



St Thomas Learns

JANUARY TO JUNE 2022

NEWSLETTER

Self- discipline
Teamwork

Trust
High Expectations
Openness
Mutual Respect
Achieving excellence
Success

January to June 2022

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of the school year. It has been an absolute joy to see our young people back in school after the global pandemic. As each term has passed we have witnessed our school community move closer to pre-pandemic normality and it has been so wonderful to have visitors back in school providing a range of curricular opportunities. It has also been heartening to see school trips being organised by our talented teachers after a period without them. We said goodbye to our S6 and celebrated with them at the Ghillie Dhu for their prom and in the same month welcomed our new S1 pupils for their 3 day visit.

I hope you enjoy reading a snapshot of what has been happening in school since January.

We wish all our St Thomas families an enjoyable summer and we look forward to welcoming our young people back on 17 August.

Ms Mariani



RUTS Motolearn Photos and Success



Good news! Fabian, Lennox, Liam, Sherif, Dominik, Kai, Derren and Tobiasz have all completed their motorbike themed practical qualification at level 5. Their final unit involved riding off-road trials bikes. Participants have learned about the legal requirements and responsibilities of being bike users and have been introduced to some mechanical theory. Some pupils are now considering future study in this area at college and have clearly enjoyed the experience.

Science faculty- Biology Students win praise from Royal Society Fellows

A group of Senior Biology students working on the Daffodil DNA Project presented to highly respected Fellows of the Royal Society to much praise and commendation.

Ammna Hussain, Elena Bonrostro, Hannah Sony, Shafiya Saheen, Marysia Bilda and Rona Sherry represented the team of St Thomas of Aquin's students who are participating in the pioneering research into daffodil chloroplast genomes using Oxford Nanopore Technology. They presented the aims of their research, their planned methods and made hypotheses about what their results would tell them.

The team were quizzed by leading UK scientists and Fellows of the Royal Society including Sir James Hough, Associate Director of the Institute of Gravitational Research; and Gerry Gilmore, Professor of Experimental Philosophy at the Institute of Astronomy.

Ammna said "It was an honour to meet these great scientists and share our research so far. We feel very privileged to have this opportunity".



St Thomas Pupils U18 Scottish Youth Cup Final Murrayfield Sunday 27 March 2022

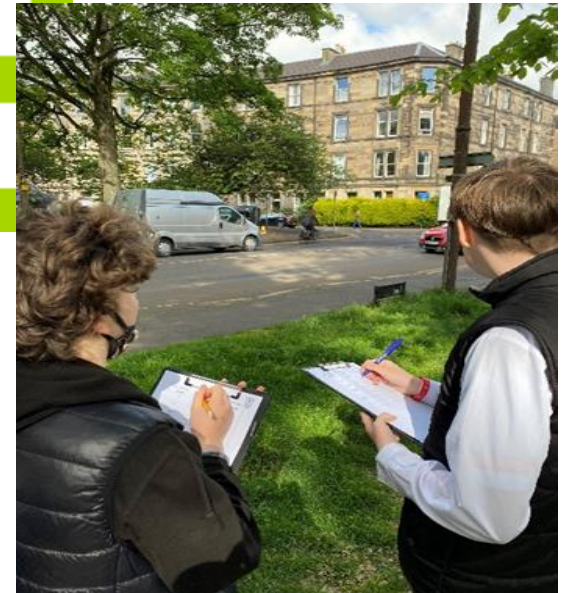
S6 boys Conor Burns, Frank Gray and Mark McKay played at Murrayfield on Sunday 27 March for Boroughmuir RFC v West of Scotland. The result was a 31-24 victory for Boroughmuir in a nail biting match. Well done to St Thomas' and a big shout out to the vociferous support (pupils and teachers)



Maths Faculty

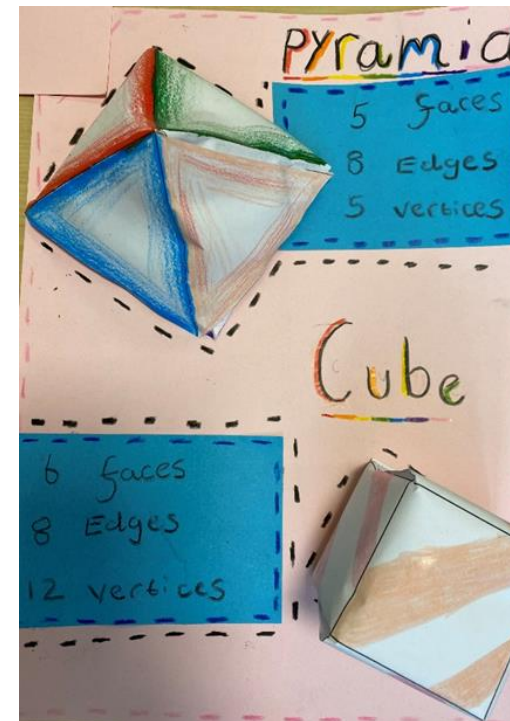
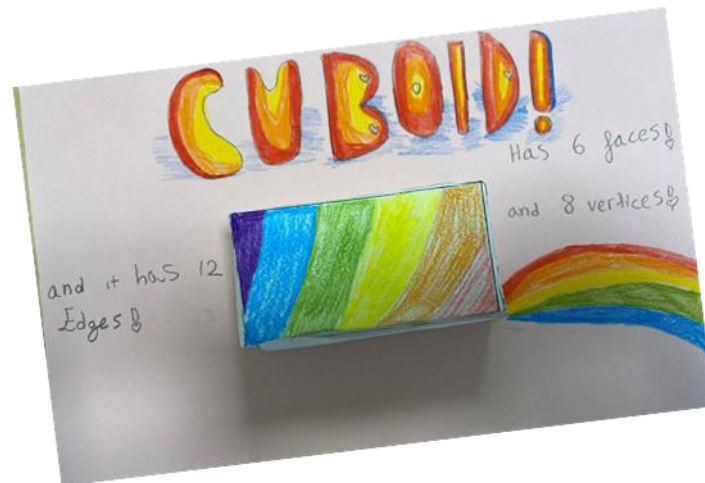
A group of S3 pupils have taken their learning outdoors to conduct a traffic survey. Pupils displayed their findings in a variety of statistical diagrams and proposed plans to encourage more commuters to travel sustainably.

#walkingfromhome



Maths faculty

- S1 pupils have been investigating 3D shapes and their properties. Using their knowledge of nets, pupils were able to create 3D posters to display.



Developing the Young Workforce

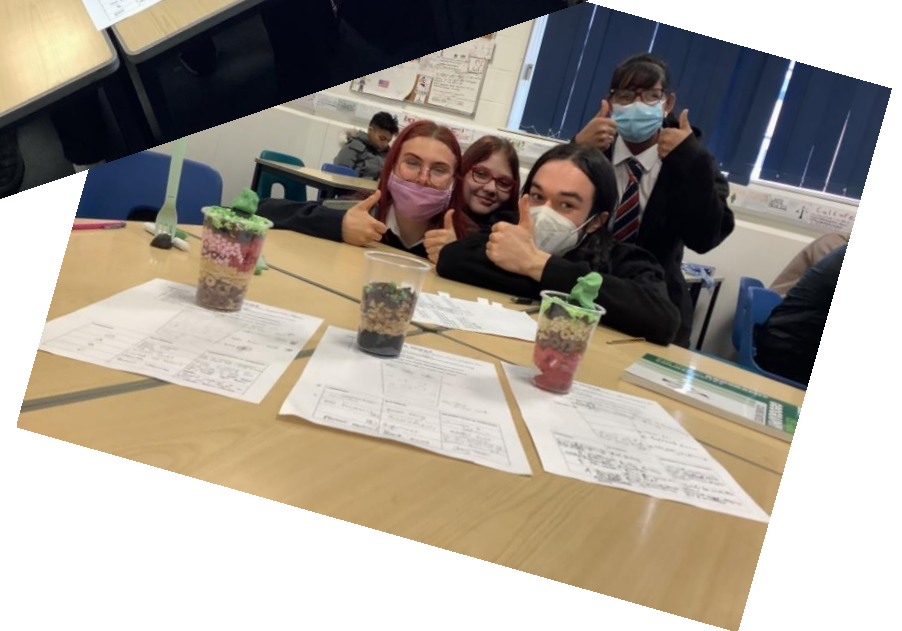
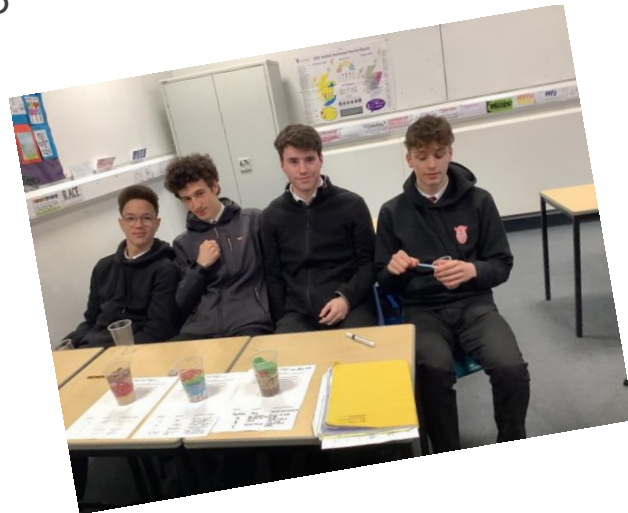
The DYW Roadshow provided our pupils face to face interactions with employers and education providers offering jobs, apprenticeships, training, volunteering, college and university courses. It gave pupils a full picture of their options when they leave school.

We also welcomed our new DYW coordinator, Caroline Rosie, to the school.



Social Subjects faculty

Senior pupils made edible soil lesson in Higher geography as part of the revision. Our pupils were building soil profiles out of tasty things and while they had fun, I was blown away by their knowledge and creativity.- Dr B



Social subjects- S3 Environmental Science trip



The S3 Environmental Science class took part in an **ENERGY FOR THE FUTURE** workshop. As nations pledge to cut carbon emissions, sourcing clean energy is more important than ever. This workshop (Energy for the Future) has allowed pupils to discover how Scotland is planning to go green and work as a team to plan an ideal energy future for their country.

Social Subjects-S2

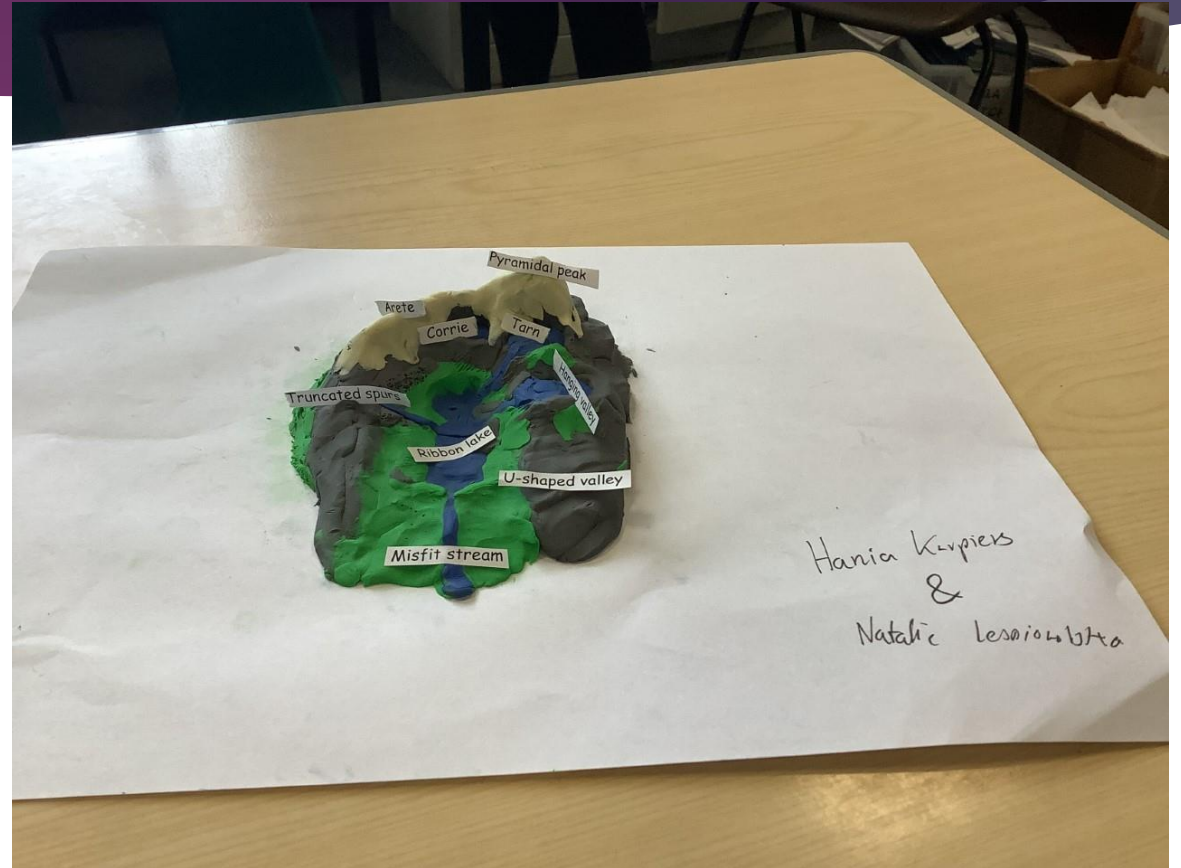
Dynamic Earth trip

S2 participated in the SUPERVOLCANO workshop at the Dynamic Earth on the 11th of February - pupils had a chance to analyse seismic data and real rock samples to discover what's happening beneath our feet, follow the journey of the Earth's tectonic plates and work as a team to survive the blast of a supervolcano. Some of us even survived the eruption (although not many).



Social subjects faculty

- S3 Geography pupils have been making 3D models of glacial valleys from modelling clay. Photo of the award winning model is attached.



Social Subjects faculty

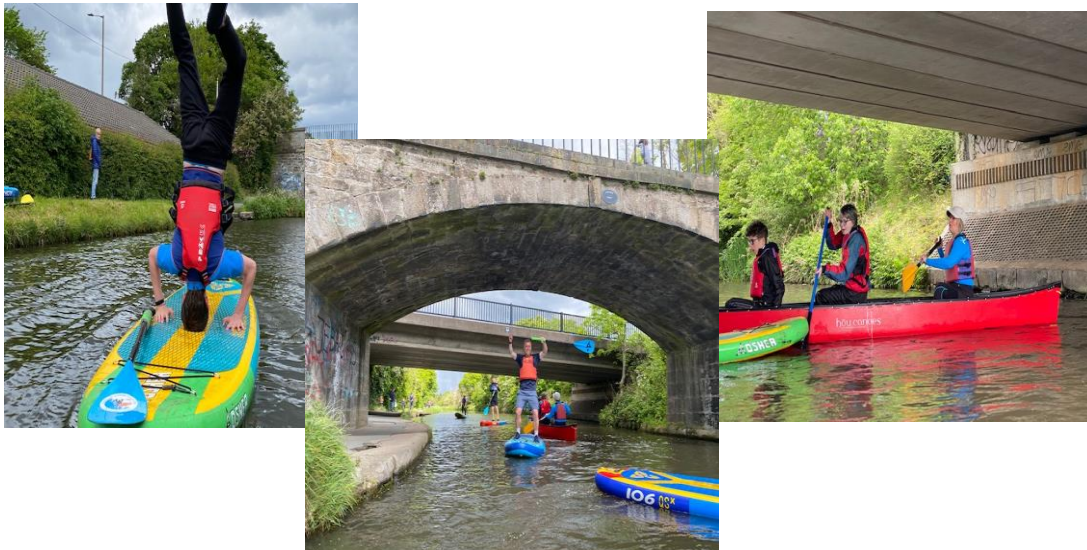
In May, some of our S1 pupils went to the Scottish Parliament to take part in an education session and watch MSPs in action in the debating Chamber. It was a great afternoon out and the trip helped to bring our study of Democracy in Scotland alive!



Support for Learning

Forest Schools and Paddle Boarding

Some of our S3-S4 pupils were invited to join our first Forest Schools and Paddle Boarding group in collaboration with Ms Berry in PE. Activities included building dens and making hot chocolate using the Kelly Kettle. The pupils were then taught basic paddle boarding techniques on the canal, although one of our pupils levelled up and did a few head stands! The weather was kind and we can't wait to run similar groups in the future! Thank you Ms Berry



Literacy Interventions

Our S1 and S2 pupils involved in literacy support have continued to make good progress this session. SfL teachers have been busy meeting and assessing pupils during June. We are looking forward to the groups re-starting in August/September.



Support for Learning

Moving on UP Timetables

	Period 3 10:45-11:30	Period 4 11:30-12:20	Period 5 12:20- 13:10	
Monday 9 th of May Arrive in reception at 10.40am	Welcome to St Thomas's RE Department 2.11	H&W session WELSBG (WBF) Miss Zikou 2.41	Maths Mrs Cairns 2.09	
Monday 16 th of May	Place2Be Alexia RE Department 2.11	PE Session P.E. L. Murray PE Department	R&S (UNCRC) H. McGowan 2.06	Collected at Reception 13.00pm
Monday 23 rd of May	Place2Be Alexia RE Department 2.11	Science Mr Green 4.08	Music Mr Kennedy 1.38	
Monday 30 th of May	English Mrs Murray 3.10	R.E Ms Lumsden 2.11	See you soon! SFL Department 2.43	



Welcome to
St. Thomas of Aquins
R.C. HIGH SCHOOL



Enhanced transition

We were delighted this year to invite P7s from our associated and non associated primaries to visit St Thomas' during the month of May. Pupils followed a mock timetable and experienced a range of subjects. The enhanced transition allowed our pupils to feel more confident about moving on up to high school and they spoke positively about their experience through a post transition survey. Thank you to Ms Moreno and all the teachers/ PSAs who put together our first in person enhanced transition since 2019!

Support for Learning

Life Skills Café

Our pupils from S1-S4 have continued to enjoy attending our Life Skills café on Mondays and Thursdays. During the café sessions, pupils are supported to develop their practical skills within the kitchen alongside their communication and social skills. The toasties and hot chocolate prepared by the pupils are very popular! Thank you to Ms Moreno and Madame Cherrier for running these groups.



Peer Mentoring

We are looking forward to starting our new Peer Mentoring programme for 2022-2023. Peer Mentors are pupils in S5-6 who devote some of their time to supporting out younger pupils with their learning and during social times. Our new mentors have already had a head start and were very supportive of our new pupils during the P7 June transition days. We look forward to sharing more news about our peer mentors after the summer.



The Sunflower Project

Through a range of activities centred around sunflower seeds (the national flower of Ukraine) our pupils have been learning about conflict and the bravery people impacted by conflict around the world.



Modern Languages faculty

French and Spanish for all in S1 to S3

Pupils in S1 to S3 are now enjoying lessons in both French and Spanish continuously under the languages curriculum for the Broad General Education. Following the modifications previously made to accommodate the challenges of the pandemic, the languages faculty are delighted to deliver French and Spanish to all, allowing for progress towards the senior phase in line with the 1+2 language learner entitlement.

S3 complete the SQA Group Award: Languages for Life & Work

Language learners in S3 have studied for the award which develops learners' language and employability skills, through studying a language in practical and relevant contexts for life and work. In Languages for Life pupils looked at healthy lifestyles and diet and gave a presentation in French or Spanish on choices for healthy living. In Languages for Work pupils learned how to talk about the world of work, took part in role plays for job interviews and prepared their CV in French or Spanish. The presentation to SQA for the Group Award will be included in entries made in S4 next summer.

German for beginners gets underway in the senior phase - Los geht's!

The first cohort of senior pupils have begun studying German for beginners, leading to an SQA award next summer. The class are enjoying learning the language, alongside the history and culture of German-speaking countries. We hope to undertake learning visits to the Goethe Institut in Glasgow and to welcome into lessons some visiting training teachers from Austria via Moray House. Our cultural research and presentations from pupils to date have included learning about the fall of the Berlin wall, the German automotive industry, global pharmaceutical companies based in Germany and of course the Bundesliga.

Modern Languages faculty

Seniors gain qualifications in French, Spanish, German and Italian

We are delighted to support our senior pupils achieving National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher achievements in heritage languages. We present candidates in French, Spanish, German and Italian from S4 onwards. For pupils who have knowledge of a language through their family background, it is not necessary to pick the subject as a course choice, as the languages faculty supports private study and prepares candidates for SQA examination which enhance the pupil's overall attainment profile. For more information, please contact Sarah Lauckner, curriculum leader.

Mother Tongue Other Tongue competition success

St Thomas pupils enjoy success in the national SCILT Mother Tongue Other Tongue competition - a celebration of the languages being spoken and learned in Scotland. Congratulations to Marcel Zuk & Oskar Kolodziej in S2 who, supported by Ms Gil Rodriguez, are highly commended in the S1 – S3 category of the competition. Marcel & Oskar composed original music and lyrics for a rap song in their native Polish and entered a video of their performance singing the vocals and playing the accompanying instruments.

Primary seven pupils enjoy language lessons – Vive la France!

Primary seven pupils in Holy Cross, St Mary's, St Mark's and St Peter's are confidently conversing in basic French following weekly lessons from Ms Rocke of St Thomas' language faculty. Over the course of the year, each associated primary school had a block of French to complement the Spanish being delivered in primary school. This experience has not only accelerated language skills, but also contributes positively to the transition experience

Climate Action group

The pupils have carried out a school wide environmental review and selected three areas to focus on - Litter and Waste, Energy and Climate change. Now the work has begun in all three areas, and we are splitting the tasks. We are also preparing for the roll out of the recycling program with assemblies being prepared by our pupils. A dedicated team is working on putting together a display board for the group to share with the whole school community what we do and to inspire more pupils to join our ranks.

Luke Boardman is the winner of the school's Climate Change T-shirt competition (organized by the Climate Action Group). He has finally got his hands on the prize - his very own design printed on a real T-shirt.

Well done Luke!



Climate Action group -School recycling poster press release

Coral Cresswell has won a recycling competition (advertised all the way back in January by the Climate Action Group). Her submission was one of the 5 selected out of 900 submissions! It will be distributed across all of the Edinburgh schools with the recycling info



Project Scotland

Project Scotland volunteering placements

Project Scotland is a charity that uses the power of volunteering as a means to supporting people to build skills and experience. They are working with St Thomas of Aquin's this year on a bespoke volunteering programme for S2 and S3 pupils. Participating pupils will undertake a volunteering placement with a local charity and experience their first step in work-based learning. The aim is for them to gain skills and confidence in a new environment within the wider Edinburgh community.

Matthew Macintyre will shortly complete his volunteering placement at Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre. He has spent this term volunteering in their community garden and helping with a range of tasks – learning about tending plants and maintaining the garden space. Matthew has done a fantastic job and been a massive help to DNC! Watch this space for more pupils doing volunteering placements after the summer break!



Project Scotland



Project Scotland

ProjectScotland volunteering placements

Youth volunteering charity ProjectScotland are working with St Thomas of Aquin's this year on a bespoke volunteering programme for S2 and S3 pupils. Pupils have been volunteering with a local charity or social enterprise to experience their first step in work-based learning. The aim is for them to gain skills and confidence in a new environment within the wider Edinburgh community. Many congratulations to the first cohort of seven pupils have successfully completed their placements!

Ben Callaghan – Café Assistant – Butterflies Café at Marchmont St Giles

Lewis Dailly – Coaching Assistant – Spartans Community Football Association

Neive Haston – Beacon Club Assistant - Space & Broomhouse Hub

Melissa Heath – Café Assistant – Butterflies Café at Marchmont St Giles

Weronika Kornacka – Kitchen Assistant – Eric Liddell Centre

Mary Macaulay – Shop Assistant – Edinburgh Settlement Project

Matthew Macintyre – Community Garden – Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre

Pupil Parliament

We had four whole school meetings this year. Pupils have been meeting additionally to this and trying to address areas to improve on in the school. Some of the senior pupils organised the Christmas door competition. We visited The Scottish parliament for first minsters questions and organised a question time in the school with Mrs Nicholson. We will be looking for more people to join the team next year.



Equalities group

Our Equality Group organised a very successful Language and Heritage Celebration Week. Pupils took part in a series of activities such as, a Highland dancing lesson, Arabic language lesson, poetry competition and film screening. Foods from around the world were on offer at breaktime for pupils to try for free and we concluded the week with a cultural dress day.



Equalities group

Pupils have also been participating in **African-Caribbean dance lessons**. Marquise Brown and Okia Braithwaite both teach what would be traditional dances of Trinidad and Tobago which are primarily African based especially in terms of the music.



"The dancing was fun and I respect the history behind it. It's very good to experience different cultures"

"Love it!!"



"I enjoyed it because it taught me a valuable lesson about culture and history of Trinidad."

"It was a very nice and interesting history."



"I really liked it because we got to learn about different cultures."

Equalities group

On Thursday 30 June Gigi Moss came to school to deliver sessions to our young people. Each session began with a performance, which was then followed by a PSHE presentation, a live Q&A with students, and finally a meet and greet where pupils were given a signed flyer to take away. She covered topics such as mental health and the causes of mental health problems. Gigi gave advice on how to stay safe online as well as discussing cyber bullying, where to go for help and her own experiences with trolling, how she was affected by cyber bullying, how she felt at the time, how she reacted, and the outcome of the situation.

Gigi has been tipped for huge success in the music industry in 2022. Born into a musical family (her Dad is Culture Clubs drummer) Gigi has been making music since 7 years old. Gigi is starting to make waves in the music industry and releases her debut album later this year. She is also due to support a big artist on their arena tour (which is currently under wraps!) Gigi has had her own issues with mental health / body image, especially during the pandemic, so she feels she is in the perfect position to speak to young people about these very important issues that teenagers face. Through her music she wants to help and inspire others to believe they can achieve anything - Being okay with going it alone and not oversharing every element of her life across social media is Gigi's self-empowerment, which is relatively unheard of for a woman of her age.



[Gigi Moss - Cyanide \(Official Music Video\)](#)

[Gigi Moss - Three Words \(Official Music Video\)](#)

Numeracy group

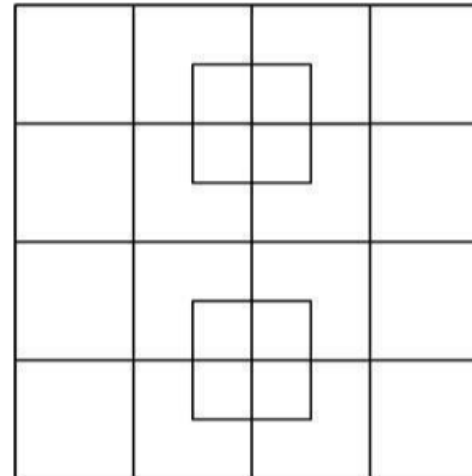


- ▶ We celebrated National Numeracy Day with a Sum Dog competition, whole school quiz and contributed to a World Record Times Tables task!
- ▶ Pupils were given the opportunity to get involved with #BigNumberNatter supported by Countdown's Rachel Riley and Dragon's Den's Sara Davies.



A puzzle to try at home:

How many squares?



Performing Arts update

- ▶ Very well done to Ethan Velpula (guitar) who was our entry to the Edinburgh Young Musician of the Year. The winner was Amy Rutherford , a pupil of the Broughton Music School
- ▶ May was an eventful month for the S3 Performing Arts classes with visits to '**Anything Goes**' at the festival theatre, **St Cecelia's Hall Museum** of musical instruments and '**The Hope River Girls**' a play by Imagineate for the Edinburgh International Children's Festival. Well done to all S3 pupils who attended these events, your behaviour was excellent and you were a credit to the school.

Expressive arts faculty-Hospitality coffee morning



Mrs Winders Practical cookery class invited staff to a scones and coffee morning in June. It was a wonderful success with fruit, plain and cheese scones on offer. The scones were delicious! Thank you to Michael, Najeeba, Shishir, Dominika, Amelia, Mia, Luke, Kai, Ian, Priya, Laura and Mia for putting on such a lovely event. Thank you to Mrs Winders for organising.

Wellbeing Hub

The last few weeks pupils and staff in the Wellbeing Hub are focusing on building positive relationships and the pupils have been working on learning skills to support the 5 competencies of the social and emotional learning (social awareness, self-awareness, decision making, self-management, relationship skills).

Some of the activities the pupils have been involved were having sessions with Nonny, the Therapet, taking part in a group to improve their self-esteem and being creative through completing lego challenges! Our 2 Nurture groups offer a soft start in the school day where pupils discuss any worries and focus strategies to manage their learning.



English faculty

We were delighted to have the enthusiastic writer, Ryan Van Winkle, back working with English classes. As part of the Citizen School Writer in Residence project, Ryan has been working with S2 and S3 English classes on a variety of projects from January this year. He has worked on poetry workshops and the imaginative Build Your Own Planet project. Work from the Build Your Own planet will be part of a physical display at this year's Book Festival!

An example of some of the ideas from the Build Your Own Planet work can be seen below:

Meet My alien – The Spindler

The Spindler has two forms. Its first form is a glop like slime that sits in the noodle mist (their habitat when in 1st form) where they absorb anything trapped in the noodle mist (e.g. spare mechanical trash which they then will use in form 2). They huddle in groups, so predators have a harder time singling out one Spindler. 2nd form Spindlers tend to migrate towards various parts of the planet. Usually, it is the side where there's more access to noodle mist and a forest or a field. They migrate in groups from 40 to 70. They have long mechanical legs that can run for miles on end with no break. Predators of the Spindlers tend to attack the younger and more vulnerable Spindlers.

(A drawing I drew to try to capture how a Spindler would look like, all of them look different as they all are made from different pieces of trash)



English faculty

It is now possible to book free tickets to see this installation at the Book Festival. Simply click on the links provided by the Book Festival.

Planet Citizen!

What would the planet look like if you designed it? This was the question Ryan Van Winkle, our Schools Writer in Residence, has been exploring with local pupils as part of Citizen, our long-term creative programme. Drop in anytime between 11:00 and 17:00 to explore the world they created in a multi-media installation or come and join our free 30-minute tours at 11:00, 14:00 or 16:00. Find out more about our Communities Programme: ontheroad.edbookfest.co.uk

- ▶ [Saturday 27 at 11:00](#)
- ▶ [Saturday 27 at 14:00](#)
- ▶ [Saturday 27 at 16:00](#)
- ▶ [Sunday 28 at 11:00](#)
- ▶ [Sunday 28 at 14:00](#)
- ▶ [Sunday 28 at 16:00](#)

YA Book Prize

We are delighted that St Thomas has been selected as a school to shadow the YA Book prize. We have about 15 S4 pupils reading some of the books on the short-list and their views will be passed onto the judges when they meet to deliberate the winners. Pupils will also have an opportunity to see some of the authors at the Book Festival in August.

Thanks to the Book Festival for involving us with this great prize.

English faculty

Author Jonathon Meres made a welcome return to St Thomas this June and gave a very engaging talk to some S2 pupils. He spoke about the many interesting jobs he had before becoming a writer and his successful World of Norm series. Our S2 pupils rose to the challenge of asking him some probing questions. This was an enjoyable session!



Computing faculty

Minecraft for Education S2 & S3 Computing Science



In CFE Computing Science we have been using Minecraft for Education to explore sustainability by looking at recycling materials, and teach programming skills.

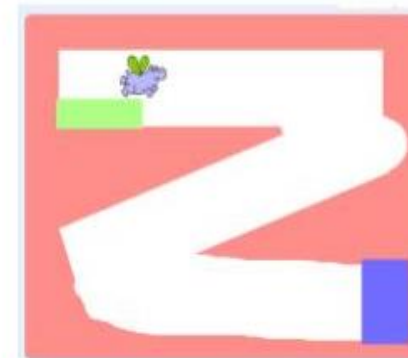


Idea award S2 and S3 Computing Science

Many pupils are still working hard to gain the Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award, known as iDEA is an international award-winning programme that helps you develop digital, enterprise and employability skills.



S1 Computing



Before change of timetable S1 Computing Students were learning key programming skills in scratch to learn how to program their own game. This involved all students being creative in choosing their own characters, drawing their own backgrounds and programming the characters to move with user inputs.

We saw lots of really exciting games - Well done S1.

Computing faculty

Computer Games Design class

The Higher Computing Games Design class have been completing their portfolios exploring the quality of different games consoles over the years. The school has now purchased 20 Xbox controllers to allow students to learn how to program a different type of controller within their own games.



An **S3 lunch time club** has formed with pupils booking in to play retro consoles and playing Minecraft on our school server against each other. If anyone is interested please see Miss Stalker.

Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulations to our S3 Bronze group who completed their two day expedition in the Pentlands in May, walking over 27km and camping overnight. First time most had walked this far with a backpack!

Six of these pupils have now completed their Bronze Award with many more almost there. Silver Duke of Edinburgh

Ten S4/5 pupils completed their Silver practice and qualifying expeditions in March and April respectively.

Our five S6 boys also completed their qualifier in April. The qualifying expeditions in April were especially challenging with temperatures below freezing as can be seen from the picture of the planned campsite.

Well done Nate, Kyle, Adam, Jacob, Elena and Juliet who have completed their Silver Award, hopefully more follow soon.

Interested in DofE next session?

Look out for information in August for S3 Bronze and September for S4 Silver.

There may also be an S5/6 Gold group on offer.



Religious Education and Chaplaincy group

NET Ministries

In April we welcomed NET Ministries for three days of retreats. The theme of the retreats was 'Identity' and was delivered through series of games, short talks, drama sketches and gospel reflections. Pupils were given the opportunity to reflect on the Catholic belief that our true identity is rooted in our being made in the image and likeness of God, and that Jesus Christ reveals what it means to live an authentic human life. NET Ministries really strike the balance well between fun and seriousness. During recreation there was a huge game of American Football in the garden of St Catharine's Convent, while upstairs pupils gathered round the piano to sing along to Queen, The Backstreet Boys and Taylor Swift! Then in the afternoon there were long queues for the 'prayer stations' and the sacrament of confession, so much so that Mass had to be delayed by 15 minutes. Such days really capture the 'Joy of the Gospel' spoken of by Pope Francis, and we look forward to having NET back at St Thomas' next year.



Religious Education and chaplaincy group

S6 Induction

In June our new S6 pupils visited St Mary's Cathedral where Fr Jamie McMorris gave a short talk on the history of Catholicism in Scotland and a guided tour of the Cathedral ending with a visit to the relics of St Andrew. We then made the short walk to the Omni Centre for a private screening of the film 'Father Stu', which tells the story of Fr Stuart Long (played by Mark Wahlberg), a former boxer and actor who became a priest. The film dealt with some profound human experiences: suffering, redemption and the search for meaning through religion. These themes were discussed afterwards in the beautiful surroundings of Princes Street Gardens over some bags of Haribo. The general consensus was that the day was 'better than being in school' which is, of course, high praise from the average 17 year old!

Return to the Sacred Heart

As well as our regular monthly Mass in school (first Wednesday of the month in the Oratory at lunchtime) we have also been glad to return to the Sacred Heart Church for larger occasions. Three such recent occasions have been the Feast of the Ascension and masses for new S1 and S6 pupils. We are privileged to have such a beautiful church so close to our school, and it is good to be back!



Religious Education and Chaplaincy group

Visit to Edinburgh Central Mosque

In May we went to visit the Edinburgh Central Mosque with some of our S2 pupils. Our students were provided with an opportunity to learn further about Islamic architecture, to clarify points and ask questions. We had a look at the Islamic exhibition inside the Mosque building, we learned about the Islamic cultural life, discovered various artifacts, Islamic paintings, calligraphy, Arabic name writing and the cultural dress code. We also had a look at various copies of the Holy Quran in different translations. On our way back we stopped by the Sainsbury's and got some sweet treats. Once back in school, we had such a fun time playing games and eating biscuits. Quite a lovely day with some really good feedback from our pupils.



Catholic Social Teaching - A conference for pupils and teachers at Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld

Two S2 pupils and Ms Luncanu had a great and adventurous day in Cumbernauld while exploring what Catholic Social Teaching is and why it is important.

As part of this conference teachers and pupils worked with various Church agencies, learning how we can put into action Catholic Social Teaching at a local, national and global level. All young people and teachers present at this event explored the relationship between faith and action through experience and encounter. The adventure started when we realised that our train got cancelled and there were no buses to get back to Edinburgh. As a matter of fact, not only one train got called off, but ALL trains! We had to go to Glasgow to be able to come back to Edinburgh in one of the most overcrowded trains ever! We had so much fun though!



Meaningful May



During May many of our S4 and S5 pupils took part in a range of activities to compliment their exam timetables. Activities included Dynamic Earth, Five sister's zoo, the Edinburgh tour bus, science experiments as well as trips to many museums. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the range of experiences and activities and were a credit to the school.

Learning and teaching group

The Learning and teaching group have met on several occasions this year.

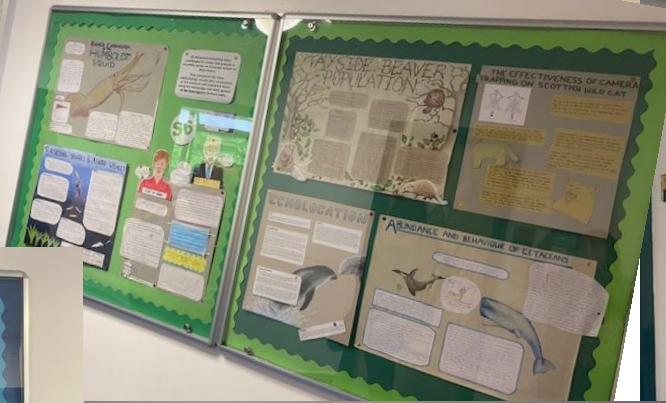
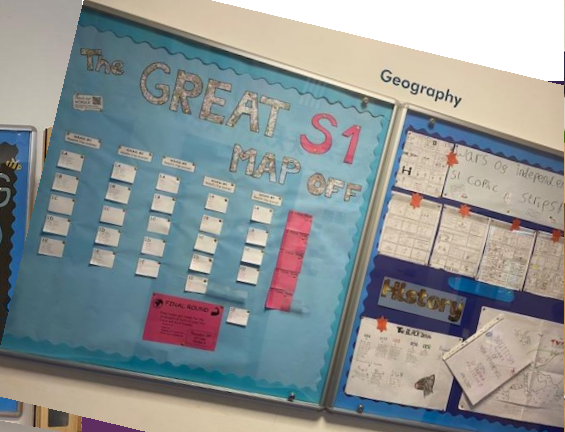
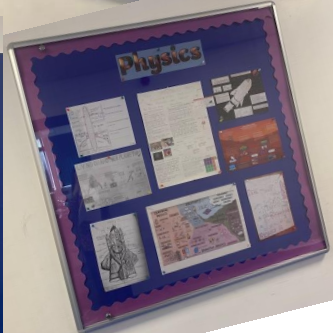
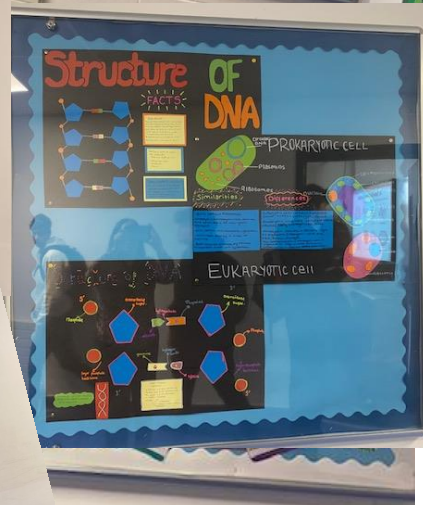
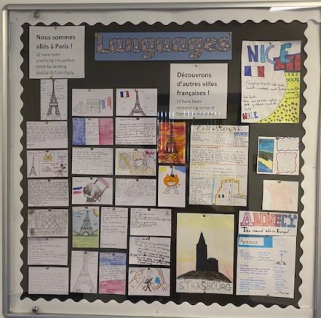
Teaching staff have taken part in a learning visit program with a focus on differentiation this session.

There has also been a focus on improving displays of pupil work around the school building.

The school purchased new display boards for across the school and faculties have been busy creating wonderful colourful displays showcasing the work of our learners.



School display boards



School playground



A HUGE thank you to our Parent Council for providing us with funding to purchase outdoor furniture. The pupils love sitting outside socialising and eating their lunch when the weather allows!

S6 induction



At the start of our new timetable in June our new S6 took part in a week long induction which included a variety of team building and problem solving activities. Pupils took part a range of activities including the Escape rooms, a retreat to St Mary's cathedral, teambuilding workshops, sport activities and year group mass at the Sacred Heart. I am so looking forward to working with our new S6 over the coming academic year. They are such a wonderful group of young people and we are very lucky to have them as part of the St Thomas community- Ms Mariani

S1 transition days

About the transition days

- Range of learning experiences in different settings (Practical groups, social sets, year group, classrooms, assemblies, Church service)



We enjoyed welcoming our new S1 pupils for their 3 day visit before the summer holidays. They took part in a range of learning experiences and settled very well into secondary life. We look forward to them starting in August.

S6 leadership team 2022-2023

Following interviews at the beginning of June we are pleased to announce our new S6 leadership team-

Head Girl- Elena Muyo de Bonostro

Head Boy- Ross Dewar

Depute Head boy- Hamilton Cruickshank De Farias

Depute Head Girl- Ammna Hussain

L-R Elena, Ammna, Ross and Hamilton



S6 School captains

Equalities Captains- Bibi Barker, Juliet Boardman and Heloise Towler

Sports Captains- Theresa Leigh Motion and Ethan Burns

St Patrick's captains- Niamh Preacher and Sophia Budge

St Andrew's captains- Jade Miller and Isabelle Roe

St Margaret's captains- Eimear Murphy and Rona Sherry



We would like to wish everyone in the St Thomas community an enjoyable summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in August!

