

JUN
2019



Whitburn Academy

WHITBURN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER - Summer 2019

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YPI Final Winners 2018/19



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FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

Dear All,

Welcome to our final, action packed Newsletter of session 2018-2019. You will see from the content that we have had another incredible year with many outstanding successes and achievements to celebrate.

Of course, as we reach the end of such an action packed year we have many tired young people and staff who are in much need of a holiday! So, before we all disappear from the building for the next 7 weeks I would like to take the opportunity to thank both our young people and our brilliant staff for their hard work, commitment and dedication throughout the year. Hopefully all of the hard work will be evident in the pupils exam results in August!

Fingers crossed!

Finally, I would like to wish all staff, pupils and parents/carers a relaxing and restful summer break.

Tracey Loudon
Headteacher



West Lothian
Council



MIDNIGHT MARATHON

On Thursday 11th October, the PE department held their annual Midnight Marathon.

Over 80 S1 - S3 pupils participated in a range of sporting activities between 4pm and 12 midnight, including swimming, football, badminton, dodgeball and basketball.

The event raised over £2000 which will help to pay for buses to the West Lothian SSP competitions, trips and extra curricular opportunities for our pupils.

Thank you to the pupils who took part, the Sports Leaders and all the staff who helped out at the event.

BAKE OFF

On 24th October, Miss Reid's S1 English class held a Bake Off.

The bake off was inspired by the book 'Fat Boy Swim' by Catherine Forde as the main character in the book, Jimmy, made some of the most delicious tablet ever tasted!

The pupils made their own tablet at home and brought it in for the rest of the class to taste.

The class then had the idea of sending a tweet to Catherine to let her know what the class had been doing. Catherine replied saying, "You've made my day!"





BIG DRAW FESTIVAL

On Friday 26th October, our S1 pupils took part in the Big Draw Festival, which was organised by the Art Department.

The pupils got the chance to be involved in a number of activities over the morning including:

- Light painting
- Painting Halloween pictures using a number of different objects
- Using ink to draw some of the buildings on East and West Main Street
- Line Drawings using Maths

At the end of the event, the pupils created and decorated a giant Halloween banner that stretched the length of the hall.

Thanks to all the senior pupils who helped with each of the activities and the staff from

the departments who provided some of the cross curricular activities.



S1 HALLOWEEN DISCO

On Thursday 1st November, the Charity Committee organised a Halloween Disco for our S1 pupils.

The disco was organised by the S6 members of the committee and 35 S1 pupils had a fantastic time playing loads of fun Halloween games such as the 'Toilet Roll game' and 'Dooking for apples' as well as some crazy dance moves!

The pupils had a fantastic night. Thanks to all the pupils who came along, to the S6 pupils

who organised the event, Mr Hawthorn and Mr Wood who set up the disco lights for us and to Ms Watson, Mr Ross and Mr McLean who also helped out.



FAMILIES OF THE GREAT WAR PROJECT

Ancre Somme Association Scotland has received a National Lottery grant of £9,300 for a project "Families Of The Great War" in Whitburn, West Lothian.

Awarded through the Heritage Lottery Fund's First World War Then and Now programme, the community based project will focus and enable local people and school pupils to develop an understanding of the impact of WWI on families in the Whitburn area.

Education and skills development will be placed at the heart of the project. Volunteers will be supported to develop research skills and to

deliver effective school sessions whilst school pupils will learn to carry out research and co-curate their own exhibition. This project will also create a lasting legacy to Whitburn's WWI families through the creation of memorial stones and digital and paper based learning materials which allow pupils and local people to engage with the story of these families in years to come.

To mark the Centenary of the First World War, the project will enable local people in Whitburn to come together to preserve the memories and heritage of the people who lived through the First World War. Volunteers will collect photographs, newspaper clippings, documents, letters and photos of keepsakes, as well as family tales passed down to help them build a clear picture of what life was really like 100yrs ago.

With help from professionals, the information gathered will be digitally recorded and an on-line interactive archive will be created where everyone can access and contribute information. The archive will allow the public to discuss, contribute, share and research information about the impact on the town of Whitburn and on the Families.

Commenting on the award, ASA Scotland Chairman John Jenkins said: "We're absolutely delighted that we've received this support thanks to National Lottery players, we will

ensure that Britain's Bravest will never be forgotten, we will work with the community and leave a legacy for future generations"

"Education is at the heart of our Association, we must do more to inform our children and communities of our Armed Forces 100yr heritage"

Lucy Casot, Head of HLF Scotland, said: "The impact of the First World War was far reaching, touching every corner of the UK. Since April 2010, the Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded over £70million to more than 1,300 projects - large and small - that are marking this global Centenary; with our small grants programme, we are enabling even more communities like those involved in Families of the Great War to

explore the continuing legacy of this conflict and help local young people in particular to broaden their understanding of how it has shaped our modern world."

Tracey Loudon, Headteacher at Whitburn Academy said: "Students and staff at Whitburn Academy are thrilled to be invited to participate in this Heritage Lottery Fund project"

Our photograph shows Whitburn Academy history teacher Mr Ross, some pupils from Whitburn Academy, Mrs Emma Peattie from West Lothian Council Museums and Tommy Davidson ASA Scotland Secretary.



WORLD WAR ONE SERVICE

On 8th November, Two of our S6 pupils and some P7 pupils from our Cluster Primaries attended the World War One Centenary Commemoration service in Linlithgow.



Mr Hunter and Mrs Whyte, who took the pupils to the service, commented on how respectful, polite, friendly and well behaved that the pupils were on the trip and are looking forward to welcoming the primary 7 pupils to Whitburn Academy next year.

P7 TRANSITION VISITS

Over the course of 2018/19, P7 pupils from Greenrig, Polkemmet, Croftmalloch, Whitdale., Stoneyburn, Longridge and Fala Hill Primary schools have visited the academy for their transition week.

During each of the Transition Weeks, the have pupils attended a number of practical classes in a number of departments across the school.



Activities included:

- Investigating who stole the Venus Fly Trap from Science Room 2
- Basketball and using the exercise equipment in PE
- Making Mini Pizzas in Home Economics
- Acting out the main scenes from a number of films to their theme tune in Drama
- Deciding the best books by their cover, blurb on the back cover and first line of the first chapter.
- Making front covers for their art folders
- Investigating 'who shot Mr Burns' in Computing
- finishing off a key ring to take home in DMG

- working on and completing their Hi5 award
- learning to play 'I Gotta Feeling' on the keyboard in Music.

The pupils have had a fantastic time during this week and are already looking forward to their next visit!

CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS!

Aaron, Josh, Ryan and Steven recently represented Whitburn Academy as our S3 team at the West Lothian Schools Cross Country Championships.



The boys finished in 3rd place overall for their year group. Well Done boys!

SWIMMING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Daniel (S6) who won the West Lothian Schools Swimming Trials Top Boy award for the third year in a row!



Daniel achieved this amazing feat by finishing in first place in the following categories:

- 17-19 - Boys 400m Freestyle
- 17-19 - Boys 200m Backstroke
- 17-19 - Boys 400m Individual Medley
- 17-19 - Boys 100m Backstroke

Well Done Daniel!

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT TRIP

On 27th November, a group of pupils from the National 5 and Higher Modern Studies classes, visited the Scottish Parliament.

The group were given a guided tour round the Parliament buildings and found out how about different parliaments across the world, how the Scottish Parliament works, its purpose and who is in charge.



The pupils then spent some time watching part of a live debate and the daily 'Time for Reflection' section of the day from the viewing gallery of the debating chamber.

The pupils found the both the tour and debate fascinating and feel that the trip has definitely given them a good insight as to how decisions made by Parliament are formed.

GRITTER NAMING CONTEST

During November, tutor classes across the school were been thinking up names for the West Lothian Council 'Name a Gritter' competition.

The tutor classes thought up many fun and imaginative names, which were sent off to be included in the competition.

On 29th November the winning names for the 8 gritters were chosen and 5WI's entry 'West Snowthian' was one of the winners!

Well done to 5WI! 'West Snothian' will be out and about gritting the streets of West Lothian throughout the winter!



NEWCASTLE FOOTBALL TRIP

On Saturday 1st December, 21 pupils travelled down to Newcastle for a football trip.

The first part of the day involved an hour and a half intense training session with Newcastle United Youth Football Coaches at Newcastle United's Academy.

Then it was back on the bus to St James Park, where following a quick visit to the Club Shop, we had our lunch in one of the lounges.

We then took our seats for the Premier League match between Newcastle and West Ham. It was an enjoyable game to watch and the pupils were delighted to see so many star players.

The match finished 3-0 to West Ham, with 2 goals from Javier Hernandez and one for Felipe Anderson.

MOCK COURT PROJECT SUCCESS

Over the past few weeks, Whitburn Academy has been represented by 2 teams of senior pupils in the Mock Court Case project.

Representing team 1, Elena and Anna were fantastic solicitors and our witnesses - Ryan, Ellie, and Jenna - impressed and dumbfounded all with their convincing performances.



Team 2 emphatically won their defence case against Dunbar Grammar. Jenna and Amy did a stellar job as solicitors and Naomi, Isla and Emma Jane, our witnesses, were convincing in their performances.

Congratulations also to Riley, Casey and Melissa, who put in a lot of work behind the scenes for both teams.



On 21st November, the pupils attended the awards ceremony at the University of Edinburgh.

ART EXHIBITION

The Art & Design Department at Whitburn Academy were delighted with the success of their annual exhibition held on 17th Dec.

The work displayed was from a range of age groups involving S4 to S6. This was a great

opportunity for these year groups to showcase their work. There were example folios from students studying National 4, National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher and Higher Photography.



The exhibition included a variety of painting, printmaking, sculpture, fashion, body adornment and much more. It was a great evening.

BUSINESS BRUNCH

On 15th January, nine S3 pupils attended the SCILT Business Brunch in Edinburgh.

The event was held to allow pupils to hear from a wide range of dynamic business leaders who view languages as a key skill in today's globalised world.

The pupils had the opportunity to speak with representatives from a variety of businesses

including: Scotch Whisky Company, Mitsubishi, the Royal Navy and EasyJet. and ask questions to discover more about the range of careers and employment opportunities available within each of the sectors present.



This was followed by some interesting presentations allowing the pupils to hear at first hand the important role that languages play in the business community.

BURNS DAY

On 25th January, our S2 pupils celebrated Burns Night by reading Poetry in the Library.

A number of pupils recited poetry, not just by Robert Burns but also a number of other famous Scottish poets.



SCHUH SHOE DESIGNS

In recent weeks, our S3 Art and Design pupils have been designing and making their own shoes.

The finished shoes will be entered into the Schuh Shoe challenge.

The competition is sponsored by the Livingston-based footwear company is organised by West Lothian Council's Community Learning and Development Youth Services and S3 pupils from all 11 West Lothian Secondary schools are eligible to enter.

GIRLS HACKATHON EVENT

On Friday 8th March, A group of S1 girls took part in the 'Dresscode' Hackathon event at Sky in Livingston.

The girls competed against other schools in West Lothian, where they had to work together to code a unique prom invitation and then present it to the judges. Unfortunately they didn't win but they were spoiled with lots of goodies!



This event was held on International Women's Day and was aimed at encouraging girls to consider Computing Science and Technology related future careers and closing the gender gap.

GET SET ACTIVE 2019

Active Schools & Whitburn Academy has delivered an Olympic and Paralympic inspired event 'Get Set Get Active' to inspire young people to live a more active and healthier lifestyle.

The Get Set Get Active event is part of a yearlong national 'Get Set Beacons' campaign in which Whitburn Academy is just one of 45 schools and youth organisations from across the UK to be selected to access funding, training and materials to help get pupils get more active more often.

As part of the Get Set Beacon campaign Whitburn Academy Sports Captains have been working with Ben Boatman, Active Schools Coordinator to organise, plan and deliver activities for the Get Set Get Active event at Whitburn Community Centre. 25 Primary 7



pupils from Polkemmet Primary School where invited to attend and take part in Judo and Dance delivered by Destination Judo and SMK Danceworks as well as Basketball, Dodgeball, Football and Netball delivered by the Sports Captains.

The event was organised by West Lothian's Active Schools Coordinator Ben Boatman who said 'Congratulations to the pupils at Polkemmet Primary school and the Whitburn Academy Sports Captains for demonstration true Olympic and Paralympic values throughout the event. The Sports Captains planned and delivered excellent sports sessions which was enjoyed by all pupils who took part. Thanks also to Destination Judo and SMK Danceworks who delivered Judo and Dance sessions and to Get Set for providing guidance and support for the event'

Mr Lund' Principal Teacher at Polkemmet Primary school mentioned that' Polkemmet Primary school are having a real drive to promote Health and Wellbeing with a focus on more pupils being more active more often by taking part in extra-curricular sports clubs at breakfast and after school. This event has inspired pupils to learn more about the Olympic and Paralympic values and it is hoped that pupils will go on to have more active and healthy lifestyles as they transition to Whitburn Academy in 2019/20.

Whitburn Academy Sports Captain Hannah mentioned that 'The Get Set Get Active Event has helped to inspire more pupils to become more active within the school' Hannah has helped deliver the event alongside 11 other Sports Captains.

SCHUH CHALLENGE 3RD PLACE.

Congratulations to S3 pupil, Lucy, who finished in 3rd place in the West Lothian Schools Schuh challenge.



Lucy is pictured with her completed shoe.

Well Done Lucy!

YPI FINALS 2019

On 27th March, Whitburn Academy held its 3rd annual Youth Philanthropy Initiative Final.

It was a great evening with six groups giving inspirational and sometimes emotional presentations on local Charities and what they do. There were powerpoints, role plays, videos and audience participation.

There were many people who attended from the different charities and they were all blown away by all the performances.

The pupils were a real credit to the school and it was wonderful to see how supportive they were of each other.



The winning group representing the West Lothian Food Bank was: Lucy, Erin, Margaret-Anne, Claire, Jamie-Lee and Morgan.

Congratulations to all six pupils.

TEENAGE CANCER TRUST

On 2nd April, Jayne Easson from the Teenage Cancer Trust visited Whitburn Academy to deliver a cancer awareness talk to our S2 pupils.

This valuable talk, giving information, advice and tips about cancer and keeping healthy, had the pupils engrossed by the talk.



They were also given an information leaflet in PSE with lots of appropriate links to answer any of their questions. This is something we have organised as a school for the past few years as part of our delivery of Health and Wellbeing across the school and it is something we hope to continue to provide in years to come.

Many thanks to Jayne for taking the time to come in and deliver the talk.

CHEQUE HANDOVER

On 2nd April, members of the Charity Committee handed over a cheque for £1115 to SAMH.



The charity committee raised this amazing sum of money by holding a 'Pie, Peas and Bingo' night back in January. The cheque was presented to Laura Glennie from SAMH at the 'Be Herd' concert, which was run by the Health and Wellbeing group to raise awareness of Mental Health Issues.

'BE HERD' CONCERT

On 2nd April, Whitburn Academy's Health and Wellbeing Group held their 'Be Herd' concert, to raise awareness of Mental Health issues.

As well as featuring a number of musical acts, some of them taking part for the first time, the

concert also gave the opportunity for pupils and staff to share some personal and at times moving stories from events that have taken place in their own lives.

There was also talks from the Charities, Aid and Abet, S.A.M.H and S.M.I.L.E.



CPR TRAINING

During Week Beginning 1st April, all pupils in S1-S3 received CPR training during their PSE lessons.

The pupils have been learning how to give life saving CPR through the Nation of Lifesavers training programme, which has been introduced to every secondary school throughout Scotland. Each year, an estimated 50,000 pupils across Scotland will learn how to resuscitate someone having a cardiac arrest, following a campaign by the British Heart Foundation.

Statistics from the British Heart Foundation show that the survival rate for people in Scotland suffering a cardiac arrest out of hospital is 1 in 12 with approximately 3,500 Scots suffering an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest each year.

The chance of survival drops by up to 10% for each minute that passes without CPR and medics say thousands of lives could be saved by teaching more children how to resuscitate someone.



FIRST MINISTER'S READING CHALLENGE 2019

Over the past year, the PEF Literacy group have been taking part in the First Minister's Reading Challenge.

The First Minister's Reading Challenge aims to help children and young people between the ages of 5 and 18 develop a love of reading. This Challenge celebrates the progress schools make in building a reading culture.

Please find below our entries to the First Minister's Reading Challenge, 2019. We have created 2 videos:

- Video 1 is from the International Literacy Day event that we held in September: <https://vimeo.com/333315795>
- Video 2 has some pupils speaking



about their experiences and how their confidence in reading has improved over the year. <https://vimeo.com/333312240>

The pupils have done a brilliant job of representing Whitburn Academy. The final is on June 10th; fingers crossed!

S1 / S2 BASKETBALL COMPETITION

On 16th May, our S1 / S2 boys basketball team took part in the league section of the West Lothian School Sports League Basketball competition.

The boys finished joint top of their section with wins over Armadale Academy and St Kents and a loss to Bathgate Academy. They have qualified for the 'A' finals on 30th May.



Thank you to Hannah, Eve and Zoe who helped to officiate at the competition and to former pupils and current West Lothian College students, Callum and Nathan, who coached the team.

MITSUBISHI CHALLENGE

In S2 Masterclass all pupils took part in the annual Mitsubishi challenge. Pupils have about 9 periods to come up with an idea, a design and a

presentation of another use for a Heat Source Pump.

After all 6 Masterclasses nominated their winning group, these 6 groups presented in front of the judging panel which consisted of 2 Engineers from Mitsubishi and 2 representatives from West Lothian Chamber.

All groups performed very well and the winning group was Emma, Erin, Elise, Coire and Ross, who gave a very interesting presentation on their idea - "A heated pram liner to ensure babies are the right temperature"



The Grand Final will be held at Howden Park in June. Good luck and well done Emma, Erin, Elise, Coire and Ross.

MINING MUSEUM VISIT

On 21st May fifty S3 pupils and their teachers enjoyed a trip to the National Mining Museum

which is based at the Lady Victoria Colliery near Edinburgh.



We were given a tour of the pithead and went into an underground roadway where we saw a 40 foot coal shearer . We also saw the massive winding engines which are still in working order. In the afternoon pupils enjoyed looking at the exhibitions and got the chance to dress up and join in the scenes of mining life.

This was a great opportunity to recreate the atmosphere and experiences of what it must have been like in Whitburn in the past. The pupils had a memorable day and were congratulated on their good manners and the way they embraced the whole experience.

GYMNASTS SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Karis and Coire, from S1 and S2 respectively, who are heading to the

World Gymnaestrada in Austria this summer with Astro Gymnastics Club from Livingston.



They will be representing Great Britain as part of a 800 strong contingent of Gymnasts heading to the festival. There is 23,000 individuals from 60 countries taking part in the event, which takes place every 4 years.

Both pupils are looking forward to the competition and are proud to represent their club, Scotland and Great Britain at the event. Whitburn Academy would like to wish Karis, Coire and Astro Gymnastics Club good luck for the event.

GIRLS WHO CHANGE THE WORLD

A few weeks ago, a number of pupils from Ms Watson's S1 Computing Club entered the

Girls who change the World Artificial Intelligence competition.



The competition, sponsored by IBM, was open to schools from all over the UK and attracted around 200 entries.

One of our teams, made up for S1 pupils Natasha and Madyson, narrowly missed out on a top 10 finish. Their idea was to create a small AI robot placed between 2 bins that scans litter handed to. It then finds out if it is recyclable or not and places it in the correct bin. The robot would also have a built in reminder to allow the bin users to know when the bins are due to be emptied.

Natasha and Madyson were placed on the reserve list, meaning they probably finished in 11th place overall and narrowly missed out on a place in the finals of the competition in London in July.

SWIMMING SUCCESS!

Well Done to the pupils who represented Whitburn Academy at the Scottish Schools Swimming Association's Championships at the Royal Commonwealth Pool in Edinburgh on 5th June.

The results were as follows:

- S1/S2 Freestyle - Unfortunately the girls were disqualified
- S1/S2 Medley - 7th place (out of 33 schools)
- S3/S4 Freestyle - 12th place (out of 22 schools)
- S3/S4 Medley - 13th place (out of 20 schools)

Thank you to all the pupils who took part in the competition.



S6 INDUCTION DAY

On 5th June, our new S6 pupils had their induction day



During the day, they participated in 3 different sessions:

- Live and Learn - where the pupils had to undertake a number of different challenges in groups
- Roles and Responsibilities and Wider Achievement
- Team Building - where the pupils did a number of fun activities and team games

P7 PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING

On 6th June, the school held an information evening for the parents / carers of the P7 pupils from our cluster primaries, that will be joining us after the summer holidays.

The night was a massive success with standing room only in the Hall, where the parents / carers and the Primary 7 pupils were shown a presentation about the different forms of support available for our pupils, they were introduced to the House Teams and the Support for Learning Team. They were also given information on the different faculties and departments within the school, the school day and promoting positive behaviour.

After the presentation, the parents/carers and pupils went to the Academy Cafe where



various departments had set up stalls to promote their extra curricular clubs, these included the Science Club, PE, Music Clubs, Debate Club, CDT department, Rights Respecting Schools group, Jigsaw Group and the Computing Club.

Thank you to everyone who attended and to the staff and pupils who were involved at the event.

THEATRE GROUP VISIT

On 7th June, the 'Fast Forward' Theatre Group visited Whitburn Academy to give a performance of their play, "Wasted" to our new S4 and S5 pupils.



Fast Forward, are a national voluntary organisation that exists to enable young people to make informed choices about their health and well-being through working directly with young people and those who support them.

"Wasted" explores the themes of alcohol, friendship & responsibility, sending out an important and valuable message to the pupils.

MITSUBISHI PUMP IT UP 2019 RUNNERS UP

The team of new S3 pupils Emma, Erin, Elise, Coire and Ross undertook the Mitsubishi



Pump it up challenge 2019 in their S2 Masterclass.

Their task was to design a device that could be powered by a heat pump and talk about the science of how it worked, its benefits, uses of green energy and effects on society. The group chose a temperature controlled pram for new parents to ensure their baby was not too hot or cold.

After presenting to their class of 30 pupils they were chosen as the best in the class and were to now present along with the 5 other winning class groups to some judges from Mitsubishi.

The group won the school final went on and would represent Whitburn Academy at the grand final at Howden Park. In the 3 weeks that followed the group did lots of work and lunchtimes and at home to ensure they gave the final their best shot.

So on Tuesday 4th June the group along with winning groups from all 10 other schools in West Lothian presented to a packed and distinguished audience including Local

Councillors, Consul General of Japan and the president of Mitsubishi Europe.

After giving a superb presentation they were voted runners-up and deserve many congratulations for this amazing achievement.

FIRST MINISTER'S READING CHALLENGE SUCCESS!

On 10th June, our PEF Literacy Group attended the finals of the First Minister's



Reaching Challenge in the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in Glasgow.

We are very proud to announce that out of over 1200 entries, our group won the National Reading Inspiration award! Even better, we are the first secondary school ever to win this award!

The comments from the judging team were fantastic as they said that our pupils were: *"totally inspiring and full of heart"*

Congratulations to everyone from the Literacy Group for all your efforts and hard work, your award was well deserved!

Visit the Scottish Book Trust Youtube channel to watch a video about our Reading Challenge journey.

FIRST AID COURSE

On 13th June, our senior pupils received First Aid Training from F.A.S.T (First Aid School's Training CIC).

All pupils and staff involved in the course received a qualification, the First Aid at Work certificate at SCQF level 6.

Employers are required by law to train employees in first aid, therefore holding this qualification has a direct impact on the

employability of young people, whether to part or full time positions.



BE HERD ASSEMBLY

On 13th June, the Elefriends from Whitburn Academy's Health and Wellbeing group presented an assembly to the new S1 pupils, visiting as part of their Transition Week.

The assembly was to raise awareness of Mental Health issues and the help available within the school for any issues that our pupils may have.

The group also promoted the Health and Wellbeing Hub, which is located in the library.

Pupils and staff from the group also shared some personal and at times moving stories from events that have taken place in their own lives.

The assembly ended with the pupils and 'Ellis the Elephant' performing their finale piece from April's 'Be Herd' concert, 'One Call Away'.



EMPATHY DAY

On 11th June, the school Library celebrated Empathy Day with a display of books about different characters telling their story.

Reading about other people's stories and how they cope with their lives strengthens our real-life empathy. The library also has a Empathy



Reading List with lots of great book suggestions.

S6 PROM

Our departing S6 year group held their final event as pupils at Whitburn Academy on Friday 14th June, when they attended their school prom.

After meeting at the school for their photographs to be taken, they went by bus to the Norton House Hotel at Ingliston for their prom.

The pupils had a fantastic night and all agreed that it was the perfect way to end their school career.



Well done and thank you to the Prom Committee who arranged such a fantastic night.

BE HERD GROUP FILMING

On 19th June, our Health and Wellbeing group were busy making a short video highlighting the important work that 'Be Herd' has done in school and the local community over the past year.

The pupils have worked hard over the past year to raise awareness of Mental Health issues and the help available within the school for any issues that our pupils may have.

They believe that there is no need for any elephant in the room (except for their mascot - Ellis) and that everyone deserves to Be Herd.

The group meet weekly to discuss how they can improve the mental health of pupils and staff in the school.

They also provide a Health and Wellbeing Hub, which is located in the library and is a safe place where pupils can come to relax and unwind as well as access resources.



JUNIOR AWARDS CEREMONY

On Wednesday 19th June, the Academy held its junior awards ceremony to celebrate and reward the many academic and extra curricular successes of our S1 - S3 pupils.

Following a brief welcome and Headteacher's address from Ms Loudon, the audience were treated to Ross Gilchrist playing 'Zero to Hero' on the xylophone. Our guest speaker, former pupil and teacher, Anne Stokes, then gave an inspiring talk to the pupils.

The Academic Excellence awards were then presented followed by the winning group from the Youth Philanthropy Initiative final, giving their winning presentation.

Next the Outstanding Effort prizes were presented, followed by a presentation by the winning group from the Youth Philanthropy Initiative competition.

Following the presentation of the Wider Achievement Awards, the audience watched a



video about the Literacy Group winning the First Minister's Reading Challenge.

The presentation of the awards to our Values Ambassadors and the presentation of our Special Awards were next and the evening ended with a Vote of Thanks to everyone who was involved in the Awards Ceremony.

S1-S3 AWARD WINNERS

S1 Academic Excellence Award Prize Winners

Name	Class	Subject
Eve Crichton	ID1	Art & Design and Spanish
Rhianna Drummond	ID2	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
Chloe Gordon	IW2	Computing
Melissa Mainwaring	ID1	Design & Manufacture and French
Murrion McCorisken	ID1	Graphic Communication
Jenna Meldrum	IW2	Spanish
Molly Rhind	IW2	English
Mia Robertson	IW2	Physical Education
Jayson Sneddon	IB2	Music
Teigan Sweeney	ID2	Mathematics and French
Sarah Urquhart	IB3	Home Economics and Science
Natasha Wong	ID2	Drama & Social Studies

S1 Outstanding Effort Award Winners

Name	Class	Subject
Ewan Adams	ID1	Support
Ben Ashworth	IW1	Computing
Aisling Carnegie	IW2	Social Studies
Rhianna Drummond	ID2	Drama
Beau Ezady	ID2	English
Ben James	IW1	Support
Melissa Mainwaring	ID1	Science
Bryoney McGuinness	IB2	Home Economics
Molly Rhind	IW2	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
Owen Rolland	IB1	Art & Design and Mathematics
Brodie Sibbald	ID2	Graphic Communication
Bailey Taylor	ID2	Design & Manufacture
Eva Ward	IB2	Physical Education
Sophie Wood	IB1	Music

S2 Academic Excellence Award Prize Winners

Name	Class	Subject
Reece Alexander	2D2	Physical Education
Jason Brown	2B1	Art & Design
Alanna Coombe	2D1	Spanish
Nathan Ellis	2W2	Mathematics
Zain Ghaffar	2D2	Administration & IT
Ross Gilchrist	2W2	Business, Drama, Design & Manufacture, English, French, Home Economics, Music, Mathematics and Science
Sophie Holleran	2W1	Spanish
Fraser Love	2D1	Computing
Chelsea McDonald	2B2	Social Studies
Erin McGivern	2B1	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
Coire Prentice	2D1	French
Leigh-Anne Todd	2W2	Graphic Communication

S2 Outstanding Effort Award Winners

Name	Class	Subject
Jemma Bell	2B2	Art & Design and Design & Manufacturing
Kellie-Anne Cameron	2W1	Administration & IT
Nathan Ellis	2W2	Science
Sophie Holleran	2W1	English
Naomi Love	2B2	Drama
Ewan Macaulay	2W2	Physical Education
Shannon Matthews	2W2	Computing
Erin McCaig	2D2	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
Euian McWhir	2B1	Support
Jonathan Pollock	2W2	Business
Coire Prentice	2D1	Home Economics and Music
Naomi Ross	2W2	Social Studies
Nadia Ruszkiewicz	2D1	Graphic Communication

S3 Academic Excellence Award Winners

Name	Class	Subject
Kaela Borst	3W1	Support
Charlie Bryans	3B1	Chemistry
Josh Cameron	3W1	French
Rebecca Collins	3D2	Drama
Aidan Coyle	3D1	Design & Manufacture
Erin Cruickshank	3D1	Business and Music
Kelan Halliday	3W2	Geography, Graphic Communication, French and Physics
Lucy Halliday	3W2	Administration & IT and Art & Design
Morgan Hearty	3B2	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies
Cole Loughins	3B2	Modern Studies
Callum Marshall	3W2	Mathematics & Physical Education

Zoe Murray	3B2	Computing and English
Nicole Pinion	3W1	Home Economics and Media
Claire Reekie	3W1	Biology
Ryan Steele	3W2	Music Technology

S3 Outstanding Effort Award Winners

Name	Class	Subject
Morgan Anderson	3W1	Home Economics
Aaron Bannatyne	3W1	Media
Cara Carbry	3W1	Music
Rebecca Collins	3D2	Biology
Erin Cruickshank	3D1	English
Kyle Easton	3D2	Mathematics and Design & Manufacture
Lara Fell	3W2	Drama
Josh Francis	3W2	Music Technology
Kayleigh Galloway	3D2	History
Kelan Halliday	3W2	Business and Art & Design
Summer Innes	3W2	Physical Education
Lachlan Kenney	3D2	Physics
Beth MacMillan	3W1	Administration & IT
Cameron Maxwell	3B2	Graphic Communication
Rachel McColl	3B1	Computing
Ryan McDougall	3B1	Sports Leader
Ethan McFadyen	3W1	Support
Hannah McGinley	3D1	Modern Studies and Chemistry
Cade Melrose	3W2	Geography
Emma Reid	3B1	Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies

Wider Achievement Awards

Outstanding Contribution to the Debating Club

Name	Class
Ava Lewington	1W1
Lucy Perry	1W1
Eva Ward	1B2

Youth Philanthropy Initiative winning group

Name	Class
Lucy Clark	3B2
Erin Cruickshank	3D1
Margaret-Anne Currie	3B2
Morgan Hearty	3B2
Jamie-Lee McCormack	3D1
Claire Reekie	3W1

Mitsubishi Challenge Runners Up 2019

Name	Class
Erin Burns	2B2
Ross Gilchrist	2W2

Elise Hastie	2W2
Emma MacKay	2W2
Coire Prentice	2D1

Mitsubishi Challenge Winners 2018

Name	Class
Emily Mitchell	3B2
Chelsea Murdoch	3B2
Zoe Murray	3B2

Outstanding contribution to the Health & Wellbeing Group Concert and nomination for a West Lothian Council Stellar Award

Name	Class
Cara Carbry	3W1
Rebecca Collins	3D2
Sarah Forrest	2B1
Ross Gilchrist	2W2
Zoe Gordon	3D2
Eilidh Gourlay	3B1
Kelan Halliday	3W2
Kai Kirkland	1B3
Emily Mitchell	3B2
Zoe Murray	3B2
Aaron Potter	1D1

Winning the First Minister's Reading Challenge: National Reading Inspiration Award

Name	Class
Leonie Bryans	1B1
Kyle Easton	3D2
Holly Gilchrist	2B1
Ciaran Keenan	1W1
Kyle Khan	2D2
Abby McDougall	2W1
Cameron McDougall	2D2
Ross McDougall	2D2
Amelia McInnes	1B1
Freya Potter	1D1
Nadia Ruskiewicz	2D1
Sarah-Jane Warnock	1D1

Values Ambassadors

Value	Name	Class
Respect	Jenna Meldrum	1W2
Respect	Ahmed Mursal	2B2
Respect	Josh Dickson	3D2
Compassion	Wenhao He	1D2
Compassion	Zain Ghaffar	2D2

Compassion	Callum Marshall	3W2
Integrity	Kallum McGilvary	1D1
Integrity	Kellie-Anne Cameron	2W1
Integrity	Shannon Douglas	3D2

Values Champion

Name	Class
Callum Marshall	3W2

Special Awards

Margaret Lumsden Memorial Shield

Best academic performance across all subjects in S2:

ROSS GILCHRIST

Junior Physical Education Award

Outstanding contribution to PE, curricular and extra curricular:

ZOE MURRAY

Junior Music Award

Commitment to their own improvement through their learning both in and out of school

AARON POTTER

Junior Creative Writing Award

Outstanding talent for creative writing:

ROSS GILCHRIST

Dux Award

Junior Dux 2019

KELLAN HALLIDAY

SPEEDY STEM CHALLENGE

On 20th June, our new S2 and S3 pupils took part in a Speedy STEM challenge.

The pupils got to try out some fun activities which allowed them to try different skills related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) as well as developing their

teamwork and motivational skills at the same time.



The different groupwork activities the pupils got to try out were:

- designing and building a cradle to stop an egg from smashing when thrown across the assembly hall.
- designing and building a robot, using cardboard, masking tape, motorised wheels and a remote control then having a 'battle' Robot Wars style with other groups!

Thanks to Fife College's STEM team who arranged and ran the event.

MUSICAL SUCCESS

Over the past few months, some of our pupils have celebrated success in different aspects of music.



- Scott (S6) passed his ABRSM grade 8 euphonium with distinction .
- Ross (S2) passed his ABRSM grade 5 cornet exam with Merit.
- Emma (S2) passed her ABRSM grade 5 cornet exam with Merit.
- Mia (S5) passed her grade 5 ABRSM cello exam with a distinction!
- Natasha (S6) and Mara (S3) took part in the NYCOS West Lothian Summer Chamber Choir Concert at St. Michael's Church in Linlithgow on Friday 24th May.

Congratulations to all 6 pupils on these fantastic achievements!

CHEQUE HANDOVER

On 25th June, Ms Watson handed over a cheque for £656 to the Local Foodbank on behalf of the Charity Committee.

The Foodbank were extremely grateful for the donation received from the school and would like to thank all the pupils and staff, who contributed towards raising such a significant sum of money for this great cause who help so many people in our local community.



LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

On 21st June, Our six new Library Assistants were presented with certificates and badges after completing their training.



The girls give up their free time at break and lunch to work in the school library and are a great help to our Librarian, Mrs Skinner. Their duties include issue/return of books and making sure the books are shelved properly - not an easy task!

Congratulations to everyone.

HOSPITALITY LUNCH

On 25th June, pupils from one of our S3 Home Economics classes put on a lunch for all members of staff.



The pupils served baked potatoes with a variety of different home made fillings. The staff all agreed that the food served up was delicious!

SCHOOL CAPTAINS ANNOUNCED

On 26th June, Mr Shankland, Ms Nisbet and a panel of pupils from S2-S5 interviewed 7 of our new S6 pupils for the role of School Captain.

All 7 candidates were outstanding and worthy of congratulation for their application and interview.

The interview panel had a really difficult task in picking the successful candidates, however they chose Adam Gilmour and Anna Martin to be School Captains for Session 2019/20.

Congratulations to Adam and Anna from everyone at Whitburn Academy!

The photographs on the following page show:

- Some of the Interview panel
- Ms Loudon and Mr Shankland with the 7 Nominees for School Captains
- Our new Captains: Anna Martin and Adam Gilmour with Head Teacher: Ms Loudon.



MONEY MULES



POLICE SCOTLAND

Police Scotland have issued the following information for parents/carers.

Across the country, young people are increasingly being asked by fraudsters to receive and send money through their own bank accounts, sometimes keeping some of the cash for themselves.

This is commonly known as being a money mule.

Criminals need money mules to launder the profits of their crimes. Mules will usually be unaware of where the money comes from - often fraud and scams - and that it can go on to fund crimes such as drug dealing and people trafficking.

Fraudsters will approach young people online or in person, including through social media, and at school, college or sports clubs. Sometimes it's people they know who persuade them to become a money mule, often because they are also doing it.

Being a money mule is illegal.

When someone is caught:

- their bank account will be closed,
- they will have problems getting student loans, mobile phone contracts and credit in the future.
- They could even face arrest for money laundering which carries a maximum sentence of 14 years in prison.

We need your help to warn young people about the dangers and consequences of becoming a money mule.

Tell-tale signs that someone might be involved include them suddenly having extra cash, buying expensive new clothes or top-of-the-range mobile phones and gadgets with very little explanation as to how they got the money. They may also become secretive, withdrawn or appear stressed.

You can find out more information and advice by visiting www.moneymules.co.uk

If you are worried that someone close to you might be caught up in money mulling, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or Victim Support on 08 08 16 89 111.

You can also report a fraud in Scotland to Police Scotland by calling 101.

Please do not attempt to contact any individual you suspect of being involved in money muling.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW S5/S6 PUPILS



Whitburn and District Community Development Trust are looking for committed volunteers to

help out with and support the running of the Summer Fun Club.

The Summer Fun Club will run every Monday and Wednesday during the summer holidays between Monday 1st July and Wednesday 14th August 2019 in Whitburn Community centre.

This is a great opportunity for someone who is either looking to add to their CV for their future career, or someone who would like to give back to their community or just anyone with some spare time.

You can volunteer to help out at as many or as few sessions as you wish. The number of volunteers available to help will reflect the number of children that will be able to attend each day.

If you would be interested in volunteering or would like further information, please contact David at Whitburn CDT by email at david@whitburncdt.org.uk or by telephone on 01501 748708.

INTERNET SAFETY

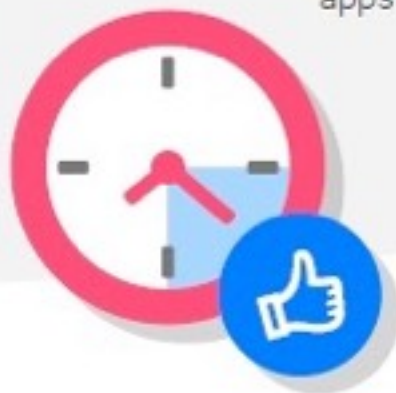


A number of Internet Safety resources are available to download from the Internet Safety pages on the school website.

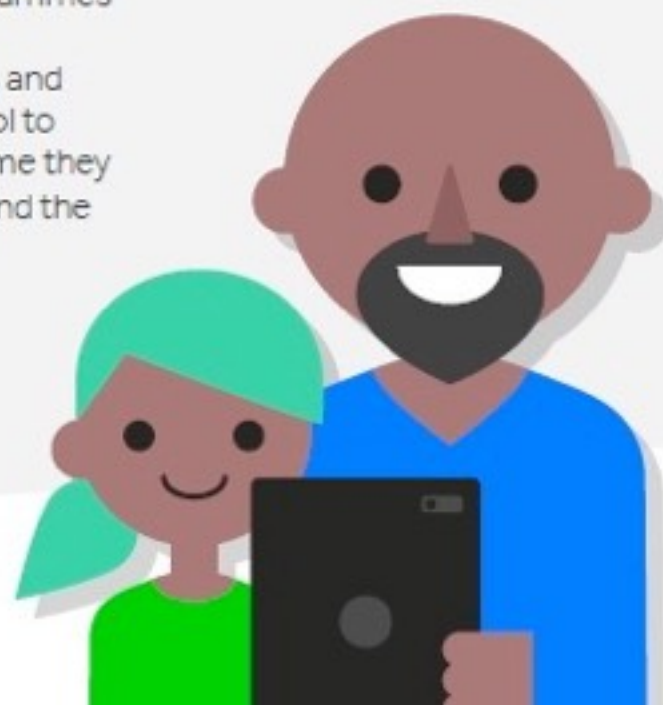
Included are Social Media Checklists for Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat.

These can be downloaded from the Social Media page.

10 tips to get in control with your child's screen time



1. Set a good example with your own device use
2. Have discussions about the risks that they may face based on their online activities
3. Put in place a family agreement and agree an appropriate length of time they can use their device
4. Help them build critical thinking to understand that some features on platforms are design to keep you watching or playing
5. Encourage them to switch off auto-play on platform to remove the temptation to binge on programmes
6. Use tech tools and parental control to manage the time they spend online and the apps they use
7. Get the **whole family to unplug** and create 'screen free' zones at home
8. Together find apps, site and games that will help children **explore their passions** and make screen time active
9. For younger children find ways to **combine touch screen use** with creative and active play
10. Encourage children to **self-regulate** the time they spend online and the activity they do to ensure they are having a positive impact on their wellbeing





The West Lothian 'Active Fun Active Feet' Summer Holiday Programme is taking place over the Summer Holidays (Tuesday 23rd July to Thursday 7th August) from 9am to 3pm at the venues below for all current P1 to P7 pupils.

Venues



Whitburn AFAF
Whitburn Academy
Shanks Rd
Whitburn
EH47 0HL

Tuesday 23rd July
Wednesday 24th July
9am – 3pm

Linlithgow AFAF
Linlithgow Academy
Braehead Road
Linlithgow
EH49 6LJ

Wednesday 31st July
Thursday 1st August
9am – 3pm

Livingston AFAF
Inverlaimond CHS
Willowbank
Ladywell
Livingston
EH54 6HW

Tuesday 6th August
Wednesday 7th August
9am – 3pm



Children will take part in a wide range of activities including Athletics, Basketball, ClubGolf, Football, MultiSport activities, Parachute Games, Playground Games, Tag Rugby and much more!

Costs

£25 for 2 days per camp
£15 per day per camp



To book, please visit
<https://activeschools.eventbrite.co.uk/>



SLEEP SUPPORT



FREephone 0800 138 6565

If you are a parent or carer of a child or young person who has sleep problems then you can call us for advice and support.

Mon-Thu 10am-4pm

www.sleepscotland.org

8 Hope Park Square, Edinburgh EH8 9NW

Email: enquiries@sleepscotland.org

Telephone: 0131 651 1392

Registered as a Charity No. SC 027560



Caring for a child with an eating disorder?



Get support from a parent who's walked this path before.

Try Echo peer coaching, a free telephone service from Beat, the UK's eating disorder charity.

Through Echo peer coaching, you'll be able to speak to a parent who's been there. Echo coaches have supported their child into recovery from an eating disorder. Through weekly 30-minute phone conversations, they'll give you a space where you feel understood, while empowering you to make the most positive impact possible on your child's recovery.

Beat in partnership with NHS Lothian
- funded by Scottish Government.



Go to beateatingdisorders.org.uk/echo to find out more, or call 0808 801 0544.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

A charity registered in England and Wales (801343) and Scotland (SC039309). Company limited by guarantee no. 2368495.

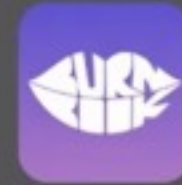
10 Apps that teens are using that parents need to know



Calculator%
This app looks like a calculator but functions like a secret photo vault.



Whisper
An anonymous app where the creators promote sharing secrets and meeting new people.



Burn Book
Post anonymous rumors about people through audio messages, texts, and photos.



Omegle
A free online chat website that promotes chatting anonymously to strangers.



Ask.fm
Ask an anonymous question and get an answer. This app has been linked to the most severe forms of cyberbullying.



Kik
Messaging app. Kik has built in apps and web content that would be filtered on home computer.



Yellow
This app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other in a Tinder-like atmosphere.



Hot or Not
Strangers rate your profile. Goal is to lead to a hook up.



Instagram
Many kids are now creating fake accounts to hide content from parents. Kids also like to text using Instagram because messages are deleted once a user leaves conversation.



Wishbone
An app that allows users to compare kids against each other and rate them on a scale.

JOB AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Each month, Skills Development Scotland release a list of all the Jobs and Training Opportunities available in the West Lothian area.

A copy of their latest bulletin is available for download from the school website.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Whitburn Academy will be closed for the Summer Holidays from 12.20pm on Friday 28th June until Friday 16th August. There will be In Service Days for Staff on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th August, with Pupils returning on Wednesday 21st August.

The Headteacher, Staff and Pupils of Whitburn Academy would like to wish you all a fun, safe and relaxing Summer Holiday.