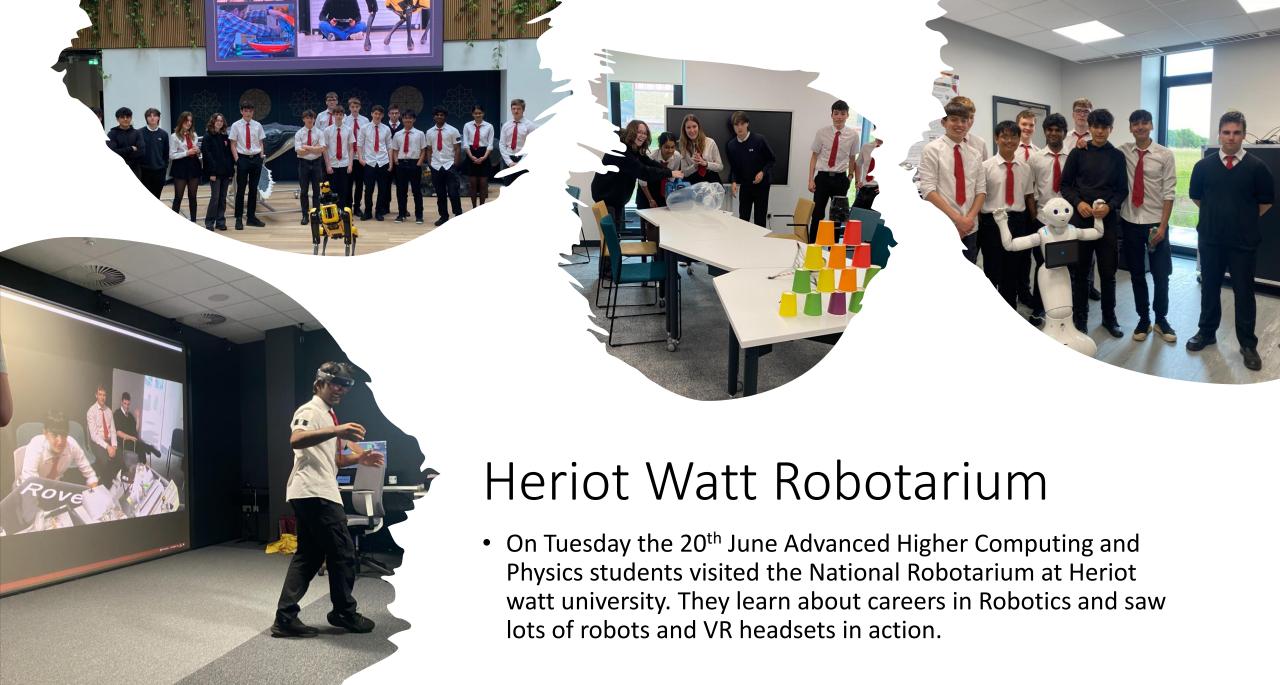
June Newsletter 2023





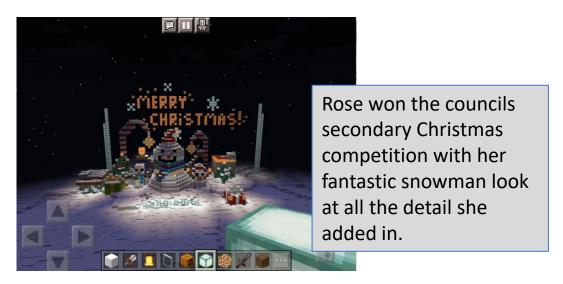


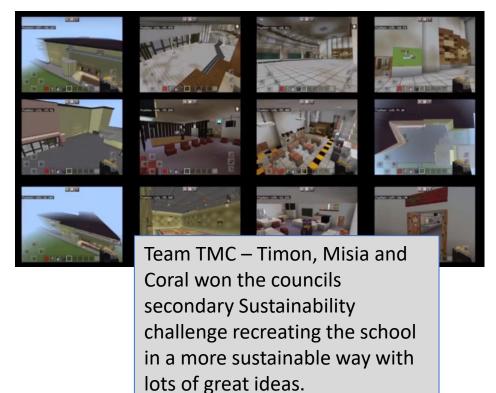
- We have come to the end of another successful academic year. We hope you enjoy this newsletter which offers you a snapshot of all the wonderful things our young people have experienced this term.
- We wish everyone in the St Thomas of Aquin's community an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to welcoming our young people back to school in August.



Minecraft Competition

• Throughout the year we have had many students involved in creating Minecraft projects for the council competition.











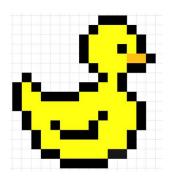




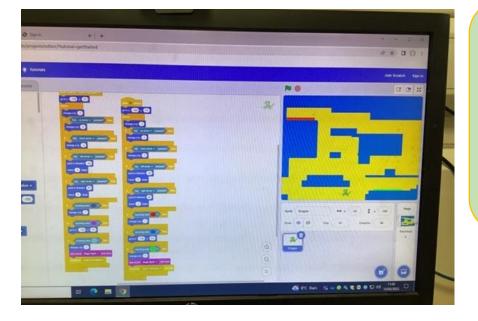
Minecraft competition – Scottish Championships

• Amazing Team TMC came 2nd in the Scottish schools Minecraft competition at Abertay university. Well done, Timon, Misia and Coral we were so impressed with all the work you put into not just this day but the whole year completing the Minecraft challenges.





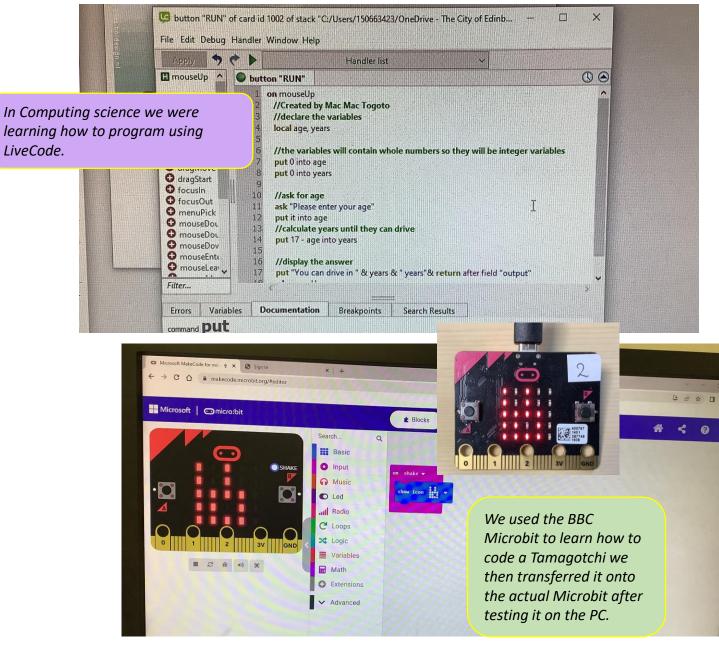
In S1 Computing we have been creating bitmap sprites.



In Computing we use the school PC's to design and create their own maze game using scratch. We were learning how to program."

S2 Computing

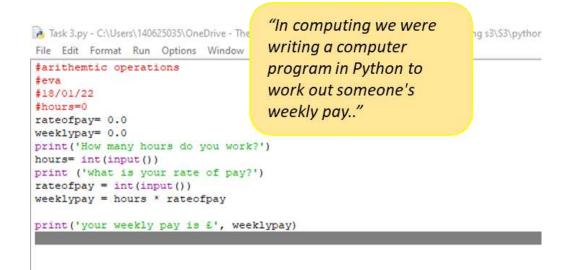




S3 Computing

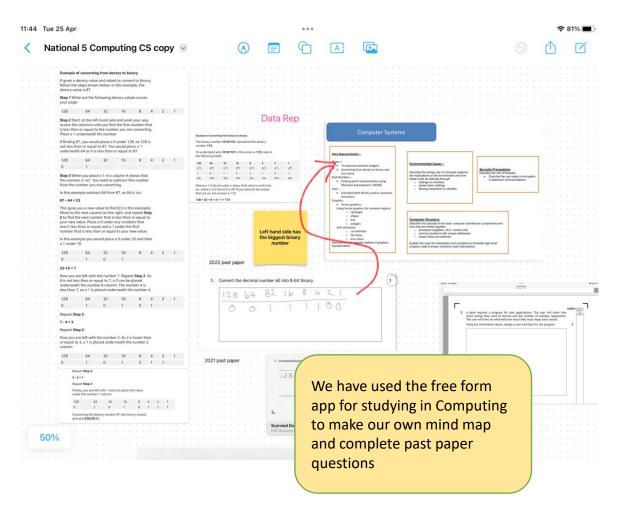


In S3 Computing we have been working on creating our own animations. Here are some examples of different animation scenes.



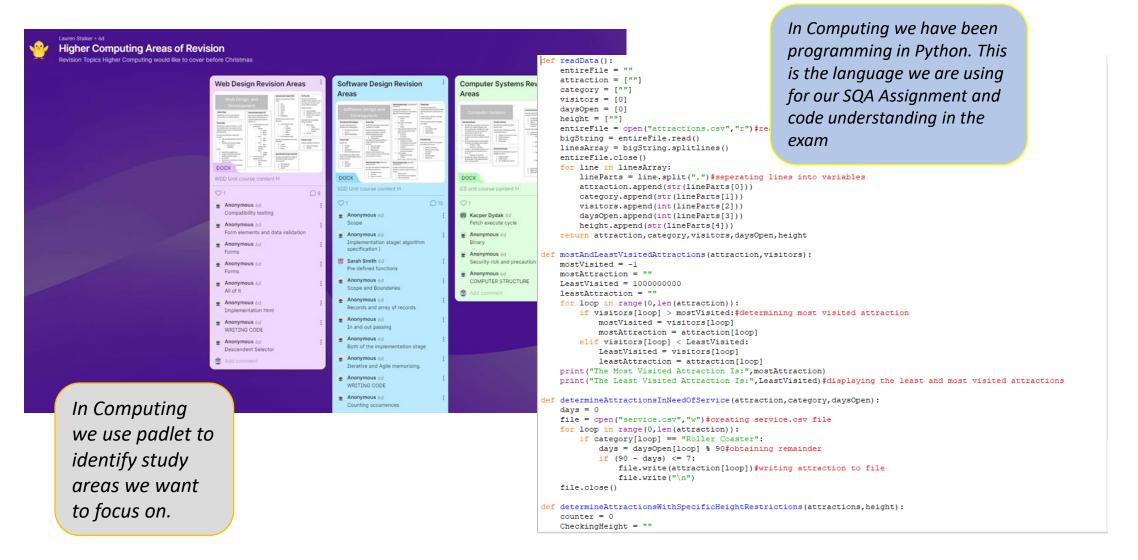


Nat 5 Computing



```
🝌 *practice assignment.py - C:\Users\130663486\OneDrive - The City of Edinburgh Council\S3 Computing\Python s4\practice assignment.py (3.10.2)*
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
#variables
points = 0
hits = [0]*6
hitsaverage = 0
total = 0
loopamount = 0
#registering hits
print ("how many loops do you want")
loopamount = int(input())
for loops in range (0,loopamount):
   print("How many hits did player " + str(loops+1) + " register" )
   hits[loops] = int(input())
   while hits[loops] < 0 or hits[loops] > 30:
       if hits[loops] <0 or hits[loops]> 30:
          print("incorrect number enter again")
       print("How many hits did player " + str(loops+1) + " register" )
       hits[loops] = int(input())
#logic on hits
for loops in range (0,6):
   total = total + hits[loops]
hitsaverage = total/6
print("your average hits are", round(hitsaverage,2))
print("total is " + str(total) )
print ("-----
#work out if getting 1st point (total)
#work out if getting 2nd point (average)
 if total >=50: #points
   points = points + 1
 lif total <=50: #points
   points = 0
 f hitsaverage >=10: #points
   points = points + 1
                                                "We use the school
print("You scored " + str(points) + " point(s)'
                                               computers to complete
                                               python tasks to prepare
                                               us for our assignment"
```

Higher Computing



Library

It has been a busy a few busy months in the Library with various activities, clubs and an author interview.

- In June we had a visit from Australian Science Fiction book writer Amie Kaufman. Carmen James S2, Julia Mazur S2 and Lorena Clausen S1 had opportunity to meet and speak to the author. The interview will be published in future Teen Titles magazine.
- Our pupils have continued to be enthusiastic reviewers for 'Teen Titles' magazine —several contributed and their reviews have been already published with more awaiting of publication in future one.
- There was a Book Group reactivated after a long break and two new clubs introduced: Anime and Lego clubs. All clubs were successful and will be continued after the summer.



Pupil Parliament

Andy Welsh (Wider Achievement & Lifelong Learning Development Officer) came in today to speak at the S5/6 Pupil Parliament. He explained the importance of young people getting involved in the SYP (Scottish Youth Parliament) and how pupils from our school can get involved in the upcoming elections in November. Please use the QR code on the pupil notice board. He is going to come back and speak to our S1-S4 cohort in August to encourage more pupils to get involved. We are very lucky to have him working w



Equality Group

Many thanks to our S6 Equality Captains; Heolise, Juliet and Bibi on their hard work this term. The Captains used KA time to promote a variety of causes and celebrate the diversity of our school community.

We look forward to introducing our new Equality Captain after the summer break!

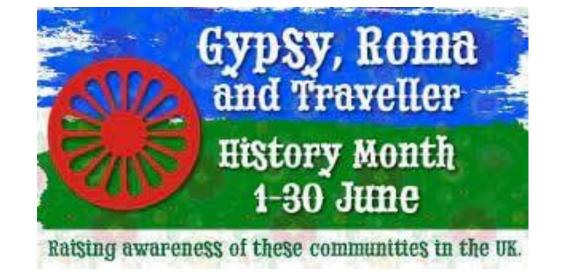




We're supporting



March 13 - 19, 2023 www.neurodiversityweek.com





GAMES, PERFORMANCES, INFLATABLES & MORE

INFO@UNITYTOGETHER.ORG

Climate Action Group



THE BIG GREEN WEEK

CLIMATE ACTION GROUP has prepared a week of green fun for our entire school!



Each activity earns you points

Can you earn enough to earn a seat in our popcorn movie night?



ENERGY

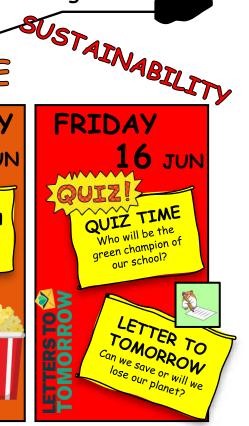
WASTE CLIMATE







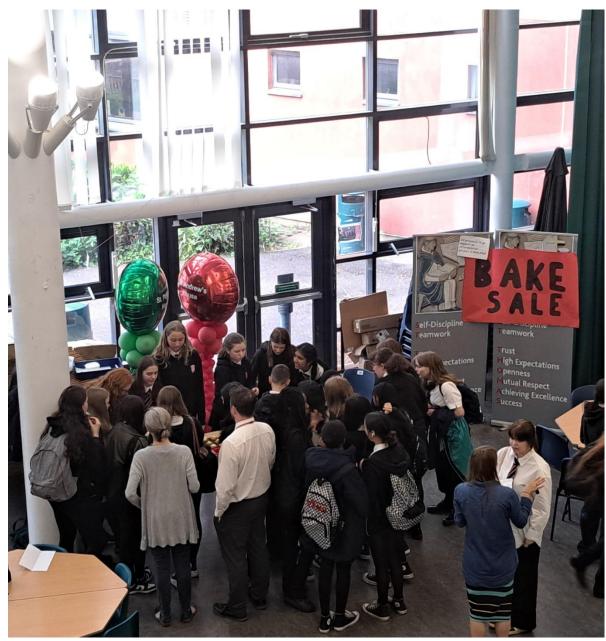












Higher Maths STEAM event to GCU

A group of Higher Maths pupils travelled to Glasgow Caledonian University for a STEAM event.

Pupils participated in three workshops, had a tour of the campus and met a variety of guests from different STEAM industries.







Workshop 1 was Sight Through Sound, which involved looking at ultrasound equipment. Pupils discovered that Glasgow has the biggest research development for ultrasound in the world.

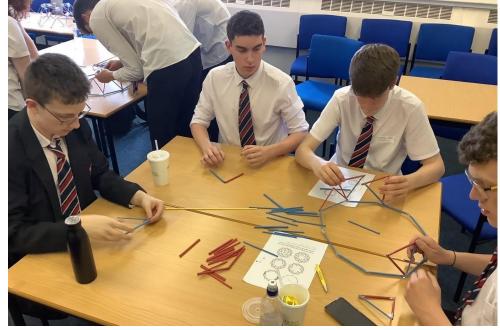




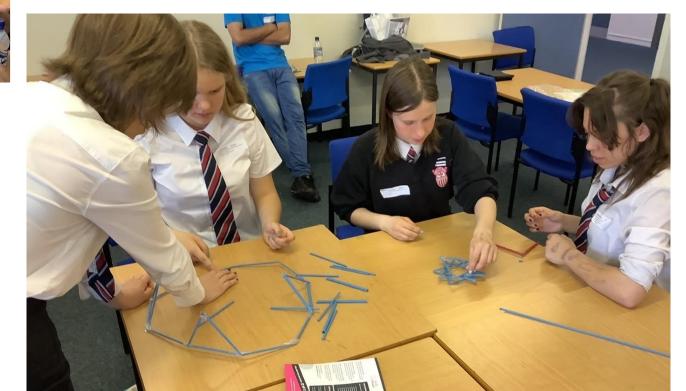


Workshop 2, hosted by Howden Group, explored why we need fans in tunnels. Pupils worked in groups to quality assure blades using some impressive measuring skills!





Workshop 3, The Power of Paper, set pupils with the task of building a dome structure out of paper straws.







"I was interested in the medical uses of ultrasound." Jan

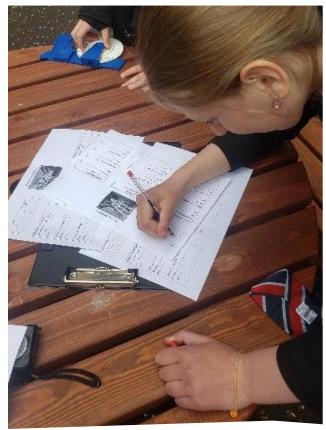
"I enjoyed the event because I got to learn about the different pathways I could take after school." Hania

"It was a fun experience and gave me a lot of ideas for the future." *Serafina*

Outdoor learning in Maths

Better weather brings more opportunities for outdoor learning and linking Mathematics to real life applications.

52 pupils were given the opportunity to be civil engineers for the day; using clinometers and tape measures to measure various heights around the school and linking to their newfound knowledge of trigonometry.







S1 pupils visited the meadows to investigate patterns in nature.







Mathematiques Sans Frontieres

Over 100 St Thomas' pupils across S4, S5 and S6 competed in Mathematiques Sans Frontieres, an international competition run by the Academie de Strasbourg.

Pupils worked in teams to solve a set of mathematical problems in both English and other languages (including French, Spanish and Italian).

Our pupils successfully rose to the challenge; with their solutions showing off impressive problem solving, communication and foreign language skills.





International Women's Day

In celebration of International Women's Day, three women from STEM industries presented to our S2 cohort about their careers.











For more information on Women in STEM:





UKMT

Congratulations to our S3-4 pupils who represented St Thomas' in the Intermediate division of the UK Maths Challenge.

UKMT

A huge congratulations to S4 pupil, Jamie who achieved a Gold Award and finished best in school!



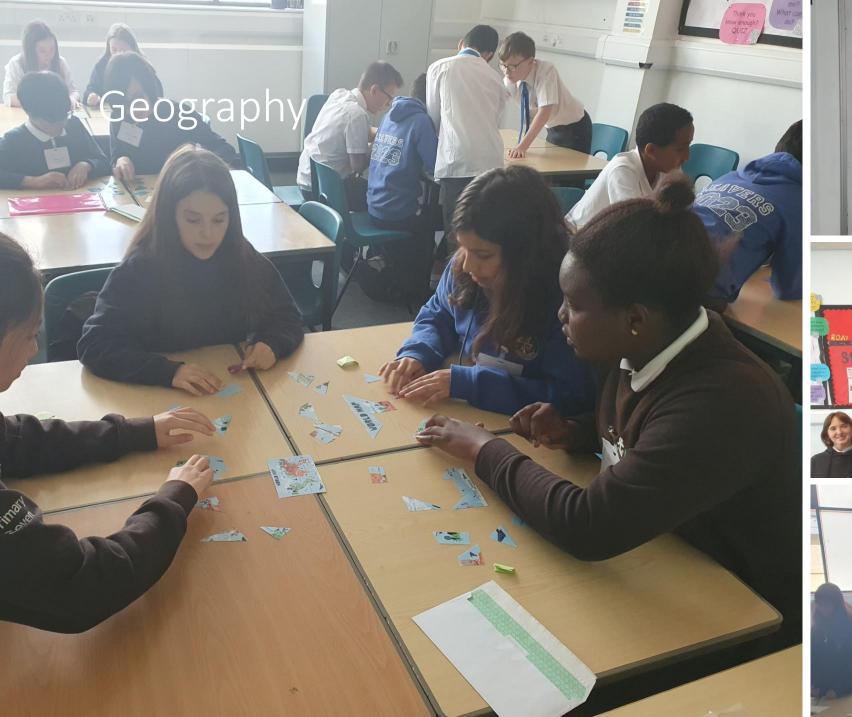
A copy of the question paper is now available to the public if you're up for the challenge!



Social Subjects

After a whole year of competition our final teams for S1 classes went head-to-head to find the Geography champions of 2023. They were marked fairly by the last year's winning team. Well done everyone! Make sure to check out display with more photos in the Social Subjects hall!





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	countries-	capitals.	Shapes	Flag	1000	
=1 1A	16	25	18	28	-1	86
-210	21	21	18	26	-1-1	83
-110	22	30	23	28	-1-1	104
Rogue -1	10	14	12	21		[57]













Some photos of our brave Geography pupils taking part in the Scotland wide Geography challenge! We did not win but it fuelled our passion for next year.

Modern Studies

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

On 11th May S2 pupils attended a Parliamentary Reception Event to participate in the campaign for Universal Free School Meals.

The event was co-sponsored by Monica Lennon MSP, EIS and the Sunday Mail. The event is part of 'Food for Thought: Expanding Universal Free School Meals To All Pupils' in Scotland.

More on the campaign can be found here: https://food4thought.uk/







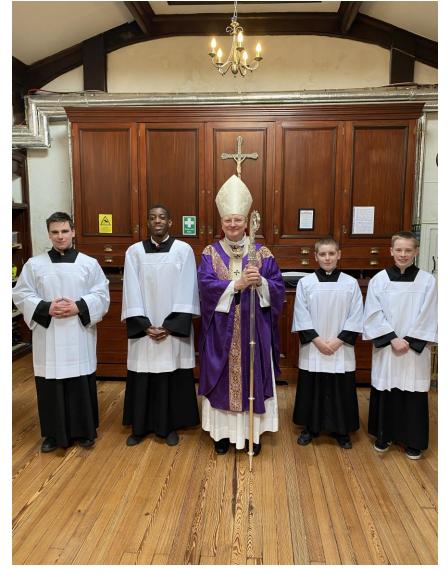
Transition Mass at St Mary Catholic Cathedral

23rd March 2023

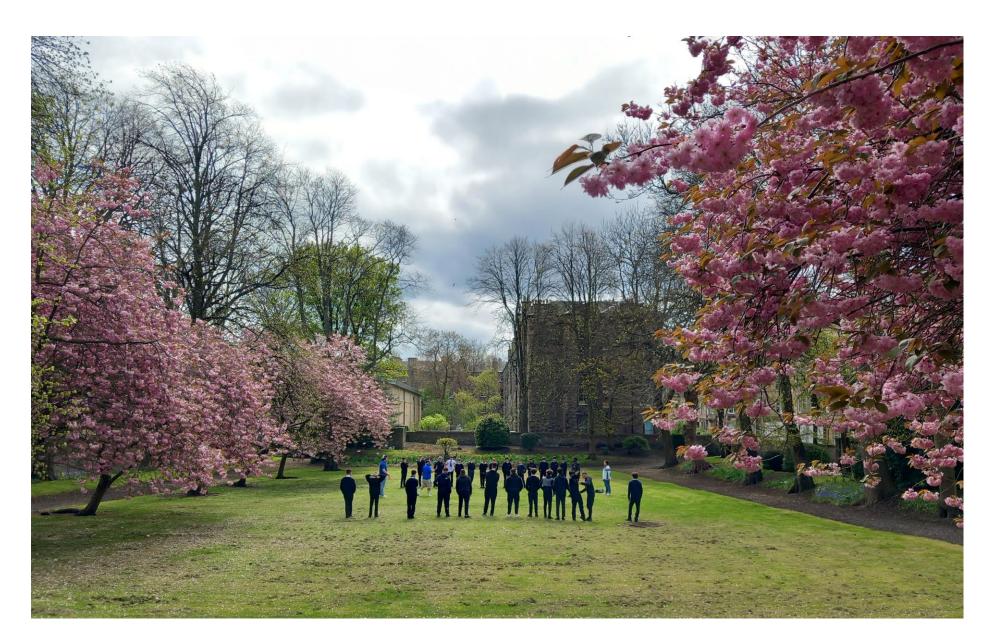


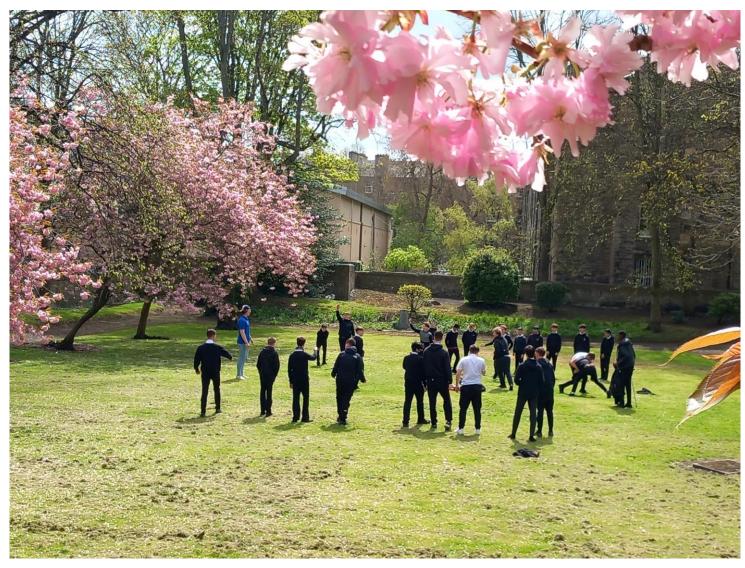
Transition Mass at St Mary Cathedral 23rd March 2023





NET Ministries Retreats







NET Ministries Retreats

NET Ministries

Encouraging young people to love Jesus and embrace the life of the Church.









A Warm Welcome to Some of Our New S1

16thMay 2023





Ascension Mass at the Sacred Heart Church

'No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven.'

(St Augustine)





S6 Retreat Dominion Cinema 7th June 2023



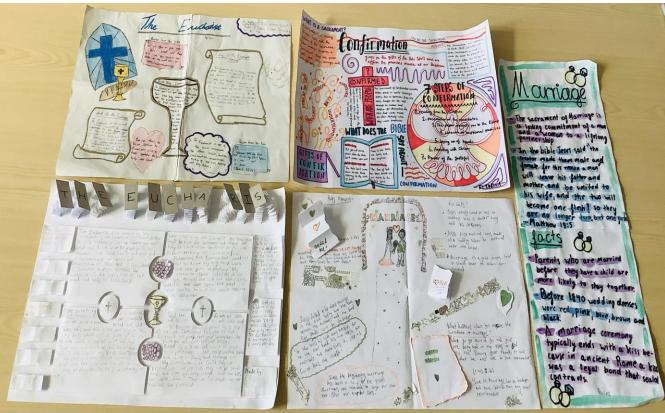


Caritas Award Ceremony 6th of June 2023

Caritas Award Ceremony at SEC Armadillo in Glasgow organised for our wonderful Caritas pupils.







S1 produced some brilliant work on the Sacraments in RE





Edinburgh International Festival

Mozart – The Magic Flute

We had a wonderful visit on Tuesday
June 12th from some amazing opera
singers and their accompanist Andrew,
who performed a reduced version of this
famous opera.

All our \$3,4,5,6 music pupils attended with many seeing opera singing up close for the first time.



Music Tech TEam

'Star Warts'



- ► Many of our music tech pupils helped with the set up and rehearsals of this show (P7 St Mary's).
 - ► A big thanks to Euan Boxall S5 who operated the sound desk for their evening performance

Senior
Awards
Ceremony

'Thanks to our junior orchestra who performed for this event and to Helena Seywright who played in the foyer to welcome our guests.

We look forward to performing 'La Bamba' for our visiting P7 pupils at the end of June



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh!

34 S3 pupils successfully completed their Bronze expedition last month. The pupils walked from school along the Union Canal and the Water of Leith out to Blinkbonny and through the Pentlands to Bonaly Scout Camp. On the second day the groups took different routes through the Pentlands and finished at Thriepmuir reservoir! Well done a fantastic achievement for all!

































Silver Duke of Edinburgh!

20 S4 Silver participants have successfully completed both a practice and a qualifying expedition this term. In their practice they walked to from Peebles to West Linton and had a night at Fingland bothy on the way! Their qualifier involved a route through the Lammermuir hills and they did so well considering the difficult weather they had for the qualifying expedition. You should all be very proud of yourselves!



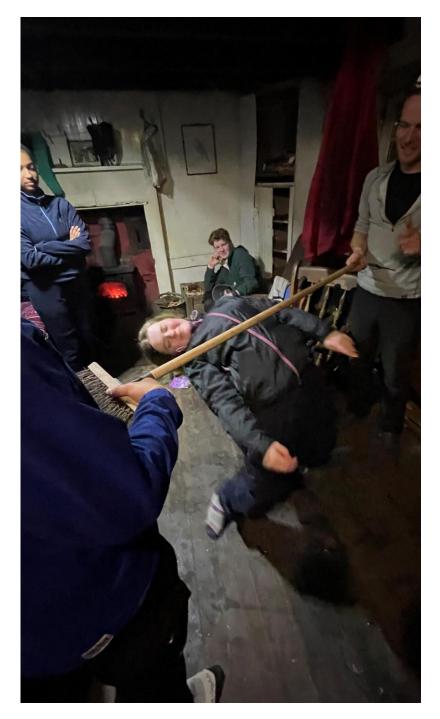










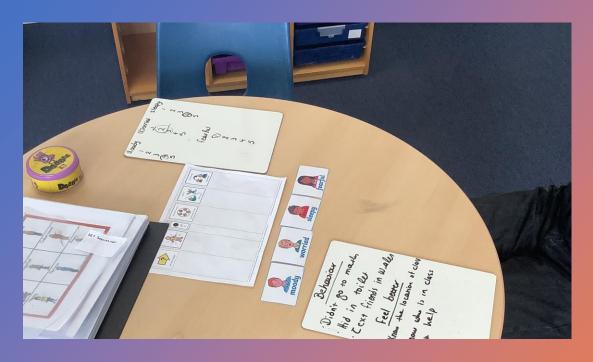


















V
11
31
51
71
111



Trigger	12
Emotion	32
Body Sensations	52
Behaviour	72
Feel Better	112

Trigger	13
Emotion	33
Body Sensations	53
Behaviour	73
Feel Better	113







Trigger	16
Emotion	36
Body Sensations	56
Behaviour	76
Feel Better	116

Tologon	17
Trigger	17
Emotion	37
Body Sensations	57
Behaviour	77
Feel Better	117

Secondary **Emotion Talks**

 The Wellbeing Hub ran 2 weekly 'Secondary Emotion Talks' groups for pupils in S1-3. The aim of these groups were for pupils to be able to recognise and communicate their emotions, identify any triggers, consider which 'feel better' strategies work best for them and use those strategies when experiencing strong emotions

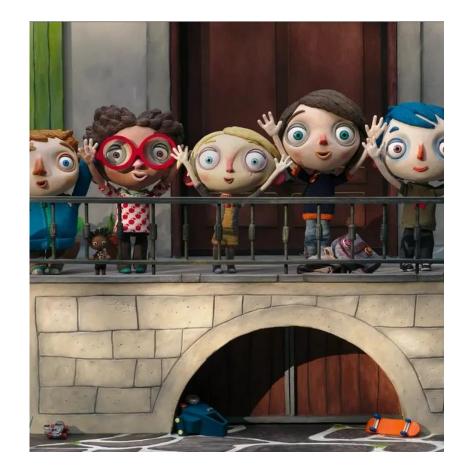
Compassionate & Connected Classroom

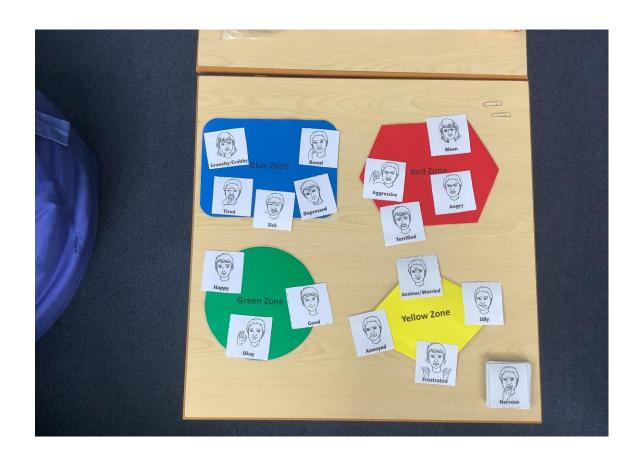
'Compassionate Classroom' resource which supports pupils to cope with challenges and adversity and develop their confidence, resilience, compassion and empathy. This term, we focused on the theme of 'My rights'. This theme introduces pupils to the concepts of compassion and connection and emphasises the importance of helping each other to build strong relationships and care for one another.



Into Film Club

• Some of our S1-3 pupils are part of the Wellbeing Hub's film club where they explore wellbeing through film. This term we watched 'My life as a courgette' and focused on the themes of family, loss, friendship and loneliness. Pupils then designed a new space that feels more at home for the characters in the movie





Zones of Regulation

 S1 pupils have been working on the 'Zones of Regulation' programme to develop awareness of feelings, energy and alertness levels while exploring a variety of tools and strategies for regulation, self-care, and overall wellness.

Art Therapy with Place2Be

Ms Kirkpatrick, trainee art therapist from Place2Be, offered weekly sessions to S1 and S3 pupils to help them explore thoughts, feelings and experiences through the medium of art













Art and Design technologies

Congratulations to S3 pupils Kianna Coertze, Nina Jasseh and Victoria Adamska!

This term the girls won the inaugural D&AD New Gen award for their idea, *Swimpossible*, whilst working on a creative brief for Adidas in partnership with D&AD, WPP and Daydream Believers.

This competition was available to them as the Art, Design and Technology Faculty have, just this year, introduced a new Creative Thinking qualification for S5 & S6.

The competition was open to all 11–18 year olds nationally and they entered their work as it was part of their S3 Graphic Communication class.

As winners, they were treated to an exclusive creative experience and received a fantastic prize. All winners featured in a short film at D&AD Festival at the BFI. They attended an award ceremony in Edinburgh with the president of D&AD to receive their winning certificates. They worked with award winning agency Studio LR to develop their concept further. Each pupil also received a £200 adidas voucher.



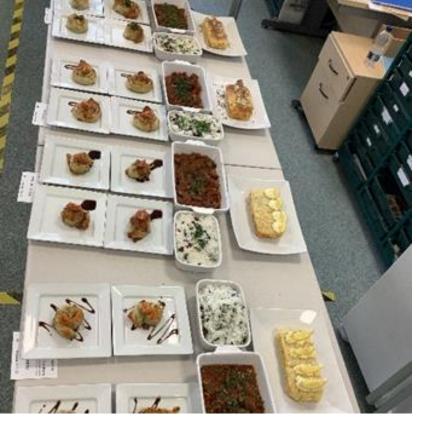


Fashion and Textiles

Fashion and textiles

S1 JAPANESE BORO BAGS. EXPERIMENTING WITH TRADITIONAL SASHIKO STITCHING AND SHIBORI DYE TECHNIQUES. EACH PUPIL MADE THEIR OWN BAG TO TAKE HOME!









Practical cookery assessments

Starter – Three-cheese filo swirls

Main Course – Brazilian chicken with savoury rice

Dessert - Lemon and courgette bar cake

The pupils did a fantastic job ©







































S2 Creative Writing

Over the Autumn term, S2 worked with creative writer Ryan Van Winkle from the Edinburgh Book Festival to develop their creative writing skills. The class created their own planets which included facilities, inhabitants and jobs. Last week, artist Natalie Doyle came to work with pupils to turn their ideas into drawings. Pupils chose an aspect of their planet and worked with Natalie to bring it to life.



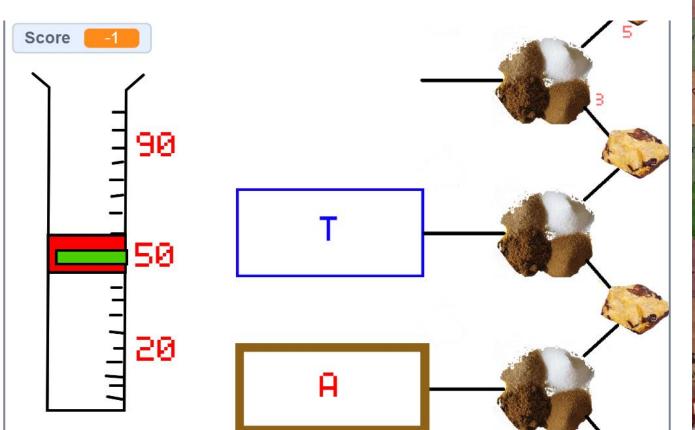


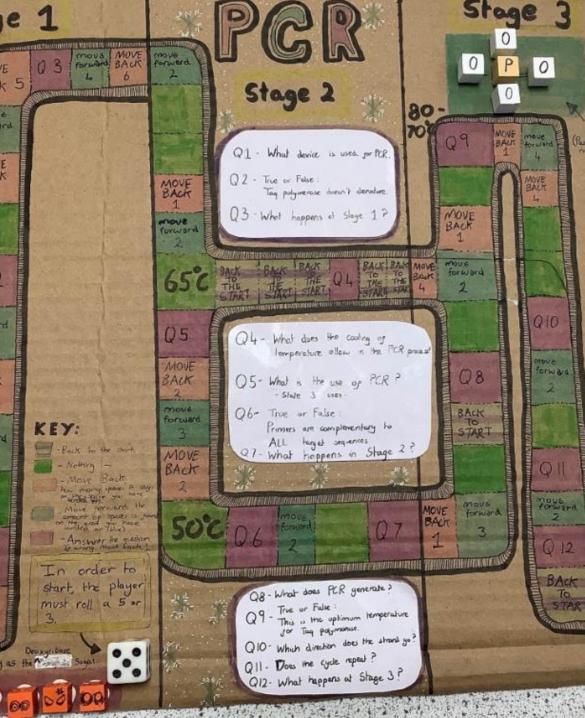
Six S2 pupils were randomly selected to work with the Engineering Development Trust (EDT) to participate in the Industrial Cadets Bronze project. This is a competition that is held against other schools to design a building or an app on a specific theme. The pupils at St Thomas decided to design a future proof building aganst climate change.

The project required the team to produce a model of the building along with a sixteen page report that included all of their research over a two month period. Finally, the pupils presented their work at their graduation ceremony which was held at Currie Community High School.

All group members at St Thomas were granted the Bronze Award for their participation in the project. In addition to all the skills they gained from this project, the STEM award is a valuable achievement they can go on to talk about in their future personal statements.

Higher Biology pupils have done some creative work on DNA replication and criminal PCR





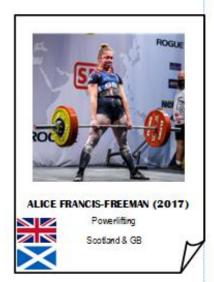
Former and current pupil celebration of achievement



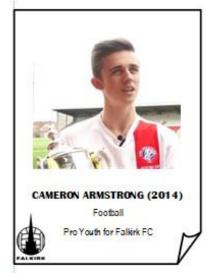


















SULA CASTLE (2018) London based Dancer and Choreographer

Sadlers Wells Young Associate and co-bunder of 'Tough Boys Dance Collective'.



SILVIE FURNEAUX (2020)

Dancer and Actor

Latest acting: BBC1 Annika (2021 & 2023)

and BBC3 Red Rose (2022).



STEVEN PEAT (2016)

PE Teacher

Edinburgh City Council

Edinburgh University (PE MA Hons)



JOSH DUNN (2018)

Football Goalkeeper

Dunfermline Afriletic FC U17

MVNU Men's Soccer



AIDAN HAUGHEY (2016)
Edinburgh Active Schools Coordinator
Studied BSc (Hons) Applied Sport and
Exercise Science



CHRISTOPHE BERRA (FP)

Ex-Footballer: Scotland, Hearts FC & Wolverhampton Wanderers

Coach: Livingston First Team









Scotland



LOUISE JOYCE (S4)

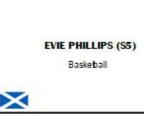
Gymnastics

Scotland









Congratulations to Coral Cresswell who has qualified for the Terafinal in chess

Coral Cresswell Yesterday 18:04



UKCC Gigafinal Bronze for St Tam's - Hurrah!

Good news! Managed to bring home a Gigafinal BRONZE for St Thomas' (placed 3rd Girl in 14U category)

What a nice finish to the school year! ... so now qualified for the Terafinal CHALLENGERS stage taking place in Northampton this September. (I'm not yet certain about making the trip to Northampton for it, but will try!!) 5/17-Chang Clab 2022-21 (dwint lodge Lauren Staffer Allan Whyle)





SEIC Literacy Learning Schools Visit,

 On 23rd May the English department welcomed visitors from other Lothian schools to share our good practice. The visitors had a packed schedule of a school tour, meeting S2 and senior focus groups, S2 class visits and presentations on literacy from English, SfL and Social Subjects.



Visitors from Denmark

 The S6 leadership team welcomed visitors from Denmark in March. The pupils and teachers were very impressed with the school and enjoyed their day with us

















S6 last day

Our S6 pupils have been a credit to the school, and we will really miss them! We look forward to them coming back to visit us and letting us know how they are getting on their next step



S6 Leadership team 2023-2024 • I am very pleased to announce the S6 Leadership team for next academic session is

Head Girl- Beth Reed Maddy

Head Boy- Harry Gray

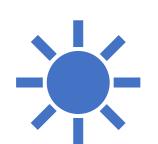
Depute Head Girl- Mara Boxall

Depute Head Boy – Tavish Hamer

House Captains 2023-2024 St Andrew's- Artemis Kola and Ruby Gordon

St Margaret's- Noah Ducker and Ines Correia Morreira

St Patrick's- Juliet Marshall and Katie Accarino



Have a great summer

