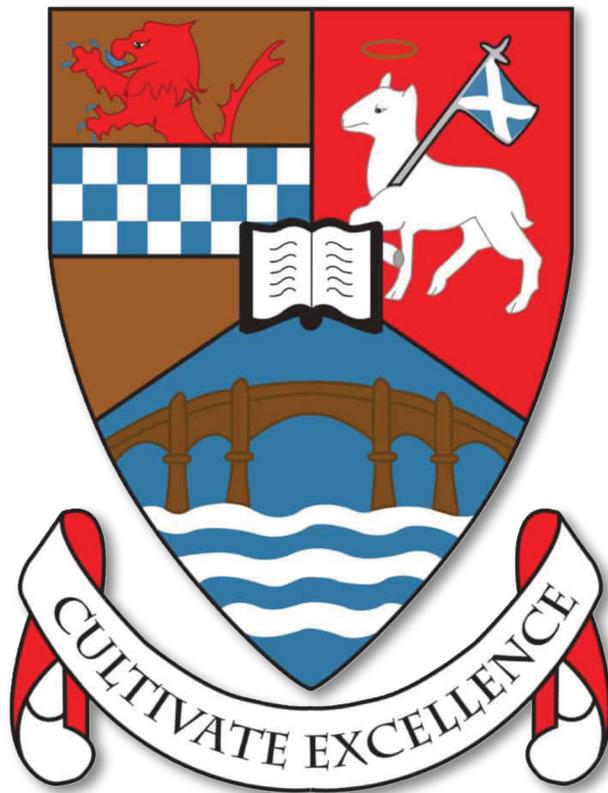


Kyle Newsletter

Our learning Our future Our responsibility



==== **Hi parents/pupils...** ====

Welcome back to the Kyle Newsletter! We are proud to share the exciting events that have happened at Kyle before the holidays. It was definitely very busy with numerous charity events, thrilling competitions, the Christmas dances (finally back!), and other such events.

Library



EVENTS

Monday

- Chess Club
- Library is closed to all other pupils

Tuesday

- Craft Club
- Also open to S5/6 pupils for study

Wednesday

- S1/2 Book Club
- Also open to S3 pupils for quiet study

Thursday

- Quiet Day
- Open to all pupils for quiet study/reading

Friday

- Manga Club
- Also open to S5/6 pupils for study

20 pupils max during break and lunch!

The Library now has specific events for pupils during lunch (listed above). There are activities each day, and year-groups can also come in for study or reading.

We invite all students to pop along for a place to study (especially those who have exams!), to read a book, or to join in on the various clubs that are available.



Home Economics



DUMFRIES HOUSE WORKSHOP



At the start of November, Kyle Academy's S3 Health and Food Technology pupils got to experience a 'Journey of Your Food' workshop at Dumfries House. The focus of this workshop was on sustainability. It was a very exciting event for all pupils!

In the morning pupils visited the rare breed farm and met various animals such as very noisy turkeys, cows, sheep and piglets that were only five days old.

Afterwards, the pupils learnt about organic farming and debated both the benefits and the barriers of this style of farming, and the continuing impact to the environment.



In the afternoon they took an active role in the organic education garden. The pupils helped in harvesting some leeks and beetroot.

After all the harvesting, the students were allowed to take some of the veg home with them in order to cook for themselves.

It was a very interesting day with a lot of questioning about the act of sustainability, and lots of knowledge was gained.



Everyone was able to come away much more informed than before, and realised the answer's not as easy as it first sounds.



English



AYR GRAMMAR VISIT

Recently, teachers from Ayr Grammar Primary School, a Kyle feeder school, came to observe the English classes in Kyle Academy.



The visit from teachers was part of an exchange between Kyle Academy and our associated Primary Schools- which is focusing on English and writing skills.



Numerous students were surprised and delighted to find out that their primary school teachers had managed to follow them all the way to Kyle Academy!

Charity



CHILDREN IN NEED

Last November, the S6's organised a week to raise funds for Children in Need. They managed to raise a total of £6788.62 for this amazing charity, the largest amount of money ever risen by a year group at Kyle.

They managed to achieve this through various events such as the Talent Show, car washes, bake sales, leg waxing, and of course there was the live shows. Everyone enjoyed organising or helping out, and it was also great to see all the younger years' involvement as well.



To kick-start the months Children in Need fundraising events, the S6 School Captains organised a talent show, hosted by Fergus Muir and Jonathan Assur.

This was a great night that consisted of many impressive acts, performed by students ranging all the way from S1 to S6. The new building hall was completely full of support from their fellow students, their teachers, friends, and family.

Many congratulations to all of the Talent Show winners: Freya, who sang 'Last Midnight'; Holly, who performed hula hooping tricks; and to Lily, who sang 'Somewhere Only We Know'.



Bake sales, leg waxing, face pieing, car washing, bucket runs and more took place during break and lunch in order to raise more funds for charity. Each house held their own bake sales every day for some friendly competition to see who could raise the most money. In the end, the winning house who raised the most was Craigie.



Charity



LIP SYNC BATTLE

Our Lip Sync Battle ended the year with a bang, and raising money for charity at the same time.

Our teachers and students all put on a brilliant display, including songs from Wednesday, Stranger Things, and Top Gun.



Well done to all our contestants and especially to our winner Mr Davidson with his rendition of Poker Face!



Charity



CHILDREN IN NEED



BBC

**Children
in Need**

An incredible amount of money was generously donated to our Kyle JustGiving Page this year which contributed greatly to our Children in Need funds. Pupils, teachers, families and friends had the option to enter the raffle through this page which had some fantastic prizes to win, from hotel stays to a miniature model bus! Overall, the JustGiving page added an amazing amount of £2614 to our funds- thanks to all who donated to the JustGiving page and to those who shared it.

On Friday 18th November, S6s organised and participated in the live show. This was shown to all year groups with three separate shows throughout the day. The shows consisted of many funny videos including hide and seek, a music video, a remake of the game show 'Would I Lie to You?', and of course important reminders of the purpose of our efforts- to aid Children in Need in helping disadvantaged children and young

people in the UK. In between the clips, various exciting things were happening on stage like teachers partaking in their own 'Bushtucker Trial'. There was live performances from the talent show winners and an S6 boys versus girls lip sync battle, all hosted by Sean McCracken and Yasmin Breckney.



During lunchtimes throughout the week, a netball league took place where it cost a pound to play. Teams were submitted from all across the school, but the final match came down to the Teachers versus the S6 Boys, where the Teachers team took home the prestigious prize of major bragging rights.

At the same time, a football league took place outside with involvement from all years in the school.



Competitions



YOUTH SPEAKS DEBATE

Three Teams from Kyle Academy participated in the first round of the Rotary Club's Youth Speaks debating competition. The nine students presented a range of engaging motions, alongside different students from other South Ayrshire schools. The event took place at Belmont Academy.

Despite fierce competition (from some significantly older students), the Kyle students all succeeded in being chosen to progress to the next phase of the competition (the district finals), which will take place in February. We wish them all the best of luck!



Competitions



MOCK TRIALS

During Saturday 3rd December 2022, fifteen S3 and S6 pupils took part in three Mock Trials at the Glasgow High Court against many various schools across Scotland.



Jonathan, Cayden, Isla and Amy (all S6) took on the role of 'advocates' (lawyers), with Olivia (S6) and Rose (S3) as 'macer' and 'court clerk'.

The remaining participants - Danielle (S6), Errin, Bridget, Neve, Edan, Charlotte, Sean, Lily and Scarlett (all S3 students) - took on the various roles of the witnesses and of the jury.

The team had spent months preparing, and were nothing short of amazing on the day. This was our first year competing and the team did themselves, and Kyle Academy, proud. Well done to all!

"We look forward to competing again next year."

-Mrs Limardi and Miss Goldie

PE



CROSS COUNTRY

On the 25th of October, several pupils from all across the school years competed in the Ayrshie Schools Cross Country event in Kilmarnock.



Everyone's determination allowed Kyle to place and bring home some medals and even trophies, running up against over 20 other schools.



Our S1 teams did very well with the girls finishing 4th and the boys finishing 2nd overall. Same for the S2s with the girls placing 6th and 7th place for the boys.



The team of S3 girls managed to place 5th overall and Marnie Harrower impressively finished 1st in this race!

The S3 boys team came 1st and Alastair McLean managed to come 3rd in this race as well. Also, the senior girls team finished 2nd and senior boys got 4th place in their team.



PE



NETBALL

At the beginning of November, the senior girls played a tough game against Stewarton in the open Scottish Cup Tie.

POTM - Olivia Armour. CPOTM - Sophie Alexander.
PPOTM - Sophie Alexander.

POTM - Beth McAllister. CPOTM - Chloe Reid.
PPOTM - Fay McTrusty

Also to compete for a place in the Scottish Cup Tie, our senior girls team played a close game with Belmont where a much stronger last quarter led to a win for Kyle with the final score being 26-18.

At the end of November, the S1/2 team won their first match of the league against St Matthew's where great team work was on display.

POTM - Ava Brizell

POTM - Lucy Assur

On December 1st, the S2 Scottish Cup Tie team won against Dumfries high school 26-4.

On December 5th, the senior girls team played against Belmont where they won 25-9.

POTM - Grace Mitchell. CPOTM - Grace Mitchell.
PPOTM - Grace Mitchell

POTM - Kirsten Heslop

On the same day, our S3/4 team also played against Belmont where they narrowly lost 21-19.

Two teams played Queen Margaret on 13th December. It was a win for the S1/2 team.

POTM - Sophie Powell

POTM - Ellie Houston

It was a loss for the S3/4's first game of the season, however there was a lot of potential which was shown in a much more confident second half.

For the Scottish Cup Tie, the S1/2 team made their first outing against Loudon Academy where they were beaten 14-4. Lots of commitment from these girls and excellent phases of play. It was their first game playing together and it showed lots of potential!

POTM - Charlotte Carroll

PE



DANCE

On 23rd November, there was an S2 'dance-off'! It was a great job from the S2s who worked on a variety of dance styles throughout the block and only had 2 weeks to add in their own choreography. Well done to 'The Backups' for being crowned the winners and thanks to Miss Jackson for the amazing dance routines!



Additionally, a huge congratulations to Kyle's dancing team who won the South Ayrshire Dancing Competition! It was an amazing effort from all schools who competed and so much talent on display.



PE



VOLLEYBALL

On the 23rd November, team Kyle took part in the S1 Ayrshire Volleyball Festival organised by Active Schools and Scottish Volleyball. Our teams played really well against other schools, winning the tournament and many teams placing.



PE



BASKETBALL



The S1 boys basketball team played a fantastic first game of the season on the 23rd November against the strong team of Loudoun Academy. They managed to win the game through a comeback in the last quarter where they showed some great control and resilience.

The next day on the 29th, it was another great performance from the S1 basketball team against Stewarton Academy. It was a very close and even game throughout, although Stewarton took the win 32-25 at the end. This team is newly formed but already showing great teamwork!



RUGBY

On the 24th November, S1/2 boys took part in a rugby tournament at the Craigie Campus. There was a big turnout, playing against other schools like Ayr Academy, Belmont and Wellington.

PE



WELLBEING AMBASSADORS

All of the pupils who decided to sign up to the “Practical Guide to Mental Health” recently completed their course! Well done to all involved.



This was a two day course that included great commitment from all the pupils and some very insightful ideas and conversations for moving forward

Members of staff also completed this course. Some of the twenty staff members who did are shown below.



Christmas



CHRISTMAS FAIR

On the 1st of December, we held our Christmas Fair, organised by the Parent Council. Around the hall were various different stalls, which ranged from delicious homemade baking, to lots of raffle prizes. A very special thanks to our Enterprise group, who made and were were selling personalised gifts to our guests.



Around the hall, artwork produced by our Art and Design pupils was on display, as well as several photography projects from our photography pupils. Everything was looking fabulous, well done pupils!



In order to get everyone into the proper festive mood, we also had the school choir singing some classic and festive Christmas tunes throughout the whole event.

We would like to give a big thanks to the pupils and staff that helped, and to all the parents that came along.

Christmas



CLUSTER CONCERT

For the first time since the pandemic, Kyle's Christmas Cluster Concert took place at Ayr town hall on the 13th of December.

The concert involved pupils from Kyle Academy, Forehill Primary and Ayr Grammar Primary. The pupils performed a variety of Christmas music including Merry Christmas Everybody, White Christmas, Santa at the Symphony and some classic Christmas carols.

The Forehill, Grammar and Kyle choirs also all gave fantastic performances. We even had a performance from the newly formed Kyle Musical Theatre group singing Supercalifragilistic-expialidocious from Mary Poppins.



Concert Rehearsals

Overall, it was an amazing evening and it was great to see the return of the concert after the last couple of years.

Christmas



CHRISTMAS LUNCH



On the 14th of December, the S1's enjoyed an early Christmas lunch where they participated in a quiz organised by the house captains. The quiz was Christmas themed and consisted of four rounds: Christmas general knowledge, Christmas music, Christmas films and a round where they guessed which rooms in the school certain Christmas trees belonged to.

During the quiz, the house captains each presented different rounds where the S1s were handed the mic in order to share their answers.



We would like to give a special thanks to the dinner ladies for preparing such great Christmas courses for everyone to enjoy!

Christmas



CHRISTMAS DANCES



S1-3 DISCO

After two years without one, the Christmas parties were back, and what a brilliant night the S1-3 disco was with everyone on the floor!



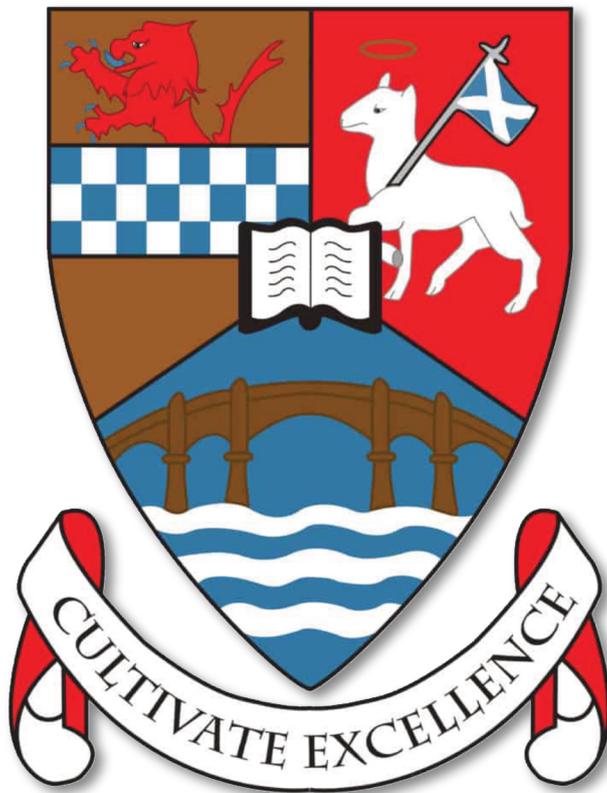
S4-6 DISCO

The following night on the 20th December, it was the Christmas party for S4-S6. It was another great night with lots of Christmas dancing!



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==== **Thanks for Reading!** ====

Thank you for reading our Newsletter! It was a great term and certainly very busy; we hope that the next will be just as exciting. We would also like to wish pupils luck who have just sat their prelims and we hope that they go well for everyone.