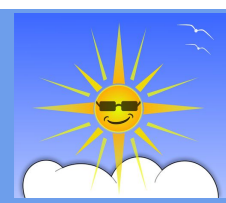




# Fortrose Academy News

## Summer 2022



### Congratulations to .....

Orla McMichael and Aimee Ross who won the Donald Dewar Memorial Debating Competition on 9 June. Competing against 3 other teams, namely, Hutchesons' Grammar, The High School of Glasgow and Dunfermline High School, they proposed the motion "This house regrets the emergence of cancel culture" in The Scottish Parliament. The team in prior rounds also consisted of Connor Atherton and Ruby McBride. The 5 judges remarked upon their excellent team work, structure of argument, research and persuasive and assertive style. They won £1000 for the school, £250 of Hodder Gibson educational books and each received a commemorative quaid. Thanks to Ms Meikle for supporting the team so well.



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# The Gift of the Gab



On Wednesday 18 May, Fortrose Academy hosted a Junior Debating Competition with 2 teams from Thurso High School. The motion for the first debate was "This house would abolish the Olympic Games" and both the S1 team from Thurso HS and the S2 team from Fortrose explored the pros and cons of this sporting event. The second debate "This house regrets the invention of social media" involved an S2 team from Thurso and an S3 team from Fortrose and they effectively argued both sides.

Jo-Anne Pugh judged the competition focussing on content and delivery. She praised all speakers for their ability to speak in front of an audience and encouraged them to continue to debate.



Congratulations to both Thurso teams which won the debates. This was a lovely opportunity for pupils to debate face to face again and socialise, after an absence of 2 years and Fortrose hopes to reciprocate by visiting Thurso High School next term.

Top photo from L to R - Thurso High School S1 team and Fortrose Academy S2 team, bottom photo Thurso and Fortrose teams and supporters.



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# Volunteering Achievements

Biggest Well done to Tilly Grist, Teagan Young and Ethan Paterson for gaining their 500 hour Saltire Award for Volunteering.

The Saltire Awards are the Scottish Government's way of celebrating, recognising and rewarding the commitment, contribution and achievements of our young volunteers in Scotland.

Well done to Tilly also for gaining her gold Highlife Highland Leadership Hoodie for 500 hours of leadership.

Huge thank you to our Lord Lieutenant Joanie Whiteford for presenting their certificates.



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# Coastal Rowing Success!



Black Isle rowers were on the crest of a wave after a fantastic showing at a regatta near Dundee. Cromarty Community Rowing Club teams were buoyant after a great day at the Broughty Ferry Regatta. The Club returned with U19s Girls Gold; U19s Girls Silver; U19s Boys Bronze and an Open Mixed Silver. Congratulations to all involved!



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# Young Dornoch Drummers

A group of 7 drummers from Dornoch Pipe Band made up 50% of the drum core in a Highland Youth Pipe Band which took part in "Beating Retreat" on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June, a Finale concert held in Inverness Leisure Centre for Highland Youth Musicians 2021 – 22 season. The young drummers are pupils of drumming tutor Drew Caldwell were assisted on the Bass Drum by guest artiste Steven Fraser.

The Pipe band made up of almost 30 pupils from various parts of the Highlands aided by their tutors played various sets interspersed by a musical world tour from members of Lochaber High School Senior Wind Band, Inverness Schools Wind Band and East Highland Wind Band.

The concert was brought to a close when all the bands joined forces for a stunning rendition of Highland Cathedral, and having taken the Salute from Steve Walsh OBE, Chief Executive of High Life Highland, the bands performed Scotland the Brave as the Pipe Band marched off. In his closing address Mr Walsh paid tribute to Music Development Officer, Norman Bolton and his tutors for the exceptional level of talent on display.

Drum Tutor Drew Caldwell praised the commitment of his pupils and the help of their parents transporting these youngsters to weekly practices and parades on behalf of the Dornoch band, added to various trips to Inverness in preparation for this event. Dornoch Pipe Band are immensely proud of these drummers who have quickly formed the backbone of the band, and are indebted to Drew for the work he has done bringing these young people to the standard that was evident at today's concert and can be witnessed each Saturday evening in the Town Square at 8 pm.



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# News

Former pupil Michael Macpherson made a hugely impressive debut on his move up into the 2022 British GT Endurance Championship at the Silverstone Grand Prix circuit in March.

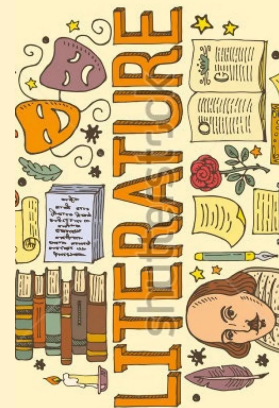
Qualifying as one of 12 drivers to go through to the finals held at Brands Hatch Circuit in January, he was then chosen to be one of three drivers to compete that day in a shoot-out for the prize drive, where he narrowly missed out on first place as runner up.



## AH Tea Party

On Thursday 26 May, the English department bid farewell to our Advanced Higher pupils. We enjoyed time to chat over a cup of tea and some cakes! We wish them well in their future careers.

Photo from L to R – Olive Richards, Sarah MacLeman, Amy Harrison, Lua Mateus, Leona Carmichael, Coll Fullarton, Ms Tweedie and Ms Westwood



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# News



## #greatheilancootrail #cootrail #highlandhospice

Follow the Great Heilan Coo Trail to find Highland Hospice's "amoozing hairy Heilan coos grazing all around the city of Inverness and our udderly gorgeous Scottish Highlands". Follow the link: <https://highlandhospice.org/how-you-can-help/coo-trail/pay-for-a-day>

Here's Eden Young-Anderson, S2, with her 'wee coo' in Thurso!



On Friday 10 June, 6 of our senior pupils visited Avoch Primary School to talk to P5-P7 pupils about their school experiences, pathways and future destinations. This was part of the Primary School's 'Careers Week'. Really positive feedback from our pupils and Avoch staff! Our plan is to make this a regular event.



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# S3 Business Management 'Dragon's Den'

S3 Business Management pupils have been creative and enterprising in planning a new business venture over the past session. This week the teams all presented their business ideas, with 5 finalists presenting to our 4 local business judges at our Dragon's Den event. It was lovely to have an in person event again and showcase the pupils hard work. Huge thanks to DM Elite Training, Black Isle Brewery, Prickly Thistle and IV10 for all their support.



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# Health Faculty News

Well done to our orienteers who represented the school brilliantly at the Scottish Schools Orienteering Festival in Perth. Special mention for S4 girls winner Eilidh Simpson, S4 girls runner-up Esme Sime and S1 girls runner-up Ellen Ash. Big thank you to our parent volunteers for making it happen. Orienteering club is on every Tuesday after school for anyone interested in giving it a go.



Massive well done to all who competed in sports day, whether individually or in the house team events. A great time was had by all and the sun even shone! There were lots of close results which will be announced when medal and trophy ceremonies take place shortly. Please listen out for information regarding the Ross-shire Schools Athletics Championships in the coming days!



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# CLUB RECORD, SCHOOLS GOLD AND 3 PERSONAL BESTS FOR STROMA

Stroma Fraser, S6, set a new Inverness Harriers under 17 shot putt record of 11.66m in addition to 2 other Personal Bests on her way to gold at the Scottish schools pentathlon championships at Grangemouth. Stroma heaved out her best effort in the 3rd and final round to add almost half a metre to the previous record on 11.25m set in 2015.

Stroma was also in Personal Best form in the high jump with 1.57m and the long jump with 5.38m. She ran 12.95 sec in the 80m hurdles and rounded off with 2.29.03 in the 800m for victory. Stroma has twice represented Scottish Schools in the pentathlon international and once at 300m hurdles, and this latest success brings her career multi-event national medal of 4 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze.

Congratulations, Stroma, on these amazing achievements!



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# Health Faculty News

Congratulations Abby McCallum and Sarah MacCulloch for winning silver medals at the teamgym Scottish championships for Fyrish teamgym on 4th June.



Well done to our S2/3 netball team who played in their first festival at Inverness Royal Academy recently. Big thanks to parent coaches Suzy Walker and Jane Litster for making it happen!

Netball club is open to all and on every Tuesday after school.

If anyone would be interested in sponsoring a new netball kit, please get in touch!



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# P7 Transition

It's great to get back to a more normal P7/S1 transition this year!

On Friday 13 May, we welcomed P7s from across the ASG to join in on a mini Highland Games. Great fun was had by all!



We look forward to seeing the P7s again for 4 days beginning Monday 20 June. During this time they will meet their S1 teachers and follow their S1 timetable.



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# Summer holidays

School closes for the summer at 12 noon on Thursday 30 June.

Senior students should expect to receive exam results on Tuesday 9 August - good luck to all!

We look forward to Session 2022-23, which starts for pupils on Tuesday 16 August 2022.

Hope everyone has a restful summer after an extremely busy and challenging year!



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