



Dalkeith HS Bulletin

Friday 1 November 2024

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Tuesday 12 November 2024

5.00pm - 7.00pm

Open to all!



Explore your future...

Joint Campus Careers Fair

&

Dalkeith HS Curriculum Pathways Evening

Dalkeith Schools' Campus - 4 Cousland Road - Dalkeith
Midlothian - EH22 2PS



DYW
Developing the
Young Workforce



Mr S. Illingworth
Head Teacher (acting)

Head Teacher's Update



Bullying is never acceptable, in any form. The impact of bullying can be significant, and can resonate for many years after the event.

We have launched our new Bullying and Equalities Policy which can be found on the school website: <https://dalkeith.mgfl.net/bullying-equalities/>

This will be shared with pupils in upcoming assemblies and we will be involved in Anti - Bullying Week 11th - 15th November.



Dear All,

You will see from the contents of this bulletin the wide range of activities our young people are involved in and I continue to be hugely impressed by the skill, talent and dedication of the pupils at Dalkeith High School. School-based opportunities are only possible thanks to the commitment of our staff and volunteers (including many parents/carers) and I am very grateful to you all. If any parents/carers out there think you might be able to offer an activity to our young people please do not hesitate to get in touch.

As well as this monthly bulletin highlighting what is going on at Dalkeith High School, important information about the day-to-day business of the school is now shared through the weekly Head Teacher's update. This is posted on the school website at the beginning of each week. I hope you have found this useful and I would welcome any feedback you might have.

Outdoor Learning

Dalkeith High School was asked to present to a School Leaders Scotland event on our use of outdoor learning to enhance the curriculum and promote pupil engagement. Mr Duncan and Mr McGlade outlined the ways in which outdoor learning underpins the ethos of the school. The session was very well received and highlighted for me the excellent work that has gone on at the school in this area for a number of years. The link between enjoying the outdoors and improved wellbeing is clear and I am very proud that Dalkeith High is able to support young people to learn and develop through outdoor learning. I would encourage all of our pupils to take advantage of as many of these opportunities as possible.

Bullying and Equalities

Our new policy on bullying and equalities has been launched to coincide with Anti-Bullying Week (November 11th to 15th). The message we shared with pupils at the launch of the policy is the importance of sharing how you feel with people you trust, and reporting any bullying behaviours. For information and support around what we can all do to address bullying behaviour please visit Respect Me (<https://www.respectme.org.uk/>).

Rights Respecting School

At assemblies on Thursday 31st October members of our Rights Respecting School group gave a presentation to mark the end of Black History Month, and their message of respecting difference and challenging discrimination is as important as ever. Led by Mr Craig, the school continues on its journey towards the Silver Rights Respecting School Award.

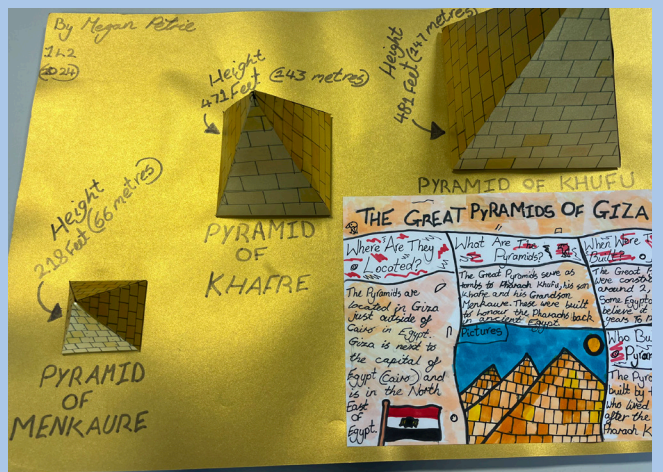
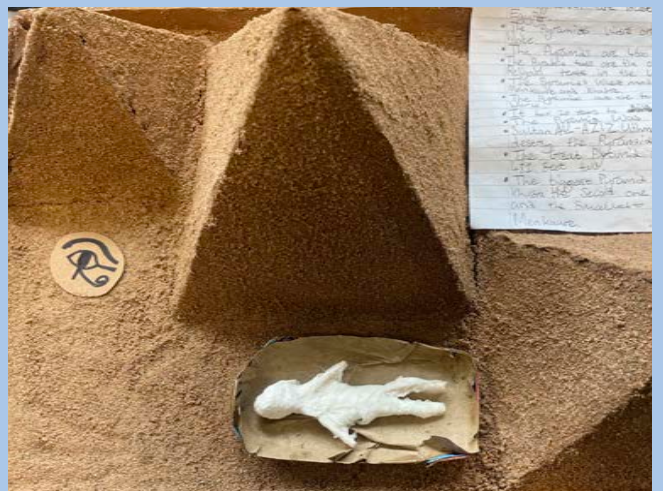
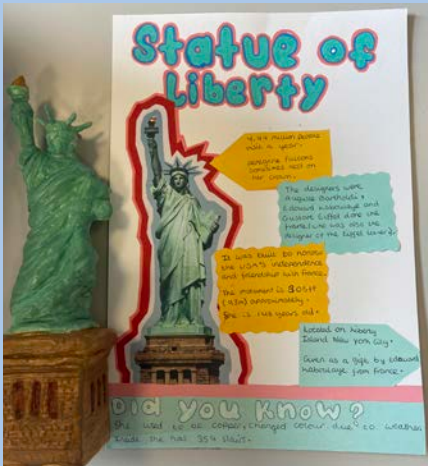
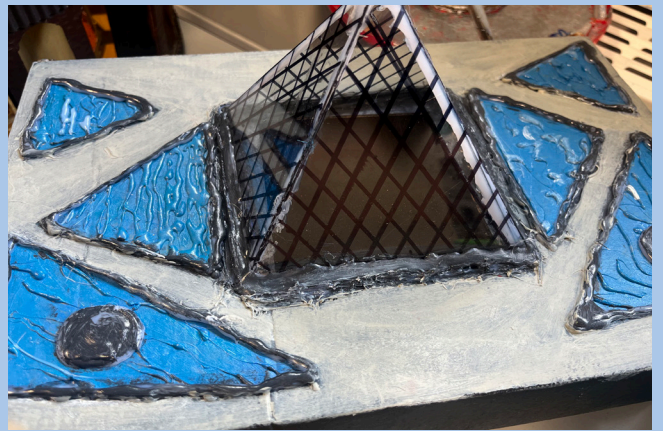
Formal Assessments

By the time the next bulletin is published S4-6 pupils will have begun the programme of formal assessment. I would like to wish everyone sitting these assessments well, and remember, time spent in preparation is never time wasted. Good luck!

Steven Illingworth
Head Teacher (Acting).

S1 Landmark Challenge!

S1 Geography pupils selected a landmark of their choice and gathered interesting facts such as when it was made, how many people visit each year, how tall the building is etc. They then put a lot of effort into creating these fantastic models!



"Hello, I'm currently visiting our S1, 2, 3 and 4 PSE classes to do Careers Talks to all pupils. I hope to finish these by mid-November. Our 3rd years will be making their subject choices for S4 in the New Year and I will be offering all S3 pupils a chance to have an informal, face to face, chat with me about their career ideas. I will share with them websites which I hope they will find useful to research their ideas further.

The My World of Work website has been completely updated and as part of my Careers Talks, I will be asking the pupils to create or update their accounts on this site. Crammed with useful information on a wide variety of careers as well as information on apprenticeships, going to college and university, it is worth a look at www.myworldofwork.co.uk

Any queries relating to careers, please contact me at barbara.moir@sds.co.uk

*Barbara Moir,
Careers Adviser for Dalkeith High School*

Skills
Development
Scotland



Dalkeith High School's Curriculum Pathways Evening will provide you with information about the pathways through the subjects and experiences the school and our partners can offer young people. This advice and information will supplement the careers fair offer and should allow young people to plan for the years ahead.

In the Library you will find stalls manned by teachers from all the departments in the school. In addition, talks will be given on the design of our S3 and senior phase curriculum structures. The programme for the evening is as follows:

5 to 7 p.m. Library
DHS Curriculum Pathways Evening, Department Stalls

5 to 7 p.m. Dining Hall & Assembly Hall
Careers Fair

5. 10 to 5. 40 p.m. F7. 24
BGE Curriculum (S3) Talk

5. 20 to 5. 50 p.m. F7. 15
DHS Senior Phase Curriculum (S4 – S6) Talk

6. 00 to 6. 30 p.m. F7. 24
BGE Curriculum (S3) Talk

6. 10 to 6. 40 p.m. F7. 15
DHS Senior Phase Curriculum (S4 – S6) Talk

Both talk rooms are close to the library.

Extra parking will be available in the bus bays at the back of the school.

WELCOME TO OUR
**SEWING
REPAIR
GROUP**

Loanhead Library
Wednesday 6th November 2024
Wednesday 4th December 2024
CHRISTMAS BREAK!
Wednesday 29th January 2025
Wednesday 26th February 2025
6:30pm - 8pm
We are a group of enthusiastic people who meet to share a cup of tea & each other's company whilst sewing our own clothing repairs.
All welcome - come along with your own repair pile and materials!



Mary Queen of Scots Trip

On the 7th of October the History Department ran a trip to Holyrood Palace and the National Museum of Scotland to coincide with our 'Mary Queen of Scots' unit. Pupils were taken back in time to see how Holyrood Palace has changed throughout its 900 years of monarchical history. One of the most famous of these monarchs was, of course, Mary Queen of Scots, who resided there until her forced abdication in 1567. Pupils got to see first hand where Mary lived and ruled and the supposed site where her close friend David Rizzio was dramatically murdered! This was also followed by the Mary Queen of Scots Royal Mile trail through which pupils were able to see some of the more famous or infamous sites of 16th Century Edinburgh. Additionally, pupils were able to get an even closer look at the personal life and possessions of Mary Queen of Scots through a spirited scavenger hunt at the Mary Queen of Scots collection exhibited at the National Museum of Scotland. Overall, it was a fantastic day out and a wonderful opportunity for our S3 pupils to see first hand the History we have been studying in class. Many thanks to Mr Holligan, Miss Byres and Miss Wilson for their help on the trip.



Edinburgh Playhouse Backstage!

On Friday the 11th of October pupils from Drama Club and our 'Grease' cast visited the Edinburgh Playhouse. Pupils were firstly given a backstage tour and shown the wig and costume Departments for their current production of 'Hairspray'. Pupils learned how the costume and wigs were made, and got an insight on how to get into a career focusing on hair and wigs. Pupils were then taken to the stage where they yelled "pull the iron up" as the curtain opened, showing them the vast size of the theatre from the stage. Pupils were then taken to the flies high above the stage and got to fly some set pieces onto the stage - a very tough and important job! After a quick stop and refuel for lunch, pupils were given a dance workshop by choreographer Jo where they learned two numbers from the visiting production. The pupils had a fabulous time getting to learn some new choreography and try out some new moves. To finish off the day, we were visited by the Company Manager and the Assistant Dance Captain of 'Hairspray', they spoke to the pupils about the jobs and pathways into the industry, and then took part in a Q&A session with us.

A massive thank you to Edinburgh Playhouse for hosting us for the day



From the 25th to the 29th of September the gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition took place. The 9 members to the expedition party canoed the great glen trail, which spans the width of Scotland. In the four days the expedition took place the party had to take on strong winds and freezing temperatures, but did so with great energy and a willingness to face adversity. Their first day, while being the shortest, was by far their toughest trail. The winds were so heavy that at times the team had no choice but to stop at the riverside. But no matter the strain the expedition party continued on. Until they reached their camp and settled in for the night.

The morning of the second day the team were up early and ready to leave for a long canoe of up to 15 kilometres. The wind was kind on the second day and the group were able to travel most of the 15k in only the morning to midday. The second day did introduce a new trial for the team, portaging; this is when the canoes must be taken out of the water to move them past locks (a device used to raise and lower ships between different levels of river and canal waterways). Again the expedition team navigated this obstacle with teamwork and in good time. The nights were long and cold and brought little sleep for most, not aided by the deer's cries from the woods at the second camp.

The third day was by far the team's longest, spanning a length of 25 kilometres. While the wind wasn't very strong and the trail mostly straight, the fatigue of two days of canoeing started to set in and the 10 kilometres to reach Loch Ness, which should have taken a couple hours took most of the morning. After a long portage at Fort Augustus and lunch the team finally made it onto Loch Ness. At first it seemed a long but easy canoe down the coast for the group, until the wind and the waves picked up and the group were forced to the shore in fear of being tipped out of their vessels. This didn't stop the party though, as the team used another skill they learned for this exact scenario; rafting. Rafting is when multiple canoes are tied together, making them more stable and very difficult to tip but comes at the cost of speed. A trip that should have lasted a few hours took most of the rest of the day. However, the group was rewarded with a proper camp site, with facilities to get a shower.

The team came to its final day with more determination than ever, knowing that their expedition had almost reached its conclusion. With only another 10 kilometres to go the team pushed through to finish at midday and complete one of the most challenging endeavours of their lives so far. While the journey was long, the nights longer and the weather fighting the team at every opportunity they continued forward and never let adversity slow down their progress, in a trail that spanned the width of Scotland the group charged on and stopped only when the challenge was over and the time to return home was upon them.

Written by Finlay Gordon

GOLD



Nash and Paige reach the Summit in the School Library

Congratulations to Nash and Paige who have just achieved their Summit Award from the Saltire Awards. They both have worked over 500 voluntary hours in the School Library over the past four years ensuring it is kept tidy and clean.



Awesome Autumn Haikus

The English department would like to congratulate the S1 pupils who participated in the "Awesome Autumn Haiku" competition. There were many fantastic entries but the best 3 entries were written by Aila Lunt, Riley Taylor and Gracie Hood-well done!

Other notable entries came in from: Rhea McKinney, Cammy Sneddon, Rachel Thomson, Ava Costello, Ollie Mair, Harrison Hay and Becca Yeoman.

"Crispy leaves falling
Squirrels climbing up tall trees
Smell of pumpkin pies"
By Gracie Hood



"Acorns are falling
The winter coats are calling
Roll on Halloween"
By Riley Taylor



"Scream of fireworks
When the night swallows daylight
Clocks turning back in time"
By Aila Lunt



Royal Marines

In early October, the Royal Marines spoke with our senior Cohort about the importance of life skills. They did a cooking demonstration along with talking to our young people about the importance of healthy living and skills for life, learning and work. It was an extremely interactive and fun sessions that the pupils were very engaged in. Thank you to Samantha Lamond and Caroline Rosie from DYW for organising.





Maths Week Scotland

Maths Week activities, once again, were undertaken throughout the Maths Department and school during the Scottish Maths Week at the end of September.

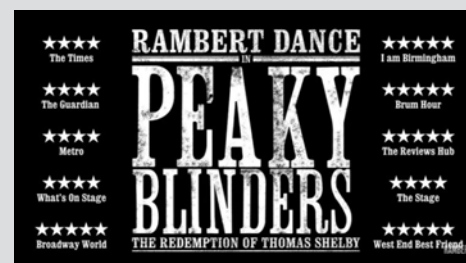
This year, S1, 2 and 3 pupils were given the chance to compete for Amazon vouchers as part of the nationwide Times Table Rocks challenge – sadly no national prizes for any of our classes this year, but hopefully some improved timetables! However, prizes were awarded for the best DHS class and individual. Congratulations to the DHS winners:

- best DHS class - Mr Hope/May's S1A class
- best overall DHS individual – Ben Bowman, S1

S1 pupils were honing their probability/chance and statistics skills, starting with the chance to guess (and win) a jar of sweets. Congratulations to the winning class, Mr Hope's S1B class.

S1/2 pupils were once again searching the school as part of the Maths Week Treasure Hunt. Congratulations to the winners: S2- Isla Madhra, S1- Finlay Edmond.

There were also Daily Puzzles for the whole school, and we were inundated with correct entries from all year groups. Congratulations to Thorfinn Hoy, S4 for the pupil prize, and the Office Staff for the staff prize.



Some of our Senior Dance pupils attended a fantastic performance of “Peaky Blinders” by Rambert Dance at the Edinburgh Festival Theatre in early October. Everyone who attended were in awe of the level of performance and the captivating story that was told throughout. A truly wholesome evening at the theatre for all staff and pupils.



Success on the slopes!

Tristan Tiley, 6D2, represented the school admirably at the Scottish Schools Ski Association's (SSSA) Scottish Dryslope Championship at Midlothian Snowsports Centre (MSC) last month. In cold overcast weather, the day began at 9.00am and went on till 3.30pm, with over 120 skiers taking part in this Slalom race from all over Scotland.

Tristan put in two very fast runs down the “plastic mountain” finishing with a 3rd fastest in his U18 age group and 4th overall. So a bronze medal for Tristan in a very competitive field. He also took part at MSC in the Craig MacPhie race organised by Lothian Ski Racing. This time with participants from ski clubs across Scotland, a field of 167 in total, Tristan finished 2nd in both his age group and 2nd overall which was a fantastic achievement!



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Dalkeith High School PTA & PC



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