

SUMMER MAGAZINE 2012



OLIVER CAST MEMBERS

BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY'S IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2012-13

The school has to plan its work carefully before each new session and make sure that we have the right priorities. Many organisations and groups have an influence on the plan, these include:

- the **Scottish Government**, which expects that schools introduce the new curriculum
- **Aberdeen City Council**, which has clear priorities
- our **Principal Teachers**
- our **working groups**, including the Learning and Teaching Group
- **pupils**, via the Pupil Council and focus groups
- **Parents**, especially via the Parent Council
- **Staff**, who suggest ideas

Our plan for this year has been influenced by all of the above. What follows is a summary of what we plan to do.

1. **Curriculum for Excellence.** We have much work to do on this, especially in planning new lessons and preparing pupils for the first of the new National examinations in 2014.
2. **Raising attainment.** Many of our pupils do well in their examinations but there are too many who should do better. We are going to ask focus groups of pupils for their views and set up a group of pupils, staff and parents to look at improving homework.
3. **Leadership.** We are going to put more work into developing the leadership capacity of our pupils and staff.
4. **Discipline.** Our school discipline policy and procedures will be improved.
5. **Partnership.** We will provide better support for pupils, have better communication with parents and work with a wide range of partners to improve outcomes for our young people.

If you have any suggestions to make, please use the school email address or contact the Parent Council. Details are on the website.

If you would like the full Improvement Plan for 2012-13, please request this from the school office.

J P Harland
June 2012

HOUSE NAMES

As you will be aware from previous correspondence, this year Bridge of Don Academy will change from four House Groups to three. It was decided that this would be a good opportunity to rebrand and relaunch the Houses. The end of the traditional Houses of Arran, Iona, Skye and Tiree was marked earlier this year by the burying of a time capsule, containing memories and mementos from each House, on school grounds.

Pupils, staff and parents were then given the chance to nominate new House names in a school competition. In PSE classes pupils were given the chance to discuss and research ideas. Pupils were encouraged to consider representing the local community and summing up Bridge of Don when coming up with their ideas. Names should be strong and engender a sense of pride. Many different options were suggested, with ideas including: oil rigs, mountains, rivers, areas, castles, feeder primary schools and local celebrities.

The four most popular ideas were discussed by the SMT, Parent Council and Heads of House, before being put to a whole staff and pupil vote. The options were as follows:

Mountains – Cairngorm, Lochnagar and Macdui
Castles – Crathes, Drum and Fyvie
People – “Thomas”, “Blake” and “Glover”
Granite – Feldspar, Mica and Quartz (granite’s component minerals)



After a secret ballot in PSE classes, the Heads of House were delighted to announce that Castles was the winning option. Granite came a very close second and Jordan Young De Sa of 2 Skye, who came up with this original concept, will be rewarded with a prize for his creativity.

The new houses will now be:

- Crathes, lead by Mrs Napier and with the House colour green
- Drum, lead by Mr Paterson and with the House colour yellow
- Fyvie, lead by Miss Cromar with the House colour blue

The new Houses will be launched after Activities Week. As a result of the changes and merger, some pupils will have a change of Guidance teacher. This has been discussed with pupils in PSE and letters have been sent to those affected.

HEAD BOY GIRL AND DEPUTES

By Miss Ritchie, Depute Head

Each year the positions of Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputes are strongly competed for and this year was no different. After staff/peer votes and a gruelling interview process I am delighted to announce that this year Lewis Chouman and Jenna Shepherd will take up the position of Head Boy and Head Girl with Calum Neil and Lizzie Simpson taking up the positions of Deputes.

Well done to you all!!

PARENT COUNCIL 100 CLUB

The 100 club has been up and running since January. We have slowly managed to build up to 117 lottery numbers at £2 each. However many people have bought several numbers so the amount of people who are in the draw each month is only 67. Out of a school role of about 700 with about 500 families, this is obviously very disappointing. HOWEVER, the good news is that these 67 good folk, who have Bridge of Don Academy's best interests at heart, have managed to raise an amazing £979. For those of you who have ever been involved with any kind of fundraising, you will know how much hard work would be needed to raise this kind of money at an event. Yet, these 67 folk have done it without even thinking about it and with such little effort and time involved on their part.

So how have we spent the money? Bids have come in from various departments and I can tell you that we don't hang onto the money for long.

February £300 Maths Department for the Maths City computer licence.

April £200 Home Economics Department for new equipment such as food mixers and processors

May £368 Science Faculty for 20 Higher Biology text books

And the winners and prizes were:

| | | |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------|
| January | Fiona Fairhurst | £45.00 |
| February | Fiona Taylor | £54.00 |
| March | Cindy McIntosh | £55.50 |
| April | Fiona Gillilan | £55.50 |
| May | Miss L Ritchie, Depute Head | £58.50 |
| June | Bannerman family | £58.50 |

I am sure that the reason for the poor support is not because the rest of you disagree with the idea of the lottery or that you do not think it's a good idea. I'm certain that the main problem is apathy. Why do I think this? Well if I'd allocated another number for every time someone had said to me "Oh, the 100 club, I keep meaning to do something about that" then we would have been able to give the staff even more money to spend.

It's not difficult. It's only £2 a month – the price of a cup of coffee. You won't miss it. You won't even remember about it on a monthly basis. The forms are on the website. Go to the 100 club page on the website, click on previous and the forms are on the parent letter link. Or make it even easier and email me direct. Do it now and then feel good that you have done something positive to help the school. Simple!!

Ann Allan, 100 Club Administrator

forvie.cottagea@talktalk.net

The Manager

..... Please insert the
..... Name, Address & Postcode
.....of **your own** Bank.
.....

Please arrange to pay **LLOYDS TSB Scotland plc
St Machar (873410) Branch
PO BOX 1000
BX1 1LT**

Sort Code **87-34-10**

For the credit of **BODA PARENT COUNCIL**

Account Number **88649860**

The sum of **£**

Commencing*

*When inserting a starting date, please ensure that the money will be transferred in time for the draw

Frequency **Monthly**

Date of last Payment

(or UFN - Until further notice - perhaps work out the month /year your child will leave school)

Reference(insert your name)

Account to be debited
(i.e. the name(s) of the account holder(s))

Your Account Number _____ Sort code ____ - ____ - ____

Signature(s)

Date

SEND THIS FORM TO YOUR OWN BANK

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BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY TEACHER CHOSEN TO REPRESENT ABERDEEN AT NATIONAL EVENT.

Miss Claire Barrie represented Aberdeen City at the General Teaching Council for Scotland's Annual National Probationer Event at Clerwood House in Edinburgh.

This event is held every year to recognise and celebrate the work of new teachers across Scotland. Miss Barrie was awarded her Standard for Full Registration Certificate by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, Michael Russell.

She gave a speech about her experience at Bridge of Don Academy this year and the event was shown on television.

She is a very talented teacher and we wish her well when she starts her permanent post at Turriff Academy in August.



FORMER BODA HOUSE CAPTAIN WINS PLACE IN NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE

David Hepburn, a former BODA House Captain was one of 4,700 young people to audition for a place in the National Youth Theatre and was one of the few selected. Many well known stars have started in the same way, including Daniel Craig, Helen Mirren, Matt Lucas, David Walliams and Daniel Day- Lewis.



We are proud of David as very few actors have been chosen from Scotland. His first steps into the world of professional acting will, however, be expensive and David is trying to raise funds. He has already started organising a fund raiser show and is planning sponsored events. Please watch out for these and consider supporting him on his journey to a successful acting career.

BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY BECOMES A FORMAL GLOBAL CLASSROOM PARTNER

A major step forward for our school this session has been our partnership with Shetland and Oldmachar. Initially for the Scottish Baccalaureate students, this has included conferences and a trip to Shetland, a trip in high seas that some of our students will never forget!

The partnership has grown, however, as Shetland have been the lead authority in Scotland for the prestigious Global Classroom programme. The philosophy behind this is to give senior pupils the opportunity to experience education in countries all around the world. One part of this is the 'Learning School', a group of students from different countries who embark on a year long research project based in many far flung countries. This ends in a conference in Cape Town, South Africa. Our first student has experienced this and we have another planning to finish her education in Sweden, Germany, the Czech Republic, the United States of America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and other countries next session. Mrs Gwyneth McWilliam will be at the Cape Town conference with two of our pupils, so the school will be well represented.

Another aspect of the Global Classroom is exchanges. This year, Mrs McWilliam took pupils from our school and Oldmachar to Ridgewood High, New York, which has become one of our partner schools.

We have been asked to become a formal partner school in the Global Classroom and I have readily agreed. This will mean a growing number of opportunities for our pupils and staff to experience some of their education or careers in different countries. We will also have pupils from all over the world in our school every year. This will open eyes to global citizenship and global opportunities and is worth all the work we have put into the project to get established. Bridge of Don Academy has been asked to launch the fourteenth Global Classroom with a conference in September and we will be the first host school for the international students.

GLOBAL CLASSROOM

Kieran Kelly S6 is now completing his international experience as part of the Global Classroom. He has spent time with host families in the USA, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa, working with pupils from other partner schools. He is now preparing for the end of year conference in Cape Town, South Africa at the start of July. There he will take part in the group presentation of findings after completing their research into individualised learning in each of the partner schools.



As well as working hard at this research project Kieran has continued with his course work, taken the SQA exams in Advanced Higher Biology & Chemistry and completed his Baccalaureate project! All of which makes him a worthy recipient of the Patricia Scott Science Award. He has also enjoyed many new experiences as they have explored the different locations visited making this a truly memorable sixth year.

RIDGEWOOD, NEW JERSEY



In March sixth year pupils Hannah Dawson, Kirsty Deary & Fela Dare travelled to Ridgewood, New Jersey as part of an exchange visit. With pupils from Oldmachar Academy and Anderson High School, Shetland they took part in a range of classes at Ridgewood High School and compared the senior school experience in the two countries.

Collected at the airport in the traditional yellow school bus they stayed with host families who made them very welcome throughout the action-packed week. In addition to days in school they were able to go into New York City and visit the Ground Zero Memorial, Wall Street, Times Square, the Empire State Building and the Statue of Liberty. A great experience for all who took part.



FRENCH CAFE

Pupils and staff raised over £100 for the DEBRA charity by serving and eating French, Spanish and German food. BRAVO!



EASTER BUNNY HUNT 2012

Iona House once again held their annual Easter Bunny Hunt last term. 1 Iona organised the event, designing bunnies which were hidden all over the school. Pupils were asked to work in teams to find them. The event proved more popular than ever, with more registration classes entering than ever before. Many of the classes scored highly however the eventual winners were 6 Iona and 1 Arran, who both successfully managed to locate all of the wayward Easter Bunnies! Congratulations to the winners and well done to 1 Iona for planning such a successful whole school event.



THE WINNERS OF THE IONA HOUSE CHARITY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT COLLECT THEIR TROPHY.



GRAMPIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD



On the 16th May our English class went to the Grampian Children's Book Awards ceremony at Aberdeen University. The awards ceremony started with four authors telling us about why they wanted to be authors. Gordon Smith told us funny stories about his childhood and Barry Hutchinson also told us about his imaginary friend when he was six years old.

We all had a fantastic time listening to the

authors and Taylor Forman won third place in the poster competition. The author who won the award was Malorie Blackman with her novel, *'Boy's Don't Cry'*. The other books on the shortlist were *Annexed* by Sharon Dogar, *Agent 21* by Chris Ryan, *Red Fever* by Caroline Clough and *Quarry* by Ally Kennen.

The ceremony gave the class a chance to experience the world of writing.

Written by Feranmi Thomas and Sophie O'Dea.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform items are available from the school office as follows: polo shirts from £8; sweatshirts from £9; v-neck jumpers £19; red jumpers (senior pupils) special price £10; tank tops special price £5; ties £8 and embroidered (sew on) school badges £3.75.

ART - BODA FASHION SHOW OF GLAMOUR, GLITZ AND ZOMBIES?



Higher and Intermediate 2 pupils in the Art Department worked very hard this year and as part of their course they created a range of imaginative design outcomes. These ranged from costumes, shoes and jewellery to CD covers and architecture designs.

Miss Simpson was thrilled with the creativity in the department and arranged a lunchtime fashion show for pupils and staff to view the work. Favourites within the audience were a Corset and collar inspired by Tudor fashion which was designed by Gillian Leslie and a Deadmau5 inspired costume headpiece by Craig Will. Eyebrows were also raised with Katie Strowger's Zombie headpiece and it was said by all that the pupils were definitely a very imaginative group with some very varied ideas! Some staff members enjoyed trying on some of the work and many pupils were excited about what they would like to create if they took Art in S5/6.

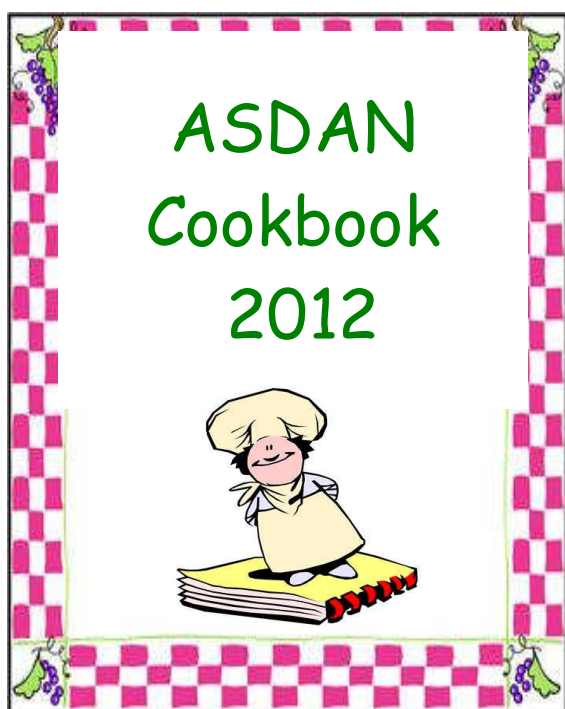
Miss Simpson would like to thank all pupils for their hard work and dedication this year and who knows, perhaps we will have another fashion show next year!



ASDAN 2011-2012

The two ASDAN classes have been extremely busy over the past few months. Just before Christmas we had a visit from a police dog handler who talked to the classes about his work. He then gave an excellent demonstration, with his three dogs, of how German Shepherds stop criminals and of how drugs dogs find contraband.

The S4 ASDAN group have created a fantastic cookery book of the favourite recipes of staff and pupils. This is available to all at the very reasonable cost of £2.00. Look out for the stall at Parents' Evenings, or see Mrs A Smith in F20.



L to R: Leslie Cliffe, David Thomson, Jack Mackintosh-Gair, Toni-Marie Wharry, Beth Guyan

In April most of the S3 ASDAN group undertook a challenge to camp overnight and to cook food over a campfire. Defying the dreadful weather Jamie Wilson, Josh Cadger and Cameron McKay camped at Templar's Park in Maryculter. They pitched tents, collected firewood and, despite everything being soaked, were able to not only light a campfire but keep it burning long enough to cook dinner, and breakfast the next day. The marshmallows were particularly good! They also participated in wide games in the dark and learnt about outdoor skills. Everyone returned home tired, cold and dirty but a great time was had by all.



L to R: Josh Cadger, Jamie Wilson, Cameron McKay

"OLIVER!"

This year Bridge of Don Academy is producing a school show for the first time in ten years. Pupils and staff have taken on the task of bringing "Oliver!" to the stage at Aberdeen Arts Centre on 27th, 28th and 29th June.

Auditions were held before Christmas and the principal parts were awarded to the following pupils:

Oliver - Joel Simpson (1T)

Fagin - Josef Boon (5A)

Dodger - Shelly Cunningham (2S)

Nancy - Jemma Kinnaird (6S)

Bill Sykes - Rhys Gavin (6T)

The supporting cast and chorus is made up of a further 50 talented and dedicated pupils from S1 to S6.

Staff and pupils have been working hard to prepare since Christmas, with several after school and lunchtime rehearsals each week. The standard of talent amongst the cast is high, with numerous talented actors, singers and dancers in our midst. A number of the cast have previous experience in theatre companies and dance groups out with school, however for others this is their first big performance.

The show promises to be a great evening's entertainment for all the family, with song and dance numbers including "Oompa-pa!", "Consider Yourself", "Food Glorious Food" and the beautiful "As Long As He Needs Me".

Director, Mr Haggarty, and Musical Director, Mrs Forbes, hope to make this enriching experience a yearly Bridge of Don Academy tradition. The cast and crew would appreciate your supporting the show and recognising the hard work, dedication and ability of the pupils involved. If you would like to purchase individual or group tickets for any of the performances, please contact the school directly. Order forms have also been given to pupils in registration. Alternatively, tickets can be purchased from the Aberdeen Arts Centre online. We hope to see you there!



OLIVER

This June, the curtain is set to come up on "Oliver!", the first Bridge of Don Academy school show in over a decade. It was 2001 when the school put on a production of Grease and some of the young leads from that show are now approaching their 30th birthdays! It has been a long time.

The show that we chose to resurrect our school's theatrical ambitions is a much-loved musical classic based on Charles Dickens' timeless tale of the adventures of orphan Oliver Twist. The musical was written by Lionel Bart and boasts an array of standout songs, such as "Food Glorious Food", "Consider Yourself", "I'd Do Anything" and "Where Is Love?". The streets, dens and taverns of the Victorian London depicted in "Oliver!" resonate to these songs and teem with colourful and vivid characters who have become iconic figures: Fagin, Nancy, The Artful Dodger and, of course, Oliver himself.

The pupils responded with tremendous enthusiasm to the news that the school were to produce a show this year. Over 100 students of all ages turned up at the initial meetings and auditions. Some wanted to demonstrate their singing, dancing and acting talents in lead roles; others were looking to add their talents to the chorus; others still were not so keen to get on the stage, but wanted to help out in any way that they could in a backstage capacity. The response was refreshing and showed the spirit that a show can generate right from the outset.

Casting was a difficult but rewarding process, given the talented pool from which we had to pick. The auditions were a real eye opener and revealed the extent of the ability that is present in the school. In the end, we settled on a cast of around 50. One of the great aspects of "Oliver!" is the opportunities that it provides for younger pupils to get involved fully in the ensemble as the orphans and pickpockets that provide a great deal of the colour and sound of the show.

Rehearsals have been underway since December and the dedication and enthusiasm of the performers through those long winter months has brought us to the point where we can genuinely aspire to the high quality of show that we all want. Behind the scenes, people have been hard at work learning lines, rehearsing songs, choreographing dance routines, designing posters, preparing programmes, putting up promotional displays in school, building sets, sourcing props, creating costumes and all manner of activities necessary to the successful completion of our goal of the most "professional" show possible.

There is still a great deal to be done, not least the job of making sure that we sell out the three nights of performances so that as many people as possible can enjoy what we have created. We hope that you consider yourself part of the Bridge of Don family and come along to see what will be a great night of entertainment.

"Oliver!" will run for three nights from Wednesday 27th June to Friday 29th June at the Aberdeen Arts Centre. The show begins at 7:30pm. Tickets can be purchased via a booking form from the school or directly from the Aberdeen Arts Centre box office. Tickets are priced at a very affordable £10 and £7 concession.

S1 LEADERSHIP DAY

This year our S1 pupils were set the challenge of producing a programme and games page for our school show, "Oliver!", which will take place at Aberdeen Arts Centre on the 27th, 28th and 29th of June.

The pupils were treated to performances from a selection of the show's principal actors, including songs from Josef Boon who plays Fagin, Rhys Gavin as Bill Sykes, Jemma Kinnaird as Nancy and a duet from Shelly Cunningham and Joel Simpson, as The Artful Dodger and Oliver respectively.

The House groups were then split into teams of three and given the materials and information necessary to design and produce their programmes. The task was designed in order to help the pupils to learn to manage their time, organise their ideas and work as a team. It also helped to build individual's confidence, leadership skills and ability to work with others - all skills valued by employers and in further education courses.

Throughout the day the pupils worked under the guidance of their Heads of House and Mrs Cruickshank and Mrs Blackwood. As well as developing their leadership skills, pupils also expanded their practical computer knowledge through the use of programmes such as publisher.

The pupils enjoyed the challenge. At the end of the day the finished programmes and games pages were given to Mr Haggarty ("Oliver!" Director) and Mrs Forbes ("Oliver!" Musical Director) for judging. The final winners will be announced shortly. Our winners will enjoy a trip later in the year.

Congratulations to our winners and to all of the staff and pupils involved for their hard work. The Heads of House would also like to thank the "Oliver!" cast for their fantastic performances on the day and to wish them luck in their forthcoming show.



S2 LEADERSHIP DAY

Following the success of last year's leadership day, our S2 cohort were this year challenged to design, produce and market their own brand of hand made chocolates. The year group worked with Jamie Hutcheon, the owner of handmade chocolate company "Cocoa Ooze". The pupils were treated to a demonstration on chocolate making techniques from Jamie, before being split into groups and given the chance to develop their own brand. After smelling and sampling the different flavours available the teams entered the kitchen, where Jamie, assisted by Mrs Thomson and Mrs Hall, helped the groups to make their concept a reality. Pupils learned how to make and flavour a chocolate ganache, hand pipe, coat and decorate their chocolates. The flavours produced ranged from dark chocolate and mint, white chocolate with passion fruit, to milk chocolate with rose and violet - and everything in between! The teams then, with the support of their Heads of House, worked to design a brand, slogan and packaging for their chocolates.



Finally, each team pitched their brand to their house group. The winning team from each group presented their concept to Jamie, Mr Harland, Mrs Thomson and Mrs Hall, who deemed the Skye House team to be the overall winners. The winning group will receive a prize trip.

The focus through the day was on pupils taking responsibility for managing their time and organising their teams. The task was designed to help pupils develop their team work, confidence and leadership skills - valuable life skills.

All of the pupils reported having a fantastic day and were delighted to take home their own individual box of their product to show and share with family at home.

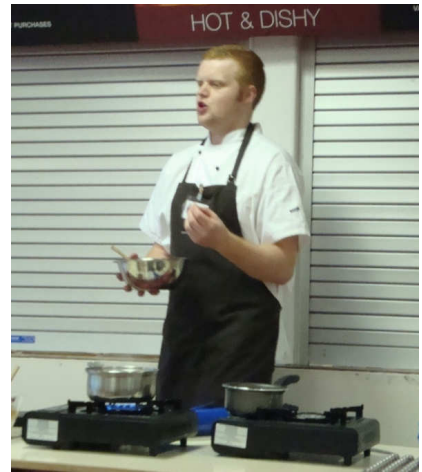
The Heads of House would like to send their congratulations to our winning team and to say thank you to Jamie from Cocoa Ooze and all of the school staff who supported the event for helping to make the day so enjoyable and successful.



S2 LEADERSHIP DAY

On Tuesday the 29th of May we participated in the S2 Leadership Day. Our task was to co-operate well in groups to produce a successful end product. The product we were manufacturing was chocolate truffles. We also had to design an eye catching packaging which would include our logo, name and catchy slogan.

The day started with a demonstration of chocolate making presented by Jamie Hutcheon from Cocoa Ooze. We then separated into groups to plan our truffles. We had to allocate roles within our groups. We were then given the opportunity to taste 3 different types of chocolate. After we had decided that, we got to smell all the different flavours we could choose from. We came to a final decision of a white chocolate filling coated with milk chocolate and a white chocolate design. We chose to have two different flavours of chocolate filling. The first was passion fruit and raspberry, and the second, strawberry and apple.



After our packaging and chocolates had been created we had to decide a winner from each House. Those 4 groups then went on to present their chocolates to the judges who then had the challenging decision of choosing 2 winners. We were fortunate enough to be chosen. We had a really great day and left with lots of new skills.

Written By Hannah Jarvie, Hannah Andison, Shelly Cunningham, Louise Davidson and Carly Stott, of 2 Skye.



BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY TIME CAPSULE

In June, Bridge of Don Academy merged the current four Houses (Arran, Iona, Skye and Tirie) to make three new Houses. The Guidance Team felt this was a good chance to celebrate what the four houses had achieved over the years before rebranding and relaunching the new House groups. After discussions with the House Captains, it was decided to mark the end of the Houses with a time capsule.

Each of the old Houses worked hard to contribute to the capsule. In PSE pupils were given the chance to send a 'postcard to the future' which highlighted their best memories from their time at Bridge of Don Academy. The postcards were a great chance to reflect on all that the pupils and school have achieved in the last few years. They contained memories, stories and pictures on a range of events including: the sponsored walk, pancake day, the Easter Bunny Hunt, the "Oliver!" school show, charity events, activities week trips, music concerts and school football matches. Other pupils used the postcards as an opportunity to celebrate the lasting friendships they have made at school or to reflect on how they have learned and matured through out their time here. Each was unique and reflected the individuals at this time in their life.



Pupils also contributed a range of other items for the capsule, including letters with predictions for the future, a school tie, the Skye House mascot, class photos and class work. This was put into the capsule alongside newsletters, photographs, programmes and posters, each representing an aspect of Bridge of Don Academy as it is today. A copy of a local newspaper was also included, so that future generations can see the news and culture of the time.



The capsule was then sealed, signed by the House Captains and teachers and buried on the school grounds by the 6th year pupils on 04/05/12 - their final day at Bridge of Don Academy. A cherry tree was planted to mark the spot. It is hoped that future generations of Bridge of Don Academy staff and pupils will dig up the capsule in years to come and enjoy learning about life here in 2012.

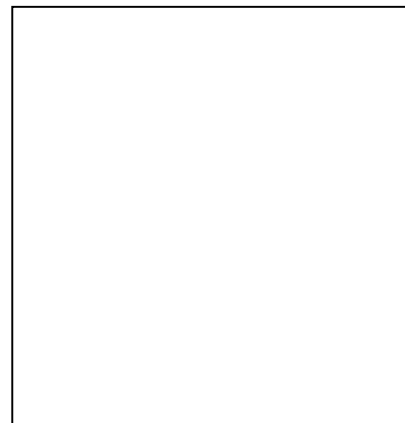


TREE PLANTING



LEAVERS' LUNCH 2012

In May, Bridge of Don Academy marked the end of the 6th year pupils' time in school with their annual Leavers' Lunch. S6 pupils gathered with staff at the Holiday Inn Express to celebrate their time in school and look to what lies ahead. The pupils were presented with their "leavers' mugs" by their Guidance teachers before enjoying a hearty and plentiful lunch provided by our school link company, The Holiday Inn Express. After the House Captains cut the House cakes, head teacher Mr Harland and the Guidance Team rounded off the day by speaking to the pupils about their many achievements - academic and personal - during their time at Bridge of Don Academy.





HARRY BIBRING; A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR



It was an honour and a privilege to welcome Harry Bibring back to Bridge of Don Academy in March. Following the success of his talk last year, Harry returned to the school to speak to S4 History pupils and all Seniors studying a Social Subject and RMPS. In the morning he addressed the whole group in the Assembly Room and then held a workshop for the Higher History class back in the department in the afternoon.

Harry was born on 26th December 1925 in Vienna, Austria. After the union of Austria and Germany in 1938, Harry was banned from attending his beloved ice rink and was forced to leave his Grammar School because he was a Jew. On November 10th 1938, his Father's menswear business was looted and destroyed during Kristallnacht. The family bank accounts were frozen and Harry's life changed dramatically within a few months. Harry, his mother and sister were

arrested by the Nazis and forced to leave their flat and live in a house with 50 other Jewish women and children. Several days later the family were released and allowed to return home but by this point they knew they had to try and leave Austria and Nazi race theories.

The intention was for Harry's family to flee to Shanghai. After selling all their belongings to do so, the Bibrings were still unable to escape Nazi tyranny after his Father was robbed of the money for the tickets. Fearing for the safety of their children, Mr and Mrs Bibring decided that Harry and his sister should leave for the United Kingdom on a Kindertransport train. The plan was for them to be sponsored by a family friend and for Harry's parents to join them as soon as they could. That never happened. In November 1940 Harry's Father died of a heart attack. His Mother was deported to the death camp at Sobibor in Poland in 1942.

Although Harry never saw his parents again, he remained close to his sister and carved out a successful life in Britain. After 14 years of studying, Harry qualified as a chartered Engineer and latterly became a lecturer at Middlesex University. Harry is now sadly widowed but has one son, two grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Harry now spends his time visiting schools all over the United Kingdom to share his story. Harry has had a fascinating life and is clearly a strong and resilient character. From a Historical perspective, Harry is a valuable primary source! Pupils learn about the Holocaust and gain a general historiography that is difficult to replicate with textbooks. Furthermore, the list of core skills that his visit developed is vast - recognising perspective, respecting the beliefs of others, understanding consequences and formulating opinions based upon informed judgments. Important themes and concepts were explored such as persecution, extreme politics and anti-Semitism. Harry's story is also humbling. Pupils were inspired by Harry's positive outlook in life and his strong work ethic that ensured a successful career after many years of working during the day and attending night school. Many lessons were taught in one day; Harry's story and his words of wisdom had an impact on staff and pupils. We thank him most sincerely for travelling from London to speak to us.

CALENDAR LEADERSHIP TRIP

Our winners from last year's S1 Leadership event recently enjoyed their prize - a sunny afternoon trip to the beach, with food, bowling and games. To earn their prize the pupils had worked in groups last June to produce a community calendar, highlighting the features and facilities which the Bridge of Don Community offers. All of the House groups rose to the challenge and the final result was very close. However Taylor Forman, Liam Marr, Emma Krukowski and Ben Fearn of 2 Iona (1 Iona at the time of the competition) were the eventual winners. They were chosen as they worked well as a team, organised their time effectively and showed creative flair in their final product. The pupils earned their reward and really enjoyed their afternoon trip.

The S1 and S2 year groups will be undertaking two further leadership challenges this year in June.



VIVA ESPANA!

In the early hours of Sunday 3rd of June a group of twenty eight S1/2 pupils and four staff boarded a coach bound for Prestwick airport. Our final destination was the Costa Brava in sunny Spain. Here we would take part in an action packed week of watersports whilst soaking up the Spanish sun.

After a long day travelling all were up bright and early on Monday morning and ready for a day at the beach learning to master the skills of Sailing and Windsurfing.



On Tuesday we headed into Barcelona to visit the various famous landmarks, starting with the Parc Guell. The parc originated in 1900 when Count Eusebi Güell bought a hillside property and hired Spanish architect Antonio Gaudí to turn his hand to landscape gardening to create a miniature garden city for the wealthy. The project was abandoned in 1914, but not before Gaudí had created 3km of roads and walks, steps and a plaza in his inimitable manner, plus the two Hansel-and-Gretel-style gatehouses.



From here we were taken by our lovely guide Sandra on a whirlwind tour of the many other captivating sights including the Sagrada Familia (Holy Family Church), the Olympic city and of course the home of the Barcelona FC, the Camp Nou stadium. We then spent the afternoon exploring Barcelona zoo, with some pupils exploring for a little longer than anticipated! After rounding up the troops there was just enough time for one last stop before we headed back to our resort. We travelled into the heart of the city for an afternoon stroll along the lively area of La Rambla, with its many market stalls, street performers and

artists. Here there was even time for a little souvenir shopping and practice of our haggling skills to purchase the all new Barcelona football strip.

On Wednesday we headed out for a morning of Kayaking and Snorkelling. The expedition explored the marine life of the various coves and gulleys in the bay at Sant Pol. After lunch we spent the afternoon at Aqua Diver Water Park with its various rides, wave pool, and many kamikaze slides!

Thursday – our last day, we headed back to the beach for a day of Kayaking and Paddle boarding. Then in the evening the Voyager staff put on an awards ceremony including a very messy show detailing a day in the life of a watersports instructor.

A fantastic time was had by all and many even managed to learn a bit of the local lingo and return home with a healthy sun kissed glow!



BAKE AND DECORATE – ACTIVITIES DAYS 2012

Twenty pupils took part in this activity this year. They spent time baking and planning their cake for a special occasion. They also made cup cakes and biscuits. To decorate their cakes they used sugar paste, butter icing and glaze icing. It was an enjoyable, busy two days with some great imaginative ideas created.



PAINTBALLING AND SPORTS GALLORE



Trampolining Action



I hit Mr Gisbey!!!



Can we hit teachers?



The ball is over there!



Getting Better!

PGL DALGUISE – ACTIVITIES WEEK

We took 15 pupils to PGL at Dalguise Activities Centre in Dunkeld for 3 days during Activities Week. The pupils had an opportunity to do climbing, abseiling, kayaking, mountain biking, quad biking and many more activities. Despite the weather being cold and rainy, the pupils did stay very positive and had a great time!



All ready for the disco



Practicing belay technique



Amber and Rory finally climbing!!



Quad Biking



Holly after abseiling



Getting ready to abseil

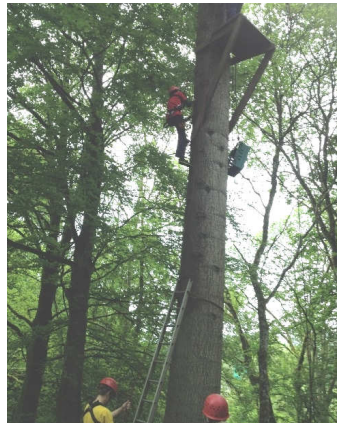


Amy and Chloe abseiling

DALGUISE CONTINUES.....



Tiernan on the zip wire



Finlay climbing the VERY tall tree to the zip wire!



Giant swing



Fraser abseiling

KAYAKING



Before Rory hit a tree!!!



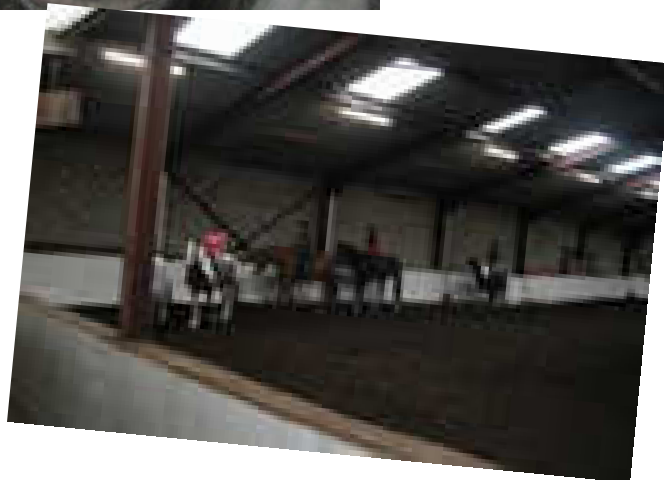
<Disco time



End of our trip>



HAVE A GO (HORSE RIDING)



BUSINESS EDUCATION

Schools' Brightest Business Brain

By Calum Neil

In the autumn of 2011, the Higher/Intermediate 2 Business Management class were entered into the Schools' Brightest Business Brain competition which aims to find the students with the greatest business acumen from across the UK. The first stage was a series of online tests and was completed by all entrants. These tests were designed to compare candidate's skill at organisation, commercial awareness and making decisions by extracting information from figures, diagrams and written reports. Nearly 1500 senior students from across the UK completed the online tests and were given an overall score. I was 77th on the leaderboard.

Sixty of the top scorers were then invited to the Grand Final in London on the 9th of March. The event was to be held in The City, at the head offices of RBS, one of the event's sponsors. A large number of the initial top students were unavailable or did not respond to their invitations meaning that around 20 of the next best students were invited, including me.

At the Grand Final, the participants, in groups of ten, took part in three tasks, organised by the event sponsors: the Royal Bank of Scotland, the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants and the National Grid. They assessed different competencies that are considered useful in a business environment; problem solving, communication and decision making. The first task was a construction based activity in which problem solving skills were applied in groups. The second task saw the groups of ten split in half and participate in a debate concerning university against vocational qualifications. We were given a very short time to prepare our arguments before the debate began and assessors marked the presentation and content of our arguments. The final task assessed our decision making abilities as the teams combined some information provided with outside knowledge to create a new attraction for a theme park and pitch our ideas to the panel.

During the day, presentations were made by the sponsors to make us aware of the opportunities that they offered for training and employment in the future. We were also given a presentation on the importance of networking, presentation and interview skills which provided useful advice for the future. At the end, the top three finalists, Arjun Rajani, Zain Iqbal and Priya Shah were presented with cheques and certificates.



After the event, the event organisers provided useful feedback to all of the finalists. I received strong feedback from all areas but was best at 'Logical Decision Making' and 'Communicating and Working with Others'. After coming 77th in the academic online tests, I came 33rd overall after the practical tasks. It was an invaluable experience and I would highly recommend that any student considering a job in business or finance takes part next year.

S2 MUSIC COMPETITION

We held the annual S2 music competition on Thursday 31st May. Each class have been working on a piece of music for the last few months to perform in-front of the rest of the year and three Judges.

This competition is a great success and the pupils love performing and listening to other classes.

Our Judges this year were Martin Walker, an ex pupil of Bridge of Don Academy who is now studying music at Aberdeen College, Mark Leith – Head boy and Advanced Higher music pupil and Cameron Taylor, Standard Grade music pupil.

The entries were:

- 2 X2 – Rolling in the Deep
- 2 Y3 – Abba Medley
- 2 Y2 – Film Themes
- 2 Y1 – Iris
- 2 X3 - I Get Around
- 2 X1 – Baggy Trousers

The results were

- 3rd – 2 Y2**
- 2nd - 2 Y1**
- 1st – 2 X2**

Well done to all involved.



HIGHER GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

The Higher and Intermediate Geography class were lucky enough to be able to enjoy the early summer weather when they visited Glen Doll in the Angus Glens of the Cairngorms National Park as part of their course. The purpose of this trip was to help emphasise and consolidate the information they had covered in class relating to rivers, glaciated landscapes and land use. The pupils gained first hand experiences of the magnificent Corrie Fee and its waterfall, along with identifying the varied land uses and conflicts which take place in the glen. The weather was superb and aided the enjoyment of the day.



S1 WEATHER FORECASTS

In Geography the S1 classes have been learning about The Weather. Over three weeks, they produced and presented their own weather forecasts. They were marked by their peers and many of the groups produced very professional, accurate and sometimes very amusing forecasts.



FINE WEATHER FOR FIELDWORK!

Pupils in the Geography Department have been making the most of the fine weather while it lasts. S3 pupils are studying Industry and have been analysing the site and situation of the school grounds and the surrounding area. They are then using this knowledge to decide what type of industry would be successful if the site of the school came up for sale. The groups will 'pitch' their ideas to the teachers and an overall winning group will be decided.

S2 pupils have been carrying out various fieldwork tasks including closely observing their local environment to identify characteristics that tell us that we are living in a More Economically Developed Country. Some classes have also been testing their ability to estimate travelling times and distances to see how close their guesses are to the actual figures using maps. Here they are pacing out their distances and comparing their results.



KARATE SESSION WITH RONNIE WATT 8TH DAN

All pupils from S1 to S6 and staff were put through their paces by Ronnie Watt OBE 8th Dan in a series of karate sessions. Ronnie demonstrated to pupils how to use karate as self defence as well as promote its values of self discipline and respect. All pupils were then given the opportunity to practice the various moves as well as develop their fitness levels. Ronnie was extremely delighted with the attitude and effort shown by all pupils who participated – especially when there were over 100 pupils in each session!! Jonathan Sinclair, Jack Rennie (S3) and Dave Irvine (S2) have already earned their black belts and did exceptionally well in assisting Ronnie with his coaching. We are now aiming to set up a Bridge of Don Academy Karate Club after the summer holidays which will be led by instructors from Ronnie's world class Shotokan Karate Club. More details will follow next term in August.



Ronnie Watt instructing S3 pupils



S5 and S6 mastering the art of blocking



Dave Irvine in S2 assisting by demonstrating correct technique.



Jonathan Sinclair, Jack Rennie S3 and Dave Irvine demonstrating a kata.



S1 Girls showing how it's done.



Niall Corbett, Scott Mooney, Kieran Munro and Kyle Livingston S3.

SAMURAI AWARD

After the success from the Karate sessions, Ronnie Watt presented the school with a statue of a Samurai Warrior. This award was gratefully received by Mr Harland on behalf of the school and will be presented at this years Awards Ceremony. The Academic Excellence Award will be presented to a pupil who has shown an excellent work ethic within their education along with showing respect to their teachers as well as their fellow pupils. These are the same fundamental principles that have been demonstrated for hundreds of years by the Samurai Warrior.



SCOTTISH SCHOOLS SECONDARY ATHLETICS COMPETITION

Congratulations to Ellie Smith 4 Crathes 1 who competed in the Scottish Schools Athletics competition in Grangemouth. Ellie qualified for the 1500m final with her performance at the Aberdeen Secondary Schools Athletics event where she came first with a time of 5:40:00.

Ellie gave a very good performance in the final and finished in a respectful 8th place. Her final time of 5:30.31 knocked 10 seconds of her previous time and she was only 12 seconds behind the 3rd placed runner.



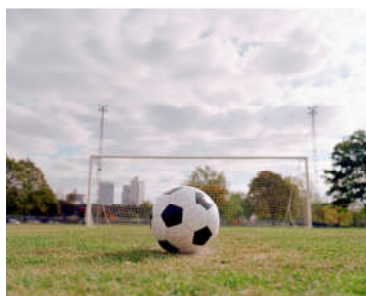
This is a fantastic achievement for Ellie, especially as it was only her second time competing in a 1500m event.

Congratulations Ellie and we look forward to watching your progress in the future.

S.F.A. FOOTBALL COACHES OF THE FUTURE



Six Pupils from S6 undertook the SFA Early Touches Football Coaching course at Hazlehead Academy. Roy Thomson, Philip Dyce, Andrew McPherson, Natasha Robb, Lewis Dyce and Kyle Jackson were put through their paces by Jim Crawford, Senior Community Football Coach at Aberdeen Football Club. Instead of showing their football talents on the pitch the pupils learnt how to plan a session to improve young footballer's skills of passing, shooting, control and dribbling. After completing the course they are now very keen to put what they have learnt into practice as well as progressing onto the next level of coaching awards. Well done on achieving the first step on the football coaching ladder.



PE - ABERDEEN SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS – COUNTESSWELLS PLAYING FIELDS

March 2012

We took 32 pupils to run in the Aberdeen secondary schools cross country event.

Our pupils did extremely well and all finished the event. Matthew Steer came 2nd for the S3 boys, Ellie Smith came 4th for the S3 girls and Sidney Ptrygoda finished the race by walking ¾ of the course injured!!! Our S3 boys: Matthew Steer, Scott Wright and Michael Biesek won bronze for the S3 relay.

Well done to all runners.



Matthew 2nd place winner



S3 Boys 3rd place



Kyle winning 5th place



RUNNERS



S1 Boys



S1 Girls



S2 Boys



S2 Runners



Senior Boys
Scott Wright
Ryan Melville
Kyle le Huray



Senior Girls
Sophie Williamson
Louise Dallas
Ellie Smith



Senior Boys
Scott Wright
Michel Bisek
Mathew Steer
Michael Brownie

S2 NETBALL SCOTTISH CUP SEMI FINAL AGAINST CARNOUSTIE HIGH SCHOOL **THURSDAY 8TH MARCH 2012**

The S2 girls have been working extremely hard this year and made it to the semi final for the Bronze Scottish Cup.

Our team were Hannah Jarvie, Allana Riddell, Carly Stott, Sarah Ross, Katie Thomson, Emily Bain, Louise Davidson and Hannah Andison.

The girls played well with an exceptionally tight defence by Louise Davidson, Allana Riddell and Hannah Jarvie. Unfortunately our girls were just a lot smaller and less aggressive than Carnoustie!!! We did have great scoring opportunities from Sarah Ross and Carly Stott but, the Carnoustie goal keeper was very tall and made shooting difficult for our players! Carly did manage to score 3 amazing goals in the 3rd quarter.

The girls were very sad to get beaten 'at the last hurdle' but, they showed amazing sportsmanship at the end of the match and wished Carnoustie well for the final.

Well done to all the girls who have played this year. We will continue to work hard next year and hopefully have more success next time. (We just need a little bit more aggression!! We will start training with the rugby squad)!



S2 team ready to go

2012 INTER HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

Congratulations to the Arran House (now Crathes House) who emerged as this years Inter House Cross Country Champions.

Well done to all pupils who participated and earned valuable house points for their respective houses. On the day there was a lot of fierce but friendly competition in all of the races and in some only 8 seconds was the time difference between 1st and 3rd place. The determination from pupils to do well could be seen on their faces from the start of the race.



In the individual races the top 3 runners were:

S1 Girls



1st – Caroline McIntosh 1A
2nd – Mullen Evans 1A
3rd – Rebecca Olaleye 1T

S1 Boys



1st – Mitchell Collins 1A
2nd – Findlay Deans 1T
3rd – Euan Johnston 1I

S2 Girls



1st – Carly Main
2nd – Shelley Cunningham 2S
3rd – Rachel Andison 2S

S2 Boys



1st – Murray Allan 2S
2nd – Callum Gilchrist 2S
3rd – Andrew Neil 2I

S3 Girls



1st – Ellie Smith 3A
2nd – Kiera Emslie – 3A
3rd – Alicia Smith 3A

S3 Boys



1st – Matthew Steer 3T
2nd – Michel Bisek 3T
3rd – Ben Leslie 3A

ROYAL AIR FORCE: MATHS MISSION

By Brian Willox

Just before the Easter break, the RAF came to Bridge of Don Academy to run a series of activities with third year pupils. The pupils were put into groups of four or five and given 90 minutes to work through six tasks:

Catering: how to find the best way to manage their time to organise a number of tasks when preparing breakfast for two RAF squadrons

Cargo: paying close attention to the information for each piece of cargo, pupils had to use their knowledge of shapes and special recognition to follow the 'clues' and find the best way to pack the cargo plane

Targets: pupils had to find their desired targets by matching shapes, colours and layout from an aerial photograph

Identification: from their knowledge of shapes, pupils had to match aircraft to their silhouettes from different view points

Security: using their knowledge of directions and a map, the pupils had to try and find the best way to position guards and cameras to make a building secure

Navigation: using coordinates, pupils had to plot a suitable flight plan for an aircraft, avoiding hazards and no-fly zones.

The two trainers, Corporal Nikki Owen and "Flash", were on hand to help and advise. They gave the pupils an insight into careers in the RAF and told them that out of the 51 different careers in the Royal Air Force, 49 of them require a Maths qualification of General grade 3 or higher.

The third year pupils really enjoyed the tasks. It was a very successful day and will hopefully become a regular event on the school calendar.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD: BRONZE PRACTICE EXPEDITION

By Elaine Freeman

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze group took to the hills on the first weekend of June for their practice expedition around Glen Tanar, Aboyne. In beautiful countryside and not so bad weather, everyone had a great time.

Throughout the three-day weekend, the pupils learned many important skills such as map work, navigation, first aid and teamwork.



Our BoDA participants were (from left to right) Sophie Williamson, Lauren Dingle, Alicia Smith, Keira Emslie, Ellie Smith, Sally Rzepka, Joyce Shum, Michael Sim and Ellen Evans.



The first day was spent organising the pupils into groups and putting up tents, finishing off the day with a training session on map work and navigation skills. The pupils were also supervised to cook their own meals on Trangia stoves, producing an interesting array of meal choices!

The second day allowed the groups to put their skills to the test in a planned walk around the area and spending the evening planning their route cards for the expedition the following day.

Both nights were spent around the campfire telling stories and toasting marshmallows which was great fun.

The final day was the expedition where each group had a staggered starting time (bright and early) and route, meaning each of the groups would finish at a different time. This walk proved to be challenging, especially when walking with full packs! All groups successfully completed the expedition and were pleased to find a burger and chips from the local Fish and Chip shop in Ballater waiting for them at the end before the bus home.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD: SILVER TRAINING

By Brian Willox

We have nine pupils that are undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award program this year. To make sure that they are prepared for their first expedition we decided to run some training for them. Lindsay Bain, Josh Cheyne, Scott Esson, Peter Fairhurst, Tim Ovall and Nikki Holt were able to take part but Kirsten McIntosh, Melodie Paterson and Natalie Wright had their final exam.



This included: map reading, emergency procedures & First Aid, use of camping stoves, packing the right equipment/clothes, pacing and timing with a full rucksack, route card planning and walking with and pitching & striking camp.

We went out into Westfield Park at the back of Bridge of Don Academy and worked our way through a pretty intensive training regime, using the Trangia stoves to cook our lunch.

Lindsay, Scott, Peter and Tim put their new skills to the test when they came along hillwalking to Bennachie the following week.

We left Bridge of Don Academy at 7.30am and drove out to the visitors' centre at Bennachie. Each pupil was issued with a map and compass and then we started our trek.



We walked through the forest and up to Mither Tap, the most prominent of the summits, and saw the Iron Age Fort.

We then had lunch as we walked over to the Oxen Craig, the highest peak on Bennachie, before going across rough terrain to the Watch Craig and beginning our descent.

We got back to the visitor centre at about 4.30pm and then headed back to the school.



DRUM HOUSE CHARITY/FUNDRAISER

On **Monday 25 June**, Drum house collected pupil and staff donations of old sports equipment to send to KITS 4 CAUSES; who distribute donated sports kits to young children in Africa.

All those who donated received a praise award and the knowledge that their old sports kit will benefit these children. This was also an chance to spread the fan base of your football club; like Mr Paterson's contribution which will ensure there is the opportunity for someone else to proudly wear an Inverness Caley Thistle top...

Please visit - <http://www.kits4causes.org> for more information.



STEM CLUB AND MATHEMATICS

By Brian Willox

Primary 7 pupils from around the Bridge of Don and Balmedie areas came to the Faculty of Mathematics for two STEM activities: "Running Like Clockwork" and "Take A Chance".

For "Running Like Clockwork" the pupils went on to www.MyMaths.co.uk and worked through the lesson on 'Speed'. Once they knew how speed, distance and time were related and could use the formulae $Speed = \frac{Distance}{Time}$ and $Distance = \frac{Speed}{Time}$ we returned to the classroom and prepared to race!

Each team chose a clockwork toy and measured its speed. The race lasted for 7 seconds and participants could start from any position on the track that they wanted to – whoever was closest to the finish line after 7 seconds won.

"Take A Chance" was about gambling (or rather probability). We looked at the winning hands in poker and examined how we could calculate the probability of a hand becoming a winning hand. We made sure that all P7 pupils were aware that gambling is a mugs' game and that we were using cards to demonstrate how mathematics and probability can be used to quantify and calculate *chance*.

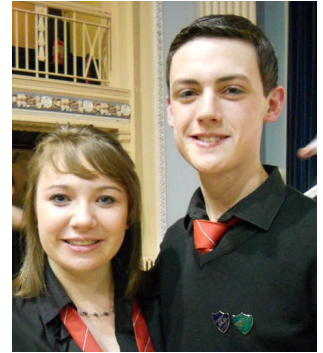
STEM CLUB

Stem Club [Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths] started again after Easter, with over 20 primary 7 pupils from local primary schools coming to the Academy each Thursday after school. Here they have been able to take part in a range of science experiments, technology and maths challenges and various practical activities, giving them a taste of the type of work they will do in class next session. These weekly sessions at the academy will also help to ease their transition to the Academy in August.



SCIENCE IN THE CITY

This Aberdeen City Council event held at the Beach Ballroom early June celebrated the wide range of science based activities and events taking place in city schools. Nicole Allan and Willum Jessiman played a key role in the event, skillfully introducing the guest speakers and the various groups of award winners. These included seven of our sixth year pupils who have successfully completed their Baccalaureate projects and five pupils who gained Science Ambassador awards for their work with primary pupils. Well done everyone!



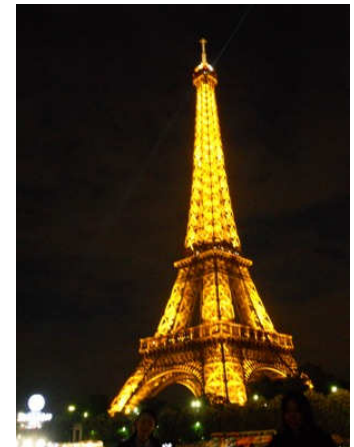
EDINBURGH ZOO TRIP

In April, senior Biology pupils enjoyed a visit to Edinburgh Zoo. Higher pupils looked at Primate Behaviour & Communication and Advanced Higher pupils found out about a range of Animal Adaptations. Zoo inhabitants were used to illustrate the workshops - visiting the primate enclosures, meeting the cassowary and getting the chance to get close to an armadillo or a hissing cockroach! Next was a much anticipated viewing of the Pandas, though they weren't that interested in seeing us! There was free time to explore the rest of the zoo and visit the Zoo gift shop before heading home and after a week of monsoon weather we were lucky and managed to stay dry. A great day!



ACTIVITIES WEEK – PARIS

Thirty-nine S2 pupils and 6 staff travelled to France for Activities Week. They first visited the Opal Coast before moving on to the Etoile Centre, on the outskirts of Paris. Pupils tried their hand at sweet making in Le Touquet [and were delighted to discover our English-speaking guide was from Peterhead!]. They whizzed up the 56 floors of the Montparnasse Tower for amazing views of Paris, took a boat trip on the Seine, visited the Louvre and walked along the Champs Elysees to the Arc de Triomphe. After a hectic day at Disneyland another day in Paris included shopping in Montmartre, the Sacre Coeur and a visit to the aquarium at the foot of the Eiffel Tower. Evening activities at the Centre included French food tasting [snails!], various sports and a farewell disco - all making this an enjoyable and memorable week.



AWARDS CEREMONY 2012

This year's Awards Ceremony was held at the Beach Ballroom on Wednesday 13 June. The achievements of our pupils from S1 to S6 were celebrated with the receiving of Commendation and Merit awards from each of our subject departments. A number of special awards were also given to those who have shown enthusiasm, a strong work ethic, commitment and dedication throughout their time in school. These were awarded as follows:

The Doug Pauline Award (in recognition of dedication to improving the life of the school and the wider community) - Natalie Milne (6 Iona)

The Mary Stevenson Memorial Award (given in memory of a former member of staff to pupils with additional support needs) - Jack Mackintosh Gair (4 Arran)

The Denise Thomson Memorial Award (given in memory of a former member of staff in recognition of sporting effort and endeavour) - Kieran Grant (5 Arran)

The Academic Excellence Award (given to a pupil who has shown consistent application and effort in academic pursuits) - Jenna Shepherd (5 Arran)

The Caring Award (given to pupils to mark their caring and helpful attitude in school service towards others) - Lyle Aiken (6 Iona)

Prefect of the Year Award - Karla Mennie (5 Arran) and Lizzie Simpson (5 Skye)

The Lions Club Award (in recognition of commitments to extra curricular and out with school activities) - Laura Mitchell (6 Arran)



Trophy Winner Keiran Grant and Mr Jappy



Trophy Winner Lyle Aiken and Natalie Milne



Karla Mennie and Lizzie Simpson

The efforts of our pupils in Science and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards was also recognised.

Entertainment was provided by our Music Department, led by Mrs Forbes and Miss Stuart, and included excellent performances from the senior and junior choir, the school orchestra and the Advanced Higher Music class. Finally the audience were treated to a taster of highlights from our forthcoming production of "Oliver!" which will be staged at the Arts Centre at the end of this month.

Well done and congratulations to all of our winners and thank you to all of the staff and pupils who helped to organise a successful evening, celebrating the many efforts and achievements of our pupils.

S5 INDUCTION DAYS

This year, our 5th year students' induction took place at Bridge of Don Academy over two days - Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 of June. Over the course of the days all students participated in a vast range of activities including; learning about Bridge of Don Academy's expectations we have of our Senior Students, completing applications for Prefect positions, participating in teambuilding/communication and leadership activities and of course the physical challenge of the Royal Army assault course.

The 5th year induction was really great fun and certainly prepared all 5th year students for their senior years at Bridge of Don Academy.

S6 INDUCTION DAY

On Friday 8 June, all the 6th year students gathered at Holiday Inn Express for their Senior Induction Day. Throughout the course of the day, students learned about Bridge of Don Academy's expectations of Senior Students, participated in team quizzes and most importantly filled in their applications for positions of Head Boy, Head Girl and Senior Prefects.

It was an action packed and fun filled day, with a buffet lunch thrown in for good measure. A great day was had by all who attended.

WIDER ACHIEVEMENT – RECOGNISING AND CELEBRATING PUPILS' ACHIEVEMENTS

Everyone knows the importance of getting formal qualifications at school – but our pupils are involved in a wide range of activities and have other important achievements, for example in:

- Volunteering
- Youth work
- Music
- Drama
- Sports
- Hobbies and interests

As a result our pupils are developing skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work that can be of real value later on in their lives. We want to make sure that all pupils get the full recognition for all their achievements. Recognising and celebrating the achievements of our pupils can increase their confidence, raise their aspirations and inspire their motivation for learning.

We would very much like to hear about all our pupils' achievements so as we can recognise and celebrate them as a school and community. If you have an achievement then please let us know by either completing and returning the form on the next page or by sending an e-mail to enquiries@bridgeofdon.aberdeen.sch.uk. We would also encourage parents and carers to inform us of your son's or daughter's achievements.

PUZZLES

1. Cannibals ambush a safari in the jungle and capture three men. The cannibals give the men a single chance to escape uneaten.

The captives are lined up in order of height and are tied to stakes. The man in the rear can see the backs of his two friends, the man in the middle can see the back the man in front, and the man in front cannot see anyone. The cannibals show the men five hats. Three of the hats are black and two of the hats are white.

Blindfolds are then placed over each man's eyes and a hat is placed on each man's head. The two hats left over are hidden. The blindfolds are then removed and it is said to the men that if one of them can guess what colour hat he is wearing they can all leave unharmed.

The man in the rear who can see both of his friends' hats but not his own says, "I don't know". The middle man who can see the hat of the man in front, but not his own says, "I don't know". The front man who cannot see ANYBODY'S hat says "I know!"

How did he know the colour of his hat and what colour was it?

2. KenKen Puzzle

How to Play: Like Sudoku, even though difficulty may vary from puzzle to puzzle, the rules for playing KenKen are fairly simple:
For this 6x6 puzzle, fill in with numbers 1-6.

Do not repeat a number in any row or column.

The numbers in each heavily outlined set of squares, called cages, must combine (in any order) to produce the target number in the top corner of the cage using the mathematical operation indicated.

Cages with just one box should be filled in with the target number in the top corner.

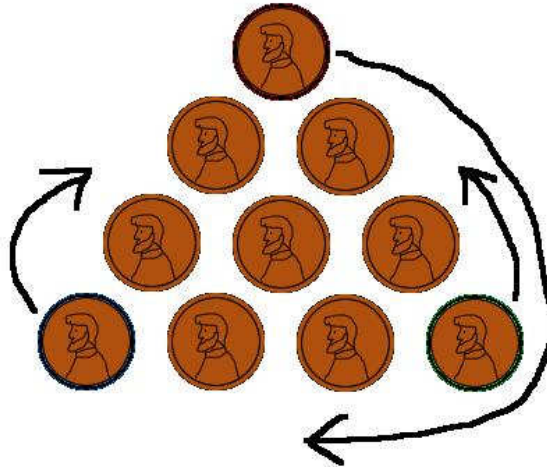
A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it is not in the same row or column.

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 3- | 10× | | | 19+ | |
| | 13+ | | 60× | | |
| 2÷ | | | | 5+ | |
| 5- | | 36× | | | 40× |
| 13+ | | | 5- | | |
| | | 4- | | | |

Solutions will be posted on <http://bodmaths.edublogs.org> from the 17th August 2012 and will be published in the next Bridge of Don Academy newsletter. In the meantime, if you want solutions checked send them in via "pupil express" to be checked by a member of the Maths department.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

1.



Can you move just THREE pennies and flip this triangle upside down?

2. KenKen Puzzle

How to Play: Like Sudoku, even though difficulty may vary from puzzle to puzzle, the rules for playing KenKen are fairly simple:

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Do not repeat a number in any row or column.

The numbers in each heavily outlined set of squares, called cages, must combine (in any order) to produce the target number in the top corner of the cage using the mathematical operation indicated.

Cages with just one box should be filled in with the target number in the top corner.

A number can be repeated within a cage as long as it is not in the same row or column.

| | | | | | |
|----|----|-----|-----|------|---|
| 8+ | 5- | | 48× | | |
| | 1 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 3 | 3÷ | | | 360× | |
| | 6 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 3- | | 4- | | | |
| 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| | 1- | 1- | | 12× | |
| | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| 3÷ | | 72× | | | 5 |
| | 2 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| | 7+ | | | 3÷ | |
| | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |

3. Use four 9's in a math equation that equals 100.

$$99 + (9 \div 9) = 100$$

Leavers Ball

SENIOR PROM 2012

For the third consecutive year, the Hilton Treetops was the venue for our Senior Prom which this year had an 'Oscars' theme which was held on the final Friday of Easter term. Senior students turned out well and looked very glamorous!

After a lovely three course meal, Mr Haggarty hosted the Oscars ceremony which was a great touch to the evening and once the formalities were out of the way, students and staff were free to dance the night away.

The atmosphere was great and all students had a fantastic time.



Mrs Forbes' with the Advanced Higher Music pupils
Mark Leith, Rebecca Morrice and Nicole Allan

Happy Summer Holiday!