



Dingwall Academy

News

DUX AWARD

We are delighted to announce that the 2019 Dux Medal winner is Priscilla de Kruijff and the Proxime Accessit Freya Finlayson

Priscilla is a former pupil of Tomnacross Primary, and Freya attended Strathpeffer Primary.



Priscilla de Kruijff



Freya Finlayson

Prize Giving takes place on Wednesday 19th June at 7.00pm and the full list of award winners has now been published and is available to view at the front of the school.

KEY DATES

**MONDAY 3RD JUNE—
IN-SERVICE**

**TUESDAY 4TH JUNE -
TIMETABLE CHANGE**

**MON 10TH JUNE -
POLICE, SCHOOL
PARTNERSHIP EVENING
7PM**

**WED 12TH JUNE -
SPORTS DAY**

**FRIDAY 14TH JUNE -
ROCK CHALLENGE
FINALS**

**WED 19TH JUNE -
PRIZEGIVING**

**26TH—28TH JUNE -
P7 TRANSITION VISITS**

**27TH JUNE 7PM -
P7 INFORMATION EVE**

**MON 1ST—TUE 2ND
JULY—ACTIVITY DAYS**

**THUR 4TH JULY—
SCHOOL CLOS 12.00**

Notes and news

Staffing

Congratulations to Mrs Lewthwaite (Social Subjects) on the arrival of her baby girl. We also wish Mrs Miller (Maths) and Mrs Callanan (Home Economics) well as they start their maternity leave.

Mr Trimble is currently taking responsibility for the Brahan caseload and should be the first point of contact for any parents with pupils in Brahan.

Mrs MacLennan has been PT Guidance with responsibility for Wyvis since 2014. Mrs MacLennan retires at the end of this session and we wish her good health and much happiness in her retirement.

Leaving dates:

Pupils who will be 16 before the end of September 2019 are able to leave school following their last exam.

Pupils who will be 16 before 28th February 2020 are able to leave at Christmas 2019.

Some pupils who are not able to leave until after Christmas can choose to attend Inverness College, however this must be discussed and agreed with Miss Harrison or Mr MacIntosh.

Where appropriate, we are often able to negotiate a package of work experience for pupils who plan to leave at Christmas time. Again, any pupil interested in this should speak with Miss Harrison or Mr MacIntosh.

We wish all pupils leaving school the very best for a bright, happy and amazing future!

Exam Results

Exam results are due to be issued to pupils on Tuesday 6th August.



All pupils will receive a certificate through the post to the address registered with the SQA.

If pupils would also like to receive their results electronically, then they can register with MySQA.

To register visit:

www.mysqa.org.uk

This service allows you to receive results from 8am on results morning. Particularly useful if you are away, or to avoid that nerve wracking wait for the postman.

Parent Information Evening

All parents should have received an email detailing an information evening taking place at 7pm on Monday 10th June. This event is being organised in partnership with the police and will provide information and advise to parents on drugs and substance misuse in our communities.

If you are planning to come along we would ask that you register interest using the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/police-school-and-parent-partnership-information-evening-tickets-62313946692>



Notes and news



S3 Prefects

Thank you and well done to those S3 pupils who volunteered to help as prefects during study leave.

S3 pupils had to take over the main prefect duties and did so extremely well.

S6 pupils will have the opportunity to apply to be prefects in the coming weeks.

Pictured are just some of our S3 prefects.

Uniform Recycle

Our first recycled uniform stall at the Spring Fair proved to be very popular. Quality used uniform will be available for sale at the P7 information evening on Thursday 27th June.

We also plan to identify some times when parents of all year groups will be able to come in to look through and purchase from the uniform available. All uniform for sale has been laundered and is in good condition. In the meantime we are still happy to receive any donations of quality used school uniform.



"School uniform that doesn't cost the earth."

Notes and news

The exams are over, next week the timetable changes and we start all over again !..

Primary 7 Visits

This edition of the newsletter will be sent to our Primary Schools as we welcome Primary 7 pupils and parents. Many P7 pupils have taken the opportunity to visit during one of the drop in sessions, and we look forward to welcoming all P7 pupils for their 3 day visit on 26th, 27th and 28th June. The information evening for P7 parents will be held at 7pm on Thursday 27th June.



P7 Transition Camp

This year's P7 Transition Camp will be running the first week of the Summer holidays. The camp is open to every P7 child entering the Academy in August 2019. It has been running for a number of years and is a very successful programme as part of the transition for Primary 7 moving up into S1 in August.

The Camp consists of a programme of activities ranging from swimming, sports, games, cooking, crafts, treasure hunt. It provides pupils with time to get to know the new pupils they will be making friends with throughout their secondary school education. This year we will also plan to take the children on a trip to Landmark following the 3 days of activities.

The camp will run on the 9th, 10th and 11th July with the Landmark trip on the 12th July 2019.

Bookings are made online through the Highlife Highland Summer Programme .

The cost of the 4 day programme and trip this year is £30.00 for HLH members and budget members then £40 for non-members; how to pay this will be explained within the booking system. The fee covers the cost of materials, entry to Landmark, transport, workshops, coach fees, swimming/lifeguard costs etc.



IMPORTANT: The numbers for pupils attending will be capped this year so please book your child on early to avoid disappointment. If you have any issues surrounding the costs please contact me directly, please note all matters will be dealt with strict confidentiality.

Rory.Cross2@highland.gov.uk

Excellent reading ...

This year in English, Miss Munro's class have worked on improving their reading ability and have been challenging themselves to read as many books as possible over the year. There have been some books read in class with favourites including Robin Hood' and 'Ali Baba' as well as using an online resource called 'Start to Finish' where some favourites have been 'Moby Dick', 'Death in Jamestown' and 'Anne Frank'.



Many have also done extra reading through a programme called Fresh Start where the favourite modules have been 'Bill Bright's Fishing Trip', 'Late' and 'A Good Win for the Red Shirts'. Pupils had the opportunity to put their reading skills to good use when they used the recipe in one of the modules to make their own pancakes and many enjoyed that they could put reading to practical use.

Mr Dolan and Ms Fyvie's English class have been taking part in a reading challenge and as a class have read a very impressive 440 books!

Pupils are pictured here with certificates recognising their reading achievements.



Dingwall Primary Visit

S2 pupils from Mrs Davidson's English class visited the Primary One students in Dingwall Primary school this month.

They took with them the fabulous books which they had researched, written (many in rhyme) and created on the Book Creator app on the Chromebook.

Topics covered were numerous and included Cleopatra, Pele, Robin Hood, King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, Tom and Jerry and Garfield.

The S2 students left the books with the Primary One teachers so that the books can be enjoyed again and again. S2 should be proud of their creativity, teamwork, problem solving communication skills.



Persuasive Writing ...

The Power of Persuasive Writing!

As if any proof was needed of this well known fact – read on!

This session Mrs Riddell's S1 class enjoyed studying, 'Skellig' by David Almond. However, copies of this fabulous *magical realism* genre novel had certainly seen better days. Our study, naturally, led us to create and submit persuasive letters to Mrs Cormack. The purpose being the procurement of a swish new class set of this well - loved novel. Yes, the proof of the power of perfect persuasion included techniques such as: power of three; personal pronouns, rhetorical questions, imperative, repetition, emotive language, evidence, facts and stats to mention but as few.

All students wrote a brief personal message addressed to subsequent readers, thus ensuring knowledge of their efforts in perpetuity or until the copies wear out!



S1 pupils proud show off their new books, procured through the power of persuasive writing!

Equality And Diversity Group

L G B T +

On the 27th of March, four members of the Equality and Diversity group took a trip to Nairn Academy. We went there to visit their Equality Forum to find out about the LGBT+ Youth Scotland School's Charter award. The LGBT+ Youth Scotland School's Charter award is awarded to schools that have shown a commitment to LGBT+ equality. LGBT+ Youth Scotland provides staff training and support in order to achieve that.

Nairn Academy applied for the charter award about four years ago and have already achieved the bronze certificate. In order to get this, members of the Nairn Academy Equality Forum have worked with P7s transitioning to the Academy and they have made many posters and just supported LGBT+ and raised awareness about it. When we visited, some pupils were working on preparing an assembly, some were creating a handbook for teachers and some were working on lessons they think could be delivered in PSE.

We would like to begin to work towards the kind of success that Nairn Academy has achieved. However, it costs £1250 to apply for the Charter process. So far we have raised £216.25 through our stall at the Spring Fair but we still need to raise over £1000. It will be a long and difficult process but we'll get there eventually. Our group meets every other Thursday at lunchtime in room 207 if you'd like to join us.

By Melody McIntosh



Sports Day 2019

Sports Day will take place on Wednesday 12th June from 10am – 3.30pm on the grass running track behind the school. Entries are now open for all pupils who can enter via the PE office during break/ lunchtime or via their PE teacher during PE lessons. All pupils are encouraged to take part in sports day regardless of ability or experience with all entrants automatically gaining points for their house which goes towards the overall house championship. Pupils can choose to enter any number of events up to a maximum of five with a maximum ratio of 3 field/2 track or 2 field/3 track events. There will also be 4 x 100m relays for each year group; however, these are considered over and above pupils chosen five events and will be organised on the day.

As usual we warmly welcome all family members to attend the event and support all athletes.

Yours Sportingly

The PE Dept.

Events				
	<u>S1</u>	<u>S2</u>	<u>S3</u>	<u>S4-6</u>
TRACK	100m	100m	100m	100m
	200m	200m	200m	200m
	300m	300m	300m	300m (girls) 400m (boys)
	800m	800m	800m	800m
	1500m	1500m	1500m	1500m
FIELD	Long Jump	Long Jump	Long Jump	Long Jump
	High Jump	High Jump	High Jump	High Jump
	Triple Jump	Triple Jump	Triple Jump	Triple Jump
	Shot Putt	Shot Putt	Shot Putt	Shot Putt
	Discus	Discus	Discus	Discus
	Javelin	Javelin	Javelin	Javelin

Pupil Achievements



An incredible result for Andrew Georgeson S2, gaining 1st place in his first UK Downhill Mountain Bike Series.

While Andrew has been winning Scottish events this was the first time he was racing against British riders.

What an amazing achievement—well done!

And ex pupil achievements !..

We were delighted to welcome former pupil Fin Graham into school this week to talk about his career as a professional cyclist. A reminder to all pupils that you can achieve anything if you work hard enough!

@FinGparacyclist



Nuffield Bursary

Congratulations to Ellie Ferguson S5 who has been accepted for a Nuffield Bursary. Ellie will now take part in a 4 week placement organised by Aberdeen University. She will be working on the topic - ***Immunotherapy, new ways to boost anti-cancer immunity.***



Congratulations to Ellie, this is obviously a tremendous opportunity to work and help make a difference in such an important field. This follows on from Ellie Taylor S6 who achieved a bursary last year, it is fantastic to see Dingwall Academy girls making their mark in this field of science.



Well done to Ruaraidh Drennan (S1) who won several prizes in the 15 and Under piping category at both the South West Ross Piping Competition and at the Highlands and Islands Festival for Music and Dance in Oban earlier this month.

Ruaraidh pictured with the Piobaireachd trophy.

Corey Foster achievements

Over the Easter holidays Corey travelled to Northern Ireland to compete in the Northern Ireland open, where he won the bronze medal.

At the beginning of May, he took part in the Clyde Grand Prix, the second of the JudoScotland Grand Prix 2019 circuit. Winning 4 of 5 contests, Corey took the Bronze medal and picked up more points towards the Grand Prix.



In June Corey will be heading out to Luxembourg as part of the JudoScotland performance squad to compete in the Luxembourg international tournament.

Well done Corey, and good luck in Luxembourg!

Walk for Charity

During the Easter Holidays Dingwall Academy pupils Lexy Wallace and Lewis Squire took part in a walk for charity. They completed the Great Glen Way Walk which is around 80 miles from Fort William to Inverness over 5 days. This was to raise funds for Little Blainie's Battens Battle. Blainie is a young girl from Inverness who has a degenerative disease called Battens Disease, the funds will help to make Blainie's life a little easier. In total the cadets raised an amazing £3000 for Blainie.



Pictured are Lexy and Lewis receiving their completion certificates from a member of Blainie's family. ➡



In addition Lewis and Lexy both received their First Aid at Work certificate. This will help them with future employment. Here are Lexy and Lewis receiving their certificates from Ross Company 2IC Captain Lucas.

Cadets



Each year a Cadet is selected as the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet for their respective area in which they accompany the Lord Lieutenant during official and public duties in her capacity as HM the Queens representative. This year Corporal Andy Tait (S5) of Dingwall Detachment has been selected and received a certificate in recognition of this.

Rock Challenge



"When the bravest soldiers die on earth,
The clouds part and the Valkyrie come to earth.
Their armour creates the Northern Lights, that shines
and moves as they
take flight.

Along the Bi-Frost bridge to Valhalla they go,
To defend Odin against a mortal foe.
An enemy sprung from his own home,
Wants to end his world and take his throne."

This year our team has worked extremely hard to produce our winning piece, "Aurora Borealis". On April 1st, we travelled to Eden Court to compete in Night 1 of the Highland Rock Challenge heats. Despite our success at the Scottish Finals, surprisingly we have never won a heat. Every single dancer gave 100% on the night, which led to DARC winning 1st place and gaining a place in the Scottish Finals in June, which is an amazing achievement.

Over the year, our team has come up with successful and creative fundraising ideas. Our stall at the annual spring fair was very popular with younger children, offering glitter tattoos, face painting and our famous hook-a-duck. We held our second quiz night, with many teams of all ages entering. We have had weekly bake sales at the school, which always go down well. The team members are always eager to help out with whatever event we organise, and they have all contributed in some way to raise money for our team.

In preparation for Dundee, we are continuing with rehearsals and working as hard as we possibly can. We are also taking part in a fashion show with the Dingwall branch of New Look on Thursday 30th May in which there will be a bake sale, raffle and team members will be modelling clothes from the New Look store. We are very grateful to parents, teachers, school pupils and members of the public for their support, it means a lot to us and helps us immensely.

We would like to thank Nicky Beveridge for designing and creating our costumes, Mr Di Carlo for his efforts with the design and construction of our set, and Miss Brooman for her help with choreography, performance skill and keeping our teams spirits high. Lastly, we would like to thank our extremely talented Mrs Magowan. She gives up her time every week to support us, choreograph for us and encourage us, and we cannot thank her enough

By Catherine Mackay, S5



Archive news



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Class 1A 1966

Watch out for the next issue of the *News...*

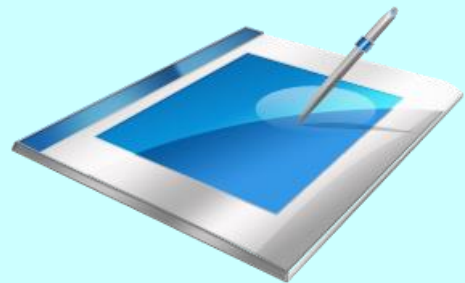
Something missing? Correction? Is there a feature you'd like to see? Get in touch!

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Dingwall Academy

A school with a sense of community—a school where by taking collective responsibility, pupils and staff have the opportunity to achieve extraordinary things.

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

HONESTY

DETERMINATION