

Wallace Hall

NEWSLETTER



June 2017

Together we grow, learn and achieve

Impressive Iceland



Forty Wallace Hall Academy pupils accompanied by four members of staff recently visited Iceland on a Geography Trip to learn more about this beautiful country characterised by its magnificent waterfalls, fiery volcanoes and geothermal phenomena. For full report and pictures from this fantastic trip turn to pages 16 - 21.

Introducing our new S6 Office Bearers

After a closely-fought campaign, Wallace Hall's Head Boy, Girl and Deputes for the coming year have been elected as follows: **Jack Roberts (Head Boy), Hannah Graham (Head Girl), Gavin Wilson (Depute Head Boy) and Georgie Blount (Depute Head Girl).**

Hannah said, "I'm really looking forward to the next year and all the experiences I will have working with pupils and staff throughout the school." Mr Blair, Depute Head Teacher at WHA, said: "I have high hopes for our new office bearers and I'm sure they will be able to move the school forwards during their time as Head Boy and Girl."



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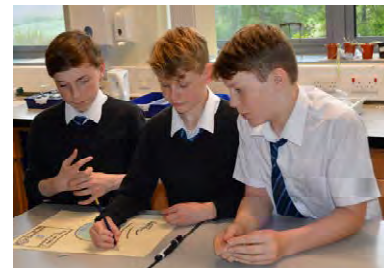
IDL science and business



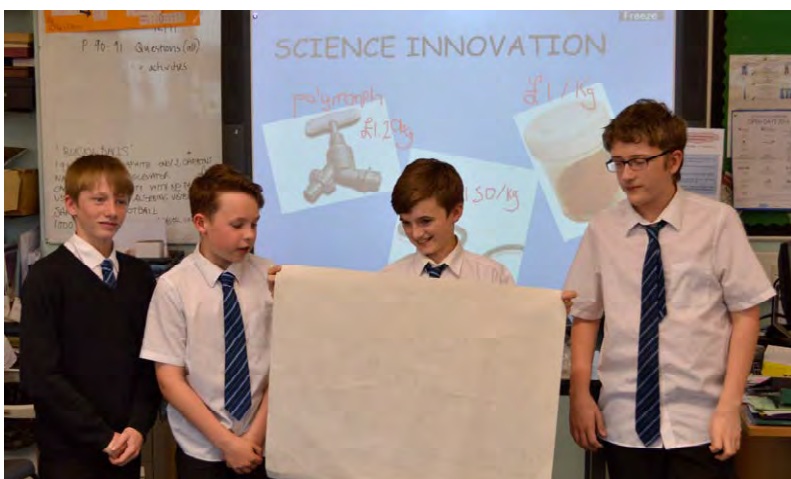
S1 pupils were treated to an IDL afternoon between the Science and Business Management departments during May.

Pupils spent some time learning about smart materials before creating their own business plan for a smart product of their own. They had

to decide on a name, slogan and target market for their product, trying to make it attractive to potential consumers.



Mr Gordon said: "The activity was a great success and was well received by pupils and staff alike."



Contacting the school

The telephone number for Wallace Hall is 01848 332120 with the fax number 01848 332564. The email address for our secondary is: gw08officewallace@ea.dumgal.sch.uk and for the primary/nursery it is: gw08officewallacehal@ea.dumgal.sch.uk.

Our office staff are your first point of contact. They will be pleased to deal with any enquiry you wish to make regarding your child and to put you in touch with the relevant member of staff. Outside office hours you may leave a message on our answering machine. Please contact us if you have any problems. We are here to help. Visit the school website: www.wallacehall.co.uk for the latest news and information about the whole school.

P3 and P5 trip to Cream o' Galloway

By Kirsten Fergusson



On Wednesday the 10th of May, pupils from Primary 5 and Primary 3 went to Cream o'Galloway for the day.



When we arrived we split into groups and went around the nature trail. It had lots of clues and questions we had to find the answers to, and the hour we spent there went by really quickly.

After lunch we were allowed in the soft play area for five minutes,

before going on a farm tour. We got to see all sorts of things such as where the cows were milked. It was amazing!

After that we all got an ice-cream and headed to the adventure playground, which was brilliant fun. I went down a big slide and felt a bit scared but I really enjoyed it in the end.



We also got to go on Go Boing! This was the best part of the day for lots of us. Sofia Young said: "My

favourite bit was when it looked like I was flying like Superman. It was so fun!"

At the end of the day all of Primary Five went into the soft play area together to play hide and seek. It was really nice to watch everyone having so much fun on what had been a brilliant day.



Celebrating Success

On Thursday 15th June, relatives, friends and pupils gathered for Wallace Hall Academy's annual Junior Celebration of Success evening. The event is a highlight in the school calendar and this year's ceremony was no exception. It was fantastic to see such a large number of audience members who joined us in celebrating the achievements of our pupils.

The vibrant tone of the evening was set by former student, Fergus Hiddleston, who piped our award winners into the Bailey Hall. The audience was greeted by Mrs Robertson, PT Pupil Support, before Mr Graham kick-started the evening with a welcome speech. Mr Graham's speech highlighted an array of successes achieved by pupils over the course of the year.

Over one hundred students proudly received awards in curricular areas and in wider achievement. Between presentations the audience was treated to musical performances by pupils. Andrew Oram and Sean Thornely-Kyle performed beautiful renditions of 'Valse Allegretto' and 'Under the Sea'. Later on in the

evening, Ailsa Black led the S3 ensemble on vocals, with accompaniment from Finlay Bainbridge on keyboard; Mitch Peacock on guitar; Olivia Macklin on bass guitar; and Sandy Quinn on



Hannah Graham and Jack Roberts



Sara Collier

catchy cover of 'Dream On' by Amy MacDonald. Next, the award winners were addressed by our recently appointed Head Boy and Head Girl, Jack Roberts and Hannah Graham. The enthusiastic pair took to the stage and offered words of praise, wisdom and encouragement to their peers. This was followed by a review of the school year by Olivia Andreasen in S1, Naomi Watson in S2 and Lukas Andreasen in S3. The trio brought the evening to a close with an entertaining account of their highlights of the school year.

All in all, the evening was a huge success thanks to all who played a role in attending or organising the event. A special

thank you must go to Mrs Bainbridge and the office staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the evening ran smoothly.



S3 Boys' Hockey Team



Andrew Oram and Sean Thornely-Kyle



Olivia Andreasen



Sorcha Corrigan



Anya Graham



John Hewson



Abigail Maxwell



Sandy Spence



Bruce Adkin



Sophie Livingstone



Jasmine McMillan



Cailan Milligan



Campbell Hiddleston



Kyle Colchester



Emily Young



Josie Blount



Emma Hamilton



Michael Roberts



Andrew Oram



Ryan Ferguson



Brodie Fergusson



Ruaridh Fergusson



Rory Gordon



Aeron Greenland



Laura Hampson



Matthew Johnstone



Eilidh Wilson



Darroch Wood



Cameron Brown



Aidan Kennedy



Hannah Ogilvie



Jennifer Clark



Joshua O'Sullivan



Anna Wilson



Representative honours for our S2 girls' hockey team



Representative honours for our S1 badminton players



Representative honours for our footballers



Representative honours for our S2 boys' hockey team



Representative honours for our skaters



Representative honours for our robotics team



Representative honours for our S1 boys' hockey team

P2's Transport Assembly

P2 shared their recent learning from their Transport topic with their families last month. They covered travel by air, land and sea and thoroughly entertained their audience!



Researching countries around the world

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

P1's topic last term was to research different countries around the world.

They chose one country from every continent - Italy, China, Australia, Kenya and Brazil - and did lots of fun activities to help them learn about all the different cultures. They found out where Scotland was compared to these countries on maps and the globe,

made lots of art relating to the other countries, and even visited the Academy's kitchen to have a go at preparing some food from other countries.

They also learned about space and the solar system, and did some research on this with P6.

Everyone really enjoyed the topic and is looking forward to starting a new topic next year.



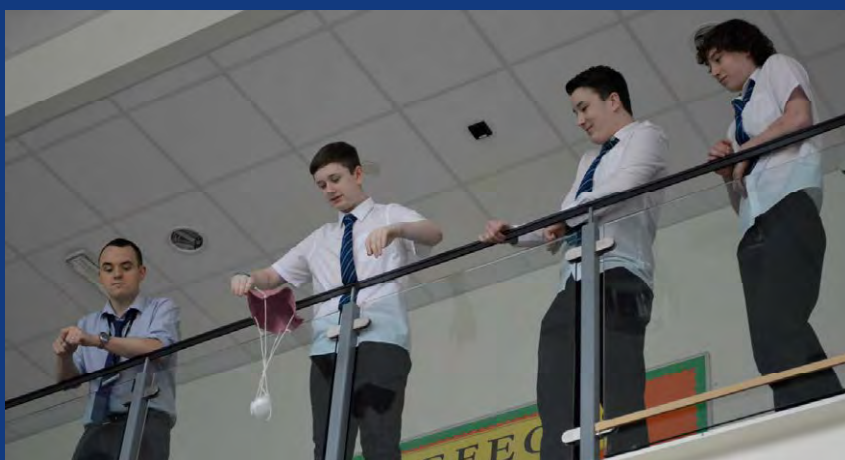
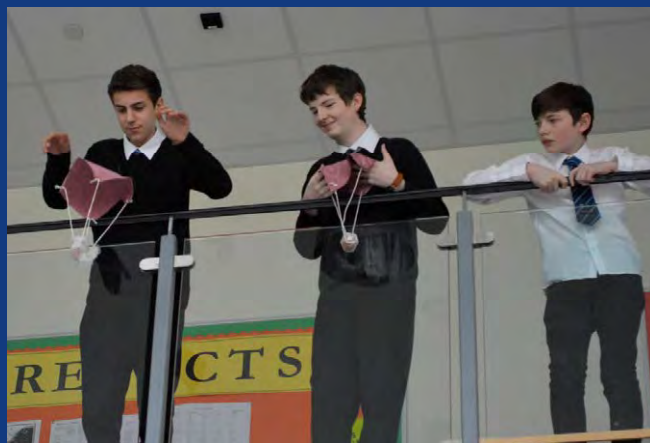
A cracking eggsperiment

Mr Gordon's S3 Physics pupils recently spent some time testing how using a parachute could affect the speed of a falling egg.

In groups, the pupils designed and made their egg parachute and then launched their creation from the balcony down to the Street. Although not many of the eggs survived the activity, pupils left with

a better understanding of how the design of the parachute impacted on the egg's speed of descent to the ground.

Sam Godfrey, S3, said: "Launching the eggs off the balcony was great fun and an excellent way for us to visualise how air resistance can slow down the speed of a falling object."



Pupils in the Art and Design Department at Wallace Hall Academy have been making colourful clay tiles. Here is a small selection of some of their finished tiles.



Activities for All



Activities Week always provides opportunities for our students to step outside their normal learning environment, and this year was no exception.

Mr Corrigan, Principal Teacher of Design & Technology who organised the three days of events, explained how he tries to achieve a balance that is accessible to everyone: "Activities Week provides a stimulating end to our annual timetable, where we all see ourselves in a different setting. We, as staff, get a chance to see talents of the young people we work with which we may otherwise be unaware of.

"Thirty-eight events were offered over the three days, with

a mixture of familiar and new activities. An exciting new event for this year took place at

Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex, where Mr Riley led a group on the dry ski slopes. Feedback after this event was fantastic and I strongly believe this will become a popular event in the future.

"Activities Week would not run as successfully as it does without the co-operation of the whole school community, and I am massively appreciative of everybody's participation.

We also enjoy the generous support of our community, such as with Thornhill Golf Club offering a round of golf without charge. We were also once again visited by professional photographers John Pearson and Ewan Cannon, who gave our students an introduction to top level photography."

This year two events were organised and led by our older students, with Greg Dunbar presenting 'Lego Creations' and the team from Pegasus Restaurant preparing a delicious barbecue.

Overall, Activities Week was a fun and stimulating time for all involved. We're already looking forward to what next year has in store!

Please turn the page for more photographs from Activities Week. Special thanks to Aidan Kennedy for his help with photography over the three days.





Activities Week



Activities Week



Activities Week

Together we grow, learn and achieve



Activities Week

Iceland Trip

Report by Annabelle Guthrie



When someone mentions Iceland, many people may think about the High Street supermarket. But for forty S3-S5 pupils, their thoughts couldn't have been further from food shopping as the Geography trip to the country of Iceland approached.

The excited students congregated at Wallace Hall Academy on June 3rd, ready to start their journey to Iceland. After a short bus ride to Glasgow Airport and then a two-hour plane journey, we arrived in Iceland. We met our guide, Rob, and travelled to our first stop of the journey: the Blue Lagoon, a man-made geothermal spa which gets its name from the water, which is rich in chemicals such



as sulphur and silica, both of which can help heal many skin conditions. We all made use of the white clay masks which were on offer, and marvelled at how nice they made our skin feel. After this very relaxing stop, we had a drive which was about an hour long



before arriving at our lovely hotel which was in a town called Hveragerði, 30 minutes south-east of Reykjavik.

Our second day was a tour of the Golden Circle and it opened with a stop at Faxifoss Waterfall, which

we were all very impressed with. However, when we arrived at our second stop, Gullfoss Waterfall, we were all speechless at the fact that enough water to fill an Olympic swimming pool cascaded down the waterfall every second. The waterfall is approached along the rim of a 2.5km canyon which was

very impressive. Our lunch stop was at the Great Geysir. This is the most active geyser in the area and it spouts up to 25m high every five minutes. We all concluded after this spot that every area where there



is geothermal activity smells strongly of rotten egg due to the sulphur present. After lunch, we journeyed to Þingvellir National Park, which is where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet to form the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, with an area of "no-man's



land" in between. The two plates come together to make a beautiful canyon and we all enjoyed learning about the history of the area. When the Vikings



arrived in Iceland, they used an area in the national park as their government, before moving the government to the capital city of Reykjavik. Following on from this stop, we travelled to Hellisheidi power station, where we had a tour and learned about



geothermal power. Here we learned that it only takes two people to control the whole power station. Our day ended back at the hotel, where many enjoyed the available facilities, including the games room and the outdoor pool and waterslide.

We spent the third day on the South Shores of



Iceland, and our first stop was near to Eyjafjallajökull, the volcano that disrupted all air travel across Europe when it erupted in 2010. Following this, we then travelled to Skógafoss Waterfall, climbing up 429 steps to be parallel to the top of the waterfall. When



we got back to the bottom, those who were in full waterproofs were allowed the opportunity to walk to the plunge pool of the waterfall, getting extremely wet in the process. After our lunch stop, we travelled along the tombolo to the black sand beach, which has





good views of a sea stack and of Dyrholaey, an island connected to the mainland formed by longshore drift

with a good example of an arch. Both of these were created by hydraulic erosion. Our penultimate stop of the day was at Sólheimajökull glacier tongue. There are black lumps of ash on the glacier from the volcanic eruption in 2010, and these help to

insulate the ice so it doesn't melt. Before our day ended, we travelled to Seljalandsfoss waterfall, which you can actually walk behind and get soaked from the spray. We all returned to the bus, feeling pretty soggy, but in awe of what we had seen that day.

Everyone was sad to start our last day, but we definitely made the most of it. Our first stop was Stora Elborg spatter cone, which we climbed up a very steep slope to. After this, we stopped at a viewpoint over Lake Kleifarvatn for about 10 minutes. This lake is unusual as the water in the lake only comes from rain or what rolls off the nearby hills, as there are no streams to carry water in or out of the lake. Following



this, we visited our last geography-based stop. This was Seltún geothermal area, where there are bubbling mud pots. The area was formed when scientists dug for geothermal energy, but misjudged the strength of the area they were digging in, causing an explosion which left this area of boiling mud in its place. The heat of the mud will eventually erode all the rock surrounding it. The afternoon was spent

exploring Reykjavik, and we all got to go inside the beautiful cathedral, home to one of the biggest organs in the world with 5275 pipes. The cathedral took





discovered while in Iceland. Thanks to Mr Miller for organising a fantastic trip, and to Mrs Bainbridge, Mr McEwan and Mrs Menzies who came along to help the trip run smoothly.

Turn the page for a few more photographs from our visit to Iceland.



twenty-one years to build and was only finished in the early 1980s.

Our last night concluded with a quiz led by Mrs Menzies, Mrs Bainbridge and Rob, picking our brains about what we had learned this week.

We arrived back at school on June 7th, tired but still thinking about all the new things we had







Music Making

report by Josie Fairley Keast

Wallace Hall Nursery pupils had the chance to visit a Higher and Advanced Higher Music class last term. The Nursery performed some songs which they had been working on, and were then treated to performances from Higher and Advanced Higher pupils, who at that point were preparing for their SQA exams.



Learning about Light and Colour

On Friday the 28th April, Primary 3 held an assembly about their topic, light and colour, in the Primary Games Hall. Their parents came to watch the assembly and they thoroughly enjoyed it. P3 pupils are looking forward to starting their new topic, Technology.

Dance Workshop

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

As part of Wallace Hall Primary's Health Week in April, Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils along with their teachers, took part in a dance workshop with

Mrs Andrews, Modern Studies teacher at the Academy.

This was a great example of collaboration between the two parts of the school.

The classes and their teachers danced for an hour to One Direction and learned a full disco routine. Mrs Andrews said: "I think the pupils had lots of fun, their teachers did too, and we all learned some new dance moves. Hopefully this activity will be the first of many."



Leg Waxing

A group of the S6 Charities Committee arranged leg waxing for senior pupils and teachers in the Bailey Hall before Easter. This was in aid of the East African Famine Appeal.

A number of male pupils and staff stepped up to go through the eye-watering experience on the stage, much to the delight of a large school lunchtime audience. A big thank you to S6 pupil Charlie Geddes who conducted the torture!

In addition, particular mention should be given to our two members of staff who put themselves forward, Mr Miller and Mr McKenna.



Higher Drama Exam

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

The Higher Drama performance exam was held on the 28th of April and consisted of six short extracts: three from Sophocles's *Antigone*, and three

contrasting pieces from more modern texts.

Younger pupils planning on taking the subject in the future were encouraged to be part of the audience for the exam, as it is an

excellent opportunity to see what this part of the course entails.

Ms Beynon, Drama teacher at WHA, said: "All the pupils performed exceptionally well in their exam. The photographs below were taken at the rehearsal for the exam and illustrate the high standard of performance delivered by our pupils."



Saltire Success

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



S3 pupils had their first Saltire awards assembly earlier this year and eleven pupils received awards.

A special mention goes to Emma Hamilton, Olivia Macklin and Lauren Fitzsimon who all received 500 hour awards for volunteering with Camplebridge Riding School.

In addition, twenty-six S4 and S5 pupils also received awards in February. Oishin O'Hara received his 200 hour award for volunteering with Oxfam, and Alice Gonlag, Georgie Blount and Erin Dobie all received 100 hour awards. Well done to all of our award winners across the school this time round!



Cooking up a storm

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

Three S3 classes have recently risen to the challenge of planning, preparing, and serving a three-course lunch to groups of staff.

Mr Mack said: "This was a trial run of using the hospitality suite further down in the school and it was a great success, with a variety of delicious dishes on offer." Mrs Menzies was even able to order a take-away lunch which was brought up to the library, and said that the piece of chocolate brownie was "to die for."

It is hoped that the success of this trial can be built upon over the course of the coming weeks.



Transitions Time

Together we grow, learn and achieve



Pupils 'Perform in Dumfries'

Report by Bailie Paterson



'Perform in Dumfries', the annual competition run by the Dumfries and District Music Festival committee, was once again a great experience for pupils from Wallace Hall.

A number of young people took part in the various disciplines: music, speech, accordion and fiddle, and country dancing. Individual winners were as follows: Speech – Ailsa Black (War Poetry S1 – S3), Emily Kennedy (Scots Verse S4 – S6), Angus MacCormick (Prose Boys P6 – P7), John McKay

(Poetry S1 – S3, Prose S1 – S3), Luke McKay (Sight Reading S1 – S3, Bible Reading S1 – S3), Bailie Paterson (Scots Verse S1 – S3). Music: Declan McGarva (Grade 5 piano, Free Choice piano). In the Country Dancing Section a team



from Wallace Hall Primary took top spot in their class, and in the Accordion and Fiddle section the Wallace Hall P5 Accordion Group won the group section. Wallace Hall pupils also secured wins as part of the Dumfries Jazz Orchestra and Dumfries Schools' Band.

Bailie Paterson wrote the following report about her experience at 'Perform in Dumfries':

"My journey to the competition started when I met my tutor, Mrs Sophia Harkness. I had to choose between two Scottish poems: A Manifesto for MSPs and Gin I Wis God. I picked A Manifesto for MSPs and started learning it straight away. I won't lie - sometimes I would forget the poem and I was worried that I would forget the words on the day. Mrs Harkness came once a week to help me, and in the last few weeks before the competition she came twice a week.

"When it got nearer to the competition I was pretty nervous and had to keep going over the words in my head. I wasn't sure how I was going to do because I was the only first year competing, but I was less nervous when I remembered that I took part in similar competitions at Primary school. On the day my mum and brother couldn't make it so my dad took me to the competition.

"When we got to Dumfries Academy we walked in and picked



up a programme. We then went into the main hall to meet Mrs Harkness and she went over the poem with me. Soon it was my section, so we registered and sat down. I was really nervous and shaking, but luckily I was last so I could keep going over the poem in my head. My name was called and I made my way to the stage.

Afterwards I felt proud as I had performed to the best of my ability and I was thinking that any of us could win the trophy. When the adjudicator stood up I was nervous



and excited at the same time, but when he read out the comments I was happy with my feedback. When he called out my name as the winner it was an amazing feeling! I was so happy and very lucky

because the other contestants had all performed so well. I stood up and had some pictures taken with the adjudicator.

"Once we had left the hall, Mrs Menzies took me outside where we

took some individual pictures and one with the other Wallace Hall Academy contestants. My mum and brother couldn't believe it. My time leading up to the competition was fun, exciting and a bit scary, but all worth it in the end. Hopefully I will carry on for many years to come.

"Finally I would like to thank Mrs Harkness and Mrs Menzies for all their help throughout the competition."





Successful Salsa Session

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



New S2 pupils were recently given the opportunity to spend an afternoon learning salsa dancing as a creative partnership between the

Drama and Modern Languages departments.

The activity was led by Mrs Andrews, Ms Beynon and Mrs McMillan, along with some senior

students who were invited to help out on percussion. The entire year was able to learn some basic salsa steps which formed a short routine, following instructions given in both English and Spanish.

Mrs McMillan said: "It was really good to see everyone participating - some people enjoyed it so much that they offered to come up on stage and dance with Mrs Andrews. As well as being a combination of the Expressive Arts and Modern Languages, the amount of exercise involved meant it could be considered a part of Health and Wellbeing as well. It could easily become an annual event for pupils studying Spanish at the start of S2."



Saying goodbye to S6

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

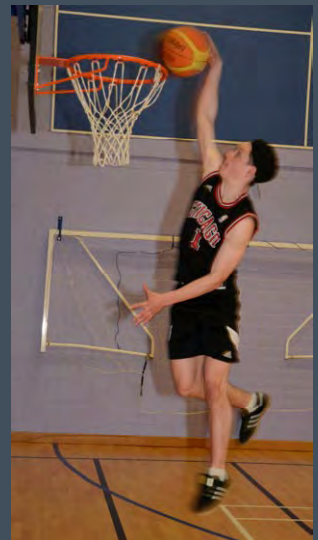
The S6 last day of term took place on the 27th of April, just before the official start of exam leave.

Although the theme for the day was 'Cops and Robbers', there were many inventive costumes on display throughout the day. Special mention has to go to our Head Boy, Josh Notman, who spent the day disguised as a dinosaur!

The morning started with a continental breakfast and movie in the Bailey Hall, followed by coffee and cake with teachers in the library at break. Pupils took part in a water fight during periods three and four before finishing with a barbecue at lunchtime.

Mr Blair said: "All staff at Wallace Hall hope that everyone enjoyed their last day and wish them all the best for the future."





University Experience

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



A group of S2 pupils from Wallace Hall recently had the chance to visit the University of Cumbria for a day's worth of activities.

They received a tour of campus and student accommodation, learned about what life at university

is like, and took part in workshops on criminology and childcare.

Mrs Robertson said: "The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain an insight into university life and to start to think about higher education."



Nursery Health Week

Report by Fearne Tait and Iona Menzies

Nursery pupils have been taking part in lots of fun activities for health week including yoga with Mrs Bailey, rugby with Mr Hannah and football with Queen of the South. They also had a fire safety talk.

They had lots of healthy snacks including fruit kebabs, chicken kebabs, homemade soup and pasta with vegetables. Then it was helmets on for The Big Pedal. Then they got to run a full mile! After that they had a go at Zumba and had a great time.

It sounds like everyone in the Nursery had lots of fun!



Queensberry Initiative S3 Biology Day

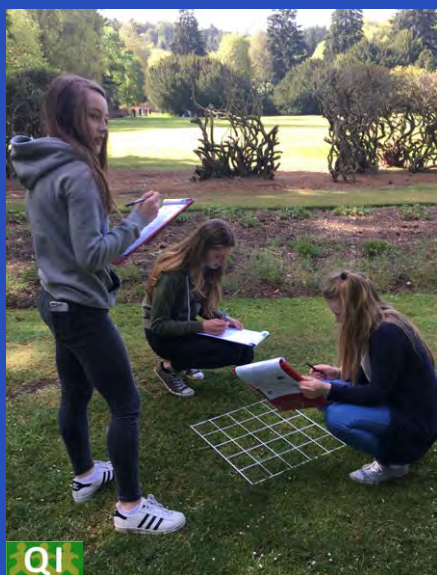
Report by Phoebe Murray

On Tuesday the 9th of May, the sun was shining and the S3 Biology pupils from Wallace Hall Academy went to Queensberry Estate for a whole day of Biology Sampling Techniques. We were placed into groups and set off with our National 5 workbooks to start the activities which were set up all over the estate by Queensberry Initiative (QI) staff.

First of all we used quadrats to count the species of plants in the fields. We had studied this in



QI



QI

class but it was great to get the chance to do it for real. Another activity found us testing the pH, moisture and light intensity of the soil. QI staff had set pitfall traps in the woods so we removed the bugs from the traps using pooters and used ID charts to identify them.

I think the favourite activity for most of us though was the pond dipping. After hiking up to Beech Loch, we spent forty-five minutes looking for water creatures using nets and then identified them using ID charts. We found lots of different species in the loch which told us how good the water quality was. We all had a really good day

and hopefully we will now remember all these techniques when we do our exams next year.

Thank you to QI for arranging the day and Queensberry Estate for hosting the event.



QI



QI



QI

Hayden's hard work pays off

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

Hayden Meredith, S6, has recently been extremely successful in the Welsh Open Martial Arts Competition, held on the fourth of June.

Hayden has been training in Shotokan Karate for almost five years and competed in the kata

section, a choreographed pattern of movements resembling different strikes, holds and throws. Carly Smith, a fellow competitor from Dumfries and Galloway, has been training for over three years and took part in the fighting points section. This was Hayden's second



year of competing and Carly's first; however, both did extremely well, winning first and second place respectively.

Hayden said: "Even though Carly's nerves were all over the place she gave it a good go, achieving second place against the likes of a world champion. To me the most important thing is to have a go, give it your best, and enjoy it, which I did." Mr Dillon said: "Hayden works extremely hard to improve his skill level and performance in karate, and it is excellent to see the results of all his hard work."



Gavin is selected for Scotland

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



Sixth year pupil Gavin Wilson has been chosen for Scotland U17s Rugby Team, an incredible achievement that has come about not only after several trial games held in October, but as the result of close to a decade of sporting dedication.

Gavin said: "I first started playing in P4 with Dumfries Saints, and I stayed with them until S3, when I was given a trial for Glasgow U16s. After that I was selected for Scotland U16s, and the game I played with them last Easter was probably one of the highlights of my career so far.

My next goal is to get into Glasgow U18s, and I'd ultimately like to get a professional contract and have a full-time career in rugby. I've been inspired by the teammates I've had the pleasure of playing with over the years, and also by my parents. They've driven me up and down the country several times a week for the last few years, as well as my Dad acting as my coach, and I wouldn't be where I am now without them." Gavin has helped teams to win both the U16 and U18 Conference Cups throughout his time at school, and also plays for the school football team. He was recently made Depute Head Boy, and when asked what advice he'd give to a young athlete hoping for similar successes, said: "You've got to stick to it and work hard. You're not going to get anywhere without putting the work in."

The Big Pedal

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



Mrs McDiarmid, Depute Headteacher, said: "It's a fun activity, not a race or a competition. It's all about being safe and learning to ride a bike or scooter properly and with a helmet. It's always one of the highlights of health week." Arron Valentine, P4, said: "We pedalled a mile around the school in a day! I think it was quite good - it could have been longer though."

Archie Maxwell, P1, added: "I really enjoyed taking my bike to school. It was great fun pedalling round the track."

Last term, Wallace Hall Primary had lots of fun completing The Big Pedal. The Big Pedal takes place every March as part of our Celebration of Health Week. All classes from P1 through to P7 are encouraged to take part by bringing their bike or scooter to school.

After having their helmets and bikes checked for safety, pupils followed a route around the front of the school marked out by parent helpers along the way. Younger pupils had a shorter route and fewer laps to complete than older pupils; however, the challenge is a fun day for all.





Wallace Hall Sports Day

Following a weekend of heavy rain and a wet start to the morning, it was decided that sports day this year would be for competitors only. However, this decision did not dampen the enthusiasm of the athletes with the top spots in track and field events fought for fiercely throughout the day.

The sun peeped through in the afternoon for the final events and at the end of the last race the overall sports champions were announced as follows: S1 Girls - Freya Gracie, S1 Boys - James Hastings, S2 Girls - Zara Weir, S2 Boys - Finlay Thomson, S3 Girls - Ines Wood, S3 Boys - Euan Robertson and Lee Wood (joint), Senior Girls - Chloe Williams, Senior Boys - Finlay Smith. Congratulations to all who took part.





Dumfries and Galloway Secondary Schools' Junior Netball Festival

Once again, Wallace Hall Academy hosted the Dumfries and Galloway Secondary Schools' Junior Netball Festival. Although we did not pick up any trophies this time, both Wallace Hall teams played extremely well. Here are some photographs of our girls in action on the day.





Aeron is crowned double Scottish Champion

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



S2 pupil Aeron Greenland has recently become a double Scottish Champion after competing in the Scottish Kata Competition. The competition was held in Meadowbank, Edinburgh on the fourth of June. Aeron won both the Shotokan and All Styles sections, participating in four rounds of each to come out as both the Scottish Shotokan Champion and the overall Under-14s Scottish Champion.

Aeron said: "I've been doing karate for ten years. I started at Dumfries Shotokan but now train with Kokusai in Glasgow two to three times a week. I trained for about five months to prepare for the competition and I think it paid off because I came away with two

gold medals. I like karate because it's different to any other sport, and because it's not normally taught in schools I think the people who choose to do it are more disciplined. It's quite intense but it's fun."

Aeron's future plans are to win the British championships in September and to compete abroad next year in Sweden, America and Italy.

Mr Dillon, Depute Head Teacher said: "For someone of such a young age, Aeron has



reached a very impressive level in his sport. He has clearly demonstrated that he has the necessary talent, determination and commitment to succeed and I have no doubt he will reach his goals. I look forward to hearing of Aeron's future successes."



Stationery Shop in the Library

The following items of stationery are for sale in the school Library: pencils (40p), pens (40p), erasers (40p), sharpeners (40p), protractors (50p), highlighters (40p), 15cm rulers (40p) and 30cm rulers (40p). As a result of pupil demand, scientific calculators (£10.00), headphones (£2.50), headphone jacks (50p) and jotters (60p) are also now on sale. Any profit that is made from this venture goes towards purchasing new resources for the Library. We also accept donations of good quality books for our Library, in particular junior fiction, senior fiction and current study skills books. Please hand any book donations in to Mrs Menzies in the Library. Any books that are not suitable for our shelves will be taken to a charity shop. Thank you.



Regional Golf Championships

Report by Josie Fairley Keast

A team of six golfers from Wallace Hall competed in the Dumfries and County Regional Golf Championships held in June.

Lewis Cheetham, Rory Gordon (pictured left), Irvine Maxwell, Neil MacDonald, Harry McCabe, and Sam Taylor all took part in the competition, with Rory and Neil coming first and second respectively in the handicap prize.

Mr Mack said: "Everyone did extremely well, showing some real potential and skill. I'm sure we're all looking forward to returning for next year's competition."

Rugby Result

Report by Josie Fairley Keast



Teams from Wallace Hall have recently done very well in a Rugby 10s tournament held at Stewartry Rugby Club.

Squads of thirteen boys and twelve girls travelled from the school to play four matches apiece. After some closely fought games, the girls won two and lost two, while the boys beat teams from Castle Douglas, Douglas Ewart, Dumfries Academy and Langholm to come out on top and lift the trophy. In addition to this, Sam Taylor, S2, was named player of the tournament.

Mr Mack said: "All the players should be proud of how they performed on the day. Scott Landsburgh in particular showed real grit with a try-saving tackle which really changed the flow of the tournament. There's definitely some real potential in both teams and I look forward to seeing them flourish.

"We are also very grateful to Max Gordon of Solyre Ltd, Agriculture and Commercial Tyre Specialists, for his generous donation of a full set of strips for the team. It really improved team spirit and enabled the boys to look the part and play the part."

Photograph below shows Max alongside the team in their new strips.



Sporting Review 2016

report by pupils in the Sports Journalism Elective



Since June 2016 S3 pupils from the Sports Journalism elective have been reporting on Wallace Hall Academy's sporting achievements. This elective is linked to a regional initiative aimed at promoting careers in journalism and an awareness of sport in Dumfries and Galloway. To round off their year's work, the pupils collaborated on the following overview of the sporting year at Wallace Hall.

school championship held at Braehead Ice Rink in Glasgow. The team played seven games overall to reach the semi-finals and were narrowly beaten by a team from Perth Academy.

February 2016 - Cross Country Tournament

On Monday 15th February, Wallace Hall Academy's cross country competitors stepped up to the line, fit and ready for the race. A good representation of pupils from all year groups set off round the course, ready for the challenge that lay ahead. Race winners were presented with a trophy and first, second and third placed competitors received a lovely medal.

February 2016 - S1-S2 Dodgeball

A dozen of the best pupils from S1 & S2 were chosen to participate in the Dumfries and Galloway Schools Regional Dodgeball tournament. The entire event was run and organised by young ambassadors all around the region. The two teams managed to qualify

George V Sports Centre in Dumfries to participate in the annual Dr Turner's Hockey Tournament. The S1 girls won six games, only losing one game against Dumfries High School. They had some close matches but



luckily managed to get in the lead before the whistle was blown.

The hardest match for the S2 girls' team had to be against Dumfries High School as they were a very strong team. In the end they came fourth overall.

March – Lois Geddes, Dancing

In March 2016, Lois Geddes competed in the Street Dance British Championships. Lois managed to achieve 8th in her duo section, 5th in the quads section and 3rd with her team "New Kidz". Lois was pleased with her performance and she's looking forward to the next competition.



April - Gavin Wilson selected for Scotland

Gavin Wilson from S4 was picked to play for the Scotland U16 rugby team in the prestigious Four Nations Tournament. The tournament, with sides from Scotland, Wales, France and Italy, was held at the beginning of April



February 2016 - Curling

Congratulations to the Wallace Hall curling team - Ross Whyte, Fraser Morton, Cameron Parkin, Olivia McKeown and Katie Jackson - who reached the semi-finals of the

and beat their competitors in the finals and then received gold and silver medals.

March - S1 and S2 Hockey

On March 1st, the S2 girls hockey team travelled to the King



and Gavin was picked to play three games for the squad.

April - Fraser Morton selected for Scotland

In April, Fraser Morton was selected as the goalkeeper for the Scotland U18s football squad. As is

customary in football, Fraser was presented with a Scotland cap following his first match.

June - Tough Mudder

Tough Mudder is a 10-12 mile mud and obstacle course designed to drag you out of your comfort zone by testing your physical strength, stamina and mental grit.

The 'Wallace Hall Warriors' were Mr Arrowsmith, Dr. Fulton, Mr Graham, Mrs Harvey, Mr Mack, Mrs Mack, Mrs Marchant and Mrs Robertson. This team was organised to raise money for Theo's Fund, part of an effort by S2 student Holly-Elise Parkinson and her family to send her cousin Theo to America for life-saving cancer treatment.

Some of the challenges included 'The Electric Shock Therapy', 'Funky Monkey' and 'The Devil's Beard'. Despite the extreme nature of these challenges, 'Wallace Hall Warriors' all battled through to the end.

October - Dr Turner's Hockey Tournament

On Thursday 13th October 2016, the annual senior girls' regional schools' hockey tournament took place at King George V Sports Centre in Dumfries. Although entries were slightly down on previous years, the standard of hockey did not drop. The



participating schools were: Dumfries High School, Lockerbie Academy, Moffat Academy, Douglas Ewart High School, Dalbeattie High School and Wallace Hall Academy. The final was between Lockerbie Academy and Wallace Hall Academy with Wallace Hall emerging triumphant after three penalty corners.

November - Regional Football

The regional football tournament was held on the 3rd November 2016 in Toryglen Football Centre in Glasgow. Participants from Wallace Hall Academy were Aidan Dobie, Matt Gibson, Charlie Brown and Finlay Bainbridge. Glasgow scored two goals in the first fifteen minutes. Dumfries and Galloway scored with a header from a free kick. The second half was dominated by Glasgow and ended in a 6-1 defeat for Dumfries and Galloway.





Wallace Hall Primary and Nursery Sports Day

Together we grow, learn and achieve



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Art & Design - Printmaking

Pupils in Art & Design have been busy printmaking recently. Here is a selection of their work.

Celeste Clark Maxwell



Zara Edgar



Bailey Fraser



Murray Colchester



Matthew Johnstone



Issy Trower



Sophie Livingstone