

FORTROSE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to our May 2014 newsletter. Our "diet" of exams are now complete and senior pupils have returned to start their new timetable on 2nd June. Can I ask all parents to ensure that their children support our school uniform policy. Last year we 'introduced' a white shirt and school tie for S6, with the option of a blazer as well. I would like this to continue, indeed I would be happy if our senior pupils chose this option. Currently, the uniform code is not well supported and I will be stopping the casual day on a Friday if I do not see a rapid improvement.

June will be another busy month with the awards ceremony, new S1 week, French exchange visitors, the Highland Gathering, LTA and of course the new timetable, to mention just some of the activities taking place.

We are currently involved in planning for the next school session, both at school and departmental level. The main focus will be centred on

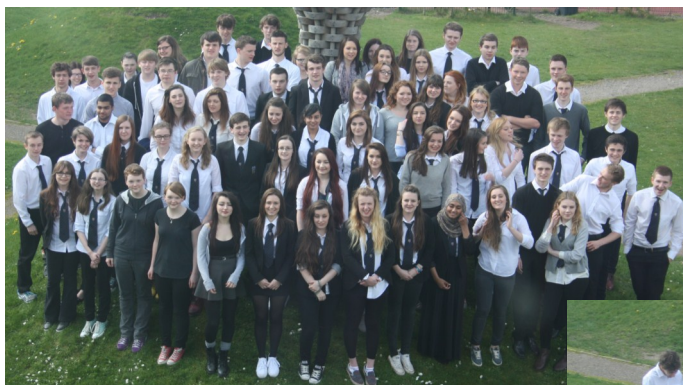
- Self-evaluation—how are we doing, how do we know and what action are we going to take.
- Learning and teaching—always on the agenda
- Pupil support—both in class and in registration time
- Introduction and consolidation of the new Higher and National courses.

Another busy year!!

As ever please contact us if you wish to discuss any school issues.



D. Mackenzie



What we wanted...

It's time to say farewell to our fabulous seniors. They have enriched our lives for the last 6 years! We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their contributions to the school and wish them all the best for the future –whatever they choose to do.

Time to say
goodbye



What we got!

Annual Awards Ceremony



Angus Todd S6—Stuart Dillon Award Winner 2014

Thanks to all parents who came along to support their children at the Annual Awards Ceremony. We were delighted with another full house! Congratulations must also go to all our worthy winners—there were many examples of outstanding achievement.

Well done and a special mention to Angus Todd (S6) who received the coveted Stuart Dillon Award which was voted for by his peers—a worthy winner.



Our worthy winners—suited and booted

SPORTS DAY 2014

On Wednesday 28th May 2014 210 pupils from S1-3 competed in the Fortrose Academy annual Sports Day. All pupils who competed received a point for their house. Thankfully, the weather remained dry and despite the cool wind all pupils and staff did a great job. On the day there were some fantastic individual performances and it was great to see so many pupils taking part in a range of different events. Thanks must go to all the staff for helping officiate on the day and Mr Skinner for preparing the track. Below are the final house standings from Sports Day. All results and Individual championship points can be found on the school website. Hopefully, next year we can get even more pupils involved and perhaps open it up to S4, 5 & 6 pupils.

Congratulations to Kestrel!

SPORTS DAY RESULTS	C	D	F	H	K	M
Total	182	143	125	157	215	137
No Competitors	38	36	31	42	34	32
	220	179	156	199	249	169
	2nd	4th	6th	3rd	1st	5th



Finbar McFarlane S3 jumps 1.57m in High Jump!



All competitors piped onto the field by S3 pupil Gavin Macdonald.

INSPIRATIONAL AWARD

As detailed in a previous newsletter all S1-S3 pupils have been taking part in the Inspire>Aspire project based around the Glasgow Commonwealth Games. Chloe Trendall from Fortrose Academy has been shortlisted from over 30,000 schools across the country to receive an award presented by BBC correspondent and adventurer Mark Beaumont. She has been taking part in the 'Global Citizens in the Making Project' where she has been exploring her own character and values in relation to the values that will underpin The Glasgow Commonwealth Games. She will receive either a national award of 1st, 2nd, 3rd or national finalist certificate at the awards ceremony at The University of Glasgow. Congratulations to Chloe!! Look out for the project happening again next session at Fortrose Academy.

INTERHOUSE 2013/14 FINAL STANDINGS

This year all pupils at Fortrose Academy have been given the opportunity to take part in a comprehensive Inter house programme. A large number of pupils from S1-S6 have competed in a range of activities including Basketball, Football, Cross Country and Dodgeball. All teams have been organised by House captains and Vice Captains. Everyone who has taken part in inter house events this session has gained one point for their house. In the end, Heron finished up in first place only 73 points ahead of Kestrel. Select Captains and Vice Captains from Heron will be presented with the inter house shield at the Fortrose Academy prize giving ceremony. Well done to all those pupils who have taken part this session and look out for more events coming next session. We will be reviewing the current Captains and Vice Captains for next session so if you would like to be considered for the role or would like further information please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the PE department.

FORTROSE ACADEMY INTERHOUSE SCORE 2013-14						
Event						
S1						
FOOTBALL	21	10	45	67	33	56
HOCKEY	34	58	49	67	15	24
BASKETBALL	63	71	41	130	110	70
X COUNTRY	48	52	25	65	76	38
DODGEBALL	50	90	60	120	90	40
S2						
FOOTBALL	47	69	59	37	28	18
HOCKEY	19	50	56	70	37	27
BASKETBALL	112	121	90	112	30	51
X COUNTRY	46	64	37	55	74	24
DODGEBALL	90	70	90	100	40	50
S3						
FOOTBALL	60	38	66	17	47	17
HOCKEY	58	37	68	16	47	27
BASKETBALL	102	94	90	51	111	41
X COUNTRY	31	55	20	45	72	64
DODGEBALL	110	80	100	70	80	70
SENIORS						
FOOTBALL	30	20	40	50	60	10
HOCKEY	60	40	30	50	10	10
BASKETBALL	81	120	48	82	121	24
SPORTS DAY	220	179	156	199	249	169
TOTALS	1282	1318	1170	1403	1330	830
	CURLEW	DUNLIN	FULMAR	HERON	KESTREL	MERLIN

S1 Sports Champions 2014

Congratulations to all our S1 Sports Champions who were awarded their medals at assembly this week. Most of the group competed in and won a number of events during sports day.



Generations Working Together Conference

Massive well done to Liam Fraser who gave a presentation to the Generations Working Together Conference about Getting to Know Your Techno. The Getting to Know Your Techno project was established to assist older people who are trying to learn how to use different pieces of technology and devices. Young people from Fortrose Academy spent time to provide training for their interested clients and also learned a huge amount from the memories and stories that were discussed during their IT sessions.

Message from - Alison Clyde National Development Officer Generations Working Together

"It was wonderful to hear from Liam who helped deliver the Get to Know your Techno project in the Black Isle. An excellent example of intergenerational work. It's amazing what can happen when you bring younger and older people together. Generations Working Together look forward to hearing how the project team progress with future ideas and projects."

Thank you very much Liam!



Liam in full flow during his presentation at the conference

By Wanda and Fraser

Foreign languages: Are they really so pointless?

I often hear: "What's the point in learning foreign languages?" I think about it for a second and struggle to find an answer. Some people hate learning languages because they find it hard to pronounce the words; others don't feel the need to learn them. However, not only is there a huge importance for them, but there is also a forgotten sense of shame as you discover that the Polish family across the road learnt six languages by the age of twelve!



Worldwide, there are up to seven thousand languages spoken, ninety per cent of them spoken by less than a hundred thousand and forty six have just a single speaker. All these languages are free to learn. Although English is a widely spoken language, it is respectful to learn at least a bit of another language. It is also important to speak a foreign language if you are applying for university or a job, especially if you would like to study or work abroad. There is also a discovery that proves that speaking more than one language decreases the risk of getting age-related symptoms and diseases such as memory loss and Alzheimer's. It can be very satisfying when you get over a learning curve in languages and it's something that you can show off about.

Why not put in the effort to learn languages? There are so many opportunities at school, online, courses, and tutoring. What about Russian, Spanish, Tamil, Albanian, German? Languages help you a lot and are so easy to learn if you put your mind to it.

Alastair Addison S1

All lost property will be on display in reception on Tuesday the 17th and Wednesday the 18th June.

All unclaimed items will be sent to Ragbag.



Kirsty Jumps to Success

A big well done to Kirsty Wylie in S1. Kirsty has recently taken up horse riding and has enjoyed great success. She won the 1m class at the Black Isle Show as her first real attempt at that height. Later in August she was one of the only riders to gain a clear round in the Working Hunter Pony class at Blair Castle Horse Trials. By the end of 2013 she had just started to jump 1.10m classes. She was also voted "Most Improved Rider" by the local Riding Club (which is mainly an adult club!).

In 2014 Kirsty represented Inverness Pony Club in the Senior Quiz Team along in Aberdeenshire and they came a creditable 2nd place.

This season Kirsty is currently top of the Scottish BS (British Show Jumping) Club league at 1m and in 2nd place in the 90cm (a class she no longer competes in). She is now eligible to compete in Beverley, Yorkshire in the finals in August. At the beginning of July she attends BS camp in Edinburgh where the Scottish Teams are being picked and she would love to represent her country although in usual Kirsty fashion is quite phlegmatic about the whole thing!

Last weekend she was the overall 1.10m League Champion at Mundole, Forres.

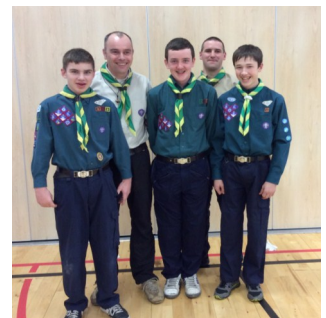
She will compete at the Royal Highland Show in 3 weeks time and also hopes to ride at the Black Isle Show and Blair HT once again.



Kirsty Wylie S1 and her horse Beam at Mundole.

Scouting Around

Congratulations to Alasdair Munro (3K), Scott Dingwall (3D), and Martin Muir (3D). The boys have received their Gold Scout Awards in April. This is the highest award you can receive in Scouts. They were all attending the 14th Ross Shire (Culbokie) Scouts.



Alasdair, Scott and Martin

Constructing Your Future

10 pupils had the opportunity to attend this event involving many Construction Industry Employers held at the Black Isle showground on the 20th May 2014.

The constructing your future event was a brilliant idea to open up the eyes of young adults during the time in their life where they decide to choose a career. The different workshops gave an insight into alternative jobs and career paths. The work shop helped me think of career choices I never thought of before. For example the brick laying workshop made me re-think about becoming a mechanical engineer. Throughout the whole day you met new people and became friends with people from other schools. It has helped me choose a career that I enjoy so I thank everyone who was a part of it.

By Sally Carpenter

