



Christmas Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

December 2014

Rector's Message

The end of this term has brought with it the usual rush of festive parties, school concert and final drafts for UCAS applications. A very hectic, but enjoyable, end to the term.

The term began with a rigorous self-evaluation of our 2014 SQA results, made more difficult this year as the country and the Fife Education Service had moved from the previous method of analysis to a new system, called INSIGHT. Despite this change in system, we were still able to look at our National, Higher and Advanced Higher results along with trends and comparisons. I am delighted to report that our analysis highlighted that the overall quality of our young people's achievement was high and, in many cases, notably so. The majority of pupil performance in S4 showed a notable improvement on previous years. As well as this there were notable improvements in performance in a range of measures for S5 and S6. I can also report that there was a sustained performance to very high standards for our most able pupils, which was well above both National averages and our comparator school measures. This term

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British Physics Olympiad

Seven Advanced higher Physics pupils participated in the Olympiad Challenge Competition. This competition is designed for A levels so curriculum is not exactly the same however the pupils made a good attempt at questions. Special mention goes to Alasdair Reid who achieved a Merit Certificate.

Four pupils qualified for the first round of the British Physics Olympiad and they are currently awaiting their results. If very successful in the competition, pupils can qualify for the British team and compete in Mumbai.

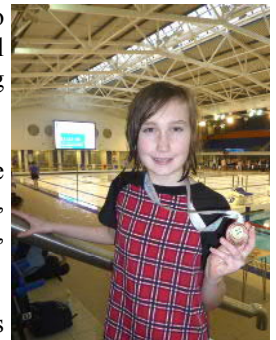
Madras Pupils Represent Fife in National Swimming Finals.

A team of seven Madras College pupils were chosen to represent Fife in the elite team in the SDS National Swimming Finals held at the Commonwealth Swimming Pool in Tollcross, Glasgow.

The finals were held on 19th November 2014 and the team comprised of Joyce Law (Captain), Tom Jackson, Danielle Adamson, Kieran Beaton, Thomas McIntyre, Rosalind Penman and Holly-Jane Gray.

Schools from across Scotland competed in inter-schools galas, the winners of which were then chosen to represent each region.

Ably led by their Captain, Joyce Law, the Madras team performed even better than expectation and managed to gain four medals (two Golds, one Silver and one Bronze).



Farewell to Mrs Wilson



We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Morag Wilson who leaves our office staff after over 20 years loyal service at Madras. She has divided her years between the buildings, alternating many times and getting a feel for the entire school which she has said is very important to her - to be able to see the school as one collective whole. It is because of this experience of both buildings that Morag decided that all of the office staff working in the school should alternate between schools, so that they too can appreciate the entire school, as well as getting to know the different atmospheres that come with the different buildings.

It is not only in her work that we will miss Morag, but in the vast array of extra activities run by Madras in which she partook. Throughout her years she has been heavily involved within the school, playing the fairy godmother in the staff pantomime, strutting her stuff as a punk rocker in the school fashion show and fundraising for two years and then going to Namibia to teach young children there and help set up a school library. This trip is one Morag says she will never forget and describes it as a life changing experience. Recently, attending a "Madras former pupils" lunch, Olav Darge, Depute Rector, said that if one were to cut Morag Wilson's heart in half they would find "Madras" inscribed all the way through it like a stick of Blackpool rock.

Morag is now moving on to spend 6 months in Australia with her new partner before returning to Scotland to enjoy retirement at home and surely to visit us frequently.

We thank Morag for her excellent contributions to the school and we wish her the very best for her future.

saw the introduction of out move to a five period day with each period being 62 and 64 minutes long for Kilrymont and South Street campus respectively. In my five a day interviews I have asked each pupil how they are finding the new period length and the new day structure. To date, every pupil interviewed has given me a positive response to this change, with the senior pupils in particular being very positive – saying there is increased learning as a result.

In September the school received a visit from Her Majesty’s Inspectors who completed an inspection report on the school. The report was very positive with the school receiving very good evaluations on pupil exam attainment, achievement and pupil experiences in performance and how well pupils learn and achieve. The report quoted many positive aspects of learning which included “Relationships between young people and their teachers are very positive”, “Young people work very well together when given the opportunity to do so and can be relied upon to work well independently”, “Young people learn new skills and grow in confidence through their learning programmes with a range of partner agencies such as the University of St.Andrews and the University of Abertay. The programmes relate to almost all subject areas and enable young people to meet and engage with different educational professionals and university students”. The school is very pleased with the report and will use the findings to support and build on our improvement agenda.

Throughout the term we have also engaged with our cluster primary schools in our now annual “Roadshow” programme of visits to P6 and P7 parents. In these we outline our vision and expectations and try to address any questions which the pupils and parents may have.

It has been a very busy start to the session and, as ever, I am very grateful to all our staff who work very hard to support the pupils and the school. On behalf of all the staff and pupils I would like to wish you a Happy Christmas and a relaxing festive break.

D. McClure.

SCIENCE CLUB

On the 8th of December the Science Club had a guest lecture from a Consultant Dermatologist at Ninewells Hospital .

Pupils learnt about the genetic causes of skin diseases and got the opportunity to perform experiments.



BIOLOGY BANTER

The Biology Department has had a very active session since the Summer. Mrs McIntyre departed for sunnier climes in Dubai, and so we welcomed the services of two new teachers – Mrs Moir and Miss Wyse. Both members of staff have settled in very well and are making excellent progress with their classes.

In the Autumn, the whole of S3 Biology enjoyed a series of visits to the Botanic Gardens in St Andrews. This marked the culmination of the ‘Plants’ topic and was a great way to revise and find out about more unusual varieties of plants!

Higher Biology students are looking forward to a visit to the Bell Pettigrew Museum in St Andrews – to back up their knowledge of evolution. We have so many fantastic resources right on our doorstep!

Advanced Higher Biology students have also had a busy time, making full use of the local area. In August, we carried out a kick-net pollution survey in the Kinness Burn (all nice and clean!). Students then carried out a survey of two types of barnacle species on the harbour wall at the East Sands...the exotic invader ‘*Elminius*’ species is making gains on our native ‘*Semibalanus*’ species! Students were able to use this practical to complete their compulsory ‘LO3’ write-up.

The students have also had a tour of the University of St Andrew’s library – to find out about referencing, a tour of the Botanic Gardens – to get project ideas, and most recently carried out a practical experiment in the University labs to look at the effect of salinity on the feeding rate of Blue Mussels. We look forward to our final excursion in March – back to the University labs to study genetic engineering in bacteria.



At the Biology lab, St Andrews University



At the Harbour wall, East Sands



FRENCH EXCHANGE 2015

Arrangements for the French Exchange to Loches are well underway.

The French will arrive in St Andrews on Saturday 18th April and will leave again on Friday 24th April.

In late September (dates to be confirmed when flights are booked) 40 pupils and four members of staff will leave for Loches.

GERMAN NEWS

The S3 and S4 German classes enjoyed a visit from two university students who talked about their experiences during their year abroad. The students also outlined possible career options in languages. The pupils also had an opportunity to ask questions about university life.

58TH KIEL EXCHANGE VISIT 2015

Preparations are getting underway for the 58th Kiel Exchange visit in June 2015 when we are due to host our German partners. Shortly before the Christmas holidays S4 and S5 pupils who have already participated in the exchange will be encouraging S3 pupils to sign up for this, one of the oldest school exchanges in the UK.

DEPARTMENT OF ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

The Department of Additional Support will be taking all pupils who have achieved enough reward points to a pantomime at the Byre Theatre.

We will be seeing some drama in action with 'Jack and the Beanstalk' on Thursday 18th December.

Pupils are very much looking forward to the outing.

DRAMA DEPARTMENT NEWS



The Drama Department have had a very busy two terms so far with a variety of Theatre Trips and pupil performances taking place.

Theatre Trips include:-

- In Time 'O Strife by Joe Corrie performed at the Lochgelly Centre by the National Theatre Of Scotland.
- Sunset Song at the Adam Smith Theatre performed by Selladoor Theatre Company.
- Kill Johnny Glendenning – a new play by D.C. Jackson and performed at the Citizens Theatre in Glasgow.

We were lucky enough to have Paul Samson, one of the main characters in this play come and speak to the pupils in school about his experience in what was a fantastic piece of theatre.

The S5/6 Activities class took part for the first time in the Shakespeare Schools Festival performing an abridged version of Macbeth. The festival took place at the Rothes Halls with 3 other Fife Secondary Schools participating and the group were delighted to have the chance to perform again at the newly reopened Byre Theatre.

Five evening performances have taken place in the Senior School.

- The National 4/5 classes gave 2 evening performances of their Drama Skills Unit.
- Likewise the 2 Higher classes gave 2 evening performances of their Drama Skills Unit.
- The Advanced Higher class gave an evening performance of their Devised Dramas entitled Labyrinth.

All of these evenings gave parents the opportunity to see the work of their sons and daughters and all feedback was very positive.

Finally, we were delighted to be hosting a student – Mr. David Graham - from Aberdeen University who had 2 placements with us and who will join us again in the New Year.

The S6 Production Company is proud to present

Beauty and the Beast

in the Kilrymont Assembly Hall
on Thursday 18th December.

Performance starts 7pm
tickets are £4 available from the Drama Department.

"Love, honour, friendship, duty – this is the tale of Beast and Beauty!"

SOCIAL SUBJECTS NEWS

Higher Politics London Trip - October 2nd

On Thursday 2nd October the Madras College Politics class of sixteen ventured to London on a quest to enhance their knowledge of how the United Kingdom is run. The journey began in Dundee as the pupils took the 'Megabus Gold Deluxe' on the overnight journey. Leaving at around half ten the jaded pupils arrived at Victoria at the early hour of half seven to start the day. The class started the day by going to 10 Downing Street and taking several pictures with a policeman who certainly wasn't camera shy.

After leaving Downing Street the class enjoyed the centre of London before going to the Supreme Court where they learned about how court cases from across the country were decided in the London courtroom. After the tour, the class of sixteen came to the finale of the day: Westminster. On arrival, all pupils were searched before starting the tour of Westminster. The tour consisted of learning about the House of Lords, House of Commons as well as the back corridors of Parliament. This gave a chance for the pupils to transfer what they are learning in the course into the tour.



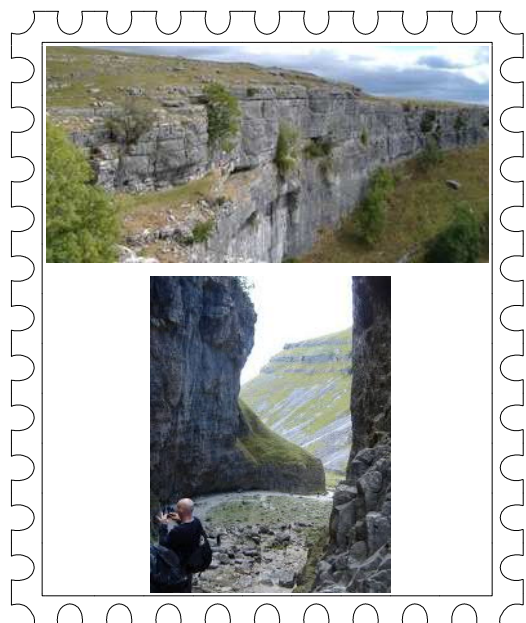
Geography Field Trips

CfE National 4 & 5: Highland Fieldtrip

This trip showcases the changing landscape between lowland and highland Scotland. The pupils gather a wide range of geographical data covering both physical and human elements. The route passes through Dundee, Perth, Dunkeld and Pitlochry. Pupils have the opportunity to explore both Dunkeld and Pitlochry on foot whilst they gather geographical information for processing back in the classroom. The river survey just to the south of Dalwhinnie marks the most northerly point of the trip before heading back down the A9 and homewards. It's a busy but thoroughly rewarding day and provides a strong foundation from which to move forward with their added value unit and course assignment.

CfE Higher: Yorkshire Dales Fieldtrip

In September, Higher and Advanced Higher geography pupils made the trip to study the limestone scenery of the Yorkshire Dales. As part of the new CfE Higher, pupils are given the opportunity to collect data for their course assignment. This is worth a 1/3 of their final higher mark. The trip is packed full of visits which link with physical, human and environmental geography theory and offers real case studies for the pupils to write about in their coursework. The trip is based from the tranquil village of Hawes in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales. From there we made trips to Swinden quarry, Whitescar Cave, Grassington, Malham and the famous Hawes creamery.



SOCIAL SUBJECTS NEWS

continued

This year our S1 pupils had the opportunity to visit St. Andrews Cathedral as part of their unit of work on St. Andrews. There were a few surprises for the pupils as they came across a medieval pilgrim and monk on route to the Cathedral. They learned about the importance of the Cathedral in the History of St. Andrews.

As a follow up to this staff from the University of St. Andrews visited the school giving pupils the opportunity to learn more about the Cathedral using "Virtual Worlds" which allows them to experience what the Cathedral would have looked like before the Reformation. HMIe commented in their report that , "learning at S1 was brought to life through a university interactive digital programme on the history of the local cathedral"

This is an initiative the department would like to build upon and continue to improve in future years.



Social Subjects Club was launched this term

Over recent weeks the club has discussed topical events in the Social Subject area from climate change to nuclear weapons. The club runs every Wednesday lunchtime at Kilrymont and Thursday lunchtime in South Street

Visit to Perth Jail and Castle Huntly

Advanced Higher Pupils were given the opportunity to visit Perth Jail and Castle Huntly as part of their research into the prison system. The pupils were allowed to speak openly with staff and inmates.

Mathematics Department

Pupils in the Mathematics department have been busy applying their numeracy and mathematics skills in a wide variety of ways and contexts. Classes have been calculating the height of Kilrymont, designing efficient and cost-effective juice containers, creating presentations about Mathematics past, present and future, investigating how many boxes of cereal you would need to buy in order to collect five different free gifts, and even creating a scale model of the solar system along the entire length of the maths corridor!

Our pupils continue to excel in the many National maths competitions they are given the opportunity to participate in. In the recent senior UKMT maths challenge we achieved 17 bronze, 12 silver and 1 gold certificate, which saw Conor MacCallum (S6) qualify for the next stage of the competition, the Senior Kangaroo. Our S4 and S5 teams were once again placed in their respective top 10s of the Mathematiques Sans Frontieres competition. Over 30 pupils have also submitted solutions to the Scottish Mathematical Challenge questions that require the pupils to solve 2 sets of 5 questions during the course of the year. The pupils give up their own free time to take part and gain valuable experience in communicating their mathematical thinking effectively in the clear and detailed solutions they have to submit for each question.

The pupils and staff in the department once again supported the NSPCC Number Day on Friday 5th December by taking part in “Tricky Maths” and “Who Wants To Be A Mathionnaire” activities in class and holding a bake sale at interval. The classroom activities were enjoyed by all who took part and the bake sale raised £83.92 to support the work carried out by the NSPCC charity.

Recent staffing changes have seen Mrs Travers and Mrs McClure appointed to permanent positions within the department and Mr Donaldson join the department on a regular supply basis for the foreseeable future.



Debating News

Junior debaters Laurence Brown and Miles McLure are through to the next round of the ESU. Thomas Bidaut and Matt Roe put up an excellent fight and were very unlucky not to be put through.

Our next debate will be a Parliamentary style one on Arming the Police. This took place on Monday 15th December at lunchtime in room 212.

Junior debating club is on a Monday lunchtime in 212.

Senior debaters Jamie McLeod and Ewan Redpath are through to the next round of the ESU Mace and the Donald Dewar Law Society competitions. Nina Munro and Keir Little did not go through, but made very good speeches on the night. Our team of Ewan Redpath, Eildidh Northridge, Jake Walker and Ewan White were put out of the Debating Matters competition, after the judges changed their minds 3 times!

We travelled to Aberdeen with Ewan Redpath and Claire O'Donnell, for the Aberdeen University schools competition. The team got a first and a second in the first two debates with the third being closed adjudication. On Thursday 11th December we are taking part in the Oxford University debating workshop in Dundee.

Senior debating is on Wednesday lunchtime in P7.

Business and Enterprise News

S2 Trade Fair 2014

The Annual S2 Trade Fair took place on 25 November 2014 in Kilrymont Assembly hall at lunch time. Each S2 class had set up and run a small business enterprise. This involved choosing a craft product to manufacture and sell.

Each class chose a product to manufacture and sell. They also decided on a suitable business name and designed a business logo. Each class created advertising materials such as posters, leaflets and trade stand banners. They also made decisions on price.

Pupils learned the importance of:

effective marketing for a small business e.g. advertising, pricing and branding; providing good customer service; and producing high quality goods

Each class was in competition with the other S2 classes for 2 awards:

Best Profit

Best Brand

2014 class winners for Best Profit went to 2B4 - Colour Craze

2014 class winners for Best Brand went to 2C1 - Yule Log.

Class prizes will be presented at the next S2 Assembly



Investment Challenge

A team of Madras College pupils reached the final of a competition giving pupils the chance to hone their financial skills. The team of Josh Hogg and Ellen Finlayson was pipped at the post by Glenrothes High School in the final of the Investment Challenge, held at BNP Paribas offices in Dundee on 12th November.

Josh and Ellen defeated hundreds of S5/6 students from across Tayside and Fife to reach the final by increasing the value of a virtual investment fund, buying and selling shares and commodities and carrying out their own research to make investment decisions while also reacting to incoming news stories.

Despite finishing as runners-up, the team had a very good experience which had boosted their understanding of financial services and provided a worthwhile addition to their UCAS personal statements.



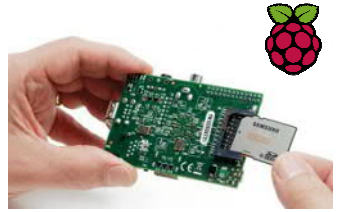
Ellen and Josh are pictured far-right, joined at the final by Lewis Melville, Business Education teacher Mrs Smith, far-left and Ian Hanson from Skills Development

Computing Science News

The Raspberry Pi Club

What is a Raspberry Pi?

The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card sized computer that plugs into a computer monitor or TV and enables people of all ages to explore computing. It's capable of doing everything you'd expect a desktop computer to do such as browsing the internet, making spreadsheets, playing games and learning how to program.



November saw the launch of the Raspberry Pi Club. The club gives junior and senior pupils an opportunity to meet up, work together, discuss and share computing related and programming ideas.

The club takes place every Tuesday after school in South Street. New members are always very welcome.



Computing Science

Dr Alan Millar and his team, Iain and John, from The Department of Computer Science, St. Andrews' University, visited the Computer Science department on 10th December 2014. The purpose of the visit was to demonstrate The Virtual Cathedral using the Oculus Rift to our Computer Games Development and Computing Science pupils.



Image of reconstructed Cathedral.

Pupils wore the Oculus Rift and virtually navigated their way around the online reconstruction, which shows the Cathedral as it was 700 years ago. They explored the cloisters, the internal choir section, the chapter house, and the nave.

The virtual cathedral is the result of a collaboration between computer scientists, 3D designers, art historians and archaeologists, and is similar to multi-player computer games. Their visit brought what pupils had been studying to life.



SPORTS NEWS



The traditional extra-curricular clubs have continued over the past term with new and diverse activities being offered to cater for all pupils (and staff!) Yoga, Running, Girl's Football, Circuits and Senior Basketball and Volleyball have all been added to those previously offered. Some clubs could do with additional numbers and with so much on offer it would be re-miss of the pupils to pass on these great opportunities. All clubs are open to all pupils regardless of ability – come along and enjoy!

Football

All teams have been active this term with the 1st X1 leading by example in a nail-biting Fife Cup tie against the highly fancied St.Columba's HS. A 1-1 draw after normal time took the game to penalties where Madras squeezed by 5-4.

Hockey

It has been a busy term with two Fife Tournaments and 3 Saturday match cards. The S2 produced excellent play on a cold but sunny day in the Dunfermline event and came second to our local rivals. The S1 played at St Leonard's on a contrasting day of rain and wind but still enjoyed the inter-school experience!

Rugby

The 1st XV were sadly eliminated from the Brewin Dolphin Bowl by Buckhaven but not after a sterling effort from the remaining 12 players on the park by no-side. The S1/2 were more successful that day and on the other fixture against Harris Academy

Netball

Thanks to ex-pupil Vikki Doherty and newly qualified minibus driver Mrs Smith (well done!) the school were able to send two teams to both Fife School Tournaments held in Glenrothes. The S3 were first to compete and finished well in 4th place. The S2 fared one place better and were well worthy of their Bronze position.

Cycle Speedway

With new blood in the ranks, Victor Hill, S1 brother of the illustrious Vas, demonstrated great potential to help the squad 'hammer' current Scottish Champions Queen Anne by a mere two points! It was the closest of battles which went down to the last race in this three team event but the St.Andrews side prevailed and had star rider Cammie Semple's consistent performances to base the win on. Round two at home in January!

Fife School's Swimming Championships

Congratulations to all 12 swimmers who successfully represented the school at these championships which took place at the Michael Woods Sports Centre, Glenrothes. Special mention to **Nicole Reynolds** S1- 2 x Gold, 1 Silver, **Beth Constance** S4- 1 Gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze, **Robert Sparks** S2- 1 Gold, 2 Silver, **Emma Sharratt** S4- 1 Gold, **Fergus Ingledeu** S6 and **Samuel McKiddie** S4 2 x Silver, **Anna Malcolmson** S2- 1 Silver, 1 Bronze, **Max Inness** S3- 3 Bronze.

Social Dance

The department has been delighted by the enthusiasm and fun displayed by all year groups in this two week block. The skills learned and practiced should not only see them perform well at the school parties but should help the pupils in later life. A great effort from all – despite the staff sweetie bribes!

Fuller reports and pictures feature on the school website.

PE staff news

The department are sad to be losing the services of Andy Kerr who has secured a full-time appointment with Pupil Support in the central Fife area. In Andy's short time at Madras College he has impressed both colleagues and pupils with his personable and professional approach. Another member of our extended staff, Ronan Capon, our Active Schools co-ordinator, is also leaving for pastures new and we thank Ronan for all his efforts and enthusiasm in supporting and developing the extra-curricular programme. It is much to Ronan's credit that new sporting activities have been introduced and that the Sports Ambassador programme has been successful in Madras College.

J Tarvet

MOVEMBER

Over the past few weeks, Madras College has seen many of its teachers and some senior pupils looking particularly whiskery, with many people growing and grooming stylish moustaches and others sporting fully grown beards; all in the name of Movember.

Movember is an annual charity event spanning the entire length of November where men everywhere are encouraged to show off their beard/moustache-growing skills with the aim of promoting men's health awareness.

The objective of the concept is to encourage men to become more informed about the health issues that affect them, such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer and depression.

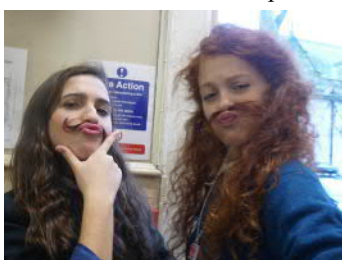
Men are infamous for not paying enough attention to their health and refraining from regular check-ups and as such, many fatalities occur amongst men due to late diagnosis. The charity emphasises the importance of going to the doctors regularly and for men to inspect their testes on a regular basis to inspect for potentially cancerous lumps.

In 2012, almost 11,000 men in the UK died of prostate cancer, yet, when found in the early stages, the survival rate is 90%. By encouraging regular prostate examinations to allow for early detection, the charity aims to reduce the number of preventable deaths that happen each year. Depression is also a massive issue in the eyes of the charity because of many males feeling reluctant to discuss their troubles and symptoms. The event strongly advises sufferers of the illness to come forward and seek help in order to overcome the isolation felt by many sufferers and to break down the stigma attached to the disorder.

You can take part in the event through a number of ways. Many people choose to take part by doing sponsored fun-runs; by donating to great charities such as Cancer Research, Ballboys or Depression Alliance; or just by growing your facial hair to spread awareness and help inform others of the issues that Movember aims to tackle.

One particularly notable contributor to the event is Brinja Duthie, a 3rd year student at Madras, who has been cooking up her delicious trademark 'tache-on-a-sticks' and selling them almost every day this month around the school. Young Brinja has been taking part in this way every year since she joined Madras in support of her late granddad. Every year, Brinja has made over £1000 from selling her famous 'taches and this year has said that she hopes to make at least £3000 from her charity work.

Phil Hamilton



Musical Notes

Performance at the St Andrews Day Celebrations

Madras College Pipe Band made an impact at the St Andrews Day Celebrations 2014. They played to crowds of over 2000 people. With a thank you announcement from the University Principal this event is now an annual highlight in the Pipe Band calendar.

Folk Group Performance at the Fife Music Festival Fun Day

The folk group were invited to perform at the festival fun day in November. The performers wowed the audience with their playing. Well done to Joanna Stark S6, Eleanor Linton S6, Lucy Truong S6 and Iness Little S5 for their performance.

Christmas Concert

The Christmas Concert took place on Wednesday the 10th of December. The concert was a real success with many bands, ensembles, choirs, duets and soloists performing a great variety of music. There were many captivating performances. The wonderful Christmas Market was extremely busy and a special thank you must go to the Home Economics department, the Enterprise group, the Department of Additional Support and Mrs Montador.

Talent Show

The annual talent show took place in October. This year's finalists included dancers, musical groups, soloists and a drama sketch. They entertained the audience with their talent and skill. The Kilrymont winner was Rebecca Nevey, the South Street winners were Arin Beaver, Jack Parmar and Eve McGladdery with the overall trophy being awarded to Arin Beaver, Jack Parmar and Rebecca Stewart.



LIBRARY NEWS



Thank you to everyone who supported Kilrymont Road Library's December "Half-price Scholastic Bookfair"! We had a great week letting the junior pupils look at the books and nominating which books to add to the Library stock. Sales were good and reached almost £700, giving us £70 (£140's worth) earned from commission for new Library books. There will be a lot of delighted readers this Christmas!

Merry Christmas Everyone



INFORMATION



Fife Council

School Closure Information for Parents



ALERTS

Sign up for email or text alerts: school closures, road updates and service disruptions

As early as possible on the morning of severe weather or other situations such as water, heating and building problems, the main ways for you to stay informed are:

- **online** - all the news and information you'll need is online. Visit www.fifedirect.org.uk/closures for up-to-date information
- **by text or e-mail alerts through Fife Direct** - to sign up for text or email alerts Alerts, please enter your contact details via www.fifedirect.org.uk/alerts, click on Alerts and under Alert Services click on join fifedirect
- **by text or e-mail alerts through your school** - make sure that you have given you contact details to the school so that they can contact you by Groupcall
- **on Facebook** - follow-us on facebook.com/fifecouncil
- **on Twitter** - follow-us on twitter.com/fifecouncil
- **by radio bulletins** - listen to Kingdom FM (95.2 and 96.1), Forth One (97.3) and Tay FM (96.4 and 102.8)
- **by digital television** - red Button on Sky, channel 539 and Virgin Media, channel 233: press red, Local Services

HOLIDAYS

Christmas

Monday 22 December 2014
to Friday 2nd January 2015

February (two days)

Thursday 12th and Friday 13th February 2015

Easter

Friday 3rd April
to Friday 17th April 2015

May Day

Monday 4th May 2015

June (single day)

Monday 1st June 2015

Summer

Monday 6th July

IN-SERVICE DAYS

Wednesday 11th February 2015

Tuesday 2nd June 2015

EXAMINATIONS

S4/5/6 Prelims

Monday 9th

to Friday 20th January 2015

SQA Exams

These start on Tuesday 28th April to Friday 5th June.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

S1 Tuesday 18th February 2015

S2 Thursday 19th March 2015

(all dates inclusive)