



The Victorian 2011

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL





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Vision Statement

Ethos

Queen Victoria School embodies, demonstrates and promotes the following values:

- Integrity and honesty
- Respect and responsibility
- Justice and equality
- Compassion and empathy

Academic

The School strives to help each pupil realise his or her individual academic potential to the full at each stage of his or her school life.

Non-Academic

The School strives to provide a wide and diverse range of extra-curricular activities to develop the whole person.

Civic and Service Responsibility

Queen Victoria School is an asset to the Ministry of Defence, and through it to the personnel of the Armed Forces. It provides a Service benefit by offering stability and continuity of valued Scottish education to the children of serving military personnel who are Scottish or who have served in Scotland.

Pastoral

Queen Victoria School aims to ensure that at least one adult member of staff takes a continuous, proactive interest in the development of each pupil, meeting with him or her regularly and providing both structured and responsive discussion. Through its boarding house structures the School provides a valid and valuable alternative to the pupil's home environment during term times. Partnership with parents and carers is welcomed. The School encourages parents and carers to involve themselves actively in their children's learning and in the life of the School.



Colour Party.

From the Head – Prize Giving, Grand Day 2011

Ladies and Gentlemen – of all ages – good morning.

This time last year, I began by reading you the weather report for one day of exceptionally bad weather in February 2010. Little did I know that that would be only a foreshadowing of what was to come during this academic year!

As you know, we had to close early, on the 8th of December – but not until we had spent more than a week battling with the increasingly poor conditions. It wasn't just the heavy, exceptionally deep snow of the last weekend in November which caused problems. The extremely low temperatures that persisted literally for weeks, with even day-time temperatures rarely and barely above freezing, meant that snow stayed, compacted, and where it did thaw slightly – on the surface only, during the days – turned into sheets of ice by night. Of course travelling was extremely difficult, and dangerous. Not only were the roads blocked or passable only with great care – the trains were cancelled, and flights were diverted, delayed or grounded. We had to cancel events – but more pressingly than that, the pupils were here, and many staff were unable to get to work, and deliveries of food and gritting salt were held up because of logistical problems, at first in Scotland, and then further south.

These were the more obvious problems – and at this point I'd like to pay tribute to all those who lived onsite, or who managed to make it in to work, in those first few extremely difficult days. Everyone really did "muck in", doing whatever needed to be done, even if it wasn't within their job remit. And it made a great deal of difference. That applies to pupils as well as to staff, and especially the senior pupils, who served meals, cleared snow and helped to look after the younger ones.

Our catering staff, ESS, were quite outstanding, battling to come in through desperate conditions, to ensure that the pupils had at least two hot meals a day. For some time we had an emergency chef living in the medical centre, so that there would always be at least one caterer in the kitchen, however bad the weather became.

But the insidious effects of such continuous cold weather were yet to come. There weren't enough trained staff at work to operate the dishwasher in the kitchen, so disposable crockery and cutlery was deployed. But then there were no deliveries of further supplies of disposable crockery and cutlery and we had to go back to using the dishwasher, with adult non-specialist volunteers. Frozen pipes meant that there was no main laundry facility in the School. There was no refuse collection because the vehicles couldn't reach the School. The kitchen sinks became blocked because the outlet pipes were frozen. And then, as you know, the heating failed in Trenchard and in Wavell – and without sufficient heating in the Houses, the water pipes began to freeze, leaving us with progressively less and less running water.

That was when we decided to close the School, and I'd like to thank you again for your help with the "evacuation" of the pupils. With the road, rail and air disruption that was all around us, and with the Dunblane roads and pavements so blocked with snow and abandoned vehicles that we couldn't even let pupils walk to the station, the speed with which parents and guardians arranged to collect their children, and to help one another, was tremendously impressive.

It is said that crises bring out the best in people, and to a large extent that was true in our difficult situation. There were even a few lighter moments in which one also realised the goodness in people's hearts at such times. When the heating started to go off in Trenchard and Wavell, and we were told that it couldn't be fixed that evening, the Finance Manager enabled a volunteer member of his staff to go out that evening and purchase as many heaters as we could buy. Which was why she and the School Sergeant Major came back with a minibus containing 42 electric heaters, having descended upon the various electrical retailers in Stirling and cleaned them out of their supplies!

And one morning the kitchens received a telephone call from a local resident to say that there was 60 litres of milk at the bus stop on the other side of the road from the School. We didn't know that that was



Clockwise from top left: Cunningham House prefects; Haig House prefects; Wavell House prefects; Trenchard House prefects.

where the delivery had been dropped that morning, but someone had the presence of mind and the goodness of heart to phone up and say, "This is where it is and we think it's yours." And when the catering staff went to pick it up, not one carton of milk was missing – despite the shortage of basic supplies on shelves at that time. When the worst of it was over – once the thaw had come, and the Macmillan Hall had flooded because of the amount of water cascading off the surrounding area – I thought I remembered a quotation from Alan Bennett's first volume of autobiography. I looked it up and found I had got it almost right: "The majority of people perform well in a crisis and when the spotlight is on them," he writes, "it's on the Sunday afternoons of this life, when nobody is looking, that the spirit falters." Wise words!

Thinking of Sunday afternoons, and spiritual matters - we have been fortunate to be involved with a number of religious leaders this academic year. This time last year our guest of honour was the Chaplain General, the Venerable Stephen Robbins QHC, whose words both at the Chapel rededication service and on the parade ground struck a chord with many.

On 16th September, our Pipe Band and Colour Party played a leading part in the St Ninian's Day Parade along Princes Street in Edinburgh, in honour of Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Scotland.

On Remembrance Sunday we were honoured to have, as our preacher and reviewing officer, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Rev John Christie.

And of course we have spent the past academic year getting to know our new Chaplain here at School, the Rev Ron Boyd, who has made the Chapel his own, become a guide and supporter to pupils and to staff, and has made the very challenging task of following in John

Silcox's footsteps seem effortless.

When I watched the St Ninian's Day coverage on television, there was quite a lot featuring our pupils. No mention was made of the School, however, and that might have been quite deliberate on the part of the commentators, as there were many different groups of young people there. The QVS contingent in its ceremonial uniform stood out markedly, however, and rightly attracted the cameras. And our role in providing the music for the march was central to the event. I think there's a valuable message in that: it's what you do that counts, not the recognition you get for it. What matters is making a difference for the better – not fame, or thanks, or any reward other than the satisfaction of the task itself.

That said, Prize Giving – and especially this Report – are opportunities to recognise at least some of the hard work that goes on at QVS, and to thank at least some of those who put in so much effort in order to help our pupils.

Very often we appreciate the outcomes, without quite realising how much attention to detail, how much conscientious application, has gone in behind the scenes. A good example of that perhaps is the refurbished windows in the Main School Building. Anyone who remembers the outside of the building pre-November, and who lived in some of its rooms then, will appreciate just what a huge improvement, in appearance and in comfort, has been achieved through the hard work of Mansells – the contractor – and all the other people who fought for the money, worked on the planning application, did the preparation and the follow-up and together allowed this transformation to take place.

Ceremonial occasions are another example of when we enjoy the final product, but perhaps don't stop to think about all the preparation

that's gone into it. Later today we'll all enjoy the very high standards of the Grand Day parade. Earlier this year we had a fine Rookies' Parade, an impressive Drill Competition, and many Parade Sundays – on each of which we saw the Band and the other members of the School perform to very high standards, some of which would make older and more professional performers look to their laurels. The many hours of hard work put in not only by the pupils themselves but also by the School Sergeant Major, the Pipe Major, the Drum Major, the Highland Dancing Instructor and the House matrons should not be forgotten, as we admire the drill, musical performances and turnout on such occasions.

The long periods of illness undergone by both Mr Tomkins (our Drum Major) and Mrs Macdonald (our Highland Dancing Instructor) this academic year have put considerable strain on Mr Ross, our Pipe Major, who has over-all responsibility for that area of School life. Working for some time with no external assistance, and then with two supply instructors, he kept standards high – as evidenced by the results in this year's Highland Dancing Grade exams; and by the band's performance on Church Sunday in Edinburgh, at Tulliallan Police College graduations, at the Garden Festival, and elsewhere.

Also on the music front, we welcomed a most enjoyable innovation this year, with a Popular Music Concert. Organised by Miss Joanne Greer, it featured many of her singing pupils performing enjoyably and impressively, to the warm support of their peers in the audience. These, and other musical performances throughout the year, were not achieved without a lot of preparation.

Equally importantly in developing pupils' self-confidence, Mrs Christine Sheerin in the Library organises a number of competitions and quizzes throughout the year, all of which are enthusiastically supported. Mrs Sheerin has also been for some years a key member of the Eco Group, and before she stepped down from that position earlier this year, she saw the School achieve its Silver Eco Award and helped Miss Vicky Low, from the Primary Department, to complete a successful application for a study trip to Sweden in December.

Mrs Sheerin and Mr Jonathan Coates selected, prepared and oversaw QVS contestants in the Junior Schools Team Challenge; Mr Coates ran a "news quiz" within his subject department, with prizes presented in Chapel, to encourage reading of newspapers, following of TV news coverage and general awareness of what is going on in the world around us.

Also in-House we enjoyed the FairTrade Fortnight events led by Mrs McDonnell's S4 class; a "You Can Do Anything" day for S2, organised by Miss McIlkenny; Primary 7's Money Week, "Green" Week and "Burns for Bairns" competition; and going out of school, Primary 7 also enjoyed a Scottish Opera Workshop and a residential week at Ardgour.

Sometimes our in-school life has a light shone upon it by outsiders – never moreso than when inspectors visit. The Care Commission visited us in September, and inspected us against four criteria. On a scale of 1 to 6, where 6 is an exceptionally high grade, we were awarded three 5s and a 6 – which is a tremendous tribute to the work put in by Mr Graham Carroll, by the House-masters and – mistress, by the Medical Centre and all who contribute to the pastoral care of our pupils.

Next term will see the Combined Cadet Force come under the inspection spotlight, when its Biennial Review comes around. This

year it's been less high-profile but no less busy. Both staff and senior pupils work hard to ensure that there is a worthwhile programme of activities for cadets in all three sections. Capt Bill Kilmartin has over recent years devoted a great deal of time to our shooting team, taking them to Bisley amongst other competitions. He is retiring from the CCF this year, and our thanks go to him for all that he has done to revive and build up a most rewarding activity.

Showing the open-mindedness for which (we like to think) all QVS personnel are known, one Royal Navy cadet, whose father is in the Army, was this year awarded the only Sixth Form Scholarship to be given out in Scotland by – the Royal Air Force. Charlie Jones, we were told by the recruiting office, is the first QVS pupil to achieve one of these highly sought-after awards, and it is a tremendous achievement.

Charlie was also selected as one of two QVS pupils to take part earlier this year in a study visit to Auschwitz Concentration Camp, and related seminars, through his work in the History Department.

The Games fixture list was pretty much destroyed by the weather conditions this year, but thanks to the resourcefulness, cheerfulness and pragmatism of Mr McLay and his colleagues, QVS pupils were kept fit and exercised even in the face of unprecedented obstacles. Two boys – Corin Domanski and Dale Boylan – earned international caps in football, and Kayleigh Laing played hockey for the independent Scottish Schools against an English county side.

The academic life of the School is the focus of much of Prize Giving, however, and it is the academic which is at the heart of the role of all teachers here, whether in their classrooms or in their role as House Tutors. As the Careers Department – ably run by Miss Phipps and Mrs Scott-Laing – tells us, young people face an increasingly tough challenge in finding places at university or college, in trainee-ships or in employment nowadays. There is no getting away from the fact that exam results count when such places are being offered. I am grateful to my academic colleagues for their continuing hard work in aiming to ensure that each QVS pupil achieves the best possible results of which he or she is capable.

The transition to life outside School impacts most heavily upon our S6. I am grateful also to Mrs Adams, our S6 Coordinator, who organises for the S6 year a programme of worthwhile as well as enjoyable activities, including volunteering, and ensures that they get the most out of their final year at QVS, as well as giving a lot back to the School.

One group of workers-behind-the-scenes deserves especial mention this year. It is easy for us to take for granted the condition of our grounds and buildings, forgetting our Estates Department, and the General Hands – and the contractors, some of whom seem at times to be spending every day of their working lives up here. The Estates Department has been especially hard hit by illness this year, and I am grateful to all who have helped cope with that, particularly Tracy Laird in the Estates Office and Susan Rutledge, the Acting School Business Manager. Susan has been in the Acting School Business Manager role while Stephen Dougan has been in Afghanistan, from November last year until this month. She has done an excellent job in coping with all that that role entails, as well as the Estates absences and keeping her own HRBusinessPartner work going.

Other staff changes include the retirement last Easter of Mrs Diane Carrington-Porter, our Science Technician; the departure for Brussels

of Sister Catherine Burgin from the Medical Centre; Mr Craig Harrison, moving on from Housemaster of Haig to Housemaster in a State Boarding School south of the border; and the return home of Maximilia Wenzel, our excellent German Assistant, after her year with us. We thank them for all their hard work, and hope that they will take away with them many positive memories of their time at QVS.

There is another group of people too rarely mentioned on occasions such as this. They work tirelessly for the School, not only behind the scenes but (mostly) not even on the campus – and they are our Commissioners, some of whom you see behind me on stage. Our thanks go to them for their unfailing support and guidance of QVS, and for coming out fighting for it when required!

It is time now, however, to turn to this year's pupil leavers – all of whom we wish well. We hope that they have many positive experiences to look back upon from their time at QVS. I say to them as I have said to several year-groups now: you may leave QVS, but it will never leave you. What you have learned here – in all sorts of situations – will stand you in good stead for whatever lies ahead of you.

Those pupils who have been longest at QVS, and so perhaps most influenced by it, and who have made tremendous contributions to it, are the S6 leavers, and in particular the Prefects and Monitors. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them publicly for all they've contributed. It hasn't all been plain sailing, and I hope they've learned useful skills for adult life; they have certainly had the chance

to fill roles here which elsewhere would have been undertaken by adults. Christopher Pill was our Senior Monitor for the first half of the year, before he left to join the Air Force; Nikita Gurung stepped up from Deputy to Senior Monitor in February, and has kept up the high standards set by Chris. Cameron Dumbreck, meanwhile, took on the role of Deputy Senior Monitor, which he too has filled with determination, cheerfulness and an admirably conscientious approach. They are a bunch of fine young people.

There is one member of S6 whom many of us thought unlikely to make it this far in his School Career. Karl Moles by his own admission had a rather chequered career in his earlier years here; but he turned things around magnificently, and has not only ended his time here as a prefect but recently met Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace, at a reception where he was representing both the School and the Edinburgh Tattoo, where he had danced as part of the QVS item in 2008.

It's been quite a year at QVS. Recently I came across a greetings card which bore a version of the Alan Bennett quotation that I mentioned earlier. "Any idiot can deal with a crisis," it read. "It takes a genius to cope with everyday life." I think I prefer the Alan Bennett version, but whichever takes your fancy, I think we can all reflect upon its aptness in the light of our extraordinary year. Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for listening, and I wish you all a very happy, relaxing and restorative summer holiday.

Wendy Bellars, Head



Clockwise from top left: Heather Stanfield S3; Dion Robb S3; Eleanor Biddington S4; Kennedy Morrison S3.

The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund

Trust Fund Awards – 2011

The NMMTF was set up by Jack Mainwaring MacNeil, in memory of his father Norman MacLeod MacNeil (1898 – 1952) who was boy drummer pupil at Queen Victoria School from December 1909 leaving in July 1912. The purpose of the Trust is to develop the qualities of leadership, self-confidence and self-esteem in selected pupils of the School by the payment of grants to enable them to participate in such physically demanding or cultural activities as decided by the Trustees.

Norman, the youngest son of Sergeant Major James MacNeil of the Cameron Highlanders, joined QVS as a pupil in 1909. Departing for Canada in 1912, at the age of 14, he worked in various logging mills before responding to the 1914 WWI call up joining the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, located in Vancouver. At the young age of 17 he was on the front lines seeing action at Vimy and the Somme.

In this last year, the NMMTF provided grants totalling more than £2,100 to support the following pupils activities:

Hannah Ashcroft	Morocco Expedition
Jordan Clark	Morocco Expedition
Morven Craib	Morocco Expedition
William Lynch	Morocco Expedition
Luke Masters	Morocco Expedition
Kennedy Morrison	Morocco Expedition
Rachel Read	Morocco Expedition
Kieran Shaw	Morocco Expedition
Heather Stanfield	Morocco Expedition
Antony Tickel	Morocco Expedition
Caitlin Willis	Morocco Expedition
Corey Furnace	Duke of Edinburgh
Callum Halliday	Duke of Edinburgh
Charlie Jones	Duke of Edinburgh
Luke Masters	Duke of Edinburgh

We wish them success in their activities and look forward to receiving reports on their various projects.

Remember, The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund is there to be used – give it some thought and if you want to know more speak to a member of your House Team or check out the QVS website (www.qvs.org.uk) for further details and an application form.

It would be useful to note, when applying, that the Trustees pay particular attention to the supporting details provided along with the application. This significantly helps the decision making process and the more detail provided in support of the application, the better. The Trustees are also keen to ensure that any grants fit well within the overall purpose of the Fund, which is to support pupils who wish to advance their education, leadership, self-esteem, help broaden horizons and generally develop wider skills.

The annual deadline for submission of applications is the close of the calendar year. It is also worth noting that if you have a particularly ambitious project in mind, it is worth starting to plan early and seek advice.

Susan J Rutledge, Acting Business Manager

Extract from Pupil's Report on activities supported by a NMMTF Award.

I started Highland dancing at the age of 11 when I first started at QVS and over the years I have taken various exams starting from the Bronze Award up to the Premier Cup (Grade 12) – receiving high marks ranging from 93% up to 97%. I then sat the Award for Excellence and received a high distinction mark of 98%. This prompted me to sit the Highland Dancing Teaching Exam and with the encouragement of Mrs MacDonald, my parents and the funding I received I was able to accomplish this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund in enabling me to get this qualification and to thank Mrs MacDonald and the School for supporting me over the years. I hope that I will be able to offer others the same opportunities I had. Thank you again.

Jamie Irving



Back from the Desert

A change this year from my usual sales pitch regarding the good work that Norman Macleod McNeil Trust does supporting well deserving pupils projects (but do read the article from Susan Rutledge covering last year's activity). And the reason for the change was that back in November 2010 I was fortunate enough to lead the civilian staff volunteers as part of Operation Herrick 13 effort in Afghanistan. With my operational tour dates running for 6 months from November I felt reasonably confident that I might escape a year of Victorian article writing entirely, but I hadn't accounted for the possibility of the gentle knock on my door from the Editor looking 'for just a few words' – thank you Miss Phipps.

As Civil Secretary for Op Herrick 13 my main focus was on ensuring that the financial and contracting business in Theatre was being managed appropriately but just as importantly understanding and providing advice and support to the 1* Joint Force HQ Commander and his Staff Branches. It was extremely rewarding to be close enough to the decision making process to be able to see the difference that the Civ Sec team were making with the decisions they were taking in what were often difficult and life threatening situations. One day it could be dealing with contracting arrangements for rotary wing helicopters delivering supplies throughout Afghanistan and the next day trying to purchase baby milk for our Role 3 hospital in Camp Bastion.

The working day (or Battle Rhythm as the military like to call it) had a most definite pace of its own with the morning, midday and evening briefings punctuation a standard 14 hour day. The long days were strangely helpful in that it meant you had little time or energy to be thinking too much about how much of home you were missing –

which I guess is not too different than for some of pupils as they work through the various terms at QVS. One great comfort was the welfare support package managed by G1 branch. In particular, the e-bluey system - which allows an e-mail to be 'posted' to your desk about 6 hours after being e-sent - was a fantastic comfort and a great help getting through the long days. [Note to all pupils with parents or guardians serving on Operations – do remember to send your e-blueys, as they really do help break up the long days and they do make a real positive difference.]

Part of the role of Civil Secretary was to meet and greet the various and numerous VIP guests that would pop in to say hello to the HQ staff. This was a fantastic opportunity for me to mention without any shame or embarrassment the key role that Queen Victoria School plays in providing help and support to the numerous families that have pupils at our School. I managed to bump into Old Victorians in the strangest of places and I also met up with a number of parents of previous, current and prospective pupils. Each were enthusiastic about the comfort that they take from knowing that their children receive the best possible educational help and support whilst they are serving overseas.

I need to finish with a note of thanks to the Head for approving my time away from the Business Manager desk and also to the wider SBM team for holding the fort in my absence. In particular, thanks to Susan Rutledge for managing my desk during what I gather was a bit of a rough winter (I seem to remember a mention about a wee bit of snow and flooding!). Thank you all.

Stephen Dougan, Business Manager

QVS – Scots PGC College

Scotland – Australia

Following notification of the vacancy and some advice from Mr Tomkins, QVS Drum Major, it was very much in hope that I put forward my CV for consideration to take up the post of Drumming Assistant at the Scots PGC College in Queensland Australia; especially as there was a long list of international applicants. When I was fortunate enough to be successful in securing the position, naturally the reality of making my own way to and living in Australia for a full year at the age of 17 became paramount in my mind. The generosity and support of the Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust fund has greatly assisted in providing me with this incredible opportunity to experience a whole new culture. Although the position was initially advertised for Drumming Assistant, on arrival at the PGC college I learned that the Drumming Tutor had taken ill, was due to have a serious operation, and would not return during my time at the school – meaning that I was to take the full role of Drumming Tutor. The challenges before me were the added responsibility of looking after the entire Drum Corps and the commencement of an urgent recruiting campaign as the band had been suffering in numbers, with most of the band members being seniors, leaving me with four drummers, three of whom were leaving part way into the following year. Hitting the ground running I quickly had to use my people skills to form relationships with key staff and pupils whilst adapting to life in a new culture and country. With perseverance I have managed to increase the amount of pupils within the corps to eighteen, forming a tight knit drumming team, and hopefully ensured the existence of a Drum Corp in the Scots PGC College for many years to come.

Another one of my duties is that of Teaching Assistant in the Junior school. At that age, you are a huge influence on the children and are helping to provide them with basic life skills. Teaching these kids also provides you a new set of abilities, mostly patience and (lots of) tea and coffee drinking, but also a sense of satisfaction, an inner feeling of joy, that I taught that kid how to cut with scissors, how to hold a pencil and more importantly instilling the drive to learn.

Although living independently in another country is no easy task, especially at such a young age, I was determined to make good use of my time outside of 'term time' to see as much of this fascinating country as I could. Months of detailed planning, working out budgetary constraints for the first time in my life and booking flights and accommodation required perseverance and a good internet connection (which is hard to come by in outback Australia). In my longest stint of travelling over the Christmas/New Year period, I made my way to Melbourne where I met up with some Australian friends and old QVS school friends before travelling to Adelaide and flying north to Alice Springs and Uluru (Ayres Rock) in a 19 day trip. On this trip I crossed four states and two territories; travelled to five of Australia's biggest cities; saw the federal Government; went to the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG); drove the Great Ocean Road; went shopping in Adelaide; looked out over the Red Centre in Alice Springs and walked round the base of Ayres Rock. The trip helped improve me as a person, allowing me to meet lots of new people, from many different nations, experience a totally new culture and to increase my

knowledge of the country. During the trip my skin colour, in B&Q swatch terms, turned from milk white to brown. During the Easter break I visited Cairns, saw the incredible sight of the rainforest, and swam the Great Barrier Reef. Locally in the Brisbane area I have had the opportunity to visit Australia Zoo, and took great pleasure in meeting the late Steve Irwin's wife Terri. The local families have been extremely hospitable to me and have given me the opportunity to spend some of my spare time working on their farms, including a rather memorable sheep shearing session. An invite by one local family for Christmas led to a fantastic time at the Peterson's farm over the festive break and I have become good friends with the whole family. On the way home in June I intend to spend some time in Sydney before flying to Tokyo for 6 days to experience another fascinating culture before heading home via Dubai.

My year did however have a down side. At the start of 2011 Queensland experienced one of the wettest seasons on record. Nearly everyone in the world was gripped by what was happening in South East Queensland with the flood waters washing away everything in its path. If you type in Warwick, Queensland, in Google maps you will soon realise where I am living was right in the middle of all the chaos. I was in my house when the warning of potential floods and flash flooding was issued. Unfortunately I am on the wrong side of the bridge with all the shops being on the other side so I quickly ran out and stockpiled food for the house before rushing back. Shortly after this all the bridges in Warwick were closed down and soon water was rushing everywhere. The school is situated next to the Condamine River on a slightly elevated hill, and fortunately the school and my house were unaffected. Once the flood water began to recede we got an idea of the destructive capabilities of nature as whole houses were washed away. I was stuck for about two days unable to get anywhere but this is nothing compared to the people of nearby Toowoomba and the Lochyer Valley who lost their businesses and tragically the 17 people who lost their lives. This tragic event affected me and made everyone involved realise just how much they have and appreciate life a little more.

This 'Gap Year' has given me so much. Living on a limited allowance, being given responsibility for other people, making some great new friends and travelling independently whilst seeing the world has been an incredible experience. It has taught me so much, widened my outlook on the world and better prepared me for University life, and the Engineering Degree course that is my next challenge. My time in Australia would have been difficult had I not arrived in the country with the confidence, self reliance and leadership skills I had already gained during my time at Queen Victoria School.

I would like to finish by thanking the board of the MacNeil Trust fund in helping to fund and support me on my Gap Year and for that I am indebted.

Robert Williams

Challenge66



Challenge66 saw Andy McMenemy, the son of a former soldier, run 66 ultra-marathons (50km) in 66 consecutive days, with no rest days, one from each of the 66 official cities in the United Kingdom. This was a fundraising event in an attempt to establish a new Guinness World Record for consecutive ultra-marathons. Queen Victoria School hosted the finish line for Andy's 57th marathon, which took place on 11th May 2011, and the fun atmosphere and sense of occasion was captured in these photographs.

Eigg Field Trip

Eigg is one of the Scottish Small Isles, only five miles by three miles, with a population of about 80 people and several dogs all of whom seem to be related to 'Diesel' the dog who meets you off the ferry from Mallaig and turns up at various points around the island during the week including the Ceilidh in the village hall where he was part of the band! I was on the island as part of a study week called 'Creative connections'. With 22 other people (mostly teachers) from all over Scotland, we shared workshops along with the practicalities of cooking and the accommodation in a large barn: we learned to appreciate the biodiversity of the island, we talked to most of the islanders, finding out about their history, the geology of the island and the recent 'buy out' and the trust status it currently enjoys. The island is an eco-delight as the islanders are self sufficient as far as energy is concerned, with wind turbines and solar power. There are no cars allowed on the island, so you need to walk or cycle everywhere: the scenery is stunning – from the high peak of An Skurr (1289ft) to the beautiful white beaches such as Laig Bay and the Singing Sands, to

the pretty harbour and Shell Bay and the scary Massacre Cave where in the 16th century 395 islanders were murdered.

The emphasis of the course was on outdoor education. During the week we learned some new skills such as making paper and books, as well as making boots from scratch using hanks of wool. We also learned how to do 'reflective journaling' – recording thoughts and feelings in a variety of non-traditional ways. There were also workshops on poetry, penmanship, music, dance, eco-schools and photography. One aspect of the week I particularly enjoyed was visiting the Eigg Primary School pupils 'forest school' where they have their lessons one day a week: they have constructed an eco-friendly hut with tree trunks to sit on and they discover the wonders of their natural environment and how to work together.

C Sheerin





Sweden Study Visit

Last December when the snow started to cover Scotland, I was trying to make my way to Sweden for a few days. I was lucky enough to have been offered a study visit place through Learning Teaching Scotland with ten other teachers from around Scotland.

During our visit, we investigated a range of learning approaches adopted by Swedish practitioners, explored how to use natural resources for educating young people and broadened our knowledge of approaches to Sustainable Development Education and Outdoor learning.

Having visited three different schools and spoken to some of the teachers, I was buzzing with enthusiasm and eager to take my ideas forward in the Primary Department.

During the summer term, I planned an outdoor learning week for the P7's. As we are very fortunate at QVS to have Wavell Woods in our school grounds, I was able to take full advantage of this and plan many of the activities around this. The pupils took part in a variety of Maths and Language tasks, such as, making the human skeleton out of natural objects, creating imaginative stories and poems, playing the full stop game and creating a three course meal in the Master Chef Kitchen. I thought that the skeletons created were fantastic and the master chef meals looked delicious! I was delighted with all of their efforts throughout the week and I hope they enjoyed it as much as I did!

Well done to everyone that took part!

V Low P7 Teacher

Catherine Burgin

Catherine Burgin joined Queen Victoria School in January 2009. The consummate professional, Catherine fitted easily into the Medical Centre becoming a valued member of the team with Margaret Skeith and Vivien Hiddleston. Her gentle but determined approach towards the care of the children, has made her much loved by them and has contributed towards the Medical Centre's dual role of tending to the sick and acting as a sanctuary from the stresses and strains of Boarding School existence.

A very private person always willing to help and to lend a sympathetic ear to both pupils and staff, Catherine will be sadly missed.

We wish her well in the years ahead as she leaves to join her husband for a posting in Belgium.

Carole Phipps, Deputy Pupil Support



Chris Pill at his Graduation on 31st May 2011.



Monitors.



Just before our Centenary Year, 2008, Mr Robert Pooley of Pooley Sword asked whether QVS would be interested in the gift of a specially made sword. We were delighted to agree the gift of a Scottish style of sword, to be presented each year to the outgoing Senior Monitor on his or her final Grand Day. In addition, Pooley Sword arrange each year for the recipient to be given a miniature version, with an engraved plaque recording the name and date of the award. This year the sword went to Nikita Gurung.

Senior Monitor

When I first started in S1, never did I think that I would learn so much over the past 6 years. Being from an army background, my younger years had been spent moving house every 2 years or so, always making new friends but always having to leave them. Coming to Queen Victoria School was a change I was able to make knowing that we would remain friends for life.

Queen Victoria School is full of opportunities, ones that I have been able to take full advantage of. Being a part of the Highland Dancing Team up until S4 enabled me to be a part of the Basil Military Tattoo in Switzerland which was certainly an amazing experience. I'd like to thank Mrs MacDonald for giving me the opportunity to do so and wish her all the best for her retirement: after having to constantly deal with 87 girls for the few years, she definitely deserves a rest. Queen Victoria School's participation in Military Tattoos is one of the things that makes our school unique: not many teenagers can say that they have performed in front of an audience of hundreds each night for a week.

Upon joining Queen Victoria School, every girl is taught to play Hockey and every boy is taught to play rugby and all the pupils give up their time each weekend to represent our school in matches against other schools. I'd like to thank all the Staff who train us for Hockey. Being a part of the 2nd XI this year has been incredible and the team, including our Captain and Goal Keeper, Chloe Hendren, have been great. Thank you for being such a fun team to play with. Well-done to both the 1st and 2nd XI for doing an excellent job on all of our matches. I hope that both teams are just as successful. I think I can safely say that if I hadn't come to this school, I wouldn't have been able to go flying, gliding or have learnt how to handle a

rifle; all of which were due to our Combined Cadet Force.

The CCF is something that all of the pupils here at Queen Victoria School are able to take full advantage of. With all of these activities, it can be easy to forget that it is first and foremost, a school. The teachers here are excellent and I know that without their teaching and their guidance these past 6 years, I wouldn't be where I am today.

This year, unusually, there have been two senior monitors: Chris Pill and myself. Chris started the year off executing the role of senior monitor more than competently. He seemed to feel right at home with his responsibilities, so it came as a bit of a surprise when Chris decided to leave halfway through the year. Naturally, his responsibilities were then handed down to me and I have to admit, it was an overwhelming task. However, I hope that the past couple of months have proved my capability. I would like to thank my fellow monitors and prefects for all their support and their hard work this year; nothing would have been possible without your help.

Queen Victoria School has not only given me skills that I need in a classroom or lecture hall, but also skills that I need for life. It has taught me to be confident and believe in myself, and has slowly, over the years, prepared me for the outside world. I will always remember my time here, as I know will others. Thank you to all of my friends for being there for me, for teaching me, for guiding me, for believing in me and for allowing me to be myself: I wish you all the best of luck for the future. I know I will miss you all.

Nikita Gurung, Senior Monitor



Cunningham House.

Cunningham House

The power of the internet! Only last week Cunningham House was found by a group of old boys who had studied and lived at the school over 30 years ago. We communicated long and hard about the history, traditions and teachers of the House and School.

Opportunities like this make you see the legacy and standing of QVS; not the physical buildings but what really makes it special: the pupils' memories, growth and personal journey through this remarkable School. The collage of photographs on the page are a recognition of not only what happens on a yearly basis in Cunningham but the boys who are making it happen; and who in 20-30 years, I hope, will look back and realise also the fantastic opportunity they were privileged to have in this community.

Developments in the House have continued, over the year. The opening of the House library and quiet study area is an excellent facility. This was due to the very kind financial donation from Mrs Mackie and it has been used by many of the boys, whether chilling out, reading novels or having 'timeout' from the noise and hectic buzz of the House. The introduction of two SKYPE enabled computers with webcams have allowed boys to communicate with parents and relatives as far afield as Cyprus, the Falklands, Iraq, America and Afghanistan as well as Alloa! Many thanks must go to my deputy Gordon Ross who managed – somehow! to furnish all the common rooms in 'world of leather' settees, new flat screen TVs and soft furnishings. These improvements have certainly made the communal areas more homely and comfortable. The much promised bank accounts have been introduced and the boys are beginning to manage and use them for savings and withdrawing cash. The earlier they can become more financially aware the better for their futures.

As mentioned before it is the pupils who make the spirit of the House and especially the older boys who will be moving on at the end of this year. David Drew who has been awarded an Engineering career with the RAF, James Collins who has been accepted into the Elite Royal Marines, Cammie Dumbreck who is to read psychology at Glasgow Caledonian, Binod Gurung reading for a BSc in Networking & Systems Support, again at Glasgow, David Gibb studying Childcare at Stevenson College, Jack Halliday who is to join the Army, Angus Mcfaulds reading for a BSc in Mathematics at Strathclyde University and Dale Boylan who is having a working GAP year before University. I wish them well in their future careers and studies.

As usual my House team of Tutors and staff have worked remarkably hard to direct, cajole, encourage and reward the boys in the House. My life is very easy due to their professionalism, commitment and understanding of how a Boarding House operates – Thank you.

For the boys who are still members of the Cunningham community I leave you with a famous saying by George Bernard Shaw.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

I hope the boys continue to strive to uphold this ideal and to move Cunningham House forward and in doing so that they learn about self sacrifice, thoughtfulness, consideration for others, integrity and compassion.

Michael Eastham, Cunningham Housemaster





Haig House.

Haig House

At the beginning of term in August 2010, Haig House warmly welcomed 10 new S1 pupils. They all settled down quickly and became active members of the Haig house family.

Money has been spent, vastly improving the house and the changes have been graciously accepted by all. Firstly, the office has had a revamp, with a new tropical fish tank complete with several varieties of marine life. It also has two new computer stations, an upgraded flat screen television and tasteful pictures to improve the atmosphere.

However, the main changes have been to the common room. A brand new sound system enhances sound quality for the central, wall-mounted TV. The cinematic atmosphere is completed by the new sofas, three of which are leather. Two smaller flat screens have been installed, each with its own games console. These have been very popular with all year groups and have been managed accordingly.

Currently, we are looking to improve the 6th year common room on the second floor as our recent project.

Haig vs. Cunningham this academic year has been a huge success. Taking place every Friday after prep on the Astroturf or playing fields, Haig has won the majority of its matches played against Cunningham House with a score gap as large as 7 goals! It has been a fun, organised activity that has involved all year groups in Haig.

Every Tuesday night, the seniors of Haig have taken advantage of

Dominoes '2 for Tuesday' offer. This has been the most fruitful of prizes for good behaviour and is all due to the new Haig reward system. It has been a huge hit and is sure to carry on motivating good conduct within the House.

The end of year house party was a great success and fun to organise for the senior house team. Coordinating fun activities and team building exercises together helped involve everyone and provided a great way to close the year.

Finally, thank you's are due to many different people within the house. Thanks from the boys go to all the Haig staff, faithfully on duty every week ensuring our safety, work ethic and wellbeing.

Special thanks to Haig's own Mrs Cath Tomkins and Carmen who tirelessly work for all the boys through thick and thin as wonderful matrons. Thank you to the seniors at Haig '10 for leaving the house filled with inspiration and aspirations for the future. Lastly, a huge thank you to Mr Harrison and his young family for having such a positive impact on the Haig community. He will be sorely missed by all as an excellent Housemaster.

All in all, this has been a great year for Haig, condolences to the past, but let's move positively forward into the future, in hope of an even better year!

Luke Masters, Head of House 2011-12



Trenchard House.

Trenchard House

I look back with immense pride at the progress and achievements made by the pupils this year. The P7s continue to chat about the day they first arrived at school – and as they talk you can detect how proud they are of themselves and each other. It is always a very challenging time for them, but they have all done so well. I know that I will miss the boys and girls as they move up to the senior houses whilst at the same time I look forward to working with the current P7 girls who are remaining in Trenchard for another year.

The pupils of Trenchard never cease to amaze me with their positive, thoughtful and inspiring attitude towards life.

It has been another action packed year for the pupils of Trenchard House. The discos have been of particular interest with amazing costumes both purchased and homemade. Trips and house activities have, as ever been a plenty. The annual pantomime in Glasgow proved to be another great success (although Kayleigh probably wished she had been seated in the stalls!) The tutors have been busy taking the children on all sorts of tutor trips including, shopping in Stirling, movie nights and even a day out to St Andrews on the beach. The P7 pupils have been learning about the history of Scotland with numerous trips to famous Scottish historical sites. They all had a great time in Ardgour and certainly rose to the challenge of white water rafting and canyoning on the school activity day. The S1 and S2 girls also had a eventful activity day participating in raft building, high ropes and abseiling. I would to take this opportunity to thank the tutors for their ongoing support with house activities and tutor trips – the children really do appreciate their efforts.

The winter term proved to be an experience that neither staff nor pupils are likely to forget in a hurry. The pupils certainly made the most of the Artic conditions; building snow men and igloos and enjoyed an extended holiday as they left a week early for Christmas. Rookies Parade was yet again a most memorable occasion. The P7s performed magnificently, led impeccably by Ewan Searle – the Parade Commander.

The senior common room has undergone a refurbishment this year with a new flat screen TV, two new large leather corner sofas and soft furnishings, which has been much appreciated by the senior girls. Although the majority of changes to the house occurred last year, the house continues to remain in fantastic condition, mainly due to the responsible behaviour of the pupils and commendable efforts of the house team.

There have been a number of changes within the house this year. After a short career at QVS, Connor Gray made a successful move to a school nearer home. Fred Harris Adams joined us on August 23rd 2010; he has informed me that he is really enjoying being 'part of the Trenchard House.' At the end of the winter term, we said farewell to Lizzy and Greg, who both proved to be popular with the children, providing lots of opportunities for all of your sons and daughters to participate in fun activities. In January, Cameron and Amelia arrived from Australia. Both have started in a positive and supportive manner. We will also say a sad farewell to Maxi, the language assistant, who started back in August 2010. She has been fantastic with the children and has organised numerous activities throughout the year. The children have really appreciated her commitment to the house. She has been reliable and an effective member of the house team. I will certainly miss her running my House! We wish her well as she returns to Germany to study at University. Miss Low has stepped down from Assistant Housemistress; fortunately we are not losing her completely, as she will remain as a tutor in the house. She will be replaced by Mr McConnell who is transferring from Cunningham House. Mr Philson will also be stepping down, again a sad loss for the house – thank you for all of your support throughout the years.

I am sure that the parents and pupils of Trenchard House would be the first to join me in thanking the House Staff and tutors who have worked hard at making the house a happy and fulfilling environment for the boys and girls. All have taken an avid interest in the life of your sons and daughters from their academic work to their successes outside the classroom. I know the pupils appreciate their time and efforts. Mrs Devlin – Matron and Mrs Cullen – House keeper must be





thanked for their monumental efforts throughout the year as they continue to care for the children and keep the House in an immaculate condition.

I would like to thank the S6 girls for their support and patience with the younger pupils during the last two years. They have all been fantastic role models and the pupils have really appreciated having 'big sisters' in the house. I would like to wish them well as they move onto pastures new. I would also like to thank the two S5 girls – Rebecca and Brogan and the six S2 girls who all have made positive contributions in the house.

The pupils continue to represent Trenchard House and the school fantastically well. They continue to work hard in class, on the sports field, in music, drama and on the parade square, they should all be immensely proud of their personal achievements this year.

Finally I would just like to thank the parents for all of their kind words, support and gifts when Fred was born back in August 2010 and also for their sponsorship for the Etape Caledonia Challenge I completed in May of this year (£1395 was raised for Macmillan Cancer support). My Wife and I have truly been touched by your generosity and support and for that we cannot thank you enough.

Steven Adams, Trenchard Housemaster

S2 report:

It has been a good year for us especially as we got to stay down in Trenchard. We have all enjoyed the privileges, and also the responsibilities of being role models and helping out the younger pupils. We've had a good time in school and have certainly enjoyed all the trips we have been on. This year we've been to Glasgow theatre, bowling, Culloden and Murrayfield. It has been great and we'd all thank the staff for contributing to our amazing year. With special thanks to Miss Low for our late Monday nights with Glee, Matron for everything she's done for us, including our amazing fajitas and social nights, Miss Downey for being a great tutor and Mr Adams

for all of his awful jokes. We have all had a good time in Trenchard, especially after Fred was born which was definitely one of the highlights of the year. We are now looking forward to the summer holidays before we move up to Wavell.

Megan McColl

Senior report:

The past couple of years have proven to be challenging yet fulfilling for the senior girls. Not only because of our exams, but due to the fact that we are all expected to set a good example to the younger pupils of the house all of the time. Although the year has been testing at times, we have certainly managed to have a few giggles along the way. Alex's OCD for cleaning, Charlie's inability to pronounce 'butter' correctly. The House Captain's privilege to have numerous mood swings in a day. Cerys' movie selection of trash and then falling asleep after 5 minutes. Rebecca's confusion between a psychics and a physiotherapists and Brogan's inability to identify vegetables. Throughout the years at QVS we have all managed to acquire some essential homely skills. Cooking on many Mondays and even treating Mr and Mrs Adams to our new found passion and talent, not to mention making our own aprons – what a beautiful disaster! We have been given the chance to experience many challenges and positive experiences whilst living in Trenchard House. From a chocolate spread fight to a game of Monopoly and our unbeatable dancing to the latest hits – there was never a dull moment. Throughout the year we had the opportunity to engage with the junior pupils especially during social activities. The talent show proved to be a great hit, showing us the more feminine side of certain members of the P7 Rugby team.

Finally we would like to thank Mr Adams for being a comic yet supportive Housemaster and all of the House staff for their help and support throughout our time in the house.

Cerys, Charlie, Alex, Kayleigh, Rebecca and Brogan



Wavell House.

Wavell House

“Victorian 2011 Articles” Miss Phipps announces, and we all groan. It’s that time of year again. Wavell notes!! Ah well I better get on with it.

It has been a year of change; Mrs Adams is stepping down after 12 years from a promoted post in Wavell. Over the years she has been Deputy Housemistress and Assistant Housemistress. She has contributed considerably to the functioning of the house, with her organising of many tasks and events, while also assisting with the running of the house. Many girls in Wavell have cause to be grateful for her unstinting assistance and help as do I. Miss Laird has been appointed to the position as Assistant Housemistress in Wavell and it is not true that she had to have her arm twisted to accept the position. I am sure that Tracy will rise to the challenge of her new position and enjoy her time in Wavell.

Mrs Macleod has also stepped down from her position of Deputy Housemistress at the beginning of June in preparation for the happy arrival of her baby. Miss McIlkenny has taken on the role of Deputy Housemistress. She has already made an impact on the house with a highly successful party night for the juniors. The staff and girls are delighted to have Miss McIlkenny on board.

Baby fever has taken over the Wavell staff, with not only Mrs Macleod, but with Ms McBlain who has had a bouncing baby girl, “Charlie”. The House welcomed Mrs Hiddleston and Mrs Rankin to cover for maternity leave. We hope they will enjoy their time with us. Wavell has had the good luck to have Mr Carroll as a tutor in the House during the past year. His contribution has been appreciated by the girls and staff.

As has become the norm, at Christmas we wished goodbye and good luck to Bridget, our overseas house assistant for 2010. However, Alice had such a good time during 2010 she decided to return for yet another year at QVS. She has been a very welcome and valued member of the house staff. We also welcomed another group of youngsters from NZ and Australia, Caitlin and Amy, to join our happy band. We wish them well.

We say a fond farewell to the senior girls who are leaving us to go out into the big bad world outside QV. We all wish them good luck for their futures. At this time I would like to say a huge thank you to Chloe and Vicky for all their endeavours and help in the house, firstly in their roles of deputy house captains and then as House Captains due to Nikita’s well deserved promotion of Senior monitor. All their assistance and efforts on and off duties has greatly contributed to the house and will be sorely missed.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the efforts of the Admin, Estates and support staff that have supported the girls throughout the year and thank them for all they have done on behalf of the pupils and staff of Wavell house.

I also must thank the House staff for their ongoing and unstinting efforts, and for the numerous tutor trips and house activities that have kept the girls well entertained throughout the year. They have created many enjoyable and memorable events for all of the Wavell community. I must also add my appreciation and thanks to all of the Wavell staff for their continued support and help during the year.

To all girls and staff I say have a good holiday. See you in August.

Eileen MacDonald, House Mistress Wavell





Well this year has flown by and we can't believe that the time has come for us to reminisce on the past year. As usual Wavell has had a busy year with many trips and activities going on: trips to rugby, shopping and of course our famous Wavell parties!

To start off the year we had a fantastic Pirate and Princess Party where the entire house embraced the spirit and got into fancy dress as their favourite characters like Captain Jack Sparrow and Cinderella. There was a whole host of games like Pin the eye-patch on the pirate and Pin the tiara on the princess which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. There was of course the traditional Wavell dance off too and thankfully there were no injuries.

So to get the creative side out of our juniors we had a t-shirt making night and a 'Fashion Junkies' night. The t-shirt night went well with everyone coming up with different and exciting designs. Everybody seemed to have an awesome time and decided to wear their creations to show them off to everyone. The 'Fashion Junkies' night went equally well with all the juniors mixing together to form teams and compete to create the best outfit from junk. A fashion show was put on at the end of the evening with our exceptional models strutting their stuff down the catwalk (or in Wavell's cases the stairs.) Unfortunately, the girls weren't as eager to wear their 'junk-tastic' outfits out and about as they were to wear their tops!

This year, for the first time ever in the school history, the pupils were sent home for Christmas early due to an extreme dumping of snow in Dunblane! As excited as we all were about gaining a precious extra week at home, we did miss our annual Wavell Christmas party and also the chance to say goodbye to one of our amazing gap students, Bridget who has been missed greatly ever since as she was a real asset to the house and became very popular and well respected by the girls and staff alike. Our other House Assistant Alice stayed for a second year, and has helped Wavell House out brilliantly. After we returned we were greeted by our new house assistants, Caitlin and Amy. It's been wonderful getting to know them and we hope they enjoy the rest of their time here. Good luck and have fun!

To celebrate one of the biggest events of the century – The Royal Wedding – Wavell threw ourselves a party! We munched on delicate snacks like cucumber sandwiches and some of us dressed up, by that we mean Taysie and I (Chloe.) After watching the highlight show,



we blasted music and sang and danced to celebrate until we were told to clear off by Mrs Macdonald as the juniors were in bed. We soon scurped as we didn't want to feel the wrath of Mrs Mac.

Miss McKenny was promoted to Deputy House Mistress after Easter and her first duty was of course to put on a party for the juniors. She successfully held a 'Dirty Dancing' night where a competition was held for them to dance to 'I've Had the Time of My Life' and there were some very different interpretations of it! Afterwards the movie was played and they all seemed to love it! Good luck to Miss McKenny in her new position. We know you'll do it spectacularly!

This has been a great final year for all S6's and we'd just like to thank them for everything they've done. We've had such a laugh from fake broken noses, kitchen fires, the ever loved Barbra Streisand impressions and all the other jokes that have gone on. It wouldn't have been the same without you crazy cats! Thank you.

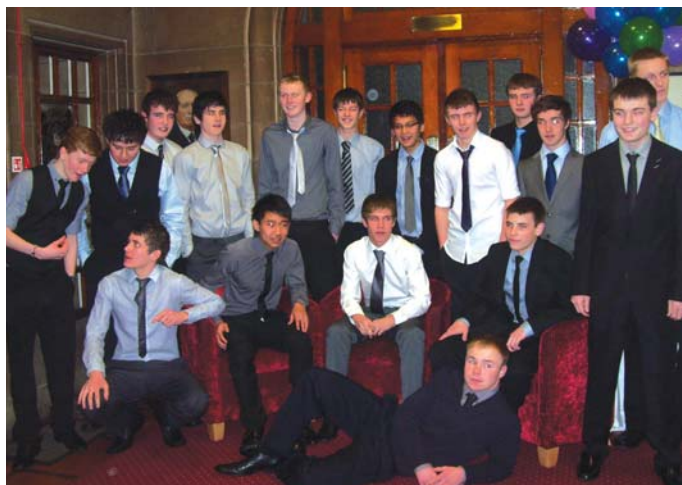
Finally, we'd just like to say a huge thank you to all the girls in the house this year. You have made it so enjoyable and fun. We'd also like to thank our Vice House Captains Taysie and Emma for helping us with everything. Also a special mention to Nikita who was promoted to senior monitor half way throughout the year: you were an awesome house captain but we were better!!! Of course, a massive thank you to Mrs Galletly who has been a constant joy for us 6th year since we joined the house back when we were still tiny! The support and help you gave us is greatly appreciated. Also, we'd like say a big thank you to matron and Mrs MacDonald for making our time here so much easier for us and the rest of 6th year. Good luck also to Miss McBlain and her recent addition to her family. We all know you'll be an amazing mum! Good luck also to Mrs Macleod and Mrs Scott-Laing who are currently awaiting their arrivals. Congratulations to you all. Also after many years of being Wavell Houses Assistant House mistress, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Adams. We would just like to say thank you for all your effort and help throughout the years.

So...all that is left for us to say is have a great summer, enjoy yourselves and good luck to all the leavers. Have an awesome time and stay in touch!!!

Chloe Hendren and Vicky Wemyss, House Captains









1st XV Rugby.

Rugby

1ST XV

The 2010-11 rugby season for the 1st XV will be memorable for many reasons. Throughout last season, although we played with enthusiasm and determination, all too often we were out-muscled and over powered by bigger teams. This season has proved to be very different indeed, as the players have learnt to play to their strengths more often and as a result we won ten of our games compared to only one last year. As Vince Lombardi stated 'Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is'.

What we have managed to develop and nurture in this squad is the will to win. Success does breed success and after a good start to the season, the team went out on to the pitch each week confident that they could match whatever team they came up against. Our mobility, agility and support play created pressure time and time again, which allowed us to either score well-constructed tries or put us in the position to slot penalties at crucial times.

Our forwards were a tight knit group, every one of them prepared to go the extra mile in support of their teammates. We dominated lineouts in the early season often through first class lifting of Josh Brown. As a result we took good clean ball that gave James Collins time to make the right decision depending on our field position. Our scrummaging improved as the season went on, to the point of causing real problems for a heavier, more powerful Madras pack in our last game. The tight five of Owen Hunter, Cameron Dumbreck, Angus McFaulds, Callum Bedwell and Charlie Jones created a solid platform which allowed the back row of Jordan Angus, Luke Masters and Josh Brown to concentrate on their responsibilities of either supporting the backs in attack or closing down space when defending. All the forwards were ably led by Angus McFaulds, who worked tirelessly at the breakdowns and even managed to get over the try line a couple of times himself.

All of this work allowed our back unit the time and space to utilise their best assets. James Collins role as the lynch pin between the forwards and backs proved to be invaluable. His tenacity on the ball and upper body strength were put to good use at the base of the scrum. His service to the stand-off was consistent and accurate allowing the backs to attack with speed into the space. Dale Boylan's ability at stand-off to read the game was crucial to our success in the early part of the season. He used his kicking skills sparingly but when he did he often created scoring opportunities. At least on two occasions Dale collected his own up and under and scored between the posts. Throughout the season our centre partnership changed depending on whether David Gibb was available for selection. However, whatever the pairing was in the centre we were always confident that the defence in the mid-field would be solid and the duo always gave mobility and pace in the mid-field. When Corin Domanski played at inside centre it gave different options as he is not only a skilful handler of the ball but also possesses the ability to find space or gain territory by well placed kicks. David Gibb however was used as more of a strike runner, which caused problems for many back lines as when David runs straight and hard he is a very difficult to stop. Sujay Lama was different as he created pressure with timed passes or breaks created by well-executed dummies. Sujay suffered a very severe injury late in the season against Wellington and was a real loss to the team for the remainder of the weeks. The back three worked well as a unit and provided width to our attacks and often depth in defense. Craig Millar is a strong aggressive runner and very quick to find space when attacking. Steven Craig continued to tackle players almost twice the size of him and was still able to get to his feet to dispossess them. At fullback both Sujay and Jack Halliday gave the team confidence to pressurize in defence as both proved to be good communicators and both were able to read the game well.

Throughout the season, regardless of the conditions we had players ready to come on at any time. Binod Gurung, Cameron Hunter, David Drew, Ashwin Rai and Ben Irving all provided support and differing



Clockwise from top left: 1st Year Rugby; 2nd Year Rugby; P7 Rugby; 3rd Year Rugby.

strengths to the team and their continued commitment and enthusiasm were commendable and much appreciated.

Despite losing six games to the unbelievable snowfalls in November, this has proven to be one of our most successful seasons. The team has been a joy to work with, always receptive to new ideas and continually looking to improve on past performances. Our captain, Cameron Dumbreck, has always led from the front and in his own quiet and inimitable way encouraged the team to fulfil their potential. I wish him and all of the other leavers in the squad the very best for the future. Next season is once again an unknown quantity; however what we can be sure of is that we have given ourselves a secure foundation to build on. Once again our sincerest thanks to all of the rugby coaches who give up their time to ensure that players are given the opportunities to compete in a meaningful competition week in week out. Without them the fixtures would not take place.

Duncan McLay and Steven Adams

Under 16's Rugby Report (Term 1)

We had started the term with a huge squad and it was hard to find a place for everyone so no one was guaranteed a place in the starting X. Not everyone had expected us to lose every game this term, not especially after our first game against Madras where we got off to a flying start taking the lead within 2 minutes. As this was our first game everyone played exceptionally well and the fitness was up to a very good standard. We got sucked in too much in the game and that caused us to lose a few tries which had lost us the game. Everyone had put in very good performances but Oliver Mitchell and Jamie Riddock played the best by far and had put in 110%.

Even though we knew we'd played well against Madras our heads

must have dropped for this game. The Lomond team was very strong as they had also joined with Helensburgh Rugby Club and left us in a tough position in the game. We all tried our very best but we didn't manage to get in a try. They eventually managed to run in a few too many tries and we lost the game.

Now our next game. We could have easily won against a not so strong Morrison's team, as we all knew we had to take what we can from this game as we knew this would be one of our easiest games of the season. We started on a high with a brilliant run from David Drew who then popped it to Will Lynch who eventually ran on to score a try. However though, they pulled on back from getting sucked in too much again, even though they'd scored we forgot about it straight away and realised we wanted to win. Just before the break Joe Burns had intercepted a pass Will Lynch converted very well and we were in the lead for break. With our heads high for the second half we managed to hold them off for about 20 minutes. They managed to score in a try and make it level with us. They eventually scored again and went on to win the match.

This next game we wanted revenge against Madras who just beat us in the first game. We all realised they'd changed their whole team except three but this didn't matter as we obviously realised they were threatened by us. The change of the team obviously had a big impact on the way they played as they managed to run in try after try but we managed to get a consolation try from a well worked move by our forwards where Connor Winning went on to score. We missed too many tackles in this game and should have done far better.

We were all getting annoyed now, with our full squad back now. After a few injuries from some of our backs we were a stronger squad then before. The last game of this term was against Jordan Hill who has also been a weak team and one we should have beaten. Even though



we lost we know we were the more dominant and more respectable side to the game. Just before the break they managed to score and went into the break winning. We knew we could win this and after an amazing try by Fraser McLoughlin, Cammy Carr went onto score a magnificent try and level us on points. We then took the lead as I hit a box kick and Oliver Mitchell was the fastest to react and score a well worked try. They then scored two tries by poor defending from everyone as we all got sucked in. They then had two men sent off in the last play for kicking, as this was the last play we realised we could win but we ended up kicking it out of play and we lost the game. Huge congratulations to Owen Campbell who played outstandingly at Full Back and saved us from conceding many tries.

Well done to all of the squad for putting in so much effort this term. Hopefully we can record our first victory as a team before Christmas and I look forward to playing again next term.

S1 Rugby (1st Half Term)

The S1's played well during the 1st half term of the season. Our strongest performance was against Madras whereas our worst performance was against Morrisons. This was because we had to make do with the players that we had as many of our key players, such as Scrum-half Sam Stockman, Captain Kyle Rowe and Full-back Antony, were all injured.

As well as this match, another tough game was against Jordanhill. This was mainly because of their discipline which made it difficult for

us to focus on our game. However we did manage to score a try but it wasn't enough and we lost.

We have only lost 2 games so far this season: Morrisons and Jordanhill, and only missed around 7 kicks.

Overall we are really pleased with this start to the season and hope it will continue on to next half term.

The most improved players are:
Lachlan Bark; Callum Gilbert; James; Anthony.

Our top try scorers are:
Kyle Rowe; James Work; Leon Boylan.

Kyle Rowe S1

S2 Rugby

Like every other school and club in the country, the abysmal winter weather all but destroyed the team's fixture list. However, every cloud has a silver lining and the long lay off between the start and end of the season allowed some of the players to regain full fitness!

The S2 team this year have developed very well. The coaches were impressed by the squad's enthusiasm, development and progress. The squad's team spirit and camaraderie were the best that I have experienced for many years.

These qualities and the team's development ensured that a good quality of rugby was played, which is just as well because we encountered a number of excellent teams this year who were just as skilled, athletic and huge!

Despite this we won a decent number of games, were narrowly defeated in quite a few and were unceremoniously clobbered by a couple of quite outstanding teams.

The whole squad deserves a mention – Nischal Gurung (power house!), John Kane (into everything), Connor Kelly (hard to stop), Robert Rose and Callum Hunter (we never lost a set scrum all season), Kieran Smith (a busy bee), Cathan Clark (nipped lots of lineouts), Cameron Arnott (strong man and great pack leader), Bradley Scott (Dan Parks eat your heart out), Conor Young (mean tackler and top try scorer), Rhys Clark (elusive body swerve), Callum Fairgrieve (Billy Whizz), Gareth Williams (looks like he's running in slow motion but can't be caught), Daniel Theyers (Hugo who?), James Buick (the buzzing dodgem), Stuart Baird (he plays anywhere!), Lee Hutchinson (great offloads) and last, but by no means least, Ryan MacDougall (lion heart) who showed tremendous leadership, courage, skill and strength throughout the season as our captain.

On behalf of the coaches – Mr Carroll, Mr McLay, Matt and Hugh – thank you for being a squad that was good fun to be with and good to work with.

All the best for your future development and continue to enjoy the best game in the world!

Mr Carroll

S2 Rugby Review (1st Half Term)

This season has been hard work in training to get to where we are. Our first game of the season was against Madras and despite working hard throughout Madras won comfortably. However the time in training paid off by the time we played them the second time. An amazing performance by everybody made the second game a lot closer and finished the game 15-11 to them but we are still really pleased with our performance.

Our best performance of the season so far was in our final game

before the holiday against Jordanhill. Despite having injured players we played to our strengths and managed to run 12 tries past them: 4 from Connor Young, 3 from Darryn Moore, 2 from Ryan Mcdougall and 1 from Bradley Scott, Connor Kelly and Gareth Williams.

The most improved players so far this season are: Callum Hunter; Stuart Baird; Cathan Clark (particularly in Line-outs); John Kane (particularly in the Scrums).

The players that have played consistently well so far are: Ryan Mcdougall; John Kane; Bradley Scott; Cameron Arnott; Connor Kelly.

Also Rhys Clark has only missed three kicks so far this season and we hope he will continue to kick well.

Our record is 2W, 2L, 1D. We look forward to next term and hope to record more wins.

Bradley Scott

P7 Rugby Review (1st Half Term)

Our first half term playing rugby for QV went well. We started the season against Lomond and played well but they beat us comfortably. So at practice we focused on improving our structure and took this into our next game against Morrisons. We played even better this time and tries from Nathan Gunter, Roderick Watson and Lewis Shaw made us win 20-0.

The third game of our season was a mid-week game against Strathallan away. We worked hard all through the match as a team but Jack Cole, who was Captain for that game, and Man of the Match Lewis Young worked especially hard and we tried to break through them. However they were simply better than us and they beat us.

Our final game of our first half term was against Jordanhill at home and was exciting so we went out and used our skills. We won 12-0 and performed really well. Particularly good performances from Jordan Oatley (captain for this match) and Man of the Match Connor Gray helped us win.

Roderick Watson P7



1st XI Football.



S4 Football.



1st XI Hockey.



2nd XI Hockey.

Hockey

1st XI

This year the 1st XI welcomed several new players, so we knew it would be tough getting used to the new team. However, we immediately started training and were quickly facing our first game against St Georges. It was a great match to start off the season as we won 6-0.

We've had many memorable games this year such as the match against Dundee High School; who we unfortunately lost to first time round. Yet when we faced them a second time, thanks to our dedication and enthusiasm, we managed to pull through and ended up beating them 2-1. We also had a chance to play one of Glasgow University's teams and even though we were nervous we managed to get an excellent result eventually winning 8-0.

Throughout the season we managed to score a total of 33 goals, despite our season being cut short due to the snow. Leona Clark, Robyn Stewart and Eden Reid were our joint top scorers. Our defence this year also worked extremely hard and ensured we only conceded 12 goals, even though Charlie Worth our vice captain missed many games due to injury. I'd also like to say well done to Eden Reid who as well as playing for us this year also managed to get into the U16's Midland's team.

It's been really great to have been given the chance to captain the 1st XI this year. Everyone worked really hard in training with Mr Harrison and in our fitness sessions with Mrs Scott Laing, which I know everyone thoroughly enjoyed! It was a brilliant team to be part of and I know all of the leavers will miss it very much. I wish the best of luck to all the players for next year.

Alison Harrower, 1st XI Captain

2nd XI

It's been quite a season for the 2nd XI Hockey Team. Unfortunately, due to the heavy snowfall in November/December time a fair few fixtures were cancelled but the team has played some really memorable matches and managed to win 5 out of 8 fixtures, drawn 1 and lost 2!

I think we'd all agree that we were all nervous about going into our first match against a very strong Strathallan side. It was a really tough match but we soon realised that they had nothing on the mighty QV! Although their attackers were very quick and persistent our amazing defence; myself, Nikita, Holli, Jemma and Megan; managed to hold them back. The game ended 0-0 but I believe that it was a great result and it really gave us the confidence to go into the rest of our matches feeling good and prepared.

There were of course some extremely funny moments, like in April's first game with us where she was given the chance to self-pass and it went really well until she noticed she had run off without the ball, needless to say we were all left slightly confused and the opposition ran off with it laughing. Also, we must congratulate Beth Little, Emily and Lucy, our top point scorers, for some amazing, if not slightly fluke goals! You've all done a great job and had fun doing so ... I think.

I'm pretty sure I speak for the entire squad when I say we've had a great season, in training and in our fixtures. Good luck for next season and I'm sure many of you will progress to the 1st XI. I hope you have all had a good time this season, on and off the pitch, and am sure you'll do so again next year.

Thanks go to Mrs Scott Laing, Mr Harrison, Miss Low and Alice for all of their time and help during the season.

Chloe Hendren, 2nd XI Captain

S1

In hockey this year we played a number of schools and won a few matches. Even though we also lost quite a lot of the games we know that we have played to the best of our abilities. In hockey practice Alice, Mr Harrison, Miss Low and Mrs Scott-Laing have helped us to become better at hockey. We have all been in the hockey team some more than others but still we enjoy it!

Neve Redmond and Mairi Lawson



Clockwise from top left: S1 Hockey; S2 Hockey; P7 Hockey; S3 Hockey.

S2

This year the S2 hockey team have had a varied season. We got off to a good start with a win against Trinity but our glory got the better of us and the rest of the season went downhill.

The team changed quite a few times this season allowing nearly everyone to get a chance to play. Our goalies Elle Gemmell and Rhona Wilson proved to be star players, especially Rhona's high flick defence against Strathallen which certainly cheered up our team. Our games seemed to have formed some kind of pattern. The first half usually disastrous but after a team talk at half time our playing improved greatly. Sadly the same can't be said about our game against Loretto; the final score was a 7-0 defeat.

We didn't just compete against other schools however; our interhouse tournaments were just as interesting. Our houses

Bannerman, Liddell and Ormand battled it out for the intermediate title. The games were close but Bannerman and Ormond were the most successful after the three games with a draw. This led to penalty flicks between the two teams. The suspense on the astro was unbearable as flick after flick failed to secure a win, but Ormond finally got the better of Bannerman and managed to score with Devon Cox scoring for the winning side.

With a few ups and downs we made it through the season. Help from the S3's who played with us certainly made a difference to the team, especially Morven Craib who was often our captain. I'm sure next season will be just as good for those S2's that are continuing with hockey.

Lucy McNair and April Shiel







This group of staff and senior pupils participated in The Great Scottish Run 10k in Glasgow last September. All successfully completed the run and in the process raised £1400 for the Help For Heroes charity.



Remembrance Parade 2011.

Pipe Band

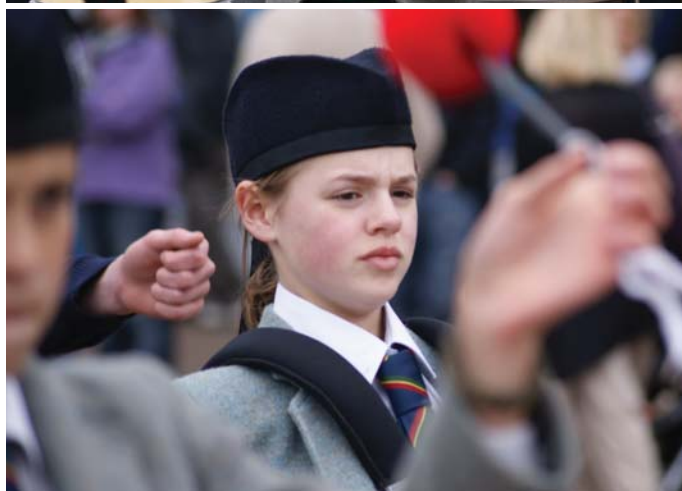
We have had a busy year as a band, however having no international tattoo to prepare for and look forward to made it hard at times for the band to remain motivated and focused. Despite this many young and talented pipers were enthusiastic about joining the band this year, enabling us to improve the sound and the overall tone. We have taken part in a number of engagements, including the Garden Show in Edinburgh, the Beating Retreat at Strathallan School and the Songs of Praise, also in Edinburgh. An engagement all of us will never forget was the opportunity to play as the lead band in Edinburgh for the historic visit of Pope Benedict last September.

Next year is looking to be an exciting busy time for the band. They will be performing at two international tattoos, one of which will be

the Edinburgh Military Tattoo – this will be particularly special as it is the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee where the band will have their own set as well as joining with the massed bands. The other tattoo will be quite soon after the summer holidays in France which they are eagerly anticipating already.

Personally, I feel extremely privileged to have been given the opportunity to be Pipe Major for a full two years and would like to thank the band for all their efforts, and wish Hannah Ashcroft, next years Pipe Major, the best of luck for the future.

Leona Clark and Hannah Ashcroft





Wind Band.



Dance Team.

Music

The school year 2010 - 2011 is rapidly moving towards its conclusion with Grand Day and the Music Summer Concert only weeks away. For all the young, and old, musicians at QVS it's been another year of study, performance, exams and success.

Once again the students and I owe an enormous thank you to our peripatetic instructors. We have some new tutors who have joined us and have said farewell to some who have moved on to other work. Alastair Collins who has done fantastic work with bassoons and piano students over the last few years has found more work closer to home and will no longer have all the fun of Scot rail to contend with. Miss Mackie who taught 'cello and violin has also found a full time post leaving no time for evening teaching. Once again a big thanks to you from all at QVS.

Joining us we have Miss Leavy, strings, and Miss Lynch, piano and bassoon. These two newcomers join the team of Gavin Spowart and Karen Romaniuk, brass, Ian Hood, clarsach, Heather Macintosh, saxophone and clarinet, Ruth Bamforth, flute, Gordon Baillie, guitar, Jo Greer, singing and Michael Bryans drum kit and percussion. We were very fortunate last year to have one of our Australian house assistants Michael Morton helping with the lower brass instruments and this year another of our Aussies Amie Smith, an excellent saxophonist, is helping with our primary seven wind band classes.

Summer Concert

Last years summer concert featured the mass band of primary players who after just over a term of teaching performed, to the delight of the audience, 'Hairy Scary' a composition for beginner band. We said goodbye to Rosa King and finally performed 'Stairway to Heaven' for Rosa's mum. After a short stay at Queen Victoria School we lost a talented young clarinettist in Chloe Balfour who is off to school in Canada.

Due to the Grand Day Chapel service the concert was held for the first time in the marquee. Our young players did a fantastic job of coping with this very difficult venue and should be very proud of their achievement. Special thanks to Alanna Macfarlane our solo bassoon in the Hall of the Mountain King by Grieg.

RAF Band

We were once again very lucky to have a visit from musicians of the RAF with 'Swing Wing' the RAF big band performing to our younger pupils and invited primary pupils from St Marys Dunblane. The playing, singing and 'dancing' were fantastic and this experience is one that our youngsters will always remember.

St Mary's primary were once again our partners in an opera project with a team from Scottish Opera. Around 90 pupils rehearsed and performed a children's opera, written by Karen McIver, playing the parts of Scottish athletes, tour guides and visitors who save the stone of destiny from Loch Ness and Nessie! Thanks again to St Mary's staff and pupils for all the fun we had during this very special event.

A number of pupil groups attended a variety of concerts this year including some of our certificate music group who heard the Dunblane Chamber Orchestra concert in the Victoria Halls. This was a first classical concert for some of them and they were an excellent audience listening to some challenging modern music.

What no Christmas concert! For the first time in living memory! No Christmas Concert. After lots of hard work all the performers went home leaving a silent and lonely Chapel buried under the carpet of snow.

Minstrels

Our primary seven Minstrels were once again on the road with a visit to Sauchie combined church guilds. With help from Miss Edwards and Mrs MacDonald and some of our antipodean house assistants we travelled the short distance to Sauchie with the complete P7 group to put on a display of song, dance, poetry reading and instrumental solos and ensembles. As always our youngsters performed wonderfully and were given a great reception. William Adam managed to balance on the piano amp to play his grade four music and we had some excellent brass and woodwind groups playing. Emma Anderson from sixth year also came along and charmed the audience with her singing.

Our young musicians once again achieved excellent results in Standard grade, Intermediate 2, Higher and Advanced Higher. The



Scottish Opera.

2011 certificate group have recently completed their practical recitals with some excellent playing. Our group of xylophones; what is the collective noun for xylophones? played very well with some witty performances of pizzicato polka by Alison Harrower, Jordan Angus, Leona Clark, and Andrew King. We had a variety of different instruments performing with some outstanding alto saxophone playing by Kelsey Swan.

The examiner said she was very happy with our students and particularly enjoyed the wide variety of music and instruments on display. Our single Advanced Higher candidate Emma Anderson had her own visiting examiner who was treated to an excellent recital of

flute and singing with material as diverse as Vivaldi opera to 20th century flute music all performed with great musicality and technical skill.

Once again a big thank you to all the pupils, music tutors, and parents for making music such an important part of life at QVS and a big thanks to my teaching colleagues, estates and the school business team for their support and the very generous financial support that enables us to maintain and improve the instrumental stock available to our youngsters.

David Breingan, PT Music

Dance

Although we started the year with the absence of Mrs MacDonald, whom we all greatly missed, we soon managed to co-operate as a team and work together before her return in January.

We had another very successful year in our dancing exams with Sophie Tytek, Kiera Smith and Anais Scott achieving a distinction in two exams and Rachel Read and Holli Work obtaining a distinction at grade 11. This was a great achievement for the team and our hard work paid off with the average dancing mark being 91.5%.

This year has been very exciting, especially for our Principal Dancer Karl Moles who was invited to Buckingham Palace to meet the Queen and many other recognisable faces; something that certainly doesn't happen on a normal weekend at school.

From dancing in poor weather conditions to being eaten alive by midges it definitely hasn't put a damper on our spirits as we can't wait for Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 2012. Grand Day has been a trial run of new ideas for both Edinburgh Tattoo next year and France in September.

We all look forward to the coming year which will be full of hard work, blood, sweat and tears in the run up to the Edinburgh Tattoo.

Holli Work and Dani Cowan





Grand Day Trophies & Awards 2011

Cameronian Shield For Piping (For The Best Piper)

James Work

Senior Drum Majors Shield (For The Senior Drum Major)

Alexandra Shields

Highland Dancing (Highland Dancing Society Of London Cup)

Karl Moles

Combined Cadet Force (For The Best Ccf Recruit)

John Kane

The Silcox Trophy For Shooting

Alexandra Macdonald

Sir Charles Grant Memorial Trophy (For Outdoor Pursuits)

Karl Moles

Victor Ludorum Trophy (For Best Sports Person)

Dale Boylan

The Ben Philip Senior Memorial Bowl

Owen Hunter

The Ben Philip Junior Memorial Bowl

Navino Gurung

Annual Challenge Cup (For Outstanding Contribution To Wavell)

Victoria Wemyss

The Dr Lindsay Memorial Salver
(For Leadership 'On' and 'Off' The Games Field)

Cameron Dumbreck

The Prince Philip Medal (For Outstanding Contribution,
Participation And Achievement During Their Time at
Queen Victoria School)

Nikita Gurung



Royal Caledonian Schools Trust Conference, Monday 1st November 2010

We were delighted to host the RCST's second conference, particularly as the aims of the Trust and those of the School overlap considerably. Several of our pupils are or have been supported financially by the RCST, some while they are still at QVS and others once they have left and become 'Caley Scholars'.

The Conference brought together practitioners and senior figures from the Scottish Government, Local Authorities, the Armed Forces, Schools and the Third Sector, Keith Brown MSP – at that point the Minister for Skills and Lifelong Learning – asked to open the Conference and we were delighted to welcome him back to the School; as a local man and an ex-Marine, Keith has known of and supported the School for some time.

Throughout a remarkably busy and well organised day, speakers brought their experience with Service children to an audience of about 70 delegates. Clearly much is being done to recognise, analyse and respond to the particular needs of Service children – yet equally clearly much more remains to be done. The RCST has made great progress over recent years in gathering the views of those who are in a position to act for the benefit of Service children, and it is exciting to see some of their work moving towards fruition.

If you would like to know more about the RCST, visit www.rcst.org.uk

Wendy Bellars, Head



Fairtrade Fortnight

As part of the Standard Grade Geography Course, pupils study international trade. This year, the 28th February – 13th March was Fairtrade Fortnight, so the S4 class decided to follow in their predecessors footsteps and decided to help Mrs McDonnell promote the Fairtrade cause and at the same time further their own knowledge and understanding.

The fortnight was given a strong start by visiting speaker Alan Kimmit from Traidcraft, who came and spoke to the pupils in chapel about the history of fairtrade and why it is such an important cause. The pupils took inspiration from this and went forth to hold a fairtrade café after school of the Wednesday night. Fairtrade chocolate bars, crispy cakes and hot chocolate were sold to pupils in the Wavell common room.

In the following week, the pupils held a tea and coffee morning for staff with homemade baking, using fairtrade ingredients. Attendance was good and with the help of the catering staff and the guidance of Mrs McDonald, everyone seemed to enjoy their morning break.

The focus of Fairtrade Fortnight this year was to promote cotton growers throughout the world. Therefore, the final event which ran throughout the fortnight was the bunting design competition. We were sent 220 triangular pieces of fairtrade cotton, so the pupils set about advertising and inspiring others in the school to take part. After a lot of deliberation, Rhys Clark in S2 was voted the winner, with Megan McColl and Jenna Galloway, also from S2 runners up. The bunting was then sent off to the Fairtrade Foundation to take part in a World Record Breaking Attempt. In total QVS pupils provided 30 metres of bunting to the effort!



Geography Field Trip

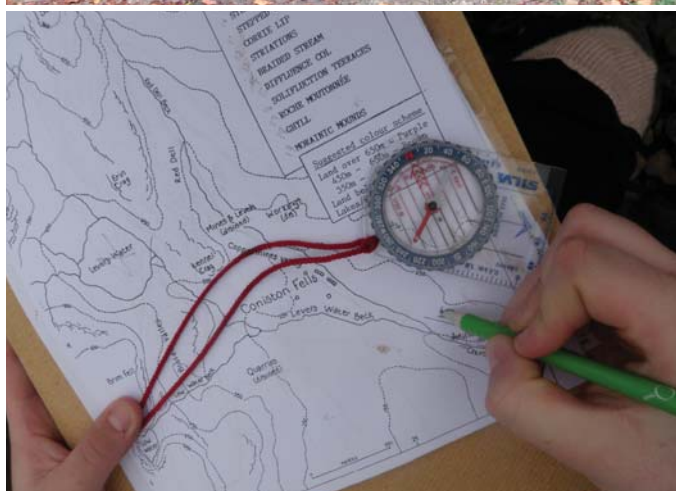
This year, the Higher and Intermediate Geographers set off to explore the Lake District National Park. We arrived at High Borran Outdoor Education Centre on Friday 29th October and following a tour and a bit of unpacking, we were taken by our instructors on a brisk familiarisation walk to blow out the cobwebs. We headed up a local hill and were able to get a panoramic view of the area, including Lake Windermere. We then headed back for our evening meal, followed by Mrs McDonnell's 'not in a pub quiz' which made for an entertaining evening.

The group were split into two for activities on the Saturday. One group went to Conistone to explore a glaciated landscape and to investigate a river, whilst the other went to the Yorkshire Dales National Park to explore the limestone scenery and underground cave networks, swapping over on the Sunday. Here, we were all provided with baby grow style caving gear, which provided us with several laughs before we set out on what proved to be both an educational and challenging day for all. A particular surprise for Mr Eastham and Mr Breingan was bumping into an Old Victorian several metres

underground – we really do get everywhere! The Yorkshire Dales definitely got the better weather as the Glaciation group battled through rain and wind, so much so the boys didn't seem to notice the difference in wetness as they willingly climbed into the river and stood proudly with willies full of water. Despite this, spirits stayed high and things were improved further with a hot chocolate at the end of the day.

Before our return to QVS on the Monday, visited Thirlmere Reservoir, followed by Keswick market town and carried out traffic surveys, pedestrian counts and questionnaires to investigate the impact of National Park status on a place. Naturally we made time for a little bit of shopping and some chips prior to departure.

A great time was had by all and pupils were really pleased to have been given the opportunity to learn in such a unique environment and getting hands on experience of the landscapes they learn about as part of their course.





Wind Farm

Wind Turbine

On 28 August S2Q went to a windfarm with Mr Davey. We left straight after chapel and it took us about an hour to get there. When we got there we had to wait for a guy to unlock it. When we finally got in we split into three groups. One group was measuring the height of the tower and then the blade. Another group measured how long it took for one rotation of the blade and the last group measured the width of the tower then after about 30 mins we left to come back to school right in time for lunch.

When we actually got up the hill we hopped out the bus and we then realised how big they were and how fast the rotors were going. It also made quite a lot of noise with the speed it was going. I thought it was a good trip.

Wind Farm

On 28 August 2010 2Q went on a science trip to a wind farm in Fintry. Everyone was excited and not just because we missed the first half of school.

When we arrived at the gate it just looked like a normal farm with some turbines in the distance. Once we got in things were quite different and after a short drive we were face to face with these massive white beasts.

Roaring at us as they spin their huge turbine blade sliced through the air like butter. It was actually a bit scary standing under the blades as they came down towards you and then glided back up.

On the trip to the wind turbine, which is owned by the Fintry Village Development Trust, we were able to measure the height of the wind turbine using trigonometry and make lots of observations about the installation.





The Tree of Knowledge

The Tree of Knowledge visited Queen Victoria School in September 2010. This is a training and development organisation working within education to deliver motivational courses both to young people and to adults.

The ultimate aim is to allow individuals taking part to become more enterprising in their approach to learning and to their own personal development.

The pupils of Queen Victoria School responded to the challenge set by Tree of Knowledge, and their comments, following the sessions, testify to this :

'I really enjoyed the interactive activities. It makes you think more widely about things'

'It was busy, interesting and we learned new stuff'

'An awesome event which gave me confidence to try new things'

'It changed how I look at life and made me learn to accept who I am'

'I liked the skipping rope activity and working in a team. It made me think about my future and know I can reach it'

'Everything today was inspirational and has really motivated me to choose what I want from life'

'It has taught me never to give up and to have a growth mind'

'YES I CAN!'

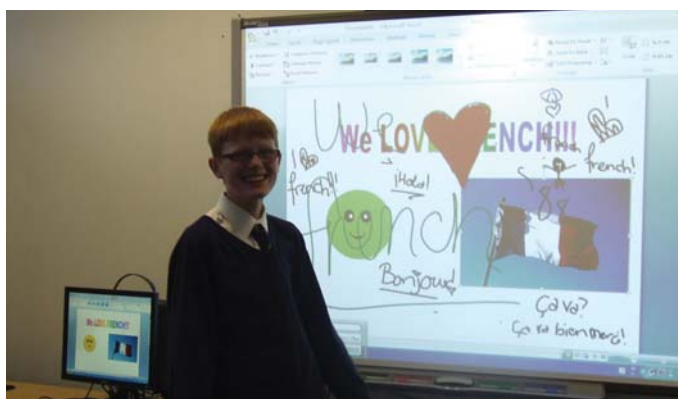
The Tree of Knowledge is scheduled to return to Queen Victoria School in 2011 and is planning to develop its links to A Curriculum For Excellence. I have little doubt of the positive response that awaits them.

Carole Phipps, Deputy Pupil Support

Successful Learners



A pizza and film Reward Night was the result for pupils actively demonstrating the capacity of 'Successful Learner' at QVS.



European Day

Modern Languages

This year QVS celebrated its first European Day of Languages. In order to recognise the importance of languages and learn more about European cultures, pupils all wore a badge for the day with the words 'Speak to Me' in a variety of languages.

Primary 7 pupils helped to prepare the badges and made multi-lingual signs which were displayed around the school. They also performed a selection of songs in chapel for the whole school in French and Spanish.

The library was busy with junior pupils at lunchtime. They completed quizzes, played games and used online resources to discover more about European countries and the importance of languages. Some senior pupils went out for a meal at a French restaurant in Stirling, 'Coq Au Vin' where they sampled some traditional French cuisine, such as mussels, goat's cheese salad and coq au vin. A busy and exciting day was had by all! Some senior pupils also enjoyed a French cinema evening during the same term and this will hopefully be a repeated activity.

Most recently, S3 celebrated Pancake Tuesday, or Mardi Gras, by making crêpes which they enjoyed with a variety of toppings such as lemon and sugar and Nutella!

'You Can Do Anything' Day

On February 3rd S2 pupils took part in a 'You Can Do Anything' Day. Guest speakers included a vet, a town planner, charity workers, a nursery nurse, a businessman, a languages student, a computer programmer, and a microbiologist. Pupils were arranged into groups, and spend the morning speaking to guests and listening to presentations about their careers. Information leaflets were supplied about careers in a variety of areas, and pupils filled out a booklet with information they discovered throughout the morning. There was also a quiz which allowed pupils to guess what jobs their teachers had before starting their teaching careers! The event encouraged pupils to think about different career fields, the overall aim being to help them make their subject choices for Standard Grade.

Laura McKenny, Modern Languages Department

Multilingual Debate 2011

On the 16th March 2011, a small group of senior pupils studying French or German at Higher and Advanced Higher, accompanied by Mr Buchanan, Miss McKenny and Miss Wenzel, attended the annual multilingual debate, organised by the Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies of Heriot-Watt University.

This popular event is of interest to those studying one or more of the debate's seven working languages – French, German, Spanish, English, BSL (British Sign Language), Arabic and Chinese. Delegates to the event hear native speakers debate in five languages and are given the opportunity to tune into simultaneous interpreting by the final year undergraduate and post-graduate Interpreting and Translating students.

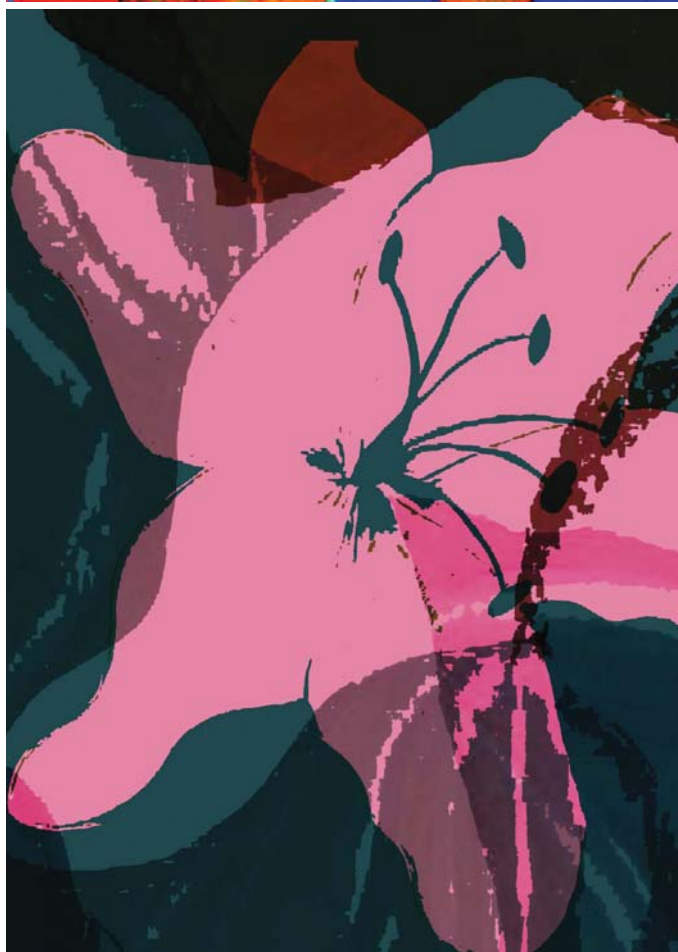
This year, the motion was, 'This House believes that Higher Education should be funded from the public purse'. Speakers for the motion included the German Consul-General, Mr Wolfgang Mossinger and Mr José Joaquín Moreno of the Spanish Consejería de Educacion

and against the motion, the French Consul-General, Mr Pierre-Alain Coffiner and Mr Kun Zhao, President of the Edinburgh Chinese Students and Scholars Association. The debate is then opened to the house and the audience may contribute to the session in their preferred language.

The Department of Languages and Intercultural Studies, part of Heriot-Watt University's School of Management and Languages is one of the leading centres for the teaching of translating and interpreting, and one of the few universities to provide specialist translating and interpreting degrees.

The debate allows QVS pupils to see the value of a range of languages, European and non-European, in real use and to appreciate the value of language-learning post-school, in the real world.

Gerry Buchanan, Principal Teacher of Modern Languages



Clockwise from top left: Emily Gurung S4; Rony McGowan S5; Luke Masters S4/S5; Eleanor Biddington S4.



Election Fever

If you had visited the Primary Department, during the recent May Election, it was a hive of activity. We too were having our own Election!

There were five, democratically chosen, candidates who made up their own policy with the help of their team campaigners. The Parties came up with some very interesting and imaginative issues, including, 'no school or chapel at weekends', 'mobile phones out for as long as you want' and 'doing more sports to get everyone fitter'!

Each Party had to promote their policies by designing and making all their own advertising materials, including rosettes, posters and flyers. Each candidate, with help from their writers, had to produce a Press Release and deliver a Speech to all the pupils and staff in the Primary Department.

One other team was created to design and make the actual Polling Station and included, collating a Polling Register, type and print voting slips, make and paint the booths and ballot boxes. The Tellers in this group were also in charge of running our actual voting day on Friday 6th May 2011. They were overseen and kept hard at work by the Returning Officer (Cameron Houston) who also announced the results.

We all had two votes, 1) 'First Past the Post' and 2) 'AV' voting systems and the votes were counted accordingly.

The outcome of our Election was the same with both voting systems with Hollie Keenan for The Weekenders Party declared the winner!

It was an interesting way for the pupils to learn about politics and some of the processes involved.

Here are some of the comments from the pupils about their 'Election Week'.

Collated by Ms Edwards (Primary Teacher & Deputy Housemistress)

The P7 Election Week was a great way of learning about real Elections. All the work we did would not even be a quarter of what the real people have to do.

All the speeches were great and so were all the candidate's policies. The posters, banners and rosettes were really eye catching and I would love to have another Election.

Thanks to everyone who worked and voted for me as I was very proud to be the elected candidate!

Hollie Keenan

The Election week was fun because there were lots of things to do like posters and banners.

On the Monday I felt a bit nervous when I was picked as a Candidate but once it all came together and everyone knew what they had to do it was great.

On the Friday I felt a bit disappointed that I did not win but on the whole Election Week has been a great success.

Election week has taught me a lot about how Elections work and the importance of working together with an enthusiastic team.

It was a lot better than normal school weeks because there were a lot more creative fun things to do.

Andrew Sweeney

Last week we were learning about elections. We had a P7 election and there were five candidates.

We were put into teams and I was helping Hollie (The Weekenders) in her campaign. We got to make rosettes, manifestos, posters, advertisements of anything that would be eye-catching. I made the posters for Hollies team.

On Friday 6th May the candidates made there important speech. We then voted using the AV and First Past the Post system and everyone got to vote as long as we had our Polling Card.

At the end of the counting, Cameron Houston (the Returning Officer) announced the winner. The winning candidate was Hollie and The Weekender's Party.

I would definitely do election week again, as I had a fabulous week.

Aoife Dillon

I think that the Election Week helped us all to understand different political views and the way the Members of Parliament are picked. It also taught us the value of voting and how to vote.

The thing that I enjoyed most about the Election Week was when the Returning Officer came in with the votes and announced the winner. However, I felt that the voters didn't have much loyalty to their own candidate!

I thought that the Election Week was really great and I would love to do it again as it was an exciting way to learn.

Jack Gemmell

Our Election Week was fun and very enjoyable.

I have never done anything like this before but liked it very much.

My favourite part was the designing and making our advertisements for our campaign.

Anais Scott



The Election week was great because it helped us understand what the real Elections are like.

The best thing for me was that my group worked as a team during this mock election. All our hard work helped my team candidate Hollie Keenan, win the Election.

It was a brilliant week because it was exciting and a very interesting way to learn.

Ryan Thompson

I think election week was very good because we learnt more about voting and elections. It was really good but also very hard work. I really liked doing the posters and leaflets because we did most of it on the computer.

It was also fun working with some of my friends and I would really like to do it again.

Straun Campbell

In May P7 had an Election Week.

My job was to be the Returning Officer so I was in charge of the Tellers.

I had to do a number of jobs with a lot of help from the Tellers.

The best part of the week for me was our actual Voting Day as I had to stamp the Voting Slips, as each person registered to vote, so that there was no cheating!

The votes were then counted and I had to make sure everything was in place and going to plan.

The Election Week was a fun week and it would be great to be able to do it again.

Cameron Houston

The P7 Election was a great way of learning about politics and voting. The work that we did for the Elections was amazing. All the speeches were fantastic and the rosettes were very bright and eye-catching. Making the posters with Freya and working in a team was an entertaining and fun way to learn.

I thought that the Election went really well and I would like to do it again.

Georgia Mowat

I thought the P7 Election was a lot of fun. It helped me understand about how you vote and how elections worked.

It also helped me understand how the two voting systems worked and how they were counted. I found the first past the post system easier than the AV system.

I also learned about going to a Polling Station to vote and what you had to do. I was surprised to learn that if your voting slip was defaced it wasn't counted.

I enjoyed the election week and I would do it again.

Imogen Powell-Leonard

We had a P7 Election Week and I thought it was a very good idea.

There were five candidates and the rest of us were split up into groups to help them with their campaign.

I really enjoyed helping with the rosettes because it was fun but very hard work.

I also liked going into the Polling booth and choosing who you wanted to be elected.

I would be very happy if we could again as I feel I learned a lot!

Sam King

I think the Election week was great fun.

The group that I was in had great ideas and everyone had fun.

It was very interesting to see what it is like to vote and very exciting to see who would win.

Sushmita Gurung

P7 had an Election Week, instead of doing loads of maths and language, which was good.

We were split up into groups 5 groups and then we had to make up a name and decide what our party would be about.

The parties were FGF or Feel Good Friday (I was in that party), SSP or Scottish Sports Party, The Weekenders, The Later Bed Time Party and Social Network party.

In the end The Weekenders won because Hollie Keenan (their candidate) delivered a great speech to the class.

The whole week was very exciting and I hope the next P7 do it because it's a lot of fun and I really enjoyed it.

Ewan Searle

I think that Election Week was a great way for us to learn about voting and what we would have to do at a Polling Station. It was good because when we are older we will know what to do.

It was also a fun week because we got to make and design lots of stuff for the Election.

I would really like to do it again sometime.

Jordan Oatley

I thought the Election Week was great.

It was good to see how people worked together in groups and what they can produce if they take it seriously.

We learned that a lot of work needs to be done for elections and when we are older we will know what to do.

I really enjoyed this way of learning a lot.

John Deacons



Ardgour 2011

On the 6th of June, all the primary staff took P7 to Ardgour, which is an outdoor activity centre. Some of the things we did included; zip wire, archery high ropes and low ropes course, climbing and canoeing.

Our favourite activities were archery and the zip wire. Our favourite day would have to be Wednesday, the activity day. For the activity day, we were in our four groups which were Anchors, Buccaneers, Cutlasses and Daggers. In the morning Anchors and Buccaneers went up onto the hills to do some problem solving tasks and bog jumping while the Cutlasses and Daggers did some team challenges.

On Monday night the girls set off with Miss Low on their adventure walk out to the bothy house. The bothy is a stone hut with big wooden shelves which we used as beds. It was very cold in the bothy but it was very exciting! It was right beside the beach so we played

on the beach before having a hot chocolate and biscuit, then we settled down in our sleeping bags for the night. On Tuesday and Wednesday the boys went camping.

In the evenings there was a time out session for half an hour at 7.30pm. Ardgour is a Christian centre, so we played games and learned about the Bible. After time-out it was evening activities, where we played different games such as volley ball, Olly octopus and dodge ball.

Overall the week at Ardgour was amazing. Everyone enjoyed it and when we left we wanted to do it all over again! The P7's next year will absolutely love it!

Emmy Moore and Georgia Mowat



Green Group

Wedding Cakes

Green Group Language and Maths made some fairy cakes for the Royal Wedding. First we had to get into groups of three. Miss Low, our teacher had bought all of the ingredients for us. We made our fairy cakes in Trenchard kitchen. We had to measure everything out first. The hardest bit for me was mixing the flour, sugar and eggs together, as you had to get it really smooth with no bits in it! My favourite part was decorating the cakes with all the sweets and eating the icing at the same time! Once we had finished we gave our cakes to some of the staff. We had ours at supper. They were delicious!

Caitlin Adams

Money Week

From the 14th - 18th March everyone in P7 took part in Money Week. We learnt about the history of money and how to use it wisely! Miss Low told all of the P7 teachers about money week so that in each class we could do a money activity. In ICT, I made my own money and in Language and Maths we got to plan a birthday party. We were allowed to pick who the party was for, mine was for Anais. I picked what food, drinks and decorations I wanted, it was great! We also went to the Museum on the Mound in Edinburgh, I loved it. The group I got put in went to look different types of money that was used before coins were invented. This was things like, shells, tea blocks and tobacco. We also discovered how money was made and the secrets of a twenty pound note!

On the next day, Vanessa from The Royal Bank of Scotland came to visit us. She told us about bank accounts and how to keep our money safe.

My favourite part of the week was planning the birthday party!

Lora Marshall

Maths Challenge Morning

On Friday 27th May, P7 pupils from Newton Primary School came to QVS for a Maths challenge. We were split into groups of 3 or 4 and we participated in 3 different activities; Arrow Hunt, Active Maths and Snakes and Ladders. The 3 winning teams from Groups one, two and three were awarded with medals and mars bars. The group with the highest score also received a trophy. We all really enjoyed the morning and it was good to work with the pupils from Newton primary School again.

William Adam and Conor Willis

P7 Space Trips

When we came back from our Christmas holidays the P7's learnt about space. We went on lots of trips. The first trip we went to was Glasgow science centre, there were lots of games to play and there was a big planetarium that we all went to. It was really good fun. At the end we went to the shop, I got some glow in the dark stars and space rock. The next trip we went on was, Dynamic Earth. I thought it was the best trip because we went through the time machine up to the ice room which was really cold. Then we went to the lava room which was warm, then last of all we went to the I-Max and watched Hubble in 3D.

Cameron Smith

P7 Scottish Opera

In music we were learning about the opera and how they tell stories by singing. We teamed up with St Mary's and Newton Primary School. We were given our scripts for the play about four weeks before we had to do the actual play. When we were performing the



Scottish opera group taught us all of the moves and went over the words with us. It was a brilliant day!

Alexander Johnstone

P7B Science

During our third term we did science with Mr Davey and Miss Low, it was great fun. We looked at space, types of galaxies, constellations and we also made some top trump cards. The top trumps were my favourite. The top trumps were about moons in our solar system and the planets. My favourite moon is Ganymede. My favourite constellation is Orion; we made stars to make the constellation of Orion's belt. It was good and we all enjoyed it very much.

Lewis Shaw

Book Making

In Green group with Miss Low, we read a book called Mrs Dippy and her Amazing Inventions. We made our own book. Some of them were called, her Robot Husband, Time Travels and her Wacky Cat. It was really fun. Once we made our own books called Nutty as a Noodle. We read the stories called, Daft Jack, Silly Sisters and The Foolish King. I really enjoyed it. We also did space books. They were really good too. Our books were displayed in the library, so other people could read them too.

Adam McBroom

Star Lab and Space Show

This year P7 had some space experts in. It was quite a surprise for us because after they had set up and we were allowed into the theatre, there was a really big dome and a table with lots of equipment set up. Once everybody was in we all sat down and they said that we had to crawl through the little tunnel to get inside the dome. Once inside, all the lights went off and all of the stars appeared on the roof of the dome. So we started to learn about the stars and planets. After, we came out and went to the table with all the equipment and learnt about some exciting science experiments. It was a really enjoyable morning!

Lewis Young

Rookie's Parade

The first Rookies parade was cancelled because all of the snow. We had to go home because there was no heating or hot water. The parade commander was Ewan Searle and the guard commanders were Aiden Imrie and Anais Scott. All of the P7's had to practice for



two months. On the parade square were Mrs Bellars and the Head Girl. The band were brilliant. We marched from Trenchard to the parade square. I really enjoyed the Rookies parade; it was great to finally become a Victorian.

Bradley Wood

PDD

For the last three terms we have been doing P.D.D on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Each person gets to pick which subject they would like to learn. I picked piping because you have something to achieve and the teacher is very nice. So far, none of the P7's are in the band but Pipey says if we work very hard, we can go to the Edinburgh Tattoo in 2012 and get into the piping band. Sometimes the pipers go all around the world to play the pipes. When it is a very nice day Pipey lets us play out side and sit on the new benches. When I started I was a bit nervous but after a while I progressed and I am already half way there.

Flynn Suggett

PDD

The subject that I am typing about is Highland Dancing. Highland Dancing is a new subject to me and all the other primary sevens. We do PDD three times a week, on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and all of the dancers have had their dancing exam. Some of the dancers did their Bronze, Silver and Gold cup award. One of the dancers did his Pre Bronze. We also do Social Dancing on Friday's and I always have the same partner. The reason I chose dancing is because dancing is my favourite hobby.

Georgia Clark

Outdoor Maths

In Green Group Maths with Miss Low, we did some of our activities outside. One of the first activities that we did was learning to round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. We looked at car number plates, for example; KH57 QVS, we rounded this number to 60 and 100. After we made a tally chart and graph to display our results. When we were looking at measurement, we had to measure lots of different things like hockey goals, car wheels, plants and tables, it was so much fun. When we were learning about time, we worked in pairs and gave each other time challenges in minutes and seconds. Another challenge we had was to find different 2D and 3D shapes around the school. I really enjoyed our Maths lessons outside!

Kirstin Hughes

Edinburgh Castle and Wallace Monument

Introduction

On the 9th of September 2010 P7 from QVS went to Edinburgh Castle and Wallace Monument; this is what I thought of the trips.

Crown Room

One of the first places we went to was the Crown Room. It was a magnificent place and it took us long time to get in there though, (as there were big queues). When we got inside we saw the most unbelievable things, which included the Stone of Destiny and Crown Jewels, which consist of the crown, sceptre and the sword.

The 1 O'Clock Gun

At around about 12.45 we went to watch the 1 o'clock gun as we wanted good positions. It goes off everyday at 1 o'clock to let the people of Edinburgh know what time it is. It gave us all a big fright when it went off as it was so loud. It has only been fired in anger once and that was against the German Bombers.

Mons Meg

We also went and looked at Mons Meg, which is just outside the entrance to St Margaret's Chapel. It was a huge canon given to the Scottish King by the Belgian King because he married his daughter. It is so big that it took 50 men 7 hours just to push it one mile.

St Margaret's Chapel

After Mons Meg we went to the Chapel. St Margaret's Chapel is the oldest part of the castle. It's so small though that the 22 of us could hardly fit in. Anybody who is associated or works in Edinburgh Castle can be married there.

The Edinburgh Tattoo

The Edinburgh Tattoo takes place every year and is held on the Edinburgh Castle esplanade. It is so popular and such a big tourist attraction, that the tickets are always sold out the day they are released. Every couple of years the school's Pipe Band and Dancer's go. It is also a very popular Scottish Event and is always on T.V. and lots of people come and see it.

Facts about Edinburgh Castle

Some interesting facts that I learnt about Edinburgh Castle are that it is made out of Basalt rock, and that Lang Stairs has got 70 steps.

Wallace Monument

The Wallace Monument is a monument situated in Stirling that is dedicated to William Wallace.

The Climb to the Top

When we arrived at the monument we were again split into groups. So my group made the climb to the top first. We were told to count

the steps on our way up. We all got 245 steps but we were told there were 246 steps, because there is a hidden step underneath the first one. When you get to the top you can see some amazing things which include the largest brewery in Europe, the Battle of Bannockburn sight, the Battle of Stirling Bridge sight.

1st Floor

Once we had climbed up to the top of the monument, we went to look at the different floor levels. On the 1st floor of the monument there is Wallace's original sword and a mannequin of William Wallace at his trial before he was executed on the 23rd of August 1305.

2nd Floor

Afterwards we climbed up to the 2nd floor. We stayed on the second floor for quite a long time as we had a lot to look at. There was a replica of Wallace's sword and the heads of famous people such as: Robert Burns, Robert De Bruce, William Wallace, David Livingstone and Alexander Graham Bell.

3rd Floor

Afterwards we went to the 3rd floor of the monument. On this floor there were lots of posters with interesting facts about William Wallace. Some of the facts are: that there is a statue of Wallace in Ballarat, Australia which is called 'Wee Wallace' and that a plaque in Smithfield, London marks the spot where William Wallace was executed.

Facts about William Wallace

Some interesting facts that I learnt are that he died on 23rd of August 1305, his sword was 5'8 and that he was 6'8.

Review

I really enjoyed the trips to Edinburgh Castle and Wallace Monument, and I would really like to go again. I also hope that the next P7's will enjoy as them as much as we all have.

William Adam

Outdoor learning Week

On the 16th May 2011, P7 pupils started their outdoor learning week. Some of the things we did were; making skeletons, creating a three course master chef meal, the full stop game, imaginative story writing and a bug survey. Our favourite activity was the Master Chef competition because we got to create our own café in Wavell Woods and make a three course meal out of anything in the woods, including mud! We also participated in Green Britain day on Wednesday 18th May. Our outdoor learning week was great fun and we learnt lots of new facts, the P7's next year will definitely enjoy it!

Geogia Mowat and Alicia Smith



Kids Lit Quiz, November 9 2000

This was a 'first' for QVS. The Kids' Lit Quiz is an international quiz, for under 14s, about children's literature. QVS entered two teams in the Scottish heats: the 'senior team' of S2s: Chloe Fraser, Elle Gemmell, Sian Griffiths and Kieran Smith (with James Buick as reserve) and the 'junior' team of two S1s: Rachel Graham and Jared Leckie and two P7s: Anais Scott and Alicia Smith (with Tony Harvey as reserve).

We travelled through to George Heriot's school in Edinburgh to compete against 29 teams from all over Scotland. The Quizmaster, Wayne Mills, in his black top hat, read out 100 questions, ten per category. The teams had to work out which was their strongest category and play a joker at the start of the competition which would

double their points in that round. It was a very closely fought competition, with only one mark separating our senior team from being one of the prizewinners, so we came fourth.

There were also cash and book prizes awarded to individuals amongst the contestants and their supporters in the audience, if you could put your hand up quickly enough with the right answer (Mrs Sheerin won a £5 book token!). We were also invited to make banners to support our teams and we paraded in front of a panel of four children's authors: Keith Grey, Linda Strachan, Gill Arbuthnott and JA Henderson who judged QVS as winners with a dramatic banner made in Mrs MacLeod's S2 class by Lisa Graham, Navino Gurung, Connor Kelly, Lauren Wilton.

Marcus Sedgwick

Thursday 16th September was a great event for QVS because a brilliant author called Marcus Sedgwick came to talk to us. When I first saw Marcus, I thought it was going to be soooo boring! But it turned out to be an excellent event. If the festival comes near you or your school, I would recommend going because it is a great experience. I'm so glad that I bought two of his books. But it was difficult to get one because everyone wanted one. We were all piling out of our seats in the theatre. I wanted a book that bad I jumped over the seats that were in front of me to get one. If there is another one I'm definitely going!

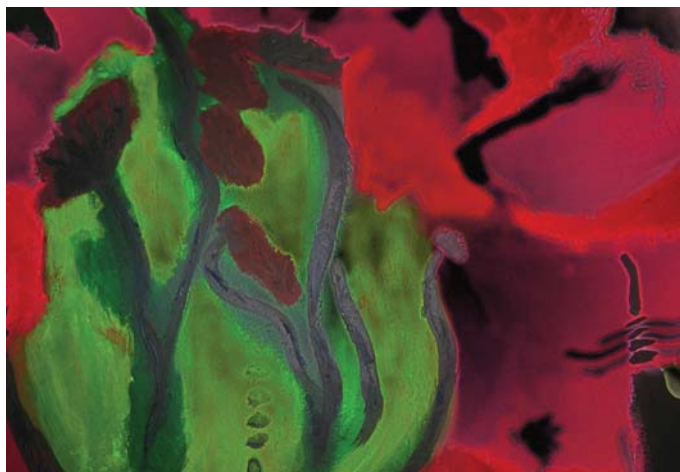
Chloe Clark S1



*Sponsored by Off the Page Book Festival run by Stirling Council
Emily, Charlotte and Rebecca get their books signed by Marcus Sedgwick.*



Clockwise from top left: Alicia Smith P7; Anastasia Lynch S6; Shona McAuslane S4; Francesca Cockburn P7; Harry Tait P7; Emily Gurung S4; Dion Robb S3.



Clockwise from top left: Heather Stanfield S3; Jasmin Worrall; Dion Robb S3; Morvan Craib S3; Shona McAuslane S4; Kennedy Morrison S3; Jemma Law S5.

Prize List

P7, S1 & S2

1	Attainment	P7	William Adam
2	Progress	P7	Imogen Powell-Leonard
3	Fowler Art Prize	P7	Emelia Moore
4	Music	P7	Georgia Clark
5	Paul Mcshannon Quaich	P7	Lewis Shaw

		First Year		Second Year	
		Attainment	Progress	Attainment	Progress
1	English	Rachel Graham	Nisha Gurung	Lisa Graham	Connor Kelly
2	French	Lachlan Bark	Stuart Millman	Stephanie Searby	Conor Young
3	German	Sam Stockman	Leon Boylan	Lucy McNair	Lauren Wilton
4	Mathematics	Rachel Graham	Stuart Millman	Elle Gemmell	John Kane
5	Science	Lachlan Bark	Charlotte Barron	Cameron Arnott	Sarah Potter
6	Computer Studies	Stuart Millman	Chloe Clark	Cameron Arnott	Cathan Clark
7	Technical Studies	Jared Leckie	Prateeksha Khawas	Hannah Pill	Rhys Clark
8	Geography	Jared Leckie	Emily Ferguson	Lisa Graham	Phoebe Gallacher
9	History	Jared Leckie	Emily Ferguson	Navino Gurung	Bailey Harris
10	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Prateeksha Khawas		Stuart Baird	
11	Fowler Art	James Work	Mhairi Lawson	Rhys Clark	Cathan Clark
12	Music	Ciaren Ross		Lauren Wilton	
13	Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Hannah Davies	Callum Gilbert	Elle Gemmell	April Shiel
14	Physical Education	Kyle Rowe & Tarah Lynch	Conor Young & Stephanie Searby		

Third Year

1	English	Rebecca Johnson
2	French	Leah Tytek
3	German	Christopher Bell
4	Mathematics	Christopher Bell
5	Biology	Rebecca Johnson
6	Chemistry	Cara King
7	Physics	Ashleigh Houston
8	Computer Studies	Michael Bell
9	Craft & Design	Bethany Stacey
10	Graphic Comm	Jasmin Worrall
11	History	Heather Stanfield
12	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Adam Merrick
13	Geography	Christopher Bell
14	Fowler Art Prize	Cara King
15	Modern Studies	Leah Tytek
16	Music	Ashleigh Houston
17	Physical Education	Christopher Bell
18	Business Management	Jake Bedwell

S4, S5 & S6

		Form IV	Forms V & VI
1	English	Emily Gurung	Hannah Ashcroft
2	Eric Drew Memorial Prize – French	Alanna Macfarlane	Andrew King
3	Accounting	Alanna Macfarlane	Angus Mcfaulds
4	German	Alanna Macfarlane	Hannah Ashcroft
5	Mathematics	Tamara Wilton	Luke Masters
6	Biology	April Gray	Mairi Archibald

7	Chemistry	Veeransh Bohora	Luke Masters
8	Physics	Veeransh Bohora	Luke Masters
9	Computer Studies	William Lynch	Charles Jones
10	Craft & Design	Ashley WaTson	
11	Graphic Communication	Rachel Stewart	David Gibb
12	Geography	William Lynch	Jemma Law
13	History	Fearghas Gray	Charles Jones
14	Modern Studies	Rachel Stewart	Rony McGown
15	Music	Alanna Macfarlane	Emma Anderson
16	Physical Education	Veeransh Bohora	Hannah Ashcroft
17	Art	Rachel Stewart	Rony McGown
18	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Joseph Burns	Tamara Kirkwood Wright
19	Business Management	Veeransh Bohora	Charlotte Worth
20	Information Systems		Alexandra Macdonald
21	Product Design		Anastasia Lynch
22	Woodworking		Karl Moles
22	Dux Medal		Alison Harrower



Prom night.

Queen Victoria School's Eco-Warriors

What exactly is it that we, the intrepid pupils from QVS, have been up to while we engage in eco-activities? The short answer is 'LOADS'!

Much has been done along a horticultural line, with the restoration of The Centenary Garden, the planting of a score of saplings very kindly donated by The Woodland Trust, the placing of compost boxes to encourage further fecundity, the making of bird boxes to encourage wild life, the application of a natural woody brown paint (!) to brighten up the Centenary Garden's sheds and the tidying up of the Chapel gardens. We also publicised and took part in the RSPB's annual 'Big Garden Bird Watch'.

Recycling is a fundamentally important part of our concern for the environment. We encourage all the pupils from all four boarding Houses to be aware of and participate in our collecting of bottle tops, paper, plastics, cardboard, used batteries, spectacles, used computer ink cartridges and tea bags – to name but an eclectic few!

Locally, Lerrocks Farm at Argaty near Doune has been the venue for plenty of activity by a group of our tireless volunteers, who have helped the farmer. Tasks such as weeding, planting, more bird boxes, a bee garden and wild flowers have all been attended to...and we have been able to indulge our maternal instincts by feeding the new-born spring lambs! A fantastic bonus almost every time we visit the farm has been the sight of a pair of magnificent red kites soaring overhead.

In similar 'helping' mode, several pupils have given freely of their time to a charity shop in Stirling – Good Green Fun. Here the activity has been simply to assist the more permanent staff by doing various odd jobs around the shop: unpacking items that have been donated, sorting them, putting prices on the goods and generally tidying up the shelves and storage spaces.

In the two years that Queen Victoria School's 'eco-warriors' have been on the warpath so to speak (ha! ha!), our efforts have been rewarded and recognised by having bestowed upon us both the Bronze and Silver Awards for Eco Schools. It is true that the coveted and top honour – the Green Flag – has still to be gained. That could well be a project for the next year or two and it is possible that the

school's Primary Department might be persuaded to become involved in that venture.

Fair Trade has been added to our agenda this year and there has been plenty going on. A Chocolate Cafe, the sale of chocolate cakes and goodies, and a Tea Quiz have all been held, attracting many customers, with more than £200.00 raised for good causes. There have been a Coffee Morning and a Fair Trade Cafe, whose joint aim has been to raise the awareness of both pupils and staff to the merits of Fair Trade and the need to be thoughtful and careful about what one buys and from whom – are the primary producers and growers getting a 'fair trade' (literally) for their produce and goods? There have been 'Decorate the Bunting' competitions in both the School Library (thank you, Mrs Sheerin) and Wavell House (thank you, Mrs McDonald). Some of the winners' names are included here – with apologies to any who have been inadvertently omitted: Emma Anderson, Natalie Brash, Rony McGown and Hannah Pill.

Finally, for the remainder of this year our sights are set firmly on a Fair Trade Fashion Show and Extravaganza! We hope it will be held in school in mid-June and we have already done quite an amount of groundwork. Having made contact with several firms, we have been mightily encouraged with the responses, for many have said that they will be very happy to help with the supply of items of clothing, accessories, jewellery, lighting and so on. There have been lots of pupils who are keen to show just how cool they can be sashaying down the catwalk in the latest chic and trendy outfits (although there won't be a catwalk, actually!) and Miss Laird of the Estates Office has kindly offered to train us in that walk all models do – the one where at each step they appear to be just about to fall over their own feet because it seems they're walking a tight rope.

It only remains for us, the school's 'eco-warriors', to acknowledge the efforts of all who have in any way helped us these last two years – staff and pupils alike. So many people have contributed (even if it has been simply by recycling a little more conscientiously) that it is impossible to name everyone individually, but our grateful thanks go to one and all – and please keep up the good work.

Nikita Gurung and Emma Anderson

Web Design

S4 pupils Kelsey Swan, Tamara Wilton, Will Lynch and Ashley Watson have been working alongside Mr Lawrence to develop the school's presence on the national Glow network. Glow is the world's first national intranet for education, developed exclusively for Scotland's educational community. The pupils have developed information sites covering the school Library, Eco Schools, the French and Computing Standard Grade courses and Games based learning.

Kelsey has also worked alongside the school's retired Chaplain, John Silcox, to develop a website for the Dunblane Free Church. The result of this venture can be seen at www.dunblanefreechurch.org.uk





Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Last session we saw the introduction of DofE this is an on-line electronic version of the Record Book. It provides participants with the ability to record their programme in a new way. It gives them the opportunity to record evidence in a host of different formats including text, pictures and movies. It will provide Leaders the ability to view the evidence and approve it easily.

The DofE has undertaken considerable investment in establishing the future way forward for the organisation and programme; DofE is central to this. Young people have a greater expectation of what is available to them from a technological perspective and the DofE wants to meet this.

The system will also give us a greater understanding of the participants taking part and the activities they choose and the barriers to completion. This will give us the opportunity to develop the DofE and provide support where it is needed most.

Benefits

1. Easy to use

We have designed the system so that anyone from 14 year old to an adult Leader with limited IT experience can use it. It's simple and easy to navigate.

2. Any time, any place, anywhere

eDofE allows young people and Leaders to engage with the DofE at times and places convenient to them. We are making every possible effort to ensure that eDofE is accessible to any young person or adult engaged with the programme, regardless of ability, background or location.

3. Connects with young people

The use of an online system allows us to appeal to young people and work with them using the technology with which they are already familiar from their everyday lives.

4. Exciting evidence

Young people can record their DofE activities in multiple formats – from photos and videos to blogs and pdfs. Their evidence can be uploaded direct from computers, cameras and mobile phones.

5. Encourages progression

eDofE makes it easier for young people to move between the sections of their DofE programme and to advance from one level to the next. It provides encouragement to complete each section and

6. Enables direct communication using the latest technology

Leaders and participants can communicate through the messaging system. Leaders can post news items that are instantly distributed to their whole group.

7. Gives instant access to useful resources

eDofE keeps Leaders up to date directly with information on courses, conference and learning opportunities. It gives young people resources to help them plan their programme.

8. Keeps participants involved

Young people have complex lives, moving house, leaving home, going to University. eDofE means that the young person can stay connected with us no matter what life changes they are going through. And after Gold, eDofE can be used to encourage Gold Award holders to become the next generation of Leaders.

9. Helps the DofE continually improve

By producing clear and accurate trends on participant activity, the DofE can continually improve the quality and relevance of the programme for young people. DofE Managers and Leaders will be able to access reporting about their groups.

10. Efficient

By giving Leaders access to easy summaries of individual activity and a quick and easy way to approve evidence, it will cut down on paperwork and allow face-to-face time to be used more effectively to guide and support young people through their DofE programme.

Summer 2010 Expeditions

Bronze Practice Glen Artney. Bronze Assessment Ochil Hills.

Connor Dickson, William Lynch, Jamie Riddock, Scott Calder, Ashley Watson, Garry Fleming, Veeransh Bohora, Alex Kenning and Garry Carr.

Bronze Practice Glen Artney. Bronze Assessment Ochil Hills.

Eden Reid, Megan Ververs, Lauren Millman, Tamara Wilton, Kelsie Hunter, Eleanor Biddington, Emily Gurung, Shona McAuslane, Abbie McDougal, April Gray and Alanna MacFarlane.

Silver Practice Glen Lednock.

Emma Anderson, Hannah Ashcroft, Chanel Darling, Tamara Kirkwood-Wright, Jemma Law, Emma Pead, Rachel Read, Rebecca Rew and Holli Work.

Silver Practice Glen Lednock.

Kieran Shaw, Calum Bedwell, Ben Irving, Craig Millar, David Drew, Cory Furnace, Chris Pill and Antony Tickell

Silver Assessment Isle of Skye

Jack Halliday, Binod Gurung, James Fleming, Josh Brown, Owen Hunter, Charlie Jones, Luke Masters and Callum Halliday.

Gold Assessment Isle of Skye

Amie Williams, Megan Halliday, Emma Read and Rachel Christie.

It was a surprise to see a wind farm in the middle of the Ochil hills just next to the area we use for our camping area on our Bronze assessed expeditions.

This is an example of a Silver Expedition Report;

Silver D.O.E to Isle of Skye

10/06/10 to 13/06/10

The Venture

- Or venture lasted from Thursday through Sunday.
- We started by a 10 km walk on Thursday the campsite.
- Day 2 and 3 consisted of walking to the island roughly 5 km away. Here our venture began as we began to study the landscape...

The 1st Cave

- Cave 1: (401,175)
- 15 ft high, 10 ft wide, 30 ft deep.
- Lots of rubbish such as: buoys, waste from the sea, stinks!

The 2nd Cave

- Further down land at (394, 153).
- 50 ft high, 15 ft wide, 70 ft deep.
- Junk consisted of lobster pot, helmets, b poo etc.
- Cave went gradually smaller the deeper it went.

Fort

- (396, 159).
- 3m high.
- 20m high
- Edge of cliff.

The Ruined Villages

- (403, 165).
- There were several different small homes.
- This picture shows the size of one of the bigger ruins:

Burial Chamber

- (393, 164).
- This was from the Top of cha front of the cave:

The End

- We hope you have enjoyed our talk on what was a fabulous venture to the Isle of Skye

Jack, Owen, Josh, James and Binod

Summer 2011 Expeditions

Boys Bronze Practice Glen Artney. Bronze Assessment Ochil Hills.

Jake Bedwel, Ben Curran, Jason Feeney, Thomas King, Charles Lynch, Fraser McLoughlin, Stewart Stockman, Connor Winning, Michael Bell, Ryan Hutcneon, Connor Farquhar, Peter Burns, Christopher Bell, Calum McLean and Jamie King.

Girls Bronze Practice Glen Artney. Bronze Assessment Ochil Hills.

Bethany Stacey, Caitlin Willis, Morven Craib, Jennifer Harrower, Megan Wood, Demi Gallacher, Bethany Little, Cara King, Jennifer Sorbie, Lottie Herbert, Jasmin Worrall, Dion Robb, Derri Chamberlain, Kennedy Morrison, Rebecca Johnson and Leah Tytek.

Boys Silver Assessment Boys Ardgour.

Kieran Shaw, Calum Bedwell, Cory Furnace and Antony Tickell.

Girls Silver Assessment Trossachs.

Emma Anderson, Hannah Ashcroft, Tamara Kirkwood-Wright, Emma Pead, Rachel Read, Rebecca Rew and Holli Work.

Adult Training

Almost a year ago a group comprising of a mixture of teachers and parents from Dunblane High School and Queen Victoria School

began a Basic Expedition Leader Award course. On Tuesday evening 31st May at Dunblane High School the presentation of the Awards were made to the nine participants by Barry Fisher Director of Duke of Edinburgh Award Scotland.

The course was organized to provide more qualified volunteers to allow more pupils to start the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The BELA group were; Lynsey Bright, Jennifer Mackie, David Scougall (Dunblane High School teachers), Donald Shaw (Queen Victoria School teacher), Heather Offord, Edward Caden, Jaun Escala, Martin Ramsay and Craig Stewart (Dunblane High School parents).

The BELA course was put together and run by Tom Shannon and Alan Kirk (Queen Victoria School) and Kelvin Martin (Dunblane High School). This is a great example of a community working together for the benefit of the young people. Stirling District Council were also very helpful and in particular Andrea McFarlane of youth services.

Both Head teachers of DHS and QVS, Frank Lennon and Wendy Bellars attended the presentation ceremony and agreed it was fantastic to see so many staff and parents working together and devoting their time to help and support pupils with the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



From left to right; Kelvin Martin, Frank Lennon, Jaun Escala, Jennifer Mackie, Martin Ramsay, Barry Fisher, Craig Stewart, David Scougall, Lynsey Bright, Donald Shaw, Heather Offord, Edward Caden, John Brown, Andrea McFarlane and Wendy Bellars.



CCF Contingent Commander

Over the past year the cadets have been busy as you will discover in the three section articles. Here are some of my highlights over the past year;

May 2010 Beating retreat at Edinburgh Castle

June 2010 Installation of Major General David Shaw as Governor of Edinburgh Castle.

Summer Break Activities 2010

CCF Army camp Barry Buddon 2 – June/July 2010

Cadets 24

Staff 5

Capt Hiddleston, SSI Stacey, Flt Lt Gilhooly, Sub Lt McBlain.

CCF RN Camp in HMS Bristol 11 – 20 July 2010

Cadets 2

Bisley – July 2009

Cadets 10

Stephen Bell, Rea McGowan, Victoria Marland, Alex MacDonald, Emma Anderson, Mhari Archibald, Connor McGuile, Ross Watson, Ashwin Rai and Calum Halliday.

Staff 2

Capt Killmartin and Flt Lt Gilhooly.

CCF RAF Camp RAF Leeming 18 – 25 July 2009

Cadets 5

Rachel Read, Stephanie Barron, Holli Work, Owen Hunter and Christopher Pill.

Staff 1

Flt Lt Gilhooly.

September A day with the Royal Marines.

December saw the heavy snow which caused damage to the CCF Hut bringing down guttering. The pretty festive scene hides the damage underneath.

January CCF Burns Supper.

February Ski camp at Aviemore.

This summer's Army camp is to Nesscliff.

The section will be a little short handed this coming year.

Lt Caroline McBlain OC RN Section is off on maternity leave.

Caroline's baby girl Charlie was born in May. We all congratulate Caroline and Neal and wish them all the best.

Mr Shaw who had intended joining the RAF Section found he was unable to make the commitment. I would like to thank Mr Shaw for his help this year and his support of the CCF.

We are all sad to say farewell to Captain Bill Killmartin our Shooting Officer. Due to Bill's age the army are unable to allow him to continue as an officer in the CCF.

In 1958 Bill Joined the 4/5 Battalion Army Cadet Force at the age of 13 reaching the rank of Sergeant. Holder of Master Cadet badge he was winner of several shooting trophies and winner of the Bossom Trophy (Top shot) at Bisley in 1962. That same year he enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment reaching the rank of Corporal. Winner of several shooting trophies including runner up for the Queens medal at Bisley (Top shot).

In 1971 Bill Enlisted in 23 Special Air Service, reaching the rank of Staff Sgt. Although Bill did not have to carry out shooting competitions he was involved in lots of other stuff, Classified.

In 1992 Bill Joined the Angus and Dundee Army Cadet Force as the Bn Shooting Officer, Winners of the Brigade shooting competition for 10 continuous years. National adult shooting champion for Small Bore and Full Bore. Six years with the National Training Team and four years as the Scottish ACF Shooting Officer.

Then in 2006 Bill Joined Queen Victoria School as the Shooting Officer. Over the past six years Bill has trained and developed the shooting team, each year seeing a steady increase in standards and ability. He will also be missed on the ski slopes. Bill was one of our most experienced instructors.

Bill said "I will miss QVS and have had a great time there. It was a challenge to get the shooting up and running and I will be sorry to see it go into decline. I hope you continue as the Commandant and wish you luck in the future. I have enjoyed serving for you and making friends with all of the other staff".



These are Bill's last shooting results from October 2010 to May 2011.

Serial	Date	Competition	No of entries	QVS Position	Remarks
1	Jan 11	British Schools Small Bore Rifle Association – Autumn League 2010			
		Division 3 QVS Top Shot ()	6	3	A Team (E Anderson)
		Division 5 QVS Top Shot ()	7	3	B Team (C Winning)
		Division 4 QVS Top Shot ()	6	1	C Team (L Cox)
2	April 11	BSSRA – Spring League 2011			
		Division 3 QVS Top Shot ()	6	5	A Team (E Anderson)
		Division 5 QVS Top Shot ()	5	4	B Team (A Balfour)
		Division 4 QVS Top Shot ()	5	2	C team (C Fairgrieve)
3	May 11	RAF Winter League Division 2	3	1	A Macdonald, C Halliday, A Watson, E Anderson
4	May 11	CCRS Youth of the Commonwealth			
		Match A .22	17	4	Trophy and Medals To
		Match B .22	33	1	A Watson, C Halliday,
		Match C (Full Bore)	45	12	A Balfour, C Winning
					A MacDonald, A Rai, M McNally, E Anderson

As a farewell gift to QVS CCF, Bill presented a shooting trophy. The Cup has been engraved.

Queen Victoria School CCF Inter-Service Shooting Competition “Best Individual” presented by Capt. W. Kilmartin

Bill presented the cup to us on Wednesday 15th June.

Bisley 2010 Report

The Schools National Shooting Competition was held at the National Shooting Centre, Bisley, over the period of the 12-15 July 2010. Over 50 Schools, some 568 individuals participated. Queen Victoria School entered nine individuals which comprised of Alex Macdonald, (Team Captain), Ross Watson, Callum Halliday, Ashley Watson, James McNally, Macaulay McNally, Connor Winning, Emma Anderson and Stephen Bell supported by adults Capt Kilmartin and Flt Lt Gilhooly. Connor McGuile and Rea McGown had to cancel prior to the trip.

The team assembled on the Saturday evening at the CCF centre in the school and stayed overnight sleeping on camp beds.

Macaulay arrived to announce that he had injured his knee at the Army camp two weeks prior and could not walk without the aid of crutches. Stephen had been in hospital for surgery to his jaw and could not move his mouth to talk. Both cadets were in pain but were determined to make the team. I decided to take them.

After an early breakfast at 0500 we packed the bus and the trailer and drove to Bisley.

We drove for two hours and had a break for 15 mins. On the journey south we picked up Connor in Glasgow and Calum in Carlisle. We arrived at Bisley at 1600 hrs, sorted out the kit etc. Accommodation was in the Brunswick military camp, nr Pirbright, approx two miles from Bisley.

Monday was an early start with breakfast at 0630 and on the firing point by 0800 ready to go for an 0830 start. The practice day went well with the usual mixture of nerves and excitement as you would expect. Stephen, despite the pain he was in, got off to a great start and came 47th out of 568 entries. Late in the afternoon, Ross had to return to Scotland to attend a garden party with his parents at Holyrood Palace so he missed his practice at the 600. Calum was held up in the Butts and he missed his practice at 600. On the evening, we entered a team in the falling plate's competition; this consisted of Stephen, Calum, Connor and Ashley. They got through the first round but were knocked out in the next one.

Tuesday started at the same time and we competed in the Wellington, Ives and Victoria Tankard matches, Stephen and Emma were shooting well at 300 and 500 but fell down at the 600 yard shoot. In the evening we visited the local cinema and then collected Ross from the rail station upon his return to Bisley.

Wednesday was another early start. Alex shot very well at 300 and 500. We moved back to 600 then the heavens opened up with torrential rain. The rain was so bad that it was decided to cancel the match. This was unfortunate for Alex as it was looking good for her.

In the evening we participated in the shotgun clay shoot. We all enjoyed the evening. There was a lot of pressure on last year's National Champion "Ross" to achieve a maximum to retain his trophy, but he missed one of the clays.

Thursday was "Ashburton" day. We rose at 0530 and were on the range for 0730. This is a team of eight from the school and has to be coached from a member of the team.

Alex rose to the challenge. Traditionally, all the Scottish schools form up in three ranks at the far end of Century Range. The parade then marches down the range, flags flying and led by "Pipes and Drums" from Dollar School. The English Schools applaud.

The Match starts with the "Reserve" firing at 0800. Macaulay still suffering from his leg injury led the way. He shot well, and came 10th out of 19 entries.

Stephen again put in a good performance. Connor was also shooting well.

32 teams entered with Epsom School winning the shield with a score of 763.

The Highest possible Score (HPS) is 850. Their average score per firer was 31.8.

QVS came 24th with a score of 628. Our average score per firer was 26.2.

After the prize giving on the range, we cleaned the Target Rifles and handed them to DSG for their annual service. The team then visited the sniper range and we all had 10 shots each.

The cadets found this was great fun in using telescopic sights.

In the evening we dropped Ross off at the station and he made his way back home for another function the day later.

We visited the Ten Pin Bowling Alley in Guildford and played a few games and chilled out.

On Friday we visited London and parked the Mini-Bus in Wellington Barracks near Buckingham Palace, courtesy of the Grenadier Guards'.

We walked to the local train station and purchased a Tube/Bus ticket which enabled us to go on a sightseeing tour of London. We visited several places of interest including the Imperial War Museum.

Saturday was again an early rise and drive back to Dunblane. The journey was o/k and went very quickly, dropping Calum and Connor off enroute. We arrived at the School at 1800.

All the cadets enjoyed the experience and want to go again next year.

QVS has the potential to achieve better and more success at Bisley but this is only achievable by more investment in training and time.

Unfortunately this is my last year as the School CCF Shooting Officer as I am due to retire in June 2011.

Good Shooting.

Capt W.C. Kilmartin





Navy

This year has been a very busy year for the section. With the seniors of last year leaving, many S5's have stepped up to the challenge of leading the section. We've said goodbye to our Officer Commanding The Royal Navy, Miss McBlain, but she will be returning and hopefully with a very small cadet in tow! Miss Low has taken over her position and we've welcomed gap student Alice Lane to the section.

This year's field day with the Royal Marines saw the cadets take on the RAF and Army sections in a session of paint balling and self defence and I think it's safe to say that we put up a good fight. I am sure, after the fearful fight that PO2 Callum Bedwell put forward, that he will fit in very well with the Royal Marines as he hopes to do in the future, especially with his superb skills in drill!

This year many of the senior cadets have worked hard to produce fulfilling lessons for the section. PO1 Rebecca Rew and PO1 Kieran Shaw proved that everyone can work well under pressure with team building exercises. Coxswain Charlie Jones took the division for boxer size, PO2 Antony Tickel and PO1 Luke Masters provided excellent information on Bases, Boats and Submarines and PO1 Andrew King and PO2 Corey Furnace took the section for sports.

We also had many of the junior cadets pass their swim test, with thanks to PO1 Andrew King, PO2 Dani Cowan and PO2 Antony Tickel

– apparently that full body orange waterproof suit, isn't quite as waterproof as we all thought it was! Thanks must also go to Leah Brummitt and Bethany Williams who have recently taken over the store room and I have to say, I have never seen it look so clean and tidy! Where have you put all of your things Mr Shannon?!?

Of course we always remember to have fun and this year has seen the section get groovy to Just Dance - Darryn Moore, we never knew you could dance quite like that! We also had our section party, which saw lots of competitive competitions and lots of eating- Which leads us on to our Navy café, which was a success for the whole one week it ran!

We also have three cadets going to different Navy camps this year to represent the section and the school, so good luck to Scott Calder, Connor Dickson and PO2 Antony Tickel.

So after a very successful year, I would like to thank all of the members of staff and cadets who made it all possible and of course the cadets themselves who participate and make it such a fun and enjoyable environment.

Coxswain Tamara Kirkwood-Wright





QVS Gardens

We need your help!

Last year some of the pupils with help from staff started to replant and renovate a number of flowerbeds around the school. A special effort was made to improve the flower beds around the Chapel as it celebrated its first hundred years. We were supported by local businesses and a number of staff, parents and members of the local community.

Dobbies garden centre, Mr R Stirling-Aird of Kipendavie Estate donated plant and landscaping materials and, our then senior monitor, Chris Pill's grandfather kindly gifted a collection of dwarf conifers.

With funding cuts affecting all areas of the MOD we would like to invite you to support us in improving the school environment by sponsoring plants, materials or equipment.

£5.00 will buy 20 bedding plants or a small shrub. £10.00 will replace some of the very old roses at the front of the school. £20.00 could buy a small tree.

All donations can be made via the school development office by contacting Catriona Yates.



Staff.

Staff List

Senior Management Team:

Head W A Bellars MA(Hons) DipEd MA(Ed Man) PGCE
Senior Deputy Head C Philson BA(Hons) PGCE
Deputy Head (P & G) G D M Carroll BA DCE PGCG
Deputy Head (P S) C A Phipps BA(Hons) PGCE PGCG
School Business Manager S B Dougan
Acting School Business Manager S J Rutledge Chartered MCIPD – from November 2010 to June 2011

Housemasters & Housemistresses:

Cunningham M J Eastham BA(Hons) PGCE
Haig C J Harrison BA(Hons) – to August 2011
Trenchard S J Adams BSc(Hons) PGCE
Wavell E M MacDonald MUKA Cert PP in BE

Principal Teachers:

G J Beattie MA MEd PGCE PGC in SFL PGD in SFL
D V Breingan DRSAM DipEd
G T Buchanan MA(Hons) ALCM
D Garden BSc(Hons) MPhil DipEd
D Gilhooly BA(Hons) SQH PGDSLM DipEd
T King BEd(Hons) PGCE PGCG ATQ Primary DRSAM PGRNCM
A M Kirk MA(Hons) DipEdTech PGCE
J S Laing DipTechEdn
J S Lawrence BSc(Hons) MSc PGCE
D McLay BEd(Hons)
D Shaw BSc(Hons) PGCE
A Thomson MA PGCE
R C Wright BA PGCE

Teaching Staff:

J Adams MA(Hons) PGCE
S J Adams BSc(Hons) PGCE
R M H Boyd BD(Hons) DipTh (School Chaplain)
J E Coates BA(Hons) MLitt DipEd PGCE
D J Davey BSc(Hons) PGCE
A M Downey BA(Hons) PGDE
M J Eastham BA(Hons) PGCE
L G Edwards CertEd Cert PP in BE
C J Harrison BA(Hons) – to August 2011
S C B Johns DipEd
V M B Low BEd(Hons)
L MacLeod BA(Hons) PGDE
C McBlain BSc DipEd
A V McDonnell BSc(Hons) PGDE
L A McKenny BA(Hons) PGDE
J A Porter MA(Hons) MSc PGCE
S K Ronald BSc PGCE
J F Scott Laing BEd(Hons)
T McP Shannon RD HNDMechEng DipTechEdn
C-A Taylor BSc(Hons) PGCE Cert PP in BE PGC in SFL

Uniformed Staff:

School Sergeant Major D D H Stacey MBE (late Black Watch)
Pipe Major G R Ross Diploma in Piping (late Gordon Highlanders)
Drum Major H W G Tomkins Cert PP in BE (late Gordon Highlanders)
Highland Dancing Instructor E M MacDonald MUKA Cert PP in BE

School Librarian:

C Sheerin BA(Hons) DipLib MCLIP

Visiting Music Teachers:

G Baillie J Leavey
J Bamforth A Lynch

M Bryans H McIntosh
J Greer K Romaniuk
I Hood G Spowart

House Matrons:

Cunningham S Eastham
Haig C R Tomkins
Trenchard H A Devlin
Wavell M C Sword

Housekeepers:

C E Cullen K McVey
H L Galletly M del C O'Neill
H M Heslop

Medical Centre Staff:

Sister M A Skeith RGN
Nurse C A Burgin BSc(Hons) RGN
Auxiliary V J Hiddleston

Development Officer:

C E Yates MA(Hons) MLitt

Foreign language Assistant:

M Wenzel

Overseas House Assistants ('GAP' Students):

U Douglas A Smith
A Holmes C Watt
A Lane P Webber
H Murray M Whittaker
C O'Donoghue

Business Support Staff:

HR Business Partner & Assistant Business Manager S J Rutledge Chartered MCIPD
Estates Manager A McGregor
Finance & Administration Manager K Lawrie BA(Hons)
Deputy Estates Manager R S Allan ABICSc
Deputy Finance & Administration Manager I M Mair MAAT
ICT Manager N A Penrose
ICT Information Officer M A Stephen
Head's Personal Assistant C P Rankin
Senior Deputy Head's Personal Assistant A Morea
Deputy Heads' Personal Assistant L M Craig
School Business Manager's Personal Assistant A MacFarlane
Business Support Officer A B Gauld BA(Hons)
Accounts & Administration Officer M Symon
Purchasing & Administration Officer E Bisson
Estates Administrative Support Officer T Laird
Administrative Support & Reprographics Assistant Y Cockburn
Laboratory Technician (3) D P Carrington-Porter HNC MIScT – to April 2011
Storekeeper (Clothing) M-A Fleming
Storekeeper (Accommodation Stores) M Roy
Storekeeper W Stockman
Storekeeper (PE Dept) P A Warner
Leading Hand R G MacDougall
General Hand A MacDonald
General Hand G R McConnell
General Hand B Kaney
Civilian Security Officer (4) R Hiddleston
Civilian Security Officer (5) R Davies
Civilian Security Officer (5) G P McGuire
Civilian Security Officer (5) M Granger (on loan)



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