



Dingwall Academy

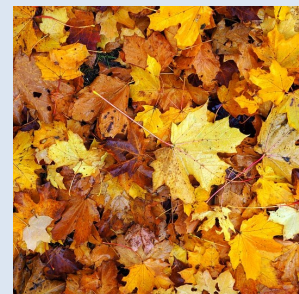
News

Sponsored Walk

The annual sponsored walk took place in glorious sunshine on Friday 5th October.



More photographs inside ...



OCTOBER 2018

Friday 12th October
School closes

Monday 29th October
School reopens

Wed 7th November
S5/S6 Contact Evening

Friday 9th November
Parent Council 'Get
Involved' Session
8.30—9.30

Monday 12th November
Parent Council 7pm

Tuesday 20th to Thursday
22nd November
School production of Annie

Tuesday 27th November
S4 Contact Evening

Wed 28th November
Prefect and S6 group
photographs.

Parent Council

At the Parent Council AGM the following office bearers were elected:

Chair	Helen Cameron
Secretary	Emma Whitham
Treasurer	Sam Blyth

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM, we were delighted to welcome a number of new faces.

The next meeting of the Parent Council takes place on Monday 12th November at 7pm. All parents are welcome to attend.



Parental Engagement

The focus of the Parent Council this session is parental engagement.

The group are keen to find more ways of involving parents with the life of the school.

Parents should have all received an email detailing different ways that parents can become more involved.

We would welcome any offers of support or new ideas for parental involvement.



Parent Council Get Involved

On **Friday 9th November**, the parent council are trialling a new approach to encourage parents into school.

They are hosting an informal drop in session for parents, in the Sunflower Café from **8.30am—9.30am**.



Tea/Coffee and toast will be available. This will be an opportunity for parents to drop in, talk with other parents, and discuss the various ways the school can increase parental engagement.

Please think about coming along if you can.

SHINTY



Congratulations to those Dingwall Academy pupils who were part of the winning Beaully Shinty team who triumphed in the final of the McMaster U14 Cup Final in Oban.



*Dingwall Academy
members of the Beaully
Shinty Team:*

*Scott Cameron
Callum MacIver
Ian Maclachlan
Finlay MacIennan
Farquhar MacRae
James Morrison*

HOSPITALITY PREFECTS



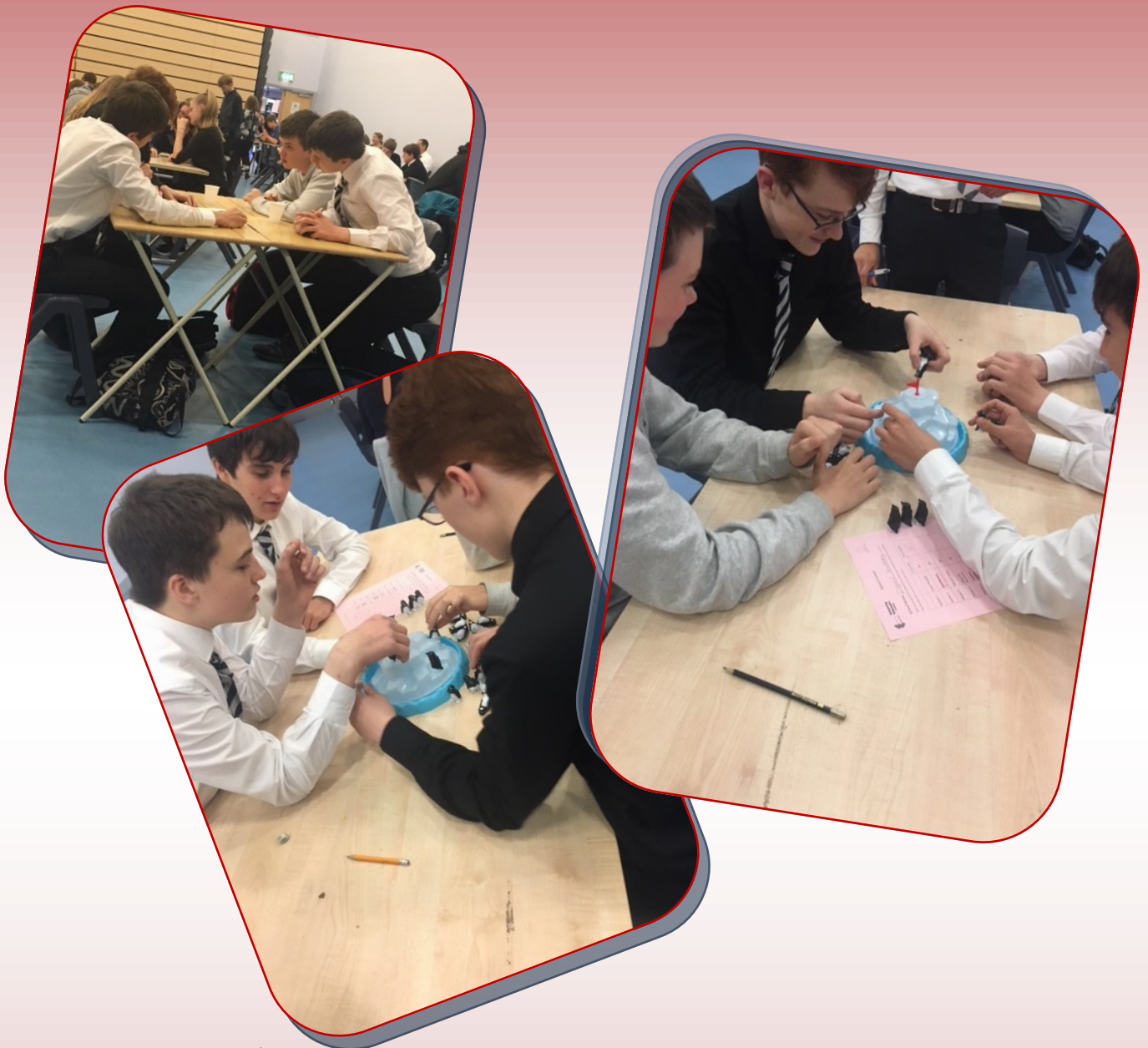
A number of senior pupils have now been appointed to the position of Hospitality Prefect.

These pupils are called on to help at school events such as the Christmas and Spring Fair. They are also used to help staff our Sunflower Café.

Pupils had to complete an application form, and to demonstrate that they understood the requirements of the post.

It is hoped that through their work as Hospitality Prefects, pupils will learn key skills that will be of help in the world of work.

MATHS CHALLENGE



On September 26th, George Shread, Louis Taylor, Alexander Taylor and Ruairidh McGee took part in the Highland heat of the Scottish Enterprising Maths competition. 13 other Highland schools entered and they took part in 4 rounds including a practical round, group round, team round and relay round.

Despite a slow start the boys worked really hard as a team and managed to finish in joint second place, which is a fantastic result! The team have now qualified for the final in Glasgow on Tuesday 6th November.

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze 2018

Our S4 and S6 Duke of Edinburgh team have successfully completed their Bronze Award this term. The pupils worked hard during last session to prepare themselves for a 2 day and 1 night expedition from Fyrish to Loch Morie. As well as this, the group completed 3 months of volunteering, a skill and physical activity. Reports from assessors has been very positive with one even saying *"Dingwall Academy's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh team were the most entertaining group I've ever assessed!"*

We are looking forward to the pupils continuing on to Silver this session and to welcoming new Bronze recruits in November.

Congratulations to:

Thomasin Campbell, Melvine Lynch, Tara Larsen, Maggie Larsen and Anna Munro (S3)

Alice Kerr, Molly Fraser, Sean Fillos Kelt and Alasdair Reid (S6)

Miss Parker and Mr Hilton



ORAN MOR



In September a group of Gaelic pupils had the opportunity to have an amazing day out! We were invited to sing at the Oran Mòr concert which marked the end of this year's Blas festival. In the weeks running up to the concert, Blas organisers visited Dingwall Academy to teach us the songs.

Together with hundreds of pupils from other schools across the Highlands, we met at the Inverness Aquadome to have a quick rehearsal before processing - behind a piper - much to the amusement of the onlooking tourists!

When we reached the Northern Meeting Park, we had a quick bite of lunch. We were entertained by some great bands like Trail West and Breabach.

Then it was our turn! We sang a new song Beò an Dòchas that had never been performed live before. It is a Gaelic song, commissioned especially for the Year of Young People by Robbie Macleod. (Some of us knew the Gaelic words more than others so please don't look at the Dingwall Academy Facebook page too closely!)

The words in English are perfect for the Year of Young People, highlighting how young people have the right to be young without adult responsibilities yet recognising our capabilities.

Skipinnish took to the stage for the grand finale and Morag and I managed to squeeze to the front. It was excellent! We had a fab time and were lucky to be able to go backstage and meet the band.

It was a such a fun day and I will never forget it. Thank you to the teachers for making it possible.

Grace Marshall S1

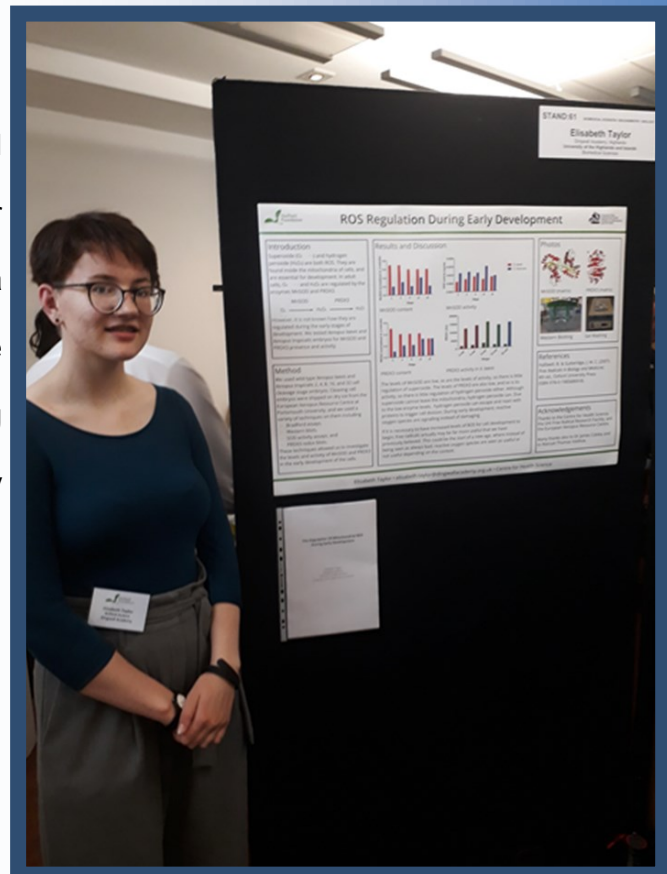
Nuffield Experience

As we all know, the term between Christmas and Easter holidays is busy. Between studying, finishing work, and prelims, there's not a lot of time to think about the rest of the year. So, when I applied for a Nuffield Research Placement I didn't really expect anything to come of it. However, Jennifer Smith, who coordinates the scheme in Scotland, emailed me and said I'd been offered a placement at UHI under the supervision of Dr James Cobley.

My placement took seven weeks over June, July and August, at the Centre for Health Sciences in Inverness. We studied the regulation of reactive oxygen species in the mitochondria of cells in the early stages of development, using a variety of techniques, including Western Blotting. Our results showed that particular reactive oxygen species are not regulated, allowing them to escape the mitochondria and act as a trigger for cell development - basically, early cells need these species to mature. Using the information I gained from the project, I had to write a report and produce a poster.

On the 30th of August, everyone who did a Nuffield Research Placement was invited to an event in the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. We all presented our posters, listened to some talks, and were presented with a certificate by Alison McLure, the National Manager of the Scottish Institute of Physics. I had a really great time during the placement and on the day, and would definitely recommend applying to the scheme.

Ellie Taylor S6



DINGWALL MARKET

Staff and parents have been hugely supportive of the Food Assembly that has operated in school over the last session.

Regular customers will be aware that the Food Assembly is no longer operating in the UK and we hosted our last market at the end of September.

However, if you are missing your weekly supply of fabulous fresh, local products then don't worry!...

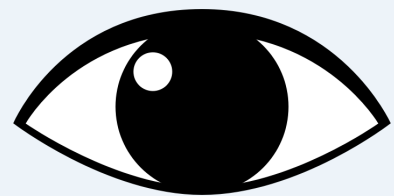
Dingwall Academy are taking over the running of the Food Assembly and the newly branded Dingwall Market will be operational very soon.



The Dingwall Market will be run as a Social Enterprise.

We have already established a management board of senior pupils. Pupils have started work on the website, branding and marketing. They will eventually be responsible for the weekly shopping platform and the weekly collection.

Watch this space ...



LOGO COMPETITION

Dingwall Academy Market is holding a competition to come up with a logo for our new enterprise. The logo will represent the sustainable, eco-friendly community project starting in November.

If you wish to submit a design, entry forms can be picked up from the school office. Entries must be returned to the office before the 2nd of November.

Don't worry if your drawing isn't the best because the winning idea will be turned into an official logo by a graphic designer.

We look forward to seeing all your creative ideas!

If any parents think that they could help support the pupil group to manage the Dingwall Market, then please get in touch. We would be delighted to hear from you.

Notes and News

Neil Gunn Lecture at Eden Court

On Friday 14th September a group of senior pupils, accompanied by Mr Dolan and Mrs Davidon, enjoyed an evening of “fine dining and poetry” at Eden Court as the Scottish Makar, Jackie Kay, launched this year’s Neil Gunn writing competition. In 2016 accepting her the appointment as the third Makar she said, *“I hope to open up the conversations, the blethers, the arguments and celebrations that Scotland has with itself and with the rest of the world, using the voice of Poetry in its fine Scottish delivery.”* Jackie read a selection of her own poignantly beautiful poems and talked about several Scottish writers including Neil Gunn, Nan Shepherd and Jessie Kesson.

To find out more about the Neil Gunn Writing competition, which is open to adults and children: <https://www.highlifehighland.com/neilgunn/>



Programme in International Student Assessment (PISA)

The PISA study is used by Governments around the world to plan how to improve education. Up to 40 children in each of 120 schools in Scotland and over half a million pupils in 80 countries are chosen to take part each year.

On 12th and 13th November, the PISA administrator will visit us and administer the test. Any pupil who has been chosen should already have received a letter with more details.

Dingwall Academy Photographic Archive

In the coming issues of the newsletter, we are delighted that we will be able to share with you some of the school’s historic photographic archive. The late Dave Ritchie, former pupil and Head of Modern Studies, was a man entrusted some years back with a unique collection of photographic slides of pupils and staff of the fifties, sixties and seventies. They were compiled by a remarkable character, Kenny Laing, post-war Head of Classical Studies at the school, who died twenty years or so ago in his late eighties. Kenny was something of an educational icon and former wartime intelligence officer and his archive, of over 400 slides and photographs show pupils, classes, teachers, the old school and a large number of youngsters from both Dingwall Primary and the Academy.



Girls on the wall—1961



1A in 1969



Annie in Dingwall Academy

Preparations and rehearsals are well underway for our production of *Annie*, the popular musical created by Meehan, Strouse and Charmin. Pupils across all year groups and a number of staff have been spending lots of their own time and expending lots of energy in order to create a memorable and vibrant theatrical musical experience for everyone.

The tale centres on our heroine Annie, suffering the trials of Miss Hannigan's orphanage in Depression era New York, and her quest to find her true family. It's a story about kindness and determination and a willingness to succeed against the odds.

To assist us in this venture, we have arranged for a Soup and Pudding Fundraising Lunch from 12 – 2 pm, Saturday, 3rd November in the Academy (adults: £5, school pupils £3). Please come along to sample some culinary excellence whilst supporting this venture.

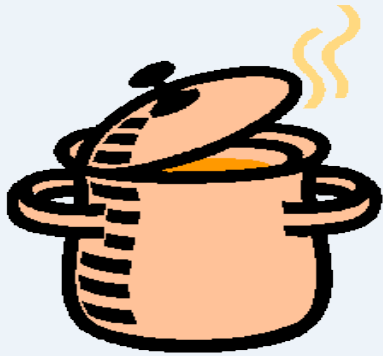
You are all invited along to our performances – featuring memorable songs and some heart rending action!

These will take place at 7pm on Tuesday, 20th – Thursday 22nd November inclusive. We are also presenting a matinee performance to which we have invited primary 7 pupils from our Associated School Group. Tickets will be available from the school at a cost of £7 per adult and £3 for school pupils.

We look forward to seeing you!

Lunch

Soup & Pudding Lunch



+



Dingwall Academy Canteen

Saturday 3 November 2018

1200 hours – 1400 hours

Price: £ 5 Concessions: £ 3

With musical entertainment by the pupils of Dingwall Academy
to raise funds for the Dingwall Academy Production
of



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Environmental Science

Environmental Science at National 4 and 5 is a new course to Dingwall Academy.

Pupils in Miss Mackenzie and Mr Maxwell's classes visited the Field Centre at Aigas near Beauly on the 2nd of October and needed to get their wellies on. ...

They spent the day collecting samples of fresh water invertebrates (or "minibeasts"). They were also taking various measurements of different water bodies in order to compare the life in each habitat.

This work has now given them invaluable data to use when working on their assignment later in the session.



Sponsored Walk

Congratulations to all pupils who completed the walk.

Pupils are reminded that sponsored walk money must now be returned. Pupils can either bring money to the school office, or make payment by direct banking:

Sort Code: 80-06-35 Account Number: 00389788

Account Name: Highland Council – Dingwall Academy

When asked to provide a reference it is important that we are able to identify the pupil and that it is for the sponsored walk. Please use the following code when entering your reference:

	First	Initial	Surname	Class	Activity
e.g.	A		Smith	2W1	SW



Sponsored Walk



Shoebox Appeal

Blythswood Shoebox Appeal

Every year Blythswood Care's Shoebox Appeal, in addition to ongoing support initiatives, brings hope and joy to people living in desperate poverty. This year is the 25th Anniversary of this initiative by Blythswood. You can fill an entire shoebox or alternatively donate items. The S2 Super Citizen will collate these items into shoeboxes.

Your gift will make a huge difference to the person who receives it.

To find out more or to download a leaflet please follow the link below.

<https://www.blythswood.org/shoebox>



MOUNTAIN BIKE CLUB

Mountain Bike Club

It has been great to welcome some new faces to the mountain bike club this year. The confidence and enthusiasm of new riders each year seems to increase helped - I'm sure - by enthusiastic parents and local clubs like Ben Wyvis Cycle Club and Black Isle Mountain Bike Club.

New recruits this term have been getting to grips with some of the trails in Contin, and we have already been looking at a team for the Strathpuffer in January. A couple of pupils are already signed up to race individually. Local race series The Highland Hardline has seen a number of pupils from the club taking part with huge success. S2 pupil Andrew Georgeson was crowned U14 Boys Series Champion last weekend after another win at the final round at Laggan, with Bethany McCully taking second place in the U16 Girls category. Andrew was also the fastest rider overall.

Meanwhile, the long standing Scottish Cycling Dirt Crit series has seen solid performances by S1 pupil Victor Atkinson in the U12 Boys category which has him in 3rd place in the series coming into the final round at Evanton Woods on the 14th October.

After the October break, as we start to lose the light, we will have the odd ride which will be announced on google classroom but will spend Tuesday evenings looking at bike maintenance – again, details will be posted on google classroom.



TAKE NOTE...

START
TOMORROW
TODAY

OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 27TH OCTOBER

9.30AM - 1PM



Get information about
courses starting in

**JANUARY &
SEPTEMBER
2019**

ic University of the
Highlands and Islands
Inverness College

INVERNESS.UHI.AC.UK

Winter Scale Model Show

Food & Craft Fair

Black Isle Showground, Muir of Ord

Saturday 27th October

10am – 4pm

Scale Model Displays

Remote Control Cars & Vintage Vehicles

Local Food & Crafts Stalls

LIVE AUCTION 2.30pm

Raffle

In aid of Marie Curie who provide care
and support through terminal illness



Donations welcome at the door
For info email: wintermodels15@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/wintermodels

Scottish Kempo Academy

There are many benefits for children training in Self Defence; it takes a lot of dedication and discipline over many years, with goals to aim for every few months. Respect is a major component in their training as they work with different students. What students learn can be applied to everything they do as they grow up. Fitness also plays a big part in their training which they need as they develop and grow over the years.



Pictured are Aaron Fraser, Aaron Morrison and Matthew MacGregor, who have been training weekly for at least 6 years in the Scottish Kempo Academy. They have been working their way through coloured belts to their 1st Degree Black Belt grading exams at the end of September.

Scottish Kempo Academy

Kyoshi Neil Hourston, 8th Degree Black Belt, and Kyoshi Helen Beattie, 7th Degree Black Belt and all the SKA Instructors are very proud of what these students have achieved.

The boys train at Dingwall Academy (Mondays 7pm) and Dingwall Leisure Centre (Fridays 7pm) If anyone is interested in a free trial lesson, please contact them on: www.kempo.co.uk or 0845 838 5156.



DRAMA

Much Ado About Shakespeare!

The S3 Drama class are participating in this year's Shakespeare Schools Foundation festival at **Eden Court** in Inverness. The pupils are going to perform an abridged version of the comedy ***Much Ado About Nothing*** on **Thursday 8th November**, with Mallaig High School and St. Sylvester's Primary School also performing.

Ten pupils from the class have just been to a workshop session at Eden Court with Tori and Rowena from the SSF to really polish their acting skills during the rehearsal process. They really impressed Tori and Rowena with their energy, knowledge of the play, and courage in going off-script.

It has been a privilege to be asked to perform at the festival, now in its eighteenth year. Dingwall's young actors are rising to the challenge and we are very proud of what they have done in such a short time. Come along and support the class at their only public performance!

Tickets are already available from the Eden Court Box Office, and are priced at £10.75 for adults and £8.75 for concessions. The performances will begin at 7pm.



Mid Ross Community Partnership

Want to help improve your community?



Mid Ross Community Partnership Community Survey 2018/19

The Mid Ross Community Partnership is working together to gain better outcomes for communities across the Mid Ross area.

We want to start by finding out what issues matter most to the people who live and work in Mid Ross. Please take this opportunity to make sure your voice is heard at this early stage.

To take part, please visit the following website:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MidRossSurvey2018

If you have a smart device you can access the survey by scanning the following QR Code



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

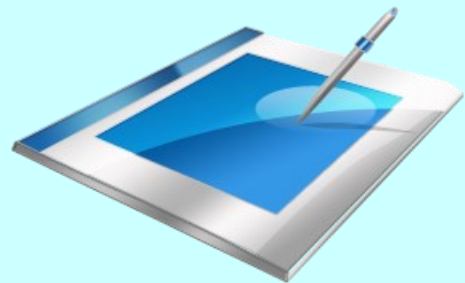
Something missing? Correction? Is there a feature you'd like to see? Get in touch!

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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