

NEWSLETTER

STRANRAER ACADEMY | JULY 2022 | VOL 1

Celebrating our Young
Peoples' Experiences
& Achievements



AIM HIGH | WORK HARD | BE KIND | NO EXCUSES

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



P — 03
Introduction

P — 04
Creative Arts

P — 09
Healthy Living

P — 17
Languages

P — 19
Mathematics

P — 20
The Polar Academy

P — 22
P7 Disco

P — 23
Pupil Council

P — 25
Science

P — 29
Senior Prom

P — 31
Social Subjects

P — 38
Technology

P — 41
Thank you



Jamie Farquhar

Acting Headteacher

I am delighted to welcome you to the Stranraer Academy Summer Newsletter. This is the first in a series of termly newsletters that will share our experiences and achievements.

I hope, like me, you are impressed by our pupils' achievements. I hope your child / children had an increasingly rich experience in the Spring and Summer terms.

You will notice that Stranraer Academy has had its share of victories in recent months. Winning is great and our young people should be proud of their efforts, but I am even more pleased by how our pupils have conducted themselves in victory and participation.

Thank you to our pupils for representing their school and community so well and thank you to all Stranraer Academy staff, parents, and friends for supporting these opportunities.

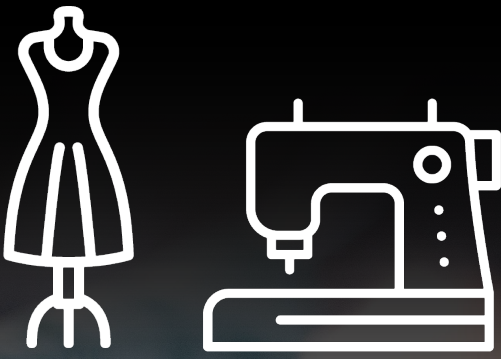




CREATIVE ARTS ART & DESIGN

In Art & Design the S1 & S2 BGE classes have produced some impressive work on their topic of "Birds".
Meanwhile in S3 the students have been producing some super Expressive work.





CREATIVE ARTS

FASHION & TEXTILES



Our Fashion and Textile students worked tremendously hard with Miss Thomson during the year. Part of their course work was to put together a garment. Here you can see Julian McNally and Niamh McDevitt with their finished pieces complete with hand-sewn embroidery.

CREATIVE ARTS HIGHER PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTOGRAPH BY JULIAN McNALLY

The Higher Photography cohort produced some exceptional images this year. Pupils learnt how to successfully combine compositional techniques, the visual elements and appropriate camera settings to realise their image. Please enjoy a small sample of their work.



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAMERON MCKIE



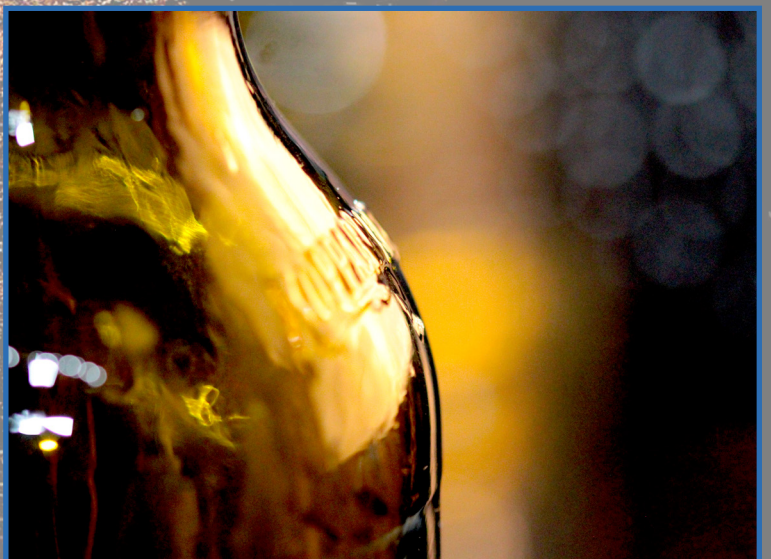
PHOTOGRAPH BY REBECCA TEEARS



PHOTOGRAPH BY AMY McCUBBIN



PHOTOGRAPH BY MURDO WALLACE



PHOTOGRAPH BY GEORGINA PEARCE

CarmenCo is an ensemble comprising Emily Andrews, flautist/singer; David Massey & Francisco Correa, guitars.

The group perform vibrant, visual, varied programmes as they tour around the UK. They performed in the Ryan Centre on 6th October and very kindly offered to host a workshop in Stranraer Academy with some of our guitar students.

Emily, David and Francisco worked with a group for two hours which involved a mix of jamming, learning a song all together, teaching the Habanera from Carmen and playing all together. Our students impressed the professional musicians and gained an invaluable experience with this talented group of professionals. Thank you to CarmenCo!

CREATIVE ARTS MUSIC



LEARNING, JAMMING & PLAYING TOGETHER



GAINING AN INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE

In the Music Department we are working hard to increase extra-curricular opportunities for our pupils. This session has seen the introduction of a lunchtime Ukulele Club and also the beginnings of a Choir. These clubs will hopefully grow from strength to strength next session. Look out for a new time for Choir rehearsals after school!

PE Department



ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP 2022



The annual Stranraer Academy Athletics Pentathlon Championship took place this year under a modified format where S1-S3 pupils took part over 3 separate days. Unfortunately, the senior phase Championships were unable to take place due to the SQA exams and study leave.

The results at all year groups were close with some of the placings decided by just a few points. The overall House Champions and winners of the Tannock Trophy were Glenapp with an impressive tally of 1192 points. Well done to everyone who took part and competed with good spirit and excellent sportsmanship!

The PE Department would like to thank all staff and pupil helpers who assisted on each day to ensure the event ran smoothly and successfully!

S1 Results



Girls Champion: Rosie Thomson
 Girls Runner Up: Maddy Erksine
 Boys Champion: Jake McColm
 Boys Runner Up: Alistair Beverage

S2 Results



Girls Champion: Mirren Gibb
 Girls Runner Up: Molly Irvine-Watson
 Boys Joint Champions:
 Gregor Agnew & Finlay Schofield
 Boys Runner Up: Zac McCutcheon

S3 Results



Girls Champion: Emma Barrowman
 Girls Runner Up: Armanii Andrews
 Boys Champion: Finlay Nelson
 Boys Runner Up: Rowan Harbottle

U13 Gordon Cup Champions!

Well done to the Stranraer Academy U13 boys football team who lifted the Regional Cup after a dominant 9-0 win over Dumfries High School yesterday. It has been a brilliant season for the Under 13's who have won every league game they have played. Well done boys! Goalscorers: Owen McColm (3), Niall Tilston (2), Jake McColm, Logan Mackenzie, Archie Kiltie, Fraser

Football RESULTS U13-U15



U15 Hunter Shield Champions!

Congratulations to the Stranraer Academy U15 boys who lifted the Hunter Shield on Tuesday 31st May after defeating St Josephs College 3-0 in the final! The boys played to a very high standard and worked exceptionally hard to counter a strong, physical St Joseph's side who were also very competitive. Goalscorers: Adam Wilde, Cameron Dewar, Josh Kelly. Man of the Match: Ally Hilderferty





S1 Jake McColm – 1st Shot
 Putt
 S2 Josh Kelly – 1st High
 Jump, 3rd 800m
 Zac McCutcheon – 2nd
 800m
 Scott Miller – 2nd Shot
 Putt
 Luke McGarrie – 3rd Shot
 Putt
 Mirren Gibb – 1st 800m
 Sophie Lowe – 3rd High
 Jump
 S2 boys' relay – 3rd

Athletics



D&G Regional Athletics Results

On Wednesday 15th June, pupils from Stranraer Academy represented the school in the Regional Athletics Championship at Dumfries. Our athletes did themselves proud with everyone competing to a high standard against the best D&G has to offer! Well done to everyone involved!

S3 Finlay Nelson – 3rd 100m
 William Teears – 2nd High
 Jump
 Laura Donnan – 3rd 800m
 S4-6 Emily Ferguson – 3rd 100m,
 3rd Long Jump
 Alisa Erskine – 1st Long Jump, 1st 400m
 Abi McKinstry – 1st 400m
 Kerr Lyon – 2nd 1500m

NETBALL - Regional League Results

The netball league split schools into three pools. Stranraer was in pool three along with Dumfries High school, Dumfries Academy (A) and Dumfries Academy (B).

Juniors

Home - Stranraer Academy 8-13 Dumfries High School
 Away - Dumfries Academy (A) 31-3 Stranraer Academy
 Away - Dumfries Academy (B) 13-5 Stranraer Academy

Seniors

Home - Stranraer Academy 30-10 Dumfries High school
 Away - Dumfries Academy (A) 30-11 Stranraer Academy
 Away - Dumfries Academy (B) 21-21 Stranraer Academy



NETBALL *Results*



NETBALL - Junior Netball Festival (S1-3) - May 2022

Teams from across the region played in the festival which was played at King George V pitches in Dumfries. The morning session comprised of pool games. The results are as follows:

Stranraer Academy 1-4 Dumfries High School Stranraer Academy 3-1 St Josephs College (B) Stranraer Academy 0-5 Douglas Ewart High School Stranraer Academy 6-2 Dumfries Academy (B)

Following the pool games, the afternoon session was split into three competitions: Shield, Plate and Bowl.



Stranraer Academy played in the Plate competition and the results are as follows:

Stranraer Academy 1-4 Castle Douglas
 Stranraer Academy 0-4 St Josephs
 Stranraer Academy 0-2 Langholm
 Stranraer Academy 2-1 Wallace Hall

Mirren Gibb was nominated as player of the team!

Well done to all of the girls who took part!



GOLF – School Golf Championship

The annual Stranraer Academy Golf Championship was held under a slightly adapted format this year. Each competitor had to submit a card over a 3 days window at the start of June. The rounds were played at Stranraer Golf Club and we would like to thank the club for accommodating our pupils for this annual competition.

After some favourable weather, some really competitive scores were submitted and the winner of the John Monteith trophy was Harry Lockwood with an impressive 75 scratch score. Well done to everyone who competed!



Scottish Disability Sport

Junior Athletics Championships



Seven competitors were selected from Stranraer Academy to compete as part of the 44-person Dumfries and Galloway team at this year's event in Grangemouth. It was a very early rise and a cold, wet day, but the team competed admirably under the conditions. Overall, Dumfries and Galloway amassed 38 medals, of which Stranraer Academy won 10!

The Results:

- Nialle Henry
 - Silver - Boys 100m
 - Gold - Boys Long Jump
 - Silver - Boys Softball Throw
- Logan Speirs
 - Bronze - Boys 100m
 - Bronze - Boys Shot Putt 5kg

- William Ferguson
 - Gold - Boys Softball Throw
- Conor Ogston
 - Silver- Boys Long Jump
- Andrew Brown
 - Bronze- boys 100m
 - Gold - Boys Softball Throw
 - Bronze - Boys Long Jump



Scottish Disability Sport

Junior Athletics Championships





STRANRAER ACADEMY SPORTS DAY 2022



We all enjoyed an amazing sports day and everyone had fun! Many thanks to all who participated, supported and helped out, making this another successful event. We would also like to extend an extra thank you to Mrs Stobo, for dedicating so much time to organising the event and making sure the day ran so smoothly.



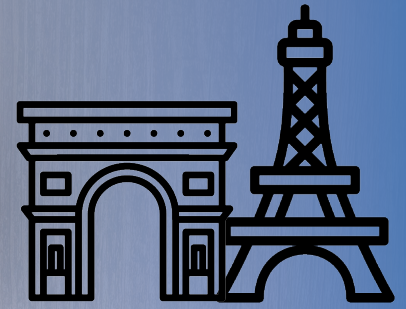
English

In English, earlier this term the very talented performance poet, Imogen Stirling, came into school to work with our S1 and S2 aspiring writers. The students had much fun doing creative tasks, writing their own poems and getting to know about the life of a writer. Following this, we launched our annual writing competition.

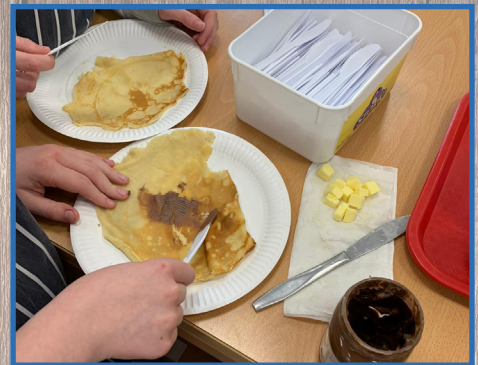
This year, the English Department say farewell to Mr Keery who is retiring after 29 years at Stranraer Academy. Mr Keery will continue to do some supply work in August, but we thank him for his commitment to Stranraer Academy and wish him a long and happy retirement.



FRENCH



LA CHANDELEUR



Every year in February in France, we celebrate **La Chandeleur** a.k.a Candlemas, a day dedicated to making and eating crêpes! The origins of this celebration date back to a pagan feast and it is a very superstitious day for the French. Our S1 students genuinely played the game and got very competitive. In fact, in order to foresee financial luck, one tradition states you should hold a coin in one hand and flip the crêpe in another. If you flip the crêpe without it falling on the floor, you will receive prosperity during the year. Indeed, many of the pupils gave their all to become the lucky ones and truly enjoyed the recipe!



Mathematics



This year all our S1 pupils participated in Maths Week Scotland and the pupils were involved in many different fun activities. Maths is everywhere all around us. We encounter it daily, whether it's through transactions in shops or weighing out ingredients while cooking. Currency, time, distance – handling any of these units involves knowledge of mathematics.

And yet, so many people across the country have a negative view of the subject. Maths Week Scotland is all about spreading awareness of the issue and encouraging children to develop a positive attitude towards maths. It aims to do this by introducing fun games and engaging activities for the pupils.

It's actually difficult to think of any job or profession that doesn't use maths. Handling money is an aspect of most cashier jobs, while understanding measurements is a must-have for any builder. Doctors, scientists, architects and engineers all work with precise numbers. This was the perfect time to highlight the importance of numeracy to many pupils. It also helped to show the relevance of what they're learning in the classroom to their futures.

It provided a great opportunity to get creative with how we teach and have fun with maths. There was no prescriptive, one-size-fits-all approach here. Part of the joy of this occasion was that our maths teachers were empowered to inspire their own students how they saw fit!

by Laurence McCurrie





POLAR ACADEMY

THE

WHAT IS THE POLAR ACADEMY ALL ABOUT?

The Polar Academy is a charity – set up in 2012 – which identifies a certain type of young adult in Scottish schools and organizations, those who are often overlooked by the education system. The polar academy team trains them over a year and takes them on a truly unbelievable polar expedition. The idea is to change these pupils outlook on life, coming back very different people to who they were when they start the programme 12 months earlier. After they return, they travel around other schools to inspire and motivate their peers.

THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME





POLAR ACADEMY INSPIRES SO MANY YOUNG PEOPLE. WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

The initial concept for the Polar Academy was never just about the ten pupils... And there was no way 20,000 of Scotland's teenagers could go! So the ten would have to do something so difficult and so challenging that 20,000 people would sit there and think, 'that's incredible'. Now, one of our 15-year-old girls can go into a room with 400 strangers and have them totally silent for an hour, in awe of what she's done. The pupils who hear her story think, 'She lives down the road from me. I've known her for years. If she can do that, I can do anything.' That's what the Polar Academy's about. It's not just about the ten pupils, it's about what the ten do when they come back home.



STRANRAER ACADEMY STUDENTS COMPLETE THEIR EXPEDITION

Our Polar Academy pupils: Abbie Arkless, Eloise Moulton, Lewis Ryder, Innes Lockhart, Adam Akenhead, Amber Hannah, Courtney Atkin, Gabriella Teears, Ed Woonton and Isla Clements completed their expedition and had an experience that will be with them for a lifetime. They returned home with more confidence and a special bond amongst their peers. They will now tour other schools to motivate pupils with tales of excitement and adventure. We could not be more proud of what they have accomplished.





On Thursday 23rd June Primary 7 pupils from our catchment schools attended their transitions disco, with our S5/6 senior support ambassadors leading pictures, party dances and games. All the primary 7's who attended had a great night and we cannot wait to welcome them to the Academy in August.

P7 DISCO



**WE CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE AGAIN YOU
IN AUGUST**





PUPIL COUNCIL

The newly formed Stranraer Academy Pupil Council held their introductory meeting this week, where the pupils were introduced to the selected Chairs from the Pupil Leadership Team and also to the Pupil Council programme for next session. The Pupil Council currently consists of over 60 representatives across S2-S6, with the number set to increase in August with the inclusion of the new S1 cohort. The reintroduction of the Pupil Council is integral to the emphasis being placed on Pupil Voice and will present pupils with the opportunity to have their say on the big issues impacting upon them on a day to day basis within the school. Meetings will be held monthly and representatives from all year groups will also be invited to meet with Mr Farquhar to discuss the key issues from these meetings.



It is hard to convey how strong the applicants were for head boy and head girl this academic year and how well all applicants performed at interview. However, after a long deliberation, Jack Camlin and Sophie Irvine-Watson were announced as head boy and head girl. Millen White, Imogen Raphael, Abi McKinstry, Jenna Lyon and Gabriella Teeares were chosen as the deputies. We are delighted by the appointments.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Newly appointed Head Boy – Jack Camlin

'I am pleased to announce that I have been recently appointed as Stranraer academy's new head boy. I would like to use this opportunity to firstly discuss our plans. Before the end of term both the Head Girl and I would like to introduce ourselves to all pupil councils and discuss our current improvement plans for the school and how frequently meetings like this will be held. I also believe this role will allow me to help other students who are maybe too shy or afraid to cast their opinion into things have a voice. I want to make sure this school is suited to all who attend, and they not only get a good education, but they enjoy the school at all times. I think I can help achieve this through my altruism, respectfulness and kindness. What I want to get out of this role is the joy of seeing other students thrive and improve their life at this school through policies or ideas I have helped come up with, as well as lifelong skills I will learn along the way. I am delighted to have received this role and I am making a promise to have as much of a positive impact as I can on Stranraer academy.'

Newly appointed Head Girl – Sophie Irvine-Watson

'I am truly honoured and proud to have earned the role of Head Girl at Stranraer Academy. With the Summer Holidays being imminent, the Head Boy and myself thought we should introduce ourselves in our new roles, to the Pupil Council, in order that when the new term commences, we can get straight into holding and planning meetings. I am excited to introduce new ideas to the school including a theatre club, subject specific mentoring and safe spaces for students with the help of the Senior Representative team. What I want to get out of this role is to make every student feel supported and comfortable as well as seeing them flourish not only academically but socially too. An aim I have is for everyone in Stranraer Academy to have a voice and to have that voice be heard, regardless of their abilities. My confidence, kindness and honesty make me suited to this role and I cannot wait to make a positive impact on Stranraer Academy throughout the year. I am delighted to have received this role and I am making a promise to have as much of a positive impact as I can on Stranraer academy.'



3D PRINTER DONATION



SUNLU



Stranraer Academy Science department applied to receive a free 3d printer from SUNLU, a 3d printer and filament manufacturer. The company wanted to support Stranraer Academy's vision to improve the education for all, so they actually donated 3 x S9 plus printers (their flagship model) and 30kg of filament. The value of this donation is estimated at £1730. This will help improve the learning and teaching in many subjects as this will be a very useful.

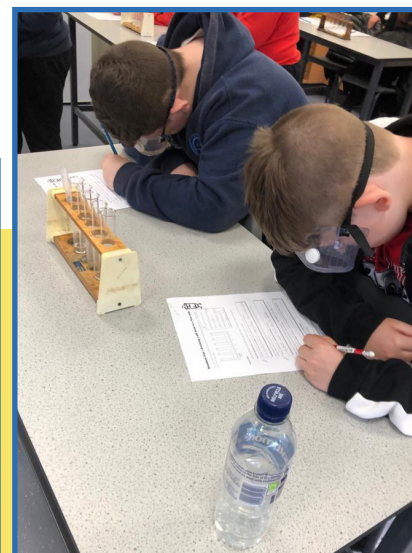


Senior Pupils in the Learning Centre

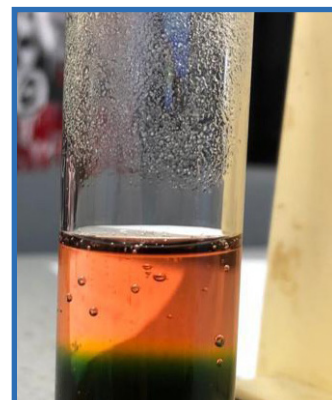
Senior pupils in the Learning Centre this year have been engaged in practical science lessons. Lessons initially focussed on 'Exploring Everyday Materials' and water was chosen as our material to study. This may not sound exciting however, pupils enjoyed experimenting with dancing raisin, glow sticks, flame tests, solubility, diffusion, distillation, the ethanol woosh bottle and much more! The pupils received a Nat 2 Science unit as a result. Well done! Some other Senior pupils learning centre pupils Studied National 3 Biology looking at health where we invited in a local nurse to show the pupils how they could monitor health using a range on monitors.



PRIMARY VISIT TO THE SCIENCE FACULTY



During study leave this year are feeder primary schools came and visited the science department to experience working in a science lab. During this visit the performed an experiment called rainbow fizz using some of the chemicals and equipment we using in the Academy. they created some fantastic rainbow while learning some great science about neutralisation.



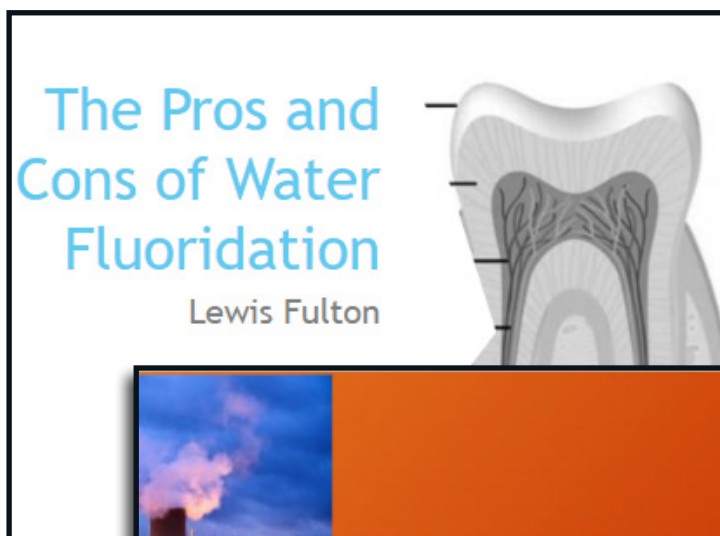
SCOTTISH BACCALAUREATE SUCCESS

This year our 2 science bacculaureate students produced some fantastic presentations which the presented to their peers currently studying higher and advanced higher sciences.

Lewis Fulton researched and produced a very interesting project on The Pros And Cons Of Water Fluoridation.

And Callum Cumming researched about Nuclear power as an alternative Energy Resource.

Both boys complete their interdisciplinary projects to a high standard and are on target to achieve the Bacculaureate Award.





BANG GOES DG!



Erin Jameson succeeded in the Bang Goes DG! event at the Crichton on June 1st. Erin successfully completed a competition to unscramble 25 fish names and was chosen as the overall winner in a draw of correct entries.

DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE

Developing the Young Workforce had some great opportunities for our pupils this year. Our highlights include attending the STEM fun filled event 'Bang Goes DG!' where 80 of our S2 pupils, who have shown a keen interest in their science classes, got to take part in STEM activities whilst learning about careers in Dumfries and Galloway. Some of our senior pupils also attended a 5 week intensive employability group, learning vital skills such as CV writing and interview skills, in preparation for their departure from Stranraer Academy - we wish them the best of luck in their future careers! Finally, we have finished the year off taking 30 pupils to DG College (Dumfries Campus) for the 'Inspiring Futures' event where pupils from S4 - S6 learned all about career pathways for NHS, social care and emergency service-based jobs.



SENIOR PROM

We were delighted to spend the evening with our current S6 and many of our recent leavers at Prom. So much effort went into the organisation, decoration and outfits.

Our pupils enjoyed a fun-filled evening, conducting themselves immaculately throughout. They are a credit to our community.

We wish our leavers every success in their future lives and careers and look forward to further celebrations this session with our current pupils.





SENIOR PROM



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

STRANRAER ACADEMY TRIP TO BATTLEFIELDS 2022

by Mike Lane

After two difficult years when we have had to cancel our trip, it was great to see the return of the Battlefields Trip this year. This is our eleventh trip, with students from S3 travelling to Belgium on a seven day study tour to the Western front battlefields to explore and develop a better understanding of the soldier's experiences and conditions during World War One. Based in the Flemish town of Ypres we took time to pay our respects at one of the most enduring commemorative ceremonies in the world – The Last Post at the Menin Gate.

A group of 45 students travelled on the trip accompanied by five teaching staff, Mr Lane, Miss Moffat, Mr Halliday, Miss Grierson and Miss Burgess. An early Saturday morning departure saw the group catch the evening ferry from Newcastle to Amsterdam. Sightseeing began the very first day with visits to the impressive Cloth Hall in the centre of Ypres, and the immersive 'In Flanders Field' Museum an interactive interpretive centre that seeks to tell from the stories of the war through the experiences of the everyday person, soldier and citizen alike.

(Continue to pg. 32)





SOCIAL SUBJECTS

STRANRAER ACADEMY TRIP TO BATTLEFIELDS 2022

On Monday we explored the local area of Ypres, using local transport to travel out to the monumental, and moving, Tyne Cot War Graves, the largest Commonwealth cemetery with over 12000 internments. We also explored the underground bunkers and trenches at the Passchendaele 1917 Museum in Zonnebeke. On the Tuesday the emphasis was on the battles of the war, so another early start saw the trip head south into France to the Somme where visits were made to Thiepval Memorial, Lochnagar Crater, as well as the very modern Sir John Monash Centre at the Australian National War Memorial. We also took a great glass elevator descending beneath the town of Arras into the Quarries used as staging places for an attack on the German lines. A truly amazing day. Wednesday saw a shift in focus to that of 'sacrifice' and loss with a return to the Ypres Salient area, exploring the WWI hospital sites, and being confronted by the German mass graves at Langemark, the site of the first use of poison gas, and also the internment of 25,000 German soldiers into a single grave.

The students took the opportunity to visit the Scottish Memorial in Zonnebeke, near Paschendaele, with the class holding a minutes silence and laying a wreath on behalf of the school.

Without doubt the most moving part of the trip was the visit to the Menin Gate and the Last Post ceremony, which has run almost continuously since 1928, as a show of respect held by the Belgians for the sacrifice made by the soldiers of the British Commonwealth. At exactly 8pm, every night, all traffic is stopped from travelling through the gate, buglers from the Last Post Association sound their tribute, and a minutes silence is observed. Hundreds attend each night. Students Georgina Lane and Adam Ferguson officially participated in the ceremony, laying a second wreath on behalf of the school for the day. As the wreaths were laid, the whole crowd stands in silence, a truly moving experience. Despite it being short ceremony, all the students reported how moving they found the ceremony; some shed a tear at the culmination of three very insightful, but emotional days.

We also had some down time, and a chance to relax, with a free time visit to the beautiful and historic city of Bruges, as well as a day at a theme park, with all the associated thrills and spills.

The students were exceptionally well behaved, respectful, and responsible. They were a credit to their families and great ambassadors for their community and school. Both staff and students thoroughly enjoyed the trip, and the school is already well under way preparing next year's visit.





MODERN STUDIES



by Neil Hyslop

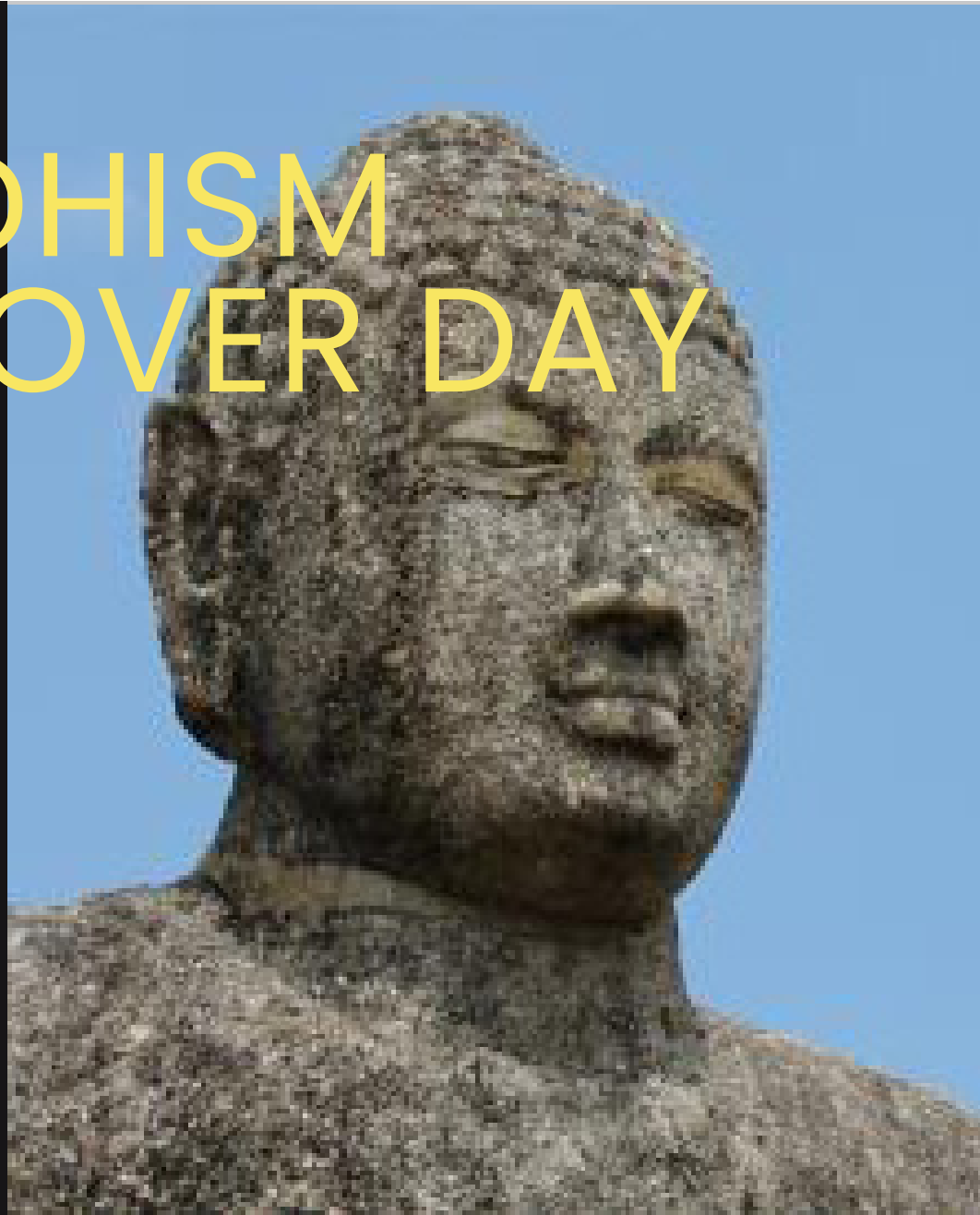
Modern Studies teachers have been taking advantage of the easing of Covid restrictions by giving pupils the opportunity to meet once again with local political representatives. There have been several visitors into the faculty throughout the year including local councillor Willie Scobie, South of Scotland regional MSP Emma Harper and our constituency MSP Finlay Carson. All these visits have given S4-S6 pupils an insight into how our political system works and the opportunity to ask questions on topics they have been learning about in class and in some cases local issues which they have a particular interest in.

In addition, plans are currently underway to run a trip to the Scottish Parliament for our more senior pupils. This will take place on Thursday the 1st of December 2022 giving pupils the opportunity to attend First Ministers questions. We are currently looking into the possibility of incorporating an overnight stay into this trip which would allow pupils to access other relevant opportunities in the area before returning home.

Modern Studies is a subject which becomes more interesting and easier when real life experiences are incorporated into our courses. Moving forward we hope to be able to continue to offer existing opportunities and enhance our courses with trips which focus on topic areas such as Crime & Law and Social Inequalities. Unfortunately providing first hand experiences of life in the USA and China may prove to be somewhat more problematic. Nevertheless there are many ways this can be done virtually during regular lessons.

RMPS BUDDHISM DISCOVER DAY

On Thursday 16th June National 4/5 RMPS pupils attended a Buddhism discover day at The University of Edinburgh. Pupils experienced mini lectures from Buddhist scholars as well as taking part in a Q+A session with a Buddhist monk. The class also visited the National museum of Scotland to explore Buddhist artefacts and how they are used in the religion today. The day was a great success with the pupils engaging with the different lecturers fantastically. Archie even managed to win a Chocolate bar. This was an invaluable experience for these pupils to show the practical side of Buddhism in Scotland.



RURAL SKILLS & NPA AGRICULTURE



S4 Rural skills: Over the past 6 weeks we've been propagating a variety of different vegetables from seed, facing the challenges of the drier weather, and potting them on in preparation for planting into the new community garden. We delivered them this afternoon to their new home – the community garden space near the old West Pier. A project created by the Dandelion project.



NPA Agriculture: A visit to Pularyan had us review the heavily pregnant Black Face Mules shedded in preparation for lambing over the coming ten days. Very different to the Beltex we've seen lambing before, the Mules are a hardy hill sheep with a good set of horns, they are brought in off the hill to easier manage the lambing and control resources such as time & fuel. A single set of twins had our attention, you couldn't help notice the pronounced horn buds on a day old lamb – only 500 more ewes to lamb.



Afterwards Ian set us a challenge to repair a stone dyke, this was taken very seriously by the team and a number of different approaches adopted – some more successful than others – but a dyke did indeed reappear. We finished the visit by visiting the hydro power station on the Pularyan Burn, an excellent example of farm diversification. Thanks to Ian & Hayley KcKnight for hosting us and giving time and sharing their experience with us.



FARM VISITS

We are currently working on our Rural Skills planning for next session, and we'd love to expand the farms/rural businesses that we currently visit. We would love to visit your farm or rural enterprise (either a once off visit, or a series over the year).

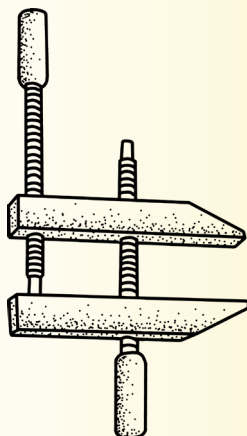
This year's hosts have enjoyed the experience. It really is such a valuable opportunity for our young people to have hands on experiences, to see, talk, and ask questions.

If this is something you would like to be part of, or simply like to know more about, please email

Mike Lane
at gw-08lane-michael@glow.sch.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

RURAL SKILLS & NPA AGRICULTURE



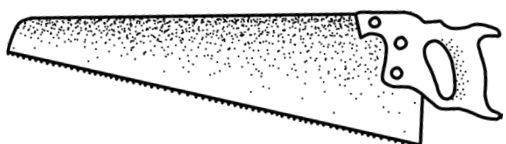
TECHNOLOGY



Above: Pupils are pictured creating boats during after-school craft club

In CDT we had great success with our very first year of S1 CDT Craft club, this was well attended and enjoyed by many. We hope to launch a new CAD / CAM club in August to make use of the new 3D printers in school.

In SQA qualifications we saw some excellent standards of practical work, with Ewan Patchett S4 & Adam Ryder S5 both producing some of the best quality woodwork models we have seen in recent years.





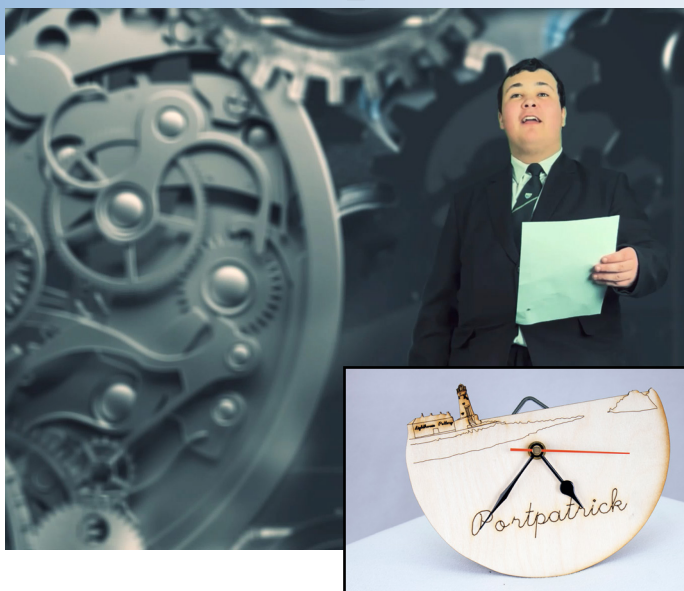
Young Enterprise had some great achievements this year, winning the regional finals and going on to represent Dumfries & Galloway in the Scottish National finals where they won 2 further awards "Creativity" and "Best Presentation". Craig, Hamish, Mark & Murdo, also all passed the Strathclyde university business school exam, and achieved an SCQF Level 6 qualification from Glasgow Kelvin College, basically earning themselves an additional higher equivalent for completing the programme.





Young Enterprise

Success



The 7 participants in this year's Young Enterprise Team programme were successful in winning 'Best Presentation' in the Scottish National Finals. All seven participants have also received an SCQF level 3 qualification awarded by Young Enterprise in partnership with Glasgow Kelvin College.

Demi Lee Delaney was also shortlisted by Young Enterprise for an individual outstanding achievement award.

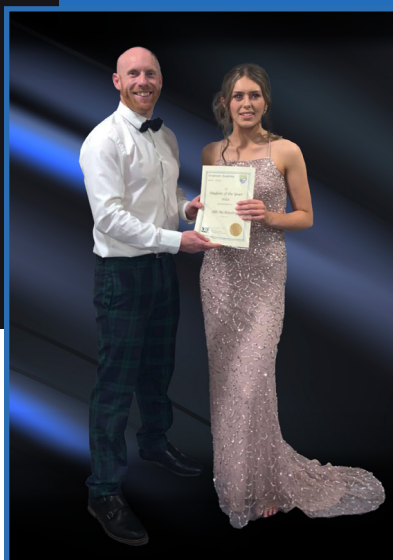
STUDENT OF THE YEAR

All teachers were asked to select their stand-out pupil from session 2021/22. Many pupils were nominated in each year and all these pupils have been personally written to by Mr Farquhar, a great achievement.

The award winners achieved the most nominations, demonstrating excellence across the curriculum. Congratulations to them all, well deserved recognition for talent, commitment and hard work.

Students of the Year:

- S1 – Ruth Turtle
- S2 – Danny Lyon
- S3 – Adam Ferguson
- S4 – Ellie Miller
- S5 – Abi McKinstry
- S6 – Callum Cumming



Thank you for sharing in the success of our young people this academic year. Our students have achieved so much over a range of different subjects, events and experiences.

Hard work, motivation and determination have been nothing less than astounding, as our young people become mature confident individuals ready to shape the future. We look forward to the new session and our dedicated hard-working staff at Stranraer Academy cannot wait to see what our young people accomplish next.



www.stranraeracademy.org.uk

