

# *Rothesay Joint Campus*

## **December 2011 Newsletter**

### **FROM WENDY BROWNLIE, PRINCIPAL OF THE JOINT CAMPUS**

Senior pupils held a fundraiser for Calum's Cabin raising a super £367.39 in the process.

Our pupil Council has met on three occasions this term and has undertaken a review of tutor groups as well as an activity to create new vision, values and aims for the school. Minutes of pupil council meetings are posted in the social area. Thanks in particular go to Clara Thomson, Craig MacFie and Kieron Parkins for facilitating these sessions.

Please ensure that pupils are always in uniform- black trousers or skirt, white shirt and school tie and that you review their homework planner regularly with them.

The Christmas Dance is in the Pavilion on 20<sup>th</sup> December. To attend pupils must ensure they have good levels of attendance and behaviour and **MUST** be in school all day on the 20<sup>th</sup>, the day of the dance.

On the afternoon of Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December there will be a dress rehearsal for the talent show. This is open to parents.

There has been an increase in physical rough and tumble between pupils, leading to pupils being injured or serious disagreement. As a joint campus we are taking a zero tolerance approach to this kind of behaviour and will rigorously apply the school behaviour management policy in dealing with this type of behavior.

We are delighted to welcome Mr James Rae to our team as our new technical technician and Mrs Laura McGregor to the temporary post of Additional Support Need Assistant.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all staff, pupils and parents a very enjoyable festive period.



# The Four Nations Maths Challenge



The UK's largest maths competition was held in November with students from S1-3 participating. What an amazing set of results we achieved this year!

Bronze Certificates were awarded to :

S1 - Rory Finlay, Laura Gordon, Jenna Reid, Alastair Shaw, Jay Williams, Marc Cobain, Kyle Ewing, and John Wilson

S2 - Ben Clarke, Scott McAlister, Marcela McMillan and Douglas Zavaroni

S3 - Rory McNeil, Stephanie Shields, Eva Benfield, Connor McGorm, Siobhan Shields and Alex Stewart



*An extra congratulations to  
Rory Finlay  
who placed  
6<sup>th</sup> overall in Scotland  
and  
19<sup>th</sup> overall in the Four Nations*

## "There's been a Murder in the Library"

The unimaginable has happened - Mrs Claus has been murdered! Who would commit such a terrible crime?

Sherlock Holmes has been drafted in to solve the mystery. There are several suspects for him to investigate and lots of clues and red herrings diverting his attention. If you think you could uncover the villain come to the LRC and deliver your verdict.



# Hospitality

## Intermediate 1 and 2 Hospitality - Skills for Work

November saw pupils from both S3 and S5/6 completing 'Front of House' placements at the Glenburn Hotel.

The Skills for Work courses are designed to help candidates develop skills, attitudes and knowledge in a broad vocational area - where possible, learning in both real and simulated workplace settings.

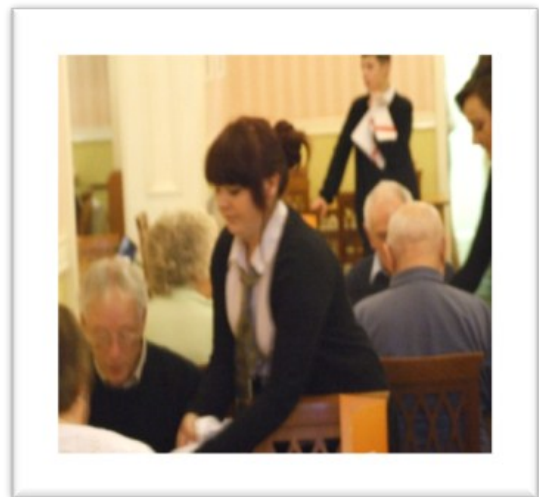
As well as gaining knowledge of the hotel sector in the Hospitality Industry and an awareness of the workplace, the candidates gain generic skills/attitudes valued by most employers like: attendance, timekeeping, personal hygiene, appearance, following instructions, teamwork, customer care and last but certainly not least.....**confidence!**

These placements also develop self-evaluation, positive attitudes, flexible approaches to problem solving and confidence to set goals and reflect and learn from experience.

S3 pupils turned up between 7.15-7.30am and completed a breakfast serving in the hotel restaurant with 215 guests to attend to. On completion of that they then had to set up the restaurant for evening meal before returning to school.

S5/6 pupils completed a full split-shift which meant going back at 6.15pm to serve dinner and they completed their shift around 9pm.

Congratulations must go to all pupils who completed this task. Feedback from guests was fantastic. They admired the fact that our pupils are getting industry/workplace skills and especially for some at such a young age (S3).



## Young Photographers of Rothesay Academy Calendar 2012

The S2 pupils of Rothesay Academy have produced a calendar of their best shots!

This striking collection of their work sums up the talent and diversity of our young pupils and will be a delight to hang on your wall throughout 2012.

Each of the photos have been carefully chosen by the pupils and attributed to the most appropriate month for your visual enjoyment.

The S2 pupils meet every Monday and are set a variety of photographic challenges by their teacher Mrs Ruth Robertson. The pupils have looked at Macro work, portraiture and a Frog's Eye View cartoon strip to name but a few.

A number of the pupils are highly accomplished photographers outside of school and many of these images come from their personal portfolios.

We hope you enjoy our collection and should you require more information please contact the school on 01700 503367.

### Isle of Bute Rotary Young Photographer of the Year

The Rotarian's of Bute have set a competition to find Bute's and possibly Scotland's Young Photographer of the Year. Youth Convener, David Kilpatrick has thrown down the gauntlet to Rothesay Academy's talented photographers to represent Bute in this prestigious competition.

The title of the competition is Olympic Dreams or Olympic Spirit and entrants may choose their own topic within the theme. Entrants will be asked to submit a portfolio of four different prints, either colour or black and white and no larger than A4.

In addition each entrant must provide, in no more than 50 words, a description of the inspiration for their photographs and how they reflect the theme.

Photographs will be judged on technical merit, content and composition, imagination and style and conformity to the theme. The club competition will be judged by three judges who will be independent and have relevant experience and will be completed by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012. The winner will be sent through to the district competition by the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012. If a pupil is chosen at this stage then they will go forward to the RIBI final and this winner will be announced by the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012.



## **Rothesay Academy Music Department Trip - RSNO**

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, music pupils from S3, S4 and S5/6 attended a concert titled "Maestro Music" by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall. This provided the standard grade and higher pupils with an insight into the works of the orchestra. The concert was presented by music editor Paul Rissman who talked through the movements of various composer's symphonies that the orchestra played, backed-up by an interactive projection screen. The composers that the concert was focusing on were Ludwig van Beethoven, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Arnold Schoenberg, Gustav Mahler and Dmitri Shostakovich. Before the pieces were played by the orchestra Paul Rissman would use the interactive board to analyse the piece (movements) and show the audience the composer's styles and different techniques used. The audience were also told background information about the composers' lives. Pupils were also able to see video clips beforehand by some of the musicians in the orchestra to see what to look out for. The piece I liked the most was Beethoven's Symphony No. 5. 1<sup>st</sup> Movement because this is one of his most famous works.  
Daniel McDermott S4

### **Some quotes of the day:**

" The experience is great and I would thoroughly recommend it to anyone who is taking music at any level"

"Overall, a wonderful experience"

"I found it amazing to think that so many people could work together to create such an amazing sound"

" Overall, it was a great experience seeing the orchestra again this year. I respect that the RSNO works hard together to put on any amazing performance".



## **Mount Stuart Christmas Fair**

Congratulations to the following pupils for performing in the Marble Chapel at Mount Stuart Christmas Fair on Sunday 4th December: Bonnie Caldwell, Jessie Docherty, Fraser Menzies, Emille Dickson, Clara Thomson, Ross Mackenzie, Lee Paton and Daniel Sweet.

## Enterprise at Rothesay Academy

Once again we have an excellent production of hand made products from pupils in the Art and Design department. Well over 200 pupils have been involved in handcrafting individual design for this year's Xmas Cards. The S2 Ceramics group have produced a selection of unique xmas Decorations. A marketing team have been involved in the post- production marketing and sales side of the project, this included a short video advert which we hope to have posted on the Rothesay Joint Campus Website in the near future. Alan Sugar watch out we have some very impressive budding entrepreneurs in the making!



Keir Edwards making his first sale at Rothesay Campus Xmas Fair

## Rothesay Library Visit: Art and English

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November a group of S2 pupils visited Rothesay Public Library to see the very impressive display of children's book illustrators 'The Illustrator's Exhibition'. This has been curated by Julia Donaldson, writer of the well known 'Gruffalo' books. A workshop was led by Fiona Blakey, Cultural Coordinator for A&B Council to give pupils an insight into how illustrators and writers work. Pupils then worked in teams to devise their own characters, illustrations and write their own very imaginative stories. We are also hoping that some of our senior pupils will have some course work ready for display in the Public Library in the near future.....watch out for more info.

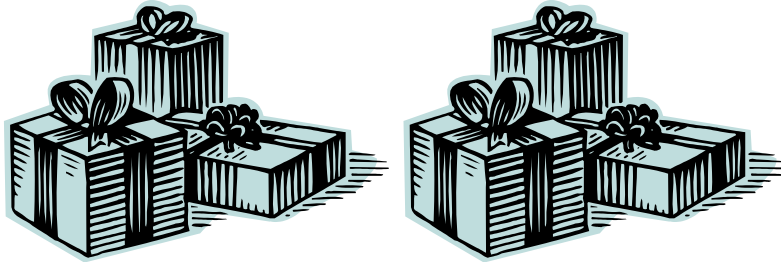


## Christmas Presents

"The latest report by the National Literacy Trust reveals that 3.8million children in the UK do not own a book. The report also reveals that boys are more likely to be without books than girls. The findings, not unsurprisingly, show children who do own books are more likely to enjoy reading, read more books and read more frequently. They are also more likely to perform better at school."

(Daily Mail 5/12/11)

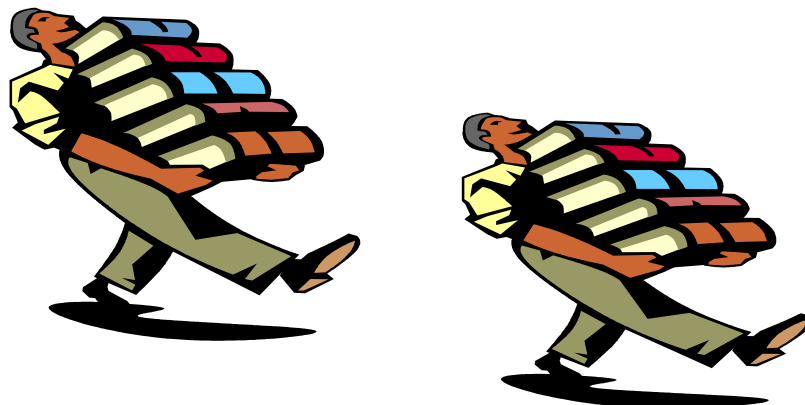
Parts of this extract from an article in the Daily Mail do not fill the Rothesay Academy's Librarian with festive cheer. Despite the advance of technology and the abundance of electronic gadgets nothing will replace the power of the literary word. So if you are stuck for gift ideas or stocking fillers give a book this Christmas. Remember - a book is not just for Christmas but for life!



## Library Book 40 Years Overdue!

If you forget to return a library book on time to the public library it will normally cost you a pound or two in fines. One reader from Kirkwall was extremely glad that their local library was running an amnesty as the book they returned was 40 years late and would have normally cost them thousands in fines. The library has now decided to run a competition to see if anyone can bring back a more overdue book than March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1971.

Rothesay Academy library will also be running a book amnesty. Some current pupils and ex-pupils have extremely overdue books. This is the perfect opportunity to search cupboards, lofts etc for lost or forgotten school library books and enter our competition "most days overdue".



## Important Dates & Holidays

Christmas Carol Concert	Wednesday 14th December 2011
Campus Christmas Lunch	Thursday 15th December 2011
Rothesay Academy Christmas Dance/Ceilidh at Rothesay Pavilion	Tuesday 20th December 2011
Christmas	Close Thursday 22nd December 2011 at 2.15 p.m.
Re-open	Monday 9th January 2012
In-service	Close Wednesday 8th February 2012(Thurs/Fri Inset)
Re-open	Wednesday 15th February 2012
Spring	Close Friday 30th March 2012
Re-open	Open Monday 16th April 2012
May Day	Close Friday 4th May 2012
Re-open	Open Tuesday 8th May 2012
In-service	Monday 4th June 2012
Jubilee Holiday	Tuesday 5th June 2012
Summer	Close Friday 29th June 2012

Please be aware that any holidays taken during term time will be marked as unauthorised absence.



