

HEAD TEACHER'S REPORT TO THE PARENT COUNCIL

Tuesday 29 November 2022

S4 Study Skills Sessions

S5 and S6 pupils led study skills sessions with all our S4 pupils on 1 November. S4 came to the assembly hall in register classes and broke into groups to carousel round different stations where they learned the different techniques and apps that helped S5 and S6 prepare for their exams last year. All S4 also received a study pack with resources such as flashcards, dry wipe boards and highlighters. The pupils were really motivated by the sessions and left eager to start their revision!

Youth Speaks Competition

Kyle entered three teams in the Rotary Club's Youth Speaks debating competition this year. It was held on 3 November at Belmont Academy. The teams, coached by Ms Gillies in the English Dept, were outstanding and all three have progressed to the South West Scotland heats. Well done to Sean, Rose and Charlotte who won the Senior competition with the topic, *Should interns be paid?* Well done also to Ava, Bridget and Errin who argued *Schools and universities are too reliant on high stakes exams* and to Lucy, Sophie and Emma whose topic was *Private schools should be abolished*. Both teams came first in the Intermediate competition. The next round takes place in February.

Parents Evenings

We have returned, at last, to in-person parents' evenings. The first one, held on 27 October was for S1 parents. We had an 85% turn out which was fantastic. It was great to have parents in the building again and everyone was very positive about the opportunity to discuss their child's learning with a teacher. On 15 November, it was the turn of S5 and S6 parents. Again, it was a busy evening and lovely to see parents again. The next parents' evening is S2 on 7 December 2022.

Children in Need Week

Organising a week of events to raise money for Children in Need is an S6 tradition at Kyle Academy. Fundraising activities this year included a tuck shop, football and netball tournaments, leg waxing and the big finale on Children in Need Day itself was the return of the live shows. The week ran smoothly and S6 did a fantastic job. The grand total so far is an amazing £6, 683! Thank you to everyone who donated so generously.

Parent Information Session on Understanding Your Child's Social Media

This event took place on 22 November in the assembly hall. Many of the relational issues between our young people stem from comments on social media or group chats. PC Smith, our Campus Officer, and Mr Little, Pupil Support Coordinator, provided parents in attendance with information about the different social media apps that young people use, how parents can monitor them and guidance on the laws around responsible use of social media.

Upcoming Events

Mon 5 December	Winter assessment diet begins (recommences Fri 13 January)
Tues 13 December	Cluster Christmas Concert in the Town Hall
Wed 14 December	Christmas lunch
Thur 22 December	School closes 2.30pm for holidays (reopens Mon 9 January 2022)

Theme of the Month for December - Achievement