shillings!

Yours sincerely

Nellie L
L6S



Safe Taysiders

In September, L7 visited Dundee's Police Training Centre. We learned lots of new information such as what to do when a stranger approaches you, how to perform CPR and how to be safe on social media. We worked in groups on a series of bases run by the Police, Fire Service, SEPA, Women's Aid and lots more. It was a fascinating morning. We completed a quiz checking what we knew about our safety at the start and again at the end of the morning – our results certainly improved the second time. Overall it was a thoroughly enjoyable, informative morning which we would definitely recommend to younger pupils.

Finn Picken and Nathan Ogston (L7C)





Opal Coast

Just after Easter holidays, L7 went for 5 days to the Opal Coast in northern France. While we were there, we went to many interesting places including Nausicaa, a sea life centre, a the planetarium and many more. While Nausicaa and the planetarium are connected with science, history was also on our minds. We visited the Military Cemetery at Etaples to commemorate four former pupils of the High School who lost their lives during World War 1. We laid crosses at the graves, which was very moving. We also went to La Coupoule which is a WW2 museum that was originally built for the firing of German rockets across the Channel to England. The films that we saw at La Coupoule showed us the history of the bunker and the story of World War 2 in France. As well as learning things, we also had a lot of fun, shopping for lunch at a market, ten pin bowling, making and flipping crepes, exploring the countryside on the Rando-Rail and scrambling around on a high ropes course. And of course, all week we were practising our French language skills. Everyone really enjoyed the trip and we would all love to go again.

Shivani Bhushan



Manchester Football Trip

During the February holiday, 49 pupils and 5 staff took were amongst the 74,054 supporters to witness Manchester United vs Paris Saint Germain in a Champions League last 16 match at Old Trafford, Manchester. Some of the biggest names in world football were appearing, including recent World Cup winners Paul Pogba, Kylian Mbappe and Presnel Kimpembe. Our seats were located in the very last row at the top of the Sir Alex Ferguson Stand which provided a fantastic view of the proceedings. For some, this was their first taste of a live football match, whilst for others it was the biggest stadium they had ever visited. Regardless of how much live football each pupil had witnessed, it was an incredible experience at one of the world's most famous grounds. Ultimately Manchester United lost 2 - 0, however, PSG are a very strong squad, full of well-established household names in the game. This was a two-day trip that involved a one night stay in Preston. On the following day, before the journey home, we visited the Etihad Stadium, home to Manchester City Football Club who pride themselves as the only team to actually be from Manchester. It was an excellent tour and all pupils and staff were in awe of how a modern stadium operates and the work that goes into enabling a team such as Manchester City to be so successful. The pupils visited the warm up areas, the hospitality suites (costing around £80,000 per seat, per season!) the dressing rooms and of course got to go pitch side but not on the grass! A fantastic time was had by all and the pupils were already asking where to visit next season? SM



Professor Brian Cox

"On the 19th February, 2019, a group of pupils were given the chance to go and see world renowned physicist Brian Cox, on his sellout "UNIVERSAL" World Tour. Having known Brian Cox from his work with the BBC and his books about the universe, I was thoroughly excited and grateful to be given the opportunity to go on such a trip. The SSE Hydro was sold out and every single person in the arena was captivated by the incredibly sharp photographs and graphics of the universe, including satellite explorations of far-away moons and planets that were so clear and detailed. Professor Cox proceeded to discuss the incredibly complicated topics of spacetime, relativity and black holes, and was able to articulate these concepts in such an intriguing and insightful way that the audience was able to understand (most of) the science. Professor Cox then explored the sheer scale of the universe- the Earth is nothing but a tiny rock floating about in the vast expanse of space and in cosmic terms, we are only alive for the blink of an eye. Cox explained that even though humans are small and insignificant, as a life form, we are in fact extremely rare and the Earth is precious, delicate and vulnerable. As Cox put it, we should "love our planet and enjoy the now," and that our allegiances should not be to our individual countries or races, but to mankind - a very powerful message. Overall, the show was interesting, eye-opening and mesmerising and far more than just a chat about Physics!"

Ethan McColgan



John Stuart Mill Cup

University of St. Andrews,
Thursday 6th June

The John Stuart Mill Cup is (to quote its website) 'a tournament in which teams of high school students match wits with each other discussing ethical issues of public concern.' We entered last year, and were a hair's breadth from the semi-final. How would we fare this year?

Our team gathered at The Pillars at 9.50 and struck out boldly for Dundee Bus Station. The journey to St. Andrews passed quickly, and we arrived in St. Andrews in time for a historical tour before signing in and being assigned our place in the tournament. Other teams had come from as far afield as Morayshire, Ayrshire and Yorkshire, but our first match was with the Kilgraston team. We lost the toss, and were first to speak.

In response to a set of questions about social expectations of women's appearance, the team conferred for two minutes before delegating Maisie Ross to present a powerful case for challenging the ways in which women are judged by appearance rather than ability. Dominic Westwood responded ably to comments from the opposing team, and to questions from the judges.

When the opposition's turn came, the topic was the recent court case about the bakery that refused to supply a customer with a cake bearing the message 'Support Gay Marriage'. Their presentation made a number of important points that David Logan was able to develop and criticise in his response, before raising other relevant considerations.

We lost the toss again at the beginning of our second match, this time against Wellington School (the home of last year's winning team), and were given the task of presenting a case about transgender rights in prisons. Our lead speaker on this occasion was Dominic, who tackled a difficult subject with considerable dexterity. The opposing

team then presented such a complete case about charitable giving that there was little room to improve on it, but Edward Appleton added usefully to the moral case both for maximising the amount of good achieved by charitable donations, and for encouraging the human virtue of generosity.

And so to the Semi-Final, against a team from Ampleforth College. Did we really lose the toss again? This time, the topic was a proposal to reduce the age of consent for sexual activity, but only within a two-year age bracket (a more detailed analysis is available). Maisie led the presentation, carefully weighing up the likely consequences of changing or maintaining the present legislation.

In the second half, the Ampleforth team presented a criticism of social credit systems based both on civil liberties and on the possible or likely consequences of instituting such a system. Critical comment was difficult, on account of the fact that our team had already prepared a case very similar to the one to which they had to reply. After a little discussion, however, they succeeded in extending the case in three distinct ways, making use of recent examples of the manipulative use of data within democratic societies.

Were we really in the final? Yes! And, once again, we lost the toss. This time, however, the opposition - Hermitage Academy - elected to present the first

case. We were in uncharted territory, and held our breath slightly as they prepared their presentation on the case of the Nazi pug (yes, really - it's not a misprint). They were clear, they were incisive. They were really good. David's well-informed and well-argued reply included a defence based on freedom of speech, and a positive suggestion on a useful refinement of the law regarding offensive content in social media.

That left us with environmental activism: at what stage might it be appropriate to protest in a way that breaks the law? Some of the illegal activities of the suffragettes came to be regarded as heroic. Can the same be said of Extinction Rebellion? Dominic's presentation drew attention to the failures of government, the power of vested interests, and the urgent challenge represented by climate change, before using a number of examples to make the case for the moral necessity of breaking some laws on some occasions.

The two teams then left the lecture theatre, while the judges discussed their assessment of the match. Compliments were given and received by both teams, and all the finalists were given a philosophical book (kindly supplied by Oxford University Press) by Dr. Ben Sachs, the event organiser. Our team's books turned out to be consolation prizes, as Hermitage Academy scored 129 points against our 121. It only remained to shake hands, thank the organisers, and go to Janetta's for ice cream before catching the bus back to Dundee.

The unsung hero of this account is Patrick Damodaran, who contributed to the preparation of every case and every response, but who patiently endured the frustration of seeing his major presentations assigned to other teams. Credit is also due to Ike Charles-Ibe and Gabi Thompson, who were part of the preparation team, though for different reasons they were unable to join the others for the event itself.



Activities Week

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In May education moved outside the classroom with all pupils in F1-3 embracing an Activities week themed around the school's core values. 337 pupils were based in 4 countries, experiencing over 20 different activities. The aims were to enhance the pupils' experience of our integrated curriculum and for them to push their own educational boundaries. The overwhelming message from our feedback was that these shared experiences allowed relationships and skills to develop. These have enabled our pupils to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses, as well as to set their own targets and challenges for the future. The images below depict a tiny fraction of the learning that happened outside the classroom.

Grow your own?

On Wednesday 22nd May, as part of Activities Week, an intrepid group of F1 pupils made their way up the Law on foot to spend a day on Mr MacKinnon's allotment. The aim of the day was to find out a bit about growing your own food, while working out what kinds of fruit and vegetables are suited to our climate. There was also a chance to get involved in some practical activities, like hedge-trimming, sowing and planting, and the perennial weeding... The end result after a day's work by the squad and Dr Pepper? One very happy allotmenteer whose workload for the next few weeks was considerably lessened!



Archery



Beach Clean

Wednesday saw over 100 keen youngsters accompanied by 15 equally keen staff, heading over the Tay Bridge into Fife and on to Tentsmuir – described by Visit Scotland as “A beachside pine forest, with miles of trails and lots of wartime heritage and wildlife to explore”

Our mission, to remove as much litter as possible from one of the most beautiful beaches in Scotland. As we arrived the heavens opened and the youngsters stayed on the bus whilst Mr McAdam and the rest of the staff worked out the plan of campaign.

A wander Northwards for about a mile through the stunning forest and dunes saw youngsters taking photos of flowers

and creatures before we combed some two miles of beach for rubbish. A break for lunch was followed by an inter-house sandcastle building competition. Sadly Lindores followed in the footsteps of King Canute and built too close to the waves... The remaining three houses all completed great works in the allotted 30 minutes and the judging panel of Mrs Watson and Mr Clarke declared Aystree to be the winners.

An excellent environmentally and socially aware activity that saw a truckload of rubbish removed. Congratulations to all for their efforts.

Photography Trip

The weather forecast for the Monday of Activities Week was not great and consequently I was anticipating some rather, “dreich” conditions. Fortunately, as it turned out, the morning started off a little overcast, but warm – really good conditions for taking photographs. Too sunny means lots of very black shadows and blown-out highlights which can be distracting to look at. Nineteen pupils and four members of staff (Mr Wilson, Ms Fulton, Ms Simpson and Mr Armstrong)

arrived safely at St Andrews and the bus was parked on West Sands beach – conveniently near the café! The pupils were split into groups of four and were given a range of photographic activities to complete. These included composition, macro, patterns and leading lines. The pupils also were given a crystal ball and were to use this to take creative shots. A sample of the photographs that were taken is shown below...

The pupils were heavily engaged with the

tasks set and the images that they took were very creative. A few of the children had not been to that particular beach before and it was clear that they enjoyed the wide-open spaces that it presented them with. We packed up shortly after 3 p.m. and this was fortunate, as the rain came on about half way back to the school. The pupils were exceptionally well behaved, and I am sure that they enjoyed their excursion.

ANW



Canvas Painting Workshop



19 pupils and 3 members of staff took part in a canvas painting workshop. The day started with all involved looking at different art styles to inspire them. Once enthused the participants then started drawing their ideas onto the A3 canvases before applying acrylic paint. Everyone's finished outcome was unique and personal to them and they all gave the activity 100%.

The pupils commented that:

"The canvas painting was very fun and the art department should do it more often."

"I enjoyed my activities, especially the canvas painting in which I enjoyed expressing my art style and seeing everybody else's, even the teacher's paintings."

Mrs Ross, the Art Teacher and leader of the activity was very proud of them all.



A small but select group of pupils found themselves in the Music Department on Thursday in Activities week ready to learn about playing the drums. There were two separate drumming styles to learn – West-African drumming, specifically from The Gambia, and Rock drumming on a standard drumkit.

The Gambian drumming was taught by visiting musicians Caitlin Morgan (daughter of our very own class music teacher Ms Morgan) and Ryan Hanlon, both music students at the University of Edinburgh who had spent time in The Gambia with the local musicians learning how to play the djembe drum

Drumming Activity

and the culture surrounding its music. They taught the pupils the various playing techniques and then a whole set of different rhythmic patterns that were then put together to make a complete piece. The pupils much enjoyed the opportunity to learn the drumming style of a different culture.

Mr Love and Ruairidh Cowieson (F6) taught rock drumming to the other half of the group. Starting with basic rock patterns, the pupils then diverged into different styles such as shuffle and reggae. The pupils learned to play these styles to a backing track and felt they made a great deal of progress. At the end of the morning, the two pupil groups performed to each other, and in the afternoon swapped over

to the other styles of drumming before giving a further performance at the end of the day.

The pupils enjoyed the occasion very much, with comments such as: "I never thought I could have played the drums that well in just one day"; "it was really fun, and I think more people should try it"; and "the kit drumming was great – Mr Love is amazing".

LSSF



F3 Enterprise

The Brief – You have £80 to set up a business. Identify a product or service you could sell to maximise your returns.

The Result – Huge amounts of creativity, teamworking and co-operation. Over four days, 30 teams competed against each other to develop the most original business ideas. They were put into random groups, which strengthened their skills of independence and communication. Tasks included 6-month profit calculations, conducting market research and developing promotional strategies lead by the self-appointed, functional Directors. Teams had up to 5 minutes to pitch their ideas to judges before being grilled about the finer details of the concept. Amazingly and with huge credit to the pupils' natural entrepreneurial skills, over the 4 days there were only 2 similar ideas.

Overall Winning Teams



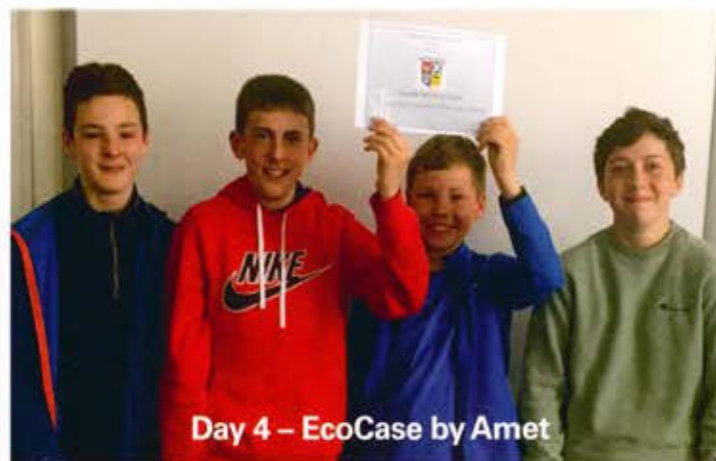
Day 1 – Sweet Tooth



Day 2 – The Solar Cap



Day 3 - Moodies



Day 4 – EcoCase by Amet

Most Creative Teams



Day 1 – Wacky Hatz



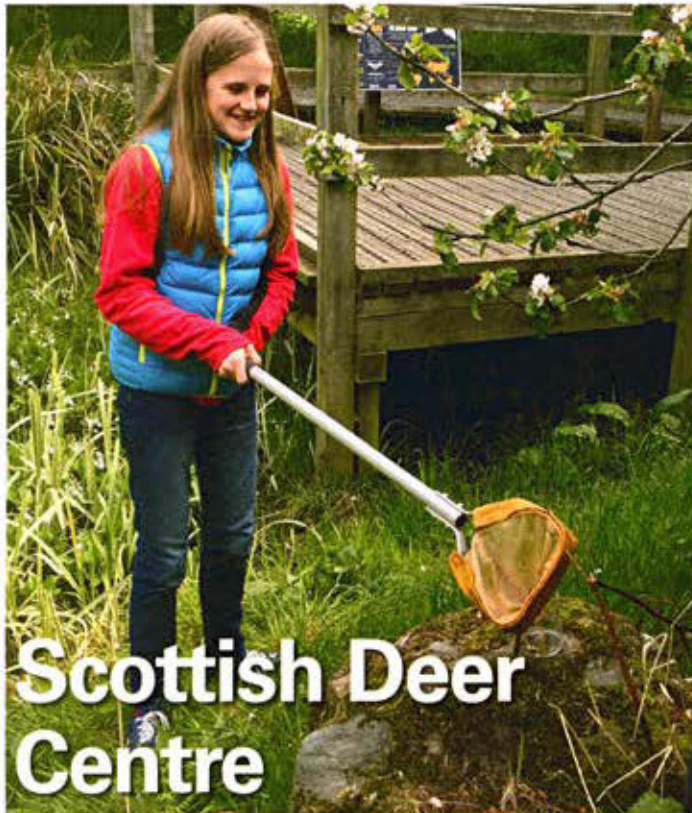
Day 2 – KEEP KOOL



Day 3 - Soliel



Day 4 – Heated Heelys



Scottish Deer Centre



'We think about the impact that our words and actions have on others and the world around us'

This trip offered pupils an out of the classroom learning experience in which they could explore the school's core value of respect and how it relates to the natural world. This included guided activities such as pond dipping, Otter feed and the Bird of Prey display, and a tour to view the mammal enclosures including deer species from around the world and predators such as Wolves, Bears and the Scottish Wildcat. The pupils explored respect for the natural world by engaging with the exhibits and thinking about the promotion of the welfare of animals in captivity, the value of ex-situ conservation not least in helping people become informed about and more respectful of the natural world and how to behave respectfully around animals. Below is a selection of the pupils' evaluative comments about the day:

What did we enjoy?

- Feeding the deer was awesome, it was a new experience that was different and fun
- Pond dipping was a new experience that I found really fun
- I enjoyed seeing lots of different animals especially close up
- The otter talk taught me so much about otters and I enjoyed watching them
- It was great to compare so many different types of deer, the different species and where they come from
- I enjoyed the talks on the birds of prey and the otters helped me to learn lots about them
- Seeing the falcons fly whilst hearing about them was very informative
- It was great to see wolves as they are my favourite animal
- It was good to be with my friends and share this experience

What did we learn?

- Bears went extinct in Scotland about 1000 years ago
- Bears can run at 30mph
- 14% of bird of prey species are endangered
- Deer can hear you from ½ a mile, so you need to be quiet around them
- Global warming can affect all sorts of different animals
- Some Reindeer are starving because they can't get the food from underneath the ice which has formed due to global warming causing snow to melt and then re-freeze
- Deer grow new antlers which are covered by velvet
- We should be respectful of other creatures and people's opinions about them
- Creatures like otters are good for the environment around them
- I learned that people traffic animals to use as pets



What can we do?

- Respect animals and the habitat in which they live
- The trade of wild animals is wrong as they should not be pets, it is cruel as it is not right for the animals
- We need to be respectful of animals in their enclosures and think about the noise we are making as their hearing is often much more sensitive than ours
- We should try not to kill insects as they play a role in their environment
- Some otters get run over, we must look out for them when driving in areas with lots of otters
- If you see photos of videos of animals being kept as pets on social media then don't share or like them because most wild animals shouldn't be kept as pets
- We need to be more careful and aware of what we do to the planet



Resilience

On the 2nd day of the Activities Week, our theme was Resilience. It involved a 7km trek of East Lomond Hill, in Falkland, parts of which are very steep. I have to admit I'm not a very sporty person, although I like to go outdoors. We were split into six groups, of an average of nine students in each one. It was a forty minutes drive to Falkland where the hill was. Although it looked benign and beautiful from the bus, it turned out to be a treacherous climb. We had to be very resilient in order cope with it and make our way to the top. We kept getting out of breath and stopped frequently to rest our limbs. Our teachers were very encouraging and gave us tips to conserve our energy. Some students brought sweets which they kindly shared with everyone to help us keep going. It was less strenuous on our way down but the rain made it slippery. However, like resilient HSD pupils, we kept going. On the whole, this experience required not just physical fitness, but also lots of resilience.

By Ramit Kanodia





Fox Lake Review

I really enjoyed Fox Lake I never thought it would be so amazing. My favourite thing about it is the water obstacle course where you have to get through many different challenges that will test every part of your body. Doing this without being harnessed in, giving the fear and exhilaration of falling into the fresh blue water and at the end being able to zip line down into the water. Having so many different challenges is what makes it so fun to do over and over again. You also get to go on a ringo and be pulled along a long pond with the wind in your face while trying your best to hold on. Overall Fox Lake was a amazing experience and I would always love to go there again.

Andrew Loveday







Hadrian's Wall and Beamish Museum

South Shields Roman Fort reconstruction

It all started with a long drive by school minibus crossing Roman frontiers as we went.

First the Gask Ridge, Rome's frontier between its empire and Scotland in the year 70AD, running from Glasgow to Perth and beyond to Aberdeen, then at Cumbernauld the Antonine Wall built 70 years later between Edinburgh and Glasgow, finally at Carlisle, Hadrian's Wall built in 122AD between Carlisle and Newcastle.

Our first stop was the impressive remains of Housesteads Fort half way along the wall. We inspected the commander's house with its central heating system, the granaries and most interestingly the flushing lavatories. Then a quick trip down to Vindolanda, a talk from the archaeologist and a tour round the museum with its impressive collection of Roman wood and leather. Finally to our accommodation for the night, Birdoswald Fort – a splendid farmhouse converted into a hostel, within the ruins of the Roman fort.

Next day a different focus as we travelled to the Beamish open air museum, travelling back to a different period in time. We rode on open top tramcars, went down a coal mine, enjoyed the village with its shops and houses and entered the world of the 1820's in a manor house and its gardens while the steam train Puffing Billy made its way past, with its grimy engine men and open wagons.

Back to the Romans on Friday as we headed along the Wall towards Newcastle, with the great earthworks of the vallum and the wall on either side of the road. We stopped at the Temple to Mithras, then went to the extensive reconstructions at South Shields Roman Fort, where the barracks and commander's residence and the gateway into the fort have all been reconstructed.

Then under the river to Tynemouth to inspect the WW2 gun batteries defending the mouth of the Tyne and then the long drive north through Berwick upon Tweed (with excellent fish and chips) back up to Dundee.

Thanks to Mr Middleton, Mr Faulkes and Dr Lazani for supervising this trip!



The boys recline in the commander's dining room



The only Roman milestone still standing beside a Roman road



The cars Beasmith



The Changing rooms of the Roman bathhouse



Being an effective communicator, team player and resilient are essential to get ahead. Indeed, the Core Values underpin everything that we do in the Integrated Curriculum. During the Activities Week Mr Higgins and Mr Rodger ran leadership courses for all pupils in F3. The aim was to develop the Core Values and give areas for our pupils to improve. The day-long courses involved a range of group problem solving tasks. These would put the groups under pressure. This allowed them to see how they would cope doing the right thing on a bad day. Throughout the week, it was brilliant to see the level of kindness, respect, resilience, creativity, confidence and honesty on display. Also they will have learned that planning involving everyone in the group is essential for a team. We hope that pupils will go away from this with a better sense of who they are.



Structure Building Project

15 pupils in F1 and F2 took part in a workshop in which they were tasked with designing and putting together a self-standing cardboard shelter structure into which the entire group could fit.

Organised by the Art Department in conjunction with the engineering company BAM Nuttall, the activity saw the youngsters come up with several proposals before selecting the best one and constructing it using only basic additional materials such as card, tape, string, cable ties, dowelling and cardboard tubing.

With the group having a limited amount of time to finish their structure, and to ensure that it was of sound construction, the pupils had to call upon vast supplies of crucial intangible materials such as teamwork, problem solving, logic, creativity and resilience, in order to successfully complete the challenge.



The Sweetie Shop

Take 28 children and mix with honey comb, peppermint creams, chocolates discs and chocolate ganache truffles..... what do you get? A recipe for success! This is what happened when we ran 'The Sweetie Workshop' at HSD!

Pupil gained many new skills, learnt culinary terms and creativity was demonstrated by all. The molecular gastronomy amazed the pupils when the addition of bicarbonate of soda added huge air bubbles to the caramelised sugar for the honeycomb.

Pupils went home happy with their array of sweet treats all beautifully packaged for devouring at home with their family!





London Trip

40 pupils, 4 teachers, 1 huge city. What could possibly go wrong?

In the course of the London trip we visited many famous landmarks and had many exciting experiences. We spent three full days there and watched a show every night. We saw *School of Rock*, *The Play that Goes Wrong* and *Aladdin*. We also walked through the heart of the city and saw places such as Buckingham Palace, the Houses of Parliament and the Tower of London, which everyone really enjoyed.

All of the shows were unique in their own way and very enjoyable. *School of Rock* was very exciting, *The Play that Goes Wrong* was hilarious and I can still hear people singing songs from *Aladdin* in the school corridors, over a month later. The London trip brought us all much closer together and has helped us to create new friendships. The restaurants that we went to for dinner all served tasty food and were very conveniently located. We went to Nando's, Pizza Hut and Planet Hollywood and although they had to feed 40 extra mouths than usual, everything happened seamlessly and we

weren't waiting for a long time.

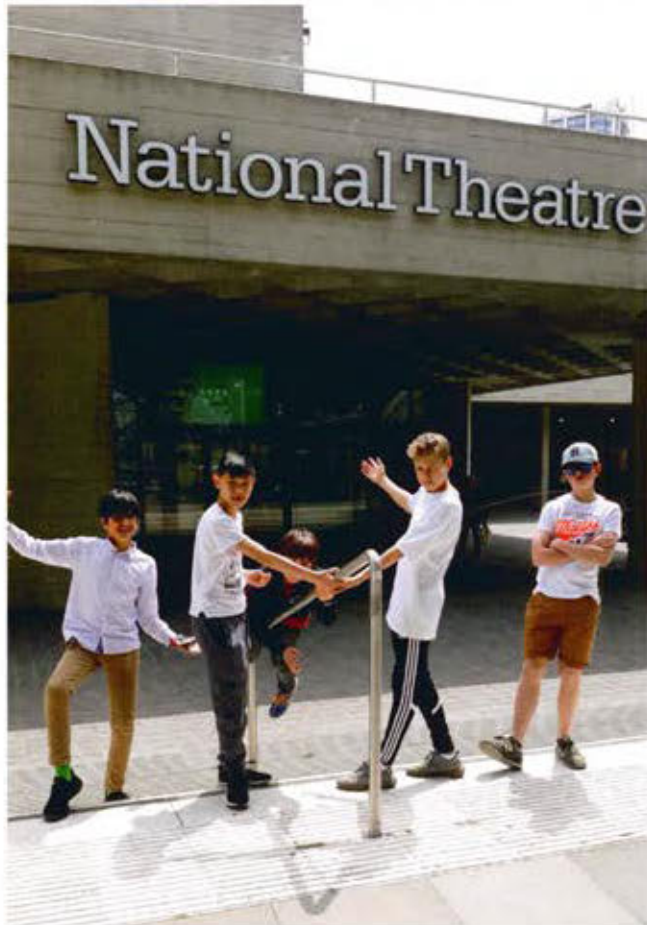
London has an amazing atmosphere and we all loved walking through the busy streets, exploring the shops and taking in the sights, smells and sounds of the city. Having some independence helped us to build our confidence but the teachers were always there to guide us as well. The teachers seemed to know exactly what a bunch of children wanted to do in London, and although we went to the British Museum and learnt many interesting facts on our travels, it never felt boring or like we were being made to learn things.

If the school ever did another London trip I would recommend everyone to sign up for it. The trips was very well organised by the teachers but the pupils also got to make some choices. I would like to thank Mr Darby, Mrs Drummond, Mrs Sangster and Mr Tonner for organising a great trip and all of my fellow pupils for adding to the experience. Although the trip felt like a holiday, I could see that we were learning to grow as individuals

outside the classroom and I could see many examples of the school's core values being put into place. The food was delicious, the landmarks were inspiring and the shows had an amazing energy. I will never forget the fun I had on the London trip.

Isla Hutchinson







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