



# the turret

## WELLINGTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Summer 2011

Ayrshire's only Independent School

Founded 1836

Anneliese Aitken in P3 won the title of Pony of the Year Show 11 and Under Champions 2011 after competing in the 2011 Pony of the Year Show at Towerlands Park, London. There were over 120 competitors in her class (U12). Anneliese, riding Whinney Lass, was in a nail biting jump off against 15 other riders to finish in 1st place. Anneliese also won 3rd place overall on Noble Sparkle in Style and Performance class.

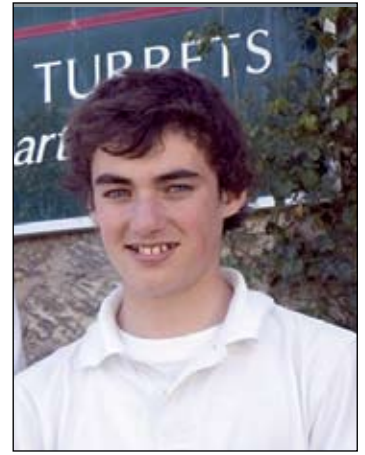
Antonia Craig in S1 will represent Scotland in Pony Club Tetrathlon in Milton Keynes on June 10. Tetrathlon is running, shooting, swimming and cross country riding and requires a tough daily training routine. Antonia has already enjoyed competing for Wellington in the school equestrian team at Ingliston and at Gleneagles where they came 2nd, 3rd and 4th overall in the Scottish Schools Competitions.

Robbie Fergusson (S6) was selected to play for Scotland U17 last year and this year has been fast tracked into playing for Ayr RFC 1st XV, becoming the only schoolboy to play Premier 1 rugby in Scotland. He was selected for Scotland at Under 18 level, and most recently has been selected for the U20 Scotland Sevens Squad.

Blair Gavin in S3 has been selected for the under 18 squad for Ayrshire this year. Blair played for the KB team which won the Ayrshire Junior Golf League in 2010 and for the 4 man scratch team that won the 2011 Ayrshire Boys championship. At club level he is the Barassie H/C champion 2010 and was the Troon champion in 2009.

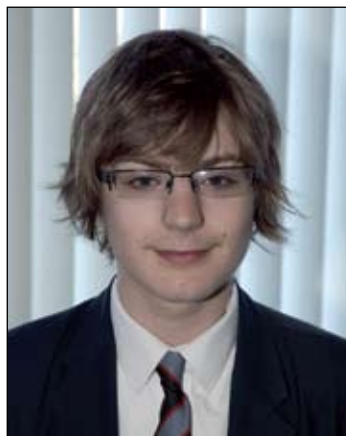
(see back page for more...)

(see back page for more...)



# WELLINGTON'S HIGH FLIERS

*Some of the talented members of the Wellington community are featured in this issue.*



Heather Murdoch (S3) was placed on the Regional Development Pathway Team for Great Britain in April 2010 and won the British Pairs Figure Skating Novice Title in November 2010 with skating partner Lewis Gibson. She will be travelling to Canada this July to work with the best Olympic Pair Coaches in the world. She was awarded the Asda Athlete of the Month for May out of over 2000 athletes throughout Britain.

Taylor Pinkerton (S4) has been selected to represent Scotland in Bulgaria after his recent Bridge win with his partner in the Frischmann pairs, a national junior event. This is a magnificent achievement and represents an enormous opportunity to test himself against the best young bridge players in Europe. Taylor obviously has Bridge in his blood as his grandfather is Chairman of the Ayrshire Bridge Union.

Kathryn Thomson in S4 is a member of the Scottish and Great Britain Junior Development Squad for Speed Skating. Although Kathryn has four more seasons as a junior, she is currently Scottish Senior Lady Champion. Kathryn has finished on the podium at the last three British championships. She is also the holder of seven Scottish records.

(see back page for more...)

Eve-Anne Travers (S5) will represent Scotland in the U16 Scotland v England hockey match at Bellahouston Park on 29th May. Eve-Anne has been selected to represent the u16 Scotland team in the 4 nations tournament from the 10th to 13th June in Mannheim. They will be competing against Germany, Holland and Belgium - very formidable opposition!



*William McMahon; Celeste Killin; Sam Truesdale; Eleanor McMahon; Andrew Dutthorn; Anastasia Khymnyuk; Andrew McLellan; Lilli Finucane; Logan Richardson; Jade Courtney.*

## Bridge at Wellington takes off....

On 20th April, ten of the P7 members of the School Bridge Club were selected to form a team to take part in the competition for the Agnes Templeton Trophy.

This is a team tournament for primary schools in Ayrshire, hosted and organized by the Ayrshire Bridge Union at Prestwick.

Although they had only been introduced to bridge a few months before, the team members were runners-up and Jade Courtney and Lilli Finucane did especially well being top pair E-W.

In addition, Taylor Pinkerton (S4) has recently been selected to represent Scotland in Bulgaria (for more see the front page).



## Journalist Jennifer

Primary 5 and 6 pupils entered the The Herald and Daily What News Schools Journalist of the Year competition in March 2011. They each wrote a short news article about a topical subject - based on local, regional or even international news.

The competition was open to pupils aged 9 - 16 attending Scottish schools, each hoping to win a day working as a journalist and the title of The Herald and Daily What News 'Schools Journalist of the Year'.

I am delighted to announce that Primary six pupil, Jennifer Kerr, was selected as one of only six runners up, winning tickets to the Glasgow Science Centre or Historic Scotland family explorer passes that can be used across Scotland.

Many congratulations to Jennifer! She has done exceptionally well to be selected from over 400 entries.

## Monster Music from RSN0 thrills Nursery Transition



Wellington School Nursery Transition was recently treated to an outstanding performance by the RSN0, at the Henry Wood Halls in Glasgow.

The orchestra played Toreador, The William Tell Overture and The Second Waltz. The children accompanied the orchestra during a rendition of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and sang the lines, during the story, of The Enormous Turnip.

The children were taught new words such as conductor, orchestra and encore. The children were then invited to conduct the orchestra during Toreador and Jamie Broughton impressed the nursery audience when he knew that the conductor's stick was called a baton. At the end of the performance the children called for an encore and were delighted when the orchestra obliged. An excellent time was had by all.

## No! No! Noah....

Primary 1's dramatic offering this term was a musical rendition of the story of Noah's Ark.

Every child had a part and something to say, from the neighbours who objected to the noise of hammering to the animals who resented being squashed in the boat.

Ara was an energetic Mr Noah and all the children made excellent contributions to the show.

The songs were catchy and the children enjoyed the experience of presenting the play to their parents and grandparents.

*'Sing to the Lord' - a rousing finish*



*The animals get ready to get into the ark*

*Mr Noah and his family protest*



# Charity total £18,566 and growing....

Throughout the year the pupils of Wellington School, the sixth year in particular, have been working hard to raise money for the Yorkhill Children's foundation. Fundraising is ongoing but so far the school have managed to raise £18,566.62 for this very worthwhile charity.

In the autumn term different year groups provided cake and candy which was sold by the sixth year to raise funds, around £100 was raised from each cake and candy and the effort put in from each year group was great.

In the winter term one of our main fundraising events, the Christmas Craft Fair occurred. Retailers from throughout Ayrshire attended the event and several smaller stalls were run by the sixth year such as a home baking stall and a bottle stall. A raffle was also held, it was a fun evening with pupils, relatives and friends of the school attending.

A signed Kaka football shirt was raffled off at the School's Christmas Carol Evening. In December two Christmas dances were held for the juniors in the school, all money made from this event went to the charity. A dance was also held at Blairquhan castle for members of the fifth and sixth year.

At our annual school Burns Supper in February hampers made by the sixth year were raffled off.

A second of our main fundraising events, the school Fun Run took place in March. The whole school joined in in this event with the secondary school running on the beach, the primary department doing circuits on the grass and the nursery taking part in an Easter egg hunt.

Also in March the Framework Gallery in Troon held an open evening, throughout the month of March raffle tickets were sold for a painting at the gallery and also

10% of the profits made from the gallery throughout the month were donated to the Yorkhill Children's Foundation. Thanks must go the Foyle's who organised this event and have willingly given so much time and effort to the cause. Mrs Foyle also took part in a sponsored swim which raised over £100.

Two members of the 6th year Blayney Smith and Donald Swinley very bravely offered to have their heads shaved for sponsorship to raise money for the Yorkhill Children's foundation. The boys raised just under £2000. This event was organised by the boys and their hair was cut by Sharon Fisher.

Two staff coffee mornings have taken place in which the sixth year have provided baking, tea and coffee for the staff. Donations made by the staff raised money for the charity. A non-uniform day was held in which each pupil paid £2 to come into school in non-uniform.

In the following months several more fundraising events will be held. A team of staff and pupils from the school took part in the Edinburgh marathon in May' and sponsorship for this event will raise funds for the charity.

In June a fashion show will be held, members of the sixth year will model clothes provided by retailers. We hope to have several more cake and candies throughout the year and an other non-uniform day. Several small fundraising events will also be taking place between now and the end of term.

Constant support has been given throughout the year by Mrs McMahon and Mr Byers who are the heads of the school charity committee. The office staff at the school have also been a great help. They have helped us organise and provided much needed information and resources.

*by Victoria Armour, Head Girl*



**News In brief** **Final Fundraising**  
The final fundraising events for the session will be held week beginning 13 June.  
There will be a non-uniform day on Tuesday 14 June, and then a Fashion Show on Thursday 16 June in the Hall.  
We will then be winding up so that we can hand over the cheque on Wednesday 22 June to Yorkhill.

**Bugsy Malone**  
The Junior Department's production of "Bugsy Malone" will take place in Carleton Turrets Hall on 8 and 9 June.

**Debating Competition**  
The McKinstry Debating Competition will be taking place on Monday 20 June in Carleton Turrets Hall.

**Music**  
In the Ayrshire Festival, Alexander Cheng, P6, gained an "Outstanding" Grade in Divison E Violin Solo.  
Callum McCandless has attained Grade 5 violin this term and this was presented at assembly by Mr Stovell.  
Well done, Alexander and Callum!

**P4 Business Insight**  
Primary 4 are thoroughly enjoying their interdisciplinary topic on Ayr.  
As a result of their developing interest in tourism, they decided to invite Mrs Meikle, of the Horizon Hotel, to speak to them about the working business of a hotel and about how important tourism is in Ayr. Everyone enjoyed this presentation and wanted to work in the hotel until they heard how much she has to pay out in wages, repairs, laundry, food and drink costs - and of course on tax!

**Burns Federation Competition**  
All P7 pupils participated in an Ayrshire Burns Federation Poetry competition. Pupils recited 'To A Mouse' and the winners were:  
1st - Adam White  
2nd - Celeste Killin  
3rd - Mark Hanzely

**'Big School' Science for P6**  
P6 pupils very much enjoyed their opportunity to experience Science at the 'big school', by performing and writing up two experiments with Mr Andy McPhee. This opportunity has certainly whetted their appetites regarding the new opportunities to come when they enter Primary 7 in August.



# Wellington Abbey

Kate and William in P1 were the stars of Wellington's own mock royal wedding in April - on the day before the real event.

Kate arrived with her father Michael (Aidan) in a trap pulled by Fraggles, the Shetland pony and was ably assisted by Lucy, chief bridesmaid.

At Wellington Abbey, minister Fraser Aitken conducted a service full of incident. When asked if he would like to kiss the bride, William politely declined! The lost rings (curtain!) were found in the nick of time and, at the signing of the register, a leg fell off the table on which the marriage certificate rested.

The happy couple emerged, accompanied by Mendelssohn's Wedding March, to clouds of confetti thrown by foreign dignitaries (P2), members of the royal family (P3) and the bridesmaids and page boys (P1).





## Royal Wedding

The bride and groom did a few circuits of the playground in the Golden Coach - Fraggles still trotting round in exemplary fashion.

After the Wedding Breakfast (and playtime) the magnificent 3-tier wedding cake (kindly made by Mrs Naylor) was cut and Prince Harry (Greg Turner) delivered a witty speech.

This was followed by a gracious thank you to all participants by Aidan.

Lots of adapted games - Put the Crown on the Prince (AKA Pin the Tail on the Donkey), Royal Corners and the Virginia Reel followed, but no time for the Emotional Uncle Game - alas.

Mrs Grier (mother of Erin) was our official photographer for the day.

It was a hugely enjoyable day and unbroken sunshine was the icing on the cake!



# Focus on Modern Studies

In September, as part of their S2 unit on Terrorism, students in Modern Studies created and built models of memorials to commemorate the attacks on New York on 11th September 2001 and election fever was in the air on the 26th of January as the three S1 Modern Studies classes assumed the role of political parties and competed in a mock election.



*Yasmin Habib, Paris Bertschy, Shannon Cowan, Iona Hayes and Zara Wardrop*



*Lucy Cogley, Harmen Linsay and Samantha Gemmells' design*



*Eva Richardson, Amy Napier, Morven Archbold and Jade MacIntyre*

## S2 Students Design 9/11 Memorials

Working in small groups, pupils were asked to design, justify and then build 3-D models of their creations.

The ideas that were generated were impressive, compassionate and highly creative. It was evident to the staff that the students showed real empathy when considering the loss of life involved in the attacks and performed some higher order thinking when reaching mature, collective decisions. Pupils even gave up lunchtimes to complete and improve upon models they had initially started in class.

On completion, the designs were then entered into a competition within their own class and winners were decided by Mrs

Murray for 2A, 2C and 2K respectively.

The most successful design in 2K was comprised of Yasmin Habib, Paris Bertschy, Shannon Cowan, Iona Hayes and Zara Wardrop. The focus of their model was a dome shaped fountain, topped with an American flag settled over a lake. They provided pathways so that mourners could walk over the lake and see the names of those killed, which were to be inscribed on the floor of the lake.

The winners in 2A were Lucy Cogley, Harmen Linsay and Samantha Gemmell. Their design focussed on a Monkey Puzzle tree to which they hoped mourners would

attach a paper lantern which they would light in memory of those lost. The names of those who died were to be inscribed in paving stones around the park.

In 2C Eva Richardson, Amy Napier, Morven Archibald and Jade MacIntyre came out on top. They designed a park which focussed on a raised platform and a wishing well. Money donated in "wishes" was to be collected each month and divided between the upkeep of the park and a charity for those affected by the tragedy. Names of those who died were to be listed on the two small towers which would be built in the footprints of the buildings which were destroyed.

## S1 and P7 Hold Mock Election

Primary 7 pupils were warmly invited along to the January election to gain a deeper insight into Modern Studies in S1.

The three parties nominated candidates and worked as a team to devise election pledges and create campaign materials such as posters, rosettes and leaflets.

1A were the Conservative party and nominated Alistair Kidd of 1 Churchill as their candidate. The Conservatives campaigned effectively with Alistair's leadership on a platform of policies such as protecting endangered species in the environment.

1C became the Scottish National Party (SNP) under the formidable guidance of Monica Higgins of 1 Montgomery. In a well-delivered speech, the SNP urged people to vote for Scottish Independence and an end to conflict involving Scottish troops.

1S took on the role of the Labour party in the election and nominated Fiona Thomson of 1 Curie to be their candidate.

Labour campaigned hard with Fiona as leader on its key messages of promoting faster broadband technology in schools and homes, and introducing

common rooms for S1 pupils.

During the hustings, P7 and S1 pupils were given the chance to question candidates and make comments about speeches and election pledges. Many questions were incisive and thought provoking.

Voting took place shortly afterwards with a buzz of excitement in the hall. With the help of Higher Modern Studies pupils (Stephanie Paton, Stephanie Lynch, Robbie Wright and Gemma Wardrop), the pupils were checked off against the electoral register, they then placed an 'X' next to their chosen candidate and slipped their ballot paper into the ballot box.

The results of the election were announced on Friday 28 January at morning assembly. The Conservative party under Alistair Kidd won the election. The two runners up came very close and this was testament to the effort, determination and good citizenship of all parties.

Mr Parlour praised the candidates at assembly for their imagination and effort and presented a prize to the candidates on behalf of the Modern Studies department.



*Casting the vote*

*Mock election candidates*





Pompeii



Amphiatre



Resting in the shade

# Up Pompeii: Wellington School Easter Trip to the Bay of Naples

“Wednesday is BA.” 35 pupils, accompanied by Mr and Mrs Helps, Mrs Hemmings, Dr McQueen and Mr Stewart, and all wearing distinctive Italian blue hoodies, gathered at an unearthly hour at Glasgow Airport to catch the British Airways flight to Gatwick to begin 5 days exploring the Classical sites of the Bay of Naples.

We picked up Naomi at Gatwick then transferred to the connecting flight to Naples. The bus ride to Sorrento gave us a taste of what was to come, with lengthy traffic jams at Vico Equense and crazy Italian driving.

“Thursday’s Pompeii”. Thursday was taken up with a full day visit to Pompeii, the setting for the S1/2 Latin course book. Walking through the streets and seeing the buildings mentioned in the course made it all much more meaningful. Everyone had their photos taken outside

Caecilius’s house to mark the occasion. We walked a few extra miles after being sent back to the school party gate after lunch, but that meant we slept through the horrendous traffic jams on our way back to the hotel.

“Friday’s Vesuvius”. For many the walk up Mount Vesuvius on Friday morning was the highlight of the whole holiday. Everyone walked up to the summit, where the view into the crater was stunning. In the afternoon we visited Herculaneum, which had been buried under 50 ft of volcanic mud when Vesuvius erupted in 79A.D. Much quieter than Pompeii, it had its own quiet charm and the weather was glorious, letting the boys show off their rugby skills. Friday night saw us visit a local pizzeria, where the wood fired oven produced the best pizzas in town.

“Saturday’s shopping”. We visited the Villa of Poppaea (one of Emperor Nero’s

wives) in the morning, where the art work was breathtaking. After enduring more traffic jams, we returned to Sorrento in time for lunch. Free time in the afternoon gave the group a chance to relax with some “retail therapy” and to sample real Italian cuisine. After the exertions of the past week it was a relief to take things easy and just wander rather than look at ruins. Sorrento also gave us the chance to try some more Italian ice cream.

“Sunday’s going home”. Despite our worries over the weight of our cases, check in at Naples went smoothly. We had time for a meal at Gatwick and the flight back home was up to time. It was a great relief to hand over 36 exhausted but happy charges over to their parents at Glasgow. They were all a pleasure to take away - I hope it has given them the inspiration to visit Italy at leisure for themselves at a later date.

## ‘RIGHT BIG blether’ for P5

Primary 5 pupils and staff were invited to take part in “a RIGHT BIG blether”, an event at Stirling University on 7th March.

They participated in workshops on Children’s Rights and met Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People, Tam Baillie.

The results of the national consultation

with young people “a RIGHT blether” were announced.

As part of their Health and Wellbeing topic “Rights and Responsibilities” Primary 5 pupils organised a Voting Centre for the Junior Department and all pupils took part in the National Vote, at the end of last year.



## Space Travel at Dynamic Earth

In March, primary 5 classes visited Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh, as part of their Earth and Space Topic, and took part in a Martian Mechanics Workshop.

This cross-curricular workshop brings science, technology and maths together in a fun and innovative way.

Pupils used interactive voting pads to go on a voyage through the solar system,

looking at how scientists land robots on Mars. Pupils then worked in groups to complete a mission on Dynamic Earth’s own Martian surface.

After learning how to use the NXT software, they used the robots controlled by laptops, to collect rock specimens on the Martian surface.



## Outdoor Education across

### S2 trip to Hadrian's Wall

In May, twenty four pupils from the S2 Latin class took part in the annual invasion of Hadrian's Wall, under the leadership of Mr Helps, Miss Garven and Mr Pugh.

We paid close attention to the "Safety Video" before departing, which even showed the emergency exits! After trailing behind a convoy of five lorries we reached Gretna Green for a "comfort stop" then it was on to Chesters Fort, with its picturesque setting on the banks of the North Tyne where we had lunch and our first close up view of the Wall (and a protected nest of oystercatchers!).

Next was Housesteads Fort, perched on a steep crag. The long walk up the hill was a real test of stamina. At each site pupils gave a commentary based on hand outs they are preparing in school, to

be used by future visitors to the sites. We also walked along the Wall to a milecastle which featured in "Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves".

This year we visited the world famous Vindolanda Roman Fort with its reconstruction of sections of the Wall. We saw archaeologists at work excavating part of the fort and dodged the only shower of the day by visiting the Museum and Shop.

To finish off a most successful trip we phoned ahead to order our chips at Longtown, which kept everybody happy!

We arrived back at Carleton Turrets on time! and everyone was collected promptly, going home for a well earned rest.



### P7 learning goes outdoors



Primary 7 pupils have once again been working on an exciting educational project, entitled "Salmon in the Classroom", in partnership with Ayrshire Rivers Trust.

This has involved learning about river ecology and, more practically, setting up and observing a salmon hatchery in the classroom and then monitoring the salmon eggs as they developed and hatched in to alevins.

Brian and Gillian, of Ayrshire Rivers Trust, supervised the return of the alevins back in to the River Doon, from where the eggs originated. They also took two kick samples from the river to investigate and identify the invertebrates living on the river floor, and pupils were able to see a diverse selection of life indicating very good water quality in the river.

This was an exciting morning out for children and staff alike.

### Future Events

P1, P3 visit to Loch Doon Tuesday 14 June

S3 Geography/Biology Trip to Arran Friday June 10

P7 History Trip to Stirling Castle and The Wallace Monument Monday June 13

P4-P6 visit to Edinburgh Zoo Thursday June 22

P1 visit to Cumbrae Thursday June 16

P3 visit to Brodick Castle and Country Park, Isle of Arran Thursday June 16



*Children of P1, P2 & P3 visited Culzean Country Park in May. They enjoying a guided walk with the ranger in the morning and then worked with colours in the Walled Garden in the afternoon.*

### Cumbrae Cycle

On Sunday 20 March, Mrs Devlin and Mrs Mackenzie organised a family cycle day to the Isle of Cumbrae. A small but intrepid group of cyclists braved the drizzle and had a lovely adventure pedalling beside the little coves on the west side of the island.





# the Stages at Wellington

## P5 on Arran



On Wednesday 18th May, primary 5 classes left school for a three day field studies trip to Arran.

They stayed at the P.G.L. Lochranza Field Studies Centre and took part in many activities related to their current topic, "The Island of Arran"

The pupils all thoroughly enjoyed their time on the island, even although the weather was very changeable. Activities included visiting a number of towns, villages and tourist attractions, carrying out various surveys and questionnaires.

They also investigated the geology of the island and completed a seashore safari and an orienteering course.



## Outdoor Nursery - the Dream becomes a Reality

A date in August 2011 is to be set for the official opening of the Wellington Outdoor Nursery at Doonside, Alloway.

Wellington School will be the first to offer children this kind of nursery experience in South Ayrshire; a conventional nursery experience alongside an outdoor nursery experience.

Developing an outdoor nursery is a very exciting opportunity, and some of the advantages are the the opportunities for collaborative learning, resilience, coping mechanisms, problem solving and a respect for danger.

Children at the Outdoor Nursery will get wet and mucky, learn to negotiate uneven surfaces, and suffer the odd bump and scratch. They will climb, balance, use tools, and generally have great fun.

The new Outdoor Nursery will operate five days a week during term time and children may attend for one or more sessions a week. Outdoor clothing will be provided.

The location at Doonside provides a varied landscape with many species of plants and wildlife. An enjoyable and stimulating educational programme will be provided through play and the children will lead their own learning experiencing all areas of A Curriculum for Excellence.

Since Mrs. Smith, Early Years Practitioner, visited Denmark last year, she has undertaken 'Forest School Leader' training which is a nationally recognised course designed for those who wish to lead forest schools and 'Risk it', looking at the benefits of risk in learning.

Linking up with partners has also helped to build up knowledge and experience in forest kindergartens and the Outdoors Nursery has useful and interesting links with the Forestry Commission.

*Monty aged 3 says 'I would kick the leaves and say hello to the birds, stamp in the leaves that's what I would do in the woods'*

## Challenges at Barcapple for P6

Primary 6 pupils spent an exciting week in May at the Abernethy Barcapple Outdoor Centre.

The week was a tremendous success! The pupils took part in exhilarating activities and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the residential experience. The staff, facilities

and meals at the centre were superb!

Pupils and teachers enjoyed many activities and challenges including abseiling, canoeing, hill walking, ropes course, zip wire, challenge course, blind trail, tree climbing, archery and team challenges.



# Mathematical Challenges

Congratulations to all pupils who took part in the various competitions this year.

## UKMT Team Maths Challenge.

Our team of Muchen Jiang, Lucy Stewart, Lucy Illingworth and Rosalyn Thomson did very well and came 9th out of 25 teams. Well done!

## UK Intermediate Maths Challenge

### Bronze

Andrew Kerr, Ivana Ostojic, Katie Wood, Christopher Rae, Phillip Summers, Daniel Wilson

### Silver

Andrew Hunter, Robbie Miller, Saul McNally-Summers, Allan McClure  
Silver and Best in School  
Mairi Archbold

## UK Junior Maths Challenge

### Bronze

Eva Richardson, Kenneth Manderson, Rachel Alner, John McLaren, Yasmin Habib, Alistair Kidd, Lucy Dempster, Patrick Smith

### Silver

Jade MacIntyre, Morven Archbold, Craig Morley, Imogen Armstrong, Daisy Michelson  
Gold and Best in School  
Lucy Stewart

## Scottish Mathematical Challenge

### Silver

Lucy Illingworth  
Rosalyn Thomson



## 2011 Toddle Waddle for Charity

Thursday 28th April saw the now annual Nursery sponsored walk around the duck pond at Rozelle Park to help support the work of the Meningitis Trust.

The weather was fine and sunny and we were joined by many parents and grandparents along the way. The children, wearing their duck hats,

stopped to feed the ducks and we watched swans glide through the water.

At this present time the total amount collected in the Nursery is in excess £500 for the Meningitis Trust.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Parents and friends for their support.

## Wellington School Ethos Strategy

The school would like to thank all parents who have submitted their views on the work of the school via questionnaires/surveys over the past few months. We have been reading and listening very carefully and, as a result of what we have found out, some changes have been drawn up, which will be fully implemented in the new academic session.

Our new classroom code - "the Wellington wAy" - will be displayed in all classrooms and public spaces around the school and is designed to emphasise the key qualities we would expect from all of our pupils.

The school has started the process of reorganising internal referral procedures. This should see much more frequent and proactive contact with parents on matters pertaining to the core standards laid out in the class code.

Modifications are also being made to the House Mark system in order to promote positive achievement across all school activities.

Pupils will receive lots of information at assemblies throughout June and parents will be kept up-to-date via a summer mailshot. A parental information evening will also take place, early in the new school year.

## Teams Work in Business

During the Spring Term the Higher Business Management Class participated in the South Ayrshire Schools' Business Challenge which took place at NATS Prestwick. This was a very worthwhile task and it complemented the work covered in the classroom. The class was divided into 2 teams competing against 7 other South Ayrshire schools and all pupils were commended for their presentation skills and team working skills on the day. A huge thank you to NATS for organising the venue, speakers, judges and catering, which all contributed to a very successful day.



*the Wellington wAy - our school code*

**A** is for **attendance**

- be on time for school
- move promptly between lessons
- attend all extracurricular events you sign up for

**A** is for **appearance**

- wear your uniform with pride
- tuck in your shirt and do up your top button
- have your House badge on your blazer
- remove make-up and keep your hair tidy

**A** is for **attitude**

- show respect to all members of the school community
- always try your very best
- take advantage of every opportunity on offer

*the Wellington wAy - our school code*

# Art and Design

## The Maclaurin Exhibition 2011

Wellington pupils are well represented in this year's Childrens' Art exhibition, which runs from 15th June - 17th July.

A large number of 2D and 3D works by pupils in the Nursery, Primary and S1-S3 will be on show.

Opening times are:

Monday, Wednesday - Saturday:  
10am - 5pm  
Sunday: 12noon - 5pm  
Closed Tuesday

## Art Spectacular Exhibition 2011

Due to an extended period of SQA examinations, our own exhibition will be on 24th August this year.

The event will provide an excellent opportunity for parents, children and friends to get together at the start of term and enjoy a vast selection of art and design

works by pupils of all ages.

Several hundred pieces will be displayed, ranging from figure drawings and still life paintings to catwalk jewellery and contemporary sporrans!

Please keep the date in your diary.

## Art and Design Easter School

Almost all S4 Art and Design pupils spent a very enjoyable and profitable day in the Art department during the Easter holidays.

They had the opportunity to practise their timing for the 5 hour Standard Grade Expressive exam while also receiving individual advice about their work.

During the lunch break, pupils who had created jewellery in their design unit had their final pieces photographed.

Several S5 and S6 pupils also attended the Easter School. These pupils made improvements and additions to their folio work in preparation for SQA marking.



Above: Eilidh Armstrong, S4, wearing the necklace she designed in her Standard Grade design unit.

# Swimmers Triumph with 5 out of 6 Wins

For the second successive year, the Primary swimming team, coached by Mrs Elaine Phillips, have had a great year - winning five out of six possible medals in South Ayrshire this season.

At the annual Ayr and Prestwick Burghs Primary Schools Gala held at the Citadel Leisure Centre on Saturday 14 May, Wellington had a very successful evening.

The swimmers won 9 gold medals, 5 silver medals and 2 bronze medals, with four pupils reaching their finals and finishing 4th.

Anastasia Khymnyuk won the Betty McCallum Shield for the fastest Butterfly Swimmer.

The boys' relay team retained the Codona Cup, and the squadron relay team won the Squadron Trophy for the first time.

The boys' team won the Betty McCallum Shield for the boys or girls team with the highest points, and the Royal Burgh of Ayr Trophy was retained, as Wellington had the most points overall.

The medal winners, finalists and squadron relay team were as follows:

### GOLD

Cameron Reece  
Marshall Illingworth  
Anastasia Khymnyuk  
Cameron Reece  
Mitchell Wyllie  
Eve Armstrong  
Anastasia Khymnyuk  
Marshall Illingworth  
Cameron Reece, Andrew Dutthorn,  
Mitchell Wyllie & Marshall Illingworth

### SILVER

Eve Armstrong  
Adam Hanzley  
Mitchell Wyllie  
Amy Phillips  
Bradley Bennett

### BRONZE

Katie Stewart  
Eve Armstrong, Kirsten Boyle,  
Katie Stewart & Anastasia Khymnyuk

### FINALISTS

Kirsten Boyle  
Ross McCorkindale  
Katie Stewart  
Adam Hanzley

### SQUADRON RELAY TEAM

Eve Armstrong, Adam Hanzley, Katie Stewart, Mitchell Wyllie, Anastasia Khymnyuk & Marshall Illingworth

Boys Primary 7 Backstroke  
Boys Primary 7 Breaststroke  
Girls Primary 7 Front Crawl  
Boys Primary 7 Front Crawl  
Boys Primary 6 Front Crawl  
Girls Primary 5 Front Crawl  
Open Girls Butterfly  
Open Boys Butterfly

Boys 4 x 25m Freestyle Relay

Girls Primary 5 Backstroke  
Boys Primary 5 Backstroke  
Boys Primary 6 Breaststroke  
Girls Primary 5 Breaststroke  
Boys Primary 5 Breaststroke

Girls Primary 6 Breaststroke

Girls 4 x 25m Freestyle Relay

Girls Primary 6 Backstroke  
Boys Primary 6 Backstroke  
Girls Primary 6 Front Crawl  
Boys Primary 5 Front Crawl



# Sports Stars of the Future

## SportsAid Sponsors Heather

In March Heather Murdoch, S3, went to Ibrox Stadium in Glasgow to attend a SportsAid athlete workshop, with different athletes from all over the country. It was one of 9 workshops as the SportsAid program is run throughout Britain. Heather says "The aim of the workshop was to show all the athletes how to 'up' our profiles within different sports and in general within our own sport. We learnt the basics of how to handle journalists and the media, with a lesson from 2 reporters from the BBC. Later on, a famous sportsman, Daniel Keatings, world number 2 in gymnastics

talked to us about the ups and downs of being an Olympic athlete. He answered our questions and asked us some too. A photo was taken for publicity to send to my chosen Asda store (which is Girvan) which is sponsoring this event. The leader of the workshops discussed how our Asda store could help us raise funds for our training costs, competitions, equipment etc, and how we could help our store by going to local schools with the Asda community worker (which every store has) and talking to all the young kids about starting sport and healthy eating. Finally each athlete got a funding cheque from SportsAid".

S1 pupil Nadia Simpson is showing great promise in the field of athletics. At the recent Scottish Outdoor Athletics Championships at Meadowbank Stadium, Nadia achieved a new personal best in the 200m event, and is now ranked Number 1 at Scottish Level in the 80m sprint event.

Nadia was also a member of the winning 4 x 200m relay team. This team are currently ranked 3rd in Scotland.

At the recent 5 Schools Athletics Match at Dam Park, the P6 girls' team won the 4 x 100m relay event. Team: Amber Macdonald, Lucy Davidson, Jennifer Kerr and Hazel Kirk.

Zoe Sinclair (S3) and Verity McDonald (S2) have both been selected for the South West Scotland Hockey Tournament in June. Eve-Anne Travers will represent Scotland in the U16 Scotland v England hockey match at Bellahouston Park on 29th May.

Well done girls!

## Team Sports Colours Session 2010 -11

### Rugby

Double International Initials and Double Dates  
**Robbie Fergusson**

International Initial and Dates  
Daniel McCluskey

Full Colours and Double Dates  
Burns Tennent-Bhohi

Full Colours and Dates  
**Rory Craig**  
**Robert Small**

Full Colours  
Finlay MacMillan  
Fraser Robertson

Half Colours  
Donald Swinley  
Alex Armstrong  
Ross Kennedy  
Ronan Hunter Blair  
Robbie McAdam  
Ian Rutherford  
Dean Courtney

### Hockey

Full Colours and Dates  
Fiona Preston  
Zoe Haddow  
Rhona McGregor

Full Colours  
Ruth Dunsmuir  
Eve-Anne Travers

Half Colours  
Aimee Fairhurst  
Stephanie Lynch

1st XI Player of the Year  
Fiona Preston

1st XI Captain for 2011-2012  
Eve-Anne Travers

1st XI Vice – Captain for 2011-2012  
Ruth Dunsmuir

## Hockey Commitment Badges

Eve-Anne Travers  
Aimee Fairhurst  
Helen Robb  
Fiona Preston  
Rebecca Lynch  
Ruth Dunsmuir  
Caitlin Brady  
Eilidh Armstrong  
Rhona McGregor  
Emma Dawson  
Alison Dean  
Zoe Haddow  
Katarina Ostojic  
Stephanie Lynch  
Katie Wood  
Grace Mackie  
Victoria Armour  
Helen Hall  
Vivienne Easdale  
Kirsty Bryson  
Erin Corbett  
Rachel Doyle  
Caoimhe Hunter Blair  
Katie Laurie  
Charlotte Young



## Multilingual PE

A Cross Curricular venture between the Modern Languages Department and the PE Department was organised whereby S4 pupils undertook an Athletics coaching session at Dam Park Stadium.

Pupils were taught in French and German by Marie Morin from France and Jan Mehlberg from Germany. Pupils not only had to answer questions in both languages but understand coaching points in the following events:

- Warm up, warm down - French & German
- Sprints – French
- Long Jump – German
- High Jump – French.

Feedback was very positive from both staff and pupils and below are some words and phrases that were used:

**courir droit à la barre**

- run straight at the bar

**lauf direkt auf die Messlatte!**

**arc plus votre dos**

- arc your back more

**den Rücken mehr durchbiegen!**

**utilisez vos bras plus**

- use your arms more

**benutz mehr die Arme!**

**décollage sur votre pied droite / gauche**

-take off on your right/left foot

**spring mit links/rechts ab!**

**lever les chevilles / jambes pour aider à dégager la barre**

- lift your ankles/legs to help clear the bar

**heb die Füße/Beine um über die Latte zu kommen!**

**vous êtes trop près de la barre**

- you are too close to the bar

**du bist zu nah an der Messlatte!**

## Wellington Ponies Pipped at the Post

On Sunday May 2 the girls of the school equestrian team came a very creditable second in the Show Jumping Team Event at the Scottish Schools' Equestrian Extravaganza which was held at Ingliston Country Club, Bishopston.

The team, consisting of Antonia Craig on Crosby Golightly, Fionnulla Kerr on Laraghmore Martin, Elspeth Jamieson on The Raindancer and Harmen Lindsay on Just Jester, all jumped brilliantly over a challenging course and then elected Fionnulla as their representative in the jump off.

After a very exciting competition Fionnulla and Martin were beaten going against the clock, by 0.5 of a second; and the girls picked up the blue rosettes. The following Sunday, May 9th the team, slightly altered with Samantha Gemmell

and Ashfield Jack Sparrow instead of Elspeth, were off again; this time to the Scottish Schools' Combined Training Championship at Gleneagles, near Perth.

After performing excellent dressage tests and gaining 3rd place out of a field of 14 strong teams in the Dressage section, they jumped again and, with only 4 faults from the whole team to add to their total score, finished a brilliant 4th overall at the end of the day.

The girls were accompanied by Mrs Downie and Mrs Malloch, who have also organised several very successful training sessions for the team throughout the season.

The equestrian team at Wellington goes from strength to strength. with a proposed picnic ride to be organised for June; and more show jumping training in the pipeline.



# John Muir Award



The Primary 7s at Wellington School went camping recently at Culzean Country Park, as part of their John Muir Award. This outdoor learning experience was most worthwhile as the pupils took part in a wealth of activities over the two days. They were assisted by their Primary 7 teachers and various other partners including rangers from Culzean, Senior School staff, Geoff Forrest who demonstrated willow weaving and two Duke of Edinburgh instructors, Andy McNamara and Davie Nichol.



Activities ranged from sketching, examining rock pools, orienteering, making environmentally friendly clay models, land art activities, a bat watch and learning how to pitch a tent.

Here is what the pupils thought of the trip:  
'helps us explore and appreciate nature'  
'a fun experience and I particularly enjoyed sleeping in the tent with my friends'

'things that you would not normally do on a school day'

'giving us the chance to explore the outdoors and do adventurous and challenging things'

Pupils also took part in two paddling experiences recently as part of the John Muir Award.

The Primary 7s initially paddled their

canoes on the River Doon at Doonfoot, Ayr and some even managed to paddle to Greenan Castle.

On the second trip, pupils went to Bogton Loch, an expansion of the River Doon, near Dalmellington. Here pupils canoed in pairs, at times through rapids, and had a whale of a time!

A John Muir Award sharing afternoon will be held in school on Thursday 9th June.

## DofE Silver Level Paddling



The Silver level paddling group have recently started their expedition programme with training paddles on 20th and 27th March 2011. The first was on the River Doon from Bogton Loch to Waterside and the second, a sea trip, from Doonfoot to Croy.

The group members are Eilidh Armstrong, Alison Dean, Vivienne Easdale, Ellen Francksen, Katie Lawrie, Helen Robb and Tarn Zaidi and they were accompanied by Andy McNamara, Stephen O'Connell and Lucy Wallace.

Their next outing is a three day practice expedition which is scheduled for June after the SQA exams. Weather and wind permitting, the venue will be Loch Lomond and its islands, with one camp on the picturesque Inchcailloch island.

*Paddling on sea, loch and river*





## Golden Girl Rachel

Sixth year pupil, Rachel Foyle, has recently complete her DofE Gold level. Rachel completed her Bronze Award in March 2008, her Silver Award in February 2010 and has now completed the set with Gold. At Gold level, Rachel volunteered with young children, she chose horse riding for

her physical and spinning and weaving as her skill. Her final expedition was a four day walking trip in the Lochaber area and Rachel's residential was an art portfolio course. Rachel is moving on to the University of St Andrew's to study English.



## Eve-Anne earns Summer Coaching Role

Sportecosse Sportcamps were so pleased with Easter camp Hockey volunteer Eve-Anne Travers that they have taken her on for the whole summer as work experience.

She will assist Graham Macdonald, tennis pro from Ayr LTC, and the rest of the coaching team at the new camp which opened this April.

Sportecosse runs camps at Kelvinside Academy and Lomond school and has a very good reputation in Ayr from the time when it was run at Cambusdoon.

Apart from providing great sport coaching and fun all summer for the 5-12 age group there is an excellent option available this summer for 13 and 14yr olds.

The TEEN HELPER programme is an excellent introduction to sports coaching and responsibility and although children will NOT be put in charge of other children they will get a valuable taste of responsibility and organisation without taking the fun out of it!

For the low price of £60 it is the ideal way occupy a teenager who's enthusiasm for 'kids stuff' is tailing off but who still has a lot to offer the world of sport.

For further details go to [www.sportecosse.co.uk](http://www.sportecosse.co.uk)

## International Karate Kids

On the 28th April, Jan Mehlberg took the S4 girls for a Karate lesson during P.E.

Jan is a 2nd Dan Black Belt in Shotokan Karate, and he competes to a high standard in Germany.

He introduced some basic blocks and punches and taught the girls a Kata.

Jan has been the German Foreign Language Assistant at Wellington throughout the 2010-2011 session.



## Primary 6 Girls win South Ayrshire Relay shield



At the recent South Ayrshire Relay Championships, the Primary 6 Girls won the shield for their age group and the boys also did very well to reach the Final of the Boys Relay. Well done to all who competed,

Girls left to right: Jessica Matthewson, Lucy Davidson, Hazel Kirk, Amber Macdonald

Boys left to right: Mitchell Wyllie, Christopher Easton, John Lomas, Morgan Fitzsimmons, Tom Scott





### Mrs Sally Lomas

Mrs Sally Lomas is the new Depute Head of the Junior School. Mrs Lomas graduated from Craigie College in 1990 with a B.Ed with merit in teaching. She was appointed to Alloway Primary School, moving later to Patna Primary School where she gained management experience. Mrs Lomas has extensive experience at all levels of Primary and Nursery in local schools. She is a former pupil and her two children are current pupils at the school.



### Mrs Anne McKechnie

Anne McKechnie has worked at Wellington School for over 25 years. She retires this term from teaching piano at School. We would like to thank Anne very much for her dedication and enthusiasm and wish her all the very best in her retirement.

## Accommodation needed

We would like to ask any parent who might be interested in offering accommodation to individuals coming to work at the school to please contact the Bursar, John McColgan, on 01292 269321 or email to [jmccolgan@wellingtonschool.org](mailto:jmccolgan@wellingtonschool.org).

At present we are looking for accommodation for our new Comenius Assistant, Denitsa Mitkova, who is arriving at the end of the summer to help at the school for several months. In this instance a small allowance is payable to the hosts.

### Blair Gavin (continued from front page)

Blair gained a place in his first national U19 competition, the youngest of 9 Ayrshire players who competed in the Scottish Boys match play championship at Dunbar where he reached the 3rd round. He plays on the Scottish Junior Golf Tour and this year won his first Scratch event at Monifieth where he scored a 2 under par 66. Blair also represented the school in golf at the Ayrshire Team Championships and finished 4th in the individual event in May.

In preparation for his golf this year he was invited to go and play and practise on Spanish golf courses with a group of young talented golfers. The highlight of the trip was his playing Europe's number 1 course, Valderrama.

Blair's next event is the US kids European Championship at Gullane, East Lothian where youngsters from the US and Europe competed over 3 days for the European title.

### Dates for your Diary

Sunday 19 June	WSA Summer Fete, Doonside
Monday 20 June	Sports Day at Dam Park Stadium
Wednesday 22 June	Infant/Nursery Prize Giving, St Columba Church
Thursday 23 June	Infant Department Garden Party
Thursday 23 June	Infant Department and Nursery finish for summer
Friday 24 June	Speech Day, Town Hall
Wednesday 17 August	Staff Return to School
Thursday 18 August	Pupils Return to School
Saturday 1 October	WSA Ball, Brig o'Doon

### Office Bearers 2010/2011

#### Senior School:

Head Boy	Ross Thorburn
Deputy	Calum Ablett
Head Girl	Victoria Armour
Deputy	Fiona Preston

#### Junior School:

Head Boy	Ross McCorkindale
Head Girl	Rebecca Roberts

### Kathryn Thomson (continued from front page)

Archie Marshall, the Director Speed Skating, believes that Kathryn is technically gifted. She has a successful record in major competitions and is seen by the British Team management as one of our top prospects for the future. For her age group in 2009 she was ranked 10th in Europe. Though that ranking has slipped, it is solely due to missing internationals with untimely injuries. Injury free she is definitely in the top 10.

Kathryn's short-term goals are to take this season's British Speed Skating age group title and the Scottish Senior ladies title.

Kathryn's long-term goals are to compete at the World Championships and the Olympic Games, and to compete there at the top level in these events.

Good luck, Kathryn!

### Robbie Fergusson (continued from front page)

Robbie has been a key player for the school throughout his time at Wellington. He was selected for the pathway squads at a young age and played rugby for Ayrshire and Glasgow. In S4 he played in the schools' senior sevens team that won the Glasgow High Tournament and the Ayrshire Sevens Tournament. The team were semi finalists in the Hutchesons' Grammar Sevens.

Last year he was a key member of the 1st XV that won the Scottish Plate at Murrayfield. Robbie played for an unbeaten Glasgow U17 side and as a result of his performances, he was selected to play for Scotland U17. His performances in the League and in the British and Irish Cup meant that his name was regularly mentioned in the national newspapers and rugby press.

