

Easter 2019

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# UPDATE



Dyce Academy



## SFL

Since the beginning of the new term in January there have been lots of exciting activities taking place both in and outside of school. Life Stars have been very busy every Thursday preparing delicious varieties of vegan soup for staff at the amazing price of £1 per bowl. The Soup Squad have had fun preparing the soup and have learnt new skill in the kitchen “I enjoy doing Soup Squad and its good because I learnt new skills I help make it I don’t have to pay” (Christopher Bertrum S2).

The Soup Squad is also a place for everyone to come together and socialise on a Thursday “I enjoy the social aspect of Soup Squad, the company of staff and students” (Mrs Sinclair).

The Life Stars Team have also been on a trip to Westburn Park to play Tennis and our most recent event which was on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March at Curl Aberdeen.



The Living For Sport Team also played football on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January at Aberdeen Sports Village.



## JOHN MUIR PROJECT

The S3 Team took part in a Ranger Walk for the John Muir Project in Seaton Park on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. The trip involved a guided walk around the Park looking at the plants and animals that inhabit the Don Mouth Nature Reserve.



The S4 Team have been planning a fund-raising day for Brain Tumour Research. On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> of March staff and students are invited to wear a hat of their choice and pay a £1 donation towards the charity. The Primary 7's from Dyce will be invited for a Mad Hatters Tea Party where they will be decorating their recycled hats and the S4s will be serving some delicious homemade treats.

The therapets, Cocoa and Midnight, have been visiting every Wednesday afternoon and this term have also spent some time with the primary sevens from Dyce Primary.

We are all looking forward to the events and activities in the next term. Happy Easter Holidays from the SFL Department.



## WELL DONE BRADLEY!

Five Aberdeen pupils who receive music lessons from the city's Music Service have been rewarded for their talent by being selected to join prestigious national orchestras it was announced today (Thursday 24 January).



The five pupils who attend for lessons at the Music Centre in Northfield Academy are saxophonist Emily Manson (16 years old), trumpeter Julia Marshal (15) flautist Scott Manson (14) and oboist Ailsa Smith (16) who all attend Bucksburn Academy along with Dyce Academy pupil, and Bradley Thompson (15) who also plays the trumpet.

Bradley has been selected for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra Takeover Scheme which will see him gain invaluable work experience with the orchestra in June.

Councilor John Wheeler, Education Operational Delivery Convener, said: "Only last month we were celebrating the success of the city's Music School pupils in joining the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and this is another huge feather in the cap for music education in the city.

"Congratulations to Emma, Isla, Julia, Scott and Bradley on their achievements and also to the Music Service for helping develop their talents."

Great job Bradley – well done!



## S3 LEADERSHIP GROUP COMMUNITY TASK

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of March some pupils from the S3 Leadership group took part in a community task that saw them set up and run a cinema experience for the residents at Victoria Grange in Dyce.

The group organised everything from start to finish including contacting Victoria Grange, advertising the afternoon event to the residents, school forms etc and had a fantastic afternoon with the kind residents and staff.

It was such a positive experience that the group are already looking into organising a 2<sup>nd</sup> event.



## CONGRATULATIONS SARAH



Sarah Fraser in S6 has been training extremely hard within her sport of Swimming and recently competed in an International competition in Catalan, Barcelona.

She was hugely successful in achieving a place to compete in 3 International Finals for Back Crawl 50m, 100m & 200m at the age of 17. We are all very proud of Sarah's achievements – Well done!

## CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTOPHER

Christopher Bertram receiving a special Star Award for securing £1500 from ACC Youth Activities Small Grants Fund to support other pupils towards accessing the Loch Insh Residential trip. Christopher independently wrote the entire application and cover letter on behalf of the school.

The picture shows Christopher accepting his award in front of today's Soup Squad - Well done!





## GIANT HEPTATHLON

A team of 14 S1/S2 pupils took part in the Scottish Schools Giant Heptathlon on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The team worked together to compete in 7 athletics events including Shot Putt, 40 Metre Hurdles and Triple Jump. The aim was to work together to score as many points as possible to gain a total for the school. These were then collated at the end of the event to find an overall winner for the city and Scotland. The team did superbly well to finish 5<sup>th</sup> in the city and 29<sup>th</sup> overall in the country! Well done to all those involved.



## I'M A TEACHER... GET ME OUT OF HERE!

This year 8 teachers from schools across Aberdeen were locked in the Gordon Highlander Museum, with a team of paranormal experts, in a bid to raise money for local charity Me Too! The more money each teacher raised, the longer their torture lasted until one was crowned *I'm a Teacher... Get Me Out of Here* winner, 2019.

English Teachers Miss Callan and Miss Taylor took on the challenge on behalf of Dyce Academy and were delighted to make it to the later stages of the process, in fact, Miss Taylor went on to win the event, taking home the trophy (which is proudly displayed in her classroom!) Overall, the event raised just over £2400, and we are delighted that over £1000 of that was raised by Miss Callan and Miss Taylor alone. Some pupils were very supportive and donated their own hard earned cash, so Miss Callan and Miss Taylor would like to thank all colleagues, parents and pupils who took the time to make a wee donation. The amount raised speaks volumes about the generosity of many within the Dyce Academy community.



So, did anything spooky happen? Actually, yes! Throughout the night we did seem to make some contact with the spirit world, so if donations were purely to see Miss Callan and Miss Taylor squirm, you definitely got your money's worth.

If you are unaware of 'Me Too!' it is a local charity which aims to provide inclusive opportunities for youngsters with additional support needs in Aberdeen. If you know of any families who would benefit from this, or if your family would, check out their Facebook page! You will also find the highlights from *I'm a Teacher... Get Me Out of Here* there too.





## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

On International Women's Day, St. Margaret's School for Girls held Aberdeen's first Women in Architecture and Construction Conference. The event was a collaboration between St. Margaret's and Robert Gordon's University's School of Architecture and Built Environment. Eight academies partook in the event (two of which travelled from Edinburgh) to spend the day completing an array of activities planned by a team of academics from RGU. Myself and four other S2 pupils attended this event.



One of the many hands-on activities included using high tech lasers to scan the room and it's furniture. This is a method used by many architects who are unable to travel to a location several times. By scanning the surrounding area, architects can see each and every aspect of it without moving from their office. Another activity was to build an upgraded model of Union Square as if it were a city; it had to have facilities that everyone could access, feel homely and create a leisurely atmosphere. One group came up with the inventive idea to include a fairground in the centre of the city to show that the city was a child at heart, and to showcase its joyful atmosphere in a more literal sense.



Dr Marianthi Leon, a senior lecturer, gave a speech on the impact women have in every STEM field such as architecture or construction. She said: "Construction is an industry that requires many different skills and abilities. To achieve high levels of performance it is important to employ people from different backgrounds, with different experiences and a variety of capabilities. There is a pressing need to do more to encourage a commitment to gender diversity in the workplace and thus attract more women into the industry and enable a smoother path to senior leadership."

The construction industry has faced an immense skills shortage for a number of years, and as Dr Marianthi acknowledged during her speech, "women make up only 12% of the workforce - that is a statistic that desperately needs to change."

She finished: "Against this backdrop there has never been a better time for talented young women to enter the architecture and construction arena and this event gave pupils an opportunity to explore what a career in this field may entail." Overall, we enjoyed this event as it showed that diversity is the key to success in a work environment.

Ayra Ahmad 3R

## VATTENFALL STEM EVENT TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, 8 MARCH 2019

Vattenfall invited girls from around Aberdeen city and shire to a special STEM event which celebrated women in industry.

The event was held at Vattenfall's office in Aberdeen and after a great ice breaker task which saw the girls talking to one another; they learned about the history of the Vattenfall organisation and the reasons behind their journey away from fossil to renewable energies and ultimately their reason for building the wind farm in Aberdeen.

There were workshops which let the girls find out what it takes to be a Vattenfall engineer alongside talks from some of their female employees.

All who attended thoroughly enjoyed this thought provoking and relevant event.

## ACTIVE GIRLS UPDATE!

Active girls has been up and running for the whole school year, and we are delighted that a lovely bunch of dedicated young ladies continue to come along and have fun with fitness on a Wednesday after school. As a special treat, we had a visit to Transition Extreme on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February and we had a great time! We got to skateboard and BMX, before hitting the climbing walls. As you can see from our pictures, we had a blast!

Moving forward, we would love to make trips like this a more regular thing - we are currently eyeing up an ice-skating trip and a surfing one! These experiences and opportunities will be opened up to regular attendees of Active Girls, so we would love to see more participants. Active Girls is a fun and friendly way of being fit and active. We have loads of fun...sometimes we even forget that we are exercising! If you would like to join us, please do! We meet in the Games Hall, in our PE kit, on a Wednesday after school. It is absolutely free, all you need to bring is some water and some energy! Absolutely no sporting experience is required.



If you are a senior pupil who is interested in sport, or a career as a leader or teacher, then why not consider taking on a Sports Leader role for us? Our current seniors, Iona Copeland and Rebekah Singer, lead the Active Girls sessions, experience that will look great on their CVs. As the girls are soon to leave us for brighter pastures, we are looking for enthusiastic S4-6 pupils to take over the role. Please speak to the PE Department, or Miss Callan or Miss Taylor, if you would like to learn more about this opportunity.





# Rock Climbing



# X-COUNTRY REPORT

Saturday 2nd March 2019

Report by: Jordan Cruickshank

On a warm day in South Queensferry, Hopetoun House was the destination for the schools nationals cross country event. On the course two brutal hills, a 293ft incline and the uneven surface proved a stern task for all young athletes also playing a major part in performances.



All around, there were athletes warming, gazebos set up and hoodies being sold to cold school athletes at the top of their game. Dyce Academy runners would have had to have been up early to make the journey down, even with some car trouble all athletes made it down safely.

The Dyce runners Caiden Thom (3R), Kieran Downie (3B2) and Jordan Cruickshank (4K) competed at the national schools x-country where all the top athletes and schools compete. The first race Dyce were involved in was under 15s in which Caiden and Kieran both competed. As the gun went off Caiden got a good start with Kieran hot on his heels as they went round the first bend. Caiden, an experienced trail and hill racer, quickly extended a gap at the first hill a long vertical incline but no matter how hard Kieran worked on the down hills and the flats the hill runner kept pulling away on the 4 steep inclines from the track athletes. Caiden was the first Dyce pupil to finish with a time of 17:13 closely followed by Kieran. They both finished in respectful 66th and 78th in a tight race. Kieran showed great fitness to keep close to him but Caiden just had the hill experience over the track runner who has been trying out x-country for the first season. Both boys did very well on a challenging course in the heat in a tightly contested battle.

Next to race was Jordan in the under 17s. Jordan had been at this race last year so had some things that needed sorted out so as the gun went off, Jordan shot out the blocks all guns blazing sticking in the tight middle of the pack Jordan just couldn't get through the herds of runners that had shot off. Jordan struggled on the hills but the road runner persevered by pulling it back on the straights gritting up the hills and finished with a sprint but didn't quite reach his target. Jordan came a respectable 67th in a very strong field of runners in a respectable time of 20:13.

All the boys did Dyce Academy proud battling with the best runners in their age groups and held their own. The boys showed great sportsmanship shaking hands at the end and showing support for their fellow athletes. Their next challenge will be the East District schools competition at Balgownie on the 15th of March where they will be looking for strong positions and brilliant performances.



## YOU MUST BE HAVING A LAUGH!

Our pupils do like a good funny book, but sadly this means that our current stock is in danger of being read literally to bits. We just can't keep up with demand.

So here's our plea for help -

If you have books like Captain Underpants, Wimpy Kid, Tom Gates or similar at home, in good condition and which you no longer need, please consider donating them to the school library and help keep Dyce Academy pupils laughing. It has been said that laughing helps improve mental health, your immune system and your cardiovascular system so maybe laughter is the best medicine after all.

Before you go - My father gave me a really cheap dictionary for my birthday... I couldn't find the words to thank him.



K. Yeoman, Librarian





## SHELL AND NESCOL PARTNERSHIP COMPETITION



College staff spoke to pupils in each class a little about Shell, College, Engineering and Energy. After this the pupils set about round one of the competition (electrical snap circuits). The round 1 class winners were announced at a S2 Assembly. Round 2 was a "play-off" of the class winners to see who would go on to represent Dyce Academy at the final in May at NESCol.



The winners were Murray Coleman and Weronika Gorczynska.  
Runners up: Lennox Shirran and Jodi Beaton



## DYCE PE KIT & JEWELLERY POLICY

A reminder that all pupils should take full PE kit for all lessons in the department. This includes our red Dyce Academy T-shirt (available to order from the school office), shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms and a change of footwear. A black jumper should be worn if outside.

Swim kit should comprise of swimwear, shampoo and a towel. Pupils should bring a pair of goggles should they want to wear any.

All Jewellery should be removed and hair must be tied up prior to the lesson starting. If jewellery cannot be removed, tape should be worn to cover items (provided by the pupil).



## BALGOWNIE X-COUNTRY EVENT. FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

On a blustery day 11 Dyce Academy pupils, 9 running 2 out with injury battled against the elements. The athletes were set for a cold blustery day at Balgownie playing field for the East schools x-country, all eager as they boarded the bus. All except one had something to prove on their return back to the race. As the pupils arrived the 9 runners went for a reconnaissance of the course. They were all figuring out the route and their race tactics.

The first race was S1 boys that included young runner **Jamie Renfrew**. This was Jamie's first year racing at Balgownie but the athlete was part of the Aberdeen Athletics Club so Jamie knew what it was like to be competitive and be fast. So as they gathered in the start pen the nerves started to kick in. As the competitors went to the start line Jamie was at the back. The gun went off as the competitors set off Jamie slipped leaving him chasing the pack from early on not ideal for his first race for his school. As Jamie stubbornly kept chasing, slowly moving up the field. Jamie worked hard to keep his position at the last hill at then powered towards the finish. Jamie finished in a respectable place of 58th out of 71.

The next race that Dyce competed in was the S2 girls where **Ellie, Kitty** and **Emily** competed. All three girls making a return to improve on their places from last year.

As the trio made their way to the start the girls started together, the gun went off Ellie was in the middle of the pack while Kitty and Emily caught at the back but keeping close. Sadly disaster struck early for Emily and Kitty. Kitty had problems early on with hay-fever she had to pull out of competing but battled through to finish the race. Emily slowed to see if her teammate was okay. Emily started her quest to gain some position Emily started to gain some time but sadly she was too far behind. Ellie kept with the pack working very hard on the hill and over took her joining another one as they went up the last hill but couldn't keep up with the final push very good effort by the girls all finishing in the good places.

The next race was highly anticipated for the three Dyce athletes **Ben Creswell, Caiden Thom** and **Kieran Downie**. The boys looking for a team prize so as the Dyce athletes lined up in the starting pen all planning their race tactics, the race was about to begin when the trio were taken up to the start line all the boys were focused on getting the best position they could. The gun went off the boys sprinting to keep a position Ben was furthest up. Ben was aiming for a top 10 finish but a strong field prevented this idea. It was just enough finishing in 13th with a tremendous time of 10:45 the other boys also had a close race as Kieran and Caiden kept close to each other but like their previous race Caiden won it by taking a lead on the hills over Kieran both worked hard to keep close to each other but Caiden held on. The last hill took everything out of Kieran but Caiden kicked on but both boys finished in 20th and 23rd but only just missed out on the team prize. Caiden finished in a time of 11:15 and Kieran in a time of 11:45 all three boys did exceptionally well in a tough competition.





Maria Kusmider was next up to face the course. Maria was in her second year of Balgownie racing in the senior girl's race and she was nervous in the starting pen with all the tall looking girls. As the girls made their way up to the start Maria started at the back but as the official fired his gun Maria took off but so did the rest of the pack. Maria settled into her stride smiling her way round, she battled her way round the course Maria finished in a respectable manner with a tough competition she held her own against the bigger stronger athletes and battled bravely while keeping a massive smile on her face the whole time.



In the final race of the day Dyce's Jordan

Cruickshank was racing in the senior race as he was in the pen he was preparing himself. As the senior boys were taken up to the start Jordan was forced into a wide start so as the gun went off the athletes shot off at top speed. The Dyce athlete was in the middle but got in a wide position going into the first corner. The Dyce pupil from S4 swiftly moving up as he got his stride in. Jordan had good speed leading up the first hill driving up and back down moving further up the pack. He was accelerating till they got up the second hill and sped up round onto the second lap slowing the hill losing a position but gaining two on the downhill. He over took one more before holding on to his position with a final kick on at the end almost catching the person in front but it was too little too late. Jordan finished in a time of 17:56 for 4k. On a course that includes hills, wind and rain finishing in 13th place.

The Dyce racers battled brilliantly in the races and the support crew of Miss Halley, Katie Wilson and Cian keeping everyone in the right place for their races and looking after the bags and the warm up duo of Jordan Cruickshank and Caiden Thom getting everyone prepared to perform to their optimum level for their races and everyone as photographers. Everyone enjoyed the day as it was another successful outing for the pupils of Dyce Academy they all did their school and running club proud.



## CYCLING @ DYCE

The cycling club at Dyce Academy has been going from strength to strength. We have eight main fleet bicycles and six spares, and these are being put to good use every Friday lunchtime on our weekly jaunt along the river. A core of 8-10 pupils (plus 3-4 staff) turn up every week and we are planning an extended excursion very soon, where the pupils will be away for longer and further and will enjoy a picnic!



Adventure Aberdeen provided us with a mechanic to work in the school workshop that is down in the D&T department. He worked with small groups of pupils over the course of four weeks and it was amazing to see the progress made by the pupils. By the end of the four sessions, the pupils were taking their own bikes to school for minor repairs and adjustments, so they could fix them themselves; they fixed punctures, adjusted gears, adjusted brakes, stripped drivetrains, oiled and lubricated chains and learnt how to keep their bikes in good running order for any weather! Pupil feedback has all been positive and many commented on the fantastic opportunity to get some 'hands-on' practical experience.

Adventure Aberdeen have also been running the Go Mountain Bike course from Dyce Academy. This is usually based at their Kingswells property, but Dyce Academy is so well kitted out in terms of workshop equipment and access to great trails along the river, that they were happy to run it from here. Four pupils learnt some proper mountain biking techniques in the context of enjoying the outdoors and working independently. Well done to all pupils who gained Level 2 GoMTB.

All this cycling activity has contributed to Dyce Academy being awarded Cycle Friendly Secondary School status. This is a National award that recognises the opportunities, infrastructure and ethos to encourage cycling and sustainable travel. This award lasts for three years.



Ever onwards...

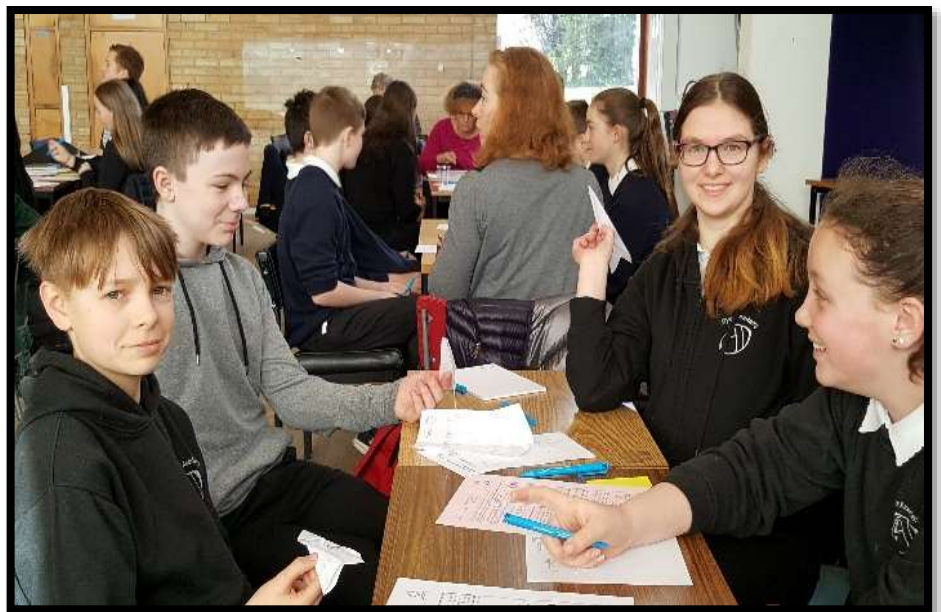


## UKMT TEAM CHALLENGE

Pi day is normally a special day in Maths but this year the regional finals of the UKMT Team Challenge landed on March 14<sup>th</sup>. So four of our S1/S2 pupils, Valeriya, Ella, Lewis and Sonny, got to go down to the University of Aberdeen with Mrs Manson to compete against schools from all over the North East, with teams coming from as far away from Shetland to compete.

On arrival the general consensus from the team on seeing King College was that they had been taken to Hogwarts rather than Aberdeen University. Eventually we found our new venue tucked away in a leafy corner of the campus. We discovered that we were a little early, so we went for an impromptu tour of the campus. Many photos were taken by the pupils.

Once the competition started they were given 45 minutes for the Group round which was then followed by a cross number puzzle round. After a quick break for lunch the speed rounds arrived. First up was a shuttle round where the answer your partner pair gave you was the one you had to work with, made more difficult by the 6 minute time scale for each set of 4 questions. Finally the relay race! This is normally a fast paced round where pupils from all schools are running around with their answers and questions to get them marked from their supervisors or give the next question to their partnered pair. Not our team. Despite being the furthest from the marking supervisors they (the boys) insisted on keeping to a slow measured walk. Even the supervisors were trying to encourage them on while we marked other schools.



A fantastic day was had by all even if we did not come first. We ranked twelfth out of nineteen teams but we all had a fun filled day and even managed a walk through the green spaces of the university. Thank you to our lovely pupils who took part, they did Dyce Academy proud.

# LANGUAGES NEWS

Hola! Salut!

We've had quite an interesting time in French and Spanish this term with 1B making a film to revise descriptions and S2 learning the past tense in French in order to say what they did at the weekend. We have had verb competitions in French and pupils in Spanish researching background information on Spain to get to know the culture, cities and cuisine of this very diverse country.



In S3, we are in the process of completing our Spanish for Life and Work course and as part of this we link with Aberdeen International Airport. On the 25<sup>th</sup> February, a group of pupils were invited to take a private tour around the Airport and its new facilities. They visited the new Departures and Security area, the Northern Lights lounge as well as the British Airways lounge and were informed of further changes to the Airport in view of its International status.

The visit culminated in a bus tour around the various runways and a visit to the Heliport. We were accompanied on our visit by Anabel Narganes who works as an Ambassador and is employed for her Language skills. Anabel visited us at Dyce Academy in January to hold conversation assessments with pupils and she was very impressed by our pupil's level and skill in spoken Spanish. The Tour was led by Fraser Bain, Terminal Duty Manager.

Every year, the Airport Terminal Operations Manager, Kevin Douglas visits Dyce Academy ML Department to talk about the Airport in general but also about career prospects within the establishment. This is done with a view to support the initiative of Developing the Young Workforce. Pupils enjoy this opportunity to take a look first hand at the life of the Airport and find out important information. It is also a great opportunity to ask questions.

In our senior classes, we have a BP sponsored University student who supports our Nat 5 and Higher pupils in their Speaking Practice. Hannah Rhodes is a final year student at Aberdeen University who has just completed her compulsory residence in Córdoba, Spain and is a valuable asset that we have managed to obtain. Pupils have found it very useful to practice their language skills with Hannah. Previously, Dr Bruce Gardner from Dyce kindly lent a hand in Spanish speaking practice.

Dr Gardner's input was very welcome and again a valuable asset to our students. Both Mme Jarvie and I would like to thank Bruce for his kindness and help.

Good luck to all of our pupils who will sit their Nat 5 and Higher exams in French and Spanish in the next short while. We hope that you achieve what you most want to achieve.

Buena suerte!  
Bonne chance!



## 1B Descriptions Film



## Aberdeen International Airport Visit



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS EVENING

On Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> February the Duke of Edinburgh awards held a ceremony at the Beach Ballroom to congratulate all those who completed their Gold, Silver and Bronze awards. The ceremony also gave an opportunity for parents and volunteers to praise the award recipients for all their hard work. From Dyce academy we had several recipients who attended. I would also like to congratulate those who did complete their awards but did not attend. For those with awards still to complete you will have done most of the hard work, make the effort and finish the award.

### Silver awards

Kaycee-Jo Donald  
Lucy Rennie  
Eve Burnett

### Bronze

Hannah Ingram  
Bradley Thompson  
Leah Danraj  
Kristi Mason





## RED NOSE DAY 2019

This Year the S4 Drama Class became leaders of learning and took charge of the Red Nose fundraising events across the school on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Throughout the day we seen many activities to help raise money for this national charity including Sponge the Teacher, Guess the Sweetie, Nobody Nose, Disney Bingo and Nobody Nose.

The school community raised an impressive £415 from their events and all money will help support projects here and abroad. Well done S4 Drama and Team Dyce!



## BRAINSTORM!

The S4 Drama class produced an exciting, funny and emotional play this term to their family and friends called 'Brainstorm'.

*Brainstorm* is a unique theatrical investigation into how teenagers' brains work, and why they're designed by evolution to be the way they are. Inside every adolescent brain, 86 billion neurons connect and collide to produce the most frustrating, chaotic and exhilarating changes that will ever happen to us. The class did incredibly well and those in the audience loved learning about the brain but also seeing our young people shine on stage!





## CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AT DYCE PRIMARY!

The S3 Creative Industries students worked again with Dyce Primary School to help turn their library into a fun, exciting and creative space! The Head Teacher from Dyce Primary said 'Thank you Mrs Reed and the pupils from Dyce Academy for all the hard work and effort you have put in so far on our library and ICT entrances, they are looking fabulous!' This partnership is great for both the schools and students involved and gives our Creative Industry students a chance to work on a specific brief, while developing real workforce skills! Good job everyone!



## LGBT HISTORY MONTH

This year's LGBT history month was a great success and seen over 40 staff members wear a rainbow lanyard for the month to be our school 'everyday hero' and ally to our LGBT+ students. The Pride Group created an LGBT Icon board for staff and students to visually see how the LGBT+ community has impacted on society.

Each day in the daily bulletin there was a different moment from LGBT history read out to all years.

These moments highlighted the timeline of our struggles and accomplishments. There was a movie showing of the hit 'Love Simon' which was attended by approx. 30 students and all S1 students took LGBT history month to look at Equality and Diversity in PSE and Drama. We are striving to make Dyce Academy a safe, secure learning community for all!



## WAR HORSE

The Higher Drama students had an exciting day in Glasgow to see the epic War Horse by the National Theatre, train cancellations, delayed buses and rain didn't stop us! At the outbreak of World War One, Joey, young Albert's beloved horse, is sold to the Cavalry and shipped to France. He's soon caught up in enemy fire, and fate takes him on an extraordinary journey, serving on both sides before finding himself alone in no man's land. Albert, who

remained on his parents' Devon farm, cannot forget Joey. Though still not old enough to enlist he embarks on a treacherous mission to find him and bring him home. The Highers were in awe at the puppetry, storytelling and staging of this piece and will have lots to write about for their examination!





## MARY POPPINS

Our next school show is well under way in the rehearsal room! Mary Poppins is flying into Dyce from the 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Tickets on sale SOON!

Based on one of the most popular Disney movies of all time... The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Young Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that "Anything can happen if you let it."



## S3 CIDM – CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE

The CIDM class have been extremely busy working on a makeover of the Dyce Primary Library.

The library is an open and welcoming space which also doubles up as the IT Suite.

Mrs Hewitt got in touch with the pupils to ask if they would be interested in adding a little magic to the room and helping to create an obvious distinction between the entrances to the library and IT suite.

The pupils were very happy to take part and everyone presented a piece of homework with their initial sketches and ideas. Mrs Hewitt looked through the work giving each pupil encouraging feedback.

The class had previously been working through and understanding the design process so when presented with this new design brief they quickly got themselves organised into teams to work on a variety of identified themes; 3D books, book characters, doorways, super heroes, an ambitious fairy tale sign post and Harry Potter to name but a few.

With the kind support of other staff in the faculty the pupils visited the school twice to display their hard work. There were immediate encouraging responses from primary pupils who were passing.





Most of the work is now in place. We have had a few disasters and challenges especially involving the IT entrance where neither blu tac, Velcro or doublesided tape seemed to want to stay in place; this is still a work in progress and very much part of evaluating and continuing to develop ideas when things do not go as planned.

The pupils have shown themselves to have great creative imaginations, good team working skills, good problem solving skills and resilience. A job well done!



# DYCE ACADEMY PARENT COUNCIL

Dyce Academy Parent Council meet every couple of months to discuss ideas and issues relating to our young people's education. We also get the opportunity to learn about new initiatives and proposals which may affect the school. Coming along to meetings is a good way to get involved and have a say in your child's education.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 29th May 6pm in the Staff Room here at Dyce Academy, you'll be made very welcome!! If you wish to find out more please follow us on Twitter @DyceAcadParent

## S3 PHOTOGRAPHY

Once again S3 photography classes have had the chance to put their knowledge into action by entering the ROTARY CLUB of DYCE Young Photographer Competition 2018.

This year's theme was 'Beauty of Nature' and was open to individual interpretation.

The pupils had recently been putting together a unit of work titled 'The Natural Environment.' This was a similar theme where the pupils had to put together a shoot plan, make contact sheets, evaluate their work relating to composition and techniques applied, and study the work of relevant photographers.

In order to participate in the competition each pupil had to print 3 quality images with titles.

Mr Ian Milne of the Rotary club received the pupils work and we now wait to see if any of our students have made it to the next round of judging for the District Final.

Good Luck

## S2 CAREERS AND





## INTER HOUSE COMPETITION

This term has seen pupils from across all year groups taking part in Basketball matches for the Inter house competition.

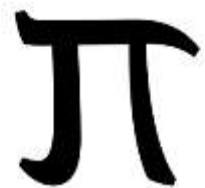
The results were; Brimmond 1<sup>st</sup>, Kirkhill 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ramsay 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We have also had a Pi challenge from the Maths Department where pupils had to remember as many numbers after the decimal point as possible.

Kieran Downie from Brimmond won remembering 33 numbers. Gaining a first place for Brimmond with Miss Rodland and Fraser McIntosh being placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for Ramsay.

The overall standings for Inter house are:

1<sup>st</sup> Kirkhill – 1275  
2<sup>nd</sup> Brimmond – 1225  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ramsay – 1025



## ABERDEEN YOUTH GAMES - Secondary Festival of Sport 2019

The Aberdeen Youth Games (AYG) is an innovative sports programme which promotes physical activity, health and well-being among young people from Primary and Secondary Schools across the City of Aberdeen. It was developed in partnership by Sport Aberdeen's Active Schools Team and Robert Gordon's University's Applied Sport and Exercise Science Team.

This year there was a new aspect to the festival with RGU students, Aidan and Scott coming into our school from January for 6 weeks. They helped us coordinate teams, organise transport as well as shadowing PE staff to learn how to teach in a school setting.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> February, Miss Stevenson from the PE department, along with the RGU students, took 40+ S1-3 pupils to represent Dyce Academy at the Aberdeen City Youth Games in the Aberdeen Sports Village. Pupils took part in a variety of sports including Football, Basketball, Table Tennis, Dodgeball, Swimming against other schools in the city.



Pupils represented the school well across all the activities, and even though they did not come home with any silverware they all enjoyed playing against other schools and being part of the experience of a City wide multi-sport tournament.

Well done to everyone who took part!

## OUTLOOK EXPEDITIONS – ZAMBIA AND BOTSWANA

It has been a busy term for the team heading to Zambia and Botswana. They have been working hard all term to fundraise individually and also had a group duck race fundraiser in the swimming pool last week which raised about £400. The results were; 1st Duck - 42 Lola Adefuwa S5, 2nd Duck - 362 Sarah Wilson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Duck - 415 Sol Collins S4.

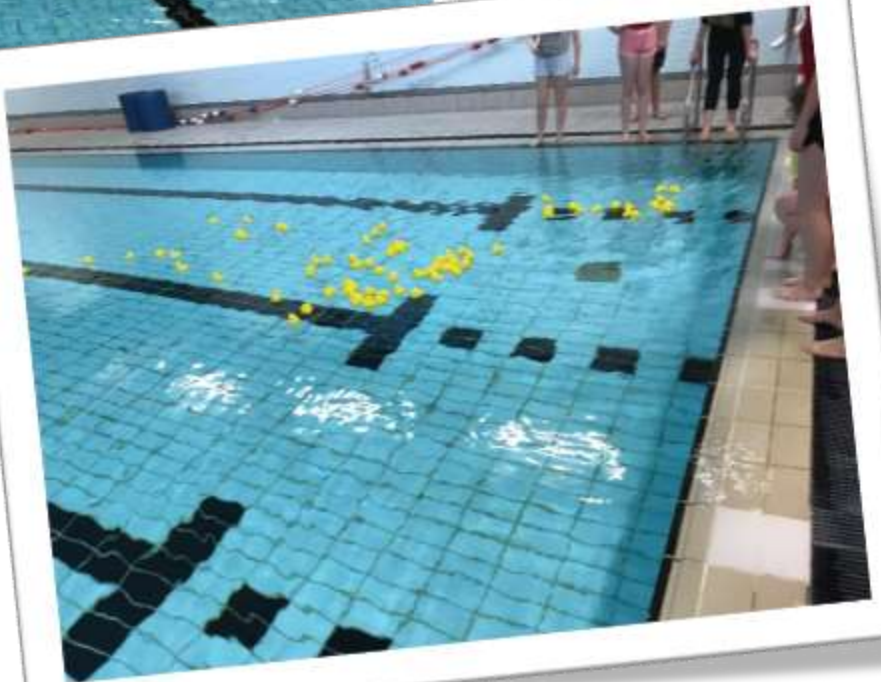


They also had their Training Weekend at Comrie Croft. The weekend started off with bleak conditions and the group waking up to snow and cereal on the Saturday morning. By the end of the weekend the group were working better as a team and had gained confidence in their cookery skills. This had started off with a 2hr 40minute wait for dinner on the Friday and on the Saturday had reduced to 45 minutes! It also gave the team a chance to get to know their leader Luca and his dog Sherpa better! We are now on our final countdown to our departure in July – excitement is definitely growing!





## DUCK RACE CHARITY EVENT



## PATHWAYS PRESENTATIONS FOR S3 COURSE CHOICES

BP representatives took time out of their busy schedules to visit all the S2s in Science and discuss their pathways from school to their current posts. The talks were highly informative and well received by the pupils. This gave pupils an insight into BP as well as career journeys.

Jobs and pathways discussed were:

- Planning and Commercial Analyst for Exploration
- Process Engineer
- Completions Engineer
- Petrolphysicist
- Construction Engineer
- Subsea controls Engineer

