



Dalkeith HS Bulletin

Friday 17 March 2023

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Photograph by Rebecca Curran, S4



Photograph by Mirin Bain, S4



Mrs E. Ormerod
Head Teacher

Head Teacher's Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have had a very busy week this week as we have been prepping for our quality assurance visit which focused on Learning, Teaching and Assessment. Feedback received has been very positive and will help us to continue striving for excellence in this area. A huge thank you to the pupils and staff who were involved on the day. Everyone has done Dalkeith High School proud.

Since I last wrote to you, an interim report on the review of National Qualifications and Assessments was published. The report highlights recommendations of what a new Senior Phase may look like in the future. To find out more about what the report outlines follow this link:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/independent-review-qualifications-assessment-scotland-interim-report/documents/>

A reminder that the Easthouses Consultation is still ongoing. Ten randomly selected pupils from Dalkeith High School will be involved in focus groups about the catchment area on the 28th of March. This will take place in school. A reminder that Midlothian Council are looking for your views also. Please follow the link below to complete the survey:

https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/news/article/3540/easthouses_primary_school_catchment_consultation_launched

You will also be pleased to know that pay negotiations between Scottish Government and the teaching unions have now come to an end, as an agreement has been reached. This means no more strikes! I want to thank all of our families for their patience during this time.

A huge well done to our joint campus girls' football team who won 5:1 at their recent match against Lasswade. Outstanding performance by our team! There have been some brilliant examples of wider achievement over the past week and we are working on collating these for our BGE awards ceremony. Feel free to drop me an email with your child's achievements if you feel we do not know about them.

Our next Parent Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 28th March at 7pm. The agenda will be sent out to parents at the start of next week.

I hope you have a great weekend when it comes.

Emma Ormerod

Free Bus Travel!

Don't miss out on free bus travel

61% of secondary school pupils and 46% of primary school pupils in Midlothian already have their National Entitlement Card giving them free bus travel across Scotland. All young people aged between 5 and under 22 in Scotland are entitled to travel by bus for free. If you or the young person in your family doesn't yet have the pass, the easiest way to apply is online but you can find lots of different ways on the council website. Don't miss the chance to save money, explore Scotland and help the environment.

https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200280/travel_passes/112/bus_pass

<https://freebus.scot/>



Swim Success

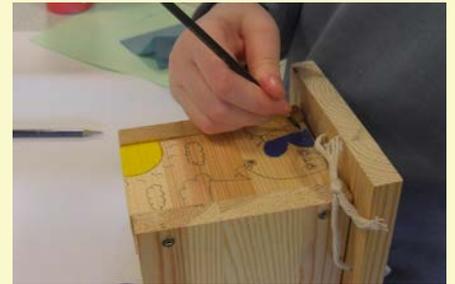
Congratulations to Ava Marko, who recently took part in the East District Swimming Competition taking 15 seconds off her 400 free and 24 seconds off her 800 free.

To top it off Ava won the top girl of the weekend at the competition for her 400 free which is brilliant. Well done Ava!



Bee Topic

This term the Personal Development Award (PDA) class have been working hard on their bee topic as part of the Self and Community Unit. They have been finding out about our school bee community, and visited Mr McGlade's beekeeping class earlier in the year to watch honey being extracted. As part of the Practical Abilities Unit of the course, the PDA class have also been planning, designing and painting bee hotels to hang in the school garden. The bee hotels will be used as homes to house bees who live in wild gardens, for a place of safety from other predators, as well as a cosy warm place to sleep and work.



Cross Country

On the 2nd of March a team of our learners attended the Scottish Schools Cross Country Championships at Hopetoun House. This was the first large competition for some of our learners and they all put in fantastic performances at one of Scotland's most challenging courses. Some of our 1st Year girls secured top 20 finishes and a special mention goes to Andrew McWilliam, S4, who won a Bronze medal and qualified to represent Scotland at the British Schools International Championships in Liverpool, where he will compete against the best students from all over the UK!

Our pupils represent the school in 5 athletics events over the year so we are looking to invest in new team vests and possible sponsorship to enable us to transport bigger teams to these events. Any local businesses interested in being involved in helping our athletics team grow should please contact s.wilson6@midlothian.education.



Easter Study Timetable 2022/23

Subject	Level	Teacher	Date	Time	Room
Maths	Higher Mat	Mr Shaw	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.18
Music	Higher	Mr Pyper	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F303
Music	Advanced Higher	Mr Pyper	3/4/2023	12:30pm - 3:00pm	F303
Music	National 5	Mr Carvel	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F305
Drama	National 5	Miss Thomson	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	Drama Studio
Drama	Higher	Miss Thomson	3/4/2023	12:30pm - 3:00pm	Drama Studio
Art and Design	Advanced Higher	Mrs Zielinski & Ms Kyle	3/4/2023	9.00am - 12.00pm	G303
History	Higher	S. Wilson	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	G109
Classical Studies	Higher	R. McGlade	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	G111
Engineering Science	National 5 / National 4	Mr Ambrose	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	G2.02
Graphic Communication	Adv Higher/Higher/N5/N4	Mr Young	3/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	G2.12
Maths	National 5	Ms Shankland	4/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.21
Maths	Advanced Higher	Mr Gibbs	4/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.20
Maths	Higher	Mr Gibbs	4/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.20
Application of Maths	Higher	Ms Shankland	4/4/2023	12:30pm - 3:00pm	F1.21
Chemistry	Higher / Advanced Higher	Mrs Lawson	4/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F2.25
Modern Studies	Higher	Ms O'Brien	4/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.08
Modern Studies	National 5	Ms O'Brien	4/4/2023	12:30pm - 3:00pm	F1.08
Dance	National 5	Mrs Gatti	5/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	Assembly hall
Dance	Higher	Mrs Gatti	5/4/2023	12:30pm - 3:00pm	Assembly Hall
Practical Cookery	National 5	Ms Pascolini	5/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F 2.14
Practical Cake Craft	National 5	Mrs Jarvis	5/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F 2.10
Maths	National 5	Mr Stirling	6/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.23
Application of Maths	National 5	Mr Stirling	6/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.23
Maths	Advanced Higher	Mr Gibbs	6/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.20
Biology/Human Biology	National 5 / Higher	Miss Miller	6/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F2.21
Application of Maths	National 5	Miss Hamilton	11/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.23
Chemistry	National 5	Ms Mackay	11/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F2.24
Biology/Human Biology	National 5 / Higher	Mr Craig	11/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F2.20
History	National 5	D. Holligan	11/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	G112
Engineering Science	Higher	Mrs Kane	11/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	G2.02
Biology/Human Biology	National 5 / Higher	Miss Macpherson	12/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F2.34
Geography	Higher	Mr Duncan	12/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F109
Modern Studies	Higher	Miss McDougall	13/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.13
Modern Studies	Advanced Higher	Miss McDougall	13/4/2023	12:30pm - 3:00pm	F1.13
Politics	Higher	Miss McDougall	14/4/2023	9.00am – 12.00pm	F1.13

Some in-school Study Sessions will operate during the Easter holiday. Details of the sessions on offer can be found on the timetable above. Pupils are not required to book a place on these sessions however teachers may gauge interest in order to prepare. Please note that no new content will be covered during these in-school sessions, instead they will provide an opportunity for young people to ask questions and consolidate previous learning.

As these sessions are running during the Easter Break, no school transport will be available and it will be a young person's responsibility to make their way to and from the school. If transport is causing difficulty, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In addition to the Easter Study Sessions, teachers will also be available during some periods of normal class time during the exam diet. Staff will share this information regarding these sessions via google classroom.

More information will follow with regards to study leave and SQA arrangements.

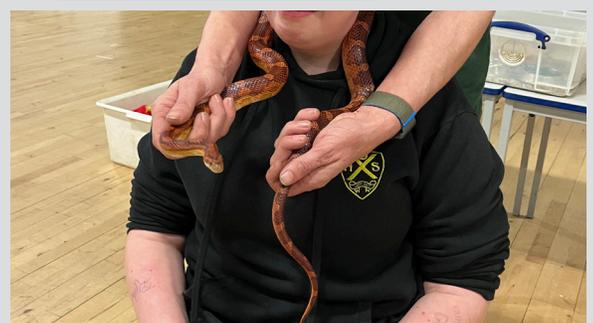
Craig Knight (Depute HT)

In the Classroom...



- (1) S1 Science. Your Planet Earth: investigating the link between industrial polluting areas in Scotland and acid rain.
- (2) S2 Science. Scrubs: linking learning on the circulatory system to important life skills.
- (3) S2 Science. Survival Science: investigating the speed of Kevin MacCallister's getaway car using the distance travelled and time taken.

The Geography Department were delighted to welcome into school the Mini-Zoo Company. Mini-Zoo were in school as part of the S1 Geography unit, Tropical Rainforests. David from Mini Zoo brought in lots of interesting animals that can be found in many of the tropical rainforests around the world. The pupils were able to learn about and even handle some of the animals such as the blue-tongued lizard, the bird eating tarantula, python, cockroaches, as well as many other mini beasts!



Delivering Equity at DHS

The Equity working group have been working hard behind the scenes over the last few months and are pleased to share a number of initiatives that we hope staff, pupils and parents will engage with across the school community:

- The Essentials Hub has been created in the staffroom next to the Guidance base where pupils can access warm clothes, hygiene products, laundry tabs etc. Posters will be displayed in the school over the coming week with QR codes that will enable our pupils to order items discretely.
- The PE department have established a 'swap shop' where pupils and parents are encouraged to donate unused kit to the department
- A 'Prom Boutique' is located in the Essentials Hub where S6 pupils can choose a variety of items for the school prom in June
- 'Essential Pick Up Points' have been established across the school where pupils can access essential items
- The breakfast club continues to run every morning with staff volunteering once every fortnight. Pupils have access to toast, cereal, juice and hot chocolate.
- Pupil, parent and pupil questionnaires are being conducted next week on the Cost of the School Day toolkit.
- PSE lessons will be focusing on the cost of the school day and discussing financial barriers pupils may experience at school
- Equity Captains will be appointed next session to help support this school priority

If you would like to make a donation to any of the initiatives above, please hand in your items to the school office, who will pass them on to the appropriate section.



Cost of the School Day

Dalkeith High School is currently in the process of engaging with the Cost of the School Day Toolkit which is designed to help schools investigate cost barriers and poverty related challenges with children, parents, carers and staff. It is hoped that this process will help: ensure equal access to opportunities at school and remove barriers to participation and learning for young people from low income households

- minimise income stigma and exclusion amongst pupils at Dalkeith High School
- reduce pressures which school costs place on family incomes
- support families to access financial entitlements and maximise their incomes
- ensure that Pupil Equity Funding is used effectively to remove financial barriers that stand in the way of pupils participation in learning.

The Equity Working Group has created a questionnaire that we would encourage parents and carers to complete in order for us to gather views on cost implications which parents face. A copy of the questionnaire will be sent out by text next week.

National Library of Scotland Visit

The Advanced Higher History students visited the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh where they were issued readers tickets, giving a tour of the reading rooms. Pupils also attended a workshop on the digital services that the library offers including access to online journal articles. The pupils found the trip extremely useful for dissertation research, getting advice on referencing and writing bibliographies. All extremely useful skills for progression to university later in the year.



Library News

A great visit to Tynewater Primary School for their transition lesson. All the pupils were excited to be starting Dalkeith High School and looking forward to all the exciting subjects and clubs the school runs. Alfie won the Library slogan competition with the slogan "Reading is like dreaming but with your eyes open."

World Book Day - 30 pupils took part in a Scavenger Hunt. Well done to Richie for finding all the characters first! There was also a staffs' favourite books display as well as a book swap.



Dalkeith HS Supports



**Neurodiversity
Celebration
Week**

March 13 - 19, 2023

www.neurodiversityweek.com

Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences.

<https://www.neurodiversity-week.com/>

FANTASY FOOTBALL

The manager of the month award for the school fantasy football league for February goes to Ms Bones!

Ms Bones got 315 points last month.

Keep updating your team as we approach the end of the season.



EXPRESSIVE ARTS



Image by www.pinterest.com/FreePik/

The Expressive Arts Department are excited to announce the 'Dalkeith High School Summer Showcase' will be taking place on the Wednesday 21st June. We will be releasing more information about the showcase soon, so keep your eyes and ears open to find out how you can get involved in Dalkeith's biggest event of the year!



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Dalkeith High School PTA & PC



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