

Whitburn Academy



Foreword from Mr. Adair...

Page 2

Inside this edition...



Improving Performance
of all Learners...

Page 3



Meeting Learning Needs...

Page 12



Community Links...

Page 17



Global Citizenship...

Page 18



Sporting Success...

Page 19

Stop Press!!!...



Page 24

Foreword



Dear pupil, parent/carer or friend of the school

I am very happy to be writing my Foreword for the third Newsletter of this session.

This has been a very busy term for everyone connected with Whitburn Academy. We have seen many changes: Study Support has given way to the examination season; we began our new timetable at the beginning of June, and so S1 have become S2, S2 have become S3 and so on; we have enjoyed seeing staff and pupils engaging in new and exciting challenges during Activities Week and Sports Day; we have welcomed our new S1 during a very busy Transition Week (which included a House Day, a Colombia Day, a departmental day, and a Rugby Festival); we have so enjoyed seeing success at our wonderful Prizegiving, with GO4SET, our Science Team, and in Golf and Rugby; we have also had a successful induction with our new S6 at the Hilcroft Hotel, where they engaged in team-building, and discussions on the theme of 'Building Our Learning Community'. There is much more, some of which you will see in this Newsletter.

As we bid a fond farewell to session 2010-2011, I would like to wish a particularly warm goodbye to students and staff who are leaving us at the end of June: to students moving on to a bright future from S4, S5 and S6, we wish you much luck as you embark on the next stage of your life journey. To our staff – Mrs Chlebek, Mrs E McCallum and Mrs Sutherland who are retiring, to Ms Shepherd who is going on to further study, and to Ms Shevill, Mrs Gribbin, Mr Hooper, Ms Clark, Mrs Stuart, Ms Douglas and Mrs Anderson, who are moving on to other schools – we thank you for your dedication and hard work during your time at Whitburn Academy, and we wish you well as you take on your next challenge.

I hope you will enjoy reading our Newsletter. I trust that you feel well informed about what is going on at Whitburn Academy, either via this Newsletter, or via the News Blog on our website at:

<http://www.westlothian.org.uk/Whitburn-Academy/>

Please don't forget that you can also contact the school via Twitter, Facebook, email (whitac.enquiries@wled.org.uk), or you can telephone or send a letter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, our pupils, and everyone connected in support of the school, for their efforts during this session. I would also like to thank you as parents/carers for your continued support for your sons / daughters and the school. Finally, may I wish you a very happy, warm, and relaxing summer holidays. I look forward to speaking with you at some stage in the new term.

Kindest regards and best wishes

Ian Adair
Rector, Whitburn Academy

June 2011

Improving Performance of all Learners

Salters Challenge...

On Wednesday 1st of June, eight of our S1 pupils took part in the Salter's Institute Chemistry challenge at Heriot Watt University. The pupils were divided up into 2 groups and informed that a murder had taken place.

From a list of suspects they were then to participate in a series of forensic techniques to determine who the culprit was. During the experiments points were awarded for safe practice, tidiness, identifying the correct suspect and presentation of evidence.

Both Whitburn Academy teams performed to a very high standard during the day with Team A also correctly identifying the culprit.

Whitburn Academy Team A were awarded overall winners of the Salter's Challenge at the presentation ceremony.

All the pupils had a fabulous day and enjoyed the experience of working in a University Lab. The pupils participating were:

Team A: Larisha Apete, Taylor Farquhar, Sandra Manlapaz, Fiona Swan

Team B: Ethan Reid, Bethany Martin, Nicole Clarkson, Lois Irvine



Contact Miss Louden for more information.

S1/2 Modern Studies Quiz 2011...



The West Lothian Schools S1/2 Modern Studies Quiz 2011 took place on Monday 30th May at West Calder High School.

This was an opportunity for S1/2 Modern Studies pupils to put their knowledge to the test. Each school was allowed to enter two teams, with four pupils in each team. The pupils representing Whitburn Academy were:

S1 - Erin Gardner Young, Ethan Reid, Rachel White, Scott Skinner.

S2 - Rachel Liu, Ryan Trainer, Hannah Kane, Declin Johnstone

The competition was made up of the following rounds;

News Round, National/International news stories.

Picture Round – Faces from all areas, politics, sport, entertainment, name that band.

General Knowledge – Typical Modern Studies topics covered.

Music Round – Name the tune/artist.

Unfortunately neither of our two teams won but the winning team (from Armadale Academy) won a trophy sponsored by the Modern Studies Education Trust. All pupils were given a certificate for taking part and were a credit to the Whitburn Academy.



Contact Miss Young for more information.

Improving Performance of all Learners

Whitburn Academy Prizegiving 2010 / 2011

Parents, pupils and staff enjoyed an evening of celebration at the Annual Prizegiving on Wednesday 22nd June. The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers, and the evening started with Aimee Douglas playing a guitar solo.

Following the Rector's speech, Mrs Margaret Fallon presented the awards. Mrs Fallon is retiring as Head Teacher at Burnhouse and is a former member of staff of Whitburn Academy.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards to approximately 150 pupils.

The awards celebrated achievement and attainment and cover a range of subjects and skills. The ceremony was followed by refreshments in the dining hall which gives an opportunity for parents, staff, guests and pupils to share time together.

SI Prizewinners

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| Larisha Apete | IW2 | Music, French & Art. |
| Anna Charge | ID1 | Home Economics & Craft & Design |
| Nicole Clarkson | IB2 | English |
| Victoria Collins | IB1 | History |
| Chloe Fell | ID1 | Home Economics |
| Scott Gallagher | IW2 | History |
| Erin Gardner-Young | ID1 | Modern Studies |
| Christie Hamilton | IW1 | Graphic Communication |
| Emils Kalnins | IW1 | Computing |
| Chantelle McCallum | IW2 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Cameron MacIntyre | ID2 | Craft & Design |
| Bethany Martin | ID1 | English & RMPS |
| Niamh O'Boyle | IB2 | Science |
| Deanna Pringle | IB1 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Ethan Reid | IW2 | Geography, Maths & French |
| Scott Skinner | IB1 | Modern Studies |
| Sophie Wardrope | ID1 | Art |
| Christopher White | ID1 | Geography, RMPS, Graphic Comm & PE |
| Rachel White | IB1 | Music, Computing & PE |
| Lucy Wight | IW1 | Maths |
| Cameron Wilson | IB1 | Science |

Improving Performance of all Learners

S2 Prizewinners

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|---|
| Tyree Bain | 2D2 | French |
| Jayson Benfold | 2B3 | Geography |
| Kamern Brown | 2W2 | Craft & Design |
| Callum Collie | 2B3 | Science, Graphic Communication & Computing. |
| George Currie | 2B1 | Maths |
| Jodie Johnstone | 2B2 | RMPS |
| Hannah Kane | 2W1 | Modern Studies |
| Hannah Keenan | 2W2 | Home Economics & PE |
| Rachel Liu | 2D2 | English & French |
| Mark Livingstone | 2D1 | Science, English & Maths |
| Ross Mann | 2B2 | RMPS |
| Alison Manson | 2B2 | History |
| David Mark | 2W2 | Music |
| Stephanie McMullan | 2B3 | Craft & Design & PE |
| Erin McNeill | 2B2 | Geography, Computing & Art |
| Steven Mills | 2B2 | Personal Academic Progress |
| John Alan Moore | 2D1 | History |
| Alix Morrison | 2B2 | Music & Art |
| Thomas Paton | 2W1 | Graphic Communication |
| Sean Simpson | 2W1 | Home Economics |
| Ryan Trainer | 2D2 | Modern Studies |
| Grant Ure | 2B2 | Personal Academic Progress |

Improving Performance of all Learners

S3 Prizewinners

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|---|
| Robyn Baxter | 3B2 | Biology & Geography |
| Natasha Benson | 3W1 | PE |
| Rosie Bonfield | 3W1 | Craft & Design |
| Ross Brown | 3W2 | Craft & Design & Computing |
| Jordan Bryce | 3W1 | Physics |
| Kayleigh Coulter | 3D1 | Art |
| Claire Gracie | 3D1 | Modern Studies |
| Amy Lee Greens | 3W1 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Rebecca Hannen | 3D2 | Chemistry & Computing |
| Caitlin Hanson | 3W2 | Biology |
| Alix Kyle | 3D2 | French & Maths |
| Nicole Lamont | 3W2 | History |
| Simon McLaughlin | 3W1 | Physics, Chemistry, Music, English & Maths. |
| Fionne McQue | 3D3 | Music & Drama |
| Courtney Mallon | 3W2 | Drama |
| Rebecca Montgomery | 3B1 | RMPS & English |
| Bernard Ponoane | 3D1 | UES |
| Blair Ramsay | 3D2 | Geography |
| Amy Russell | 3D2 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Suzanne Smith | 3D2 | History |
| Amy Todd | 3B3 | Home Economics |
| Ryan Twaddle | 3D3 | Biology, Modern Studies & History |
| Marc Wright | 3D1 | RMPS, French & Art. |

Improving Performance of all Learners

S4 Prizewinners

| | | |
|------------------|-----|---|
| Dylan Baxter | 4B2 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Teri Bigham | 4W3 | Maths |
| Stephen Bishop | 4D4 | UES |
| Dionne Brandon | 4D3 | Drama & Personal Academic Progress |
| Stacey Caldwell | 4B1 | Early Education & Childcare |
| Melissa Chilton | 4D2 | Physics & Art |
| Jason Cleland | 4W3 | Geography |
| Jamie Drummond | 4D3 | Chemistry |
| Mark Drummond | 4B3 | Graphic Communication & Craft & Design |
| Lauren Edgar | 4W3 | RMPS |
| Fiona Graham | 4W1 | Music, German & Computing. |
| Craig Hilditch | 4W3 | PE |
| Jamie Hislop | 4D3 | Graphic Communication |
| Nicole Jenkins | 4W1 | History |
| Rebecca Kitcher | 4D2 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Shannon Lyttle | 4D1 | Music |
| Caragh MacNicol | 4D4 | English |
| Kelsey Marshall | 4D4 | Modern Studies & RMPS |
| Lisa Millar | 4W1 | Art |
| Shannon Ovens | 4D2 | Home Economics & Maths |
| Callum Paton | 4D3 | Modern Studies |
| Nicole Pearson | 4D4 | English |
| Rolands Peikmans | 4W1 | Computing |
| Kyle Renwick | 4B2 | Biology, German & History |
| Stevie Lee Ross | 4D3 | Drama |
| Ryan Sim | 4B1 | Biology |
| Mark Simpson | 4D4 | Home Economics |
| Cameron Stewart | 4B2 | Geography, Craft & Design, Physics & Chemistry. |

Improving Performance of all Learners

S5 Prizewinners

| | | |
|------------------|-----|---|
| Robyn Bonnar | 5D1 | Art |
| Nicole Fraser | 5W1 | History |
| Shona Garland | 5D1 | English, Geography & Biology |
| Bobby Gavin | 5W1 | Music |
| Michelle Goldie | 5W1 | PE |
| Jonathan Hay | 5D2 | Computing |
| Hannah Jack | 5D2 | Physics & Maths |
| Cheryl Liu | 5W1 | English, Modern Studies, Biology, Chemistry, Maths & Art. |
| Laura Livingston | 5D1 | PE |
| Sarah Mark | 5D2 | History |
| Lauren McIllduff | 5B2 | Home Economics |
| Robyn McNair | 5W1 | Computing |
| Callum Menzies | 5W1 | Music |
| Jordan Moonie | 5B2 | Graphic Communication |
| Ashley Dee Paton | 5D2 | Geography |
| Grant Peebles | 5D2 | Product Design |
| Rhys Proudfoot | 5B1 | History |
| Steven Sneddon | 5W1 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Lauren Stewart | 5B2 | French |
| Aisha Thompson | 5B2 | Chemistry |
| Andrew Ure | 5W1 | Physics |
| Diana Visocka | 5W1 | Computers & Digital Photography |
| Alex Wardrop | 5B2 | French |
| Ryan White | 5D1 | Modern Studies |
| Rachel Wilson | 5D1 | Home Economics |

S6 Prizewinners

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|---|
| Sasha Anderson | 6W1 | RMPS |
| Allan Brodie | 6D1 | English |
| Bethany Byrne | 6B1 | Spanish |
| Laura Dodds | 6W1 | RMPS & English |
| Aimee Douglas | 6D1 | Spanish & Music |
| Jade Evans | 6D2 | Computers & Digital Photography |
| Amy Ferguson | 6D2 | Modern Studies |
| Murray Garland | 6D1 | Physics |
| Mark Hannen | 6D2 | Biology & Physics |
| Kelly Johnston | 6D2 | Maths |
| Ryan Kellock | 6D2 | PE |
| William Kerr | 6D1 | Modern Studies |
| Betty Kwok | 6D1 | Graphic Communication, Product Design & Maths |
| Amy Kyle | 6D1 | Chemistry |
| Taylor Livingston | 6D2 | Art |
| Claire Longridge | 6D2 | Graphic Communication & Product Design. |
| Callum Polland | 6W1 | PE |
| Samantha Sim | 6B1 | Personal Academic Progress |
| Derek Smith | 6W1 | Home Economics |
| Keir Stewart | 6W1 | Biology |
| Laura Swan | 6W1 | Art |
| Hayley Wright | 6W1 | Home Economics |

Improving Performance of all Learners

Prince's Trust XL Programme

Ryan Bell
Debbie Cuthbert

Shona Edmonston
Kevan Logan

Lynne Macrae
Aimee Robertson.

House Sports Awards

Bruce: Stephanie McMullan

Douglas: Larisha Apete

Wallace: Bernard Ponoane

Trophies

Kenny Lewandowski Trophy:

Katie Wilson

Whitburn Amateur Stage Productions Trophy:

Music – Fionne McQue

Drama – Fionne McQue

Creative Writing:

Cheryl Liu

Lodge Polkemmet Trophy:

Sharon Barrie

Russell Athletic Trophy:

Emma McLaughlin

George Salmond Awards:

Academic Progress - Samantha Sim

Science - Mark Hannen

James Sommerville Medal:

S2 GO4SET Team:

George Currie, Nikita Orr,

Meghan Redmond, Sarah Lade,

Rachel Liu

Maths:

Betty Kwok

Rotary Award:

Kieran Conner

Improving Performance of all Learners

Rector's Awards

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Head Boy: | Mark Hannen | Leadership: | Sarah McNeill |
| Head Girl: | Katie Wilson | Charity Parachute Jump: | Lorraine Henderson |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Depute Head Boy: | Barry Nisbet | Conservation, 5 Sisters Zoo: | Sharron Barrie |
| Depute Head Girl: | Laura Dodds | Peer Mediation, IT Support in PSB & Maths: | William Kerr |
| <hr/> | | | |
| Science (Baccalaureate): | Mark Hannen, Allan Brodie, Kelly Johnstone, Keir Stewart | | |
| Mathematics: | Betty Kwok, Claire Longridge, Murray Garland, James Paton | | |

Prizegiving Sponsors

The Staff and pupils of Whitburn Academy would like to thank the following for their contributions towards Prizegiving:

| | |
|--|---|
| Lodge Polkemmet | Whitburn Amateur Stage Productions (Trophy) |
| Professor James Sommerville (Trophies) | Whitburn Rotary |
| Kenny Lewandowski (Trophy) | Russell Athletic (Trophy) |
| George Salmond (Trophies) | Whitburn Community Council |

Special Thanks...

A big thank you to **Dobbie's** in Livingston who kindly donated two large planters and a selection of plants for our assembly hall during prizegiving.

Anyone who would like to contribute towards the Prizegiving in 2012, please contact Mrs Lynne McEwen via the School Office.

Improving Performance of all Learners

Blackpool Trip...

Eighty-two students from an assortment of year groups attended a Positive Reward trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach on Tuesday 21st June.



We left the school at 6am and returned at 8pm. It was a fabulous day. I believe the weather was awful in Whitburn but we experienced blue skies in Blackpool. Everyone survived the bus journey and then enjoyed the rides. A lot of 'fries' were consumed by staff and students and a superb time was reported at the end of the day.



We would like to thank everyone for being great examples to themselves, their parents/carers and the school. They were a real credit and received a certificate at assembly for this achievement.

Contact Ms Fowler for more information.

Camelot Trip...

If 19 pupils left for Camelot Theme Park but two had to go home how many actually arrived? Sounds like a set up for a Maths question!

As it happens the trip to Camelot, near Chorley, WAS a Maths trip with the new S4! The purpose was to find out about the mathematics behind some of the rides within the park and to learn about the data used by the company to inform financial planning and customer safety.



One interesting fact was that the company expects to book a profit of just 8% in 2011 - a sign of the times perhaps. After the presentation the pupils were able to experience the rides themselves including the "Knightmare" which was voted 6th best roller coaster in the world by one survey. In addition to the other rides, and the jousting at the arena, there was a Maths trail that the pupils could follow further reinforcing the use of Maths in a practical setting.

The queues were short, the rides were fun but all too soon it was time to come home. The pupils were a credit to the school and as result of their enthusiasm we hope to be able to run more maths trips in the future.

Contact Mr Hepburn or Mrs Stewart for more information.

Meeting Learning Needs

S4 ASDAN class have been busy bees...



Whitburn Academy S4 ASDAN pupils recently continued their link with Polkemmet Country Park. On 15 June they constructed a bee and wasp nest on a piece of waste ground where they scattered quite a few packets of wild bird seed to encourage the bees and wasps.

To continue their interest in environmental issues and conservation, the group are currently in the process of rearing 'Painted Lady' Butterflies, again an endangered species and hopefully these will be released soon.

The Ranger at Polkemmet holds the work ethic and teamwork displayed by the pupils in high regard and assured Mrs Ellis of the Support for Learning Department that another project will await the team in the autumn.

Contact Mrs Ellis for more information.

Choices for Life – Connor Love...



In S4 Connor was selected to work with Youth Action in a 'Choices for Life' programme. He attended regularly and worked well within the group.

Connor wanted to work with his hands and was practical minded. Due to the current nature of the trade business, however, he knew that this was going to be a difficult task. He returned to school in August after achieving one Foundation pass, five General passes and Credit passes in Art & Design and Craft & Design. In S5, Connor had the opportunity to attend an Outward Bound Course. He attended every session and met every challenge head on.

The course gave him the confidence and maturity to take stock of his life. Connor began an apprenticeship in a local Bakery. He is thoroughly enjoying his training and often does overtime. He is now in the process of saving up to buy a scooter with the money that he has earned!

Contact Mrs Watson for more information.

The W.A.N. Show...

XANDER MILLER, JONATHAN MILLS and GRANT WILLIAMSON were involved in a 6-week group work programme where they exhibited great enthusiasm in their roles as presenters of the W.A.N show (Whitburn Academy News). All three of the pupils worked well as a team and we think this is reflected in the completed W.A.N show production. Presentation skills, team building, communication, following instructions – all aspects were covered and all were completed successfully. Well-done boys!

A special thank you to **Josh Moonie** for his excellent input in editing parts of the show.

You can watch their news show on Youtube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVMx8-Lzdtg>

Due to the success of this project we will be running an after school video club. Details of which will be posted soon...

Contact Mrs Cochrane for more information.

Meeting Learning Needs

Museum of Flight...

The Support for Learning Department visited the Museum of Flight on Thursday 16th June 2011.



Pupils and staff had a very enjoyable and informative day out.

They had to leave school at 08.50 hours because we were boarding the Concorde at 10.00 hours. They arrived in good time and after a brief safety talk we were allowed to board the Concorde. We learnt many interesting facts about Concorde and its exceptional story. For example, there were only 20 planes built, Concorde guzzled a staggering 25,629 litres of fuel per hour and on one occasion a society hostess paid £2,500 to fly a box of her favourite chocolates. The group spent another half an hour exploring the other exhibits in hangar 4.



Hanger 6 is full of interactive activities and challenges. Pupils were able to land airships and planes. I am afraid there were a few crashes!! They learnt how and why things fly.

After lunch they continued their tour of the hangars and finished off with a visit to the assault course.

A tired but more informed group boarded the mini bus and landed back safely at Whitburn Academy.

Contact Mrs Sharp for more information.

Higher Education Day...

On 23rd June, 22 S6 pupils attended an 'Introduction to Higher Education Day' at Heriot-Watt University. They had the opportunity to attend lectures on topics such as the application process, choosing a course and writing a personal statement.

They were also given advice on sources of funding and how to budget. Current students gave them a tour of the campus, allowing them to see typical student accommodation and all of the university facilities, as well as giving tips for student life. The pupils who attended were a credit to themselves and the school in every way.



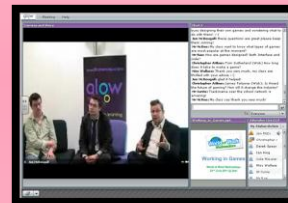
During the course of the year, there will be further opportunities for pupils to attend similar events and open days in order to help them make informed decisions about their future plans for study. Staff in PSE will be guiding them through the application process.

Contact Mrs Gilchrist for more information.

Working in Gaming: Live Q&A on Glow TV...

Whitburn Academy's S5/6 Computer Games Development class recently took part in a question and answering session hosted live on Glow TV by Learning & Teaching Scotland's Consolarium group.

The session involved a live video feed where pupils and teachers could ask the gaming industry experts questions about gaming and career prospects.



Connor McGonigal 6W1 asked if 'Modding' was the future of gaming and this was discussed at length by the panel.

Whitburn Academy's Computing Department is delivering the new Computer Games Development course for the first time in session 2011 - 2012.

Contact Mr Currie for more information.

Meeting Learning Needs

Activities Week...

This year the S1-S3 Activities Week took place during the last week of the old timetable.

There were many opportunities for pupils and staff to enjoy new experiences both in and out of school. Out of school excursions included trips to Mary Kings Close Edinburgh, Wallace Monument and the Zoo. Leisure activities included an S2 trip to M&Ds and Bowling.



Pupils and staff had the opportunity to improve their fishing and golfing skills. Two cycling trips energised pupils and staff who embarked on these and all reported an enjoyable day out.



In school, activities included creating fabric jewellery and clay houses with some pupils having their first chance to throw a pot on the potter's wheel.

The Science Department had a varied programme of activities including making bath bombs and wrapping them very professionally and also how to make your own lip gloss,



Pamper Days helped create a beauty parlour in the Pupil Support Base, with lots of photographs to show the successful results.



Pupils also enjoyed a variety of sporting activities including Softball, Yoga, football and Zumba, with various types of films, board games, karaoke and quiz games also making up the programme.



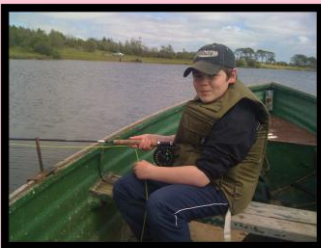
Staff who organised and participated in activities all commented on how well our pupils behaved in and out of school and how much they appreciated spending the time with pupils on a more informal basis and in developing relationships.

Especially with the development of Curriculum for Excellence and the increasing focus on wider attainment it is good to use these opportunities to benefit pupils and staff.

Contact Mrs McEwan for more information.

Meeting Learning Needs

More from Activities Week...



Fishing Trip...

During the four days of activities week a total of 21 anglers fished Pottishaw Fishery with a number of teachers, including Mrs Adamson and Mrs McCallum coming along to help.

The conditions were variable but fish were caught every day coming mainly to lures and small goldheads.



Pictured are Stuart Russell with a nice rainbow, one of a brace that he returned on the Wednesday and Alex Graham who caught a small Perch on a buzzer.



Some pupils, such as Connal Stewart and Jordan Cumming, were so keen they came for all four days!

Overall it was a great introduction to the sport and thanks go to Fraser, Fishery Manager at Pottishaw, for his help, advice and encouragement.

Contact Mr Hepburn for more information.

Cycling Trip...



After the hard work getting over the hill to Armadale, and repairing the two punctures that occurred on the way there, the group enjoyed a pleasant trip along the new cycle track to Hillend Loch.



The sun shone for most of the day and the favourite activity seemed to be waving at the passing train drivers and getting them to toot the train horn.

Contact Mr Thomson for more information.

Meeting Learning Needs

P7/S1 Transition...

June 2011 saw the start of the new P7/S1 transition programme at Whitburn Academy. P7 pupils attended a 3-day event that covered all aspects of school life.

Day 1 saw the pupils involved in House related activities. The day started with a treasure hunt style quiz around the school where pupils learned about staff and the school layout. Later in the day, pupils got creative and designed a House Banner. Each new S1 pupil designed a square, and then they all came together to form a collage about them and their House. The day was brought to an end with a Highland games event that saw the pupils compete for their houses.



Day 2 of the transition programme was renamed "Colombia Day" and saw parts of the school turn Yellow, Red and Blue. Pupils participated in lessons that were designed around the country and lifestyle in Colombia. Pupils learnt everything from cooking a Colombian breakfast to Colombian dancing to understanding the politics and history of the country. This day was the second instalment of a yearlong project involving the shared responsibility programme. Pupils had previously in primary created interactive Colombian fact files.



In Day 3 of the programme, pupils got a taste of true Whitburn Academy life by following their new S1 timetable for the day. Pupils experienced the hustle and bustle of academic life and got to meet some of their new teachers and classmates.



All of the new S1 pupils were fully engaged throughout the experience and seemed excited about their new adventure at the Academy. Huge thanks goes out to all the staff involved over the three days.

Contact Miss Loudon for more information.

Community Links

Community Blanket...

A group of Whitburn Academy pupils are involved in the creation of a "community blanket" - which will be donated to a local hospice/care facility. The blanket will involve each pupil knitting and embroidering an individual square which is personal to them. These squares will then be sewn together, culminating in a large colourful blanket/wall hanging.



The school would like to express their thanks to Mr and Mrs Craig and the kind congregation of Brucefield Church who have donated an amazing collection of wools and knitting needles to the group.

Contact Mrs Cochrane for more information.

Credit Union...

Over the past two years, Blackburn, Seafield and District Credit Union have been coming into Whitburn Academy to make weekly collections on a Thursday morning at interval.



Pupils are issued with a payment book, and can save from as little as 10p. This service increases awareness of the importance of saving, and can help pupils save towards things such as holidays and Christmas, as well as towards school events such as trips, the prom, etc. The service is run by employees of the Credit Union, assisted by a group of pupils.

Look out for information about collections



This is a cross-curricular initiative which started with a presentation by Mr Alex Muirhead; Heartlands Project Manager. Pupils were encouraged to ask him questions about the project and how it will affect them and the community of Whitburn.

In their lessons, pupils were then given tasks to carry out over the next couple of weeks. In History they have been learning about the coal mine at Polkemmet and how mining has affected Whitburn's heritage. In Geography the pupils have been looking at the location of the Heartlands and examining the social, economic and environmental impacts of the development. In Modern Studies pupils will learn how the Heartlands will have to cater for the leisure and lifestyle needs of all members of the community. In Religion and Philosophy pupils will look at how the Heartlands community can contribute to tackling environmental problems.

Contact Mrs Rhind for more information.

Global Citizenship

ECO Flag...

We have had confirmation that our Green Flag Application has been approved and we will now have to go through their strict assessment procedures to be able to retain Green Flag status. This will take place on Friday 3rd September 2011.



There will be two assessors present and they would like to speak to a variety of staff who have been involved in activities

Thanks for everyone's input.

Contact Mrs Whyte for more information.

Malawi Expedition 2011...

Good Luck to S6 pupil Jonathan Hay who heads off to Malawi at the end of June. Jonathan is travelling to Malawi with the Explorer Scouts and will be staying in the African country for 5 weeks.

Along with approximately 50 other volunteers, Jonathan will be travelling to Makwawa where he will be helping to promote Scouting in Malawi so that communities can benefit from the work that scout volunteers provide. It's hoped that money raised by their Malawi appeal can help the scouts build a Maize Mill.

Macmillan...

We can now reveal that with the money raised from **Walk With Us 2011**, we have reached a landmark amount of **£10,000!!!**



Current Total - £10,105.62

Thank-you to everyone who helped us reach this amazing amount.



If you are suffering from cancer or know someone who is, or you would just like some information on cancer and the help available, please go to our website at:

www.whitburnmacmillan2011.co.uk

Stewart, Stephen and Jonny.

whitburnmacmillan@ymail.com

Sporting Success

Gallacher Cup Win...

Callum Brown (S6) was part of the Excellence in School Sport Programme Golf Team who won the 'Gallacher Cup' recently. The team competed over three days against golfers from Colleyville High School in Texas.

They played at Kingsfield Golf Course, Dunbar Golf Course and Bathgate Golf Course between the 8 – 15 June. The final score was 9 – 2 in favour of the Excellence in School Sport Programme Golf Team.



Callum is pictured with Mr. McLeod, responsible for the Excellence in School Sport Programme.

For more information contact Mr McLeod.

Rugby 7s Victory...

The Whitburn Academy Rugby 7's Team won the 'West Lothian Rugby B Championships' on Friday 10 June.

The boys had to play with only 4 players as several of their team mates were unable to play. The boys beat Armadale Academy and then James Young High School's B Team in the final, 7 tries to 3. This was a magnificent achievement for the boys – well done!



The boys are pictured with Mr. McLeod left to right : Jayson Benfold, Lewis Walker, Jamie Cowan, Callum Collie.

For more information contact Mr McLeod.

Scottish Handball Championships...

Two Whitburn Academy pupils had great success at the recent Scottish Handball Championships held at the Tryst Centre, Cumbernauld on Saturday 21st May. Hannah Keenan (2W2) was in the team that won the Scottish Championships and Christopher White (1D1) was in the Runners Up team.



County Sports Championships...

Whitburn Academy won one medal at the county sports last week. Ross Cunningham (2W3) won a bronze medal in the 800m. Ross did brilliantly as he was up against club runners.



Contact Mr Hooper for more information.

Sporting Success

Whitburn Academy Sports Day...

The Sports Day was a huge success filled with sunshine and action packed competition. A huge amount of work and organisation went into the day by staff across the school. This was rewarded by a day which ran smoothly with a variety of fun activities for the pupils.



There was toss the caber with Mr Hunter, meditation with Mrs Stewart and Mr Watson in the tepee. Miss Douglas' young scientists were testing the hearts of the athletes and Mrs Anderson's journalists put together an interesting Sports Day programme for the spectators to read.



Also, the day could not have gone so smoothly if it wasn't for the massive amount of help which Miss Clark's Mathletes provided on the track and the staff who were in charge of organising the athletes and events. Finally Mr Hepburn prevented everyone from passing out in the sun with his refreshment stall.



There were also a number of success stories on the track and field. The SIs filled the lists for every event and they were all fiercely competitive. There were particularly outstanding performances from Larisha Apete winning a number of events as did Bernard Ponoane and Stephanie McMullan.



These are the house champions of 2011 and they received trophies at prize giving. The day finished with the relays which were well attended by every year with a number of exciting and close races. The medal ceremony at the end wrapped up a fun day of healthy competition with mementos for the champions. Look out for the record book, coming soon!!

Contact Mr Hooper for more information.

Sporting Success

SI Sports Day Medal Winners 2011...

| Boys | | | | Girls | | | |
|----------|-------------------|-------|--------------|----------|------------------|-------|--------------|
| Event | 100M | | | Event | 100M | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) | Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) |
| 1 | Jamie Brandon | IW2 | 13.8 | 1 | Larisha Apete | IW2 | 15.66 |
| 2 | Lewis Walker | ID2 | 14.31 | 2 | Rachel White | IB1 | 17.03 |
| 3 | Scott Lambie | IW1 | 16.03 | 3 | Rebecca Fraser | IW2 | 17.4 |
| Event | 200M | | | Event | 200M | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) | Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) |
| 1 | Ross Cunningham | IW3 | 31.35 | 1 | Rebecca Fraser | IW2 | 39.46 |
| 2 | Reece Lumsden | ID2 | 32.7 | 2 | Lindsey Maitland | IB1 | 42.68 |
| 3 | Simon Shutter | IW1 | 31.53 | 3 | Maggie McGuiness | | 44.32 |
| Event | Long Jump | | | Event | Long Jump | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Reece Lumsden | ID2 | 3.62 | 1 | Ellie Coulter | IW3 | 2.65 |
| 2 | Bradley Stokes | IW2 | 3.3 | 2 | Larisha Apete | IW2 | 2.55 |
| 3 | Keegan McRae | ID2 | 2.94 | 3 | Fiona Swan | IW2 | 2.4 |
| Event | High Jump | | | Event | High Jump | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Height (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Height (m) |
| 1 | Nathan Pearson | IW3 | 1.1 | 1 | Larisha Apete | IW2 | 1.15 |
| 2 | Jason Longridge | ID2 | 1 | 2 | Fiona Swan | IW2 | 1 |
| 2 | Caleb Turnbull | | 1 | 2 | Niamh Boyle | IB2 | 1 |
| 2 | Jonathon Mills | | 1 | | | | |
| Event | Javelin | | | Event | Javelin | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Cameron Macintyre | ID2 | 17.09 | 1 | Rachel White | IB1 | 11.91 |
| 2 | Christopher White | ID1 | 16.7 | 2 | Sammie Bannatyne | IW1 | 9.71 |
| 3 | Jordan Aitken | IW1 | 15.7 | 3 | Larisha Apete | IW2 | 7.87 |
| Event | Shot Putt | | | Event | Shot Putt | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Bradley Stokes | IW2 | 7.4 | 1 | Larisha Apete | IW2 | 5.8 |
| 2 | Reece Lumsden | ID2 | 7.4 | 2 | Sammie Bannatyne | IW1 | 6 |
| 3 | Grant Beaumont | IB1 | 6 | 3 | Taylor Farquhar | IW2 | 4.45 |

Sporting Success

S2 Sports Day Medal Winners 2011...

| Boys | | | | Girls | | | |
|----------|---------------------|-------|--------------|----------|---|-------|--------------|
| Event | 100M | | | Event | 100M | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time(s) | Position | Name | Tutor | Time(s) |
| 1 | Jason Benfold | 2B3 | 14.09 | 1 | Emma McLaughlin | 2B3 | 15.97 |
| 2 | Daniel Nimmo | 2W2 | 14.91 | 2 | Amy Hughes Stephanie McMullan | 2B3 | 16.5 |
| 3 | Jamie Cowan | 2B3 | 14.69 | 3 | McMullan | 2B3 | 16.51 |
| Event | 200M | | | Event | 200M | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time(s) | Position | Name | Tutor | Time(s) |
| 1 | Jason Benfold | 2B3 | 31.69 | 1 | Amy Hughes Stephanie McMullan | 2B3 | 39.13 |
| 2 | Sean McGrorty | 2D2 | 32.4 | 2 | McMullan | 2B3 | 40.97 |
| 3 | Jamie Cowan | 2B3 | 33.91 | 3 | Jordana Fordyce | 2D1 | 41.65 |
| Event | Long Jump | | | Event | Long Jump | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Craig Williamson | 2B3 | 4.1 | 1 | Stephanie McMullan | 2B3 | 2.78 |
| 2 | Jason Benfold | 2B3 | 3.73 | 2 | Emma McLaughlan | 2B3 | 2.66 |
| 3 | Alistair Strickland | 2D1 | 3.55 | 3 | Jordana Fordyce | 2D1 | 2.1 |
| Event | High Jump | | | Event | High Jump | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Height (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Height (m) |
| 1 | Craig Williamson | 2B3 | 1.45 | 1 | Emma McLaughlan Stephanie McMullan | 2B3 | 1.15 |
| 2 | Alix Morrison | 2B2 | 1.3 | 2 | McMullan | 2B3 | 1.1 |
| 3 | Alistair Strickland | 2D1 | 1.25 | 3 | Claire Thomson | 2D1 | 0.95 |
| Event | Javelin | | | Event | Javelin | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Alix Morrison | 2B2 | 17.2 | 1 | Stephanie McMullan | 2B3 | 13.57 |
| 2 | Dale McCardle | 2W1 | 14 | 2 | Francesca McGraw | 2B1 | 9.7 |
| 3 | Ross Munn | 2B1 | 12.2 | | | | |
| Event | Shot Putt | | | Event | Shot Putt | | |
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) | Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Jason Benfold | 2B3 | 8.78 | 1 | Francesca McGraw Stephanie McMullan | 2B1 | 8.22 |
| 2 | Alix Morrison | 2B2 | 8.01 | 2 | McMullan | 2B3 | 6.62 |
| 3 | Ross Munn | 2B1 | 6.12 | | | | |

Sporting Success

S3 Sports Day Medal Winners 2011...

Boys

| Event | 100M | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) |
| 1 | Jordan Bryce | 3W1 | 13.22 |
| 2 | Bernard Ponoane | 3D1 | 13.9 |
| 3 | Andrew Hogg | 3B1 | 16.88 |

| Event | 200M | | |
|----------|--------------|-------|----------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) |
| 1 | Jordan Bryce | 3W1 | 32.22 |
| 2 | Aaron Knox | 3D3 | 33.29 |
| 3 | Andrew Hogg | 3B1 | 37.03 |

| Event | Long Jump | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Aaron Knox | 3D3 | 3.82 |
| 2 | Bernard Ponoane | 3D1 | 2.9 |

| Event | High Jump | | |
|----------|------------------|-------|------------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Height (m) |
| 1 | Benn Samuel | 3D3 | 1.5 |
| 2 | Callum Robertson | 3W2 | 1.4 |
| 3 | Stephen Fergus | 3D1 | 1.35 |

| Event | Javelin | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Bernard Ponoane | 3D3 | 12.4 |
| 2 | Andrew Hogg | 3W2 | 8 |

| Event | Shot Putt | | |
|----------|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Distance (m) |
| 1 | Bernard Ponoane | 3D1 | 11.36 |
| 2 | Andrew Hogg | 3W2 | 8.8 |

Girls

| Event | 100M | | |
|----------|----------------|-------|----------|
| Position | Name | Tutor | Time (s) |
| 1 | Sammy Steele | 3D1 | 22.09 |
| 2 | Amy-lee Greens | 3W1 | 38.78 |



Stop Press!!!

S6 School Prom...

On 3rd June, 62 S6 pupils celebrated the end of their time at Whitburn Academy with the school's annual prom. Pupils arrived at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel in Livingston in limousines of all shapes and sizes, dressed in evening dresses, kilts and suits. After a lovely three-course meal, Head Boy, Mark Hannen, and Head Girl, Katie Wilson, announced the winners of their 'unofficial' awards to the pupils, under headings such as 'Best Hair' and 'Most Likely to Take Over the World'. The evening was rounded off with dancing and chat.

Thank you to all of the 50 staff who attended this event and made it such a memorable final event for the S6 pupils.

Contact Mrs Gilchrist for more information.



New S6 Induction...

The S6 Induction took place on Friday 24th June in the Hilcroft Hotel, with the day beginning with an informal breakfast. After an introductory speech from Mr Adair on the importance of the role of sixth year, pupils then broke into groups.

They had the opportunity to discuss "our learning community", looking at ethos, environment and experience, and the part that they could play in shaping the direction of the school. Pupils then had the opportunity to take part in some fun "team building" activities (involving balloons and chocolate).

A very enjoyable, successful and worthwhile morning was had by all, and the school plans to repeat this event in future years.

Contact Miss McLean for more information.

Measles Alert...

There has been a recent increase in the numbers of measles cases in Scotland and the rest of the UK, mainly affecting teenagers and younger adults. Many of the cases have been associated with recent travel abroad especially to France. A number of current measles outbreaks have been reported from France, Belgium and Switzerland.

Measles is highly infectious and can be a dangerous illness. It spreads easily in schools, universities and summer camps. Those who are not fully immunised with two doses of MMR are most at risk of developing measles.

As we approach the time of year when many children and students are travelling abroad on summer trips and family holidays, NHS Lothian is urging parents to protect their children against measles. If your child has missed out on two doses of MMR vaccine please consider getting your child fully immunised with MMR before you travel abroad during the summer break. Please contact your GP or practice nurse to arrange MMR vaccination as soon as possible.

