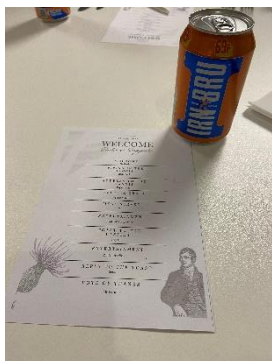


HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT TO THE PARENT COUNCIL

Tuesday 28 February 2023

S6 Burns Supper



This took place on 8 February. Over 70 S6 pupils and staff attended. It was a traditional event with the Address to the Haggis, Toast to the Lassies and the Laddies and even Mr Gardner recited 'To A Moose'. The evening was rounded off with some Ceilidh dancing. A great memory for our S6 who are nearing the end of their school days.



In-Service Day Staff Professional Learning

The focus of the in-service day on Tuesday 14 February was learning, teaching and assessment. The morning was spent discussing our proposed changes to reporting working grades in S3 and reviewing assessment evidence. In the afternoon, some of our teachers showcased lessons for the rest of staff. The focus was on ways to engage pupils in learning and avoid cognitive overload. This is part of the ongoing work of our Learning and Teaching Group.

Wider Curriculum

- **Glasgow Science Centre's Learning Lab** ran workshops on Friday 24th February with all S1 pupils.
- A group of S2 pupils have participated in a taster programme in **automotive engineering** with Ayrshire college.
- A group of pupils in S3 attended an event at Dumfries House showcasing skills and careers in the **hospitality** sector.
- All S3 are taking part in the **Youth and Philanthropy Initiative** this month. They research a local social issue and a related charity and prepare a presentation to win £3000 for their chosen charity.
- A group of S3 and S4 pupils participated in a two-day workshop with **City Gate Construction** last week learning how to put their skills into action by putting up stud walls and fitting doors.
- On 23 February, our Higher Politics class visited the **Scottish Parliament** for a tour and to listen to FM Questions.

Achievements

Our debaters are continuing to do well in regional and national competitions. Recently, three S2 pupils won the regional final of the Rotary Club's Youth Speaks competition (intermediate category) and have qualified for the National finals. We had two teams in the senior category (S3 pupils) who got second and third place. Our S6 debaters are currently preparing for the semi-finals of the Donald Dewar Debate competition which takes place on 9 March.

In gymnastics, Kyle won team and individual golds in the Active Schools Secondary Schools Gymnastic Competition recently.

Upcoming Events

Wed 8 March – S4 Parents Evening

Wed 15 March – Young Musician of the Year Competition

Thu 23 March – Duke of Edinburgh Award's Ceremony

Fri 24 March – Holocaust Memorial Education – S2 learning event

Fri 31 March – School closes at 2.30pm for Easter holidays (reopens on Mon 17 April)

Next meeting Tuesday 28 March 2023