



VIEWFORTH HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2024



Head Teacher's Welcome

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter. I'm delighted to share a selection of the work and the many experiences and extra-curricular activities offered to our pupils this term. You'll also see several pupil successes and achievements and I'm sure you'll agree that the following pages demonstrate the hard work and commitment of our dedicated team of school staff and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them.

As ever, I'm incredibly proud of our school community and all that we have achieved by working together and supporting each other.

Parents/Carers

Viewforth High School is dependent upon the support of parents and carers working with us to promote and maintain high standards of behaviour, attendance and punctuality and school uniform; all of which help us to create a positive environment for learning and achievement. Viewforth is a school to be proud of and we want our public image to reflect the values staff and parents promote. Your ongoing support is very much needed and appreciated, thank you.

Many of our pupils achieve in ways that are not connected to the school. If your child achieves something that we as a school can recognise and celebrate, please let us know.



HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME CONTINUED



STAFFING

This session we welcomed the following staff:

Robin Kennedy - English
Anthony Reddie – Business Education
Angela Riddell – Home Economics
Jodie Brown - Pupil Support Assistant
Lisa Poole – Admin Co-ordinator
Alison Carson – Clerical Officer
Kim Gilmartin – Senior Social Worker

At the end of this term, we will bid a fond farewell to:

Ceivagh Harvey – Home Economics
Lynne Hughes – Guidance
Sarah Louden (Maternity leave)
Hayley Low – Maths
Sarah McAlister - English
Sophie Meek – History
Leila Smith – Modern Languages
Aileen Sorbie – Business Education
Joanne Stewart – Maths / Guidance

At the beginning of next term we look forward to welcoming:

Irene Barr – Principal Teacher of Guidance
Katy Devine – Home Economics (returning from maternity leave)
Rachel Duncan – Art and Design
Emily Lloyd – Transition Teacher
Kyle Morrice - Physics
Holly Scanlan – English
Jennifer Stocks – Maths / Physics
Darren Thomson - History
Oyibo Uyota – Maths
Javier Vivo - Spanish
Christopher Wilson – Principal Teacher of Guidance
Val Brand - Pupil Support Assistant
Jodie Brown – Pupil Support Assistant
Ian Morris - Pupil Support Assistant

I would like to wish all pupils, parents, carers, staff and partners a happy, safe and relaxing holiday.

Take care and I look forward to seeing you in the new term.

Mrs Lisa Moore
Head Teacher





GUIDANCE TEAM & KEY DATES



Our Year Teams

Our Principal Teacher of Guidance team has seen some changes this session, with some new team members joining us after the Summer Holidays. The team is organised into year teams, with responsibility for a number of registration classes. Each Year Team, led by a Depute Head Teacher, also has a pupil support teacher and an attendance coordinator attached to them to support our pupils throughout the year.

Team	S1/2 Year Team	S3/4 Year Team	S5/6 Year Team
Depute Head Teacher	Stevie Kowbel	Sarah McNamee	Jack Wilson
Principal Teachers of Guidance (Registration Classes)	Carrie Beesley (1M1, 1M2, 2F1, 2M1)	Irene Barr (3M1, 3M2, 4F1)	Lara Robertson (5C, 5F, 5M, 6C, 6M)
	Leanne Campbell (1C1, 2C1, 2C2)	Brian Bowman (3F1, 3F2, 4F2, 4M1, 4M2)	
	Chris Wilson (1C2, 1F2, 2F2)	Louise Gallagher (3C1, 4C1, 4C2)	
Pupil Support Teacher	Robbie Laird	Elaine Barn	Lesley Hill (PTC)
Attendance Coordinator	Cheryl Hamilton (S1, S2, S5)	Wendy Wallace (S3, S4, S6)	

School Holidays (all dates are inclusive)

Autumn - Mon 7 Oct 2024 - Fri 18 Oct 2024
 Christmas - Mon 23 Dec 2024 - Fri 3 Jan 2025
 Additional - Thu 13 Feb 2025 - Fri 14 Feb 2025
 Spring - Mon 7 Apr 2025 - Fri 18 Apr 2025
 Additional - Mon 5 May 2025
 Additional - Mon 2 Jun 2025
 Summer - Fri 4 Jul 2025 - Fri 15 Aug 2025

Parents Evening Dates:

Wed 18th Sept – Primary 7 Showcase Evening
 Wed 23rd Oct – Senior Phase 1
 Tues 29th Oct – Senior Phase 2
 Thurs 5th Dec – S1
 Wed 22nd Jan – S2
 Tues 4th Feb – S3
 Thurs 20th Feb – Senior Phase
 Wed 16th June – Primary 7 Parents' Evening

In-Service days

Mon 19 Aug 2024
 Tue 20 Aug 2024
 Fri 15 Nov 2024
 Wed 12 Feb 2025
 Tue 3 Jun 2025



P7 TRANSITION



It's been a busy few months on the P7 Transition front as we welcomed our new S1 pupils into the building for a variety of events designed to support them to familiarise themselves with their new environment and build relationships with new peers and staff.

In January we held the 'Cluster Celidh' which allowed the pupils to showcase their traditional Scottish dance skills as well as enjoy a disco and some team building games. The 'Maths Challenge' organised by Mrs McLeod in the Maths department followed in February and it was a competitive and well spirited event with this year's winning team of four coming from Sinclairtown PS, well done to all involved!

Next up was the 'Extra Curricular Taster Morning' which allowed pupils to choose from a variety of clubs covering sport & fitness, Music, Maths, dance, Science and Drama. It was a great opportunity for pupils to enjoy the opportunities available beyond the curriculum and build relationships with peers who have similar interests to their own. The Enhanced Transition programme allowed pupils requiring a little extra support with the transition to high school to build confidence and familiarity with their new surroundings. One of the sessions provided the pupils with the opportunity to create their own piece of art in the style of graphic designer and artist, Jon Burgerman. Their creations can be viewed in the picture below, how good do they look!



The transition programme culminated with the two day transition visits and parent/carer evening. The new S1 pupils created an excellent first impression and there was a real buzz about the school on both days. The second day ended with pupils receiving their Viewforth ties and stickers representing the school values being awarded to pupils who had demonstrated these values during the two days. We look forward to officially welcoming the new S1 after the holidays.



ACTIVE SCHOOLS



Viewforth Leadership Academy

During terms 3 and 4 pupils involved in the Viewforth Leadership Academy (S1-3) have been attending training sessions and supporting various events in the Viewforth cluster. This has included:

Completion of 'Introduction to Sports Coaching' training course

Supporting sports day events at Sinclairtown PS and Kirkcaldy North PS

Supporting 'Hop-a-Thon' event at Kirkcaldy North PS

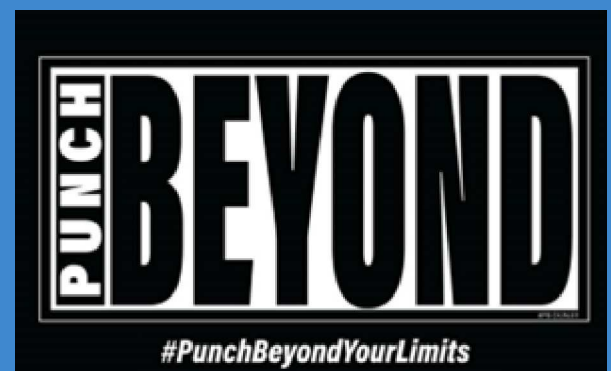
Completion of 'Introduction to Cluster Leagues and Holiday Camp training



Punch Beyond Programme

The Punch Beyond programme was launched during term 4 at Viewforth High School, delivered in partnership between Boxing Scotland, Active Schools, Police Scotland and Linktown Boxing Club. This programme allows pupils to take part in boxing sessions with coaches at Linktown Boxing Club learning basic techniques and skills, as well as educational workshops on a variety of topics led by a range of organisations.

A group of sixteen S1 pupils have been taking part in this programme, showing lots of enthusiasm and commitment throughout. Well done to all pupils involved!



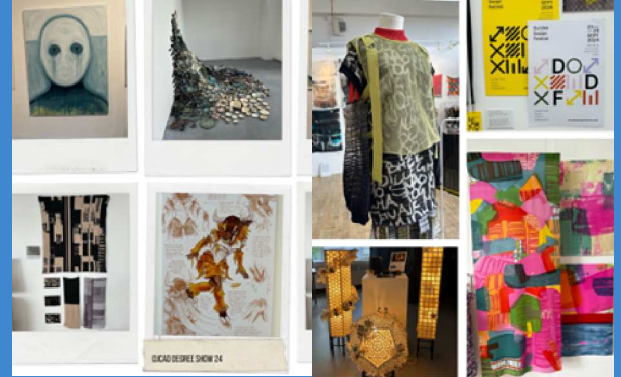


ART & DESIGN

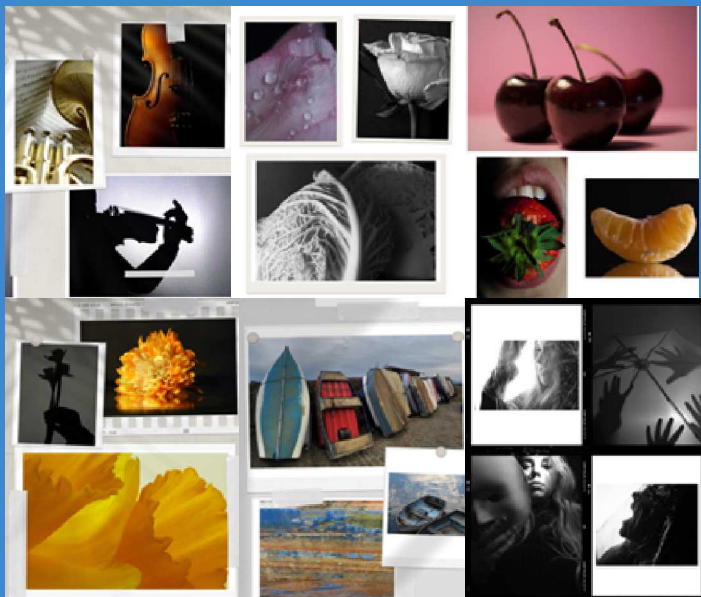


DUNDEE ART TRIP: DJCAD DREGREE SHOW AND KIMONO EXHIBITION V&A

Senior phase pupils in S5 & 6 had the opportunity to browse all the work of the final year students covering a range of artistic disciplines across multiple media and genres, from architecture to animation. We have had the pleasure of teaching this group of pupils from S1 and most of this group are planning to apply to a creative course. By exposing our pupils to a range of styles and practices it gives them inspiration to think about how they might want to respond to the world around them when they go to Art College. As staff we can't wait to attend all their Degree Shows. Congratulations to Oonagh Maxwell whose artwork formed part of the degree. As a previous Viewforth pupil we are very proud of her success, and it was so special to see her work on display.



Our next stop was to visit V&A Dundee's latest visiting exhibition, Kimono: Kyoto to catwalk we all agreed it was a fascinating story about the significance, appeal and influence of this iconic garment. We feasted our eyes on an extraordinary collection of over 300 garments, accessories, prints and paintings and photographs. Both staff and pupils were so inspired that we hoping to look at designers such as Issey Miyake for the critical component of the course.



HIGHER PHOTOGRAPHY

This course inspires and creatively challenges our pupils by encouraging them to visually represent their personal thoughts and ideas through the medium of photography. This is a course we have been running for 9 years in the department. In fact, Mrs Gibb's degree is in Photography and is the go-to person for anything photography related. In 2020 we introduced an additional course called NPA Photography (Level 5) that can be picked up from S3 onwards. Both photography courses don't require you to also take Art + Design these courses are independent of each other. We are really enjoying delivering this course and are feeding into competitions and are looking forward to continuing developing this side of the department.

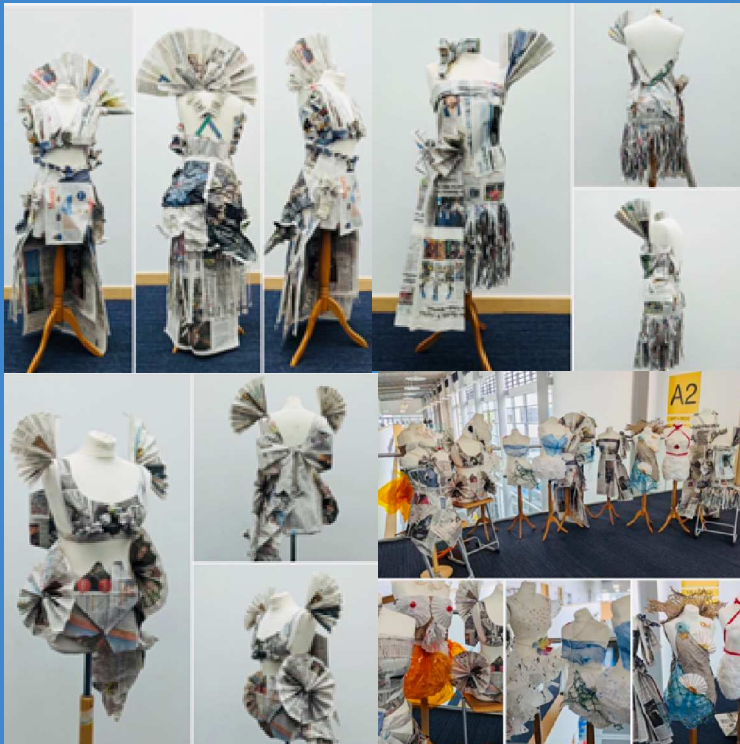


ART & DESIGN



P7 TRANSITION

Our P7's were given the opportunity to create a spontaneous drawing by taking a pen for a walk and then creating characters from the random lines and shapes. The pupils really impressed us with their creativity and problem solving to produce characters inspired by the artist and doodler Jon Burgerman. When the P7 pupils return as S1's we will finish off the ideas they started.



JUNK KOUTURE

Mrs Gibb ran a recycled fashion workshop and saw S1-3 Pupils working together and challenged young people to design, upcycle and create high end Kouture from recycled Junk. As you can see from the pictures of the outcomes we have future sustainable designers in the making. Because of the response and the feedback from both staff and pupils we are going to enter the national competition and will run this during lunchtimes for all year groups. If any pupils are interested in joining the lunchtime club, then feel free to talk to any of the Art teachers to express your interest.

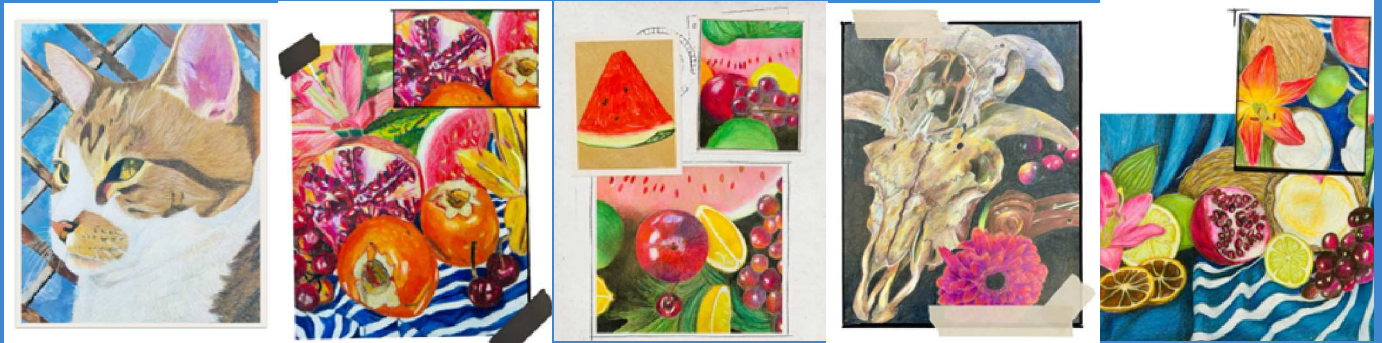


ART & DESIGN



SENIOR PHASE WORK

Our senior pupils yet again have produced incredible expressive and design folios that have shown amazing creativity and determination to produce an incredible standard of work.



If you would like to keep up-to-date with the incredible work that is being produced in the department, we have a dedicated Instagram page and we would be delighted if you would give us a follow.



@VHS.CREATIVEARTS



BATTLEFIELDS TRIP



2nd Battalion Viewforth Pals



At the start of June, 40 Viewforth High School pupils participated in a 6-day trip to the WWI battlefields of France and Belgium.

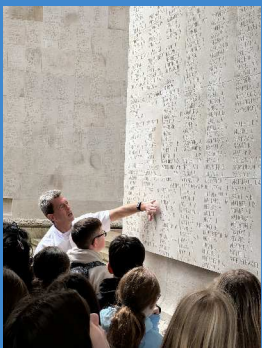
Our adventure began with an overnight drive to Dover, followed by a ferry crossing to Dunkirk. On our first day, we explored the charming city of Bruges.

The next day took us to the Ypres Salient, where we visited significant sites like Messines, Sanctuary Wood, and Hill 60. Each location offered insights into the strategic military operations of the time.

Day four brought us to the Somme Battlefields, a poignant reminder of the war's devastating impact. Stops included Newfoundland Park, Thiepval, and Vimy Ridge, where we deepened our understanding of the conflict's scale and the soldiers' sacrifices. A particularly touching part of the day was when a few of our pupils visited the sites of their own fallen family members.

On the fifth day, we explored more of the Ypres Salient, including Essex Farm, Passchendaele, and Tyne Cot Cemetery. Our day concluded in Ypres, where we participated in the moving Menin Gate Ceremony, honouring the fallen with the Last Post.

Throughout the trip, our pupils were fantastic. They showed deep respect and interest in the historical significance of each site, making us incredibly proud. Their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm were truly commendable. This journey not only enriched their understanding of history but also highlighted what an outstanding group of students we have at Viewforth High School.





DRAMA



S1 Drama

Our S1s have just completed a Darkwood Manor unit in which they created characters for a mission to spend the night in a haunted manor. They created excellent scenes exploring the backstory of the Manor, as well as developing characterisation techniques such as writing in role, role on the wall, character card and hot seating to help develop their understanding of their characters. They have settled into S2 well, and are currently exploring a skills for work unit in which they have applied/interviewed for a job at NASA and must work together on a mission to save Earth from an asteroid!

S2 Drama

Our S2s just completed a Murder Mystery unit inspired by Cluedo in which they created dramas exploring the backstory of each suspect in order to gather clues to find out who killed Mr Boddy! They explored alternative ways to perform their dramas, using conventions such as: tableaux, aside, narration, slow motion and split-stage. They also created excellent costume, make-up and props designs for each suspect to further build evidence. They have settled into S3 very well, and are currently exploring teamwork, collaboration and creativity through an improvisation unit.

S2 DRAMA

Our S2 pupils have been exploring through drama the history of Annie Moore who was the first Irish immigrant to the United States to pass through federal immigrant inspection at the Ellis Island station in New York Harbour.

Classes have been roleplaying and performing key moments from Annie's Journey and as one of their tasks they were given an old photo (stimulus) from the time period and challenged to use body language, facial expressions and use of space to produce a set of tableaux which could seamlessly blend into the period photos. Some of our pupils also delivered fantastic monologues to accompany these tableaux.

We concluded our journey through history by exploring the notorious characters and villainous personalities found in New York's Five Points district. A cheap, crime ridden slum that provided the worst living conditions in the United States and was the home of the original gangs of New York.

Our pupils used drama skills to bring these notorious New York gangsters to life: combining costume, make-up and a little photo wizardry to produce police mug shots for each of their criminal characters. (see attached photo)



S3 Drama

Our S3s have settled into National level very well and are currently working through their first few outcomes in which they have developed ideas for a devised drama.

They have shown enthusiasm/commitment toward the current workshop unit in which they are practically exploring drama in relation to the written paper and consolidating their learning through past paper questions.





DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition

At the end of May, 12 pupils took part in a Bronze Expedition from Viewforth High School and along the Fife Coastal Path to Shell Bay. The first day saw the pupils walk from the school to Silverburn, near Leven, where they camped that night. The pupils were lucky as after a lovely sunny day they were able to set up their tents before a heavy rain shower at dinner time. After the rain had passed the pupils were able to explore the gardens at Silverburn and enjoyed a campfire roasting marshmallows and starbursts as well as making s'mores. After cooking their breakfast and packing up the campsite the pupils set off in their groups the next morning as they walked from the Silverburn to Shell Bay.

During the expedition, all of the pupils did amazingly and represented both the school and themselves to a high level and followed the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Requirements needed to be awarded their Expedition Section. Over the two days the pupils tried new experiences for the first time and interacted with others that are not in their social groups. The staff on the expedition witnessed a growth in confidence and skill sets in each of the pupils and were really proud of how they handled themselves and worked together to motivate their team and others on. The pupils were a credit to the school as they also received positive comments from members of the public.



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Training Day

On Thursday 30th May our Silver DofE pupils headed to Lochore Meadows for a training day to help prepare them for their Practice Expedition in June. The pupils took part in a variety of activities including building tents, campsite skills and brushed up on their map reading skills as they completed some orienteering around Lochore Meadows. After lunch the pupils then embarked on a walk up Benarty Hill and on reaching the summit they were met with stunning views across Loch Leven as well as Fife before following the same route back to Lochore Meadows. A great day was had by all.





DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice Expedition

On Monday 17th June our Duke of Edinburgh Silver group embarked on their practice expedition in the Lomond Hills Regional Park. The first day saw the pupils dropped off at Glenvale, near Gateside. The pupils then walked up past John Knox's Pulpit and over to Harperleas Reservoir before cutting down to Craigmear Car Park. After a short break the pupils then walked down towards Falkland via Maspie Den as they headed for Pillars of Hercules where they would be camping for two nights. The pupils were lucky as after a lovely sunny day they were able to set up their tents before a heavy rain shower at dinner time. After the rain had passed the pupils cooked their dinner and enjoyed a campfire roasting marshmallows and starbursts as well as making s'mores before playing some games.

The following morning the pupils cooked their breakfast before they set off for a day exploring the Lomond Hills. In the morning they headed back up to Craigmear Car Park before walking up East Lomond. On returning to Craigmear the pupils stopped for lunch before heading up West Lomond, the highest point in Fife. Despite a heavy rain shower not long after starting their walk up West Lomond the pupils showed great resilience as they battled on and enjoyed lovely sunny conditions as they approached the summit. On reaching the summit the pupils were able to enjoy views of Fife, Loch Leven and over towards Dundee. The pupils then returned to the campsite at Pillars of Hercules and they arrived back just in time before the rain started for the evening.

The third and final day of the expedition saw the pupils cook their breakfast before they packed up the campsite and started their walk from Pillars of Hercules to Scotlandwell. Tuesday night's rain had cleared and the pupils got lovely sunny conditions for their final day of walking. The group retraced their steps back to Harperleas Reservoir and started walking back towards John Knox's Pulpit before taking the path which took them up to Bishop Hill and across to White Craigs. From here the pupils started their descent down the hill through Kilmagad Orchard to their final destination at Scotlandwell.

During the expedition, all of the pupils did amazingly and represented both the school and themselves to a high level and followed the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Requirements needed for the Expedition Section. Over the three days the pupils showed great teamwork as they bonded well as a team. The expedition was tough at times as it pushed the pupils out of their comfort zone but the pupils showed fantastic determination as they supported each other to complete the expedition. The pupils can be proud of their achievements and the staff on the expedition witnessed great skills such as their cooking skills, which also got compliments from the other DofE groups at the campsite, and were really proud of how the pupils handled themselves.





ENGLISH



S1 ENGLISH

I am thrilled to announce the winner of the S1 SLAM Poetry Competition 2024 is Hannah.

The results were very close. Pupils judged each other's slam poems out of thirty using the following criteria:

Content (10)
Poetic Technique (10)
Delivery (10)

TOTAL SCORE (30)

Individual scores (including the teachers) were then combined to determine this year's grand champion. A massive well done to all our budding slam poets: they have all been fantastic!

This term the S1 class created their own entries and vote for new member to the Hall of Fame. Dues to the fabulously persuasive students of 1C1 and their fantastic presentations we now know more about the people who inspire our young people.

The S2 classes have been recently working on personal writing to delve into what makes them motivated and how they can achieve their potential. We look forward to them using these as a basis for their future endeavors and seeing just how far they can go when they have faith in themselves. Ask them to tell you all about the Orpheus story and how hope is key to their success.

Rank	TEAM	TOTAL SCORE
1 st	Hannah	448
2 nd	Robert	445
3 rd	Diana	377
4 th	David	342
5 th	Roan & Zach	332
6 th	Thomas & Leo	307
7 th	Connor	267
8 th	Jayden	221





ENGLISH



World Book Day Event

As part of World Book Day 2024, S1-S3 pupils were given the chance to enter a competition to win a Bookbox. To enter the competition, pupils had to review a book they were reading, or had already read. To encourage creativity, there were 3 entry options which pupils could choose from:

- A creative artefact – (sculptures/paintings/posters etc)
- A writing piece – such as a review of their book or similar.
- A script/graphic novel or play conversion

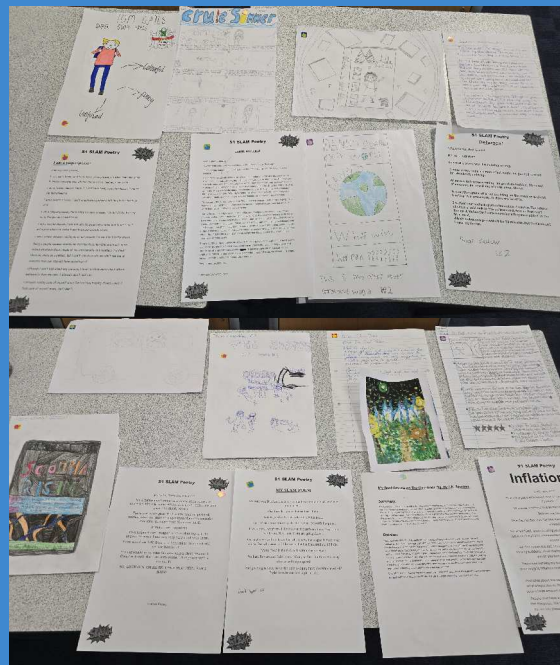
We had a range of entries from S1 to S3 and the Reading Schools Working Group picked 18 winners. Those 18 pupils were:

S1

Oscar
Thomas
David
Patrik
Roan
Robert
Graeme
Hannah
Diana

Bookbox contents:

- 2 Copies of a new novel (4 different genres)
- Chocolates/cookies to share
- Hot chocolate
- Bookmarks
- Reading tips



S2

Isla
Raya
Iona
Chloe
Adam
Kaya
Ellie-May
Niamh
Ashleigh

S3

Angel





ESC DEPARTMENT

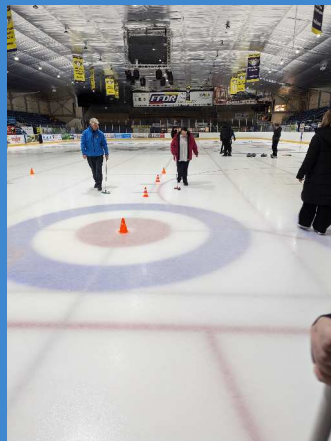


Sports Day

The ESC department had a great time participating in sports day. They competed in a variety of events such as sack race, egg and spoon, shot put and long jump. The pupil's favourite event of the day was Tug of war.

Curling

The ESC pupils had the opportunity to visit Kirkaldy ice rink and take part in Curling. The pupils learned all about the ice rink and the different activities that go on there. They all had a great time learning about curling and even got to play a couple of games.





GEOGRAPHY



Higher Geography Trip to Glasgow

On Wednesday 31st January 2024, the Higher Geography pupils visited Glasgow to collect the data for their Higher Geography Assignments. The pupils visited Stepps, Glasgow Fort and Buchanan Street before getting a train from Glasgow Central to Queens Park to collect data for Govanhill. At each location the pupils completed a variety of geographical techniques including pedestrian counts, environmental quality surveys, traffic counts and questionnaires. Despite the heavy rain the pupils were able to gather the data required before returning to the classroom to process the data ahead of writing up their assignment later in the term. As well as gathering the data the pupils also got some time to explore the variety of shops at Glasgow Fort as well as stopping off at Starbucks on the way home for a well-deserved hot drink.



S2 Dynamic Earth Trip

On Wednesday 8th May 38 S2 pupils went on a Geography trip to Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh. After the bus arrived in the capital the first activity the pupils did was a Climate Change Fundamentals workshop. Through group discussion and interactive activities, the workshop introduced pupils to climate change, as they explored how climate change is affecting the UK, understand the science behind it and work together to identify solutions at local, national and international levels. After the workshop the pupils explored the exhibition galleries as they; travelled back to the beginning of time to learn about the big bang theory, experienced what it is like to travel in a spaceship, felt the ground shudder as molten lava flowed straight towards them and touched an iceberg which everyone had great fun doing. The pupils also got to experience a 3D film as they flew around the different climatic zones in the world and visited the Amazon rainforest gallery to learn about the animals found there. After completing the tour it was then time for lunch. After lunch the pupils headed for the Planetarium to watch a 30 minute film called We are Stars which explored the secrets of cosmic chemistry and our explosive origins. A great day in the capital finished with a visit to the souvenir shop before everyone got back on the bus to head home.

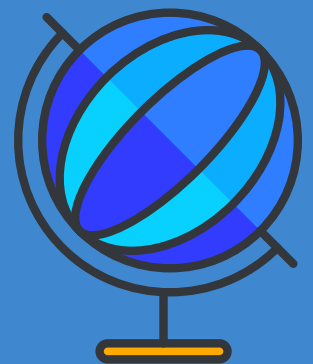
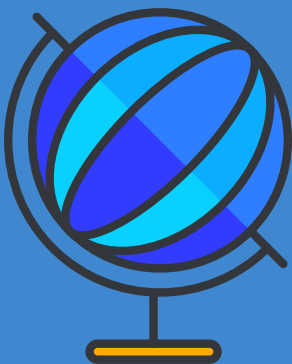
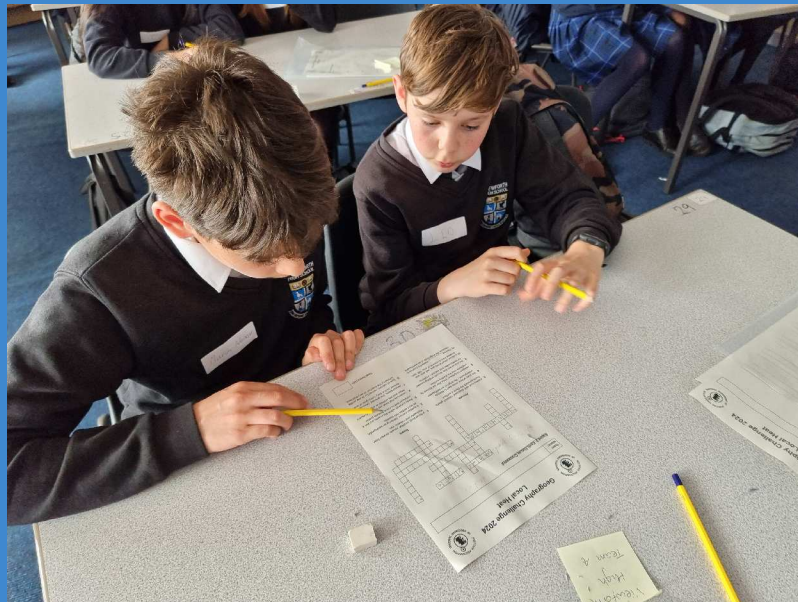


GEOGRAPHY



SAGT Challenge Quiz

Four pupils from S1 headed to Bannockburn High School on Tuesday 14th May to represent Viewforth High School at the SAGT Challenge Quiz in the Tayside and Central South Regional Heat/Final. The pupils were up against tough opposition as they faced teams from Dollar Academy, Lochgelly High School, Queen Victoria School and Bannockburn High School. Although we didn't progress to the National Final, the pupils more than held their own and can be proud of their efforts. Congratulations to Dollar Academy Team A who won the quiz to progress to the National Final.





HOME ECONOMICS



Our S4 Barista class all completed their SCQF level 5 Barista qualification celebrating the achievement with a celebratory afternoon tea for friends' family and staff. Well done everyone.

The Home Economics department played host to DYW's meaningful may where we invited in senior pupils on study leave to attend a small workshop where they were taught how to use the barista machine and they made their own hot drink and cookies. Well done everyone that attended.



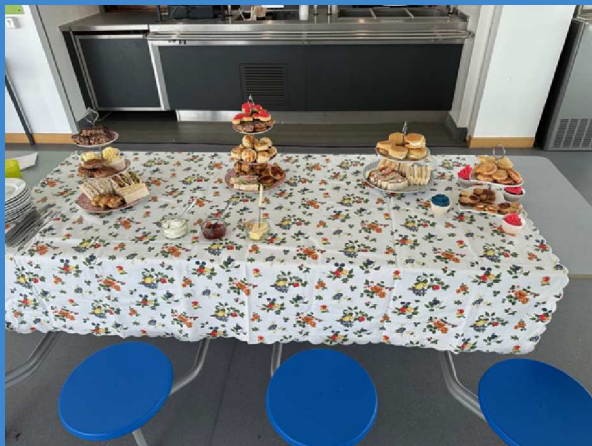


HOME ECONOMICS



Skills for Work Hospitality

Our Skills for Work Hospitality classes have worked hard over the last term putting on a number of catered events. For their final event they were given the opportunity to pick their own theme and style of event and each class came up with a wide variety of ideas, from a Cake and Shake event, to a Disney themed afternoon tea. The pupils were allowed to invite guests in from home to sample the delights they had made and they received fantastic feedback.



LIBRARY

We have enjoyed visits from all of our S1 and S2 English classes getting books out of the library to read in class. Mrs Barker has been doing paired reading with pupils to encourage literacy.

We have also put together project boxes for our Department of Enhanced Support classes and other departments within the school.

We have also had library visits from Dysart and Pathhead primaries this term. It was great to meet the pupils who will be moving up to Viewforth in the next few years.

The library has set up a Health and Wellbeing hub where pupils and staff can come and sit in the library and read some new health and wellbeing books or take them out to read at home. We also have some new LGBTQ+ books and Racial Diversity books for pupils to take out or read in the library.

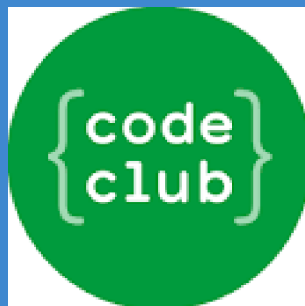
Mrs Barker (Librarian) has held Bibliotherapy sessions which was held with some pupils in the library. Mrs Barker read from a range of books and the group discussed about the books and pupils gave their views.



There is also a Code Club for S1/2 Pupils on Tuesday lunchtime:

Do you like coding and creating games? Then Code Club is for you it provides fun, block-based discovery activities for learners. We will start off using Scratch to make our own games and animation.

If you would like to come along, please see Mrs Barker in the library and put your name down for the club. It is on every Tuesday at 1.05pm - 1.40pm



Mrs Barker has also been working with the pupils from Department of Enhanced Support class working on Code club which pupils are learning to put together animations and games using Scratch.

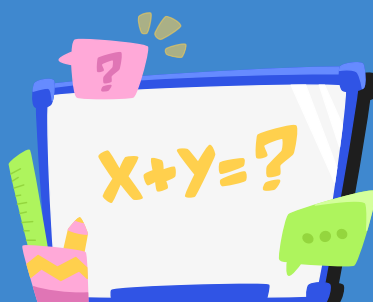


MATHS



Maths Challenge

In March 10 S2 pupils took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. This is a nationwide competition to test pupils problem solving abilities. A huge congratulations to Samuel for achieving a Bronze Award and Toby achieving a Silver Award.



P7 Transition

In February, over 100 Primary 7 pupils joined us for an afternoon to compete in our own P7 Maths Challenge. Pupils had to work in groups to solve problems, complete a tangram and solve questions as part of a relay. Well done to all who took part!

Another group of P7 pupils joined us as part of the extra-curricular morning to complete a range of maths games, puzzles and chess.

Flight Academy

On the 27th of June 15 S3 pupils will visit the Flight Academy at Glasgow Science Centre. They will take part in a full day workshop using maths and physics to plan and prepare for a rescue mission flight. They will need to carry out mathematical calculations using distance, speed and time, as well as practicing navigation skills. They will work in “crews” and will carry out their mission by completing a flight in full motion flight simulators. It should be a fantastic trip!





MODERN LANGUAGES



To encourage a community of kindness and compassion our S1, S2 and S3 pupils, created a meaningful installation combining Art, Wellbeing and Languages. By drawing their hands and choosing a friend, they wrote a positive adjective (mostly!) on each finger to describe them in French or Spanish and were able to create their own unique designs, some with manicures too. With their support making the banner and using the hands as leaves, the friendship tree blossomed as you can see!





MUSIC



Fife Festival of Music

The Fife Festival of Music returned in January/February and a number of young people represented Viewforth High School with some excellent musical performances. For many this was their first time performing at an event like this and they all excelled. There were a mixture of non-competitive and competitive classes, which were graded as Outstanding, Very Good, Good or Limited Success. There were also three winners of different classes who each received a trophy for their success. Well done to all involved!

Electric Guitar/Bass Guitar (Open) - Alex (S5) - winner

Alex was then invited to compete at the Fife Festival of Music Young Musician. This was for the winners of all Open classes across the Festival to perform again and Alex was the overall winner, where he received a trophy and standing ovation.



Electric Guitar/Bass Guitar (Advanced)

Nicola (S5) - winner
Sasha (S5)
Harris (S5)
Rowan (S6)

Brass (Intermediate)

Heili (S3) - winner

Woodwind (Intermediate)

Amber (S4)

Voice - Solo Singing School Pupils (non-competitive)

Sasha (S5)
Albena (S5)
Rowan (S6)

Strings (Advanced)

Thomas (S5)

Woodwind (Open)

Grace (S5)

Strings (non-competitive)

Raphaella (S3)

Piano (Advanced)

Albena (S5)

Voice - 18 & Under Musicals

Sophie (S6)
Rowan (S5)

Piano (Intermediate)

Shaun (S3)
Lukas (S3)





MUSIC



Young Musician of the Year

On 21 February we held our first Young Musician of the Year competition with six S3 pupils and five S5 pupils performing to an excellent standard. The audiences were treated to a variety of instruments and music styles and the adjudicators had the difficult decision at the end of the evening to decide a winner and runner-up for each stage.

Junior:

Winner - Raphaela (cello)

Runner-up - Heili (trumpet)

Certificate of Participation - Lukas, Angel, Shaun, Lucy

Senior:

Winner - Alex (electric guitar)

Runner-up - Grace (alto saxophone)

Certificate of Participation - Harris, Nicola, Rowan

Alex progressed to represent Viewforth High School at the Fife Finals on 19 March at the Rothes Halls, Glenrothes, where he performed again to an excellent standard.

Music Showcase

On 21 March we held our annual Music Showcase. This was an opportunity for senior pupils to perform pieces of music that they had been preparing for their SQA performing exam, as well as giving others who participated at the Fife Festival of Music to perform again, but to a bigger audience. Performing to anyone can be a nerve-wracking experience but everyone was very professional and played to their best abilities.



Primary 7 Strings Play Day

We welcomed seven Primary 7 pupils who play violin and viola to a String Play Day towards the end of May. They were joined by Viewforth pupils to create a strong sounding String Ensemble. Miss Reid (Upper Strings Instructor) arranged two pieces of music for the pupils to perform and after a few warm-up games they rehearsed both pieces and performed them to an excellent standard. The P7 pupils now know where their instrumental lessons will take place and what to expect when they start in August. We can't wait for them to be part of the String Ensemble and to perform at future events.



On Tuesday 26 March a group of pupils visited Edinburgh Festival Theatre to see the musical Hamilton. Everyone had a brilliant day and was captivated by the story and catchy songs. This was a special matinee showing so afterwards the audience got to listen to members of the cast and backstage crew talk about their roles within the production. It was fascinating to hear what happens backstage and to see parts of the show running as part of a technical rehearsal. This was a day we won't forget in a hurry!





PERSONAL AND SOCIAL EDUCATION



Anti bullying Lessons

In PSE lessons this term all pupils in the school have been learning about bullying and creating an Anti-bullying campaign. Pupils learned about the different types of bullying and strategies for dealing with them. Our 3rd year pupils worked on power point presentations to deliver their anti bullying messages whilst S1 and S2 created posters to share their views. In Viewforth our aim is to ensure all pupils feel safe, happy, included and respected in School.

S6 University Visit

As part of our PSE programme, we support pupils to make decisions about their futures. Every Viewforth pupil will be supported to leave school with a positive destination. We worked in partnership with Heriot-Watt University to take a group of S6 pupils for an open day. They attended the lecture theatre and heard about how to choose the right course and university for them, as well as what the application process involves. They also had a tour of the campus and facilities. A great day was had by all, and the pupils are motivated to make their last year at school count so that they can move on to their destination of choice.



"I found out more about student finance – loans and bursaries – which was very helpful as it's a subject I previously knew very little of. I really liked how safe Heriot Watt seemed and the practices they have to ensure safety, which I hope other universities have as well"

"I enjoyed the campus tour which gave me an idea of how massive a university is and all of the non-subject areas there are."

"I enjoyed the tour around the campus. I thought the outdoor spaces were very beautiful. I also thought there was a good variety of amenities"

"I learned that there are over 50,000 courses across all universities in the UK. This number really surprised me and it was very interesting learning about some of the unique courses offered. "

"I enjoyed the talks and the tour showing what is all around the university. The Oriam was also very interesting with the Scottish U20's Rugby training"

"I learned that the university has so many points of interest and the student unions in particular being so strong. It was also really interesting to see a university that I am thinking of applying to in the future"





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Viewforth HS Basketball, Season 2023 – 2024

Viewforth High School had a School of Basketball running for the first, second and third year pupils this year. These pupils were involved in training sessions every week where they were developing their individual skills along with their game play and fitness. The first, second and third year teams played games against other schools in Fife and National competitions with their performances and results improving all the time.

In addition to the School of Basketball the S4, 5 and 6 pupils also had a basketball team which played fixtures against other schools. A number of the players were involved in the School of Basketball when they were in third year and at present also play for Fife Steel BC who train at Viewforth High School every week. Once again, the team enjoyed varying degrees of success throughout the year.

At the end of the season the senior team played in the Fife Schools Senior Basketball Tournament which was held at the Michael Woods Sports Centre in Glenrothes. There were some excellent individual and team performances. The results on the day are shown below. Well done to all the pupils who took part.

Phase 1

Viewforth HS 2 v 22 Bell Baxter HS
Viewforth HS 7 v 4 Dunfermline HS
Viewforth HS 8 v 12 Woodmill HS

Phase 2

Viewforth HS 4 v 7 Queen Anne HS (B)

Phase 3

Viewforth HS 22 v 20 Glenrothes HS



The picture shows the Viewforth pupils who played in the tournament.

Back row (L to R) Armando, David, Owen, Joel and Daniel.

Front row (L to R) Daniel, Adam, Robbie, Alex and David.

S4 pupil Owen was picked to represent the Fife schools U18 football team. He was the youngest player in the squad and made a valuable contribution as the team reached the Scottish Schools Association Regional team final.





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Inverkeithing dance competition

Demi Leigh performed a solo for the competition. This was an extremely difficult category and she performed really well.

Iona, Cody, and Angel performed an amazing Highland trio dance. They choreographed this all by themselves and put in lots of work at lunch times to practise. They won a bronze medal in the Junior Group category. (Photo attached)

Kayla, Hazel, and Rhyona also performed really well with a hip hop group dance which had the crowd cheering along!



Dept of Enhanced Support Sports Day

The Classes had a great time at their own sports day. They took part in Shot Putt, Long Jump, Egg and Spoon Race, and Sack Race. Everyone worked really hard and it was very close on points with Macgregor taking the victory!





PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A group of 9 pupils participated in the Fife track and field Championships at Pitreavie Stadium in Dunfermline this term . They were a little nervous at first but put in superb effort and most of them managed personal bests in their events. This year we achieved one bronze medal from Nico in Shot Put and gained a place in the 100 m semi final . Competition was fierce and the majority of pupils were competing against older pupils in their age group. The group were very enthusiastic, supportive to their teammates and demonstrated exemplary behaviour through out the day.



Participants were S1 Michael, Robert and Diana all shot put S2 Iona shot put, Jonasz discus, S3 Iain high jump, Logan shot put, Nico 100m and shot put and Sophie long jump. Well done everyone, very proud of you all .

This year has the PE department held a series of interhouse competitions. This has taken part over the course of the year with Football, Netball, Badminton, Basketball, Dodgeball. This involved pupils signing up to play and compete against the other two houses in their year group. These competitions are very popular, and pupils are always keen to participate to represent their own house. These events are also organised and refereed by the senior Sports leaders. Well done to all the pupils who competed for their house!!



Badminton
1st = MacGregor - 293 points
2nd = Fidra - 252 points
3rd = Craigendal - 247 points



Dodgeball
1st = MacGregor - 54 points
2nd = Craigendal - 48 points
3rd = Fidra - 42 points

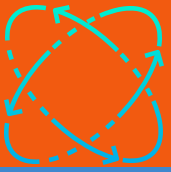


Netball
1st = Fidra - 283 points
2nd = MacGregor - 223 points
3rd = Craigendal - 213 points

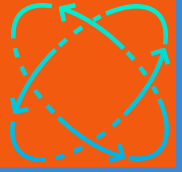
Basketball
1st – MacGregor = 52 pts
2nd – Craigendal = 50 pts
3rd – Fidra = 34 pts
4th – Combined = 32 pts

Football
1st = MacGregor - 333 points
2nd = Fidra - 243 points
3rd = Craigendal - 163 points

Table-Tennis
1st - Fidra = 64 points
2nd - Craigendal = 59 points
3rd - MacGregor = 57 points



SCIENCE



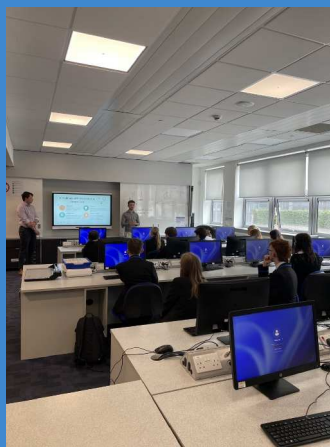
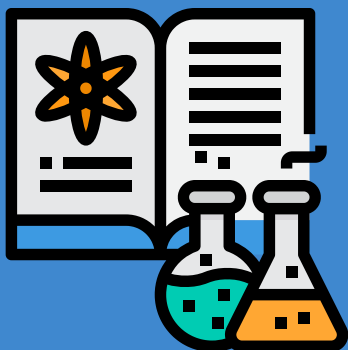
It's been a very busy few months in the science department. Our pupils have been working hard in all their subjects and achieving well.



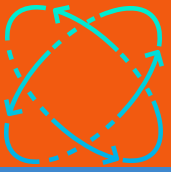
AH Biologists successfully carried out and wrote up their projects. All pupils worked independently to design and carry out an investigation which they then analysed. We wish them all the best going forward and are proud of all their hard work.



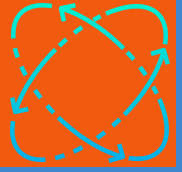
S3 Physicists carried out an investigation into satellites and created their own satellite models. We were very impressed with their ability to explain the physics behind their models and how well constructed they were.



We recently welcomed two medical students from the University of Edinburgh to deliver a workshop on healthcare careers. The workshop was very informative, and senior pupils who attended left commenting they felt better prepared for making choices around their future careers going forward.



SCIENCE



We were delighted to have P7s from our cluster primaries in science during their transition. Pupils learned about lab safety and successfully carried out experiments using Bunsen burners.

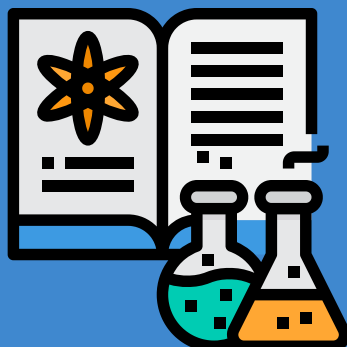
We look forward to welcoming them all back in August!

This year, we have continued to recognise the hard work and commitment of our young people in science through the Scientist of the Month scheme. Pupils are nominated by their science teacher. Our recent winners for May are:

Alex
Caiden
Connor
Grace
Isla
Kayla



Leigh
Marlo
Mia
Niamh
Raphella
Ryan





SPORTS DAY



SPORTS DAY WINNERS – Wednesday 19th June 2024

First Year Girls

1st – 36pts Cody (M)

2nd – 30pts Gracie (C)

3rd – 29pts Abbi (C)

First Year Boys

1st – 67pts Max (M)

2nd = 48pts Michael (F)

2nd = 48pts Michael (C)

Second Year Girls

1st – 46pts Iona (F)

2nd – 44pts Grace (F)

3rd – 24pts Ellie-May (M)

Second Year Boys

1st – 77pts Jonasz (F)

2nd – 67pts Caleb (M)

3rd – 54pts Samuel (M)

Third Year Girls

1st – 60pts Sophie (F)

2nd – 50pts Heili (M)

3rd – 22pts Liliana (F)

Third Year Boys

1st – 85pts Nico (M)

2nd – 78pts Iain (C)

3rd = 73pts Harison (C)

3rd = 73pts Martin (M)

Senior Girls

1st – 43pts Ines (C)

2nd – 32pts Carly (M)

3rd – 29pts Chelsea (M)

Senior Boys

1st – 89pts Tafara (M)

2nd – 78pts Joel (F)

3rd = 70pts Taylor (F)

3rd = 70pts Robbie (F)





TECHNICAL

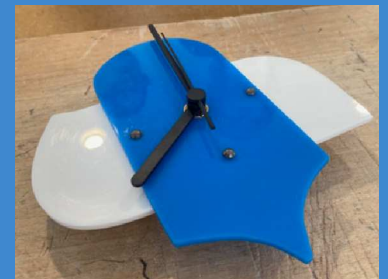


Pupils in technical have been very busy across their subjects designing and creating many projects to a high standard.

Pupils in N5 Practical Woodwork have been creating their projects to a high standard, such as Karter putting some touches onto his bedroom mirror!



S3 PWW class designed and manufactured clocks using acrylic. They took time to carefully consider how they would like to lay-out their clockface and then worked with acrylic to make their designs come to life. The clocks above were created by Flo and Leo respectively.



Pupils also have been busy creating a new project in practical woodwork – a basketball game. Pupils had to work with both wood and plastic to create a working game which when tested proved very competitive!



TECHNICAL



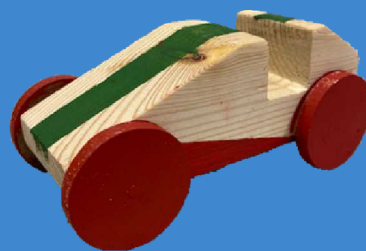
S2 manufactured birdfeeders to help the birds in their local area! Pupils designed and created these feeders, working with and attaching metal to provide a secure place to put the birds' food! The birdfeeder above was skilfully made by Grant.



S2 pupils were also set the challenge of making a card vehicle from two sheets of card, a metre of tape and a glue stick. The car needed to be able to hold a wooden block and travel down a ramp onto a runway.

To score points, we looked at how far the car travelled and the appearance/design of the vehicle. Points were deducted for using extra materials.

After an intense competition, one group emerged victorious which was Keanen and Kyle.



S1 manufactured and customised toy cars. They marked, cut out and drilled the wood they were presented to a high standard, as shown by the car above by Maxim.



VIEWFORTH YOUNG TALENT



As we come to the end of term....

Viewforth Young Talent program (MCR) would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer holiday.

To date MCR young talent program had 45 mentor relationships

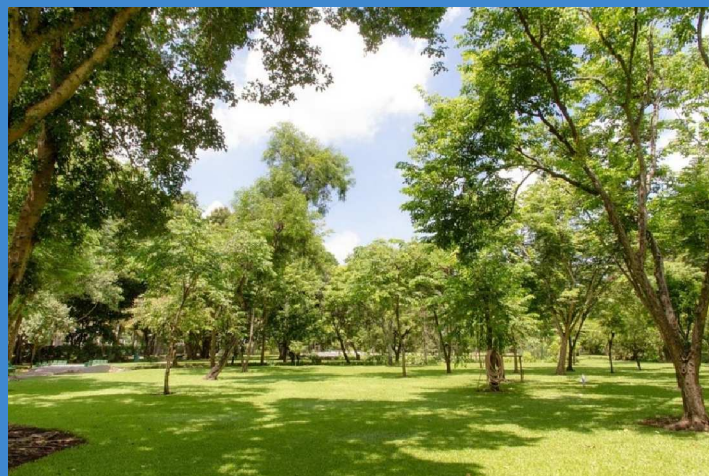
40 pupil/mentor relationships will continue after the Summer holidays.

Over the year 100 group work sessions were carried out with S1 and S2 young people.

I also want to say a massive well done to all the young people for their excellent work and good luck to all the young people who are waiting on their exam results and moving on to pastures new.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all when you come back.

Val





YPI & FIRST CHANCES



YPI

Thirty S5 pupils successfully competed in the YPI final held in February in order to win £3000 for their chosen charities. The group representing Kirkcaldy Foodbank were the eventual winners. Aashmeen, Carla, Rachel, Jess, Oliwia, Nathan and Yomade.



First Chances

This year we had five pupils up at St Andrews University for the day in Mid May to celebrate their success and completion of the First Chances S3 project. Pupils have worked hard throughout their third year to complete a research project on a famous Scottish person which they had to complete a power point presentation and essay about. They were able to present their findings in person to representatives from Fife College and St Andrews University. Their efforts were fantastic, so much so that Viewforth HS was awarded the 'Top Rated School' and we also had one pupil attaining the title of S3 Dux, meaning they attained the highest score across all the Fife Schools. Well done Morgan! All pupils had an excellent day up at the University, engaging in team building activities and getting to sample some of the perks of being a student at St Andrews University. All pupils were an asset to the school, and should be proud of their achievements. I know their parents were delighted to see them graduate from the programme and many will be displaying their certificates proudly. Well done!

