



# Dunblane High School

# NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014



## School News



### Standards & Quality Report Session 2013-14

Every year schools are required to publish a 'Standards and Quality' Report on the previous session. This is a 'report card' on the school for that school year. Our Standards and Quality Report for 2013-14 has just been published. Every family in the school should have received one by now. If you have children at the school and have not received one please contact the school office. A copy is also to be found on the school's website.

### S3 Options

Parents of S3 will receive, this week, a letter regarding the S3 Options process. Following feedback from the S3 Subject Survey and Draft Options' Form, the final Options' Form is currently being constructed. The curricular rationale and columns are substantially the same as in previous years. Allowing for the same range of subject choice. However one difference this year is that it will not be possible to 'customise' individual choices beyond what is on the final form. Nevertheless with our S4 being offered 7 courses as compared with the national norm of 5 or 6, there is no doubt that the range on offer remains impressive.

### Christmas Concert Tickets

With well over 130 pupils participating by playing in the School Orchestra, Wind Band, Trad Group or singing in one of our choirs in this year's Christmas Concert (17 December), it is unlikely that there will be any public sale of tickets for this event. Each participating pupil will be allocated 2 tickets (£5 each) and only if any tickets are returned will it be possible to release them for general sale. Entry will be by

ticket only — there will be no payment at the door. Apologies if this has come as a disappointment to the wider community of the school but we feel that the families of the participating pupils should be given priority for the limited number of tickets available.



### Christmas Shoebox Appeal

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our annual Christmas Shoebox Appeal. This year was a record year for this appeal with the magnificent total of 111 boxes being submitted to the charity Samaritan's



Purse.

### MAD GROUPS Charities

In the run up to Christmas this year our MAD Groups are fundraising for the Stand Up To Cancer charity. Members of the MAD Group led by Emily Batchelor and Alain Kadar (S6) gave presentations to

each year group assembly where they outlined their programme of fundraising events which last week involved the selling of 'Krispy Kremes': £764 was raised on day! Well done to the MAD for establishing what we hope will become an annual Christmas tradition. Thus the annual walk to the Cathedral for the end of term Christmas Service (Friday 19 December) will be a 'Stand Up to Cancer' walk with pupils being encouraged to buy SU2C merchandise to wear with their school uniforms that day. Our Chaplains have agreed to link the service itself to our whole school focus on charity giving at this time of year. We are extremely proud of our young peoples' enthusiasm and altruism this session - £764.63 was raised from the sale and raffle of Krispy Kreme doughnuts on Thursday the 4 December for Stand Up to Cancer. Thanks to everyone who supported this fundraiser for their generosity. The MAD Groups look forward to continuing support in the up and coming weeks when there will be an opportunity to purchase Stand Up to Cancer Merchandise. On the final week of term seasonal Candy Canes will be available. Thanks again to Olivia Lloyd, Jessica Holcroft, Annabel Stewart, Esme Forrest, Emily Bachelor, Robert Sweeney, Callum Reay Daniel Gunning, Finn Clasen, Alain Kadar, Laura Cranston, Bronwyn Spence, Caroline Hilley, Cara Patterson, Kirsty Maccauley, Emma Corcoran, Sarah Smith. Our MAD Groups also helped support the local community during the recent Dunblane Community Christmas Extravaganza when money was raised for local charities.

### DATES TO NOTE

#### S4 Mock Exams

Monday  
1 December  
to  
Friday  
12 December

#### Christmas Concert:

Wednesday  
17 December  
19.00

#### Christmas Holiday

School closes:  
Friday  
19 December  
13.00

(After Cathedral Service)

Re-opens:  
Monday

5 January 2015  
09.00

#### Contact

Tel:  
01786 823823

Email:  
dunblanehs  
@stirling.gov.uk



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## NEW SCHOOL TARTAN

Work on a new tartan to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the school in 2014 is nearing completion. After consulting with all year group Pupil Councils, decisions on the final design will be taken by **Rachel Kelly (S6) and the S5 Council**. Samples will be available early next year.

## Likhubula Partnership

The four founder members of the **Likhubula Nurse project group** were invited to Kinfauns Castle by Ann Gloag to meet both Ann herself and with Lois Boyle and Paul McNeil the Directors of Operations of the Ann Gloag Foundation to talk through their nurse project. The four girls involved in the visit are **Laura Paton, Christy Cunningham, Catriona Glen and Alba Escala** of S4.

## English & Computing

### S1 Narnia Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL) Project

The trailer for 1R1's production is now available to view by clicking the link on the school's website page. The complete production will also be available to view via the website during the last week of term. Pupils have worked extremely hard on this project and we are all very proud of their efforts. A special mention must also go to Mr Smith (Computing) for his time and assistance in editing the final production and making it available to parents and guardians.

## Chemistry

Last month Dunblane High School entered a team of four pupils in the **Royal Society of Chemistry's** 'Top of the Bench' competition. The competition was held in Forth Valley College and involved the team carrying out four reactions against the clock. Marks were awarded for practical skills, teamwork and the accuracy of their written report. The team gave their very best against the top Central Scotland schools and managed to gain 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This success is testament to the hard work, ingenuity and teamwork of **Alex Frye, Katie Jackson, Lewis Swan and Sophie Paterson**, they did the Chemistry department and the school proud. Well done!

## Debating Success

Three debating teams entered the ESU Juniors' Debate competition. All three teams presented very persuasive arguments and engaged in some rigorous debate. Congratulations to **Matthew Smith and Cammie Reid-Thomas** who go through to the next round. **Katie Bell and Maggie Pollock (S6)** narrowly lost their 1st round match in the ESU Mace competition. Our two Senior teams travelled to Auchterarder Community High School to take part in the 1st round of The Donald Dewar Law Society Debating Competition. Congratulations to **Anna Steen and Daniel Stansfield** who won their debate and go through to the next round! On Saturday the 29 November a team from DHS travelled to Glasgow's High Court to compete against 10 schools from across Scotland in the Bar National Mock Trial Competition. The day provided the team with an insight into court proceedings and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thanks to Ms Mackenzie and other staff for helping prepare the teams.

## CHRISTMAS DANCES

**S1 PARTY** ~ Thursday 11 December Periods 5 & 6

**S2 PARTY** ~ Friday 12 December Periods 5 & 6

Pupils may bring a change of clothes—PE changing rooms will be open at lunchtime.

~ **S5 & S6 CHRISTMAS BALL** ~  
Tuesday 16 December 19.15—23.00

## SNOW RULES

During severe weather DHS's SNOW RULES apply—this means no one should leave the school building at interval and only those going home for lunch should do so during the lunch break. When exiting the school in snow pupils should be mindful of their own and other's safety and refrain from throwing snow especially near cars.

## Sporting Successes

### Badminton

Mrs Sweeney (Maths) took 13 players from S1 and S2 to the Stirling Schools Badminton Championships at the PEAK and 10 came back with medals, we also had finalists in all 5 events.

**Boys Singles:** Gold - Fraser Sheriff; Bronze - Kyle Middleton.

**Girls Singles:** Gold - Amy Campbell; Bronze - Hannah Richards.

**Boys Doubles:** Gold - Fraser Sheriff & James Forest; Bronze - Kyle Middleton & Mark Thomson / Jonathan Chaplin & Brodie Smith.

**Girls Doubles:** Silver - Hannah Richards & Sophie Paterson; Bronze Amy Campbell & Nina Wills.

**Mixed Doubles:** Gold - James Forrest & Hannah Richards; Bronze - Kyle Middleton & Sophie Paterson.

**Our S3-6 badminton players** followed up the success of our S1/2 at the Stirling Badminton Championships with impressive performances.

**U16 Girls Singles:** Emma Fitzsimmons (Gold).

**U16 Girls Doubles:** Mareth Burns & Madeline O'Brien (3rd).

**U16 Boys Singles:** Sammy McKinney (Gold); Rowan Exton (Silver); David Nairn (3rd =).

**U16 Boys Doubles:** Sammy McKinney & David Nairn (Gold); Craig Jackman & Rowan Exton (3rd=).

**U19 Boys Singles:** Jamie Paterson (Silver).

**U19 Girls Doubles:** Jess Duncan & Morgan Nisbet (4th). **U19 Boys Doubles:** Jamie Paterson & Sean Huggett (Silver). All of these players have now qualified for the Central School Championships on Wednesday 10th December.

**MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR PLAYERS!**

## Rowing

**Freya Duncan (S4)** won 1st place in the Scottish Junior 15 Indoor Rowing Championships last weekend.

## Football

Congratulations to **Conor McKenzie (S6)** who has been selected for the final trial for the Scottish School Boys U18 international team. The trial will take place on Friday 12th of December, we wish Conor the best of luck.

## Skiing

The school competed in the SSSA indoor SBX championships at Braehead on 27 November. 25 other schools took part. We were represented by **Sophie Paterson (S2), Jamie Paterson, Logan Dow and Ruaridh Withington (all S5) and Alison Todd (S6)**. Alison was 7th out of 38 and **Sophie was 32<sup>nd</sup> Jamie was 37<sup>th</sup> out of 74 and Logan and Ruaridh 47<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> respectively**. Well done to all!

## Race Night

The school is hosting a Race Night on **Friday 30 January** from 19.30-22.30pm to raise funds for the football tour to Valencia next year. Tickets are £5 for adults and £2 for Under 16's. If you would like tickets for this event please contact the school office. Any donations for raffle prizes will also be very much appreciated.

## HAPPY CHRISTMAS

and a

## SUCCESSFUL 2015

*To the whole community of Dunblane High School  
Following a very successful 2014 for our school, I would like to thank our parents, staff and particularly our young people for their hard work, support and encouragement.*

*Francis P Lennon  
Head Teacher*