



# Dingwall Academy News



**Welcome!** You will notice that this month's newsletter is unusually short—although pupils and staff continue to participate in many wonderful events, this newsletter concerns itself mainly with information of immediate relevance to the winter break or events following. The full newsletter will return in January after the Winter Break.

**School closes at 2pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December.** Lunch on this day will be from 12:25 – 1:30pm. **School re-opens on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8:50am.**

## Get your dancing shoes on...

**Christmas Socials take place next week:**

**S1 and S2** Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 – 10.30  
**S3 and S4** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 – 11.00  
**S5 and S6** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 – 11.00

All S6 pupils will have a formal group photograph taken before the start of the social at 7.15.

The school socials are always spectacular events with a high standard of behaviour, dance and dress. Pupils are reminded that *these are formal events* and no jeans can be worn. On the rare occasion where pupil behaviour is inappropriate, parents will be called to take them home. Please also note that it has become tradition over the past few years for pupils to organise 'after social' parties. The school takes no part in the organisation or supervision of these events.



## DECEMBER



## 2013 EDITION

*Dates for your diary:*

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
 School closes for Winter Break

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**  
 School re-opens

*We would like to thank everyone for their support over the past year and wish everyone a fabulous festive break!*



# Whole School Notes & News



## Staffing

Congratulations to Ms Gordon, who has recently been appointed Head Teacher at Alness Academy. Ms Gordon will take up her new post in the New Year. We wish her every success at Alness.

## Christmas Concert

The annual Christmas concert took place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. It was a wonderful evening of music and entertainment. More detail will be included in the January newsletter, but we would like to extend a huge thank you to all staff, pupils and parents who helped make the evening such a success.



## Prelims

We wish all pupils a wonderful Christmas break, but (sorry!) we must remind pupils in S4, S5 and S6 that they return to prelims after the holidays. It is very important that pupils continue to study during the holidays – prelims are extremely important, and pupils need to prepare well for them. All pupils have now been issued with a prelim timetable.

## S4 Monitoring and Tracking

All S4 pupils have been issued with a monitoring and tracking report. This reports details pupil progress to date and includes levels and targets for forthcoming prelims. S4 pupils will receive a more detailed report at the start of March. The S4 contact evening is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March.



## Charity Cheer

Thank you to all who contributed to the Blythswood Shoebox appeal – a total of 51 boxes were sent off at the start of the month.

That's not all! We also raised a grand total of £913.19 for Children in Need this term. Senior pupils organised and ran a variety of activities, and pupils throughout the school came to school sporting wigs and funny head gear. Once again, thank you to all pupils, parents and staff who donated their time and money to these worthwhile causes.



## Adverse Weather

Parents are reminded that during adverse weather updates regarding school closures will be left on the phone line, Highland Council Website and Moray Firth Radio Website. During the recent power failures the only way to record the school closure was via the phone line. Parents are advised that this information is always updated first.

**Highland School Closures Phone Line: 0870 054 6999    PIN: 04 10 10**

# Happy Holidays



## See you in the New Year!

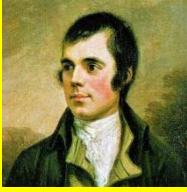
Something missing?

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

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### Auld Lang Syne



*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne.*

*Chorus*

*For auld lang syne, my jo,  
For auld lang syne,  
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne,  
And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp!  
And surely I'll be mine!  
And we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.*

*Chorus*

*We twa hae run about the braes  
And pu'd the gowans fine;  
But we've wander'd mony a weary foot  
Sin auld lang syne.*

*Chorus*

*We twa hae paidl'd i' the burn,  
Frae mornin' sun till dine;  
But seas between us braid hae roar'd  
Sin auld lang syne.*

*Chorus*

*And there's a hand, my trusty fiere!  
And gie's a hand o' thine!  
And we'll tak a right guid willy waught,  
For auld lang syne.*

*Chorus*

## 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**