

NEWSLETTER

STRANRAER ACADEMY | DECEMBER 2022 | VOL 2

Celebrating our Young Peoples' Experiences & Achievements



AIM HIGH | WORK HARD | BE KIND | NO EXCUSES

[STRANRAERACADEMY.ORG.UK](https://stranraeracademy.org.uk)



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Thank you





Jamie Farquhar

Acting Headteacher

Welcome to our termly newsletter. We hope it provides an insight into the work of Stranraer Academy and the variety of experience offered to our pupils.

I am very proud of our achievements this term. Stranraer Academy is the sum of its parts; our hardworking staff, an amazing community which supports our work, families who send us polite, kind, and industrious pupils every day and of course, our pupils themselves.

I have been working with our pupils for a year now. I have asked a lot of them, both academically and in their wider development. I could not be prouder of how the young people of Stranraer Academy have responded.

Academic results last year were strong, this has led our new S5 and S6 pupils into ambitious study pathways. They are working hard in advance of the prelims in the new year, and I am eager to see how they perform. Our new S4 are as well prepared as I could hope for. Prelims were successful, with pupils coping with the demands of their first formal exams well. Results are positive, with the early timing of the prelims providing ample time for our dedicated students to improve before the SQA exam diet in May.

Our pupils' wider development is astounding. Stranraer Academy pupils are consistently well-behaved and cooperative. They are committed to their community and willing to give their time and energy in the support of others. Our pupils are massively talented, we are a sporting powerhouse but have also performed well in many other areas. Most importantly, wherever our young people have gone, near or far, they have represented their school, families and community wonderfully. Without exception, feedback from people who interact with young people from Stranraer Academy is positive, referring to their quiet confidence and maturity, manners and enthusiasm...and their fantastic accent!

Stranraer Academy is the sum of its parts but also greater than the sum, through the magic of a community working together. I hope your child / children are benefitting from this magic, I am confident the community as a whole is, and everyone at Stranraer Academy is determined to keep improving. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help in any way.

Wishing all our families, friends and partners a magical Christmas, productive studies, fun and laughter and a new year full of well-earned success.



Barista



The S5/6 Barista class teamed up with one of the Business studies classes to organise and host a Mcmillan cancer coffee morning. They made some tasty drinks and yummy cakes to slice up while staff and pupils had a natter and raised a substantial amount.

The S4 Barista class have been working on an enterprise project, raising funds for our school cafe and reducing waste. We have been taking orders for personalised travel mugs that have proven very popular with staff.

WOODWORKING | METALWORKING | THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE

WOODWORKING | METALWORKING | THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE

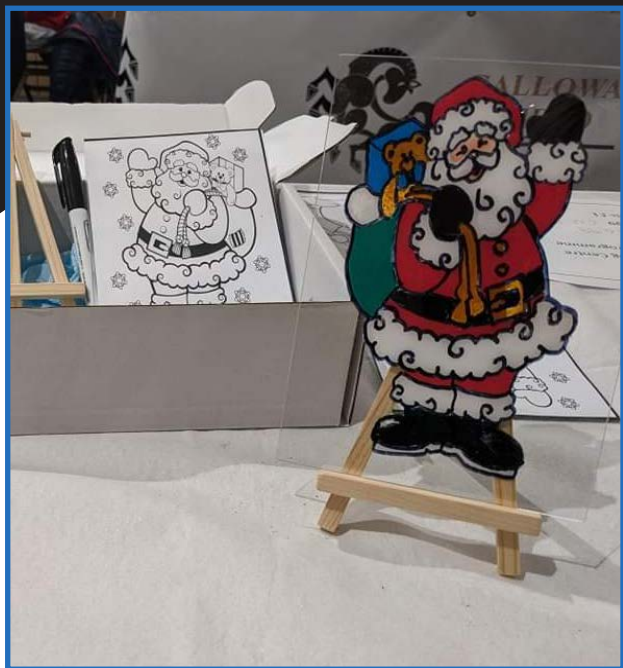
CDT

CRAFT DESIGN

& TECHNOLOGY

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

COMPANY PROGRAMME & TEAM PROGRAMME



This year a team of 6 Senior students have launched their company “Customers & Commodities”. The team has chosen to use their young enterprise business to target the cost-of-living crisis in relation to keeping warm this winter. They have been busy launching and selling their “keep warm this winter” kits, which each contain a hot water bottle to keep you warm in bed, fluffy socks to keep your feet cosy and hand made crochet ear-warmers to keep you head warm when out and about. The team have had a very successful selling period at Stranraer Academy Christmas Fair and the Millenium Centre Christmas Fair, almost fully selling out of ear-warmers and large hot water bottles. The company plan to launch a range of coasters made from recycled bottle caps in the new year, in an effort to limit waste around school and have a positive impact on the environment.

This year our we have a team of Additional Support Need students running a new Young Enterprise Team programme business which they have named “Image Think”. Image Think were successful in the Launch of their Christmas themed Glass painting kits, and were able to sell all 25 kits between the Stranraer Academy Christmas Fair and the Millenium Centre Christmas Fair. The team are now working on a comic book that will support primary 7 pupils with the transition to secondary school. The team are currently creating their own superhero characters which will face some of the challenges and fears primary pupils may have about starting secondary school.



SENIOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS TRANSITION EVENING

Work is currently underway in organising a Senior Additional Support Needs transition evening. Many local post school services will be visiting the school for an informal discussion with pupils, parents and guardians about post school transition and the options available beyond school. Services and groups in attendance will include, Wigtownshire Stuff, Better lives partnership, Skills Station, Quarriers, Stranraer Development Trust, ARC Stranraer & Newton Stewart, The Pink Frog and Skills Development Scotland.

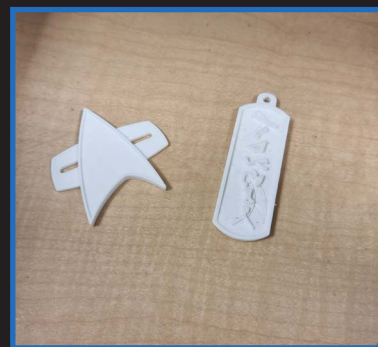
CDT

Students have been making excellent progress in CDT, S1 classes have been working well in filing shaping and bending acrylic photo frames, while S2 classes have taken it a step further and created their first set of wood joints in making a pine picture frame.

S3 woodwork classes have enjoyed improving their practical skills through a newly introduced Spice rack model, which they have been very excited to take home to show off their skills. S3 Graphic Communication classes have been working hard on designing packaging boxes, so that they can put expert graphic design skills to good use in the new term.

Senior woodwork and metalwork classes have been working hard on their practical course units making a wide range of products that will help prepare them for their practical assessments in the new year. Senior Graphics have also been working on a range of DTP, CAD and manual drawing techniques to build up skills for their graphics assignment.

CDT staff have been experimenting with the new Sunlu 3D printers, in preparation for incorporating the use of 3d printers in the Graphic Communications courses. S3 will be creating their own plant pot designs on CAD in the new term, see pictures for staff experiments.



CHARITIES



HALLOWEEN BOO BAGS - THE S6 CHARITIES COMMITTEE SPREAD THE HALLOWEEN SPOOKY SPIRIT BY SELLING AND DELIVERING SOME HALLOWEEN TREAT BAGS CONTAINING SOME SWEETS, A TOY AND A JOKE FIT FOR ANY GUISE. THEY RAISED £94 FOR OUR CHARITIES AND SCHOOL HARDSHIP FUND.

CHILDREN IN NEED SPORTS - STAFF TOOK ON THE S6 IN A GAME OF FOOTBALL AND NETBALL. THE STAFF CHARGED TO VICTORY IN THE FOOTBALL BUT THE PUPILS GOT THEIR OWN BACK WITH A WIN AT NETBALL. PUPILS AND STAFF MADE DONATIONS TO WATCH THE GAME AND RAISED

RAG BAG COLLECTION - THE SCHOOL HAVE BEEN COLLECTED USED CLOTHES AND SHOES ETC. FOR DONATION THROUGH THE RAGBAG SCHEME. WHEN THEY COLLECT THE SCHOOLS DONATION, THEY WILL WEIGH IT AND GIVE THE SCHOOL A SET AMOUNT PER KG. ANY MONEY RAISED WILL BE ADDED TO OUR SCHOOL HARDSHIP FUND. KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT COLLECTION DRIVE.

CHRISTMAS FETE

- THE MAIN EVENT FOR THIS YEARS CHARITIES COMMITTEE WAS THE REINTRODUCTION OF OUR SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FETE. THIS SAW LOCAL BUSINESS, SCHOOL ENTERPRISE GROUPS, OUR BARISTA AND CHILDCARE CLASSES WITH THE HELP OF THE PARENT COUNCIL COMING TOGETHER TO HOST A FABULOUS EVENT. SANTA EVEN CAME TO VISIT FINDING A COMFY SPOT IN GROTTTO TO MEET ALL THE CHILDREN WHO CAME TO VISIT. IT WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL EVENING WITH OVER £1000 BEING RAISED FOR DIFFERENT SCHOOL FUNDS.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - THE SCHOOL TOOK PART IN CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY RAISING £135 FOR SAVE THE CHILDREN. SCHOOL HARDSHIP FUND. KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT COLLECTION DRIVE.

CREA



This term has seen lots of great work coming from the Art Department. Particular notable was the Remembrance themed mural created by Miss Thomson's BGE classes. Our Artist of the Month is Emily Rankin in S3 – well done Emily! Mr Lochrie's S4 students completed some super sculptural figures at the end of last session that we have included here. We think you will agree they are very lifelike!

VE

ARTS

ART & DESIGN S1

S1 has created some excellent artwork this term starting at the beginning of the year when pupils carried out drawing assessments, focussing on line, tone and textural detail. Pupils also created a dynamic display in the classroom, showing their 3D work on Form and Pattern. While discovering the art principles pupils photographed a colour wheel using anything they can find in the classroom!!

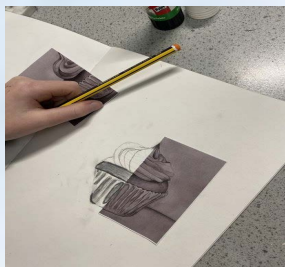
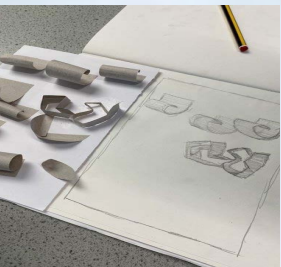
Finally, a welcome display for the new S1s this year, created by new S1s on their visit to the Academy before the summer. The display was also added to by current S123,s welcoming the new group into the school community!

Please enjoy viewing just a sample of our amazing creative S1 cohort.



"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up."

Pablo Picasso

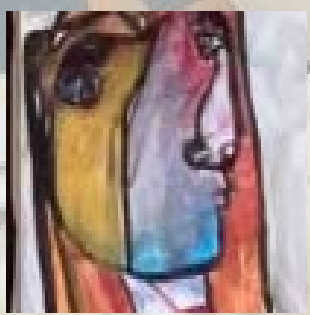
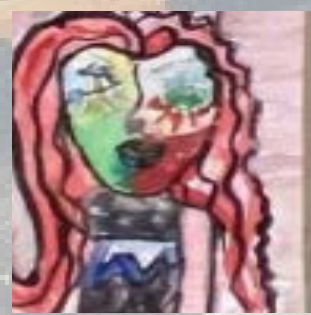
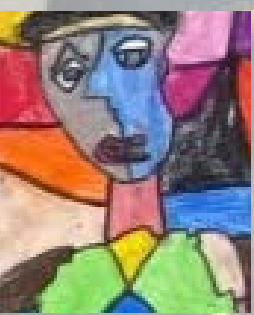


ART &
DESIGN
S1 & S2

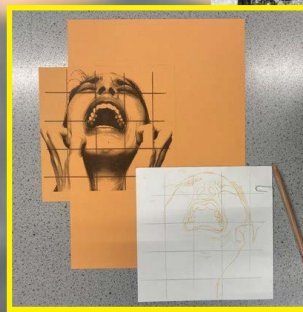
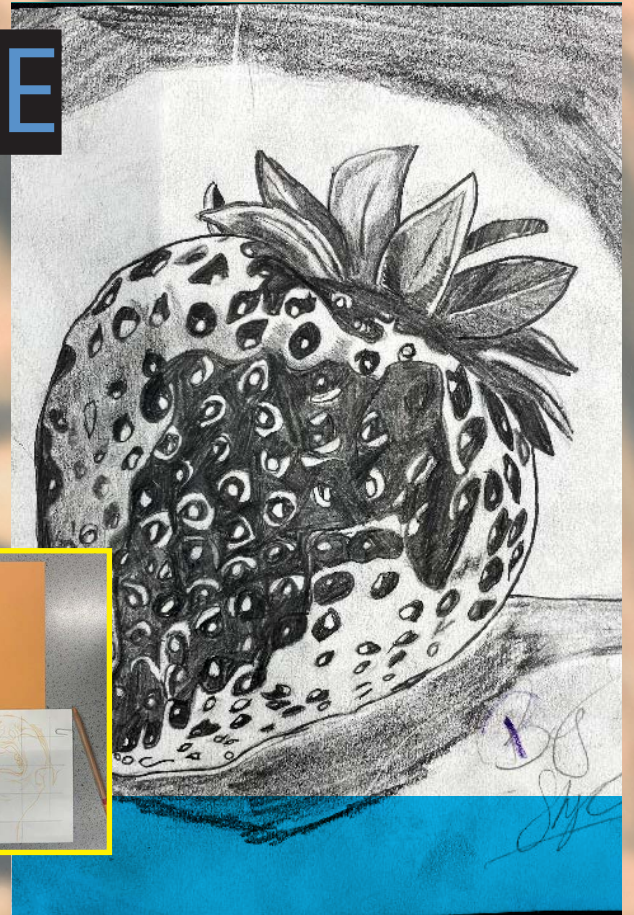
ART & DESIGN S3



Congratulations to Emily Rankin (3C1) who won artist of the month this December.



ART & DESIGN SENIOR PHASE



A selection of initial investigation work for the Nat 5 Expressive Portfolios. Pupils are working to their personalised themes.

ARMISTICE DAY DISPLAY



The remembrance day display was created by BGE Pupils, crafting red and purple poppies for the fallen soldiers and animals who lost their lives in WW1. S1 and 2 worked hard on the poppies and the aged envelopes, representing mail sent to and from loved ones. S3 created the atmospheric landscape and silhouetted soldiers on the hills.

GRAFFITI MURAL PROJECT



Pupils from all year groups worked in collaboration to create these murals, celebrating the school vision statements.

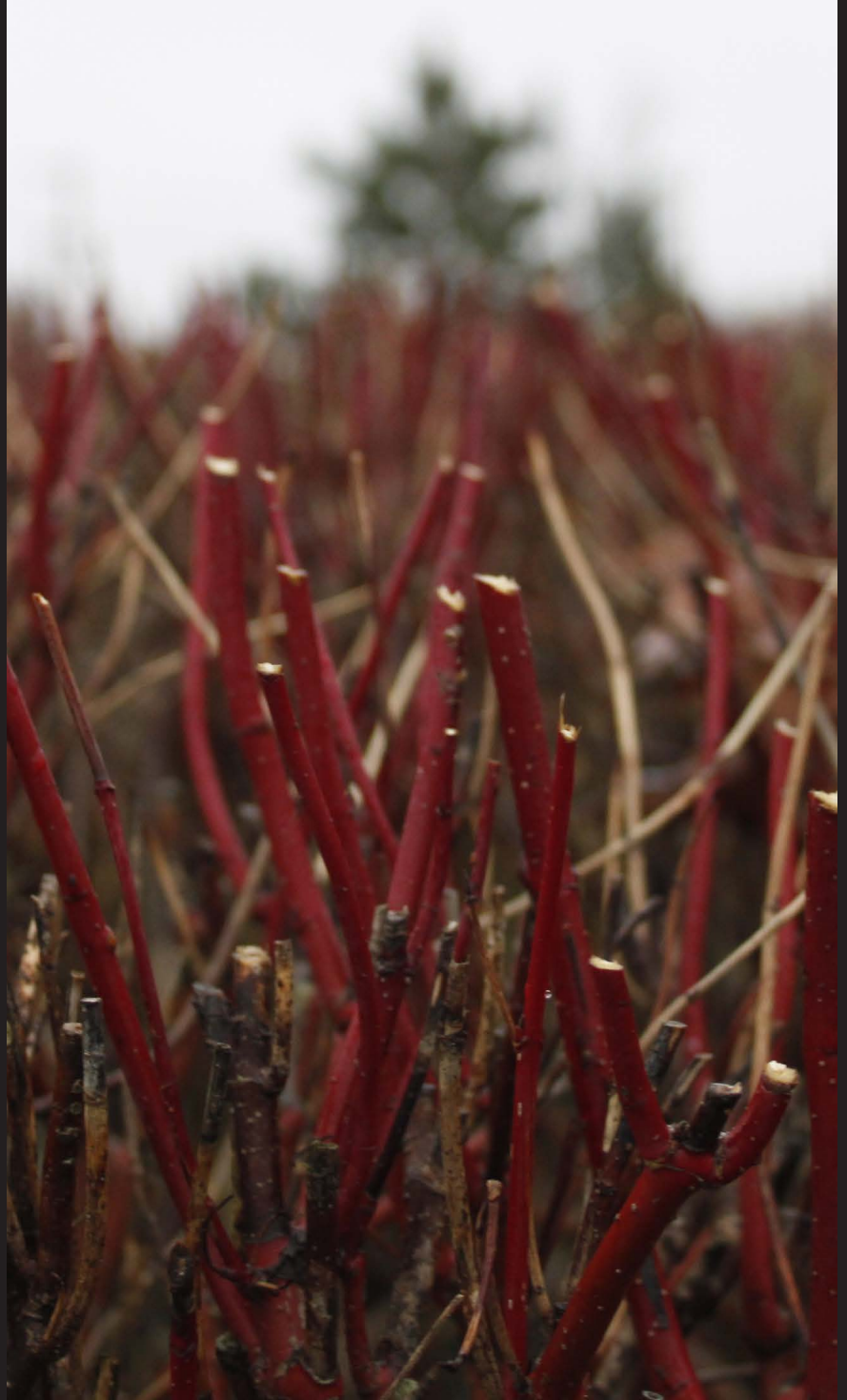
Music



Mrs Smith launched the S1 Choir this term and despite there only being 4 members at the moment, they are all full of enthusiasm and give their all every week. Well done to Maisy, Abbey, Damian and Adrian! Membership of the choir will be extended to S2 after Christmas so any pupils in S1 or S2 who enjoy singing should come along.

Photography

NPA &
HIGHER
QUALIFICATIONS



This term in photography both NPA and Higher students have had the opportunity to experiment with DSLR cameras as they develop their understanding of the exposure triangle, composition and the visual elements. Our young photographers have also had the chance to visit different locations around the area including woodland, coastlines and even Portpatrick which has all helped to create imaginative imagery across a broader natural canvas. Please enjoy a small sample of their work.





MINISTERIAL VISIT

MSP Jamie Hepburn, the Minister for Further and Higher Education visited Stranraer Academy on the 23rd of September to experience the wonderful things our pupils have been doing to prepare for life after school and to meet with our wonderful third-party agencies who regularly work alongside the pupils.

The Minister was able to meet with our My World of Work ambassadors, our Social Enterprise Academy students, The Young Chefs club, our S4 employability group, our senior Rural pupils and our senior Barista pupils. Minister Hepburn complimented the school and our pupils and said our coffee was the best he has ever had!



DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE

NHS WORK EXPERIENCE

14 of our senior pupils headed across Dumfries and Galloway to experience various roles within the NHS including midwifery, nursing and administrative roles. Our pupils gained a detailed insight into careers within the NHS, and it has helped them to plan their future career pathways.

UCAS EVENTS DAY

D16 of our S6 pupils attended a UCAS events day at Easterbrook Hall in Dumfries. They were given the opportunity to meet and discuss most of the universities in Scotland to help them prepare for their university and career choices.

D Y W

STRANRAER ACADEMY VOLUNTEERS

FIRE STATION VOLUNTEERS

Some of young people volunteering at the Christmas drive through at Stranraer fire station.



GALLOWAY ACTION TEAM



Some of our young people volunteering for Galloway action team. It is a local charity that helps in our community.



Helping at Remembrance Day



Helping decorate for Christmas at Alzheimer's

They collected over £4000 worth of toys for families in need in our community.

HEAD GIRL

SOPHIE IRVINE-WATSON

Myself, Sophie Irvine-Watson, Head Girl and Jack Camlin, Head Boy have been fulfilling our roles in many ways over the last two terms. We have represented the school at multiple parents' nights, ensuring everyone received a warm welcome as well as guiding parents around the building. We chair Pupil Council meetings along side our deputies and feedback to the rest of the Senior Leadership Team. At a Parent Council meeting myself and Jack provided an update of our progress providing details on our future plans as well as what we have achieved so far. We have made close relationships with the students in the pupil councils ensuring we provide an open and safe space were any questions and issues can be discussed. We have met with the Head Teacher and have discussed the school improvement plan as well as attending an online conference about the National Improvement Framework plan which allowed myself and Jack to voice our views on the education system at a national level. We consistently drive forward initiatives such as our subject specific mentoring system and aiming to provide a safe space for younger students to spend their lunch time at.

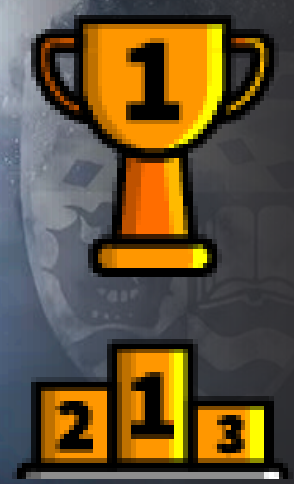




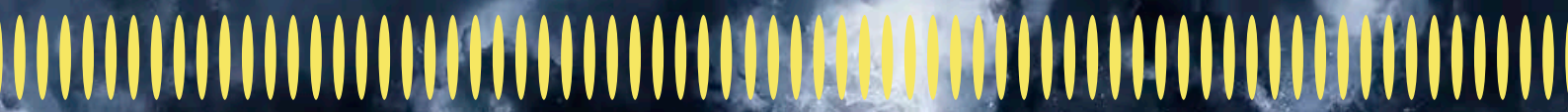
HEAD BOY

JACK CAMMLIN

As Head Boy and Head Girl, Sophie and I, have responsibility for all five Pupil Council year groups. Year group meetings are held every month and allow for pupil voice to be central on a range of important issues; we have already covered the topics of behaviour both in and out of class, the reinstatement of registration, health and well-being, and bullying. The input we have received from each year group has allowed us to come together with the rest of the Pupil Leadership Team to work alongside the School Leadership Team to find ways to address the issues of concern to students. The impact of this can already be seen with newly established S1 toilets after S1 pupils had passed on that they felt uneasy going into toilets with older students. We also have increased supervision at lunch-times, around 20-30 Prefects and staff, to help students feel safe in the corridors. We have also had input into the S2 option form which resulted in an increased choice of subjects in one column the S2 Pupil Council had identified as a problem. These are just a few of the many changes we have made, and I am sure we will continue to make further changes throughout the school year to make all students have a better experience during their time at the school. If they are uneasy about something or think there needs to be change somewhere, we can make it happen.



HEALTHY LIVING



REGIONAL NETBALL

STRANRAER JUNIORS IN PLATE VICTORY



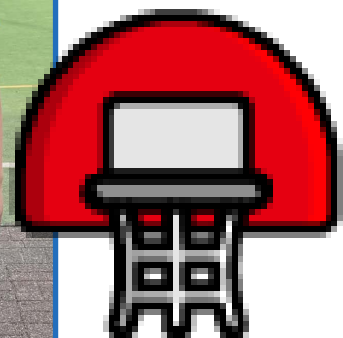
11 S2 and S3 girls travelled to King George V in Dumfries on 29th September to play in the opening festival for Regional Netball.

The girls played in Pool B and finished with 2 wins and 2 losses after the morning session. They narrowly missed out on qualifying for the Shield competition, due to goal difference.

The girls confidence was high after the 2 wins in the morning and this showed through the standard of their play in the afternoon. They won convincingly over Dumfries High School, Douglas Ewart B and Kirkcudbright Academy. The final game of the afternoon, against Dumfries Academy B started a little shakily, being 3:0 down at half time. The girls determination shone through in the second half and they were able to equalise by the end of the game. It was a nail biting presentation of prizes..... but Stranraer Academy WON the Plate Competition!

Huge Congratulations to all the girls who played as part of the team today. What a superb start to the netball season!

Romy McCutcheon was awarded player of the tournament for our school. Well done Romy!



REGIONAL NETBALL

LEAGUE RESULTS



On 15th November 3 netball teams travelled to Wallace Hall Academy in Thornhill to play in the first round matches of the Regional Netball League.

The results were as follows:

Stranraer Academy Junior A 7 v Wallace Hall Academy Junior 9

Stranraer Academy Senior 9 v Wallace Hall Academy 10

Stranraer Academy Junior B 3 v Wallace Hall Academy 14.

This was the first time the Junior B team have ever played a match and the first time that many of the others have played together. The games were very close and the effort always superb.

Players of the match (nominated by Wallace Hall Academy) are:

Stranraer Junior A- Rosie Thompson (C)

Stranraer Junior B- Hollie Smith (GK)

Stranraer Senior- Laura Donnan (GA)

Thank you to Corrina Erskine for umpiring the matches and to Wallace Hall for hosting us.



SWIMMING



Scottish Schools Swimming Regional Qualifiers

In November, our swimmers represented the school at the Scottish Schools Regional Meet with great success, coming home with an impressive haul of 28 medals! Additionally, two new Regional records were set by Finlay Nelson (100m Breaststroke) and Molly Irvine-Watson (100m Freestyle). In the absence of a National Finals event for this year, swimmers who made consideration times have been able to select qualifying swims to go forward to a “virtual” National Final. The events and times they have selected will be ranked against all other swimmers in Scotland to decide the overall National results. Our swimmers scored many top 20 finishes, but a special well done to Molly Irvine-Watson for winning Silver in the 100m Frontcrawl! We will have an in-depth report on Molly’s achievement once she receives her National medal.

Stranraer Academy would like to thank Stranraer Stingrays coaching staff and parent helpers for their assistance in organising and helping at the event. It is greatly appreciated! Well done to all pupils



- Erin Lochery
Bronze 50m Freestyle, Bronze 50m Breaststroke, Bronze 50m Butterfly
- Sophie Hardie Gold 100m Freestyle, Gold 200m Freestyle, Silver 200m Backstroke, Bronze 400m Freestyle
- Emma Barrowman
Gold 200m Individual Medley, Silver 100m Butterfly, Silver 200m Butterfly, Bronze 200m Backstroke
- Finlay Nelson
Gold 100m Breaststroke (Regional Record), Gold 200m Freestyle, Gold 100m Butterfly, Gold 200m Individual Medley
- Andrew Hannah
Bronze 100m Butterfly
- George Zbiegniewski
Gold 100m Breaststroke, Gold 200m Breaststroke, Bronze 100m Freestyle, Bronze 200m Freestyle
- Millie Colvin
Gold 100m Butterfly, Gold 100m Breaststroke, Gold 200m Individual Medley, Silver 100m Freestyle
- Molly Irvine-Watson
Gold 100m Freestyle (Regional Record), Gold 200m Freestyle, Gold 200m Breaststroke, Silver 100m Breaststroke



FOOTBALL

STRANRAER U18'S THROUGH TO SEMI'S

CASTLE DOUGLAS HS 2 - 4 STRANRAER ACADEMY

Stranraer U18 boys progressed into the semi finals of the JH Lorraine Senior Cup with a hard fought win over Castle Douglas High School.

Both teams struggled at times due to the rough, patchy and uneven surface however it was the Stranraer boys who controlled the game from the start, enjoying large spells of possession. Many chances were created but the bobbly surface caused all sorts of problems when it came to striking the ball cleanly at goal. The breakthrough came from the ever-busy, ever tenacious Leon Paton who finished smartly to put Stranraer in the lead from an Owen Sutherland assist. Stranraer built on the pressure with Shay Meagher and Jamie McCalmont dominating the midfield. More chances were being created by Man of the Match Owen Sutherland, from clever attacking wing play on the right. Linking up with the ever busy Shay Meagher, Sutherland's dangerous drives towards the box came to fruition when he provided an inch perfect cross for Connor Duncan to finish, albeit in a very unconventional manner! Despite the obvious, lingering pain to the mid-section, Duncan shrugged it off to add a second (again assisted by Sutherland) shortly afterwards, enabling Stranraer to see out the first half with a 3 - 0 lead.

The second half saw a renewed threat from CDHS. With nothing to lose, CDHS picked up a stray ball in midfield and fired a speculative effort from range, which made it just inside the post to catch Stranraer unaware. CDHS did not trouble much after this, as Stranraer pressed on to create chances. Some good hold up play from Jamie McIntyre caused havoc around the box, but again the resulting Stranraer efforts were fired wide or high. Stranraer got closer with a spectacular 30 yard, left footed volley from Leon Paton, which caused the goalkeeper a lot of trouble, but ultimately did not cross the line. A foray forward from left by the impressive Ally Hilferty saw him score an absolute stunner from 25 yards, where he struck it cleanly into the top corner to go 4 - 1 up. With CDHS sitting deeper to soak up the pressure, the waves of Stranraer attacks still could not find the goal, despite shots from James Forbes, Alfie Whorlow and Shay Meagher going close. CDHS then made the most of a long ball breakaway against the run of play, taking advantage of defensive confusion to score their second goal with 5 minutes remaining. With the score line now 4 - 2 and full time near, Stranraer kept the ball and made sure to see the game out without any further mistakes to book their place in the semi-final of the Senior Cup where they will meet either Wallace Hall Academy or St Joseph's College. Well done boys!

Goal scorers: Connor Duncan (2), Leon Paton, Ally Hilferty.

Lineup: Danny Wither, Mark Thomson, Boyd McLean, Ally Hilferty, Jamie McCalmont, Kerr Lyon, Keir Halliday, Owen Sutherland, Shay Meagher, Jamie McIntyre, Leon Paton, Connor Duncan, James Forbes, Alfie Whorlow, Cameron Boyd, Callum Thomson, Cooper Walker.

Man of the Match: Owen Sutherland



FOOTBALL

U14 LEAGUE WIN AT LOCKERBIE

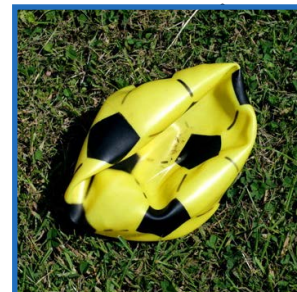
Stranraer Academy U14'S travelled to Lockerbie Academy on 5th October to play in their first leagues matches of the season. The boys won comfortably 7-2 and set the ball rolling for their 2022/23 league campaign. Well done to all boys involved. Goalscorers: Owen McCalmont (3), Jake McColm (2), Fraser Lindsay, Niall Tilston
Man of the Match: Kerr Paterson

Lineup: Danny Wither, Mark Thomson, Boyd McLean, Ally Hilferty, Jamie McCalmont, Kerr Lyon, Keir Halliday, Owen Sutherland, Shay Meagher, Jamie McIntyre, Leon Paton, Connor Duncan, James Forbes, Alfie Whorlow, Cameron Boyd, Callum Thomson, Cooper Walker.



U16'S LOSE TO LOCKERBIE IN THE LEAGUE

It has been a slow start for the U16's who lost 3 - 0 to Lockerbie in their opening league fixture. Having beaten Lockerbie 10 - 0 in the Hunter Shield last year, the trip away on this occasion was one to forget. Lockerbie had a point to prove and came away with a decisive victory. Better luck next time boys! Man of the Match: Ally Hilferty



STRANRAER GIRLS QUALIFY AT SPAR FUTURE 7'S

Stranraer Academy U14 and U16 girls Qualified for the next round of the Regional Spar Future 7's tournament at Dum-fries High School 3G in November. S3/S4 girls showed great strength and determination by winning every match. Our S1/S2 group also did well, winning 3 out 5 matches which takes the whole group to the next stage: regionals!" We are looking forward to seeing how the girls get on in the next round. Well done to everyone involved!

Back Row L-R: Leah Mills, Zara McDowall, Carys Roberts, Kalyn Fox, Mollie McColm, Rhianna Bodle, Sophie Copeland, Carly McClorey, Chloe Wither

Front Row L-R: Maisie Sloan, Phoebe Sutherland, Kaitlyn Patton, Tegan Fox, Neve Maxwell, Ruby Rankin





WEST REGION DISABILITY SPORT BOCCIA TOURNAMENT

EIGHT YOUNG PEOPLE FROM S1 TO S5 WERE SELECTED TO COMPETE AT THIS YEAR'S TOURNAMENT HELD AT THE RYAN CENTRE: LOGAN SPEIRS, JOHN HUGHES, KAYLA HENRY, DONNA MCCUTCHEON, MILES FOSTER, JASMINE YOUNG, RUBY SMELLIE & TYLOR ALEXANDER. THE INITIAL ROUND HAD THE COMPETITORS SPLIT INTO 4 GROUPS AND PLAYED A ROUND ROBIN. AFTER THE INITIAL ROUND, FIVE ACADEMY PUPILS PROGRESSED TO THE QUARTER FINALS: LOGAN, MILES, RUBY, JASMINE AND KAYLA. FROM THERE TWO PROGRESSED TO THE SEMI-FINALS WHICH SAW THE SAME TWO PROGRESS TO THE FINAL: JASMINE AND MILES. BOTH MANAGED TO CONTAIN THEIR EXCITEMENT AND NERVES AND PLAYED A THRILLING AND VERY CLOSE FINAL. IT CAME DOWN TO THE LAST END WHICH SAW MILES BECOME CHAMPION AND JASMINE RUNNER UP. A FANTASTIC EFFORT FROM ALL COMPETITORS THROUGHOUT THE MORNING.



FUNDRAISING



Need in children



The Charities Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the fundraising for Children in Need. Whether it was buying the merchandise, taking part in the netball / football or being part of the great crowds of spectators who donated - it has all helped to contribute to the fantastic total of over **£125** from Stranraer Academy! **Netball Result:** Pupils win 14 - 10. **Football Result:** Staff Win 4-0



RUGBY

U16 GIRLS RUGBY FINALS REPORT

After successfully qualifying, Stranraer headed to Stewartry rugby club for the D&G Schools Girls Finals. First up was Moffat and Stranraer were slow getting off the bus, and maybe underestimated Moffat. Moffat started quick running in three unanswered tries. Stranraer warmed to the task, running in two of their own after some good passing out wide. Moffat then hit back with a further two well taken tries. Stranraer played much better in the second half doing the basics well, but ultimately had given Moffat too much of a lead with Moffat running out eventual winners 8 tries to 4.

Next up was tournament favourites and eventual winners Wallace Hall. Wallace Hall started off very strongly running in three tries, while Stranraer battled back with one of their own. Wallace Hall kept up the momentum though, and scored a further 4 tries before the break, with Stranraer adding 1 more to their tally. Into the second half and it was Wallace hall who again started the stronger, doing the basics very well and turning the screw on Stranraer. Wallace Hall running out eventual winners 13 - 2. It must be said however, Wallace Hall had a very strong mature squad, who get regular games, and this showed but Stranraer never gave up.

Into the final game for third place play off and it was the might of Lockerbie to the fore. This was a very keenly contested match with both sides hitting their straps. Lockerbie scored first with two well taken tries, before Stranraer hit back with one of their own. Into the second half Stranraer scored first after some neat line breaks and great supporting play. Lockerbie then went ahead again twice, before Stranraer levelled up into the final minute of the game. After a well taken restart, Stranraer made a number of line breaks, and after some quick rucking and slick hands Stranraer scored the winning try.

The girls showed a lot of resilience and determination to come from behind three times and run out eventual winners against Lockerbie. It would have been easy for their heads to have gone down after the first two games, but they rallied and showed who they truly are as a team. Well done girls.





LANGUAGES

READER OF THE YEAR

Last session, Kayleigh More (S2) completed an incredible number of Accelerated Reader More quizzes, totalling a staggering two and a half million words read. Kayleigh was rewarded with a £25 voucher, a bag of goodies including a writing journal, a bag of goodies coveted Reading Champion shield, and our Well done, Kayleigh!

Our annual Books & Bakes coffee morning was a great success this year. We were once again able to hold the event in the school library and it was lovely to see both staff and senior students enjoying a range of home baking, from delicious banana loaf to tasty chocolate cookies, whilst browsing the selection of “pre-loved” books which had kindly been donated by parents. Thank you to all who donated books and/or baking: we raised a grand total of £111.38, which will be put towards funding our literacy projects and competitions.

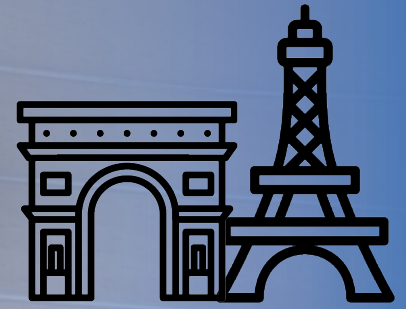


SCOTLAND READS

Scotland Reads has had a busy and productive year so far, with great teamwork between tutors and readers. James, Lucy and Cameron get in early to set out seats and folders, whilst the S2 tutoring team take responsibility for their group. Thank you, well done and a Happy Christmas to everyone!



FRENCH



SABLÉS DE NOËL



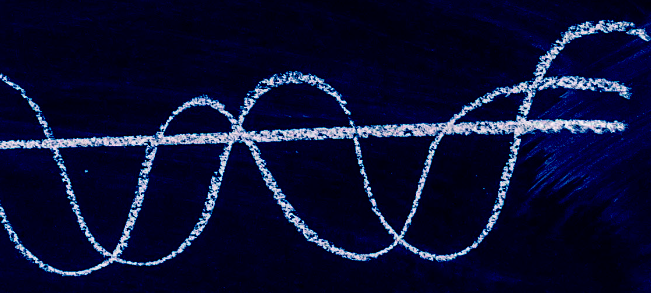
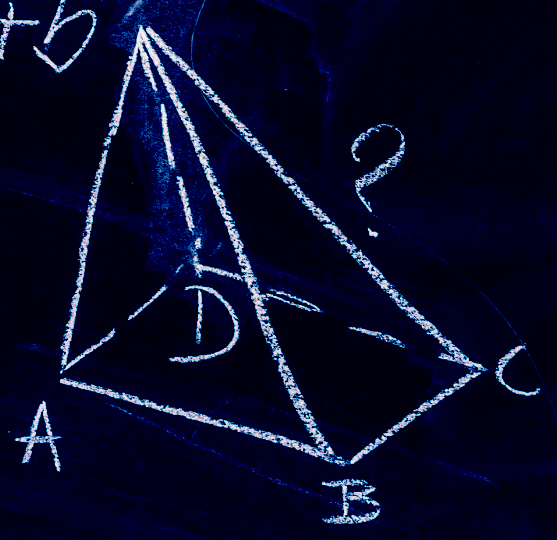
When we get closer to Christmas time in France, everyone gets creative and competitive when making the unmissable sablés de Noël. Our S1s really got into the competitive spirit for this recipe with a Scottish touch for the biscuit and French-inspired decorations. Pupils came up with lovely ideas!

$$\frac{\pm\sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{a+3b}$$

$$y=f(x)$$

$$E=mc^2$$

$$=mx+b$$



$$y+bx$$

$$\infty = x^2$$

MATHS

F
A
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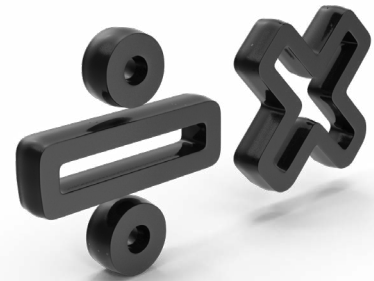
$y+2=6$
 $-z=10$
 $+5z=1$
 $a^3=(x-a)$

 $x+3=5$
 $2-xy=yx^2$
 $9-y=7$
 x^2

MATHS WEEK

26TH SEPTEMBER – 2ND OCTOBER

Maths week Scotland is a celebration of the importance of maths in our everyday lives. Maths is all around us. We use it in our daily lives when cooking tea, playing sport or deciding whether to go for that impulse purchase. It shapes our society in our voting systems and the way we use data. It underpins the art we view and the music we listen to. SA celebrated maths week with our S1 pupils trying out some different maths activities during their maths periods: Club games (darts, dominoes, cards), a Treasure Hunt and Blooket quizzes.

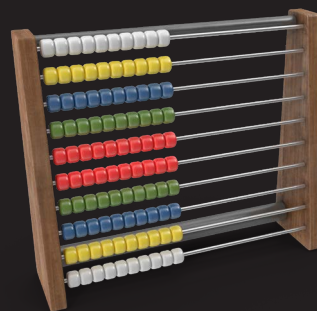




MATHS WEEK

CHALLENGE

As part of maths week, this year the Dumfries and Galloway Enterprising Maths Challenge was hosted at the Douglas Ewart High School, with 12 teams from over the region joining. Four of our S3/4 pupils went along to participate; Innes Jack, Adam Ferguson, Erin Jamieson and Emily Rankin. The team were set mathematical challenges throughout the day including Puzzle stations, an Engineering round and a Maths relay. The team showed great maths knowledge and excellent problem solving skills, they finished 5th overall – well done Team SA!



P7 Transition

P7 ENHANCED TRANSITION HAS BEGUN AND MANY PARENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE VISITED THE SCHOOL IN DECEMBER. THIS WILL PROGRESS IN JANUARY WITH REGULAR VISITS TO THE LEARNING CENTRE AND AIRD.

A PROGRAMME OF VISITS FOR THOSE PUPILS WHO REQUIRE ENHANCED TRANSITION WILL COMMENCE IN FEBRUARY. THE P7 TRANSITION WILL BUILD UP TO THE 3 DAY TRANSITION VISITS IN JUNE

Young STEM Leader

SCIENCE AND MATHS HAVE BEEN COLLABORATING TO BRING THE YOUNG STEM LEADER BACK TO STRANRAER ACADEMY.
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUNGSTEMLEADER.SCOT/](https://www.youngstemleader.scot/)

THE YOUNG STEM LEADER PROGRAMME (YSLP) AIMS TO INSPIRE MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP AN INTEREST IN STEM (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND MATHS) AND PURSUE THE STUDY OF STEM SUBJECTS AND RELEVANT FUTURE PATHWAYS.



AIM HIGH

WORK HARD BE KIND NO EXCUSES



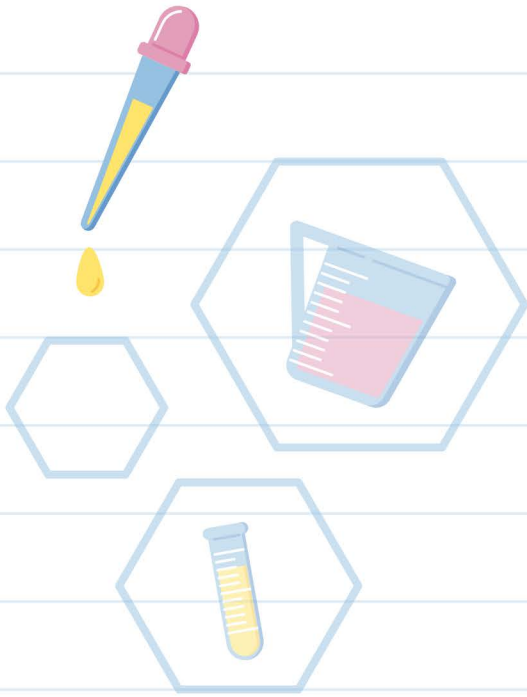
STRANRAER ACADEMY

ALWAYS HERE

**FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE
AND OUR COMMUNITY.....**

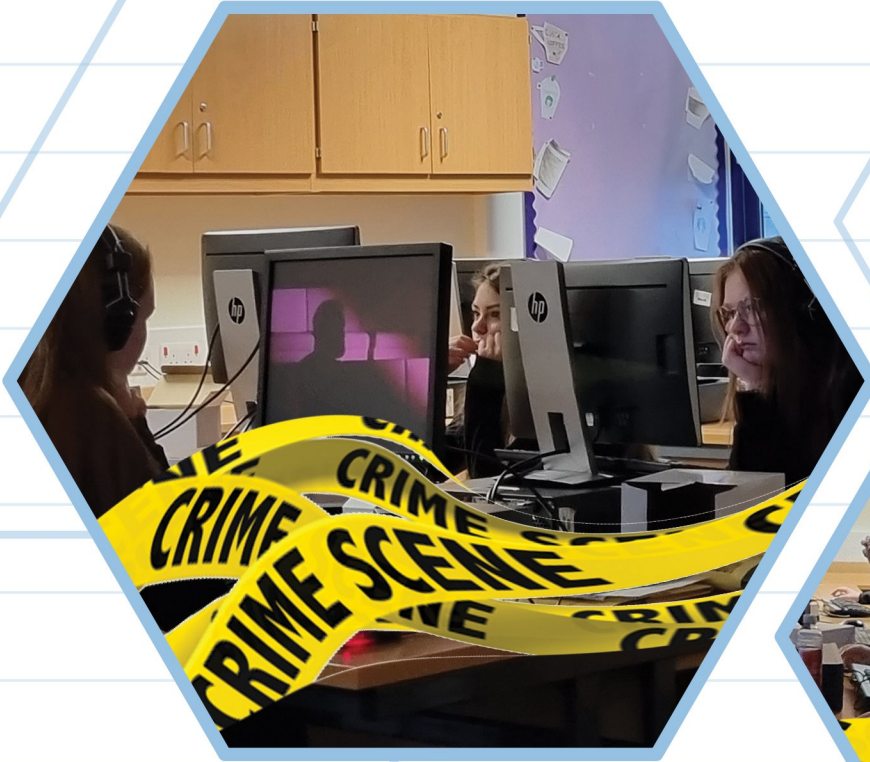
**NO MATTER
WHAT HAPPENS**





SCIENCE





**2ND
NOV**

2022 UK FORENSIC SCIENCE YOUTH SUMMIT

On the 2nd of November. Some 5/6 years took part in the 2022 UK Forensic Science Youth Summit hosted by the Royal Institution. We got to listen to people like Professor Dame Sue Black and Dr James Gooch. We also talked about the criminal justice system and the different courts and verdicts that can be made. Towards the end of the summit, we discussed 3 cases.

One of the cases was a murder of a flat mate in Italy. The case was weird with DNA found on the victim of the other flat mates' boyfriend. The flat mate, her boyfriend and her boss were jailed for 4 years before the real murderer was found. They were trialed 3 times before the other suspect convicted of the murder went to jail. We discussed what we thought about the cases in a live chat with forensic scientists and moderators who would ask questions and reply to our comments on things we thought had happened. Overall, we learned a lot of valuable information and it was definitely worth it.

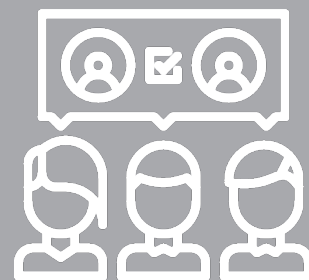
By Lauren Hamilton

Social Subjects

MODERN STUDIES



PARLIAMENT TRIP



By Neil Hyslop

At the start of December, Senior Modern Studies pupils were fortunate enough to be granted the chance to visit the Scottish Parliament.



Pupils were able to attend First Ministers Questions.



Pupils were delivered an information session by Scottish Parliament staff, given the opportunity to take part in a question/answer activity with local MPs and the highlight of the day was being able to attend First Ministers Questions. Later that evening everyone took part in a Modern Studies quiz which was designed to help students prepare for forthcoming SQA exams. On the way home the following day pupils were able to visit residential areas in Glasgow such as Lenzie and Calton in order to help them to learn more about Social Inequalities in the UK.

This was the first time we have been able to visit the Scottish Parliament since the Covid pandemic made visits like this impossible. Those who attended appeared to benefit from the opportunity and returned more knowledgeable about our political system and the workings of the Parliament. All of the school's Modern Studies teachers are grateful to everyone who helped to make this trip possible including our own local MPs.

S1 POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR COMPETITION

In term 2, for S1, the focus has been on promoting positive behaviour. As part of this, a competition ran throughout the term, with the overall objective of not only encouraging positive behaviour but also recognising the huge numbers of pupils who consistently conduct themselves in a manner that is greatly beneficial to the school culture and ethos. The competition consisted of a team element, as registration classes competed against each other to become the top registration class. During the 7-week competition an impressive 4126 merits were received by S1 pupils.

The overall winners were Mr Wilkinson's registration group 1DU1 (picture below), who managed to overcome Mrs Wither's 1IN1 in the final.

Alongside the regular feature of 'Team of the Week', at the S1 end of year assembly, the 'Team of the Term' was announced.

Aiden Adams
Evie McRoberts
Lauren Davidson
Lucy Sullivan
Gracie Cook
Izzy White
Bethan Gibb
Olivia Turtle
Sarah McClymont
Leo Waugh
Mariella Petrucci

Congratulations to Mariella Petrucci who gained the most merits in the year (51) during this period.



Walk for Children



NSPCC

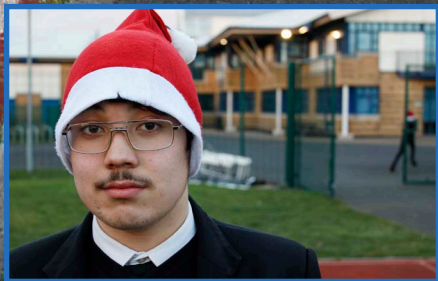
WALK FOR CHILDREN

BY KERRIE BIAGIONI

Walk for Children is the NSPCC's Christmas 5k walk event which takes place on the shortest day/longest night of the year. Stranraer Academy registered for this event as we fully appreciate that every pound raised helps the NSPCC be there for children and young people through services like Childline. It really was a lovely after school activity with colleagues and pupils of Stranraer Academy taking to the track to complete the 5km. Great banter and camaraderie from S1's through to S6, teaching and support staff alike. A fantastic end of term festive event! We are absolutely delighted to have raised £250 for this fantastic cause and would like to thank everyone for their generous donations. #nspcc #longestnight



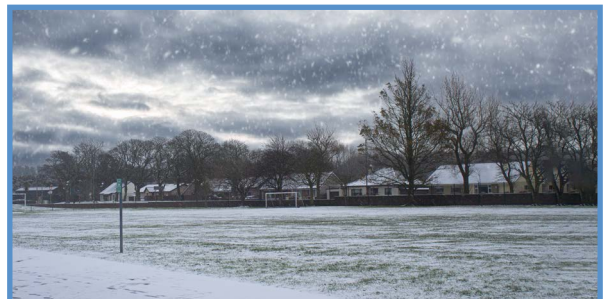
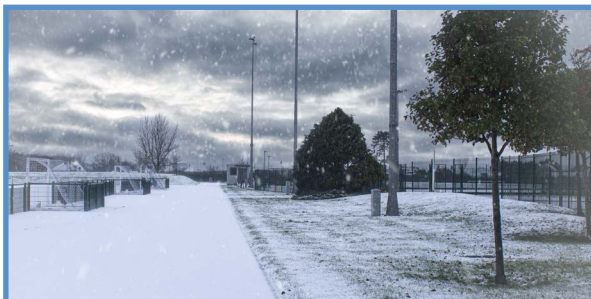
NPSCC
CHRISTMAS 5K WALK EVENT





Thank you for sharing in our young people's success and celebrating their achievements.

May your Christmas be filled with magical moments and your new year be filled with endless possibilities. Merry Christmas and a happy new year to you and your loved ones.





Santa's Little Helpers



www.stranraeracademy.org.uk

