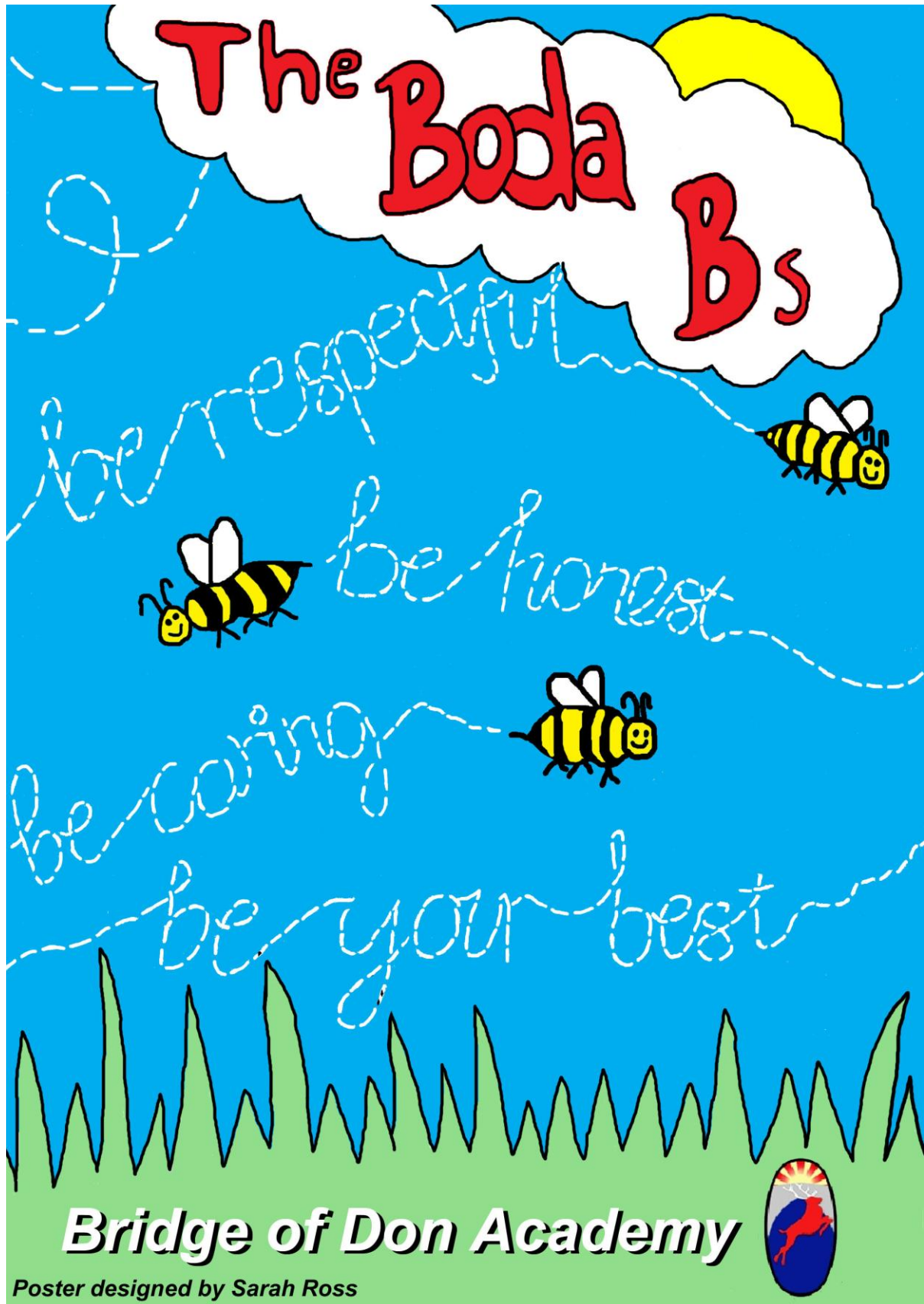


# SPRING MAGAZINE 2013



**Bridge of Don Academy**

Poster designed by Sarah Ross

## HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT

Welcome to another fine edition of the school magazine which highlights all the opportunities we provide for our pupils to achieve in and beyond the classroom. I am grateful to all the staff and pupils who contribute to the school magazine by organising, participating in or writing about events in and out of school that involve our pupils. This is also my first opportunity to greet you as Head Teacher, to say how proud I am to have been appointed to this position and how much I am looking forward to leading the school in the months and years to come.



The school marked the retirement of my predecessor Mr Jack Harland, who was Head Teacher from October 2007 until January 2013, in a number of ways. A staff photograph was commissioned and framed as a memento of his time as Head Teacher and a cheque presented to him, along with flowers for his wife Jane, with our good wishes for a happy and healthy retirement at the staff Christmas lunch. The pupils marked his retirement by raising money and paying for a cake baked and decorated by the father of Rebecca Wilson in 2 Crathes. Gifts were also given as thanks and a mark of their esteem by the parent council and many individuals in gratitude for his support and leadership.

Mr Harland was instrumental in the development of our values which are one of the driving forces behind our work with young people. They are beautifully illustrated in the winning entry by Sarah Ross, 3 Drum 2, in our poster competition to promote the BoDA B's. The poster will be used throughout the school to encourage young people to:

- Be Caring
- Be Honest
- Be Respectful
- Be your best

These values will be further promoted with our new first years when they come for their three day visit in June. Helping to support pupils in primary 7s in their transition from primary school to Bridge of Don Academy is now the responsibility of Mr Haggarty who was appointed to the post of Depute Head Teacher in January. You can read more about the work he has been doing with them later in this magazine. I have now visited all three of our associated schools - Balmedie, Braehead and Scotstown and spoken with staff and pupils. We have plans to further improve the transition process building on what is already working and making changes only when necessary. One of our plans is for a new style of curriculum evening led by pupils to introduce parents of pupils in P6 and P7 to the secondary curriculum.

Education is about more than instilling or reinforcing values it is also about developing young people's confidence, giving them opportunities to exercise responsibility for themselves and their work and chances to contribute to the life and work of the school. This will all help them to be successful academically and to develop the skills they will need to work well with other people, cope with change, communicate their ideas and form good relationships. We will be doing more work next

session to support the development of these core skills in our young people and involving them more in discussions about their learning through the development of our pupil support systems.

For pupils moving into senior school - S4, S5 and S6 - education focuses increasingly on getting the exam passes which open doors to careers, courses and training. We are embarking on a challenging but exciting time in Scottish education in this respect. Young people moving on to S4 are choosing the national courses they will be studying and teachers are busy preparing to teach these new courses for the first time - the additional in-service day in February was provided by the Scottish Government to support this work. These courses replace Standard Grades and are designed to be completed in one year: They are offered at different levels. A National 4 is broadly equivalent to a standard grade at general level but is assessed internally in schools by teachers. A National 5 is broadly equivalent to a standard grade at credit level and is also assessed internally by teachers but pupils also sit an external exam marked by the Scottish Qualifications Authority and are awarded a grade A - D depending on their performance in this examination. Pupils in fourth and fifth year will also be choosing the Higher, Advanced Higher and Intermediate courses they will be embarking on in fifth and sixth year. By the time this magazine is issued we will have held our Information Evening and Careers Evening to support families in this decision making process.

We have also made changes to our broad general education in S1 - S3. This change was driven by our staff. They noted that to be well prepared to embark on the new national courses pupils need to experience more of the discrete subjects. As a result all pupils in S3 will study all three sciences as well as computing and business. Pupils will still be able to personalise their curriculum and make choices within subjects. For example they will be able to choose a topic when doing investigations in social studies and make a choice between dance and sport in PE and to choose, with support from languages staff, the language they study.

One of the strengths of the school is the way that staff, pupils and parents work together to offer young people high quality experiences in and beyond the classroom. I am delighted by how many of these we can highlight each month in our magazine. These are also detailed on the website and in the school prospectus. Many of these activities are offered at lunch times so that our pupils who travel to and from school on school transport can participate.

As you can see we are already making good progress with our plans for next year. However, I am keen to seek the views of pupils, parents and staff on how we are doing and what our priorities should be for the coming months and years. Those of you who have attended parents' evenings or the Parent Council meetings will have had the opportunity to complete a questionnaire to give me your views on a range of issues. If you have not already done so and would like to give me your views then please contact the school office or click on the link on the school website. We welcome feedback as a school and particularly value the views of our pupils, staff and parents.

In addition if you have any ideas for the school magazine please let me know so we can celebrate our pupils' achievements.

Daphne McWilliam  
Head Teacher

Our Ref.  
Your Ref.  
Contact D Samson  
Email dsamson@aberdeencity.gov.uk  
Direct Dial (01224) 523817  
Direct Fax (01224) 522022



**ABERDEEN**  
CITY COUNCIL

26 February 2013

**Education, Culture and Sport**  
Aberdeen City Council  
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Second Floor North  
Marischal College  
Broad Street  
ABERDEEN  
AB10 1AB  
Tel 08456 080910  
[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer

**Proposals to Change Existing Catchment Areas (School Zones) in Several Parts of Aberdeen**

You will be aware that the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on Thursday 7 February 2013 resolved to progress a number of proposals related to the school estate.

I would like to take this opportunity to assure you that no final decision on the proposals has yet been taken. The instruction from Committee was to carry out statutory consultation on the proposals. This consultation must comply with the legislation set out in the **Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010**.

The Act requires Local Authorities to carry out statutory consultation by:

- 1) publishing a consultation document which includes information about all schools affected by the proposal and an educational benefits statement;
- 2) involving Education Scotland (formerly Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education) who will produce a report on their findings about the consultation;
- 3) running open consultation over a period of no less than thirty school days (excluding in-service days and school holidays);
- 4) hosting at least one public consultation event which is widely publicised and accessible to all relevant communities;
- 5) producing a report on the statutory consultation, including reference to Education Scotland's report, and take recommendations to a future meeting of the Education, Culture and Sport Committee and
- 6) complying with the required timescales.

The Education, Culture and Sport Committee will then consider the report in 5) above before any final decision on the proposals can be taken.

Where proposals, involve amalgamation and zone changes or more than one zone change, it is intended to incorporate all linked proposals within a single statutory consultation process.

You will receive notification of the timing of the consultation process relating to your child's school in due course.

Should you have any questions regarding this process, please visit the School Estate pages on the Council website at

[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/schoolestate](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/schoolestate)

or contact us by email at

[SchoolEstate@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolEstate@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Gayle Gorman**  
Director of Education, Culture and Sport

## CAREERS EVENING 2013

This year was one of the best attended events that we have had in the past five years. Perhaps this reflects the need young people and their parents have for information to guide them in the increasingly complex world of higher and further education and the job market. Whatever the reason there was a real buzz on the night and the informal feedback from pupils, parents and participants was all very positive.



This year, for the first time, pupils and their parents from St Machar Academy and Oldmachar Academy were invited to attend. We are part of a consortium with these schools in the north of the city and we were delighted to welcome parents, staff and pupils to join us. Again informal feedback indicated that pupils and their parents found it very useful.



As always we are grateful to the staff of local and national companies and organisations who give up their time to provide careers information and advice. As a very small token of our appreciation we do provide light refreshments for all those in attendance and are grateful to Mrs Cruickshank and Mrs Rennie from the school office who stayed on to make sure all our visitors were served with the tea, coffee, sandwiches and home bakes provided by our school canteen staff. The lists below demonstrate the number and range of participants



### Businesses

Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Royal Air Force, British Army  
Oldmachar Medical Practice - Occupational Therapist  
ITCA Ltd - Training Opportunities  
Holiday Inn - Hospitality Industry  
Ernst & Young - Financial Services  
Grays & Connachie - Estate Agents  
Guidance Teacher - Mr Paterson (Careers Advice & Subject choice)  
NHS - Scottish Ambulance Service  
Next - Retail Sector  
Dundas & Wilson - Law Firm  
John Lewis - Business Opportunities  
Atkins Global - Design, Engineering and Project Management  
RICS - Chartered Surveyors  
Deloitte - Financial/Corporate Finance  
Children's House - Childcare Trainer  
Aberdeen City Council - Environmental Health and Trading Standards  
Aberdeen City Council - Human Resources, Aberdeen City Council - Educational Psychology

### Universities and Colleges

SRUC - Rural College, Aberdeen College  
University of Aberdeen, University of Edinburgh, University of Dundee  
Strathclyde University, The Robert Gordon University

## Careers Talks

What marks our careers event out as different is the provision of more specialised careers talks which pupils and their parents can sign up for on the night. We are grateful to all of those who prepared and delivered a talk.

Skills Development Scotland	Gillian Shand	'Help and Guidance in Careers Education for your youngster' - for parents only
Next	John Jones	'Working in the Retail Sector'
BODA	Rhona Johnston	'Music Industry and University'
British Computing Society	Eilidh Clarkson & Lewis Yim	'Careers in IT/Computing'
The Children's House	Edith Todd	'The Journey to Childhood Practice'
Medicine		'Getting into Medical School'
Aberdeen College	David Brooks	Automotive, Construction, Engineering: Electrical, Engineering: Mechanical
Aberdeen City Council	Sharon Robb	'Getting an Interview right'
Ernst & Young	Laura Towler	'Graduate and School Leaver Programme'
BODA	Amber MacLeod	'Getting into Education'
University of Aberdeen	James Wright	'Effective Personal Statements'
Aberdeen College	Elaine Makein & Vicki Frenz	Art Design, Visual Communication and Photography
Aberdeen College	June Smith	Early Education and Childcare, Nursing and Healthcare
Deloitte	Kat Innes & Jake Bathurst	'The Brightstart Programme' - Financial Sector
Aberdeen College	John Davidson	Hairdressing, Beauty Therapy and Complementary Therapies
Aberdeen College	Moyra Cowie or Trish Swan	Sports and Fitness



## FYVIE HOUSE FUND RAISER - A TOUCH OF TARTAN

St Andrews Day saw a Touch of Tartan in the school as Fyvie raised House funds with our Scottish theme. A welly boot throwing competition was held in the games hall, face painting in the canteen, pupils were allowed to wear tartan in class and the staff were very happy with the saltire themed cakes sold in the staff centre! Nearly £90 was raised in total. Thanks to all who participated.



## SAFE AND SENSIBLE SOCIAL NETWORKING

Bridge of Don Academy is currently working toward being a certified 360 degree e-safe school. Further details of this e-safety resource can be found at: [www.360safe.org.uk](http://www.360safe.org.uk)

In progressing to this accreditation we have updated much of our PSE and IT class delivery, in addition to providing assemblies and Police Liaison Officer visits to offer students advice and guidelines for use of social networking. The following information is delivered to students from S1 to S6:

- Importance of privacy settings and secure passwords
- Keeping the information you post within the law and school policies
- How relationships and careers are affected by inappropriate social networking
- What can be considered internet bullying and how to report it



From a recent assembly coinciding with the national internet safety week, a hands up poll demonstrated that the vast majority of our students self teach themselves how to use social networking. Whilst independent learning is an important transferable skill, in the case of social networking it also brings many potential risks to young people. In school we encourage sensible and safe social networking use, but still each week we get reports from pupils, parents and staff of inappropriate behaviour taking place on-line.

Please could we ask that you discuss with your children the impact of sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Instagram and in particular the much publicised Ask.fm. We also recommend that parents take an interest in the activities that their children are involved in when using the computer and their messages/photographs on their mobile telephone.

Please find advice and further information at the following websites:

[http://www.swgfl.org.uk/Staying-Safe/Content/Resources/Parents\\_guide\\_to\\_social-networking\\_websites](http://www.swgfl.org.uk/Staying-Safe/Content/Resources/Parents_guide_to_social-networking_websites)

<http://promos.mcafee.com/en-US/PDF/SocialNetworkinge-guide.pdf>

## P7 VISIT - 4, 5 & 6 FEBRUARY 2013

P7 pupils from Scotstown, Balmedie & Braehead primary schools visited us in February and spent time in four different departments - English, P.E., Home Economics and Science. This year the visit was themed around 'Energy' - how much energy we need every day, where we get this energy from, how much we need and the different ways we are able to use it.

In the Science Dept the pupils used science equipment to measure mass, volume and temperature and learned how to use a Bunsen burner. They then looked at how these basic skills can be combined to allow us to measure the energy content of different foods, important when we are planning a healthy diet.

Pupils visited the Home Economics department to continue the theme on energy. The pupils made French toast to emphasise the importance of breakfast but also to experience cooking in the school kitchen. At the end of the lesson they ate the toast and their enthusiasm and interest in the lesson was shown by the empty plates!

In Physical Education pupils played non-stop basketball. This continued the theme of 'Energy' as much was needed!

In English pupils worked in groups to discuss what they had learned. Pupils had an enjoyable time and are looking forward to their three day visit in June.





## ENTIÉR APPRENTICESHIP AWARDS

Entiér Aberdeen's premier catering and support services company run an apprenticeship award for pupils who will be leaving school at the end of 4th year and who would be looking to seek employment in the hospitality industry. This opportunity is to work within Entiér on a controlled learning programme which includes SVQs for a period of 3 years with a view to gaining full time work after the apprenticeship period.



Chef Robert Bruce from Entiér visited the Hospitality: Intermediate 1 class to demonstrate skills and give advice which will be required when the pupils prepare a Chicken stir fry. The chef will choose 2 pupils to go forward to the final in April.

## LAB IN A LORRY

In January we were lucky enough to have a two day visit from the 'Lab in a Lorry', sponsored by the Institute of Physics. They braved the cold and the snow to reach us and the visit gave all our S2 science pupils the opportunity to explore aspects of Physics with three different interactive experiments. The experiments were based on drilling for oil, the power of sound waves and digital cameras.

In their reports written afterwards in English here are some things they said:





*"I really enjoyed the sound experiment, we all got involved in the experiment"*

*"It was way better than sitting in a classroom and writing stuff down, I loved it!"*

*"I didn't like it, I loved it. I got to hold a fossil for the first time"*

*"I was busting with excitement because I love science"*

*"I wish we had been able to do all 3 experiments"*

*"It was fun, I hope they come again"*

A great experience for staff and pupils - yes, hope they do come again!



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Our companies, Milas and Infinity Candles, have continued to have a busy year promoting their products. As well as the various Fairs they attended, including our own very successful Christmas Fayre, they have set up stall at the different Parents Nights and a lunchtime event in the dining hall.

Some company members recently completed the University of Strathclyde Young Enterprise exam and both teams are now busy writing their business reports and completing end of year accounts with the help of their Business Adviser.



## CEILIDH

The annual ceilidh took place on the last day of term - 21 December 2012. Pupils had been learning social dances in PE and then had the chance to practice their new skills. This year we were delighted to have a live band for the first time. Cameron Taylor and Peter Fairhurst both in S5 recruited the services of a friend, Peter Lesley to join them. The last day of term was also a fund raising dress as you please day.



## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Our first ever Christmas Fayre was held on Monday 26 November. There were over 30 stalls to choose from including a number of local artists, Sophie's Heavenly Fudge, Body Shop, Bijoux Angel (jewellery), Partylite Candles, Kardznmore, KAGA Gifts, Avon, Hannah Bakes Cakes, Scholastic Books, Time for Books, Select A Sweet, Infinity Candles, Milis Confectionery, Scentsy and many more!

Excellent entertainment was provided by the school choir throughout the whole evening. Refreshments were provided by our S3 pupils who made mince pies and shortbread during their Home Economics classes in order to sell on the evening.

The evening was a great success and raised over £1,000 for school funds. Well done to everyone involved.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD FUND RAISING

by Brian Willox

Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award group has started and training is underway.

Not only does the DofE Award help participants to develop and learn new skills, responsibility and endurance but it is also very rewarding and, of course, fun.



We have written to a number of companies asking for support. SETS Ltd (based in Newmachar) made a donation of £300 towards buying equipment to help take some of the financial burden off of the youngsters taking part.

SETS Ltd's HR Advisor, Ms Ally Stachan, came into Bridge of Don Academy to present the cheque.

We also received a cheque from Sterling Furniture (based on Denmore Road, Bridge of Don) for £230. Carol Cameron, the HR Manager said, "As a recruiter I consider that DofE gives applicants an advantage. On the CV it shows that the applicant is prepared to do more - to push themselves - a bit of commitment. All of which are excellent qualities from an employer's point of view."



We are trying to raise funds to buy equipment and all donations are welcome. However, we are also in need of equipment. Do you have any of the items below lying around that you could donate to the school?

- |                            |                              |                           |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tents                      | Tent repair kits             | Rucksacks (65 litres)     |
| Tent pegs                  | Map cases                    | Rucksack rain covers      |
| Whistles                   | Head torches                 | Compasses                 |
| Ground sheets (tarpaulins) | Waterproof trousers          | Waterproof jackets        |
| Ordinance Survey Maps      | Sleeping bag liners          | Rucksack / luggage straps |
| Camping cutlery            | Camping plates, bowls & mugs | "Trangia" stoves          |

If so then all donations will be gratefully received by Mr Willox in room F15.

### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD TRAINING** by Brian Willox

We have 41 participants undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award program this year. To make sure that they are prepared for their first expedition we run training sessions after school on Wednesdays.

In training session one we looked briefly at the expectations of the Award, map reading and first aid.



In training session two participants got a chance to see the equipment that they will need for the expedition and we discussed the sort of food that they should take with them.

Training session 3 was all about map reading and navigation. Participants were given Ordnance Survey maps of the Glen Tannar area (OS Landranger 44) and asked to find certain points using map references and navigate a journey from one place to a specific point on the map.

## THE BODA BS

The BODA Bs are the values which the whole school agreed best represented the standards which we hold at Bridge of Don Academy.

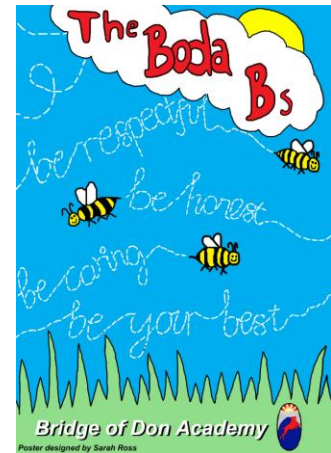
**Be: Honest**

**Be: Respectful**

**Be: Caring**

**Be: Your Best**

As a school, we felt it important that all pupils, staff and the wider community in Bridge of Don were familiar with the values of the school. As a result, the Student Council launched the BODA Bs poster competition before Christmas. The entries were of an excellent quality and were judged by the Student Council members from S1 to S6.



The winning poster was designed by Sarah Ross in S3 and the school are delighted with the result. Hopefully Sarah was delighted with her Union Square voucher.

Sarah's design will be used in a number of ways:

As a poster in classrooms around the school

As reward stickers, magnets and rulers

As the cover of next year's planners



Congratulations Sarah and thank you for an exceptional poster.

## DEBATING

Debating at Bridge of Don is a lively, thriving activity with a good number of regular debaters from all year groups attending on a Friday after school.

Debates are run according to parliamentary debating rules as follows:

The debate focuses on a Motion (a suggested opinion about a particular topic), e.g. "This House would reduce the voting age to 16". The group split into teams which either propose or oppose the motion. They usually have no choice in which side they argue for.

Speeches last for 3 minutes. The first and the last 30 seconds are "protected time", during which the speaker may not be interrupted. The middle 2 minutes may be interrupted by the opposing side when they may offer a "point of information". This may be either accepted or rejected by the speaker.

The first proposer (first prop.) defines the motion and puts forward his key points in favour. The first opposer (first opp.) rebuts one or two of the first proposer's arguments and proceeds to his own points against the motion. The second prop continues by rebutting points made by the first opp and introducing more arguments in support. This pattern continues until the fourth opp sums up the debate, highlighting points of clash.

Each week the side which have shown the best debating skills win the debate and there is also a "best speaker" who may be from either side of the house.

This term we have debated the following motions:

This House would eat any animal.

This House would legalise gay marriage.

This House believes in God

This House would make sex education compulsory.

Pupils from all year groups are most welcome to come along and take part, or just watch the debate. After the debate, if there is an audience, the motion is opened up to the floor, so anyone can make a point on the motion.

If you enjoy a good argument, please come to F12 on Friday from 3.00 -4.00 pm.

Mrs Anderson, Mr Warrender, Jess Anderson (University debating club)



## STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student council have had a very busy term, with fortnightly meetings to raise student issues and plan future events such as assemblies, competitions. We are introducing suggestion boxes which will be available to all pupils so that they can have their say without having to find a council member. We will also occasionally seek views by having a "Question of the week". We hope that pupils will respond to this by raising concerns and offering solutions to current problems in school.

We have two members who attend the Aberdeen Pupil Voice meetings - a city-wide student council with members from all secondary schools in Aberdeen. They are engaged in a number of projects which seek to improve the pupils' experience in schools across the city, e.g. the Equality group are examining the issue of discrimination as it relates to minority groups in school. One group are working on improving communication between teachers across the city and another is focusing on improving links between schools and Universities/Colleges/Apprenticeship schemes.

Further council projects are also on the horizon.

Members from the Student Council were involved in the selection process for the recently appointed Deputy Head teacher - Mr D Haggarty, and for the recently appointed Head teacher - Mrs D McWilliam. We were praised by Anne Darling, the Quality Improvement Officer for our professional approach to the interview and for our insightful questions.

Just before the Christmas Holidays, we invited Mr Harland and Mrs McWilliam to attend our Student Council meeting so we could say our final farewells to Mr Harland. Liam Moore in S4 who is completing Hospitality Int 1, baked a magnificent cake for Mr Harland to wish him a very happy retirement. As you can see - a very professional (and delicious) job! It didn't last for long. The council would like to thank Mr Harland for encouraging us to take responsibility ourselves for making changes in the school.

Mrs McWilliam, our new head teacher, has asked us to get involved in developing the Homework policy in school and we are working on a questionnaire to be put out to all pupils. She is also keeping us busy by seeking out our views on how pupils believe the school is doing. This will be an interesting project where pupils can really contribute to the school's plans for the future.



As always, we encourage all pupils to make their views known to the Student Council - don't sit there moaning, tell us how to make things better!

**YOUR SCHOOL - YOUR SAY**

## **BRIDGE OF DON ACADEMY GARDEN PROJECT**

By Mrs Anderson

Our Garden Project has started after many years in the thinking. Alan Carter a local landscaper has begun work on the layout and first planting in the garden. This is an exciting project which will incorporate a vegetable plot, a meditation area and a picnic area planted with trees. Future plans include a bird feeding area/wildlife garden and possibly an outdoor classroom. Pupils applied for funding for the project and we have received a Youth Grant of £1,500 which will enable us to provide resources for subjects and provide more seating and bins around the garden.

It is hoped that pupils will see that this garden is for them to relax and to work in together. We are forming a gardening club with both pupils and staff who will take overall responsibility for the general maintenance of the garden and for making plans for the future, taking the requirements of subjects into consideration. It is hoped that parents and members of the local community may also want to become involved.

The aims of the garden are:

1. To work together to provide a beautiful, stimulating, safe garden for pupils, staff and the local community in which to work and learn, relax and socialise.
2. To deliver Experiences and Outcomes within many curricular areas with a view to possibly delivering National 3/4 Environmental Science in the future.
3. To provide a haven for wildlife - insects, birds, hedgehogs, etc.
4. To provide a quiet meditation area suitable for reflection, meditation and prayer.
5. To develop the garden using organic principles in order to prevent contamination of soil and detrimental effects on other organisms and to promote good health.
6. To provide some organic produce - vegetables and herbs - for use in Home Economics.
7. To plant using indigenous plants which attract wildlife in order to promote and sustain biodiversity.
8. To improve relationships and strengthen community links between Bridge of Don Academy pupils and the local community by involving local gardeners in the maintenance of the garden and in working with pupils to ensure local gardening knowledge is passed on to the next generation within Bridge of Don.
9. To develop curricular links with local primary schools and encourage Academy pupils to work with primary pupils.

Of course - it may take us some time to get there, but we have taken the first step. An exciting year is in prospect for the green-fingered. If you are interested, get in touch with Mrs Anderson (RMPS).

Hi there!

Did you know that as a Guide, former Guide, Leader or Young Leader aged 14 to 25 you are eligible to join a Senior Section unit? No? Well read on!

The **Senior Section is a flexible, fun programme open to young women from their 14th birthday until their 26th birthday**. There are a number of ways you can be involved and the opportunities are immense, from international volunteering to improving your CV.

As part of our new Senior Section unit, you will have the chance to:

- Complete challenging awards and qualifications like the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Chief Guide's Challenge, Queen's Guide Award and Young Leader or Adult Leadership Qualification
- Take part in local, national and international camps and events
- Become an In4mer and educate each other about important topics like media awareness and stress management
- Participate in Polaris events and have your voice heard at a national level
- Take part in community action projects
- Complete some fun challenge badges – from Sweetastic to the Campfire Challenge, there's something for everyone!

We'll also be working through Look Wider, which is a programme that has been designed exclusively for Senior Section members. The programme is split into eight octants, including creativity, independent living and personal values, and aims to encourage you to develop new skills and to improve existing ones while having loads of fun at the same time!

There are so many opportunities open to you as a Senior Section member that we just can't go into all the detail here – you'll find more information though on the Senior Section website at <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/seniorsection>. **It's *your* programme so it's up to *you* to decide what you want to work on and when – our unit meetings and trips will also all be based on what you want to do or get up to!**

Please contact us on our email address for more information!

[firstparkwayseniorsection@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:firstparkwayseniorsection@hotmail.co.uk)



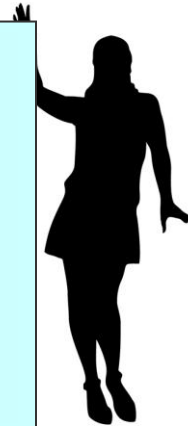
# Senior Section



Hi! Are you a female aged 14 to 25? Away to leave Guides or volunteering as a leader? Then **First Parkway Senior Section** wants YOU!

We are a new SS unit covering the Bridge of Don area. We are going to take on challenges, try new things and have lots and lots of fun!

We welcome Guides who are moving up and people who want to try something new!



**the senior section**

Any questions?

Contact us at:

[firstparkwayseniorsection@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:firstparkwayseniorsection@hotmail.co.uk)

## **Keelan Holland from 4C2**

In the photo he was receiving two Awards at his Sea Cadets from the Lord Provost. He is also looking forward to joining the Tall Ships during the Easter Holidays.



## **SIMPLY THANK YOU!**

In December Natalie Ho, 5F won the Simply Thank You Award from the Voluntary Service Aberdeen (VSA). The Simply Thank You Award recognises the efforts put in by young carers in the City as they care for a family member. Natalie has spent her life caring for her disabled twin sister Sammy. Natalie is a kind, caring and committed sister.

Ex Lord Provost John Reynolds chose Natalie from a number of deserving young carers. Natalie received a certificate and £100 worth of vouchers. This Award was thoroughly deserved, well done Natalie!



## **DONATION FROM BRIDGE OF DON BADMINTON CLUB**

The Bridge of Don Badminton Club has for many years used the facilities at both Oldmachar Academy (junior badminton section) and Bridge of Don Academy (adult badminton section). Unfortunately the Club has been disbanded and as a result they have donated funds left over in their accounts to both schools and Bridge of Don Academy were fortunate to receive a cheque for £350.00. So, the pupils of Bridge of Don Academy would like to say a big thank you to the former members of the Bridge of Don Badminton Club for their kind gesture.

## DONATION FROM KARDZNMORE

Kardznmore had a stall at the Christmas Fayre and due to the popularity of their goods were invited in to the school one lunchtime in order to allow the staff to do some Christmas shopping. As a result of the excellent sales Kardznmore received from the school staff they decided to donate the sum of £70.00 to the school. Thank you to Kardznmore for the very unexpected kind gesture.

<http://www.kardznmore.co.uk/>

## AFRICAN STORYTELLER

We had a highly enjoyable visit from African storyteller Gift Amu Lagotse (Amu). He spoke to two groups of S1 pupils telling each a different traditional African tale which involved music, dance and audience participation. We also learned about his home village in the Volta region of Ghana and the farming activities he had helped set up

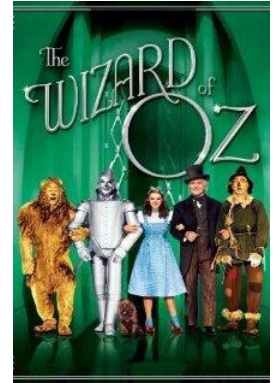
Amu's brand of interactive storytelling was very entertaining and proved a big hit with pupils. Many are hoping for a return visit! There is also the possibility of the school being involved in a follow-up Global Citizenship project.

The Art department looked at Adinkra symbols and some very nice pieces of work were produced.



## WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD...

Rehearsals for "The Wizard of Oz" have been underway since November and we are making great progress in blocking the scenes, developing characters and working as a full ensemble in the large scale choreographed set pieces. The cast have been enthusiastic and focused in rehearsals; some of them putting in up to 6 hours in a week. We are all committed to delivering a show that can top last year's success with "Oliver!". As with last year, the directorial team have been impressed by the talent that we have available to us in the school.



Rehearsals take place after school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and at lunchtime on Wednesday. "The Wizard of Oz" is a longer show than "Oliver!" so we have managed to squeeze in a little extra time at work in the drama studio to keep up the pace needed to produce the show that we want without having to rush at the end of the process and put ourselves under extra pressure. There has been plenty of scope for the chorus to adopt multiple roles: singing trees, flying monkeys, Winkies, assorted people of the Emerald City and, of course, Munchkins. At the same time, there are far more scenes than last year that involve a small number of characters - so the acting skills of the principals are really being put to the test and the line learning is proving a challenge. There is an enormous amount of work being done to perfect the singing and dancing so crucial to producing a successful musical.

The next steps will be to master the choreographed sequences, run the blocking until it's second nature, and dispense with the scripts so that the layers of character and movement necessary to producing believable and engaging characters can be built up.

Beyond the drama studio there is an awful lot to do. There are a great many elements to be brought together for the performance week in July. However, we have the experience of last year to help guide us in terms of timing and priorities. Our set designers are fairly advanced in their plans for how the production will look - including ideas on how to present an intimidating wizard and how to make a witch melt! We have made a start to our sourcing of costumes, with the Home Economics department taking on that considerable task once more. Hopefully, some characters such as Munchkins will be able to source clothes from home that can be adapted to create their costumes. Other costumes, such as the Tinman, will have to be bespoke. Soon, Mrs Fettes will be entering prop sourcing mode and some of the shelving in her room will once again become the repository of the odd assortment of items needed to dress our production effectively. Some items will have to be built from scratch - oversized hourglass anyone?

We are also looking forward to the S1 Leadership day and the production of the programme for the show. Last year, the S1s did a terrific job in putting together a programme and in doing so helped create the buzz that made the whole experience such a great success. There is a poster to be designed too. Very soon, we will be recruiting some senior pupils for stage management roles -and possible cameos in the background of some of the bigger ensemble scenes. Later, we will be looking to other pupils to take on make-up and prop duties, and parents and staff to help with the get in and get out. The help of all of these people was invaluable last year and the show cannot be performed without the good will and good work of many beyond the cast and directorial team.

Bridge of Don Academy's production of "The Wizard of Oz" will be performed at the Aberdeen Arts Centre on the evenings of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2013. Tickets will be priced at £12 (£10 concession) and will be available from the school from May onwards.

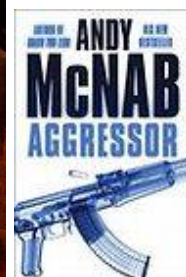
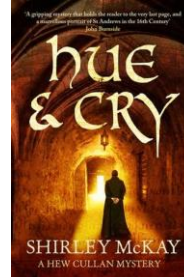
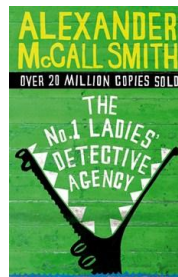
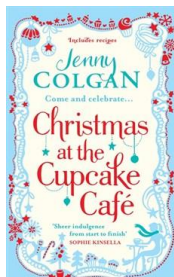
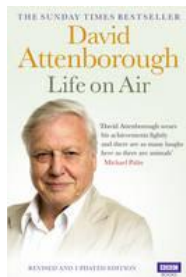
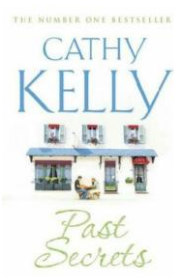
## WORLD BOOK DAY COMPETITION

### Reading Champions at Bridge of Don Academy

Twelve readers and twelve books. Can you match the book to the reader?

It's not as easy as you think!

- A. Hue and Cry by Shirley McKay \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Exit Music by Ian Rankine \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Christmas at the Cupcake Café by Jenny Colgan \_\_\_\_\_
- D. His Dark Materials trilogy by Philip Pullman \_\_\_\_\_
- E. Life on Air by David Attenborough \_\_\_\_\_
- F. Mockingjay (Hunger Games 3) by Suzanne Collins \_\_\_\_\_
- G. Aggressor by Andy McNab \_\_\_\_\_
- H. The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith \_\_\_\_\_
- I. King of Ithica by Glynn Iliffe \_\_\_\_\_
- J. My Life by Bill Clinton \_\_\_\_\_
- K. Googlehack Adventure by Dave Gorman \_\_\_\_\_
- L. Past Secrets by Cathy Kelly \_\_\_\_\_





**ROGUES GALLERY.....**



**Mrs Napier**



**Mrs Anderson**



**Mr Willox**



**Mrs Hall**



**Mr Chesser**



**Mrs Thomson**



**Mr Paterson**



**Mrs Redpath**



**Mrs McWilliam**



**Mr Nicklas**



**Mr Gisbey**



**Mr Polson**

## YOUNG REFEREE IN THE MAKING



Congratulations to Ciaran Collie, 5F1, who has recently qualified as a referee after completing the SFA Referee Level 1 course. Ciaran is now looking forward to putting on the referee's uniform and talking charge of juvenile football matches. Good luck in his new challenge and we look forward to seeing him progress through the ranks as a referee. Who knows, maybe one day we might see Ciaran in charge of a FIFA Champions League Final!

## SCHOOL NETBALL TEAM

The girls have all worked extremely hard all year and have to travel as far as Elgin for their matches. The S3 team made the quarter finals of the Scottish Schools Cup but, sadly were knocked out. The S1-S3 team did really well in the Aberdeen League. The best games were when they drew 3-3 with St Margaret's, won 12-2 against Ellon Academy and won 10-4 against Harlaw. Well done girls. Keep up the good work!

We would like to thank the Parent Council for the donation for our new strips. The girls love them.



Netball runs every Thursday 3.00 -4.00 pm for all years. Anyone is welcome to join.

### S3 GIRLS Y-DANCE PROJECT

Fifteen girls in S3 participated in a one day dance project workshop. During the morning the girls learned new dance skills as well as enhancing techniques in a variety of dance styles. All the girls worked extremely hard in the session and choreographed 2 new dance routines. In the afternoon the girls put on a fantastic performance in front of Mrs McWilliam, Mrs Forbes, Miss Johnson, Mr Jappy and Kat Hamilton our Active Schools Coordinator. Each and every pupil showed great enthusiasm throughout the day and were a credit to the school. The Y Dance tutors were extremely pleased with the girls efforts and said "They were by far the keenest group they have worked with so far in Aberdeen."

Well done girls!!



### S3 BUSINESS CLASS

As part of the S3 Business and Enterprise course pupils have been learning about Globalisation and the role of Fair Trade in providing equality in international trade.

During Fair Trade Fortnight the S3 business pupils were involved in running an enterprise event raising awareness and selling Fair Trade products. In the run up to parent's evening pupils worked in groups to research Fair Trade products, make key decisions and market their event.



Being involved in this enterprise event enabled pupils to apply the knowledge and skills they have been developing throughout the S3 course and provided them with the opportunity to experience running a small business project.

# CHRISTMAS 2012

## Carol Singing in the Staff Room



## Fancy Dress



- S2 Winner –
- Callum Esslemont

## Fancy Dress



- S1 Winners:
- Adam Lawson
- Joshua Button

## Fancy Dress



- S1 Winner:
- Emma Duguid

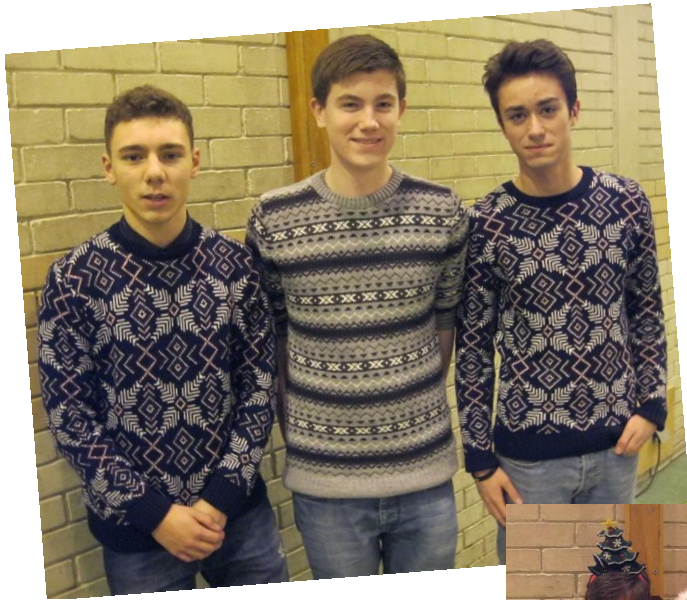


Delivery Elves

Hope you had a Happy Xmas!



DRESS AS YOU PLEASE DAY



## GOODBYE MR HARLAND



Pupils raised money to pay for a cake to mark Mr Harland's retirement. It was presented to him at the ceilidh. He can be seen here posing with S1 and S2; S3 and S4 and S5 and S6 pupils - and some Christmas elves also snuck in!!

## CLASS OF 2013



Back Row L-R: Paul Free, Joseph Boon, Dominic Munro, Chris Adams, Ryan Coyle, Jack Watt, Drew Matheson, Campbell Grant, Jamie Lamont, Fergus Lamont, Usman Sarwar, Ben Martin, Anthony Ede, Daniel Manclark, Jack Hillis

Third Row L-R: Rahul Chandu, Anthony Groves, Martyn MacDonald, Eunice Owusu-Afriyie, Emma Duncan, Louise Chisholm, Megan Allan, Alice Gauld, Kirsten McIntosh, Lucy Bremner, Jessica Gall, Vincentia Amu, Emma Gordon, Matthew McLeod, Harry Coates, Calvin Ingram

Second Row L-R: Katie Strowger, Nikki Holt, Lauren Dyce, Megan Riddell, Amy Evans, Magda Kubiak, Steven Littlejohn, Paul Perkins, Daria Lichodziejewska, Megan Gall, Gillian Minty, Bethany Allan, Sophie Watt

Front Row L-R: Jasmine Kennedy, Melodie Paterson, Kirsty Ross, Jade Paterson, Lizzy Simpson, Lewis Chouman, Mr Harland, Jenna Shepherd, Calum Neil, Chloe Smyth, Shannon Ingram, Natalie Wright, Rebecca Milne

## PUZZLES

- I have ten boxes which I want to pack into crates. Each crate can carry a maximum of 25kg. I only have three crates, and the total weight of the boxes is 75kg: 15 kg, 13kg, 11kg, 10kg, 9kg, 8kg, 4kg, 2kg, 2kg, 1kg. How can I pack the boxes into the crates? How many ways are there to do this?

Ten possible answers:

{Crate 1}, {Crate 2}, {Crate 3}  
 {15,10}, {13,8,4}, {11,9,2,2,1}  
 {15,10}, {13,11,1}, {9,8,4,2,2}  
 {15,10}, {11,8,4,2}, {13,9,2,1}  
 {15,10}, {11,9,4,1}, {13,8,2,2}  
 {11,10,4}, {15,8,2}, {13,9,2,1}  
 {11,10,4}, {15,9,1}, {13,8,2,2}  
 {13,8,4}, {15,9,1}, {11,10,2,2}  
 {13,10,2}, {15,8,2}, {11,9,4,1}  
 {13,10,2}, {15,9,1}, {11,8,4,2}  
 {13,11,1}, {15,8,2}, {10,9,4,2}

## 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.*

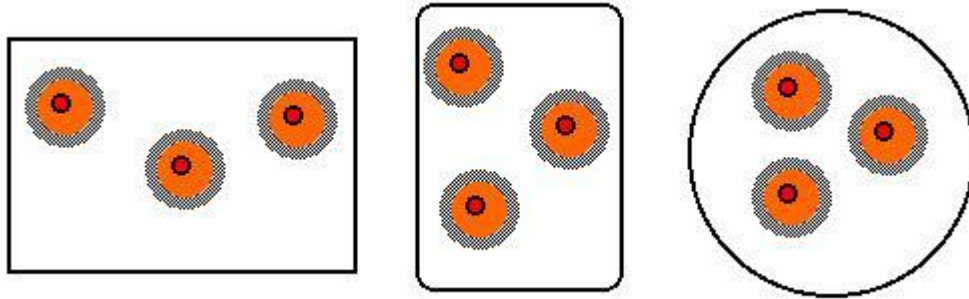
<sup>22+</sup> <b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<sup>3+</sup> <b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<sup>36×</sup> <b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<sup>6+</sup> <b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<sup>2÷</sup> <b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<sup>1-</sup> <b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<sup>3÷</sup> <b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<sup>2÷</sup> <b>2</b>	<sup>9+</sup> <b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<sup>17+</sup> <b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<sup>4-</sup> <b>1</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<sup>1-</sup> <b>3</b>	<sup>9+</sup> <b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
<sup>7+</sup> <b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<sup>1-</sup> <b>4</b>	<b>3</b>

Solutions will be posted on <http://bodmaths.edublogs.org> from the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2013 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.



## PUZZLES

1. In Hungry Horace's kitchen there were three tins. Each tin contained three delicious cakes:



One night Horace crept into the kitchen, opened the three tins, and ate three of the cakes. The surprising thing was, when Horace went back to bed, each tin still contained three cakes. How did he do it? Were they REALLY magic cakes?

## 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 7x7 puzzle, fill in with numbers 1-7.*

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.*

13+	24x	3-		3÷		4-
			15x	21x		
1-	42x				12+	
	8+	14+				12x
		11+		12+		
1-	7+	6-		20x		1-
			1-			

Solutions 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.