

# ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

School Website: [www.arran.n-ayrshire.sch.uk](http://www.arran.n-ayrshire.sch.uk)

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January 2015

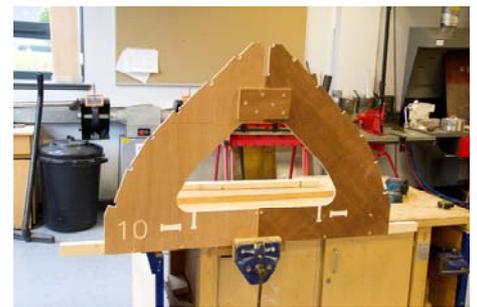
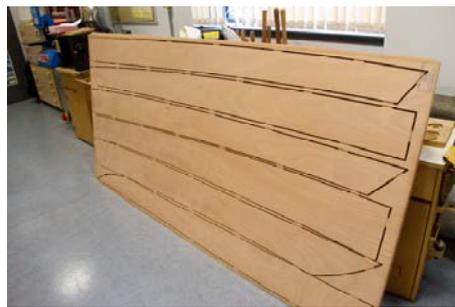
*Dear Parent/Carer*

It is with great pleasure that I send you our first newsletter of 2015. We look forward to an exciting year filled with many opportunities and a few challenges I'm sure. The end of last term saw us hold our junior and senior Christmas dances, which were a fitting way to bring staff and students together in a fun atmosphere, marking the end of a long term. In addition, our Christmas music concert was an evening for the whole community, giving us the opportunity to celebrate the effort and application of our youngsters to their studies in musical performance. It was a truly inspirational evening and I look forward to celebrating many more in the years to come.

Primary 7 students from around the island were welcomed to the Arran Outdoor Education Centre by several Arran High School teaching and support staff recently, to take part in our 'Transition Weekend'. The weekend was a resounding success and this is an idea we hope to develop and extend, in partnership with our cluster primary schools in the coming years.

We have been visited in recent weeks by the Chief Executive Elma Murray (Lamlash Primary), Executive Director of Education John Butcher (Parent Council) and Head of Schools Steven Quinn (High School). These visits provided both support and challenge to myself, the senior leadership team and all school staff in relation to the learning and achievement of our young people and have helped us continue to move forward with our school improvement priorities.

The 'skiff' boat that we are building in partnership with Arran Junior Sailing Club is beginning to take shape, with the building frame having been constructed. I did also spot several other 'boat shaped' pieces of wood when I entered the 'garage' this week, none of which I would be foolish enough to try and identify by name (!). I know that we are in good hands with (master builder) Rory Cowan, Mr Steve Garraway and the students who are helping build the craft, so I will do my best to learn the names of the important parts of the skiff in the coming weeks!



*Skiff building to date*



*This is what the finished project will look like*

This term sees us holding our prelim exams for S4-S6 (timetable attached), which begin on 9 February. This is an important opportunity for those youngsters who undertake SQA examinations in May to help gauge their progress and identify their strengths and areas for development in their studies. If you are a parent of an S4-6 student you will receive a progress report at the beginning of March.

Finally, we continue to expect the highest levels of effort, behaviour and application from all the young people of Arran High School and we are grateful for your support and encouragement in doing so. If you have any questions or concerns about your son/daughter's learning or any other aspect of school, please contact Mrs Macbeth, our Principal Teacher of Guidance, to discuss the matter.

### ***Mountain Biking Club***

Arran Trust awarded a cheque for £7332 to the Arran High School Mountain Bike Club for the design and development of mountain biking skills and coaching areas at Dyemill in Lamlash.

The pupils' chosen contractor, Architrail, visited on Monday, 26 January and surveyed the proposed site. The pupils also invited Martin Wood from Arran Outdoor Education Centre, Andy Walker from Forestry Commission Scotland and Abi Wingate from Cycling Scotland to attend.

On the evening of Thursday, 29 January the Club held a public consultation in the High School, which was well attended. The feedback from this consultation will help inform the design process to ensure the proposed facilities do not impact adversely on the wider community that use the area.

Architrail will now draft a proposal to be agreed by the pupils and Forestry Commission Scotland before moving forward.

You can follow the pupils' progress on Facebook at AHS Mountain Bike Club.



*Photo courtesy of the Arran Banner*

### ***S1 Enterprise Day***

Friday saw the S1 take on the challenge of their Enterprise Day. The task was to promote Arran tourism with a new festival or event. The ideas were once again extremely innovative, ranging from a Scrabble tournament with sightseeing during the day, family friendly festivals encompassing the various outdoor activities on the island and also a Challenge Arran with more extreme activities taking place.

Pupils worked in small groups led by a business adviser and an S3 Admin pupil to assist too. Many thanks to the Auchrannie, Routes to Flourish, Arran Youth Foundations, VisitArran and the Chamber of Commerce for their time, assistance and guidance during the day.



The winning team supported by Gil Cameron from the Chamber of Commerce consisted of: Aiken Adam, Hannah Glendinning, Kirk Inglis, Gregor Morrison, Aimee Prescott and Ellie Wood. Their idea of a traditional adventure on the rock was presented well, had an excellent logo and the idea was feasible too. Thanks also go to our judges Kenny Bone and Sheila Gilmore from VisitArran.



### *Home Economics Department*

An appeal for any fabric: old curtains; duvets; ribbons etc. and buttons. Please hand in to the school office.

*Barry R. Smith*  
*Head Teacher*

| Date       | Time          | Level   | Subject             | Room |
|------------|---------------|---------|---------------------|------|
| 21/01/2015 | 09:15 - 15:45 | Nat 5/H | Music Practical     | F05  |
| 05/02/2015 | 09:15 - 12:20 | Nat 5   | Hospitality         | G10  |
| 10/02/2015 | 09:15 - 10:45 | Nat 5   | Computing Science   |      |
|            | 09:15 - 11:45 | Higher  | Information Systems | F16  |
| 11/02/2015 | 09:15 - 10:15 | Nat 5   | English             |      |
|            | 11:30 - 13:00 |         |                     |      |
|            | 09:15 - 10:45 | Higher  | English             | Hall |
|            | 11:30 - 13:00 |         |                     |      |
|            | 09:15 - 10:45 | AH      | English             |      |
|            | 09:15 - 12:15 | AH      | English             |      |
|            | 2:15 - 15:15  | Nat 5   | Music               | F05  |
| 12/02/2015 | 09:15 - 10:05 | Nat 5   | Lifeskills Maths    |      |
|            | 10:40 - 12:20 |         |                     |      |
|            | 09:15 - 10:15 | Nat 5   | Maths               | Hall |
|            | 10:40 - 12:10 |         |                     |      |
|            | 09:15 - 10:25 | Higher  | Maths               |      |
|            | 10:40 - 12:10 |         |                     |      |
|            | 09:15 - 12:15 | AH      | Maths               | F16  |
| 13/02/2015 | 09:15 - 11:15 | Nat 5   | Biology             |      |
|            | 09:15 - 11:45 | Higher  | Biology             | Hall |
|            | 09:15 - 11:45 | AH      | Biology             |      |
|            | 09:15 - 12:15 | AH      | Graph Comm          |      |
|            | 13:45 - 3:45  | Higher  | Art                 | G7   |
|            | 14:15 - 15:45 | Nat 5   | Practical Craft     | G12  |
| 16/02/2015 | 09:15 - 12:00 | AH      | Business Management |      |
|            | 09:15 - 11:15 | Nat 5   | Chemistry           |      |
|            | 09:15 - 11:45 | Higher  | Chemistry           | Hall |
|            | 09:15 - 11:45 | AH      | Chemistry           |      |
|            | 09:15 - 12:15 | AH      | History             |      |
|            | 14:15 - 15:15 | Higher  | Music               | F05  |
| 17/02/2015 | 09:15 - 11:35 | Higher  | History             | Hall |
|            | 09:15 - 11:00 | Nat 5   | History             | Hall |
|            | 09:15 - 10:45 | Nat 5/H | Psychology          | Hall |
|            | 14:15 - 15:15 | AH      | Music               | F05  |
|            | 14:15 - 15:45 | Nat 5   | D & M               | F16  |
|            | 14:15 - 15:25 | Nat 5   | Art                 |      |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Time</b>   | <b>Level</b> | <b>Subject</b>      | <b>Room</b> |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 18/02/2015  | 09:15 - 11:00 | Nat 5        | Geography           |             |
|             | 09:15 - 11:30 | Higher       | Geography           | Hall        |
|             | 09:15 - 11:45 | AH           | Geography           |             |
| 19/02/2015  | 09:15 - 11:00 | Nat 5        | Modern Studies      | F16         |
|             | 09:15 - 11:30 | Higher       | Modern Studies      |             |
|             | 14:15 - 15:15 | Higher       | PE                  | F16         |
| 20/02/2015  | 09:15 - 11:15 | Nat 5        | Admin               |             |
|             | 09:15 - 10:15 | Higher       | Admin               | Hall        |
|             | 09:15 - 11:45 | Higher       | Physics             |             |
|             | 09:15 - 10:45 | Nat 5        | French              | F06         |
|             | 11:10 - 11:35 |              | French (Listening)  |             |
|             | 09:15 - 10:15 | Higher       | French (Listening)  | F06         |
|             | 11:20 - 13:00 |              | French              |             |
|             | 09:15 - 10:45 | AH           | French              | F06         |
|             | 09:15 - 11:45 |              | French (Listening)  |             |
| 23/02/2015  | 09:15 - 10:45 | Nat 5        | Business Management |             |
|             | 09:15 - 11:45 | Higher       | Business Management |             |
|             | 09:15 - 10:45 | Nat 5        | Drama               | Hall        |
|             | 09:15 - 11:15 | Higher       | Drama               |             |
|             | 09:15 - 11:45 | AH           | Physics             |             |
|             | 09:15 - 11:15 | Nat 5        | Physics             |             |
|             | 14:15 - 15:45 | Nat 5        | Graph Comm          |             |
|             | 13:45 - 15:45 | Higher       | Graph Comm          | Hall        |