



Dingwall Academy

News

Welcome to our Newsletter. This edition has a special section created by S1 pupils. As always, there are a number of achievements, trips and events inside. Please do make a note of the upcoming December and January holiday dates, as well as the INSET days.

To Parliament!



On the 19th of November we set off on our four hour journey to Edinburgh with 23 fellow senior History/Modern Studies pupils. Shortly after arriving, we made our way into the National Museum of Scotland. We saw a range of the exhibits on each of the seven floors which were split into chronological order, the Animal World gallery being a particular hit. Departing from the museum, we headed for the Youth Hostel allowing us just enough time to get ready for dinner and the theatre. Heading into town, we split for dinner and then all met outside the Playhouse Theatre at 7pm sharp (the teachers were fashionably late!) We saw a sell-out performance of Wicked which was a brilliant experience. Early the next day, we left to hit the shops, cramming in as many as possible. We then went on to test our debating skills in Parliament, meeting three local MSPs, who discussed our questions. They all felt there would be a natural extension to the right to vote to sixteen and seventeen year olds after the recent referendum experience. Finally we rounded off the visit by watching a debate, 'Recipe for Success', about the food and drink industry in Scotland, live in the main chamber. We made our journey home on the bus after a packed two days. **Jill Tolmie and Gillian Cooke (S5)**



DECEMBER 2014 EDITION

Dates for your diary:

Monday 15th December
Christmas Concert

Tuesday 16th December Lower School Social

Wednesday 17th December
Middle School Social

Thursday 18th December Upper School Social

Friday 19th December School Closes 2pm

Monday 5th January
School re-opens

Thursday 8th January Senior Phase Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 21st January S3 Contact Evening

Notes & News



Staffing

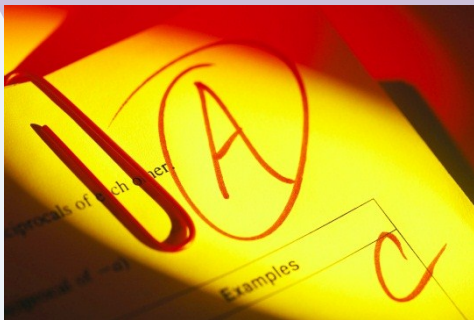
At the end of term we say goodbye and thank you to Mr Maxwell, who has been working in the Science Department. After Christmas we welcome Ms Canham as she returns from her maternity leave; we will also welcome Mr Dobie, who will join us in the CDT Department.

Grand Spring Fair

Advance Notice: put Saturday 28th March 2014 in your diaries...

The school will be holding a Grand Spring Fair with a wide range of activities and stalls to entertain all age groups.

S2 House Tutor classes will all be organising at least one stall; S2 pupils have already started work planning for the day. The Parent Council are also involved and will co-ordinate a number of activities in the school grounds. Senior Pupils are overseeing the whole event and have already organised themselves into a number of sub groups looking at publicity, staging, finance etc. School clubs



Prelims

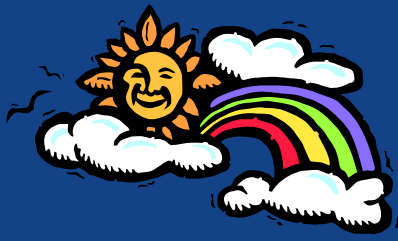
Prelim Examinations start on Monday 12th January. These are extremely important exams and an important stage in the preparation for the final SQA exams in May. Exam timetables have now been issued to all pupils; the timetable can also be viewed on the school website. Should a pupil be unwell and unable to attend a prelim examination, then parents are asked to contact the school as soon as possible to allow alternative arrangements to be made.

Senior Phase

Parent Information Evening

A date for the New Year ... There will be an information evening for parents of pupils in S4 – S6 in the school on Thursday 8th January at 7pm. The evening will outline the new exam system and the assessment requirements of the new system. There will also be information and advice on how parents can help support pupils to study and revise.



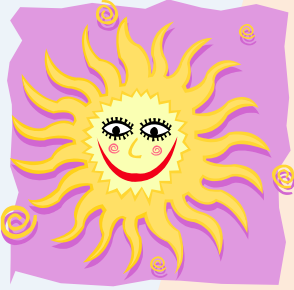


Heads Up!

Mrs Cormack says...

It is hard to believe that we are already at this stage of the year and that the prelim examinations start in the New Year. This year one of the school priorities is for pupils to take more responsibility for their own learning. Pupils are encouraged to use their learning logs and study planners and to develop a study routine early.

I would like to wish all pupils a wonderful Christmas and hope that everyone can return in the New Year ready to do well.



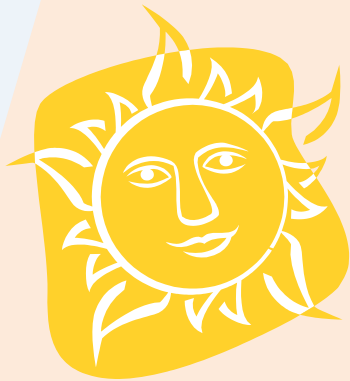
Ms Harrison says...

The Christmas holidays are a time for family and friends, fun and festivities. For those of you with prelims in January, however, it's also a period of time where you can fit in some vital studying for these important exams. Plan to study little and often. Use your study planners to help schedule your study timetables factoring in your social plans and days off to relax. This way you'll keep on top of your exam preparation and be able to enjoy yourselves too.



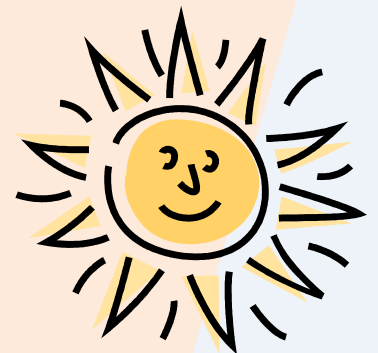
Mr MacIntosh says...

A message to S4 from Mr MacIntosh. NOW is the time to get organised for prelims. Leaving it too late will spoil all the good things that happen in the holidays. It is important to strike a balance at holiday time. Being organised EARLY enables you to do that. Just imagine feeling READY for prelims. You will be if you organise your time. GOOD LUCK!



Mr Di Carlo says...

I have been impressed by the standard of uniform up to this time. We are all looking forward to the upcoming Socials. A reminder that after the holidays S1 pupils will be allowed to go down the street at lunch time in house groups i.e. Brahan – Monday, Fairburn – Tuesday etc. Have a great holiday.



Pupil Voices

Eden Court Youth Ambassador

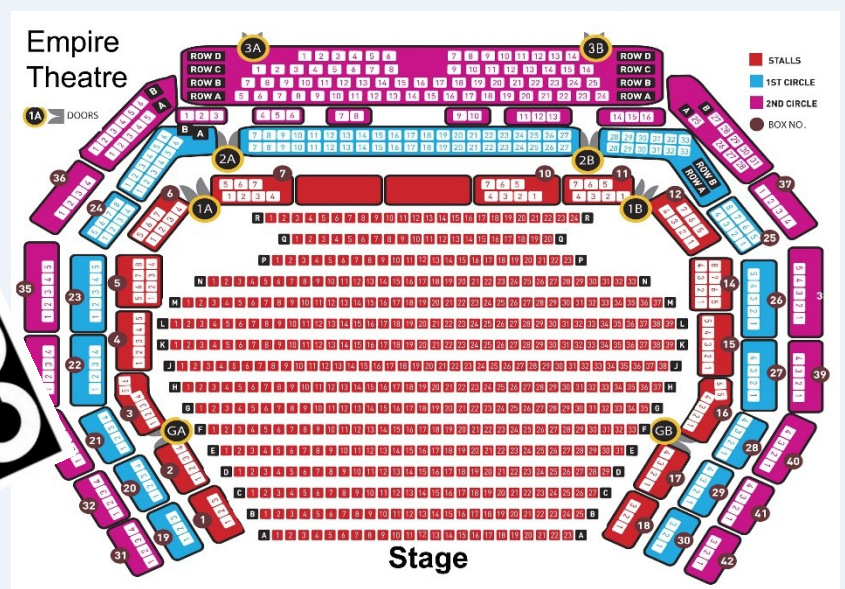
A month or two ago, I was pulled aside by Mr Dolan. He talked to me about something Eden Court were doing, suggesting that I would really enjoy it. Slightly confused, I agreed. Before dashing off, he grinned and told me he'd talk to Mrs Cormack about it, leaving a very bewildered me in the hall.

The next time the topic came up, I was in the midst of a squalling sea of students flooding through the corridors to class. Mrs Cormack approached me about being an Ambassador. She led me to her office, explaining the position a little more. Once satisfied that I had grasped the basics, she handed me an application, waving me out of her office with a smile and a deadline.

The position requires me to provide information to any and all people in my area about what's going on at Eden Court, maintaining a notice board, helping Eden Court in any endeavours they attempt to promote the arts in the local area, attending meetings at Eden Court and to represent Eden Court at local or National events. I also get a free hoodie. So, that's pretty cool.

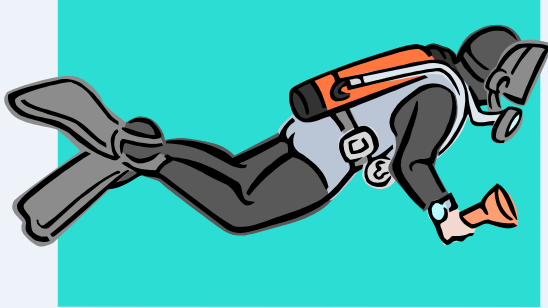
More than happy to commit to the above, I sent off the application and received a letter a couple of weeks later telling me that I'd been accepted. Thrilled, I went to my first meeting. We discussed many upcoming projects and theatre productions. We also touched on how to improve Eden Courts links with local communities and how we as Youth Ambassadors now had a direct role.

Ruth Christman (S4)



EDEN COURT

DYSAC



DYSAC – Dingwall Youth Sub Aqua Club recently embarked on a project funded by the National Lottery to provide free training sessions for youths from the local community. This project gives young people the opportunity to take part in 6/7 one hour pool training sessions and a block of lectures. The skills they gain from this experience raise them to a sufficient standard of competence to allow them to take the next steps to complete their Ocean diver qualification (the basic diving qualification up to BSAC standards).

The National Lottery, in association with Young Start, made all of this possible, donating a generous £49,972 to the project. This money will be spread over 2 years on various expenses such as equipment, a much needed vehicle and instructor support and training fees etc.

This project has been largely co-ordinated by the young members of the Club for other young people. As one of these young members, I feel that the effort required to keep the project up and running has been very rewarding. Each of us is expanding different practical skills in organisation and communication.

So far this project has been a success. The youth committee have learned much in terms of organisation skills and the importance of time awareness and effectiveness. The first group of students from Dingwall Academy, currently in training has given us positive feedback. They have thoroughly enjoyed it.

A group from Fortrose Academy will begin training early in 2015. A further 4 groups have still to be identified for the remainder of the project. Members of youth groups in the area who feel their group would benefit from the opportunity to take part in this project should contact DYSAC to convey their interest.

Contact us at <https://www.facebook.com/DYSACyouths?fref=ts> or find one of us in person.

Ruth Christman (S4)



EY Presentation

Two representatives from the company known as EY (Ernst & Young) came into school to speak to senior Business Management and Accounting pupils towards the end of November. EY is the third largest professional services company in the world and employs more than 190,000 staff in over 150 countries. The representatives, both former Dingwall Academy pupils, gave pupils information about the opportunities that EY could provide for them. They described projects working with clients either based in Inverness or having the opportunity to travel and work further afield. They outlined their school leaver programme which combined training on-the-job with study in London and leads ultimately to a degree in Accountancy and talked about their graduate opportunities. Joining EY, and indeed many large organisations, can be a lengthy and daunting prospect for young people and the speakers gave lots of good advice concerning applications and interview technique. Pupils were encouraged to find out more by going onto the EY schools website at <http://ukcareerguide.ey.com/schools/>



At the Book Fair: Callum Coli, Jordan Shaw, Brendan Starke and Lachlan Hickey

Book Fair

The book fair took place in the Library from the 27th November to the 1st December. It included books from sci-fi classics like *Dracula* to *Jayne Eyre* to books for younger readers. All at great prices—some cost only £2.99! It also had a copy of the school book for pupils to read before ordering their own copy. It was a great success and was enjoyed by all.

We Are Writers!

One of the most eagerly awaited books at the fair was our own: *We Are Writers!*, a collection of writing from S1-S6. Loads of pupils submitted their poems, stories and other pieces on the topic of 'home'. Nearly 90 copies were sold, however we know we can beat that with our next book!

Rory Cormack, Ewan McGhie, and Hamish McWilliam-Gubbins (below)



Scottish National Judo Champs



Cameron Foster of Alness Judo Club travelled down to Motherwell on Saturday 8th November to compete in the Scottish National Judo championships.

Cameron came home Scottish Champion after winning the gold medal in the A band u50kg category, and also gaining enough points from 7 Grand Prix events throughout the year to become Grand Prix champion 2014.

Here is a photo of Cameron, along with his younger brother Corey who won the silver medal in the AA band u27kg category at the same event.

... and more Judo Champs!

On the 6th Of December I travelled down to the British National Pre-cadet and Cadet championships in Sheffield. The competition was run over both the Saturday and Sunday; I fought on the Sunday after some of my teammates fought on the Saturday. On the day I was fighting first I had to weigh-in and then wait to be called to the holding area behind the mat on which I am fighting. All in all I had 4 fights of which I won 2 lost 2, placing me 3rd and earning me a bronze medal. Although I was the only one from our school to medal 4 other teammates from our school travelled down and fought exceptionally. Adam Dyer (S2) didn't place but fought really well in both of his fights; Euann Mightens (S1) also didn't place but had the eventual bronze medalist as his 2nd fight and Thomas Inglis (S1) placed 7th winning a total of 3 fights. For the 8 hours that it took us to get down there I think it was really worth it because it provided me with great experience and confidence for the year ahead.

Joanna McClellan

Swimming Success

Congratulations to Dean Brannen on his selection for the Scottish Junior Swimming Championships in Glasgow.



Children In Need



Senior Pupils organised interval and lunchtime activities for the Annual Children in Need appeal. Tables were groaning under the weight of cakes on sale and pupils were able to choose from a magnificent array. The highlight of the day came during lunchtime when staff and senior pupils interrupted the senior boys' leg waxing event to perform a 'flashmob'. Secret rehearsals had been going on for months (okay – days!) to prepare for the event and pupils were treated to a slick and stylish routine...

Soirbheachas ann am Farpais Deasbaid BT Success in the BT National Gaelic Debate

Congratulations to Megan Dale and Ella Scarr, both in S6, who took home the BT National Gaelic Debating trophy. This is the second time Dingwall Academy has won the competition.

It was a challenging route to the final, beating Nicolson Institute A, Portree High and James Gillespie's High School, Edinburgh on the way. The final against Nicolson Institute B was held in the Scottish Parliament and broadcast live on BBC Radio nan Gàidheal as well as streamed live on the internet.

Also up for grabs was the Best Speaker award and this year's recipient was Dingwall's own Megan Dale. After returning to school with her awards Megan said: "It was such a great thing to be part of and it's hard to believe that we've won. We've enjoyed the experience so much and we've learnt and developed skills which will be very useful to us in later years."

Ella had little time to reflect on her success as straight after the final she flew out to take part in an ice-skating competition in Belgium!

Dingwall had two teams competing this year. Eilidh Campbell and Joanna MacDonald both in S6 performed very well in the early rounds and they too are a credit to the school.

Meallaibh ur naidheachd. Tha an sgoil dha rìribh moiteil as aibh!

Ma tha ùidh aig sgoilear sam bith a dhol an sàs san deasbad an-ath-bhliadhna thèid a bhruidhinn ri Mgr MacArtair.



Volunteering Award

Recently, I was lucky enough to receive an award for volunteering. I have been helping at the Drop-In Youth Café in Dingwall with the younger group (aged 10 to 13 years) and sometimes the older group (aged 14 to 18 years) on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 4.30pm to 9pm. After seeing a leaflet about the Youth Café, I went along a few times to see what it was like and I really enjoyed it. I then asked if I could volunteer because I like working with young people and I wanted to help them.

As one of the volunteers, I make food like toast and pancakes for the youngsters. There is also a tuck shop where they can buy sweets and I help serve in the tuck shop. I do help out with some of the tidying up. During the evening I will play pool with some of the children at the Youth Café and try to make sure they have fun. I get along with them quite well and they can talk to me about any problem if they want. If there was a problem, I would pass it on to the Youth Café leader. We also do Arts and Crafts like painting, drawing or making things.

We play the X-box and the Wii or they can play darts and air hockey. We play music for them on the computer. It is quite loud but everyone seems to enjoy themselves.

When my leader told me I was getting an award, I was happy and a bit embarrassed. I went to the Ross County Stadium and was presented with my award along with several other people. It was an enjoyable evening and I am delighted to have been given my trophy which I am very proud of.



Cheryl Carr (S5)

Congratulations!

Brahan pupils visit Wyvis House



Some S2 Dingwall Academy pupils were doing an enterprise project in their Personal and Social Education class, raising money towards the school fund and a local charity. The class decided to make a contribution to Wyvis House so that the money raised could possibly go towards their Christmas party.

The pupils raised £360 and so half of this was agreed to go to Wyvis House, £180. Miss Alexander and four fourth year pupils

(Kirsty Campbell, Nathan Anderson, Cameron Shepherd, Rebecaa MacKenzie) who had previously volunteered at an event at Wyvis House were chosen to present staff and patients with the cheque. On arrival we were greeted by the former Rector of Dingwall Academy, Sandy Glass. He was delighted to receive the cheque from pupils from his former school. He talked about him being called “Batman” or the “Bat” by the pupils. This was because of his Academic Gown that he used to have! He felt inspired and proud of the pupils and thoroughly enjoyed their time at Wyvis House.

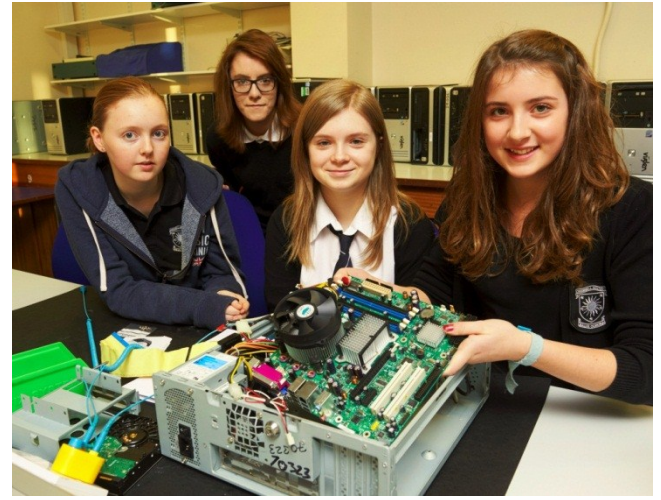
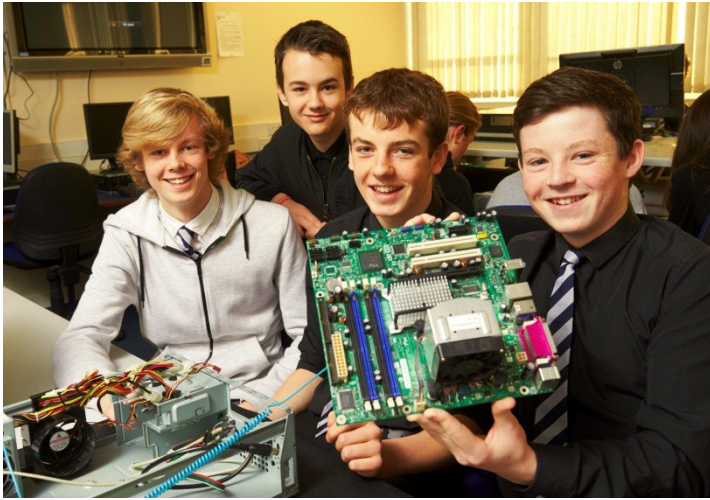
Quality Awards S1 BSL Programme

Congratulations to all staff and pupils involved with the delivery of British Sign Language course in S1. Mrs Kinsman and Mrs Lundberg entered the initiative for the Highland Council Quality Awards and were delighted to find the school shortlisted. The teachers then had to travel to Inverness, accompanied by S2 pupil Ellie Taylor, to give a presentation and answer questions about the project. The final winner was a closely guarded secret, revealed at an award ceremony held in the Inverness Town House. Mrs Kinsman and Mrs Lundberg were absolutely delighted when the school was named as the winner and they received a beautiful commemorative piece of glassware.



National Computing Science

Computing Science pupils and staff enjoyed a visit to Inverness College UHI on Wednesday 3 December. Thirty-two pupils were involved in hands-on workshops where they had to build up PCs using basic components. Once pieced together they then had to switch on their PC to see if it would work. Eventually, after a few unsuccessful attempts, all groups had a working PC. Pupils then installed an Operating System and configured their computers for network access. Pupils were then able to connect their computers to an internal network and 'ping' each other's computers. The day finally ended by successfully connecting to the Internet. It was a most enjoyable and valuable day.



S1 Tesco Initiative



After Christmas S1 pupils will be allowed to go out of school grounds during selected lunchtimes. However, we would still prefer that pupils chose to remain in school and use the school canteen. Should pupils choose to go down the street then we are aware that many will choose to buy their lunch in Tesco. We are therefore working in partnership with Tesco to try to encourage pupils to make healthy lunch choices.

Representatives from Tesco visited some S1 Home Economics classes to give pupils the chance to taste some of the healthier products available. This was then followed up with a

lesson in PSE that asks pupils to think carefully about their food choices. We hope that pupils will take on board the advice given and that, wherever they choose to eat lunch, they will consider making healthy options.

Go Green

The Go Green Group meet every Monday lunchtime in Room 115. Our main focus is to investigate how Dingwall Academy could be more environmentally friendly. Previous work includes a litter week, waste audits and teaching pupils how to use the composter and so far we have achieved the Eco Schools Silver Award. We have a strong link with the Diggers group run by Miss Swallow.

Our main aim after Christmas is to focus on achieving the Eco Schools Green Flag for Dingwall Academy. This term we have been carrying out an environmental review to see what areas need most work on. Any new members to the group are more than welcome to come along. We are looking for pupils from any year groups (and any parents who wish to get involved!).

Mrs Lewthwaite



The 2014 Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal

This year is the 21st anniversary of Blythswood running the appeal and over 1.7 million boxes have been donated and distributed through the years.



Dingwall Academy S2 pupils with their 57 filled shoeboxes handed over this afternoon. A number of S2 pupils helped to cover the shoeboxes and fill them with donations provided by pupils and staff. Thanks to everyone who helped. Boxes will go to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania and Serbia this year.

If you would like to find out more you can follow the link below to Blythswood's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Blythswood-Care/192435257454944?fref=ts>

To watch the 2013 and Show Box Appeal video, "Two Box Tale" and the video aimed at younger children, "The Perfect Christmas" search YouTube or go to BlythswoodCare's YouTube channel.



DiGGers Update



DiGGers have now announced the winner of their Sunflower Competition. The winning plant was adopted by a member of the public who kindly donated the prize to our fund! The tallest sunflower was number 2 and grew to a height of 2 metres and 17 cm. Twelve people guessed the correct plant, so we put their names in a hat and drew out the winner – Miss Tullis who teaches geography and rural studies in school! She wins a £20 Frank Nicol's voucher to spend.

We'd like to thank Frank Nicol's for hosting the competition and taking care of the plants all summer - we couldn't do it without your support!

This raised just under £40 for Sense Scotland who help deaf-blind children. We decided to boost this amount with a bake sale on Friday 28th November so we now are ready to send off £65 to Sense Scotland. Thanks to everyone that bought a cake – you have brightened the life of a deaf-blind child!



***Wear your
Christmas
Jumper!***

When: Friday 19th December

**You can choose to wear your
snazziest Christmas jumper to school on Friday—bring a £1
donation for Save the Children**

Active Schools

Active Schools at Dingwall Academy

Following on from the successful bid from 'Awards for All' between Ben Wyvis Cycling Club and Active Schools, Wilma Kelt and Colin Morrison have been arranging a Trail Cycle Leaders course, for 8 candidates, to take place next Spring. The places have been offered out to parents and staff around the Dingwall Academy feeder schools along with club members. A First Aid Course to validate the use of the TCL qualification is organised for the end of January 2015. There are 12 places on the First Aid course of which 8 will be taken up by the TCL candidates and the other 4 places offered other volunteers within the Cluster and other outdoor club members.

If you already have your Trail Cycle Leader Award and would like to volunteer to assist with Dingwall Academy's Mountain Bike Group, please contact Drew Graham (01349 869860). Drew is always looking for competent adults to assist, as this allows more pupils to go out trail cycling.

Two S4 pupils attended this year's Young Ambassadors conference in Inverness. Active Schools welcomes Eilidh Gunn and Rebecca Mackenzie to this role. The Young Ambassador programme seeks to develop young leaders and volunteers by giving them the responsibility of being an Ambassador for PE and school sport. Eilidh and Rebecca have exciting plans which will be revealed later. They are being supported by Wilma Kelt and Clair Bale (Active Schools).

Active Schools gave a presentation to senior pupils about sports volunteering and recognition programmes. The High Life Highland Leadership Program and The Saltire Award were explained fully and all those already involved in volunteering were encouraged to register with both.

Active Schools also signposted some current sports opportunities.

Active Schools had 17 Senior Pupils attend a one day 'Active Schools Sports Leadership' training day. Fun and games were had, all with the focus of developing good sports leadership. The day was rounded off with a PCS (Positive Coaching Scotland) Young Leaders session. Active Schools looks forward to supporting these pupils in their future volunteering roles with Sport within the Cluster.

In April 2014, 5 Dingwall Academy pupils attended a Dance Leadership Level 1 course. This term 3 of them put their dance skills into practice and delivered lunch time sessions with P2 and P3 at Dingwall Primary School. This went down a treat with their Jungle theme raising the roof!

Phoebe Lipp, successfully completed her day certificate in Hockey. Phoebe will be volunteering in Dingwall Academy, working with Ms Bennie to support the junior hockey team.

Active Schools are always looking for Sports volunteers, would you be able to assist?

Please contact;

Clair Bale clair.bale@highlifehighland.com

Or

Wilma Kelt Wilma.kelt@highlifehighland.com

S1 News

In this section you will find a selection of news articles and reviews written by (and for!) S1 pupils. They cover a range of topics, from sport to left handers, litter to skateboards. Enjoy!

FIFA World Cup

The 2018 FIFA world cup will take place across 11 Russian cities with 12 venues ranging from Ekaterinburg, Kalininograd, Kazan, Moscow, Nizhni Novgorod, Rostov on don, samara, Saransk, Sochi, St. Petersburg, to Volgograd. When FIFA announced the 2018 world was going to be in Russia many were surprised, including some of the country leaders. The World Cup is going to start on June the 8th and is finishing on July the 8th. Russian president Vladimir Putin has announced that Russia will spend more than 660 billion rubles (\$15.5 billion) on the FIFA world cup, and over three million tickets will be sold for the tournament. Yaya Toure, captain of the English football club Manchester city, has said that players have to crack down on racism or he will not take part in the 2018 World Cup.



Their greatest achievement was coming 4th place at the 1966 tournament in England, however Russian footballers have managed to set a number of records.

Danny McPake



Under 13's Fixture List And Scores:	Team	pld	won	lost	drew	points
Dingwall 9 Vs 1 Golspie	Dingwall	4	4	0	0	12
Culloden 1 Vs 11 Dingwall	Millburn	4	1	1	2	5
Dingwall 12 Vs 3 Charleston	IRA	4	0	1	3	3
Milburn 0 Vs 9 Dingwall	Culloden	4	0	3	1	1
Dingwall Vs IRA	Charleston	3	0	2	1	1
	Golspie	3	0	3	0	0

Jordan Shaw and Brendan Starke

Nine Top Skateboard Brands

There is a lot of talk in the skate world about which are the best boards to buy and use, which are the strongest, lightest, best value for money and of course the coolest graphics. This article is my own opinions, after research, about the best 9 boards on the market. Not in any particular order:



1. ZERO

Gothic tone sprinkled with punk, go ahead and try to break it, its tough and great for pops and 360s! Never breaks!



2. ELEMENT (Author's Favourite!)

Element boards are lighter than usual skateboards. Its tough and the designs are simple and clean, usually black. A lot of people think Zero is better than Element. But I am a die hard fan!



3. TOY MACHINE

Toy Machine workshop makes very unique skate decks, and a new kind of graphic style.



4. ALIEN WORKSHOP

These decks are good, but don't have a huge amount of variations in graphics. But good 7 plys. Can splinter easily.



5. PLAN B

This is quite a new skateboard company, but they are strong and made well, great trucks.

6. HABITAT

These boards have unique graphics and always have an 'earthy' element to them.



7. GIRL AND CHOCOLATE

A totally different kind of board, not just used by girls, they are an American company and a great 7 ply deck.



8. LIB TECH

These decks are made using new technologies, but are not seen as often as other 7 ply boards.

9. BIRDHOUSE AND BLITZ

This is a Tony Hawke Company, they are good quality decks with black 6 technologies. This is a 6th thicker ply which is good for pops and Flix. Made of maple but only weighs a little more than other boards.



Rugby World Cup

The Rugby World Cup is coming ever so closer. The hosts England are looking to win only their 2nd World Cup. On the other hand, New Zealand are looking to bag their 3rd Webb Ellis trophy.

The Rugby World Cup 2015 will kick off on the 18th September and will finish on the 31st October. The first game of the tournament will be England against Fiji, at Twickenham.

The home nations; Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland will all be looking to get up there with the big teams. England are in Pool A, and have: Australia, Wales, Fiji and Uruguay. Scotland are in Pool B and will face: South Africa, Japan, Samoa and the USA. Ireland are in Pool D and will play: France, Italy, Canada and Romania.

There will be 14 venues taking part in this World Cup. Some of which are stadiums like; Twickenham, Wembley and the Millennium Stadium. The Olympic Stadium will be a sell-out. Obviously, Twickenham (the national rugby stadium) will be hosting the big games between the big teams. The capacity is 82,000. Even bigger is the National Football Stadium, Wembley, with a massive capacity of 90,000.



Statistics

The most successful player in World Cup history is Jonny Wilkinson. He has played 19 times, has earned 227 points, 1 try, 28 conversions, 58 penalties scored and 14 drop goals dropped. The second greatest is a Scottish player called Gavin Hastings. He has played 13 times, has got 277 points as well, 9 tries, 39 conversions and 36 penalties scored.

Facts about the Rugby World Cup

- New Zealand have scored all together 272 tries in world cup history.
- With the most red cards in one game is both Tonga and Canada, with both 3 red cards.
- the biggest win ever was when Australia beat Namibia 142 points to nil. This was back in 2003.
- The biggest score ever was when New Zealand won 145-17, back in 1995.
- The most tries scored in one game was when Marc Ellis scored 6 tries for New Zealand against Japan.

Hamish McWilliam-Gubbins



Footie News

This year has been a big year for football all over the world with Germany lifting the world famous world cup and Real Madrid winning the champions league. In the Barclays Premier league Chelsea are leading the way however Manchester City just behind Chelsea and in third is Manchester United with Lois Van Gaal taken over from David Moyes this season there is a lot of pressure on him to finish in a top three place this season.

In the Bundesliga Bayern Munich are dominating however their rivals Borussia Dortmund are not sharing the same success as there are hovering down at the bottom two of the table.

In the Scottish Premier League leaders Celtic are preparing for a big match against Rangers who have been a victim of some financial problems and were demoted to the third Division. Also struggling, Ross County are still at the bottom of the table it is increasingly looking worse as the middle of the season approaches it is without doubt that new manager Jim McIntyre will definitely be feeling the pressure after making a move from Queen of the South.

Callum Coli



Litter

Every day at the front and inside the school litter is being dropped and it's left up to the janitors to clean it up. It's not fair for them when they have to clean up all of our mess. What do you think the public see when they pass our school? They must think the pupils of the Academy don't care about the environment.

We interviewed one of the janitors, who told us there are at least two bin bags of rubbish for landfill being dropped every single day, and that includes recyclable litter. We asked him why he thought people were dropping litter. He told us, "they must not know how to throw litter away properly!"

We interviewed Mrs Cormack about the litter. We asked her what she thought the public think about the school. She thinks that some of the public might think the school is bad because they see rubbish out in front of the school and out at the kerb, this is a shame as many will never have been inside the school to see how hard we work.

We also asked her why she thought people drop litter. She said that she can't understand why people drop litter, but after some thought, she said that she thinks it might just be laziness. Those pupils who do drop litter pay no respect to themselves, the public or the staff. Mrs Cormack also said "The thing I dislike most are the muffins. No-one seems able to eat them without making a mess!" This made us laugh—it is definitely very difficult to eat muffins in a tidy way!

Let's respect ourselves and our school—tidy up (even if it's not your litter)!



Callum Leeper and Ellie MacDougall

iPHONE HELPFUL HINTS



How to save your Battery Life – make sure that WIFI/Bluetooth and your Do Not Disturb are all switched off when they are not required.

Take your brightness down.

Make only the applications that you are using are the ones that are open.

If in doubt double click the home button and swipe up to close open applications.



Turning Off your Bluetooth – to do this you can either swipe up from the bottom of the screen. This will show you a menu and from this you can select to have it off or on by touching the Bluetooth icon. This can also be done through your settings.

Turn down your brightness – swipe up from the bottom of the screen and slide the brightness up or down, however you like it!

How to delete an APP – Put your finger on the APP icon that you want to delete and hold it down until a grey box with an 'X' shows – A message will appear asking if you wish to 'Delete this APP'. Tap 'Yes' for it to disappear. Then press your home key to make sure you don't delete any other APPS.

Watch this space, and elsewhere in the newsletter, for more from the amazing pupils at Dingwall Academy. If you are a pupil, and would like to have your work (writing, artwork, photography) included in the newsletter, see Mr Green in Room 202 at lunch or break. Alternatively, email him your work at nicholas.green@highland.gov.uk.

Mini-Guidelines for Written Pieces

Pieces should be submitted (where possible) electronically. They should:

- Be drafted and proofread carefully
- Be in 11pt Calibri or similar
- Identify the author and year group in bold at the end of the piece



Movies of the Year

1. *Interstellar*
2. *Big Hero 6*
3. *Dumb and Dumber to*
4. *The Hunger Games : Mockingjay Part 1*
5. *Fury*
6. *Guardians of the Galaxy*
7. *Gone Girl*
8. *Dracula untold*
9. *Night Crawler*
10. *The hobbit: the battle of the five armies*

We did a survey on the order of this list in our class 42% agree 58% disagree. Most people said that *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1* should be at the top and is the best movie.

George Pummell and Euann Mightens



The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1

WARNING - Spoilers ahead!

So, after endless amounts of trailers, TV spots, interviews and propos it's finally here...Mockingjay part 1!

The film hit the U.K at five minutes past midnight on the 20th of November and has had mixed reviews. After *Catching Fire's* instant success a lot was expected from Francis Lawrence (no relation to Jennifer Lawrence) who took over as director of the Hunger games trilogy in 2013 after Gary Ross' departure.

Mockingjay part 1 is based on the first half of the third and last book in the Hunger Games trilogy. Like *Harry Potter* was in 2010 and *Allegiant* will be in 2016 the film has been split into two parts *Mockingjay Part 1* and *Mockingjay Part 2*.

Mockingjay is mainly set in District 13 which, after the first rebellion, retired underground after making a deal with the capitol. It continues the adventure of Katniss Everdeen, a teenage girl from District 12's Seam. She has become the symbol (or Mockingjay) of a rebellion against the capitol who keep a ruthless grasp over twelve districts which unwillingly supply them with food, clothes and even luxuries.

The film includes a bunch of new actors and actresses. Julianne Moore stars as Alma Coin the ruthless President of District 13. Also new to the set is Mahershala Ali as Boggs, Natalie Dormer as Cressida, Evan Ross as Messalla and Wes Chatham and Elden Henson as Castor and Pollux.

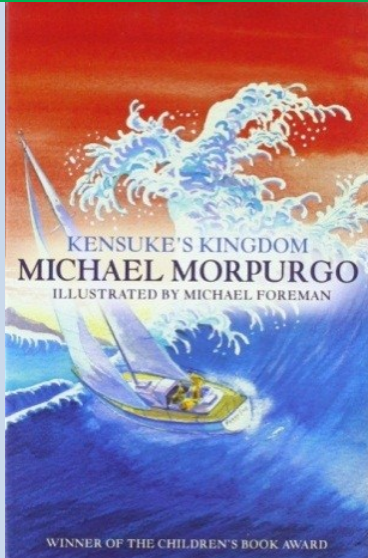
Unlike *Catching Fire* where some crucial scenes such as Bonnie and Twills arrival and Plutarch's Mockingjay watch got cut. This film has had some new scenes added for example Peeta's Rescue. However, disappointedly some scenes were inaccurate, like the bombing on 13 where cracks appear on the ceiling unlike in the book. The scene that everybody is talking about is of course The Hanging Tree scene where Katniss sings to Pollux. What I like about this scene is when the rebelling districts join in the song. The way the song builds adds to the tension and drama of the scene. The song is currently climbing the iTunes charts and is available to download now.

Overall this film is a great instalment to the series and although it has some downs it makes for an exciting and action-packed watch.



Rory Cormack

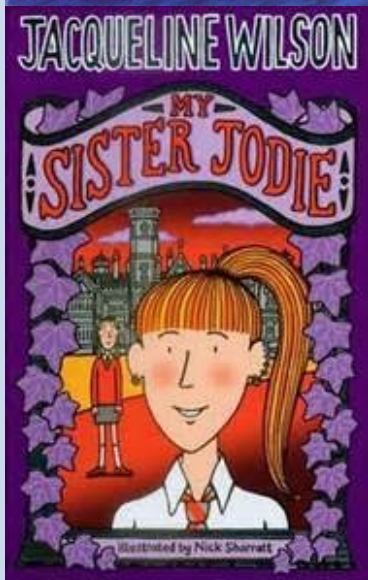
Music and books...



Kensuke's Kingdom

Kensuke's Kingdom is an adventure story about an eleven year old boy called Michael. The book is amazing, although you might find it slightly boring at first. However it soon gets very exciting, plus the more you read the more you want to carry on reading. The book is fascinating and very interesting. Recommended for people 9 onwards.

Rated 5/5. Read the book to find out what happens!



My Sister Jodie

Jodie and Pearl are sisters that are really close. Jodie, 14, is boisterous and noisy, completely different from her little sister Pearl, 10, who is really shy, quiet and got bullied at school until her Mum Sharon and Dad Joe got new jobs at Melchester College. They took the jobs because they wanted the girls to get a better education. Before the term starts Pearl makes a good friend called Harley who loves to watch badgers so he takes Pearl with him. They don't take Jodie because she's too noisy. Then in the middle of the school term tragedy strikes...

My Sister Jodie is a fantastic book, it makes you want to carry on reading all day. Commended for people 10 onwards.

Rated 5/5. Read it, it's worth it!



TOP TEN CHARTS OF 2014

1. NEW--DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS--BAND AID 30 (EMI)
2. NEW--REAL LOVE--CLEAN BANDIT FT JESS GLYNNE (ATLANTIC)
3. NEW--WRAPPED UP--OLLY MURS FT TRAVIE MORRIS (EPIC)
4. OLDISH--THINKING OUT LOUD--ED SHEERAN (ASYLUM)
5. NEW--DANGEROUS--DAVID GUETTA FT SAM MARTIN (PARLOPHONE)
6. OLDISH--STEAL MY GIRL--ONE DIRECTION (SYCO MUSIC)
7. OLDISH--WAKE ME UP--GARETH MALONE'S ALL STAR CHOIR (DECCA)
8. NEW--6 WORDS--WRETCH 32--(MINISTRY OF SOUND)
9. OLDISH--BLANK SPACE--TAYLOR SWIFT (EMI)
10. OLDISH--OUTSIDE--CALVIN HARRIS / ELLIE GOULDING (COLUMBIA).



INFO

THE MUSIC ABOVE HAS BEEN VOTED TOP TWENTY BY THE PUBLIC.

Alistair Rose and Lachlan Hickey

Arctic Weather Alert



Scientists have re-issued stark warnings ahead of what some have claimed is set to be the coldest winter for a century.

They said a lengthy spell of extreme and potentially devastating weather is just around the corner, partially thanks to an unusually mild autumn. Looking at air flow in the upper atmosphere to produce an index called the October Pattern Index (OPI), experts have said everything points towards a negative Arctic Oscillation this winter.

The resulting weak jet stream, which usually holds the cold at bay over the North Pole, will give way to a blast of freezing air which will sweep across the UK.

Experts expect this by the middle of December with snowstorms and numbing Arctic gales set to wreak havoc at airports and on the country's transport systems.

The OPI was devised by Italian scientists Riccardo Valente and Professor Judah Cohen with this year's readings dangerously similar to those taken during the catastrophic winter of 2009/10 - the coldest in 31 years.

Luke Urquhart, Keira Murray, Holly Urquhart



Lefthanders...

Hi I am Chloe, and I am here to tell you some myths and facts about left handed people. Most people are right handed. In fact, only 10% of the world is left handed.

The first fact I am going to tell you is that more boys are left handed than girls. I know more boys than girls that are left handed, do you? The next fact is that left handers are high achievers. They are especially good at sports, so that's an advantage! There are more things they are good at, but I don't want to bore you with a list. Here are a few of the high achievers that are left handed Barack Obama, Herman Hoover, Queen Victoria, Michael Angelo, Leonardo Da Vinci there are lots more but let's just stop there.

Now let's move on to myths. The first one is that left handed people die earlier. What do you think about that? People used to say left handers symbolise females and right handers symbolise males, now that's definitely not true! Here's another one: which foot do you place on the floor first when you get out of bed? Some people believe that getting out of bed left foot first will result in you having a bad day. Now I personally think that's not true. (I know that's not about left handers but it's still about the left side of your body.)

So there we have it. Some myths and facts about left handers. Hope you have learned something!

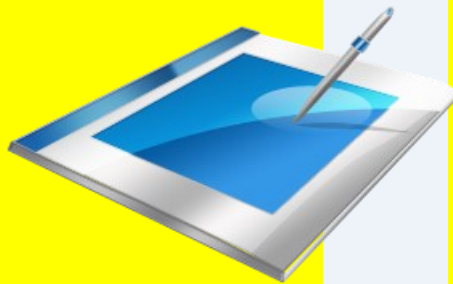
Chloe McAllister

In the next issue of the *News*...

- Socials Roundup
- Pupil Achievements
- New 'Back in the Day' photos

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

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Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village, though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Robert Frost



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