



Welcome to the October edition of our newsletter

I am very proud to be Acting Headteacher at Drummond Community High School while Norma Prentice is on secondment to Castlebrae High School. All pupils, staff and parents have been very welcoming and Gillian Tee, Director of Children and Families, whose visit I talk about below, also highlighted the positive ethos and inclusive nature within the school. On her tour of the school, led by pupils, she asked them what they liked best about Drummond and remarked on the positive relationships they have with all staff and the high quality learning and teaching experiences they receive here. Having only been here a short time I can endorse that.

This term has already been a very busy and exciting one. Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about the successes in the SQA examinations. This was our first year of presenting pupils in the National Qualifications and 22% of S4 pupils attained 3, or more, National 5 passes. At S5 17% of pupils attained 3+ Highers and in S6 this percentage was 15%. A number of pupils also successfully achieved Advanced Highers in subjects

including Drama, Italian, French, Russian, Chemistry, Art, Graphics and English. Also of particular note, are pupil successes in our Community Leadership Award.

During the month of September, the Senior Leadership Team has been meeting with Curriculum Leaders to review all SQA results to ensure that we can look at next steps within all of our courses, at all levels. This should ensure that our learning and teaching approaches provide the best quality of education we can for all pupils at the school and build upon our successes across the years. Many staff at the school also participate in 'prisms' which involve linking with colleagues to observe lessons and share good practice. This approach allows them to see different ideas and teaching styles, open up discussions about learning and teaching and take these ideas in to their own classrooms to directly benefit the pupils.

Our recent visit by the authority, who reviewed our Broad General Education for S1-3, rated our curriculum as being 'very good' and our aim, of course, is to make this 'excellent'.

Gillian Tee Visit to DCHS (Director of Children and Families)

We greeted Mrs Tee at the front door as she arrived. We introduced ourselves and welcomed her into the school. First, we took her to the Maths department where she spoke to Mrs Cameron and looked at how the pupils were working. Throughout the tour of the school, she was impressed at how pupils were working well and how quiet they were. We also visited other departments including: Social Subjects, English, IT and Science. Once break was over, we took Mrs Tee to the concourse to see the First year's iPad lesson being led by Mrs Cooper. Written by S4 pupils: Emma McCallum, Alison Laing, Hannah Law, Nisha Kaur, Cerys Christie, Awais Akram.

On speaking to Mrs Tee at the end of her visit, she remarked how impressed she was not only by the warm welcome she had received at the school but also by the high quality learning and teaching she saw when she visited the classes. On asking pupils what they liked about coming to school, they had discussed the 'great teachers' and the warmth and friendliness throughout the whole school, at all levels. Mrs Tee also remarked that Drummond CHS embraced all key elements of a school: high attainment, achievement, being at the heart of its community and was inclusive.

A great accolade for us!

Sue Cook (Acting Head Teacher)



X marks the spot



Drummond S6 students (Adam, Nishat, Cameron) in the referendum photo-call with Sue Bruce, Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council.

Young Chef Rotary Competition 2014-15

On Monday the 29th of September, four students from the FCT department will be taking part in the first round of the Rotary Young Chef Competition. This competition challenges the students to plan and prepare a two course healthy meal for a panel of three judges in 1 hour and 30 minutes. Two of the students will then progress to the Area finals. The students taking part are: Eilidh Douglas S3, Anishar Gotora S6, Danielle Morris S6 and Laura Whigham S6. We look forward to seeing the results.



Translating Cultures – Inspiring Adult Education Project

From 1st to 4th September eleven adult students participated in our very exciting Translating Cultures Project which offered Bookbinding (Susie Wilson), Embroidery (Elisabeth Allen), Printmaking (Jenny Findley) and Spanish (Marian Davidson) to develop a personal response to the themes of migration, movement, language and identity.

A very simple exercise was chosen as the starting point. Participants were asked to write down: a name, place, date, journey, country, language and a word. These spontaneously given answers were the inspirational starting points for the participants to create a book. Participants had also been asked to bring an object, a word and a poem along which was important to them. Together - the exercise and the individual objects - provided the platform for participants to make their unique handmade books.

The tutors showed different examples of handmade books, printmaking and embroidery / stitching which were possible in the given time frame and which could be used to translate the individual's story artistically.

The group atmosphere was very good and participants engaged in conversations with each other, talking about their individual stories and experiences. All participants and the tutors lived and breathed the project for the four days - most looking out more photos or things that would fit into their book and many working on drypoint etchings or drawings at home - sometimes into the late hours.

The finished books are fantastic and speak a language of their own. One student said: "I found the language of artistic techniques to express myself." "Inspiring and creative". The languages the participants brought into the project were: English, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Maori, Spanish and Urdu.

The project was funded by a UK government funded research project – Transnationalizing Modern Languages – and Drummond Community High School is a non-academic partner. The research project is running for three years and is looking at how people react creatively to living in a society where they hear different languages and encounter different cultures. Four universities: Bristol, Queen Margaret, St Andrews and Warwick are involved in the research, working locally and across the world studying how communities use translation as part of their daily lives.

Derek Duncan, Professor of Italian at St Andrews University said about the Drummond adult students' handmade books: "I was struck by how varied the work was and how personal each piece seemed. The books were beautiful and I was very impressed to see how the students used different print and embroidery techniques to translate their experiences."

For more information about the research project and photos from the Book Project please look at <http://www.transnationalmodernlanguages.ac.uk/>



The Pupil Voice

The Pupil Voice continues to grow – not only in ambition, but also in student membership. The Voice exists to give pupils a real forum to discuss and examine the issues they feel are important to Drummond CHS and the wider community. The Voice has already had its first meeting and here is a flavour of topics discussed : classroom resources; wi-fi connectivity; sports clubs; food served in school; rewards; and trips and activities. Two S6 pupils, Danielle Morris and Cameron Smith, will take turns chairing and minuting the meetings throughout the 2014-2015 school year. The Voice wants to continue to award Pupil Voice Grants – this is when pupils bid for a grant of money to aid them in their hobby, sport or other interests. The Voice is looking to build its links with the Parent Council and is always happy to receive guests from the community.

Work Experience 15th – 19th September 2014

At the beginning of entering the Senior Phase, our S4 students embark on sampling the world of work. Preparing for this experience starts before the summer holidays, when our students can access a database of possible placements which will give them the details of the placement on a job card. Each placement comes with its own set of conditions varying from the type of clothing that the students will need to wear, to the range of hours their placement would like the students to work. Careful reading of these conditions is essential, as not all placements have the same set of conditions. Before the students go to their selected placement, they are required to contact their work placement to ensure that their prospective employer is still able to take them. Many of our students can find this aspect quite daunting and staff are available to support this part of the communication process.

Fifteen of our students used the Work Experience opportunity as a means of finding their own placements.

For the first time this session, we were offered placements under the umbrella of STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) focusing on girls accessing science based placements at Jacobs, The School of Chemistry at Edinburgh University and the School of Robotics at Edinburgh University . This has proved highly successful and we plan to embed these opportunities into the database.

The preparation is quite intense, particularly in the weeks before the students embark on their placements, but on their return to school we see students who have gained in confidence, learned new skills and have a better idea of the careers they would like to pursue.

Key Dates for Parents/Carers

Please note that a new section is being developed on our school website: '**Key Dates for Parents/Carers**'. Please visit www.drummondhigh.com for more information.

Senior Leaders

A larger number of senior pupils than ever before applied to be Prefects and, given the high number of talented, motivated, articulate and committed applicants, the selection process was very difficult. Once the Head and Depute Head Boys and Girls were selected, they met with Ms Gibson to discuss the prefect applications and create a team that we felt was a good representation and balance of the year group. There will be an opportunity in the next couple of weeks for our S6 pupils to apply to be House Heads and work together with our support team to lead Annandale, Bellevue or Claremont.

The Prefect Team

This year's Prefect Team are already sharing excellent leadership skills and proving to be positive role models for younger pupils. They carry out a variety of roles including concourse supervision, community patrol, organising activities for younger students, attendance at school events, transition work with our cluster primaries and generally being excellent role models and ambassadors for our school community.

List of prefects

Head Boy	Jamie Forde
Head Girl	Zoe Clack
Deputy Head Boy	Greig Howitt
Deputy Head Girl	Emma Pender
Leader of Annandale House	TBC
Leader of Bellevue House	TBC
Leader of Claremont House	TBC

PREFECTS

Lachlan Glen, Glen Hunter, Jamie McGuigan, Eoghann Douglas, Cameron Smith, Shaun Begbie, Mark Burns, Callum Preston, Sulaiman Sarwar, Dania Bey, Natalia Rocha, Anishar Gotor, Yasmine Lefkaier, Eyan Walters, Freya Aitken Scott, Danielle Morris, Tanyaradzwa Chizah, Hannah Paterson, Laura Whigham, Caitlin McGuinness.

S6 Leaders work with P7 pupils Broughton Primary

On the 11th of September, eleven sixth year PE Leadership pupils ran a fun basketball session with primary sevens from our partnering school: Broughton Primary. They arrived just after lunch for an hour session which included fun games such as: cabbage ball, toilet tig and "bump" before ending with a short 4 v 4 basketball game.

This was our first leadership experience and, whilst we started sheepishly, it was obvious that our confidence grew throughout and by the end of it we became a lot more comfortable with taking our own lessons. Due to the fact we were in partners (as opposed to a bigger group) taking a small section of the entire class, our abilities as independent individuals were strengthened. All of us thoroughly enjoyed our time with the primary kids and, even though we were only with them for a short period of time, a number of positive relationships were developed between us and them. Unfortunately, we did only have an hour and we all were disappointed we didn't get the chance to play a few more games together.

This was a one off session, but, it has made us all very eager to work with Miss Murray's P5/P6 class from Leith Walk after the October holidays!

Written by S6 Leader, Evie Walters



Drummond Cluster Musical Theatre

"Consider yourself at home" is what staff and students from Drummond say to all of our cluster primaries. We want all of the young students from Broughton, Leith walk And Abbeyhill to feel welcome when they visit our school. Drummond cluster musical theatre classes take place in the theatre on Friday afternoons, where students from our cluster primaries learn songs and dances from musicals and perform them at the end of each term for family and friends.

This is a great opportunity for the young students to get to know Drummond, and also meet students from other schools, making the transition from primary to high school easier. The three schools will come together at the end of the school year and perform in our 'Cluster of Stars' show where they will showcase what they have learnt over the year.

As you may have guessed, by my introduction, the first term's show is 'Oliver' and after meeting the young students only once, I am excited and inspired by the talent and look forward to a year of fun and great performances.

Auschwitz

On the 17th of September we had the experience of visiting one of the most horrific sites in human history – Auschwitz. To start the day off we visited a small town called Owićim, whose entire Jewish population of 8,000 was wiped out during the Holocaust. Owićim is right on the door-step of Auschwitz and, sadly, only one unused synagogue remains. Rabbi Marcus of the Central Synagogue London, led an eye opening speech into the travesties that occurred and the lasting effects on today's society. Afterwards we visited Auschwitz 1, where we were deeply affected by seeing the victims' personal belongings. Many people had warned us that would be the most disturbing part of Auschwitz, but their warnings did not come anywhere close to the reality. In the afternoon, we then made our way through the infamous gates of Auschwitz Birkenau. It was such a surreal feeling that all those atrocities had happened right where we were standing.



Positive Destinations/ Edinburgh Guarantee

Skills Development Scotland

Congratulations to Katie Oag, Drummond's Career Adviser, who has become the proud mother of Flora Margaret who weighed in at 8lbs 5oz on 18th July. While Katie is on maternity leave, she will be replaced by Lou Murphy who also works for Skills Development Scotland (SDS). Lou will be in Drummond on a Tuesday and Thursday. Lou can be contacted on 0131 718 2065 or 03000133815. Lou has already settled in and is offering support to all pupils and parents, at Drummond, but in particular those in the senior phase.

SDS have a number of events happening this term that Drummond will participate in:

- Recruitment Days for seasonal work in local shopping centres in and around Edinburgh
30th Sept – 1st Nov. The Gyle, Fort Kinnaird and Ocean Terminal Centres
- Modern Apprentice week, 3rd – 7th November, Drummond
- Skills Scotland Fair, 13th November, Royal Highland Show Ground
- Higher Education Convention 12th December venue TBC

Useful web-sites

- skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk
- sds.co.uk/yourarea
- edinburghguarantee@edinburgh.gov.uk – how businesses can help

- myworldofwork.co.uk
- myworldofwork.co.uk/parents
- ourskillsforce.co.uk

Useful helplines

- SDS Helpline for individuals 0800917800
- SDS Helpline for employers 0800783600

Edinburgh Guarantee Bulletin

Every week Edinburgh Guarantee publishes a list of all the current job opportunities in Edinburgh. The bulletin is posted on our Positive Destinations noticeboard and can be viewed on our web-site.

Career Academies

In June 2014 six Drummond pupils graduated from Career Academies at a ceremony in the City Chambers, Glasgow. The successful candidates had completed a two year programme that included a four week internship with a local business, Guru lectures, workplace visits and a residential weekend at Benmore, Dunoon. This year we have another six bright young hopefuls entering the programme. Career Academies will be led this session by Michael Paley and Penelope Marks. For more information contact www.careeracademies.org.uk

The Citadel

The Citadel in Leith is a member of the Drummond Positive Destination group that meets every 4 – 6 weeks. They are offering a variety of initiatives to support young people and their families including:

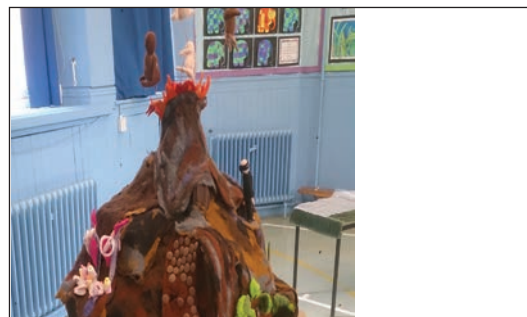
- Youth Volunteer Project - Wednesday mornings
- Family worker - Family Drop-in Clinic and crèche is being planned

Colony of Artists Festival

Over the weekend of the 20th and 21st September, Abbeyhill took part in the annual Colony of Artists festival for the 7th year running. This festival sees artists from the Abbeyhill colonies throw their doors open and welcome members of the public to experience their art in all its many forms.

Following our HMIE inspection in September 2013, where inspectors had praised our involvement with the festival as 'innovative practice', we were able to secure funding to have an 'artist in residence' which in reality became several artists (including the author of the 'Maisie of Morningside' books Aileen Paterson) who worked with the Nursery, P2, P4, P6 and P7 over the 2013-14 session to create a variety of artwork using different media including mosaics, critical drawing, felt work and film-making. Our 'curator in residence', Iliyana Nedkova, curated the show and Abbeyhill welcomed 300 visitors over the weekend who enjoyed following a treasure map to discover the art which was displayed throughout the school and playground. All Abbeyhill children benefited by being able to explore different media, either as an artist or an observer, and discovering how to express themselves through art. Finally, they had the experience of helping to shape an exhibition and the enjoyment of sharing their work with friends, family and the wider public. Next year is the 10 year anniversary of the Colony of Artists Festival and we look forward to taking part in what will, hopefully, be the biggest and most creative one yet!

If you would like a virtual tour of our exhibition and to find out more about the artists involved please go to <http://abbeyhillschoolartists.wordpress.com/artworks-2/volcano-of-dreams/>



Parent council

At primary school it's easy to find out what's going on at your child's school. That becomes more difficult at secondary school: we don't meet other parents and our children can be strangely reluctant to tell us anything about their experiences.

Come along to the Parent Council, meet staff, senior pupils and other parents. Find out different ways of engaging with the school, find out about any big changes, discuss issues of importance to your child's education.

You can come to as many meetings as you want. You don't have to be elected and you don't have to take on extra responsibilities. Promise!

Dates	Time	Topic
Oct 29	6.30 to 8.00	Settling into school
Nov 26	6.30 to 8.00	Building your child's aspirations
Jan 28	6.30 to 8.00	Making course choices
Mar 25	6.30 to 8.00	Making the most of ipads for education
May 27	6.30 to 8.00	Annual General Meeting

Coming soon: Employment Speed Dating: 4th February 2015

Do you have an interesting or enjoyable job? Would you be willing to share your experiences with our pupils?

When it comes to course choices, it can help to have a sense of what you want to be. But how can young people know what it's like to be a joiner, hairdresser, lawyer, train driver, computer programme, etc.? How can they know the best steps to get where they want to be? Hearing from you, that's how.



If you want to be involved in our speed dating event, please contact Diane at kennedydiane3@gmail.com or Jean at bjplus2@yahoo.com

Sports Timetable

Alan Reid, the new Active Schools Co-ordinator, at Drummond Community High School would like to welcome all pupils back to school this term, especially our new S1s. Alan would also like to encourage all pupils to sign up for our sports club membership scheme, to encourage pupils to 'Stay more active, more often', in the quest for a healthy lifestyle. Sports clubs are available at lunch time and after school every day. Information for local sports clubs, training courses are also available from Alan, who can be contacted on 07799 861 494 or Alan.Reid@ea.edin.sch.uk

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime Badminton S1 - S6 and Staff Mr Pailey 12:45pm - 1:20pm Games Hall	Lunchtime Multi-sport S1 - S6 YAs 12:45pm - 1:20pm Games Hall	Lunchtime Multi-sport S1 - S6 YAs 1:15pm - 1:55pm Games Hall	Lunchtime Multi-sport S1 - S6 YAs 12:45pm - 1:20pm Games Hall	
After-school Fitness Suite Sessions S1 - S6 Drop-in 12:45pm - 1:20pm Fitness Suite	After-school Fitness Suite Sessions S1 - S6 Drop-in 12:45pm - 1:20pm Fitness Suite	After-school Fitness Suite Sessions S1 - S6 Drop-in 1:15pm - 1:55pm Fitness Suite	After-school Fitness Suite Sessions S1 - S6 Drop-in 12:45pm - 1:20pm Fitness Suite	After-school Fitness Suite Sessions S1 - S6 Drop-in 12:45pm - 1:20pm Fitness Suite
After-school Senior Football S5 - S6 Coliam Preston 3:30pm - 5:00pm Astro/Warminster	After-school Boys Football S1 - S2 Coach Reid (ASC) 3:30pm - 5pm Astro	After-school Basketball S1 - S6 Mr Hood 3:45pm - 5pm Games Hall	After-school Football S3 - S4 Coach Douglas (YA) 3:30pm - 5pm Games Hall	After-school Girls Football S1 - S4 Coach Douglas/Hussein YAs 1pm - 2:30pm Games Hall
After-school Gymnastics Miss Baille S1-S6 3:30pm - 5pm Dance Studio	After-school Dance Division S1 - S6 Suzy Mcgee 3:30pm - 4:30pm Dance Studio		After-school YAs 3:30pm - 5pm Dance Studio	



Emmanuel Jal Boy Soldier to Rap Star

As part of the Edinburgh International Festival a group of students and staff from the Kenya Masterclass and the Music department attended The Young People's lecture and performance by rap star Emmanuel Jal at the Hub on Castle Hill.

Emmanuel Jal was recruited by the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) to fight against the Sudanese Government who had been responsible for the death of many of his family members during the civil war. At roughly 7 years old, he was kidnapped and his mother and aunts killed by soldiers loyal to the government. He decided to join thousands of children travelling to Ethiopia seeking education and opportunities. Along the way, many of the children including Jal, were captured by the SPLA and taken to military training camps in the bush. The camps were disguised as schools in an attempt to fool international aid agencies and UN representatives, but behind closed doors the children were being trained to fight.

They were given a machine gun to use and from then on Jal spent several years with the SPLA fighting for them. Whilst he was in Waat - a village in South Sudan, he met a woman called Emma McCune who was married to a senior SPLA commander. Jal was 11 at the time and insisted that he did not want to be a soldier anymore. Emma adopted him and smuggled him into Kenya where he attended school in Nairobi. Unfortunately, Emma died in a road accident a few months later, but her friends helped Emmanuel to continue his studies in memory of her. However, after her death her husband, Machar did not agree with Emmanuel staying with him anymore and he was thrown out and forced to live in the slums of Nairobi. He stayed in the Kileleshwa District with other refugees and attended Arboretum Sixth Form College.

His experiences left him traumatised and he had nightmares all the time. Music helped his recovery but other children also found art and sport equally beneficial.

He is now a world renowned rap artist and lives in Toronto. He uses his music to publicise the plight of boy soldiers and runs a charity called GUA (the title of his first album, meaning both "peace" in Nuer and "power" in Sudanese Arabic) which 'works with individuals, families and communities to help overcome the effects of war and poverty'. Projects include educational sponsorship for former child soldiers and building a school in South Sudan.

Since then he has produced 4 albums, contributing to many more and performing for Nelson Mandela. He has his own record label and in 2009 wrote his autobiography, War Child: A Child Soldier's Story (available in the Library) which was turned into a documentary.

His latest film 'The Good Lie' will be released in December.

We did a display on the Kenya noticeboard about Emmanuel Jal and the issues surrounding boy soldiers and produced a PowerPoint for use by students in Tutor Groups.

For more information see:

www.gua-africa.org

<http://emmanuel-jal.webs.com>

Megan Bryce, S5 Kenya Masterclass

THE TYPICAL CHILD SOLDIER

- Is nine years old
- Volunteered to fight
- Suffers from depression and anxiety
- Has no social bonds or moral compass
- Is prone to insomnia, nightmares and thoughts of suicide
- Is an orphan
- Can handle weapons
- Responds well to orders
- Works as cook, suicide bomber, human shield or domestic worker
- Is sexually abused

It is estimated there are **300 000 child soldiers worldwide** **30% of them are girls**

RUDI LOUW, Graphics24

Former Students

Allan Hamilton, a former student from DCHS, has graduated from QMU with a 2:1 in Pharmacology and now has a scholarship at The University of New Mexico where he will continue with his athletics. With the success of the Commonwealth Games still lingering, I found this news article that may be of interest to those who taught Allan.....

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/sport/athletics/allan-hamilton-leaps-to-commie-games-mark-1-3437692>

Hannah Reynolds graduated with a first from Glasgow School of Art, a fantastic achievement, well done!

At the City Chambers on 30th August 2014, Kimberley Reed received the prestigious Eric Liddell Award, an annual award, recognising the potential of a young athlete to be a World Class athlete of the future. Kimberley threw over 61 metres, in the hammer, at Oregon at the World Junior Championships in July. She came 10th. What a brilliant performance.



S1 Camp in Jedburgh

by Faye Fulton

At school camp it was really fun. We did stuff like hillwalking, tree climbing, archery and cycling. We also did other stuff like have a fire and toast marshmallows and go swimming in the river.

We only went for three days but they were really packed full of activities. We did have free time as well. The area we had was massive which was mainly forest and big grassy areas.

The house we stayed in was an old school and it had no electricity which made it really fun at night because we just had to use torches!

On the second night, we had to go to collect firewood and dry grass so we could make the fire. When we got the fire going we toasted marshmallows and then played sniper.

During the three days you got to know people a lot better and I had so much fun!

S1 Camp Quotes

Tom Randall: My best part was helping cook all the sausages X 80 on Tuesday evening.

I also liked the cycling.

Denholm Hendry: I liked going in the river in bare feet. I went through with Mrs Fleming and Miss Munro. I also enjoyed playing "Pooh-Sticks" in the ford. We dropped grass over the bridge, then we hurried to the other side to watch which came through first. I won one of the competitions.

Ali Albannay: I liked the S1 camp, especially the bike ride which was up and down hills on a road. The going downhill was great.

Nathan Welsh: I loved Tom's cooked sausages. I had 8 of them. I also liked the archery.

Career Academies

Drummond Community High School is continuing to offer S5 pupils the opportunity to be part of Career Academies. We have six S5 pupils committed to this 2 year programme: Callum Comrie, Emma Gorman, Lejla Subasic, Greg Mitchell, Anna Feitas, and Rebecca Moffat.

Career Academies is a programme that prepares students for the world of work. The model focuses on linking students to employers through masterclasses, mentoring, workplace visits and internships. This is a very exciting opportunity for these young adults and we wish them all the best at the start of this journey.

Career Academy: Hospitality and Tourism HNC level

I am a 6th year pupil here and I have been undertaking a course in the Career Academy for the past few months. My chosen Academy is Hospitality and Tourism. The course is a lot of work but I am enjoying it. The opportunities that could come from the end result of a HNC in Hospitality and Tourism could open many doors for me in the future. This course has given me a clear insight into what I would like to do when I am older. The Hospitality Industry has many avenues you could go down. My chosen route would be Events Management. This involves talking to customers and setting up events for many occasions. This HNC course would give me an entry level into year two of University. Then I could study Hospitality and Tourism industry. I would recommend part time college to any student. The hard work is worth the benefits you can get out of the added learning.

Laura Whigham, S6



Global School Forum 2014 and The Drummond Pledge

For the past 3 years S5/6 students from Drummond have attended the Global Schools Forum organised by the Vine Trust. It aims to empower young people to look at global problems and to take positive action to change the world. In the past, conferences have been themed round the topics of World Food and The Right to Education. This year the conference at the Perth Concert Hall, focused on health and in particular the three big killers, Aids/HIV, Malaria and TB, all diseases which are preventable, curable or manageable yet kill over 3.7 million people a year in developing countries many of them young people.

Ten students and two members of staff attended from the Kenya Masterclass and the Higher Biology classes. The morning session saw a variety of speakers with medical, charity and government backgrounds outline the diseases and the problems that third world countries face controlling them and the devastating effects they have on the societies and economies of these countries. In the afternoon, students got the opportunity to attend a variety of workshops to learn how to take action by peer education, fundraising, presenting a 'good' assembly or lobbying MPs.

At the end of the afternoon, we were all asked to reflect on what we had learnt and to make a pledge....

The Drummond Pledge

The fearless Alisa Gashi took the microphone and in front of several hundred students and staff from across Scotland made the following pledge.

'That Drummond Community High School will raise enough money to provide a mosquito net for the equivalent of every student at DCHS, thereby potentially saving the lives of 386 people.'

We hope to achieve this for International Malaria Day on the 25th April 2015.

Watch the school website and Twitter for more information about how you, your family and friends can become involved. Or contact Annie Scanlon by email on admin@drummond.edin.sch.uk

Annie Scanlon

Librarian/Kenya Educational Partnership Co-ordinator

A 'crate' time was had by all!

For the 2014 S6 residential we went to Abernethy Barcaple near Dumfries. It was an eventful three days filled with team building, laughter and some interesting meals. From pizza and pasta to hot chocolate and some delicious biscuits, reactions were mixed. Even a surprise cake for Ali's 17th birthday was provided. It wasn't always so mild and relaxed, competition soon became fierce once activities began. On the crate climb Jamie and Adam had an admirable score of 13 crates, but they were knocked off top place by Josh and Shaun with a camp record of 14 crates. I think we would all agree that raft building was one of the best activities. We had to work as a team to build a raft and race the other team around the lake. Even the teachers got involved in the camp spirit and had table tennis battles in the games room. Not only did we all have a great time, we all came away with a Leadership and Teamworking Through Adventure Award. All in all it was an enjoyable three days which left us as a much closer year group.



Generations project

In class 1C1 with Mrs Thomson and Mrs Syme, we are doing a project called 'Generations' with Pilmeny Action Group.

Every Wednesday afternoon class, 1C1 and Mrs Thomson and Mrs Syme walk down to Jameson Place off Leith Walk.

During the first week, we got to know each other. We all sat in a big circle and we had to say our name and think of a piece of fruit beginning with the first letter of our name. I was Nisha the nectarine! After that, Anna (the project manager) put us all in a group of two or three with one elderly person. I was in a group with Holly, Margarida and our elderly lady was called Ellen. Anna gave us a card game called 'getting to know you'. It contained questions about our hobbies and what we don't like doing etc. After that finished, Louise (the youth worker) kindly gave us juice and shortbread. After we had finished our juice, we discussed what we wanted to do in the future weeks. Every group thought of one thing we would like to do. Our group thought of bingo.



On the second week, Anna had a sheet prepared for us. On the sheet was a timetable of what we were going to be doing that week and in future weeks. Then we all reminded ourselves of our names, but not a fruit this time. Anna told us that we would be doing something called a seated exercise. Then Helen took over, (Helen was the seated exercise teacher). She explained that the music was going to be classical because it is calming, and elderly people enjoy that type of music. Then Anna asked us, "Why do you think it's important to keep healthy and active when you're getting older?" We all said what we thought and then Helen said why she thinks it is important. Then she started the warm up. The music was really relaxing. After two songs we started the real thing. It was really fun and different and we used scarves to do one song. After we had done about two songs, Louise gave us a Bourbon biscuit and orange juice. Then Helen told us we should always have a cool down after we finish any type of exercise because of our muscles.

On the third week, we took a bus to the Ceramic Experience. First Anna gave us all pictures of old things to do with Leith. I chose a picture saying 'I love Leith'. After we had done a quick sketch of our picture, we chose a shape (mine was a circle) and we traced our picture out in pencil. Then there were special paints and lots of different sizes of paintbrushes. We carefully painted them, and then we got a selection of biscuits like Bourbons and shortbread and many more. We also got orange juice. Then sadly that was time up :(Ellen, Nora and Barbara went on a bus back to their home and so did we, but not the same bus. After the bus, we got to make our own way home.

In two weeks' time, we are going to a museum. The museum is about Leith in the past.

On our last week, we are going to Meadowbank Stadium where we are celebrating older people. There will be dancing and snacks and I'm sure we will all enjoy it!

By Nisha Singh

Kenyan Kings (and Queens) at Edinburgh Castle

Students at Drummond were privileged to be invited by Portobello High School to join them for a visit to Edinburgh Castle with staff and students from their partner school Kiurani Secondary School in Kenya. Students, Gilbert Mwenda and Fradinah Kaimuri, and staff, John Mbae and Doreen Kendi, toured the castle, met with re-enactors from the Civil War, saw the Crown Jewels and, with our students remembered the dead of the World Wars at the National War Memorial. The questions about Scottish history and castle life came thick and fast from them and from our students, some of whom had never been to the castle before. Like our own partners, Muthambi Boys and Girls, the students at Kiurani had been disappointed when Portobello High School had been unable to visit in the summer, but they will take back lots of stories and memories of Edinburgh to their friends back home.

Annie Scanlon

Drummond/Muthambi Educational Partnership.



Kenyan Pen Pals

At the end of last session, we started a pen pal project with Muthambi Boys School and we currently have 13 out of the 21 Tutor Groups taking part. Each group has taken on one boy and will write to him, we hope twice per term. With the whole Tutor Group taking part, we hope that this will spread the load of writing and inspire our students to be collectively creative with replies.

Senior students have taken on the task of co-ordinating the letter writing. We hope that as the letters fly over 4,000 miles back and forth, students in Kenya and Scotland will learn more about each other, their hopes and culture.

Annie Scanlon, Kenya Educational Partnership Co-ordinator

20mph Consultation

A consultation is underway to help draw up plans for new 20 mph speed limits across Edinburgh. Following a successful pilot in South Edinburgh, a 20 mph speed limit is now proposed for the City Centre, main shopping streets and residential areas.

Whatever your views about our 20 mph speed limit proposals, City of Edinburgh Council want to hear from you. Please access www.edinburgh.gov.uk/20mph for more information.

The consultation is open and you can feedback until 17 October.

Astroturf

Our Astroturf is available to hire at the following times:-

- Monday 18:00-19:00, 20:00-21:00
- Tuesday 18:00-19:00, 20:00-21:00
- Wednesday 20:00-21:00
- Thursday 18:00-19:00, 20:00-21:00
- Friday 17:00-18:00, 18:00-19:00, 19:00-20:00, 20:00-21:00
- Saturday 09:30-10:30, 10:30-11:30, 11:30-12:30



£25.00 per hour without use of Floodlights
 £30.00 per hour with use of Floodlights

Masterclass - masterchef

21 of our S2 and S3 students are taking part in this year's Masterchef masterclass to build their skills, knowledge and confidence in cooking. We have been trying out new dishes and using different ingredients that students haven't used before. The masterclass is an opportunity to have a go at classic dishes, recipes from around the world, as well as things that students have seen and want to try.

As well as building skills and knowledge, the masterclass is an opportunity for the students to become relaxed, independent and 'at home' in a cooking environment. The course will allow many of them to prepare for future courses at Drummond such as the National Qualifications in Cake Craft and also Hospitality and Practical Cookery

So far we have made –

- Decorated cake bars
- Calzones with hand-made dough
- Rock cakes
- Lasagne
- Cheesecake
- Chinese spring rolls with sweet chilli dipping sauce
- Carrot butterfly cake

Students have recently put forward ideas for some things that they would like to try which we hope to be able to include within the year, in addition to seasonal and celebration items. We have also had an exciting lesson of 'ready steady cook' where each student was given their own mystery bag of ingredients to use to create a dish. This lesson really put them to the test and it was great to see how far they had already come with their skills, confidence and creativity.

By the end of the year the students will have built a great 'catalogue' of recipes that will be with them for the rest of their lives and a great tool box of core techniques and skills such as making bread, pastries and sauces in addition to being safe and confident with a range of cooking methods. All these will help them be creative with cooking into their future so they can not only feed themselves well, but also enjoy producing the food for others.



Staffing

We have had a number of new staff join us between August and October.

Languages - Kelly Caddow has been appointed in English and Annabel Luque-Ordóñez, has been appointed as a teacher of Modern Languages and is covering Alison Colquhoun's post while she is on a year's career break, working in Spain to enable her to teach Spanish in DCHS on her return.

Maths - Gillian Atkinson is covering Neil Millington who is having a one year career break teaching Maths in Spain.

Health and Wellbeing - Mairi Baillie, PE Probationer, is covering Darren Smith who is on a career break. Helen Hubbard and Kara Harrison (following her probationary year) have both been appointed in FCT.

Social Subjects - Fraser McCallum is acting DHT for one year and Matt Consitt is covering his post in History. Gregor Hood, Teacher of Geography, is covering Helen Packwood, who is also benefiting from a career break, working at St Andrews University. Louise Tonner replaces Tim Rayner in Modern Studies. John Jennings was permanently appointed in RME after several years of working at Drummond CHS.

Science - Stewart Gray replaces Lennie Fawcett in Physics.

Technologies - Mark Holden has been appointed as CL of Technologies, replacing Cian O Doherty who has relocated to Ireland. Ashley Hutchison, Teacher of Computing, has replaced Derek Sharkey who was appointed at Gracemount HS.

Support for Pupils - Niki Munro is acting Support for Learning Leader, covering Vincent Spicer who is seconded to Castlebrae HS as acting DHT.

I would also like to express our thanks to Claire Cooper for acting as CL Technologies from August through to the end of September and to Ron McKinven for his contribution to the learning and teaching in the Technologies Faculty.

Staffing changes post October.

We bid a fond farewell to Sharon Gibson, DHT, who is moving to Craigmount High School to a DHT position there. Ms Gibson has been at Drummond CHS for ten years, starting as Principal Teacher of Guidance and becoming a DHT in 2011. During her time here she has led a number of successful initiatives, but her most recent one being the driving force for the new senior phase curriculum and using her creativity to ensure a wide range of option choices for all senior pupils. Ms Gibson's ability to network with the local and wider community to provide leadership opportunities, particularly for senior pupils, has been extremely beneficial in terms of what the school has been able to offer to our young people. Her enthusiasm, passion and commitment to her roles here and working tirelessly to ensure our pupils achieve their best, will be Craigmount's gain.

We also wish good luck to Birgit Harris, who starts in a new position as CATS Development Worker at Liberton and Castlebrae High Schools. Birgit started as the Adult Education Programme Organiser at Drummond CHS in 2000 before becoming the Community Programme Manager in 2010. Mrs Harris has been paramount in ensuring the effective running of all aspects of our community programme. Her leadership and work with the Translating Cultures Project and St Andrew's University has been outstanding, and the high quality work produced both within the school and the adult education programme has been superb.

Dr Marysia Nash

Dr Marysia Nash, who is a Clinical Lead Speech and Language Therapist for the NHS, will finish her work at Drummond in October. She has been an integral part of the school since 2003, supporting many of our students with speech and language difficulties through the enhanced provision of Drummond's Secondary Resource. Her contribution to the school has had a significant impact, both in terms of the improved literacy of our students, and in developing best practice for teaching staff. Marysia's work at Drummond received national attention, and was seen as leading the way in supporting young people with language difficulties in secondary schools. Marysia, and a variety of colleagues from Drummond, presented on the success of the Resource model at numerous conferences, including visits to Belfast and London. Marysia is now preparing for a new chapter in her professional life. Language development remains a huge interest for her, and is one which she hopes to pursue by teaching English as an additional language to adults in Scotland, and by supporting disadvantaged children in South Africa.