



Dingwall Academy

News

Swimming Success

A number of pupils took part in Dingwall ASC Inter Club Swimming Gala at Dingwall Leisure Centre on Saturday 20th September. **Kelsie MacNab** and **Danny McPake**, both S1, won 4 gold medals each. Congratulations to all pupils who took part.



Winter Weather: School Closure Information

Now that we move into winter parents are reminded of the procedures should the school have to be closed.

There are several ways to obtain the information:

- Highland Council Adverse Weather Website: www.highland.gov.uk
- Telephone Number 0800 564 2272 (followed by Dingwall Academy's pin number 04 1010)
- Moray Firth Radio or Radio Highland

At these times the school telephone lines are required by staff to make outgoing phone calls and it would be appreciated if parents use the means above rather than telephoning the school.

Please note that there may be days when the start of school day is delayed. This will be detailed on the phone message.



OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER 2014 EDITION

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 18th November
S5/6 Contact Evening

24th to 28th November
Book Fair

Thursday 11th December
S4 Contact Evening

Monday 15th December
Christmas Concert



Christmas

Advance notice:
Social Events of the year!

S1 and S2 Social
Tuesday 16th December

S3 and S4 Social
Wednesday 17th December

S5 and S6 Social
Thursday 18th December

Notes & News



Staffing

Welcome to Mr Maxwell who joins us in the Science Department covering for Mrs McCrow during her maternity leave. We also welcome Ms Battison to the Pupil Support Base and a welcome return to Ms Tweedie who is working in the Autism Base.

At the end of last term we said farewell to Mr David Evans who worked in the school as an Instrumental Tutor.

Newsletter

We are always looking for more input from pupils, teachers and members of the community. If you have something you'd like to share, let us know! Contact the school office or Mr Green in Room 202.



Lord Lieutenant's Award Scheme

Nominations can now be submitted for the Lord Lieutenant's Award Scheme. The school enjoyed considerable success at this event last year with Fin Graham winning the Achievement in Sport Award. Category winners receive a prize worth up to £500. The nomination categories are

- Achievement in Sport
- Achievement in the Arts
- Helping Others
- Speaking out for Young People

There is also a group award for young people who have worked together to make a difference to their community. Nominations must be submitted by 15th December and the final award ceremony will take place in March.

Nominations can be submitted by school, home and the community. Further information is available at www.llyouthaward.org.

Notes & News

Learning Logs

All pupils in S1 – S3 have now been issued with Learning Logs. These log books are an important link between home and school and encourage pupils to record homework, but also to start taking more responsibility for their own study and revision.



Cashless Catering

Highland Council Catering Services have asked for the following information to be made available to parents and pupils.

Payment for school meals should be made in advance and can be made by cash, cheque or online.

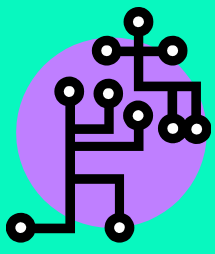
- a. Cash payments can be added to pupils' accounts using the revaluation machines in the schools
- b. Cheque payments can be given to catering staff and will be added to pupil accounts at some point during that day.
- c. Cheques must be made payable to 'The Highland Council', and the pupil's name and class written on the reverse.

Online payments

Parents require details of the pupil's SCN number to be able to make online payments. Some of the new 1st year pupils will have come from a primary school with cashless catering, so will already have been provided with this information. Others will presumably not have that detail as yet.

If you do not already have this information, or you have any further queries concerning the Cashless Catering System, please phone the Catering Service on 01463 663340.

Please see page 15 of the Newsletter for the Canteen menu.



Parent Council

The Parent Council meets every couple of months to support the school in its operation and make sure that parents' views are represented. Over the last few years we have been involved in a range of things from supporting the school in making the playing field usable, to arranging a partnering evening in the school to improve links with local business and the community. We are currently working on a Spring Fayre and lobbying the Highland Council regarding the pressure the school is facing regarding budget cuts.

One area on which the school is currently seeking support is delivering the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. This is an excellent opportunity for young people to develop a whole range of skills and obtain a recognised award at the end of it. The school has successfully supported many young people to achieve an award but is struggling to continue without additional support. The award is split into different elements – skills, volunteering, physical and expedition. The variety of things open to our young people to do is almost endless – from volunteering in an animal shelter to assisting with a Brownie pack, from getting involved in a new sport to improving ICT skills. We would love to hear from any parents who are involved in relevant organisations or interested in working with our young people in attaining such a worthwhile award.

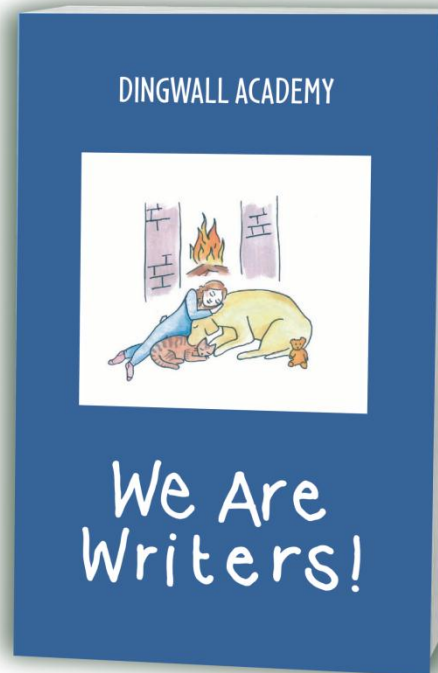
There is something for everyone and we would certainly welcome any parent who wants to join us. We are planning on putting a small piece in the Newsletter each month to let you know what we're up to, but don't forget: our minutes are on the website for everyone to read.

Date of next meeting 19th January at 7pm in the school



 SCHOLASTIC

Come and see our book!



A copy will be at the Book Fair.

See our work in print!
We've created a real book--
a snapshot of writing from S1-6.
You can order a copy using the special forms
available at our Book Fair.

You can order at the Book Fair or use the special
order form which will be sent home.

Scholastic Book Fairs – Getting children reading. Giving books to schools.

For more information, see page 11

English and Literacy

Mathematics Department drop in sessions

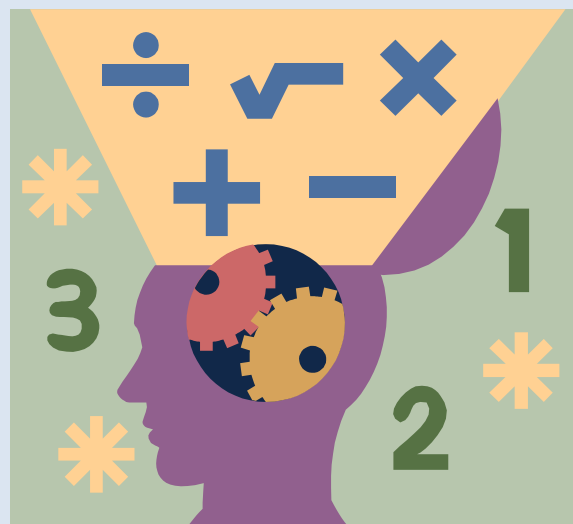
If pupils are struggling with classwork or homework in Maths the first port of call should always be their class teacher who will offer help and support in class.

This year the drop in sessions will be:

Time and Place	Subject Level
Monday Lunchtime Room 225	Miss Campbell – Higher Mathematics Support
Thursday Lunchtime Room 225	Miss Campbell – National 5 Mathematics Support
Thursday Lunchtime Room 222	Mr Finney – All levels
Thursday Lunchtime Room 232	Mrs MacLennan – National 5 Lifeskills Mathematics Support

These sessions provide pupils with an opportunity to ask for extra help and practice with topics or concepts that they are struggling with in Maths lessons.

There will also be Higher Mathematics supported study sessions on Thursdays after school. These sessions usually start at 3:45pm and run through to 5:00pm. If pupils have not already received a supported study permission letter they should ask their class teacher for one.



Highland Wildcats Win UK Championship

Four Dingwall Academy students (featured in the September newsletter) competed as part of the Highland Wildcats American Football team that won the UK Championship in Doncaster at the end of September. Scott Robertson, Kyle Holleyoake, David Robertson and Alex Macpherson all played their part as the Wildcats defeated teams from Leeds, Cornwall and Kent.

The Highland Wildcats finished with a perfect record winning all 15 games in both the Scottish and British Championships. They outscored the rest of the United Kingdom 585-117 and along the way defeated the top 5 teams in Britain.



The Highland Wildcats currently have a Youth team (14-17) and a Junior team (16-19) competing in the National League. Plans are underway for the second season of the Highland Academy Community League where a team from Dingwall Academy will be entering.

A recruitment stall for the Black Isle Stags will be set up in the school at lunchtime on 21st November.



Achievements

Alladale Seed Visit

A number of pupils paid a return visit to the Alladale Estate to take part in a seed project.

One Saturday in August, Miss Tullis, Mrs Sinclair and some other teachers took around twelve students, including myself, to Alladale Estate to collect seeds from trees.

It took about an hour and a half to get to the Estate; we left on the minibus at 9.15 and arrived at Alladale at 10.45. We collected Birch, Rowan and Pine seeds for a couple of hours until lunchtime. We were collecting these seeds so they could be grown in a nursery and then replanted on the Estate to replenish the forest.



For lunch there was quite a selection of food, varying from sandwiches, crisps and also biscuits and sweets. In the afternoon, we played some games in the Estate and had two contests. The first contest was who could collect the most Birch seeds, which I won. The second contest was to guess how many Pine cones we had collected that day.

On the way home, we had fish and chips, which we ate at picnic tables before we went home. The day turned out to be really fun, but the weather could have been better!

Kirsten Slater (S2)

Sponsored Walk 2014



Friday 9th October was a glorious Autumn day and over 700 pupils took part in the annual sponsored walk. After a very wet start to the week conditions could not have been better and it was a wonderful way to end a busy term. The sponsored walk is a huge team effort with staff helping at crossing points, checkpoints and of course taking part in the 11 mile walk. Senior pupils acted as marshals and ensured that nobody set off on the wrong track. Thank you also to the parent council who helped distribute much appreciated snacks and water at the half way point.

Before setting off on the walk pupils were able to purchase bacon or sausage rolls at the front of the school. This raised over £400 for Teenage Cancer Trust and we are extremely grateful to Coburns, who donated the sausages, Munro's, who donated the bacon, and Tesco for the rolls.

Remembrance Day

As part of our Remembrance Day events the school captains represented the school at the opening of a Remembrance Garden in Dingwall (pictured right).

A group of S6 pupils also delivered a Remembrance Day Assembly to S3 pupils on the 11th November. The senior pupils are to be congratulated for the way in which they delivered the assembly to an extremely attentive and respectful S3 audience.



Gymnastics



On Sunday the 28th of September Fyrish Gymnastics club held their annual competition in Alness. It was a huge success and the club did very well. I competed in the 12+ beginners section and won 4 medals - 2 silvers and a bronze. I won the gold for vault, a bronze for floor, silver overall and silver with my team. It was a huge win for me and I was really happy. **Eilidh Johnson 2B1**

Judo

Euann Mightens 1T2 had the following Judo wins in the holidays:

- Silver in the Granite City Open in Aberdeen
- Gold in the Highland Regional Open in Fort William



Wester Ross Mod 2014

Congratulations to all pupils who took part in the Wester Ross Mod in Poolewe on Friday 3rd October. The pupils have a very successful day and the adults involved with the day commented on their excellent attitude and behaviour.



Achievements

13-15 years Learners' Poetry	1 st	Kiera Brennan S5	2 nd	Meghan Gwyther S4
16-18 years Learners' Poetry	1 st	Seonaid MacKinnon S5	2 nd	Craig MacArthur S5
13-15 Conversation (Fluent)	1 st	Rosie Shepherd S5 (Distinction)		
13-15 Reading at sight (Fluent)	2 nd	Rosie Shepherd S5		
16-18 Conversation (Fluent)	3 rd	Rachel Kellow S5 (Distinction)		
16-18 Reading at sight (Fluent)	3 rd	Rachel Kellow S5		
Girls Solo 16-18	1 st	Caitlin MacLeod S5 (Distinction)		
Secondary Piano	1 st	Fraser MacIntosh S5 (Distinction)	The Margaret Charnley Trophy	
Senior piping MSR	1 st	Archie Drennan	An Teallach Trophy for Best Senior Piper	

Book Fair

Week beginning 24th November

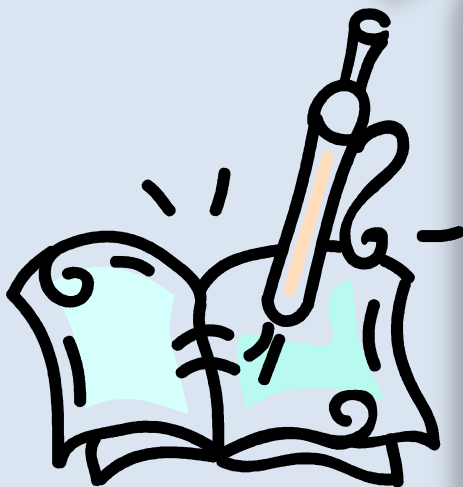
Just in time for Christmas book orders: the English Department is hosting a Book Fair. A number of books will be available to dip into during the week, with orders being taken for the duration. Delivery to the school is free for all orders, and every order benefits the school.

We Are Writers!

Coinciding with Book Week is the publication of Dingwall Academy's first compilation of pupil writing. Nearly 450 pupils submitted their writing on the topic of 'Home', and these have been published by Scholastic in a fantastic anthology. You can order your own copy at the Book Fair, or by using the Order Form.



Congratulations to Fiona Beveridge (S4), who won a £25 gift voucher to spend on Scholastic Books, for her fantastic piece of cover art (see it on page 5)



Got Ink?

Come along to Room 202 at 1.30pm on Thursdays to meet with other writers in the Academy. We'll be exploring a wide range of genres and types of writing as the year progresses, and it's a good chance to hear and be heard (or read) by a sympathetic audience. Check out the Writing board in the department for more inspiration and information.

We Are Writers!

We've written a book!



Your child has become a published author in our school's very own book. To order your copy and help raise funds for our school, please complete the order form below and return it to school as soon as possible. You can order as many copies as you like and the more you buy the more money is raised for our school.



YES! I want to order my We Are Writers Book(s)!

MY DETAILS:

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss _____

Address _____

Post code _____

Home telephone _____

MY CHILD'S DETAILS:

Name _____

Class _____

Price	Quantity	Total Order
£5.99		

If paying by cheque, please make payable to school



Return your order by:

Extra-Curricular

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch	<p>FONN, room 119 at 1.30pm</p> <p>Piping Group, room 118 at 1.30pm</p> <p>Senior Strings Ensemble, MPH at 1.20pm</p>	<p>Junior Choir (S1 and S2) room 120 at 1.30pm</p> <p>Senior Choir (S3-S6) room 119 at 1.30pm</p> <p>S1 and S2 Horrible Histories Club, lunch time, room 123 1.20pm</p>	<p>Jazz Band, PR A at 1.30pm</p> <p>Lego Club, lunch time, room 6</p> <p>Page Turners, Library 1.30pm</p>	<p>Staff and S6 Choir, room 120 at 1.30pm</p> <p>Writers' Group, room 202, 1.30pm</p>	<p>S1 and S2 Guitar Club, room 118 at 12.40pm</p>
After School	<p>School Orchestra, MPH at 3.40pm</p> <p>Netball, after school until 5pm, games hall</p>	<p>DADS, after school</p> <p>Girls football training, S1 – S6, after school</p> <p>Ross-shire Strings Orchestra, 7-8.30pm, MPH</p> <p>Maryburgh Youth Club, Maryburgh Amenities Hall, 8-9.30pm</p>	<p>Ceilidh Band, after school in room 118</p> <p>Hockey, after school, S1-S6</p>	<p>Gymnastics, 5pm</p> <p>DADS after school</p>	<p>Hub, 2-4pm, 10 Hill Street, Dingwall</p> <p>Twilight Basketball, 7.30-9.30pm, games hall</p>

If you know of an extra-curricular activity which is not listed here, please let us know!

SMART

AUTUMN/WINTER 2014/15

**ORDER 2 COURSES
GET A FREE DRINK** **£2.15**
MEAL DEAL
(250ML MILK /200ML AQUAJUICE CARTON /330ML WATER)

WEEK 1 Commencing: 27th October (no pupils); 24th November; 19th January; 16th February (no pupils); 16th March

MONDAY TUESDAY* WEDNESDAY THURSDAY* FRIDAY

Homemade Soup of the Day with Bread Basket Selection

£0.70

Homemade Pizza <i>(see menu board)</i> with Baked potato/ ½ Wedges	Highland School Cook of the Year Eaine Cullen's Chicken & Bacon Pasta	Cook's Dish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i>	Traditional Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding	Fish & Chip Friday
Or	Or	Or	Or	Or
Salmon Dish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i>	Vegetable & Chickpea Curry with Flat Bread (v)	Cheese Wheel (v) Potato Wedges/Dice	Pulled Pork Wrap with Spicy Sauce Roast Potatoes	Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread (v)

Served with a Selection of Fresh Vegetables and/or Salad

£0.70

Homebake	Eaine's Apricot & Mandarin Syllabub with Lemon Biscuit	Fresh Fruit Salad	Cook's Dessert of the Day	Jelly & Fruit
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WEEK 3 Commencing: 10th November; 8th December; 5th January; 2nd February; 2nd March; 30th March

MONDAY TUESDAY* WEDNESDAY* THURSDAY* FRIDAY

Homemade Soup of the Day with Bread Basket Selection

£0.70

Penne Arrabiata (v)	Chilli & Rice	Chicken Goujons with Sweet Chilli Sauce	Traditional Roast Pork Dinner	Fish & Chip Friday
Or	Or	Or	Or	Or
Venison Sausages with Onion Gravy and Mash	Cook's Dish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i>	Homemade Lasagne with Garlic Bread	Salmon Dish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i> Roast Potatoes	Cook's Homemade Pizza & ½ Chips

Served with a Selection of Fresh Vegetables and/or Salad

£0.70

Homebake	Cook's Homemade Cheesecake	Apple Tart & Custard	Cook's Pudding of the Day	Fresh Fruit Salad
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WEEK 2 Commencing: 3rd November; 1st December; 26th January; 23rd February; 23rd March

MONDAY TUESDAY* WEDNESDAY THURSDAY* FRIDAY*

Homemade Soup of the Day with Bread Basket Selection

£0.70

Pasta Bolognaise	Cook's Curry & Rice	Macaroni Cheese (v)	Traditional Roast Chicken	Fish & Chip Friday
Or	Or	Or	Or	Or
Roasted Vegetable & Cheese Fajitas (v)	Sausage Plait with Potatoes	Fish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i>	Cook's Dish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i> Roast Potatoes	Cottage Pie

Served with a Selection of Fresh Vegetables and/or Salad

£0.70

Ice Cream & Fruit	Cook's Pudding of the Day	Homebake	Fresh Fruit Salad	Jam & Coconut Sponge & Custard
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WEEK 4 Commencing: 17th November; 15th December; 12th January; 9th February; 9th March

MONDAY TUESDAY* WEDNESDAY* THURSDAY* FRIDAY

Homemade Soup of the Day with Bread Basket Selection

£0.70

Macaroni Cheese (v)	Mince & Tatties	Chicken Curry & Rice	Cook's Homemade Pie <i>(see menu board)</i>	Fish & Chips
Or	Or	Or	Or	Or
Lamb Burger with Spicy Tomato Relish	Cook's Dish of the Day <i>(see menu board)</i>	Sausage Casserole	Salmon Grill with Roasted Vegetable Cous Cous Roast Potatoes	BBQ Chicken or Vegetarian Stir Fry with Noodles

Served with a Selection of Fresh Vegetables and/or Salad

£0.70

Cook's Muffin	Rice Pudding with Fruit Coulis	Cook's Pudding of the Day	Fruit Jelly/ Salad with Ice cream	Dessert of the Day
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£0.30

Fresh Fruit Available Daily

Yoghurts Available Daily

£0.40

AVAILABLE DAILY

Hot Snacks Selection	from	£1.45
Baked Potatoes with a Selection of Fillings	from	£1.45
Sandwiches, Baguettes, Wraps & with a Selection of Fillings	from	£1.20
Fresh Fruits – Whole, Portioned, Fresh Fruit Salad	from	£0.30
Healthy Home Baked Items	from	£0.50
A Selection of Drinks	from	£0.25

(v) Vegetarian Option *Speak to your cook for further veggie meal choices.

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

- Sponsored Walk
- S1 Mini-mag Section
- Pupil Achievements
- New 'Back in the Day' photos
- And much more!

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

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Fax: 01349 869886
Web: www.dingwallacademy.com/contact_us.html



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.

Headteacher: Mrs K. Cormack

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

HONESTY

DETERMINATION