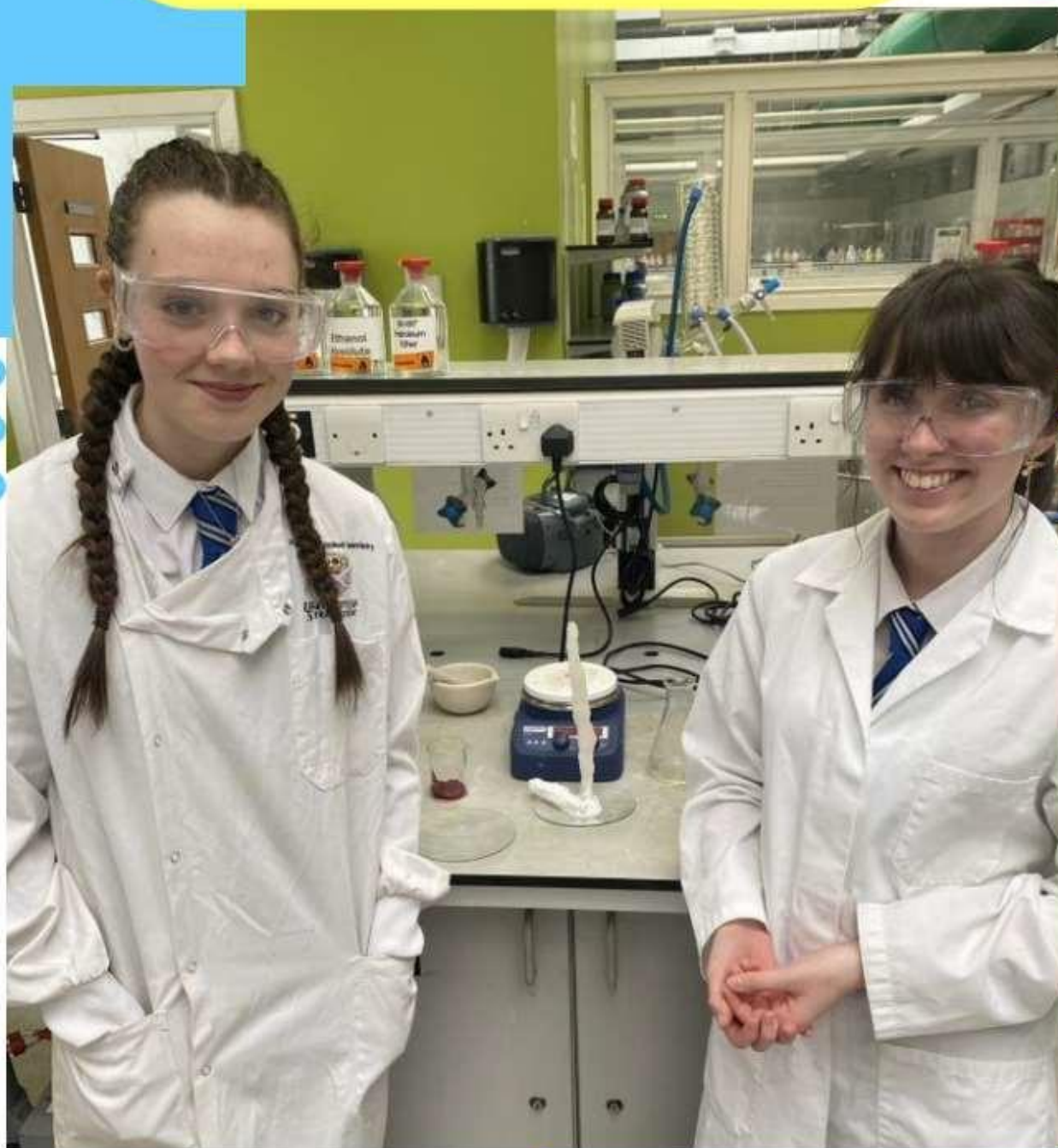




# Kirky Highlights



**STEM  
Nation**  
Award

STEM Nation Award for Kirkintilloch High School

See page 11 for Details

Kirkintilloch High School  
Waterside Road  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 3PA

Tel: 0141 955 2372

26<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have made it to the end of another productive session here at Kirkintilloch High School, with many achievements that have made us incredibly proud of our wonderful young people. This newsletter provides an opportunity to share some of the lovely experiences and opportunities that our pupils have immersed themselves in, and to confirm some key diary dates for the coming term.

### Our School Uniform

Our cost-effective school uniform policy stays exactly as it has always been:

- **Plain black** shoes (**not** black and white Converse Baseball boots or branded training shoes).
- Plain back skirt/dress trousers (**not** jeans/leggings/jogging bottoms or sports shorts).
- White school shirt.
- School tie (Junior striped tie until S5, then plain blue Senior tie).
- Plain black sweater or cardigan (**not** expensive Nike Air Tech hoodies or similar branded outerwear or crop tops) School hoodie with embroidered school badge.
- School blazer or waterproof soft-shell school jacket in black with embroidered school badge.
- School scarf – checked or striped with embroidered badge.
- School PE shirt – plain black with school badge. S1 will be gifted one from the school.

I would like to thank parents and pupils for their observance of our school uniform policy and to urge all parents to support us in following the above guidance. It only takes one pupil to deviate from this and it feels unfair to the young people who are in full uniform, therefore we greatly appreciate your support. If your child/children need any help with school uniform or supplies such as stationary, we can help. All you need do is complete the form using the link below and one of our team will be in touch about the items that you have requested:

[Microsoft Forms](#)

You may also use this form to let us know if you would like to donate nearly new uniform items in good condition, so that we can support upcycling and sustainability. Please be assured of our support and understanding in relation to school expenses and do not hesitate to contact us should you need our help.



## **Free School Meal/Clothing Grant Entitlement**

In addition to the above, many of our families will be eligible for free school meals and school clothing grants. Applications for this opens when school closes for the Summer Break. For details, please follow this link: <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/grants/school-clothing-grant>

## **Trips and Educational Excursions**

It has been joyful to see the return of educational excursions and trips abroad for our pupils. Many of these are detailed by our staff in this newsletter, for your information. Our teachers have given much of their time this session to supply such opportunities for pupil enjoyment. I wanted to let you know that as a school we have covered the cost of all curricular day trips internally to facilitate inclusion for all families. In addition, for our residential or fun activities, we have taken a significant sum off the total cost of each excursion. It is particularly important to us that at this expensive time, all pupils are given these opportunities therefore this contribution will continue next session with an invitation to any family who needs more support with the cost of trips to contact me directly.

## **Staffing**

As the session ends, some of our staff are moving onto horizons new and we look to welcome new colleagues to our school.

- We bid a very fond farewell to Mrs Maureen Hayworth, who retires after over 20 years in Kirkintilloch High School in our Guidance Team and PE Department. Mrs Debbie Galasso will take up post as Principal Teacher of Guidance for Solsgirth House in August to allow Mrs Hayworth to embark upon her next adventure!
- We also say goodbye to Mr Conor Gardiner, Miss Megan Turner and Miss Sarah-Rose Muldoon who each take up a new teaching post outside Scotland, wishing all of them every best wish with the next stage in their careers. To fill their vacancies, we will welcome Miss Victoria Colson to our Modern Languages Team, Mr Ben Doherty to our History/RMPS Team and Miss Lara Skivington and Mr Neil Pexton to our Mathematics Team. Finally, we wish Miss Shang Jenkins and Miss Lucy Newbery well as they embark upon their new posts following their successful probation year with us.
- In addition to the above, I would like to welcome Mrs Kirstie Wilkes on a Friday to our Guidance Team, alongside her Teacher of Wellbeing Support Post, Mrs Susan Miller to our Home Economics Team for 0.6 of the week, Miss Isabel Horning will assume the post of acting Principal Teacher of Drama and Music for the session, Miss Hannah Redden will take up a temporary post of Teacher of Developing our Young Workforce and Mr Paul Shellam will return to assist our Physical Education Team.

## **School Improvement Plan and Parental Survey Results**

Thank you to all parents and pupils who completed the recent survey, giving us your views on our school. We have used the results of this feedback to form the action points in our school improvement plan. Specific action points arising from the parental survey feedback include a refreshed look at our homework and assessment policies and there will be an invitation to parents to join committees in relation to these areas, alongside staff and pupils. Both the survey results and the school improvement plan will be shared with you early in the new term following approval by East Dunbartonshire Council.

## Parent Council

Our active Parent Council has continued to supply excellent strategic support to our school and will be working on a parent-led improvement plan next session. For further information, including how to join our Parent Council, please follow this link: <http://www.kirkintilloch.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/parents-info/parent-council/>

### SQA (Scottish Qualifications Authority) Examinations and Results

We have been so impressed with the young people during the recent SQA exams. Our new Invigilation Team remarked on their focus and kindness throughout the diet. All our learners were confident and feeling prepared, having made full use of our Masterclass and Raising Attainment provision this year and we thank you, their families, for your encouragement and support. This played a massive part in the smooth running of the process. It is excellent to see our young people working hard to achieve their goals and look forward to results day on Tuesday 8th August where we can look forward to exciting next steps, following an incredibly positive set of estimated grades. If you have not already signed up to MySQA to receive your results by email or text, follow the link below:

[https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my\\_homepage.jsp](https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my_homepage.jsp)

The Senior Management Team will be on hand to deal with enquiries about the SQA Results on Tuesday, 8th August and can be reached via appointment through the school office.

### Key Dates

- End of Term 2023 – Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023. School closes at 1pm on the last day, which will be a non-uniform day including a range of fun events for pupils.
- Inset Days – Staff Training will take place during our Inset Days on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023.
- Pupils Return to school for the new session at 8:55am on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Summer Break with your families and to thank you for your continued support of our school. I look forward to welcoming our lovely pupils back to school, fully refreshed after Summer Break.

Kind regards,



Maureen Daniel, Head Teacher





## Goodbye Sixth Year, Welcome Primary Seven

Our S6 pupils enjoyed a magnificent Prom at the Westerwood Hotel in Cumbernauld, to mark the end of their school career with us. They really were a tremendous year group and have excelled in obtaining an impressive range of positive leavers' destinations. We wish them well and will miss them all greatly.



Simultaneously, we are excited to welcome our new S1 Pupils to our school, through our Primary Seven Transition Programme. Our Primary Seven Pupils enjoyed a range of team building, sporting and curricular experiences and it was a pleasure to get to know them all before they join us in August.

This year under the direction of Miss Jo McLaughlin, the school was successful in being awarded over £21,000 of funding from Screen Education Scotland to run a transition project with our cluster primary schools. We formed a fruitful partnership with Glasgow based Filmmakers, GMac films who trained our S6 leaders in the art of storyboards, angles and editing. The S6 leaders visited the primaries to work directly with the P7 about their hopes and fears for coming up to KHS and, together, they created a film that addressed this and, hopefully, dispelled a few myths. We welcomed the P7 to the World Premiere on 12th June and all enjoyed seeing themselves on the big screen in the final film, a 30 minute blockbuster which Scorsese would be proud of. We look forward to working on a similar project in the coming year, continuing to explore new and exciting ways to develop our transition project, offering leadership opportunities to S6, building partnerships and having fun at the same time.

### Physics Department – Trip to Newton Flight Academy

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, 18 fantastic young people in S3 had the opportunity to attend the Glasgow Science Centre to take part in the Newton Flight Academy experience. This immersive experience allowed young people to experience a variety of challenges centred on flight planning and training. The morning consisted of a workshop where the young people tackled problems on speed, distance and time, planned a flight route, then completed initial training on the flight simulator.

In the afternoon, the young people then flew their planned route in pairs, as captain and navigator, within the flight simulator. The day ended with post-flight debriefs, where young people evaluated the success of their flight. During this time, Mr Rushford and Mr Millar





were able to have a quick shot on the simulators, which they both thoroughly enjoyed (Mr Millar assures us he intended to park the plane in the river!).

ALL young people clearly loved this experience and represented our school impeccably well. Overall, this was an unforgettable experience for all involved!

*Mr Millar, Principal Teacher of Physics  
(Acting)*

## **S1 Outdoor Learning in Art and Design**

Ms. Barbour organized a rewarding horticultural project for the S1 students. The project involved nurturing Nasturtiums from seeds throughout the months of May and June. The students dedicated themselves to watering the plants diligently and exploring their artistic skills by painting vibrant depictions of Nasturtium flowers. Each student has received clear instructions on how to carefully replant the Nasturtiums at home, encouraging a sense of responsibility and care for the plants. Additionally, they were encouraged to document the growth of their plants through photographs during the summer break. As August approaches, we eagerly look forward to witnessing the flourishing Nasturtiums and admiring the students' hard work coming to fruition.



## **Family Learning in Art and Design**

Mr. McGregor revived the Family Learning Art Club with great anticipation this term. The club members were immersed in the captivating realm of still life, drawing inspiration from the renowned artist Janet Rickus. They selected objects that symbolized the distinct personalities and attributes of their beloved family members. The final touch involved delicately intertwining the chosen objects with an elegant ribbon, symbolizing the inseparable bond uniting their family. The participants' artistic expressions blossomed into lovely drawings.



## Jupiter Artland Trip



S2 students who have opted for Art and Design in S3 were invited to embark on an enlightening excursion to Jupiter Artland. The visit encompassed a captivating tour of the contemporary sculpture garden, showcasing more than 30 distinctive and permanent site-specific sculptures crafted by esteemed artists such as Phyllida Barlow, Christian Boltanski, Charles Jencks, Anish Kapoor, and Antony Gormley. The students had the privilege of engaging in an immersive workshop inspired by Antony Gormley during the afternoon session. The experience left an indelible impression on the students, igniting their creativity and prompting them to channel their newfound inspiration from the visit to produce 3D artwork in the classroom, drawing direct influence from the innovative and thought-provoking creations of Antony Gormley.

## Ms Bolger's S1 Ceramic Club

Under the guidance of Ms. Bolger, an engaging ceramic club reached its conclusion, showcasing a remarkable collection of artworks crafted by a select group of S1 students. The club sessions, held during Wednesday lunchtimes, provided an opportunity for the students to delve into the realm of ceramics, where they learned the art of crafting captivating three-dimensional shapes and forms while enjoying social interactions. The club proved to be a resounding success, fostering a nurturing and inspiring environment for the students' creative exploration.



*By Mrs Skelton, Principal Teacher of Art & Design*

## S1 John Muir Award – Geography Department

Our Geography Team led a trip to Mugdock Country Park for every S1 pupil in Kirkintilloch High School. S1 pupils completed three activities across the course of the day which allowed them to discover and explore a wild place. Activities were, orienteering with PE, den building with Geography and face in the dirt with Art. Our pupils were a credit to the school. All pupils who were on the trip demonstrated brilliant communication and teamwork skills and received skills recognition on their reports to parents.





In class, pupils have started to now look at how they can conserve the environment by completing environmental quality surveys, field sketches and they will soon make a bird feeder. Upon successful completion of the final challenge which is to 'share', S1 pupils will achieve their John Muir Award accreditation.



*By Miss Webster, Teacher of Geography*



## Home Economics Department Update

### Family Learning

The Home Economics department launched our family cooking sessions "Big Cook Little Cook" in May 2023. It was a great opportunity to meet families and make healthy homemade meals together. Throughout the cooking sessions we made Apple Turnover, Wagamama's Chicken Katsu Curry and Chocolate Chip Cookies! We look forward to delivering the sessions again in the new term and welcoming new families to the classes.

### Breakfast Club

The Cost of the School Day Committee launched the school breakfast club in October 2022. The club has been a great success and the feedback from the pupil survey was all very positive. Within the first 6 months we served around 500 breakfasts and 71 pupils engaged with the service. The breakfast club allows pupils to have a nutritious healthy breakfast before the school day begins and provides an opportunity for pupils to interact with staff and friends in a safe and welcoming environment.



### Mossgiel Farm, Ayrshire



The Home Economics department organised a trip for our S3 Hospitality pupils to Mossgiel Organic Farm in Ayrshire, to learn more about food sustainability and organic dairy farming. Mossgiel Farm is an inspiring model of better dairy production, where nature is being restored. Animal welfare is also prioritised with a small herd of native Ayrshire cows and calves staying together, roaming freely, grazing on protein-rich herbal leys. We walked through the ley fields to meet the calves in East Mossgiel, where Robbie Burns once lived. In addition to learning about organic milk production, pupils learned about carbon neutral farming and had the opportunity to see the large bio-mass boiler which will ensure the farm is carbon neutral by 2025. Thanks to Dave at Mossgiel for providing a very informative tour and for the free pints of milk to bring home with us!

### S3 Better Burger Challenge

S3 Practical Cookery pupils took part in the National Better Burger Challenge with Quality Meat Scotland (QMS). Pupils were challenged with creating an innovative burger recipe using either Scotch Lamb, Beef or Specially Selected Pork. The competition allowed pupils to learn about the journey food makes from farm to fork, product design and reformulation. We chose a winning burger from each S3 class, which was then entered into the National competition. We are pleased to announce that Aiden T and Aiden C won the overall competition beating lots of other schools with their spicy beef and bean burger called 'The Big Drooling Dreamer'.

A photograph of two young men, Aiden T and Aiden C, standing in front of a backdrop. They are both wearing white shirts and blue ties. Aiden T is on the left, wearing glasses, and is holding a white tote bag. Aiden C is on the right, also holding the same white tote bag. The tote bag features logos for 'SCOTCH LAMB', 'SCOTCH BEEF', and 'PORK', along with the website 'www.makeitscotch.com'. The backdrop behind them has text about Quality Meat Scotland (QMS) and a picture of a cow in a field. The overall design is a celebratory banner for the 'BETTER BURGER COMPETITION' winners.

# BETTER BURGER COMPETITION

## WINNER

# AIDEN AND AIDEN KIRKINTILLOCH HIGH SCHOOL

All pupils involved will enjoy a trip to the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June and the winners will have the opportunity to see their burger being cooked and served by a professional chef.

*By Mrs Colquhoun, Principal Teacher of Home Economics*



## Biology/Chemistry Department Achievements Leading to STEM Nation Award

### Higher Chemistry



Our Higher Chemistry pupils visited the chemistry labs at Strathclyde university to conduct a series of fun experiments. Fun was had by all, and we had fantastic results!



### S2 Halloween Science

S2 Scientists combined potions to observe and record chemical changes in microscale experiments with a magical twist for Halloween.

### S3 Biology

S3 Biologists learned about genetics and the power of inheritance with their Reebops babies.

### Biology Week



All year groups enjoyed Biology related activities and challenges to celebrate Biology Week. S3 Biologists entered the BioArtAttack competition by building different organs or an entire body. Higher Human Biologists deciphered Biology clues to find the hidden treasure in a Biology week treasure hunt.



### Health Sector



Pupils in our Health Sector course learned all about blood and made wonderful blood models and set up experiments to mimic how blood vessels exchange essential substances.

### Science Captains

Our wonderful Science captains served the department dutifully and helped to lead on a huge number of experiences for our younger

pupils. They represented the Science department at whole school events and even performed at our awards ceremonies to entertain visiting parents. All of this contributed to our school being awarded the full STEM Nation Award from Education Scotland!



*By Mrs McLelland, Principal Teacher of Biology and Chemistry*



## **S1 Wellbeing Group 2022-2023**

The S1 Wellbeing group, Mrs Fullerton and Mrs Wilkes have had a very busy year. We have focussed on improving and supporting our physical and mental wellbeing. Topics have included Nutrition and Exercise, Good Sleep Hygiene, Building Self-Esteem, Emotions and Feelings, Friendships and Relationships amongst others. This is beneficial to all our young people and supports positive mental health, attendance and attainment in other subject areas. We have shared our learning with others, creating leaflets and posters.

Pupils have built positive and supportive relationships within the group and with a number of key staff across the school. We enjoy weekly visits to Ms Baird, our fabulous librarian, and encourage others to visit and pick up a good book from the wonderful selection of resources we have here at KHS. Reading is the perfect summer activity and will support your health and wellbeing, so pick one up!

Baking, cooking and eating have also been enjoyed by pupils and staff! Many thanks to Ms Miller for spending time with us and sharing your nutritional expertise.

One of the highlights of the year was our recent trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park, which was chosen by our young people. This was a celebration for the S1 and S2 Wellbeing groups and was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to Mrs Daniel for supporting us to take this trip together. Our young people were a credit to our school community.



*By Mrs Wilkes, Teacher of Wellbeing Support*



## Wellbeing Support Department Updates

This year the Wellbeing department have had successes with various activities in and around the school.

The S1 Personal Achievement group have all successfully gained a SQCF Level 2 Bronze Award after developing their planning and organising skills. They ran a tuck shop in school to raise money for the group and completed personal projects ranging from animal care to personal presentation.

The S2 Outdoor Learning group have been developing their teamwork, communication and interpersonal skills through activities such as mountain biking, orienteering and gardening.

Our S4 class have achieved a Level 5 Personal Development Award by undertaking projects that required careful planning, delivery and review. These included sports coaching sessions, gardening, recycling, composting school food waste and serving the wider community with local litter picking days to keep Kirky beautiful.

Wellbeing has supported a successful transition for international students and refugees. They have thoroughly enjoyed learning English and being involved in new experiences in and around the school community. They are now looking forward to their full curriculum and are extremely eager to succeed in Scotland.



*By Mr Reddie, Principal Teacher of Wellbeing Support*

### S3 Modern Languages

The S3 Modern Languages students thoroughly enjoyed running their French café this year. We were all impressed by the high standards and the use of the language. Mofe represented KHS for the SCILT Words of World and wrote her message in Yoruba. Kahoots, European Day For Languages, Penpals. Another successful year for our Modern Languages pupils!



*By Mme Sadek Kirk, Principal Teacher of Modern Languages*





### **RMPS Department – Samye Ling Excursion**

In March, our National 5 RMPS class visited Samye Ling Monastery in Dumfries and Galloway. Pupils had the opportunity to further their knowledge about Buddhism by enjoying a guided tour of the grounds, a question and answer session and a guided meditation led by a Buddhist monk.

*By Miss Redden, Teacher of RMPS*



### **History Department – Trip to Berlin**

Pupils across National 4, National 5 and Higher History went on an exciting trip to the city of Berlin. During the trip, they visited the Berlin Zoo, Sachsenhausen (a war time work camp) and walked along the historical site of the Berlin wall. Pupils had a fantastic time, made some brilliant memories and learned lots about the Nazi occupation of Germany. Well done senior historians!



*By Miss Turner, Teacher of History*

## Engineering Science

This year the Design and Technology department took an enthusiastic team of S2 pupils along to the IET Faraday Challenge held at Bishopbriggs Academy. Each IET Faraday Challenge Day involves six school teams, each made up of six S2 pupils who are interested in either Science, Design & Technology, Mathematics or Engineering.

This year's challenge was to come up with an idea/solution that could help in the developing world of future "Drone Delivery Services". The team could come up with any design or idea nothing was "off piste". Our team came up with a great solution where the package could on a common area that would alert the household of the delivery. The team made a prototype that included buzzers and lights with a reflective halo to help the drone find the drop spot.



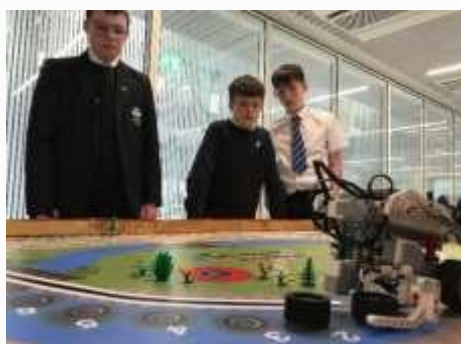
By taking part in a Challenge Day, the pupils achieved three certificates; an Industrial Cadets Challenger Award for completing a hands-on problem solving and critical thinking activity, a CREST Discovery Award from the British Science Association and of course an award from IET Faraday Certificate.

The whole day focussed on fun, teamwork and transferable skills, whilst putting projects into a real-world context. The pupils sadly did not win this time but had a great day learning how to apply the skills they learn to solve problems in Engineering fit into the real world.



## Engineering Club

This year the D&T Department Engineering Club attended the SCDI Robotics Challenge, a Scottish Competition for pupils aged 11-14. The aim of the competition was to have teams work over the year together to solve real-world engineering, technology and computing challenges and then attend a region heat. Using robotics, our team designed and discovered how to build, programme and control [LEGO](#) robots to complete a series of short tasks.



During the competition, our team came second whilst participating in the "Speed Challenge". This is one of the highly competitive parts of the competition day and a real feat to place this high!

During the event, the team had to participate in the unseen STEM challenge. The team worked well together by programming a retro "Big Trak" around an obstacle course. Our team attended the heat held at Forth Valley College, the team had a great day and were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Well done Engineering Club!

*By Mr Speirs, Teacher of Design and Technology*



## PE Department – Sporting Achievements

Mr. McAteer & Mr. Shellam's S1 Football Team had tremendous success throughout the year! Consistent hard work with around 30 pupils attending training each week. The squad were able to fulfil all league fixtures and win some big games throughout the year! The team's effort was rewarded when they progressed to the EDC Schools Cup Final at Celtic Training Ground! Well done!



Our Girls Football Team also followed a similar path with consistent training every week with Mrs. Docherty and senior helpers! Girls played in fixtures throughout year and secured wins at the EDC Schools Girls Football tournament.

In March, this success was celebrated with a day trip down to Manchester to watch Man City play! We had the exciting opportunity to witness Manchester City dominate RB Leipzig 7-0 in the UEFA Champions League Round of 16. This trip was a massive success and with all pupils enjoying the experience!

Mr. Rushford's S2 Football Team had a successful season by fulfilling all their fixtures in the league! Some very close games losing just short against Bearsden and Lenzie. The S3 Football team led by Mr. Fan had a very successful season! The team managed to fulfil their league fixtures against tough opponents and have developed massively as a team! Players Harry and Callum have made it into the Falkirk FC Pro Youth. Meanwhile Oliver has also signed with Alloa FC Pro Youth.

The S4 Football Team had a very successful season securing wins in the league against Bearsden (4-3), St Ninians (3-1) and Douglas Academy (2-0)! Special mentions were awarded to Josh as player of the season and Kris for his superb Leadership skills both on and off the field. The boys' hard work paid off as they made it to the EDC Schools Final playing at the 'Rangers Training Ground' against Bearsden Academy!



The Senior Football team have been great role models to the younger teams throughout the season. Most notably, the team won 2-0 against Bocclair Academy! Well done to the team on their success and to coaches Mr. Brown and Mr. Docherty!

Last but certainly not least for our Football teams is Mrs. Docherty's Senior Girls Team. The girls had a super season, winning the league! Most notably, the girls won a tough and close match against a strong Turnbull High School.



Our Netball Leaders Summer, Hannah and Maisie have been spending time at Oxbang Primary School delivering Netball sessions to pupils. They have also begun running a Netball Club in school for pupils of Kirkintilloch High to learn and develop their skills within this sport!

Similarly, our Football Leaders Harry, Mitchell and Josh have been delivering Football sessions to pupils at Harestanes Primary School. The boys have been developing their coaching skills every session and will continue to do this next year!



Mr. Shellam's Fitness Club this year has been a great success with many 1st years spending time after school staying active and healthy. Pupils have gained a better understanding of how to stay healthy and physically active, both with and without gym equipment. Many fun challenges and group sessions had the pupils stay competitive whilst exercising.

Dance Club with Miss Balkwill has also been great fun! Pupils had the pleasure of learning new moves and how to apply them into dances in a range of different styles! Mr. McAteer's Basketball Club has been a great success this year with consistent attendance, mainly from our S2 cohort! Pupils have trained well and were



able to put their skills to the test in two EDC Schools Basketball competitions this year. It was great to see the team represent the school and show their developed skills through hard work and consistently!

Our Gymnastics club has been a big success this year with a consistent high number of attendees. We had support from our Active Schools Coordinator and seniors. Some of our pupils represented Kirkintilloch High School at the EDC Schools competition in May and achieved podium positions for their events!

Looking back to October, some members of our badminton club represented Kirkintilloch High School at an EDC Schools Competition! All pupils came back with wins against some tough opponents setting the standard high for future representatives! Recently in May, Kirkintilloch High School pupils represented the school in the EDC Schools Athletics Track and Field event 22/23! Together, the school scored 184 points across all events!



*By Mr Matheson, acting Principal Teacher of Physical Education*

### **Message from Police Scotland regarding the illegal use of E-Scooters, Hoverboards and Segways**

For the purposes of trying to ensure the safety of our children and young people we would like to provide some information and guidance regarding the laws and legislation around E-scooters.

E-Scooters and similar mechanically propelled vehicles fall into the category of “motor vehicles” due to their design and motor functionality. In Scotland they therefore require to be used in conjunction with road traffic law. It is therefore illegal for any person without a full UK driving licence and policy of motor insurance to cover the “vehicle” to operate it anywhere other than on private land with the land owner’s permission.

This simply means that children and young people should not be operating e-scooters anywhere that the public have access to e.g roads, pavements, parks, canal paths or play areas. We appreciate that this information is not always provided by retailers at the time of purchase however on a regular basis we are seeing dangerous and damaging incidents involving our young people and e-scooters.

*By School Liaison Police Officers, PC Toner and PC Todd*

## Music and Drama Department Successes

Red Note Ensemble visited our department at the tail end of last year to work with our senior phase pupils. Together the professionals worked with pupils to produce creative and meaningful compositions. These were later performed by the excellent musicians at our concert in March – what a sound they made!

We had a ball during our trip to London Town this month. The staff and pupils had a great time making memories, exploring the sights of the city. We were all in awe at the magical studios of Harry Potter, explored the Natural History Museum, and sailed along the Thames. We later enjoyed the entertainment offered in Covent Garden, before being blown away by Wicked the musical in the evening. Before we set off back to Kirky we found ourselves taking hundreds of selfies with the celebrities found in Madame Tussauds.

June has been a remarkably busy month for the Performing Arts Department. We hosted our first ever Young Performer of the Year Competition on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June. After an incredibly competitive audition process, 6 instrumentalists, 6 vocalists and 6 actors were selected to perform on the evening, to visiting adjudicators and a sold-out live audience. The evening was an immense success, highlighting the vast talent of Kirkintilloch High School. Congratulations to the winners of each category, we are so proud of everyone!

*By Miss Horning, acting Principal Teacher of Drama and Music*

