



Dalkeith HS Bulletin

Friday 1 December 2023

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by Ella in the HIVE



Mrs E. Ormerod
Head Teacher

Head Teacher's Update

Equity - Christmas Hamper Challenge

In order to support families within our own school community this Christmas we are running a Christmas Hamper food collection.

This will be run as a house challenge with the house which collects the most food gaining valuable house points.

Collected food will be made into hampers and delivered within our local community on the last week of term.

The following items will be gratefully received - Cereal, soup, tinned veg, tinned fruit, tinned meat, rice, pasta, biscuits, sweets, crisps, juice, tea and coffee.

Donations can be dropped of next week at the following points -

Melville - Pupil Support Base

Buccleuch - Science Dept

Lothian - English Dept

Dalhousie - Languages Dept

Help with the cost of winter jackets

Bonnyrigg & Sherwood Community Development Trust have £25.00 Pr-mark vouchers available for vulnerable families to purchase winter jackets.

Please contact your child's Pupil Support Leader for more information.

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have all had a nice week, despite the cold weather.

I want to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone who came along to our curriculum and careers evening. There was a fantastic turnout and it was brilliant to see our young people engage with industry and universities so confidently. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Frame and Ms Bones who arranged the evening, with support from our Developing the Young Workforce coordinator Caroline Rosie. We hope you found the evening informative and helpful, especially as our young people are currently making decisions about course choices.

On Monday 27th the Polar Academy presented to our S2 – S5 pupils about a once in a lifetime opportunity to take part in an expedition to Greenland. We have been overwhelmed with pupils who have come forward to take part in this opportunity. We are currently working with the Polar Academy to select pupils, based on the criteria, to put forward to the next stage of the application process. We will be in touch with you once this initial step is completed.

Well done to all pupils who put themselves forward for our school show – Grease. There has been a real buzz about the school this week as cast members were announced. I am really looking forward to the show, and want wish everyone the best of luck for the rehearsals.

We have been very busy with recruitment recently and will be up until the Christmas break. See details below:

Maths

We recently appointed Jen Gilbertson as a Maths teacher. Ms Gilbertson will replace Rachel Shankland's teaching post in the Maths faculty from January, pending pre-employment checks. We look forward to welcoming Ms Gilbertson to our Dalkeith Team.

I am also delighted to announce that Lionel Gibbs was the preferred candidate for PT0.15 in the Maths Faculty. A huge congratulations to Mr Gibbs and I wish him luck in his new role.

Inclusion

Last week I appointed Laura Beattie as Teacher of Inclusion. This is a new role to Dalkeith High School and I am very excited to develop this new department in our school. I hope Ms Beattie will join us from mid-January, pending pre-employment checks. The intention is that Ms Beattie will do a mixture of outreach teaching and in-school group work with a

select number of pupils. We look forward to welcoming Ms Beattie to the Dalkeith Team.

Vacancies

I am delighted to announce that Sara McDermott, Pupil Support Leader for Melville, was the preferred candidate for a Head of House role within Lasswade High school. This is a 23-month secondment. I wish Ms McDermott the best of luck in this new role. She will be greatly missed at Dalkeith by pupils, staff and parents. Ms McDermott will start this new role in January, once her position has been filled.

Nicola Riddell, Curriculum Leader of Humanities is moving on to pastures new in January. Ms Riddell was the preferred candidate for the Depute Head post in Galashiels Academy. A huge congratulations to Ms Riddell, who will be missed by everyone here at Dalkeith. I know she will be a superb Depute and I wish her the best of luck in this new role.

As a result, I will be holding interviews for the post mentioned above and for the other following posts between now and the end of term:

1. Temporary Teacher of Modern Languages (maternity cover)
2. Temporary Pupil Support Leader (23 months)
3. Part-time Teacher of Enhanced and Complex Needs (3.5 days)
4. Fixed term Teacher of History/social subjects
5. Fixed term Curriculum Leader Humanities
6. Home Link Practitioner (permanent)
7. Learning Support Assistant (permanent)

I will report back once these roles have been filled.

Good luck to all of our Senior Phase pupils who will start their formal assessments on Monday 4th December. Remember to set aside time to revise, use a revision timetable and take breaks when revising! Our S5 pupils who are sitting 5 or more Highers have all been allocated a mentor and their 1:1 meetings have started this week. We hope to support them in their efforts to achieve the best possible marks by the end of this year.

On the 12th December, we have our S3 consultation. I would encourage everyone to attend these meetings to ensure you have the best information before making course choices.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming our school community to our Christmas concert on the 14th of December. Preparations are underway with pupils and with staff. It will definitely put you in a festive mood!

Enjoy the rest of the bulletin.

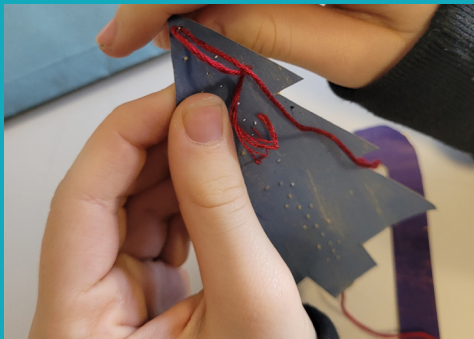
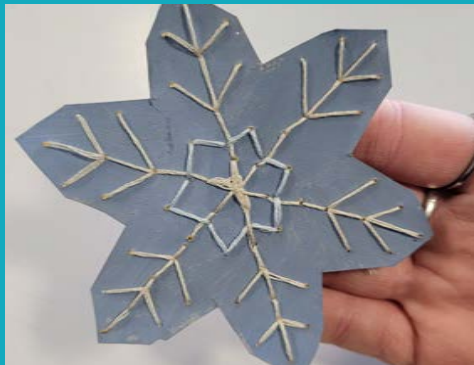
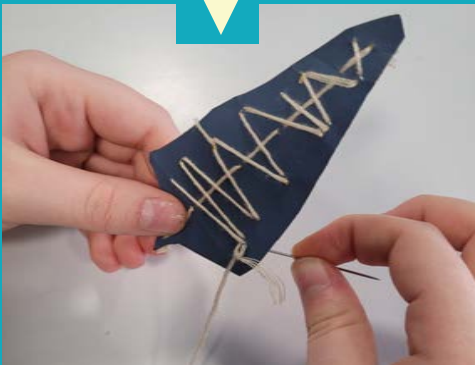
Emma Ormerod

In the Classroom ...



The Scottish Studies class have worked really hard this term and have been learning all about Skara Brae in Scotland. As part of the course pupils worked independently to create their own Skara Brae replica house. Pupils used stones to build the frame of the house, and then added furniture inside using small pebble stones. Finally, they applied blue roll for the surrounding of the house and painted this green to look more realistic as grass. Pupils had a great time making their house and found out lots of facts about Skara Brae too.

Mrs Mackay's S3 Art class were given a design brief of researching and creating a Nordic Christmas Card. Their colour pallet has been reflecting in their colour choices. They have been learning the skills of sewing into paper to create their designs.



Community Art Project

Over the past eight weeks, Mrs Zielinski's S3 Art and Design class have been involved in a Community Art Project where practical workshops were led by a practising artist and staff from the National Galleries Scotland. The project focussed on current cultural trends and influences, including the impacts within their local community past and present.

The project started with a tour of the Grayson Perry Exhibition at the National Gallery, Edinburgh. Pupils worked together to identify and discuss current social issues seen within Grayson Perry's work and identified messages the artist wanted to communicate through his large scale banners.

The pupils continued their learning and response to Grayson Perry's work by engaging in a series of workshops. The workshops brought in a local historical connection by encouraging pupils to explore the impacts of the Mining Strikes on Scottish communities that took place in 1984-85. Combining the historical element with current social issues, learners explored a range of expressive methods and techniques to create a range of outcomes. Final artworks included; drawing, painting, fabric collage, printmaking and combining imagery with text to communicate a message. In addition, some of the pupils opted to engage in role play activities by acting as characters they had designed. Pupils created raps, videos and conducted interviews of each other 'in character' about issues past and present that impact them as teenagers within their local community and wider world.

This unique opportunity allowed all pupils involved to develop an array of transferable skills including; self-expression, communication and collaborative working. Pupils worked extremely well throughout this project as they openly shared their ideas and creativity whilst demonstrating respect and maturity at all times.

The final Art and Design outcomes will feature in a public exhibition at the National Galleries Scotland in Edinburgh in 2024. The work by Dalkeith High pupils will be on display alongside selected secondary schools from across Scotland who were also involved in the project.

Mrs Zielinski and her S3 class would like to thank Robin and Morgan from the National Galleries for inviting them to be part of this unique and engaging project. Everyone involved learnt an array of skills as well as exploring self-expression and above all, we had a great deal of fun!!



Dalkeith High School

Formal Assessment Calendar 2023

Date	Course	Level	Paper	Time	Venue
Mon 4 Dec (Morning)	Biology	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 11:30	Assembly Hall
	Biology	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 9:40	Assembly Hall
	Biology	H	Paper 2	10:10 - 12:30	Assembly Hall
	Biology	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 12:00	Assembly Hall
	Human Biology	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 9:40	Assembly Hall
	Human Biology	H	Paper 2	10:10 - 12:30	Assembly Hall
Mon 4 Dec (Afternoon)	Art & Design	N5	Paper 1	1:15 - 2:00	Assembly Hall
	Art & Design	H	Paper 1	1:15 - 2:30	Assembly Hall
	Spanish	N5	Paper 1 - Reading & Writing	12:30 - 2:00	Library
	Spanish	N5	Paper 2 - Listening	2:30 - 3:00	G221
Tues 5 Dec (Morning)	English	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:30	Assembly Hall
	English	H	Paper 2	11:00 - 12:30	Assembly Hall
	English	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:30	Assembly Hall
	English	AH	Paper 2	11:00 - 12:30	Assembly Hall
Tues 5 Dec (Afternoon)	Drama	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:30	Assembly Hall
	Music	AH	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:30	F303
Wed 6 Dec (Morning)	Application of Mathematics	N5	Paper 1	09:00 - 9:45	Library
	Application of Mathematics	N5	Paper 2	10:15 - 11:30	Library
	Application of Mathematics	H	Paper 1	09:00 - 10:30	F112
	Politics	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:05	Library
	Politics	H	Paper 2	10:35 - 11:25	Library
Wed 6 Dec (Afternoon)	History	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:30	Assembly Hall
	Photography	H	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:00	Assembly Hall
Thurs 7 Dec (Morning)	English	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:00	Assembly Hall
	English	N5	Paper 2	10:30 - 12:00	Assembly Hall
	Modern Studies	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 11:00	Library
Thurs 7 Dec (Afternoon)	Practical Cake Craft	N5	Paper 1	12:45 - 2:15	Assembly Hall
	Engineering Science	N5	Paper 1	12:45 - 2:35	Assembly Hall
	Engineering Science	H	Paper 1	12:45 - 3:15	Assembly Hall
	Engineering Science	AH	Paper 1	12:45 - 2:15	Assembly Hall
	Music	H	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:00	F303
Fri 8 Dec	Mathematics	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 9:45	Assembly Hall
	Mathematics	N5	Paper 2	10:30 - 11:45	Assembly Hall
	Mathematics	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:00	Assembly Hall
	Mathematics	H	Paper 2	10:30 - 11:45	Assembly Hall
	Mathematics	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 9:45	Assembly Hall
	Mathematics	AH	Paper 2	10:30 - 11:45	Assembly Hall
Mon 11 Dec (Morning)	Modern Studies	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:05	Library
	Modern Studies	H	Paper 2	10:40 - 11:30	Library
	French	N5	Paper 1 - Reading & Writing	12:30 - 2:00	Library
	French	N5	Paper 2 - Listening	2:30 - 3:00	G232
Mon 11 Dec (Afternoon)	RMPS	H	Paper 1	1:00 - 3:15	Library
	RMPS	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:35	Library
	Practical Cookery	N5	Paper 1	1:30 - 2:30	Library
Tues 12 Dec (Morning)	Modern Studies	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:15	Library
	History	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:30	Library
	History	H	Paper 2	11:00 - 12:30	Library
	History	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 12:00	Library
Tues 12 Dec (Afternoon)	Graphic Communication	N5	Paper 1	12:45 - 2:15	Library
	Graphic Communication	H	Paper 1	12:45 - 3:15	Library
	Media Studies	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 3:00	Library
Wed 13 Dec (Morning)	Business Management	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:20	Library
	Business Management	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:50	Library
	Business Management	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 11:00	Library
	Drama	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 11:30	Library
Wed 13 Dec (Afternoon)	Design & Manufacture	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:45	Library
	Physical Education	H	Paper 1	1:00 - 3:00	Library
Thurs 14 Dec (Morning)	Chemistry	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 11:30	Library
	Chemistry	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 9:40	Library
	Chemistry	H	Paper 2	10:10 - 12:30	Library
	Classical Studies	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:50	Library
	Admin and IT	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:30	Library
Thurs 14 Dec (Afternoon)	Practical Electronics	N5	Paper 1	1:30 - 2:30	Library
	Geography	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:15	Library
	French	H	Paper 1 - Reading & Writing	10:00 - 12:00	Library
Fri 15 Dec	French	H	Paper 2 - Listening	9:00 - 9:30	G228
Mon 18 Dec (Morning)	Geography	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 10:30	Library
	Geography	H	Paper 2	11:20 - 12:00	Library
Mon 18 Dec (Afternoon)	Music	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 1:45	F305
	Practical Woodwork	N5	Paper 1	1:00 - 2:00	Library
Tues 19 Dec (Morning)	Physics	N5	Paper 1	9:00 - 11:30	Library
	Physics	H	Paper 1	9:00 - 9:45	Library
	Physics	H	Paper 2	10:15 - 12:30	Library
	Chemistry	AH	Paper 1	9:00 - 12:00	Library

Formal Assessment Calendar 2023



Image by

Dalkeith High School are delighted to announce that we have been successfully selected to take part in the Polar Academy for the 24/25 programme. This is a hugely exciting opportunity for the pupils, staff and wider community associated to DHS.

Polar Academy are a Scottish based youth charity that work with 13-17 year olds with mental health challenges or lacking self-esteem and confidence. This could be young people who have been the victim of bullying, suffer from anxiety or perhaps have experienced a recent bereavement or other difficulty in their life. Polar Academy offers pupils an intensive 1 year physical and mental training programme which culminates in a winter sledge hauling expedition in East Greenland challenging the mind-set of the young people as well as their families. Polar academy provide pastoral care and personal support to every child and family that they work with from the moment they begin the programme, to its completion, and even beyond their adolescence.

We have been overwhelmed with pupils who have come forward to take part in this opportunity. All pupils at DHS from S2-S5 were given the opportunity to apply and simply had to put their name down, no application form was required. DHS staff will narrow the list of applicants down to 50 before then working directly with the Polar Academy to narrow this list down to an initial group of 15.

More information can be found at <https://www.thepolaracademy.org/>

Hamish Duncan

Free for families!

You may be aware of the literacy toolbar Read&Write. We use this toolbar in school to support learning and it is installed on all pupil iPads and Chromebooks. Midlothian Council was part of a video case study on the positive impact of Read&Write. You can watch the videos and find out more here: <https://www.texthelp.com/en-gb/lp/education-for-everyone-midlothian/>

The very exciting news is that Midlothian has negotiated a world-first deal that means you can now download the Read&Write toolbar at home, on up to 5 devices, completely free!

Please use this link to download: <https://www.texthelp.com/en-gb/lp/education-for-everyone-midlothian/>

You will be asked for the school's postcode and then be given instructions on what to do next. Have a look at this feature tour to see all the things Read&Write can do and ask your child to show you how they use Read&Write in school!

https://academy.texthelp.com/read-and-write-education/check-it/?utm_campaign=K-12:-Grouped-Schools|UK-EDU-RW-FFF-Midlothian-Council-ENG&utm_medium=Email&utm_source=Partnership&utm_content=midlothian-feature-tour



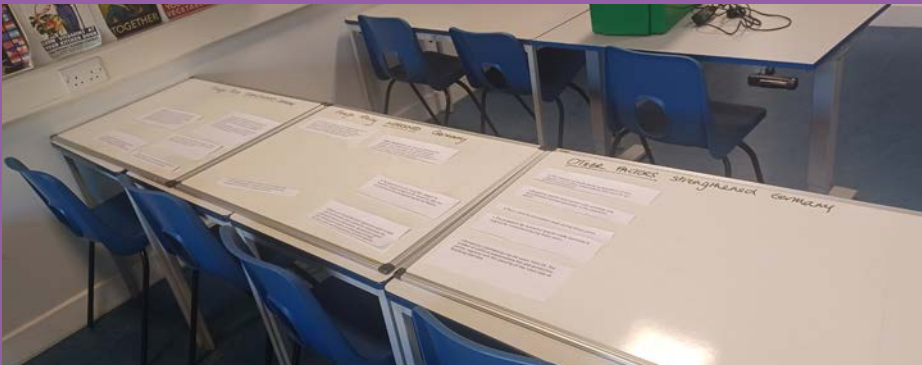
Bake Off House Challenge



Indulge in the sweet success of Dalkeith does Bake Off, where eight contestants baked up a storm of amazing cakes! The crowning glory came with the announcement of three standout winners: Jack Mackay, 3M1, claimed first place, followed by Alyssa Harvie, 1B1, in second and Rosa Gomez Candy, 1L1 secured third. They all won valuable points for their House Teams.



DECEMBER HOUSE CHALLENGE: This months House Challenge is 'DHS Does Christmas'. Pupils are being invited to design a Christmas Card that will be distributed to the local community. Submissions should be popped in the House box at SLT by 8th of December. Digital entries should be submitted to PSLs directly.



Advanced Higher History

Ms Riddell's Advanced Higher class were exploring views about Stresemann's foreign policy in Germany during the 1920s. The class had to look at a range of evidence including a variety of historians views about whether he should be remembered as a 'Good European' or a 'German Nationalist'. This will form the basis of their next essay and help with revision for the upcoming formal assessments.



Treble success!

Yvie Archibald, Claudia Romano and Ava Davidson in S3 were all part of the u14s Musselburgh Windsor girls squad to win the Scottish Power Youth Challenge Cup. This win now means their team have won the treble!



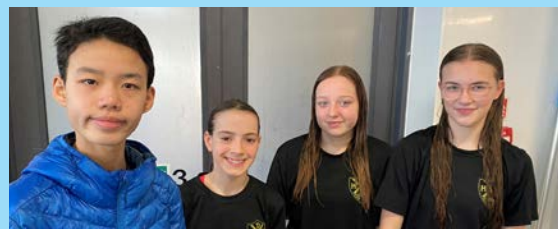
Edinburgh Autism League



Rowen in 2M2 was part of Team Hibernian who won the Edinburgh Autism League and he has now qualified for the Premier League which will be played in March. Superb achievement well done Rowen!

U15 Boys football team secured another win against North Berwick. The score was 6-3 before the game had to be called off due to the poor weather conditions. Goal scorers were C.Gray x3, T.Burns, J.Doyle and F.Salmon.

Swimming trials



A small but mighty team attended the Midlothian schools swimming trials this November. It was a long day of competing and many of our swimmers were against others in different age categories and experiences. Their aim was to get as fast a time recorded as possible in order to qualify for the Scottish Schools Championships next year. Dalkeith won 3 Golds and one Silver on the day. Anna Lawson started off the medal haul with a silver in the 100m front crawl followed by a gold in the 200m breaststroke. Ritchie Saunders secured gold in both the 100m and 200m fly with 2 personal bests including a massive 7 seconds off in the 200m. Well done to all the swimmers that were competing.



Rebecca swims over 22,000 metres for charities ...

In the month of October Rebecca Collins completed a solo swim marathon for two charities close to her heart, Richmond Hope and A-team productions. Her aim was to swim 22,000 metres in the month of October however she swam beyond this and completed 22,860 metres! She raised a grand total of £1100 (£550 split) for her chosen charities.

She has also been rewarded a Midlothian Young People Award from Midlothian Council after Richmond hope nominated her for her outstanding efforts to help the charity this year by fundraising and volunteering at the anniversary event. Fantastic achievement Rebecca!



STAYING SAFE IN WINTER – ICE SAFETY



NEVER GO ONTO THE ICE.

There is no way of knowing whether it will take your weight/how thick the ice is/how cold, deep and fast the water beneath is.



KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE EDGE.

Fallen leaves and snow could obscure the water's boundary and cause slippery surfaces.



CHECK FOR SAFETY SIGNAGE.

It is there to warn you of hazards you may not be aware of.



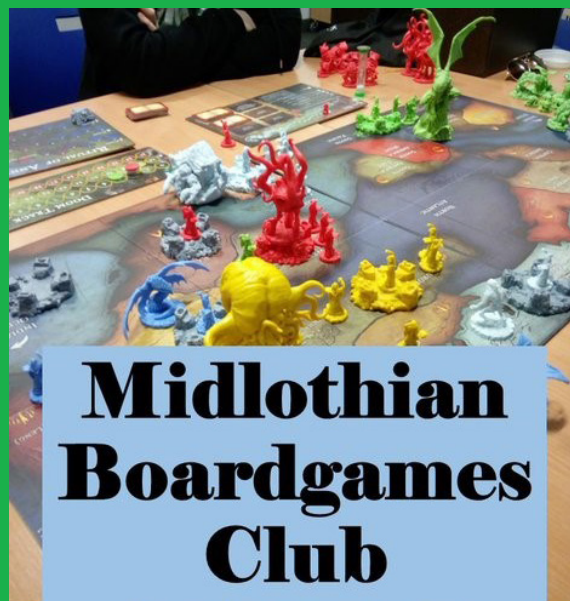
ALWAYS SUPERVISE CHILDREN.

KEEP DOGS ON LEADS AND DON'T THROW BALLS/STICKS FOR THEM NEAR ICE. Never go on to the ice to rescue a dog.

IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 999 AND GIVE CALM AND ACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SITUATION AND LOCATION.

Never go on to the ice to help.

999



Midlothian Boardgames Club

Fortnightly at Lasswade library

Saturdays 10am - 1pm

Board Games, Wargames, RPGs – all welcome.

Next meet ups – Saturday 4th & 18th Nov,
2nd & 16th December

For more details email Library.Media@midlothian.gov.uk

Artwork in the HIVE ...



Call for BGE House Captains!

We are excited to announce a new leadership opportunity for S1-S3 pupils. The school are looking to appoint 2 x BGE House Captains for each of the four Houses. The role will involve working alongside the senior captains to help promote and celebrate achievement across the school. Tasks will include delivering tokens to staff, launching challenges every month and keeping track of House points.

If you think that you would like to be involved in this exciting new role, please submit a note of interest outlining the reasons why they would like to be a House Captain and submit to their PSL by Friday 8th December. Interviews will take place week commencing 11th December with House Captains and either PSL or House Head.

ALSO

We would like all of our pupils to join the House Instagram Page. This will really help raise the profile of the House challenges and celebrating achievements across the school.



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@official_DHS

Dalkeith High School PTA & PC



@DalkeithHighSchoolParentCouncilandPTA