

24th June 2022



Arran High School

NOTE FROM MRS FOSTER

We are drawing towards the end of the session and for me it's always a time for reflection on what went well for us in AHS and what we should focus on to ensure we do it even better next year.

I make no apologies for saying that one important focus will be learning and teaching. There is no doubt that staff and learners did incredibly well to deal with the challenges of a pandemic. I know that I am not alone in looking forward to 'normal service' resuming with a new fresh start in August; all faculties are already aware of their priorities.

However, as I write important events for this session have still to take place; our whole school sponsored event is on Monday. Inter house football is on Tuesday and we finish on Thursday. I'm sure you will agree that it is a busy and exciting end to a busy term and year!

The end of term is bittersweet, however. It is when we have to say farewell to colleagues. Martyn Rae, our Active Schools Co-ordinator, has secured a mainland post. His encouragement has empowered many of our young people to participate in sporting activities across the island – I'm sure that he will have a similar impact in Kilwinning. Lyndsay Campbell Thomson will start her maternity leave at the end of term; we wish her well and look forward to her return. Craig Barr from our Social Studies Faculty is also leaving us. He has secured a post in Queen Margaret Academy. He has been a valued member of our school community and has always gone the extra mile for the school, getting involved with whole school activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and outdoor education.

Finally, in a double whammy, Rebecca and Peter Early are moving to work in a school in Japan; I know this will sound clichéd, but our loss is most definitely Japan's gain. Pupils in the English and Mathematics faculty have been inspired and encouraged by their passion and commitment not only in lessons but in the life of the school.

In a further staffing update, Mr Allan Wilson is returning to take up a fixed term role as Faculty Leader of Mathematics; Mr Stephen Wallace will take up the post of teacher of Modern Studies in August and Ms Jenni Smith will take up a new post in the school as Targeted Support Teacher. She will be assisted by Ms Michelle McFedries. We will also be welcoming two probationer teachers, Ms Kori Stewart (Art) and Ms Catherine Agnew (Psychology).

The school hosted visitors from Iceland this term. The group, from a small school in the north of the country, consisted of every member of staff from catering and janitorial to teaching! I have already asked NAC about our funded educational tour, but as you can imagine, I have not heard a word! The group visited classrooms, talked to our students and toured the campus. It was lovely to be able to have visitors and show them around – we have a lot to be proud of!

On Monday there will be an assembly led by RNLI and the Coastguard on the subject of sea safety. It is timely, given that we are almost on holiday and many will be making the most of the coast for leisure purposes.

I look forward to the new term which starts on Thursday 18th August – until then I hope that everyone, no matter where they end up in the next six weeks has a lovely, restful and very well deserved break.

NOTE FROM MRS BUNTING

SQA Update:

For the first time in three years, the SQA exam diet ran. This was a huge endeavour and I would like to thank our invigilators, janitorial staff, office staff, teachers and pupils for all their hard work in supporting the delivery of the exams. We were very lucky that Covid-19 did not impact greatly on our pupils during the exam diet, and only four Exceptional Circumstances applications had to be made. Elaine Jennings, our Chief Invigilator, was very complementary about the standards of behaviour demonstrated by the pupils and their conduct throughout the proceedings.

The results are due out on Tuesday, 9th August. Pupils have the option of receiving their results by email and/or text as well as the certificate being sent through the post. It is not too late for pupils to sign up for this facility by logging in through MySQA. I will be available in school on Wednesday, 10th August should any pupil or parent wish to discuss results and any alterations to timetables and options.

The SQA have already advised schools that the course content for next session will be the same as last session which allows for a period of stability and continues to take into account prior disruption to learning experienced during the two periods of extended lockdown.

Timetable:

Due to the exams starting earlier this year, we were able to implement the change of timetable on Monday, 30th May. This allows for four weeks teaching and learning to take place before the Summer break. With the covid restrictions being lifted there are a number of events which will slightly disrupt proceedings; it is lovely, however, to once again welcome visitors into school and witness them working with our students as well as pupils having the opportunity to attend outside events.

Wider Achievement:

Taking on feedback from last session, this year we ran a Wider Achievement Fair on Tuesday, 31st May which allowed all S4-6 pupils to attend a series of presentations delivered by AHS and Argyll College staff to explore the different options available. This session pupils have the choice of Customer Services & Barista training, Cyber Security, Personal Finance Award, Photography, PE Performance and Upcycling/Enterprise. We hope to hold a sale of work during the course of the year with pupils on hand serving barista coffees.

Pupils in S1-3 will continue to have Wider Achievement on Friday afternoons. This will focus on Health & Wellbeing and the promotion of pupil voice through a school newspaper/magazine. All pupils will rotate between HWB activities and have the opportunity to write, edit and illustrate the publication over the course of the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the whole school community for their support and help this year. I hope you all have a wonderful Summer break!

S6 Leavers Day

A good day was had by all to wave goodbye to our S6 leavers. They had a BBQ and Mrs Foster held an end of the day assembly where they were presented with leaving certificates, their leavers hoodie and an Arran High School teddy bear.

We would like to wish all of our S6 Leavers good luck for their future endeavors and careers.



S3 Trip to Bellevue Farm – An Arran Food Journey

A trip for the S3 Hospitality Group to Bellevue Farm took place on 3rd May.

14 pupils were treated to a busy day at Bellevue Farm. It was organised and funded by the Arran Food Journey's Cameron Bruce. Pupils were told all about varying careers in the Hospitality and Travel and Tourism industry and the many opportunities that exist from age 13years Saturday and holiday jobs, to full blown careers.

The speakers were - Amanda Pirie – Auchrannie HR, Craig Beedie – Head Chef – Auchrannie, Duncan Heenan – Burlington Hotel, Alistair Dobson – Arran Dairies/Taste of Arran, Sheila Gilmore – Visit Arran, Katie Murchie – Visit Arran/Kinloch Hotel/Arran Milk, Amy Tattersfield – Mange au gateau owner, Daisy Urquhart-Dixon - ex employee – Lagg Hotel, Ailsa Currie – Farmer and co-owner of Bellevue farm.

The pupils had a huge list of questions to ask the speakers and while these were being asked, lunch was cooked on the BBQ using Bellevue burgers and sausages. The day was rounded off by a farm tour where we found out about rearing livestock and all the different careers there were on offer in the Farming industry.

It was a great day to show pupils the opportunities that exist for them. They were all transported back to school with an amazing goodie bag of Arran treats.



Loch Ness Etape

Arran High School teacher and enthusiastic cyclist Catriona Lockie once again came out on top at Etape Loch Ness as she was the fastest women's rider.



Catriona Lockie was the fastest female for the second year running.

She was the fastest female in the 66-mile challenge as she was four minutes ahead of the chasing pack, finishing in a time of two hours 58 minutes and 12 seconds.

The Torvelo Cycling Club athlete was top of the podium ahead of Lynne Cordiner of Moray Fifth Cycling Club in second place in 3.02.00 and Natalie Munro of Moray Gravel Collective third in 3.03.54.

Poster Competition

“How do we make MTB more sustainable and environmentally friendly?” Poster Competition.

Sid Townsend won and Millie McCormack came second. Sid won a Nukeproof bike, helmet and bike pump and Millie won a helmet and cap.



Athletics News

North Ayrshire Athletics

Aiden McKenzie - 3rd Shot Put
Brandon Kane - 4th 100m
James Hackett- 1st 200m, 2nd High Jump
Michael Innes - 5th Long Jump
Lisa Henderson - 4th Relay
Katherine Coyle - 3rd 300m, 4th Relay
Kirsty Hume- 2nd High Jump, 4th Relay
Laura Coyle- 2nd 100m, 4th Relay
Lewis Gregg- 3rd 1500m, 3rd High Jump
Jamie Worthington- 3rd 200m, 4th Long Jump
Logan Park- 1st 800m, 4th Javelin
Severin Riddell- 1st Triple Jump
William McKenzie - 4th Shot Put
Catherine Smith- Shot Put
Angel Campbell- 1st Javelin
Harriett Lucas - 2nd 100m, 2nd Long Jump
Jan Matusiak-2nd Long Jump 3rd High Jump
Andrew Bunting - 1st 3000m
Cameron McCallum - 1st High Jump
Eilidh Kincaid - 1st Long Jump 1st Javelin
Jake McAllister - 1st Shot Put (current Ayrshire discus champion)
Megan McCartney- 1st High Jump, 1st Triple Jump
Ptryk Gwizdowski - 1st Triple Jump, 2nd Javelin
Scott Murray - 1st Long Jump

Ayrshire Athletics

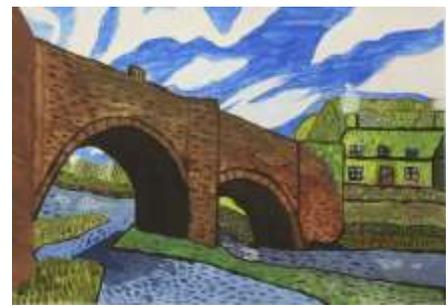
Our medal tally - Gold-4, Silver-6, Bronze-5
James Hackett- Silver High Jump
Kirsty Hume- Bronze High Jump
Severin Riddell- Gold Triple jump
Angel Campbell- Bronze Javelin
Harriett Lucas - Silver Long Jump
Andrew Bunting - Silver 3000m
Cameron McCallum - Gold High Jump
Eilidh Kincaid - Silver Javelin, Bronze Long Jump
Jake McAllister - Bronze Shot Put (current Ayrshire discus champion)
Megan McCartney- Silver High Jump, Gold Triple Jump
Ptryk Gwizdowski - Gold Triple Jump, Bronze Javelin
Scott Murray - Silver Long Jump



Art News

Van Gogh Inspired Paintings

S2 completed a fantastic set of pen drawings referencing Van Gogh's landscape drawings. They then developed their own response, via these drawings, into paintings using broken and directional brushwork. The work produced was amazing, as you can see for yourself!



S1 currently have their work, exploring the use of symmetry to create surface pattern, on display in the school. The pupils worked with great care and patience using a combination of watercolour and coloured pencil. As you can see from the samples shown the work produced was fantastic. Well Done S1!



All S2 pupils were given the opportunity to have a blank canvas to paint an artwork of their own choosing. The canvases were very kindly provided by Arran Visual Arts and will go in their summer exhibition (date changed from May). 13 pupils took up the challenge and I am looking forward to seeing them on display later in the year!



As well as the Arran Visual Arts Exhibition, 7 S2 pupils work has been selected for inclusion in the Open Studios exhibition, the exhibition is in Brodick Hall, 15th-18th July. If you have a chance pop along and see the work inspired by Van Gogh's landscape paintings (showcased) in a previous newsletter. Also on display will be some incredible work by local artists.

S3 Geography Trip

On Thursday 19th May the S3 Geography class visited the Dye Mill to conduct a river study. The pupils took measurements of width, depth, velocity, and gradient and sediment analysis from four different sites along the burn. The weather was favorable making the trip even more enjoyable!



Arran High School Fundraiser

This year the Arran High School community is fundraising for the school fund to help with trips and creative learning experiences. We appreciate the support provided by staff, students, parents and the wider Arran community for this event.

Staff and students will choose whether to walk, bike or run from the High school in Lamlash to the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Monday 27th June.

Donations can be made through iPay or in the form of a cheque made out to *Arran High School* and handed in to the school office.

End of Term Bus Times

The end of term transport arrangements is as follows:

North End 1315
Brodick 1315
String 1315
Whiting Bay 1345
South End - 1345
Taxis - Clauchlands & Kings Cross 1315

Arran High School Summer Concert

On Wednesday evening we held our first public school event since returning after the Covid 19 pandemic and what a spectacular evening it was.

It was an evening packed with music from some of our very talented young people.

We would like to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to those people that came and supported this event and the generosity of the local businesses for providing some wonderful prizes for the raffle.

A special thank you must go to Mr Dickie for his contribution and organization of the evening.



Active Schools News

NASA Graduation - On the 27th May, our 4 North Ayrshire Sports Academy (NASA) pupils graduated at Irvine Townhouse. Throughout this year, our 4 NASA Pupils have successfully obtained over 20 qualifications in sports and leadership, whilst volunteering a combined 150 hours, giving back to their community by taking lunchtime and after-school clubs in Arran High School for S1-S6's. Our NASA pupils successfully obtained multiple different sporting qualifications including Badminton Basics, BasketballScotland Make it Happen and obtained TopSport and Top Play qualifications, as well as Competition Organiser Training and many more!



An honorable mention goes to Eilidh Kincaid, who jointly won the Commitment to Volunteering award for her outstanding commitment to volunteering at lunchtime and after-school activities for Arran High School and the local primary schools. Eilidh not only took her own lunchtime clubs, but also helped others deliver their clubs throughout the week. Eilidh also stepped up to coach the AHS Netball after-school club when we lost our netball coach during this year.



NASA and Young Ambassadors - Arran High School NASA and Young Ambassadors successfully partnered to lead the P6-P7 Multi Sports Club in Arran High School, where Primary 6 and Primary P7's from across the island came together to participate in an array of multi sports. This was the first time the club had been back for since covid, and the feedback from our primary young people was very positive, with many happy to get back to being active.



Isle of Arran Music School – Pipe Band

The competition band attended the British Piping Championships in May and did well in their first major competition. On 11th of June they again competed at Ardrossan Highland games, leading the opening parade and performing with the massed pipe bands.

This time they won 4 trophies.

Ardrossan Highland Games Novice Juvenile Champions! Best Drum Corp! Best Marching and Discipline Band! and our favourite-Best 'Overseas' Band!!

They finished a long day with fish suppers before the late boat home.

The band will be competing at the Scottish and then the World Championships over the summer and will perform at both the Arran Highland Games and the Arran show.

Great representatives for our school on the island and beyond



Arran High School Annual Golf Competition

On Wednesday 15th June, 20 participants competed in the AHS Annual Golf Competition, held at Lamlash Golf Club. A scratch, stroke play format was used, and a junior and senior trophy was up for grabs. The sun shown for us as a mix of newbies, intermediates and experienced golfers teed off.



For our Junior Competition, Charlie Ross successfully placed 3rd, Frazer Ferguson 2nd and our winner was Fergus West.

In the Senior Competition, Jake Young placed 3rd, followed by Alfie Robinson in 2nd. Our Senior winner, taking the First Ministers Trophy, was Gordon MacIntyre

Parent Council News

After a two-year pause when the Pandemic meant we all had to focus on other things, the Parent Council is gearing up again. The minutes from the AGM held in January, and a recent meeting in April can be found on the Parent Council section of the school website. You can find an updated list of Committee members and office holders.

We have an email address where you can contact us: arranhighparentcouncil@gmail.com and would welcome your contributions on any ongoing discussion or matter you wish to raise. We also expect to reinstitute the PC Facebook group for better communication. There's a form for membership for the 50/50 Club attached, which is a main source for PC fundraising - and a lot of fun!

The next Parent Council meeting is Wednesday, 31st August.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

It was great to get our Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions started again since COVID. On Monday 23rd May, 10 of our young people started their DofE Bronze Expedition. The Bronze Expedition section involves students walking a planned route for two days including a nights' camp. This year we walked from Kilmory to Lamash for day 1 with a nights' stay under canvas in Lamash, and day 2 being a circuit of Lamash via Cnoc na Dail and Dun Fionn. Thanks to Kilmory Minibus for logistical support in collecting and dropping off our young people and supporting staff at the starting point. The group and staff (Mr Barr and Mrs Hogge) were also supported by Ross Muir, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-ordinator for North Ayrshire Council who came across the water to help assess the group's skills in teamwork, navigation, resilience and self-care.

For the students to complete their award, they now have to record their expedition in a diary and ensure they have completed a record of each section in their EDofE accounts.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is open to all students in S3-S6. The award consists of participants taking part in an activity which meets the criteria of the Volunteering section, one for the Skills section and one for the Physical section along with the Expedition. Timescales for each activity are dependent on the level undertaken. More information about taking part in Duke of Edinburgh Award for the following year can be collected from Mrs Cannon in the school office or speak to Mrs Hogge.



S3 Poetry

English students in S3 collaborated with COAST marine protection to create poetry inspired by the ocean.



LION'S MANE JELLYFISH

Beth McNeice

Its fiery bright colours,
light up the deep dark depths of the ocean.

As it seeks its prey,
at the bottom of the ocean

it swoops down
and drowns

it in
its long
tentacles.

The hidden creature
emerges

behind you without any warning
and stings you

like the wind against your fragile skin during a walk down Lamlash Bay
on a stormy winter's day.

They are made out to be
Evil

But they are innocent,
when they are peacefully floating just below the surface of the water,
a person comes along and accidentally bumps
into them.

The person gets stung,
screaming and crying, annoyed with the jellyfish

But in fact if they had just been
a little
More
careful,

Maybe they wouldn't be in the pain
that they were,

And the jellyfish

would
not
have
the
blame.



sea otter

Slick, silk hair touched by the salty sea air
That is what the sea otters wear.
Their eyes and ears are like a secret
Buried under their thick beautiful hair;
When you see their eyes gleaming in the
Sea then you care about their destiny.

Sharp toothed sharks leave them in the dark,
Oil leaves a mark on their salty slick hair making
It dark. If a fishing net catches hold of their head
Then they are dead. We need to protect them.



Tilda Litton

EMA Applications

Online application for session 2022/2023 is now open and young people will be able to apply by visiting www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/EMA.

For your information, for the forthcoming session, young people whose dates of birth fall between 1 March 2003 and 28 February 2007 will be eligible to apply for an EMA award.

Please also note that there may be some young people, in the above age eligible group, who may qualify for EMA without recourse to parental income assessment:-

- Young people who are in the care of the local authority, including those residing with foster carers or those placed in a formal kinship care arrangement.
- Young people who are receiving benefits in their own right e.g., teenage parents or those young people who are estranged from their parents.
- Care Leavers (i.e., those young people who were in Local Authority Care up to their 16th birthday).

S2 YPI Fashion Show

One of our YPI ArCaS groups (Niamh Gosman, Kirsty Hume, Emma Henderson, Ben McCarthy and Lewis Gregg) decided to hold an ArCaS fashion show with over 20 pupils volunteering to model clothes from ArCaS. They wanted to raise the profile of the charity and specifically the shop in Brodick with their peers in a fun way. They sold tickets to pupils and staff to watch the fashion show and sold some clothing items too. This raised nearly £120 which went directly to ArCaS.



S2 YPI Semi-Final & Final

Our S2 YPI semi-final was held in school on Friday 22nd April with all 11 groups competing for a place in the final. Each group performed presentations on why their chosen charity should win the £3000 grant. The event was judged by Siobhan Wilks (DHT), Julie Cannon (AHS Office Administrator), Catriona Lockie (RME Teacher), Julie Hamill (S5 pupil) and Louis Gray (S5 pupil).

The charities represented at the event were ArCaS, AHS Mountain Bike Club, RNLI, Arran Mountain Rescue Team, Sarda, Arran Pipe Band, Arran Land Initiative, Mary Davies Trust and Arran Visual Arts. All groups delivered presentations of a very high standard making it a difficult choice for the judges who selected the following six finalists:

- Arran Mountain Bike Club - Ewan Morrison, Katherine Coyle, Jenny Currie, Cameron Mack, Filip Dybalski
- ArCaS - Niamh Gosman, Kirsty Hume, Emma Henderson, Ben McCarthy, Lewis Gregg
- Arran Mountain Rescue Team - Rosie McNamara, Nina Szwalec, Isla Monteith, Alec Fraser
- Arran Visual Arts - Archie Adams, Chloe Hemming, Harvey Dale, Sophie Turnie, Lucy Blair
- ArCaS - Millie McCormack, Tilda Litton, Oscar Urquhart-Dixon, Andrew McKelvie, Logan Young
- Arran Pipe Band - Daisy Campbell, Brooklyn Frost, Frazer Ferguson, Jamie Worthington

The six finalist groups battled it out at our YPI Final on Tuesday 17th May. It kicked off with an opening speech delivered by Susan Foster (HT). Mara Gosman (YPI Lead Teacher) then led the event which was attended by S1 – S3 pupils, the charities and parents. The presentations were judged by Siobhan Wilks (DHT), Sergeant Jimmy Baird (Lamlash Police Station), Timothy Billings (Lamlash Improvements Group & Local Councillor), Grant Coyne (S5 pupil) and Carter Chappell (S5 pupil). Isobel Johnstone (YPI co-ordinator Ayrshire) was also there to present the £3000 cheque to the winning charity.

The judges selected one of the ArCaS groups as the competition winners. Kirsty Hume, Niamh Gosman, Emma Henderson, Lewis Gregg and Ben McCarthy then presented their charity representatives with the £3000 cheque. Second place was awarded to AHS Mountain Bike Club who will receive a £300 cheque from their pupil representatives: Ewan Morrison, Cameron Mack, Filip Dybalski, Jenny Currie and Katherine Coyle. Each other finalist charity will be gifted with a £100 cheque.

The winning group are very excited to have received an invitation to attend the National YPI Showcase Event at Perth Concert Hall on Wednesday 15th June, they will be accompanied by Mrs Mara Gosman and Mr Matthew Reid.



Textiles

It's been busy in Fashion and Textiles across all BGE year groups since Christmas. S1 have been designing and using fabric to pin, cut out and hand sew their needle cases. They have just started using the sewing machines and have had great success so far starting their new project. S2 have also been instructed on using the sewing machines and have shown a lot of confidence and skill when making their wall hangings. Lots of different design ideas and use of colour to create a personalised item. S3 recently completed their 'designer' t-shirt project, creating moodboards and then finalizing their t-shirt remakes incorporating different fabrics and different sewing techniques. We have covered Chanel, Paul Smith, Vivienne Westward and Stella McCartney. You can probably spot which one is which!



P7 Transition

P7 pupils spent half a double lesson in textiles learning hand sewing techniques with wool. They were creating bookmarks ahead of their August start for reading at school and at home. It was great to meet such keen pupils.



The P7 students also demonstrated their creative talents in English by making sustainable fashion out of newspapers and then presenting their finished designs to the class.



Health & Wellbeing Week

During the week 23rd to 26th May the whole school took part in a Health and Wellbeing Week.

All pupils took part in several activities and workshops to promote health and wellbeing throughout the school.

Here are some photos of the activities that took place throughout the week.





Some of our pupils opted to attend a beach day trip as one of their HWB activities. The involved pupils and staff started the day out with a leisurely walk to Clauchlands Point where they enjoyed a rest and a snack. They then walked to Lamlash Pier area where they competed against each other in small groups to create a beach sculpture. The sculptures were very impressive with the Isle of Arran sculpture being selected as the winner. Unfortunately, the weather took a turn for the worse so we returned to school for an afternoon of games in the dance studio.



Readers of the Week

Every week at AHS we celebrate the reading which is happening across the school by nominating a 'Reader of the Week'. Well done to the winners from this Term, who have all been bought a new book!



Golden Ticket Winners

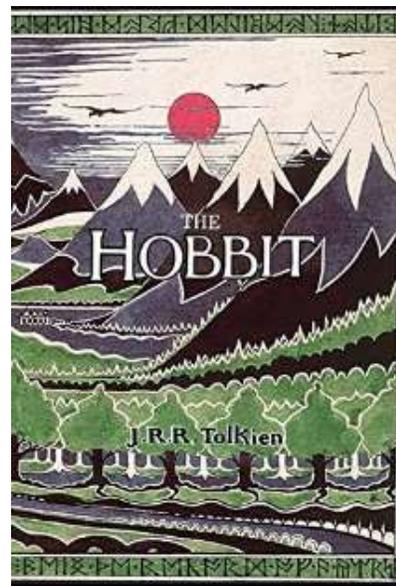
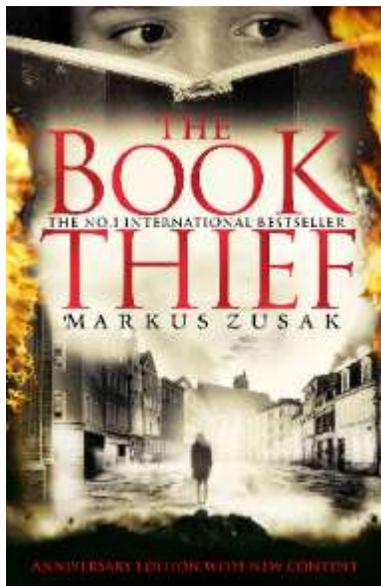
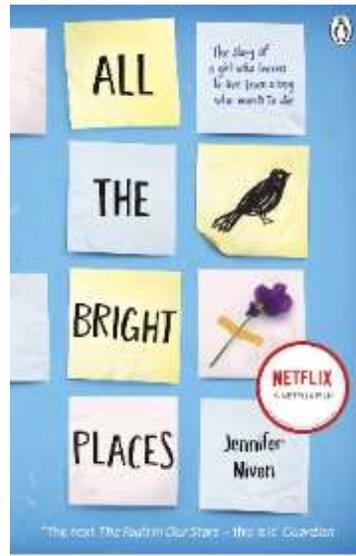
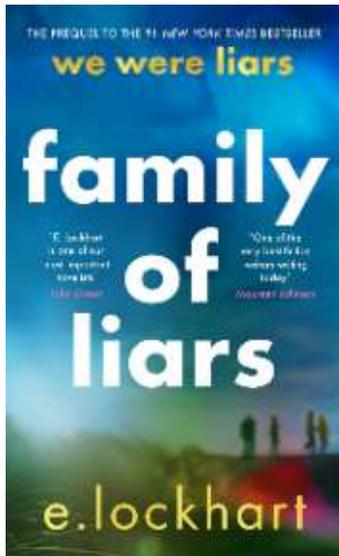


Hamish Kendall, S1 winner for 'most improved' Rhea Webster, S2 winner for 'most improved'



Fraser Watson, S3 winner for 'most improved'

Our Readers Recommend: Our 'Readers of the Week' have each recommended a book for your next riveting read:



Arran High School Film



We are very proud to present our new Arran High School promotion film for attracting new staff and teachers to Arran High School.

The full length film can be found on the school website at <http://arranhigh.co.uk/>

We would like to acknowledge our thanks to Jim Boxall at studiosoftbox.co.uk for creating the film on our behalf.

Library News



'The P7's spent a happy half hour doing a library treasure hunt - this helped get them familiar with the layout of the library and what lovely books we have 😊. Then they did some work for the librarian by sorting books into 'genres' (adventure/mystery etc) for the librarian to label up!'

Iceland Teacher Visit

