

Dingwall Academy News

International Athletics

Congratulations to l-r Angus Davren, Alexander Mackay, Ruairidh Munro and Rachel Johnstone. All have been selected as part of the Scottish U17 team to compete in the British Schools International Athletics competition in Grangemouth on July 21st.



A tremendous achievement for them and the school.

KEY DATES

27th AND 28th
JUNE ACTIVITY
DAYS

FRIDAY 29TH
JUNE SCHOOL
CLOSES AT
12.00

TUESDAY 7TH
AUGUST
SQA RESULTS
PUBLISHED

TUESDAY 21ST
AUGUST
SCHOOL
RETURNS

School News

SCHOOL DAY

A reminder that from August:

Friday school ends at 1.15.



Friday buses depart at 1.30.



Parent Council News

What fantastic support we received from parents over the year and especially at the Spring Fair. We ran the barbecue, the bottle stall and sold the activities bands. All in all we added £800 to our funds and we couldn't do it without you all — a big thanks!

After dedicated support to the Parent Council our Treasurer, Laura Ross, stands down in September. She has been a hardworking and loyal member of the team, staying on as a co-opted member despite her kids having left school. We are therefore urgently looking for a replacement treasurer – if you feel you are able, please can you consider taking on this role as it is vital to the running of the Parent Council. Please have a think about it and let the school know if you are interested.

STAFFING

At the end of term we wish Ms Harrison well at she starts her maternity leave.

Ms Harrison's maternity leave will be covered by Mrs Joan Nelson. Mrs Nelson is currently teaching at Glen Urquhart High School and we look forward to welcoming her to Dingwall Academy in August.

Also at the end of term we bid farewell to our three probationer teachers, Miss Scanlan, Miss McShannon and Mrs Fleming.
Miss Scanlan moves onto Charleston Academy, Mrs Fleming to Inverness High School and Miss McShannon to Aberdeenshire.

We wish all three the very best for their future teaching careers.



UNIFORM

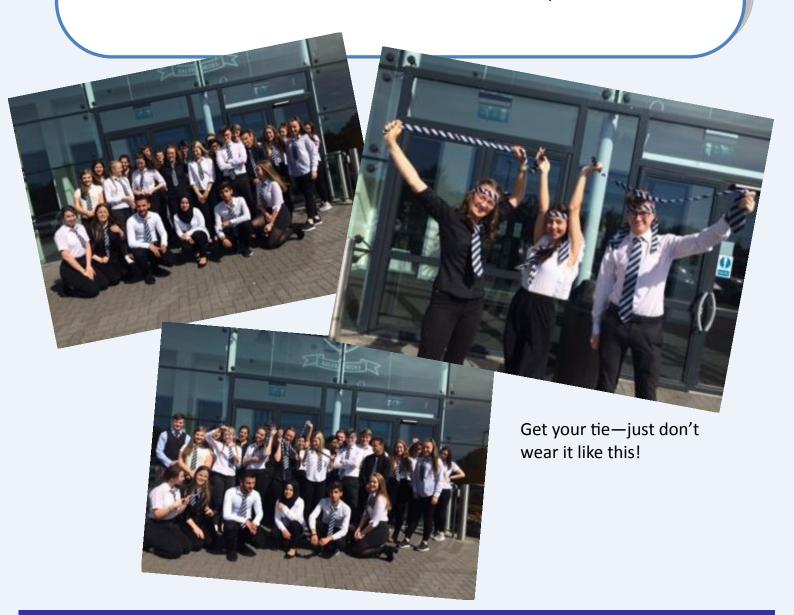
From August there will be some changes to our school uniform policy.

Pupils in S1, S2 and S3 can choose to wear a shirt and tie, or to wear a tee-shirt, polo shirt or sweatshirt with the school logo.

Pupils in S4, S5 and S6 are expected to wear shirt and tie.

Details of all uniform outlets are available on the school website.

School ties are also available from the school office priced £5.50



10th Anniversary





This June, we celebrate 10 years since moving into the new Dingwall Academy building.

To help celebrate Mears, Morrisons, Alpha schools and Highland Council all contributed towards ice cream for everyone at Sports Day! Thank you to Black Isle Dairy for the delicious ice-cream. Mears, Morrisons and Alpha Schools have also bought a commemorative pen for each pupil.





And finally, we are creating a commemorative piece of art work made up of the finger prints of all pupils and staff. We look forward to unveiling the finished piece at the start of the new session. Thank you to the Art Department for all their help with this.





Youth and Philanthropy Initiative

For the fourth year running, all S3 pupils took part in Dingwall Academy's Youth and Philanthropy Initiative. This is a programme funded by the Wood Group whereby secondary school pupils research issues that affect their local area and identify local charities which deal with these issues. Small groups select charities then create a presentation outlining the charity's work and explaining how funding is used. At the end of the programme, the group with the most creative, informative presentation is awarded £3000 to give to their charity.

This year we ran things a little differently and had a YPI Charity Fair to kick things off. 19 local charities came along to the school at the end of April to introduce pupils to their organisations and explain how they are supporting our community. Pupil groups then picked one local charity to champion and created a presentation on them.

The final presentations were highly creative and included short films, interpretive dance, animations and even surf boards! The finals took place on the evening of Thursday, 7th June. Charities represented in the final were Rape & Sexual Abuse Service Highland (RASASH), Mikey's Line, Inverness Foodstuff and Ross-shire Women's Aid. The winning group, Kirsty Arnaud, Anna Munro and Elsa Fearn, presented their charity, RASASH, with the £3000 cheque.

As if this wasn't exciting enough, Anna, Elsa and Kirsty were invited to perform their original slam poetry piece to an audience of 1000 people at the national YPI event in Perth Concert Hall. 230 schools take part in YPI but the girls were only one group of eight asked to showcase. Guests included Sir Ian Wood, John Swinney and Emile Sandé. There were lots of inspiring speakers celebrating 10 years of the Scottish Youth and Philanthropy Initiative

that afternoon but the three young women from Dingwall Academy were real stand outs.





CREATIVITY

Science and English project

The Poetry of Science

Shortly before the change of timetable the new S2 pupils began work on a new English unit called the Poetry of Science. This unit was devised as an interdisciplinary event between the English and Science departments and aimed to teach pupils about how to write poetry while using real life stimulus, in the form of science demonstrations, to help them with their figurative language.

S2 pupils were invited down to the MPH to witness an array of science demonstrations which they then wrote poetry about in English. The science experiments included making a rainbow in a jar, making glow in the dark Chemiluminescence and a crowd favourite – Elephant's Toothpaste!



The overall feedback from pupils was that they really enjoyed the experience and pupils were able to write some fantastic poems after watching the experiments!





CREATIVITY

Art / English - Annual exhibition review.2018

Every year, prior to the National & Higher art work being sent to the SQA for marking, we have an annual exhibition in the MPH. Lots of fabulous design and expressive folios and a great opportunity for pupils, staff and parents to see the volume and real quality of work our pupils produce.

This year the English department asked their pupils to write a review of their favourite piece of artwork - using key art vocabulary and focusing on high quality reviewing skills for English. The final reports were sent to the surprised and delighted senior pupils.

We were stunned by the quality of writing and the insight and empathy shown by our junior reviewers.

Here is an example of this really valuable and positive shared endeavour between the Art and

Happily Ever After?

English departments.

'Happily ever after' By Emily Clark

Our class were in invited to attend the laying out of senior pupils art and design work for 2018. I enjoyed many of the exhibits but came away thinking 'Happily ever after' is the one I would be writing about.

There are many reasons why this piece of art stood out to me the most, such as the colours and the detail. I like the fact that there are darker colours in the background and more brighter colours in the foreground. I could see the amount of work that was put into this.

The art piece shows Rapunzel (from the movie Tangled) high up in a tall tower with her long blonde hair continuously falling from it from very high up.

My emotional reaction when I first saw this painting was happiness as it reminded me of when I was little I loved Disney princess. My gut reaction was surprised on how superior this piece of work is and how real it looks.

The artist should be very proud of what they did because it is spectacular.

Erin Moran S2

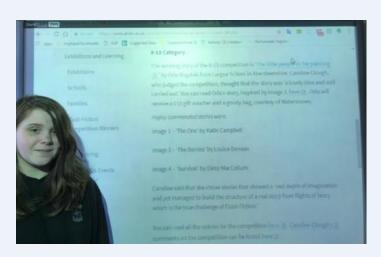
A year of Ink

Over the course of the year the members of Ink, Dingwall Academy's creative writing club, have achieved some fantastic feats. In the month of November 12 pupils took part in National Novel Writing month joining millions of young writers all over the world. Collectively the group wrote a staggering 96633 words in just one month which highlights their determination and dedication to their burgeoning craft.



Individual pupils have also distinguished themselves in an array of competitions. Katie Campbell, now S3, was one of three highly commended writers in the Special Collections Flash Fiction competition run by Aberdeen University. Her short story "The One" has been published on the Special Collections website. Katie showed further aptitude for flash fiction when her short story "name of" was one 5000 longlisted in the BBC Radio 2 500 word competition.





Rhea Porter and Charlotte Mann, both new S3 pupils, placed in the 'Muir Matters' short story competition. Both girls have shown an incredible talent for penning poignant and thought provoking pieces. Rhea won the competition with her beautifully crafted short story "A Mother's love" and received £100 prize money, a free workshop at local creative writing centre Moniack Mhor, and her piece was published in the June edition of 'Muir Matters'. Charlotte claimed second place with "Break free" and received £50, a free workshop at Moniack Mhor and publication in 'Muir Matters'.

CREATIVITY

At the end of May Mrs Davidson's S2 English class took storybooks they had written and created to the Primary 2 pupils in Dingwall Primary school. The Dingwall Academy students had used a Google extension, BookCreator, to design and make the books. Featuring stories on the theme of positive ways to tackle climate change i.e. recycle, reduce and reuse, the books were enthusiastically read to the primary students. Feedback from the P2s included:

- "The books were amazing"
- "Everything was fantastic"
- "It was very good, as it was teaching people not to throw things away at the beach"
- "It was great and awesome"
- "I liked the bottles that had super hero capes"
- "I liked the actions for 'the world"
- "The second year pupils were reading nice and loud so that we could hear"



Mod 2018

Congratulations to all pupils from Dingwall Academy who took part in the Inverness Mod. Dingwall Academy had the largest number of entrants and all Dingwall pupils who attended on Friday 15th of June came home with a medal.

Prize winners are listed below:

<u>Verse (16-18 years Learners & Fluent)</u> Nicole Munro (2nd) Andrew Reid (3rd)

Reading at 1st Sight (13-15 Fluent)
Lauren Bethune (3rd)
Verse (13-15 years Fluent)

Carrie MacKinnon (2nd) Blythe Wilson (3rd)



<u>Literature – Poetry</u>

Browyn Gwyther (1st) Faith Wilson (2nd) Lewis MacArthur (3rd)

Literature – Story

Fin MacCulloch (1st) Andrea MacDonald (2nd) Finlay MacLennan (3rd)

Vocal Solo (girls aged 12)

Mhairi MacKenzie (1st)

Vocal Solo (girls aged 13-15)

Andrea MacDonald (1st)

Vocal Duet (age 13-16)

Mhairi MacKenzie & Andrea MacDonald (2nd)

Under 19 Piping MSR / Piobaireachd / Jig

Hamish Drennan (1st in all categories)





Mod 2018

<u>Fiddle Groups (under 19)</u> Corona Celtica (2nd)



Allan C MacLeod Trophy for Literature (Secondary Schools)
Fin MacCulloch and Browyn Gwyther
Inverness Piping Society Trophy for Piping (under 19 years)
Hamish Drennan
Sgiath Loch Nis (Folk group under 19)
Dèarrsadh









Zoe and Shaun— Super Scouts!

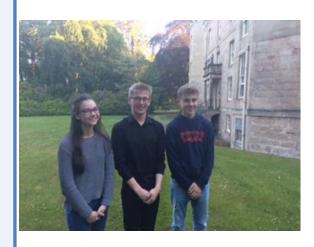
Young Leaders with the 1st Dingwall Scout group, Zoe ad Shaun were assisting at Damboree with the Beavers. Here they are doing 'flag break' at the opening ceremony—an important role! What you can't see is the 80 people watching them!

Danni Mullen climbed Ben Nevis on Saturday as part of her preparation for a charity trip to Kenya with the Scouts.

HIGHLAND YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Jonathan MacKay, Catherine MacKay and Christopher Stewart who all took part in the Highland Young Musician event this year. The standard of performance required is extremely high and all three should be extremely proud of their achievements.

Well done to Jonathan, who received the award for 'Most Promising Talent.'





Bike Packing with Lee Craigie and Ricki Cotter



On Wednesday 13th June I was a very lucky teacher getting to accompany 8 teenage girls on the adventure of a lifetime as they spent 2 days biking and bikepacking with Lee Craigie and Ricki Cotter who are part of The Adventure Syndicate. The school and some of the girls involved had already worked with Lee and Jenny Graham (currently on a solo self supported bike ride around the world!) for the Strathpuffer and also a Match the Miles challenge which Dingwall Academy actually won. Part of the schools prize will be a showing of the film "Divided" which Lee and Ricki made, documenting their epic self supported bike race from Canada to Mexico through America totally self supported over 20 days and the challenges they faced.

The girls involved were Emilia Astill-Brown, Eilidh Dransfield, Aimee Georgeson, Lilly-Belle Kelt, Mhairi MacKenzie, Rowan Masterson, Bethany McCully and Natalya Stone. Over the two days the pupils experienced navigating across unfamiliar terrain, sleeping and cooking in the outdoors as well as biking over 50 miles in total from Blackbridge through Alladale and over to Ullapool for some well deserved fish and chips and arrived back at school just in time for prizegiving!



They also did this completely self supported, using bike packing equipment and bags to carry everything they needed. An amazing opportunity for the students supported by the wealth of experience of Lee and Ricki who skilfully guided them through the choices and decisions they had to make over the two days. This was a curriculum for excellence and an invaluable experience for all the girls involved. I was extremely proud to be able to take part and observe our students and how they conducted themselves when the going got tough. The quote of the Adventure was "Slow is smooth and smooth is fast". We are all capable of more than we know. Believe, achieve.

Mrs Wilson







Cycling News

Match the Miles

For a week in May every mile travelled by bike became unusually important. Lee and the Adventure Syndicate challenged schools across Scotland to 'Match their Miles' as they travelled south on a bike packing adventure from Bristol to Spain.

The challenge soon became one to beat the other schools in the challenge and a daily upload of miles saw a great competition between Dingwall, Larbert High School and Mary Russell School in Paisley begin to develop. Mileages accumulated from paper rounds, whole class spinning sessions and pupil rides staff rides.

In one week, Dingwall Academy Pupils and Staff managed to clock up a whopping 2287.7 miles. (More importantly we finished over 100 miles clear of our nearest rival to win the challenge :-))

As a result of winning this challenge Lee will be hosting a screening, and question and answer session, of the film Divided here at the Academy some time later this year. The film follows her adventure whilst riding the length of America last year in a self-supported journey of ups and downs. Date TBC.

Race round up

A number of our pupils have been racing this year in both regional and national competitions. Highland Hardline is an under 18 downhill race series raced over 5 rounds. Andrew Georgeson, Callum Porter and Corin Gray have been racing in the Under 14 Males category. Andrew came first in the most recent race at DH Farm in Banff - he is currently leading the series.





Meanwhile Bethany McCully and Rowan Masterson have been racing in the Under 14 Females category. Bethany is currently in joint second place in the series with Rowan having a strong second place result in the recent DH Farm event, having missed the first couple of rounds.

Andrew, Bethany and Lilly —Belle Kelt also qualified to race at the Fort William World Cup Downhill weekend in a Mini Down Hill event on the Saturday. An awesome experience!!

Senior boys – Ben Wyvis and bikeability.

It was great to see some of our senior boys undertaking their own adventure by bike recently. Quin Simpson, Sean Kelt and Rory Graham packed their bags and headed for Ben Wyvis.

The day involved carrying their bikes almost the entire way up the mountain, with other challenges such as navigating in poor visibility and high winds. Their dedication to learning over the past few years definitely payed off as they achieved their objective and earned the fun on the decent back down.

The boys were well prepared and were careful to respect the mountain environment by sticking to paths and staying away from areas of moss on the summit plateau that are currently being given opportunity to recover after years of erosion from hillwalkers.

This same group of boys plus Alasdair Reid, recently completed training course that enables them to help deliver bike-ability courses to younger riders. They will hopefully be getting in touch with their local primary schools in due course.





Cycling friendly school

After the success of 'Match the Miles' and the bike-packing programme, it was suggested by Lee that we should be assessed against the criteria for Cycling Scotland's, National Cycling Friendly Schools award and arranged for a visit from Matt at Cycling Scotland. After seeing our existing cycling infrastructure and discussing our cycling related activity programme we are delighted to have been recognised as a Cycling Friendly School - with Distinction.

We look forward to welcoming new members to the mountain bike club after the summer.

An experience of a lifetime... Alladale 2018

On Tuesday 8th May, 24 of our S3 pupils left school for a wilderness experience that they will never forget – Alladale 2018.



On arrival at the estate, the two groups met their instructors and were given an insight on what was to come in the following days, which included hill walking, geocaching and navigation, and gorge walking. In what looked to be a challenging week, the groups were ready and eager to go.

The groups cooked, cleaned and camped each night, all taking a different role in the camp team. This being the first time many of the pupils had camped in the wild, they got stuck right in to setting up tents, lighting the fires, and cooking good, hearty "food to warm the belly".

On the second night, pupils had a pretty blustery night having to contend with some intense 50+ mph winds and run-away

tents. But despite this, everyone got up, albeit a little cranky, and put their full effort into the following days activities.

By the end of the week, all the pupils left having developed new knowledge, skills and learned a little bit more about themselves and what they are capable of achieving.

Tom McBride, Lewis Mosey-Lyall and Hannah Unger-McGillivray, some of this year's campers, all agreed that Alladale was "the best outdoor experience in Scotland and would go back in a minute".

Well done Alladale Campers 2018 for a challenging, but fun-filled week – you all did yourselves proud!



BASKETBALL



Kian and Jack

Jack Fletcher (S3) and Kian Kelt (S4) both play Basketball for Inverness City Lions.
They were chosen to play for the Under 16's North of Scotland League team, (Jack also plays for the U16 Mens national league team, and the U14's teams) and on Sunday 27th May they travelled to Aberdeen Beach Leisure Centre to take part in the North of Scotland league play-off tournament.

They won their first game against Beacon Basketball 33-77, then they played Grampian Flyers, a tougher match but coming out 40-74 winners. This put them into the Final against a strong Fraserburgh Storm team, who were title favourites. At half time the Lions were losing, but they came back strongly in the last 2 quarters to have a convincing 56-68 victory, making them North of Scotland champions!

A long day for the boys, but their efforts paid off.



Achievements

TAE KWON DO



On Sunday 20th May, Paul Graham S1, became a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Paul started taking Tae Kwon Do classes when he was just 7 years old and has steadily worked his way up through the belts.

The training required to gain a Black Belt took many months and the day of the grading involved two hours of very intensive combat moves. He passed with flying colours and is now the proud owner of a black belt embossed with his name.

Paul has Master Mohammed to thank for schooling him in this highly skilled martial art. Master Mohammed teaches the classes every Tuesday and Thursday evenings in Dingwall Leisure Centre.

JUDO

Cameron Foster travelled to Luxembourg with the JudoScotland performance squad 8 – 10 June to compete in an international tournament.
Winning 4 contests, Cameron won the Gold medal!



Athletics is Jumping at Dingwall Academy!



This Athletics season has been one to remember at Dingwall Academy. From the fantastic weather afforded to us during curriculum PE, the huge pupil entries for Sports Day to the outstanding results achieved by our pupils at inter school and national events this year. Below is a round-up of all that has happened and has been achieved this term. Unfortunately, it's not possible to mention every pupil that has taken part in athletics events this term but we do want to say a massive well done and congratulations as you have all played an important part in creating a special year.

SPORTS DAY - Monday 11th June

Weather – Fantastic ... superb conditions for fast times!

Entries – Huge ... 321 pupils in total!

Competitors – A credit to the school.

Teachers and Helpers – Positive, encouraging, awesome!

Performance – 25 Records on the day says it all!!

<u>Results</u>

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
S1 Boys	Andrew Georgeson - Novar	Angus Rollo - Tulloch	Ruaridh Ellen - Wyvis
S1 Girls	Leah McEntee - Novar	Ellie Heath - Brahan	Erin Moran - Novar
S2 Boys	James Rollo – Novar	Callum Smith – Wyvis	Sam Bryan – Brahan
S2 Girls	Ellie Mackintosh – Novar	Aimee Georgeson - Novar	Katie Waters - Brahan
S3 Boys	Noah Henry – Brahan	Alister Mackay - Wyvis	Spencer Bardsley – Novar
S3 Girls	Iona Ramsay – Tulloch	Thomasin Campbell - Bra- han	Daisy Wisely – Novar
Seniors Boys	Alexander Mackay – Wyvis	Danny McPake - Novar	Ruairidh Munro – Brahan
Senior Girls	Rachel Johnstone - Novar	Chloe Watson - Tulloch	Lily Fraser - Novar

Ross- Sutherland Schools - Wednesday 20th June

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
S1 Boys	Dingwall Academy	Alness Academy	Tain Royal Academy
S1 Girls	Fortrose Academy	Dingwall Academy	Tain Royal Academy
U15 Boys	Dingwall Academy	Alness Academy	Tain Royal Academy
U15 Girls	Dingwall Academy	Fortrose Academy	Tain Royal Academy
O15 Boys	Dingwall Academy	Alness Academy	Tain Royal Academy
O15 Girls	Dingwall Academy	Tain Royal Academy	Fortrose Academy

Individual Winners:

S1 Girls Leah McEntee – 800m, Ellie May Watson – Discus

U15 Girls Katie Waters – 80m Hurdles, Erin Watters – Shot Putt, Relay.

O15 Girls Daisy Wisely – 1500m, Chloe Watson – 80m Hurdles, Iona Ramsay – Javelin,

Rachel Johnstone – 200m + Long Jump, Relay.

S1 Boys Ruairidh Ellen – 1500m + High Jump, Angus Rollo – 100m + 200m + Shot Putt, Andrew Georgeson – 800m

+ Long Jump + Triple Jump Hamish Stirling-Guy – 300m + Javelin, Relay.

U15 Boys James Rollo - Shot Putt + Discus + 100m, Alister Mackay – 80m Hurdles + High Jump + Javelin, Noah Hen-

ry – 200m + Triple Jump + Long Jump, Relay.

O15 Boys Alex Ellen – 1500m, Danny Mcpake – 800m, Alexander Mackay – 100m Hurdles (= CPB) + High Jump +

100m, Spencer Bardsley - 200m, Mark Maclennan - Discus + Shot Putt

North of Scotland Schools Athletics - Thurs 14th June

North Scotland Schools' Track & Field Championships 2018

Medals Table

Club	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Dingwall Academy	15	5	3
Millburn Academy	13	7	1
Culloden Academy	12	6	3
Fortrose Academy	7	7	4
Sgoil Lionacleit	5	3	10
Gordonstoun School	4	7	5
lilton of Leys Primary School	4	2	1
lgin Academy	4	1	
overness Royal Academy	3	7	5
lilne's High School	3	1	3
llapool High School	3	1	

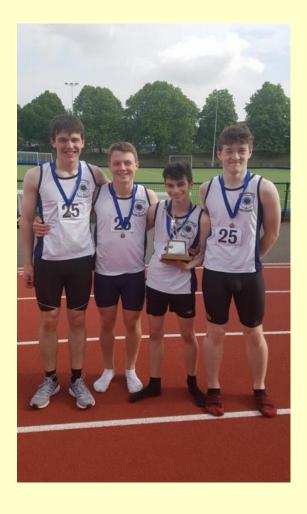
page 1 of the medals table

Medallists

Gold	Alexander Mackay – Long Jump + Shot Putt Rachel Johnstone – Long Jump Kirsty Arnaud – 200m + 800m Alister Mackay – Discus James Rollo – Discus + Shot Putt U17 Boys 4 x 100m Relay	Joe Aranud – 1500m Danny McPake – 200m Ruairidh Munro – 200m + 400m Noah Henry – Long Jump Ruaridh Ellen – 1500m
Silver	· ·	e Mackintosh – Long Jump 7 Girls 4 x 100m Relay
Bronze	Rachel Johnstone – 100m Alis Morag Hickey – 800m	ster Mackay – High Jump

Scottish Schools Track and Field Championships - Fri 1st June

Despite a change a slight change in personnel, due to injury, from the 2017 gold medal winning squad the boys had a very positive training session leading into the event which boosted confidence levels. They cruised through their heats with the fastest time and then hit it hard in the final, recording a school best time of 45.03secs, to win for the second year running. To win this event two years in row is an absolutely fantastic achievement.



Left to Right – Alexander Mackay, Finlay Rollo, Spencer Bardsley, Ruairidh Munro

Scottish Schools Track and Field Championships – Fri 8th and Sat 9th June

This was one of the best weekends ever for Dingwall Academy at the Scottish Schools with every pupil attending winning a medal. Alister Mackay set the tone with a fantastic bronze in the U15 Boys Pole Vault early on the Friday, following this up with a bronze in the Discus on Sat, and performances just kept on coming. Kirsty Arnaud finished an excellent 5th in the U15 Girls 800m and went on to get bronze in the 300m on Saturday. James Rollo, who has just taken up Athletics seriously this year, finished 4th in the U14 Boys Shot Putt then smashed it in the Discus, winning Gold with a huge throw of 36.46m. Joe Arnaud in his final appearance at the event before leaving school ran an incredibly smart race to take silver in the 1500m. Ruairidh Munro finished 7th in the U17 Boys 400m final on the Friday but was desperate to get his first national medal on the Saturday and did so with a photo finish in the 400m Hurdles that resulted in the Gold. Angus Davren, who had been struggling with injuries coming into this event was perhaps feeling a little below par. However, the competitive spirit kicked in and Angus managed to clear 1.90m in the High jump which was enough to secure the title. There was disappointment for Alexander Mackay in the 100m Hurdles final where he finished 6th place. Alexander is made of tougher stuff and quickly put this performance behind him with an excellent performance in the U17 Boys Shot Putt to take the bronze medal. There was also joy for Rachel Johnstone in her first year at U17 where she won a fantastic bronze with her last Long Jump of the competition.





Angus Davren - U17 High Jump Gold

Rachel Johnstone – U17 Long Jump Bronze and Kirsty Arnaud U15 300m Bronze



Ruairidh Munro - U17 400m Hurdles Gold

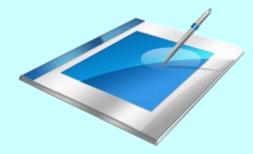
Enjoy the Summer Holidays!

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.