



# KILCHUIMEN ACADEMY NEWS

## "Serenity to Samba"



Academy Summer Concert 2015, tagged "Serenity to Samba" by impresario, Mrs MacDonald, was a resounding success from the moment an ensemble of S1-6 performers accompanied by P5-7 pupils and teachers sambaed into the Hall. Highlights from the packed programme included vocals from Melanie Wyatt, Andrew McArthur on drums, Millie Saunders on keyboard, Rosie Stoddart and the Stodds, Phoebe Lloyd and Alanna MacDonald on guitar...and Mr. Armand on ukulele! Ms. Sharples provided guitar accompaniment for Shannon Hosie's accordion playing ("Susan's Waltz") and also conducted guest artistes from the Community Choir who sang Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" and "Hail Holy Queen" made famous in the *Sister Act* films. Maciej Owczarek (S6), in his last school concert as a pupil, was as majestic as ever in his cello performance of Bruch's "Kol Nidrei". Huge thanks are due to Dave McConville, Bill Hepburn and Mr Cooper for their technical, logistical and sound support; thanks also to Ms Thurnell who was a stalwart during rehearsals and to Rhoda, Christine, Miss Thomson and Mrs Knott who variously organised the raffle and refreshments. *Fortissimo* thanks, of course, go to Mrs MacDonald who manages to nurture such a range of talent...despite officially only being with us two days a week.

### Dates for the Diary

- Pupils receive SQA results  
– Tuesday August 4th
- Staff Inset Day  
– Monday August 17th
- Pupil return to school  
– Tuesday August 18th
- French trip departs  
– Tuesday August 18th
- French trip returns  
– Tuesday August 25th
- Close  
– Friday October 9th
- Re-open  
– Monday October 26th



## Kilchuimen International News

### French Trip: bientôt arrivés

Massive fund-raising efforts on the part of pupils, teachers, parents and the Parent Council have ensured that over £10K has been raised towards keeping the cost of the French trip to an incredible £200 per head. Special thank you to the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, the Stratherrick and Foyers Trust and the Ward Discretionary Fund for their hugely generous contributions. Many thanks also to Mr Wilks who has been the driving force behind getting this trip organised and to all who have contributed to the fund-raising in any way.

### August Activities Programme

Pupils who are not going on the French trip will not be bored when their friends are gallivanting abroad. Miss MacRaild, Mrs Masson and Mrs Knott have been busy putting together an exciting programme of events which will include Bubble football, Tazball and a trip to the M&D's theme park. Permission slips will be issued by the end of term and the school will be subsidising the programme to keep the cost to an amazing £15 per head.

### Skyping French Penpals

#### Mr Armand writes...

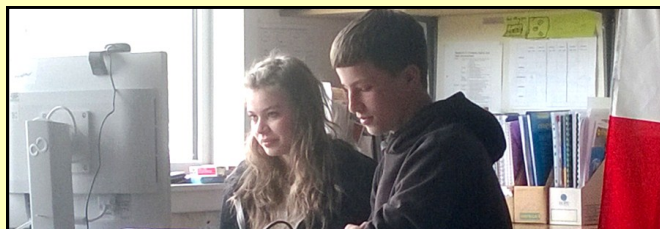
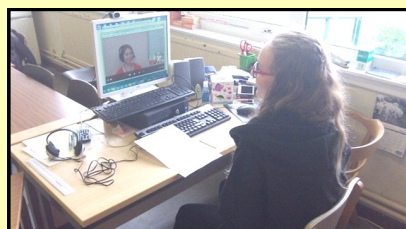
S3 have been Skyping their French penpals over the past few weeks. Despite the initial technical difficulties and being afraid to speak to someone in a different language, the Skype sessions have been very successful. Most pupils had never spoken to a French person (apart from me!) Next year's S3 have already taken over the Skyping and have clicked with the French class very quickly. Mungo was keen to have a go twice, and the idea of speaking French to someone she had never met didn't faze Leteisha either. This will hopefully be the beginning of a long lasting partnership with my hometown school! Here is what pupils had to say about the experience:

"Skyping the penpals was a great opportunity because it allowed me to communicate in a foreign language with someone who spoke it fluently. It was difficult because my French isn't perfect but we were still able to communicate with both French and English" (Millie)

"Skyping the penpals was good because we got to meet new people." (Alanna)

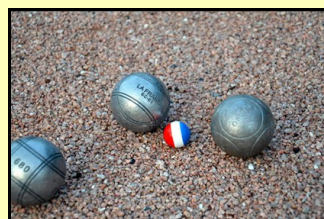
"It was hard to talk to the penpal because it was hard to understand but I did have a good time getting to talk to someone I had never met." (James)

"Talking to the penpals was fun. It helped us understand how hard it is for other people in other countries to speak English. It was challenging because neither of us were very good at speaking the other language. It was enjoyable because it was a new experience and we met new people." (Phoebe)



### Still on a French theme....

S1 have been trying their skills at pétanque in relation to a French unit on culture. Pétanque is the popular game of boules played in summer time in France. You need to throw your "boules" as close to the "cochonnet" as possible. S1-3 have enjoyed playing despite the general lack of sun!



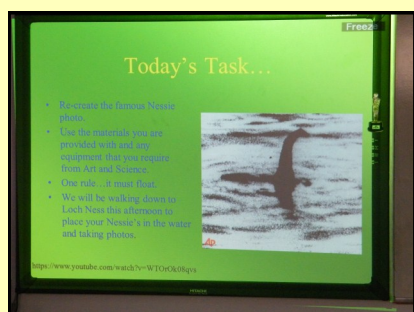
## News in Brief

### Staffing

Many thanks for all hard work to Miss Stewart, Mr Armand and Mr Jones who will be leaving the Academy at the end of the session. Miss Stewart will take up a full-time post in Oban High School; Mr Armand will take up a promoted post at the International School of Moscow; Mr Jones is bound for the British School in Kuwait. We wish them every success and happiness for the future. Pupils paid their tributes to all three at the OsKArS, the school's alternative awards ceremony. There will be a warm welcome next term for Miss Hayley Simms who will take over in Art; Mr Glenn Perard in Modern Languages; Miss Morven MacKintosh in Geography and Miss Dione Reid in History.

### John Muir Discovery Awards

All pupils in S1-3 were steered to John Muir Discovery Awards earlier this term. The outdoor education experience was master-minded by geographer, Mr Jones who was ably supported by Ms Thurnell, Mrs Knott and Mrs Archibald. The Nessie Launch proved a popular part of the programme.



### Website domain name

The results of the survey to decide the domain name for the new 3-18 joint website were overwhelmingly in favour of [www.kilchuimen.com](http://www.kilchuimen.com) – the new website will be up and running by August. Many thanks to all who returned their surveys.

### Permissions slips

Next session we hope to streamline our system of permission slips so that routine trips and fixtures can be covered at the beginning of the year with a single generic permission, saving time all round.

### Practical Cake Craft

*Lisa Henderson S5 (somewhat cheekily) writes...*

As a treat to end our Practical Cake Craft Course Miss T organised a visit to Harry Gow's Bakery in Inverness for Shannon S & myself (Lisa). During our visit we saw everything from bread making to cake decoration. The bakery also makes soup and pies for sale in Harry's shops. We will not forget the sight of hundreds of snowballs and carrot cakes in the freezer room or the smell of the proving bread dough and Miss T did her best to walk away with the egg separator (a very simple, but wonderful German invention) but couldn't get past the security guards! The visit was rounded off with dream rings (Harry's best seller) which more than made up for having to look ridiculous in overalls and hair nets. Thanks to Harry's staff for a great morning!

## 16+ and Senior Transition News from Miss MacRaidl

### Rio Tinto:

A group of promising senior pupils, interested in undertaking a Modern Engineering Apprenticeship, took part in a very informative apprenticeship presentation and personalised tour of the Rio Tinto site in Fort William. Pupils were able to view first-hand the knowledge and experience of someone like Senior Engineer, Peter Carmichael. Pupils found his input hugely motivational, encouraging them seriously to consider this career path in the not-so-distant future.

### West Highland College Taster Day:

54 pupils experienced this day as part of the College/School link programme with West Highland College in Fort William. Pupils had to follow what would be the daily routine of travelling down in the morning and were taken on an extensive tour of the campus. They all took part in individually tailored workshops, designed with each of their differing career interests in mind. They worked along with college lecturers and current students in the morning session to gain confidence, practical experience and a depth of understanding into the wide range 16+ opportunities that could be available to them. They spent the afternoon in Student Services for a general overview of the whole college and UHI structure, college life and potential progression routes from their current interests and Skills for Work programmes to Doctorate Degrees that can be taken through the University of Highland and Islands network.

### Career Path Workshop Opportunities:

A targeted group took part in a "CONSTRUCTING your FUTURE" event which was organised Highland-wide for S3/4/5 students to raise awareness of career options in the construction industry. The event provided ample opportunity to participate in interactive and practical construction-related workshops and meet with companies and individuals who work within the industry. The morning allowed pupils to have an overview of the construction industry; in the afternoon pupils attended workshops in to gain more detailed insight into a variety of career areas. They were able to select the workshops they wished to attend from the following list: Bricklayer, Joiner, Civil Engineer, Architect, Building Services Engineer, Structural Engineers, Plumber etc. Pupils may also have an additional opportunity to get a real-life experience of the construction industry as the participating companies have agreed to host two-week long work placements for which pupils will now be able to apply. A number of pupils also attended a "GROWING your FUTURE" event similarly organised to raise awareness of potential career options in the land-based industry. The event gave pupils access to workshops in Agriculture, Aquaculture, Equine Studies, Land Management, Gamekeeping, Fisheries and Land Based Management, Engineering and Veterinary Care.

### Coca Cola Factory:

Insights were gained into a real-life working Coca Cola factory whilst visiting the East Kilbride Education Centre. The day's programme comprised a curriculum-linked and design/manufacturing focus, giving pupils the chance to see inside a state-of-the-art manufacturing site. The Education Centre gave pupils further opportunity to develop their knowledge of the world of work and make connections between what they learn in the classroom and the operations that are integral to one of the world's leading brands.

### Glasgow Science Centre:

Pupils also took part in a visit to the Glasgow Science Centre, an experience the pupils were extremely enthusiastic about beforehand! The Science Centre contained a range of "Zones" and exhibitions for pupils to test, interact and learn. The range of zones enabled pupils to develop creativity and explore how things work- 'Think it', 'Build it', 'Deconstruct it' and 'Test it'. The range of bespoke experiences on offer allowed pupils to explore the science behind human health and well-being; they were able to create a giant bubble wall, put their hands in the centre of a "tornado", generate electricity, burn some energy in the giant hamster wheel, perform a virtual autopsy and bust some moves at the DNA disco.

### Senior Transition Week:

Local authorities and schools, working with relevant partners, are increasingly responsible for planning with and supporting young people to make successful transitions into young adulthood and the world of work. In early June the Academy hosted a high tempo Senior Transition/Induction Week for returning pupils returning after Study Leave. The range of activities, designed to support young people towards positive destinations in the future, included: registering personal details on My World of Work website; creating an online My World of Work Curriculum Vitae, a generic covering letter for applying for jobs and a personal statement; enrolling details to apply for a work experience position; completing Senior Profiles; organising the Leavers' Dance; completing a mock interview; video and oral (peer and self) reviewed of their mock interview techniques; getting Duke of Edinburgh applications under way; exploring the importance and relevance of voluntary/ extra-curricular experiences; taking part in a range of 16+ opportunities and presentations from Skills Development Scotland Interactive Workshop, Young Enterprise Scotland and Duke of Edinburgh representatives.

**Miss MacRaidl would like to thank all staff, pupils and partners to the event for their sterling work and support during Senior Transition Week!**

## Sports Day 2015 Results

### *Senior Girls*

Champion	Niamh Lumsden
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Melanie Wyatt
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Alanna MacDonald, Millie Saunders & Maire Brown

### *Senior Boys*

Champion	Rhuairaidh MacDonald
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Archie Johnstone
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Rory Clark

### *Junior Girls*

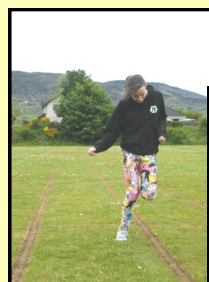
Champion	Jessie Lumsden
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Siobhan West
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Laura MacDonald

### *Junior Boys*

Champion	Stuart McArthur
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Mungo Blakey
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Liam Gilchrist

### *New School Records:*

Liam Gilchrist	Junior Boys Javelin	31.35m
Liam Gilchrist	Junior Boys Discus	30.10m
Liam Gilchrist	Junior Boys Long Jump	4.98m
Stuart McArthur	Junior Boys 100m	13.25s
Stuart McArthur	Junior Boys 200m	29.03s
Mungo Blakey	Junior Boys 400m	1m 10s
Mungo Blakey	Junior Boys 800m	2m 31s
Niamh Lumsden	Girls High Jump	1.33m
Rory Clark	Boys Discus	40.00m
Rory Clark	Boys Shot Putt	14.25m
Rhuairaidh MacDonald	Boys Shot Putt	14.25m
Rhuairaidh MacDonald	Boys 100m	12.10s
Rhuairaidh MacDonald	Boys 200m	26.19s
Rhuairaidh MacDonald	Boys 400m	1m 8s



### *Rhuairaidh MacDonald, Football Captain reports....*

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of June Kilchuimen Academy football team travelled to our neighbours Glen Urquhart High School who hosted the 11-a-side friendly fixture. The game went under way, Glen were quick to settle in to the match and took an early lead; not long after Glen took the lead they were awarded a penalty. Jack Allan who was our goal keeper pulled off a very fine save to keep the game at 1-0. As the match went on Glen continued to press; from an indirect free kick Glen got their second goal, however just minutes before half time our own Mungo Blakey scored from a corner to bring Kilchuimen back into the match.

After half time Kilchuimen had much of the possession, with chances being created but not taken; eventually we took our chance when Liam Gilchrist assisted Louis Di-Duca's penalty box shot; this brought us level with Glen. As the match went on, Glen had a few chances from long range but failed to hit the target. A long range effort from Rhuairaidh MacDonald saw the ball bounce off the top corner of the goal post and bounce behind the keeper, however the goal was not given and the match remained level. Glen had a few good chances in the latter stages of the match however these were thwarted with exemplary defending from Rory Clark, Stuart McArthur, Maciej Owczarek and Archie Johnstone. Full time: Glen Urquhart 2-2 Kilchuimen Academy

*Many congratulations to pupils who received their prizes at this year's Awards Ceremony. The school is particularly proud that every single pupil earned at least one well-deserved a mention the Celebration of Wider Achievement which is always included in the Awards Booklet.*

Award Winners

**S1 Achievement  
S1 Effort**

**Siobhan West  
John Frost**

**S2 Achievement  
S2 Effort**

**Mungo Blakey  
Jessie Lumsden**

**S3 Achievement  
S3 Effort**

**Millie Saunders  
Phoebe Lloyd**

**S4 Achievement  
S4 Effort**

**Jamie Walker  
Jack Allan**

**S5/6 Achievement  
S5/6 Effort**

**Maire Brown  
Tierney Lloyd**

**Contribution to the Arts**

**Maciej Owczarek**

**Contribution to Sport**

**Louis Di-Duca, Rhuairaidh MacDonald**

**Special Prize for Science**

**Fiona MacDonald**

**Young Engineer's Prize**

**Ben MacDonald**

**Senior Sports Champions**

**Niamh Lumsden, Rhuairaidh MacDonald**

**Junior Sports Champions**

**Jessie Lumsden, Stuart McArthur**

**Caledonia House Points winner**

**Laura MacDonald**

**Scotia House Points winner**

**Ruaraidh MacDonald**

*Presentation of House Captain Badges: Aileigh Hodson, Fiona MacDonald*

*Presentation of House Sports Captain Badges: Maciej Owczarek, Rhuairaidh MacDonald*

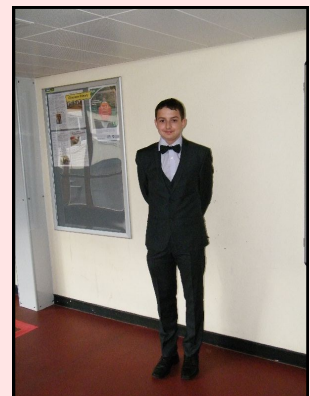
**Depute Head Teacher's Challenge Award**

**Holly MacLean**

**Head Teacher's Award for Service to the School**  
*(Sponsored by the Rev Dr. & Mrs. Varwell)*

# Leavers' Ball 2015

Prizes for Best Dressed were awarded to...Shannon Stewart, Maire Brown  
Louis Di-Duca and Maciej Owczarek.  
Prizes for Best Dancer were awarded to Millie Saunders and Stuart McArthur.



# Leavers' Ball Photo Gallery (cont.)

