

30th September 2021



# Arran High School

## NOTE FROM MRS FOSTER

I am happy to say that a member of the public has just phoned me to compliment the pupils on the Lamlash/Brodick School bus. He is a visitor to the island works and in education and so was dreading his journey back to Brodick, because of his experiences from his own school.

He said that the pupils were polite, wore their masks without being asked and he was impressed with the standard of uniform.

Needless to say I continue to be very proud of our young people and they are a testament to you, the parents and our community.

I wish you all a very happy and safe October break.

## NOTE FROM MRS BUNTING

And so the first term comes to an end .... It feels a very short time since we returned. Teaching & Learning are in full swing and first reports have been issued for all year groups except S2 which will be issued at the end of the first week back.

Last Newsletter, Mrs Foster and I talked about two of the school values: Ambition and Trust. This time I wish to discuss the concept of Belonging. Over the last year the sense of school community has been eroded due to Lockdowns and periods of self-isolation. Friendships and relationships with staff are being rebuilt as people get used to being in close contact with others; empathy and patience are two qualities that are being developed in recognition of the impact that Lockdown and Covid mitigations have had, and continue to have, on people's mental health. One way to demonstrate Belonging in the school community is through wearing school uniform. This was a challenge last academic session as there was no access to PE changing facilities. I am pleased to announce that from our return after the October break this will no longer be the case and pupils will be able to use the changing facilities.

This means, however, that pupils will not be permitted to come to school in their PE kit and pupils will be expected to be in full school uniform at all times – sports leggings, other than during PE, are not acceptable.

This year we are offering the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme as part of Senior Wider Achievement. This involves the four challenges of Physical, Skill, Volunteering and Expedition. Certificates are awarded on the completion of the individual elements with the final award being granted on completion of all four. This is a superb opportunity for young people to demonstrate the four capacities of Curriculum for Excellence and demonstrate to further education institutes and employers the wealth of skills our young people have. Young people who are already in this Wider Achievement group are being asked to register with the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme via the School Office and to start thinking of how they are going to tackle the challenges over the rest of this academic session. We were unable to hold a parental information session due to Covid, but we hope to hold one early in the new session.

I hope you all have a relaxing break!

## SQA EXAMS

The timetable for the exams has now been published by the SQA and can be accessed from this link:

[https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files\\_ccc/ng-2022-exam-timetable.pdf](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/ng-2022-exam-timetable.pdf)

## Social & Charity Group

Hello, we are the Social and Charity Group of prefects. Throughout the year we will be organising and implementing the support of various charities.



Sam Reid, Finn McAleer, Jessica Reid, James McCarthy, Charlie Aitken & Natasha Nelson

For example in the next term between October and December we will be raising money for Children in Need and Save the Children. We also hope to be able to organise Halloween and Christmas parties (Covid regulation dependant).



## Virtual Meet the Expert Sessions

Do you have a specific career in mind? Need some inspiration?

Why not take part in a meet the expert session?

You'll have the opportunity to ask questions, hear about the role and how to get there, as well as finding out hints and tips for a career in that sector.

**The following meet the expert sessions are available next term. Please see Mrs McGrath if you would like to sign up.**

**All sessions are virtual and will run from 9.40am – 10.20am.**

Date	The Expert	Find out more
4 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Dr Catherine Adam Postdoctoral research fellow Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre	<a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1598-virtual-meet-the-expert---cancer-research-uk-edinburgh-centre---life--chemical-sciences">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1598-virtual-meet-the-expert---cancer-research-uk-edinburgh-centre---life--chemical-sciences</a>
9 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Tammy Piper Tissue Bank Manager Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre	<a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1606-virtual-meet-the-expert---cancer-research-centre-the-university-of-edinburgh--life--chemical-sciences">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1606-virtual-meet-the-expert---cancer-research-centre-the-university-of-edinburgh--life--chemical-sciences</a>
11 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Toyin Okpaje Social worker/link worker/carer NHS	<a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1620-virtual-meet-the-expert-session---city-of-edinburgh-council--nhs---health--social-care-sector---social-work">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1620-virtual-meet-the-expert-session---city-of-edinburgh-council--nhs---health--social-care-sector---social-work</a>
17 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Dr Ian Simpson Biomedical Artificial Intelligence University of Edinburgh	<a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1605-virtual-meet-the-expert---school-of-informatics-university-of-edinburgh---life--chemical-sciences">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1605-virtual-meet-the-expert---school-of-informatics-university-of-edinburgh---life--chemical-sciences</a>
24 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	John Thompson Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineer	<a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1619-virtual-meet-the-expert--construction--refrigerationair-conditioning-engineer">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1619-virtual-meet-the-expert--construction--refrigerationair-conditioning-engineer</a>
7 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Dr Douglas McKenzie Director of Phyco-F (Phycfoods) Microalgae research	<a href="https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1597-virtual-meet-the-expert-session-phyco-f---life--chemical-sciences">https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities/1597-virtual-meet-the-expert-session-phyco-f---life--chemical-sciences</a>



## Library News

Looking for some holiday reading? (In case the weather's wet...) Arran branch library in Brodick is now open again Tues/Thurs/Fri 10-4. Lots of books are now on AR. Many thanks to those pupils who have returned long overdue books - but there are still quite a few missing. So if you're having an autumn tidy-up please keep an eye out...

Happy holidays

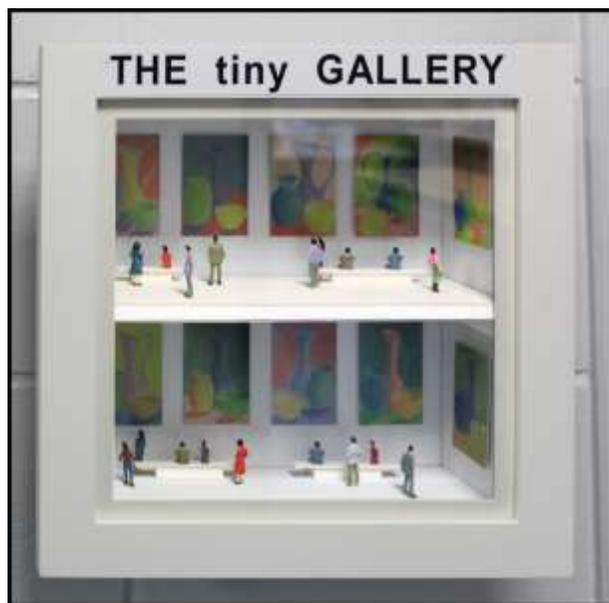
Susanna, AHS Library

## Art News

S1 pupils have just completed their first Art project, where they explored symmetry, shape and chalk pastel technique to produce a Still Life.

All of their work is currently on display outside of the Art room as well as some appearing in our 27cm x 27cm Tiny Gallery!

I am sure you will agree that they have made a fantastic response to this challenge. Well done S1!



## **Young Carers**

The Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 has been implemented across Scotland since Apr 2018 this Act was introduced to provide carers with support and to enhance their rights. A carer is anyone who provides support or intends to provide support for another individual due to illness, disability, MH issues, and alcohol & drug addiction or just as they grow older. Any young carer under 18 or if 18 and still at school, if identified should be offered the opportunity to complete a Young Carers Statement (YCS), which at present within North Ayrshire are being carried out by Head Teachers within primary schools and guidance staff within secondary schools.

This assessment looks at the child/young person's health and wellbeing, as well as if they are able to have a life outside caring the same as their peers. The Scottish Government over the last year have provided Young Scot with extra funding to support young carers you can find more information [Young Carers | Young Scot](#). Registering via Young Scot offers young carers vouchers, competitions and also a platform to have their voices heard. Unity North Ayrshire Carers Centre also offer support, information, advice to young carers. This includes 1 to 1 sessions, opportunity to join groups, break from caring funds and also most recently the option to access Crisis Counselling.

Young Carer Grant is a yearly payment of £308.15 for young carers in Scotland. Young carers must be 16,17 or 18 years old and they must also have been caring for 1, 2 or 3 people for an average of 16 hours a week for at least the last 3 months. If you care for more than one person, you can combine the hours of the people you care for to average 16 hours a week. You can apply for the Young Carer Grant once a year, up until you turn 19. You'll need to fill in a new form or call them each year the young person wants to apply. Holly Tait [holly.tait@unity-enterprise.com](mailto:holly.tait@unity-enterprise.com) is the Young Carers Worker within the Carers Centre. Any young carers in school who have not completed a Young Carers Statement should speak to Mrs Macbeth about accessing the supports available to them.

## **LGBT Inclusive Education**

Many schools across Scotland, including Arran High School have already taken positive steps to include LGBT learners and educate about LGBT identities and issues. LGBT inclusive education helps build upon this existing good practice, to help effectively challenge homophobia, biphobia and/or transphobia in the school environment and wider community.

We will be introducing this topic into the PSE discrimination programme in S3. It is already embedded within the Relationship, Sexual Health Education topics across all year groups. A booklet about LGBT inclusive education has been attached to this newsletter. If you wish to discuss this in further detail, please contact Mrs Macbeth in the first instance.