



Boclair News

December 2019



Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to our December edition of Boclair News. It has been a busy few months for our young people and staff and in particularly our approach the Christmas holidays. I hope you find the following information helpful and as ever we welcome your comments and new information which we can share in future newsletters.

From all staff and pupils at Boclair Academy we wish you all a wonderful holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Douglas Brown
Head Teacher

Staffing News

As Christmas approaches, we say a fond farewell to a number of teachers. Miss McKinley leaves our Business and Computing Department at the holidays to take up a new post in Hermitage Academy. Mrs Canning from the Business and Computing Department left us in November to take up a new post in Lenzie Academy. Miss Kennedy from the Music Department leaves us at Christmas to take up a new post abroad. Mr Hendry, a long serving and much missed Chemistry teacher retired from the school in November. We wish all our colleagues well in the future.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Cleisham back into the Biology Department after Christmas following maternity leave. We also welcome our new Chemistry teacher – Miss Stephenson – who replaces Mr Hendry. We welcomed Miss Newlands in the Music Department back from maternity leave at the start of December. We also welcome Mr Sharp, Mrs Farquhar and Mrs Bonar to the Business and Computing Department in January following successful recruitment. We wish all our colleagues well as they join, or re-join, the Boclair Community.

S3 Business Management – Visit to Victor Pizza



In November S3 Business Management made two trips to Victor Pizza in Balmore Industrial Estate. This business manufactures pizzas primarily for the chip shop trade. Pupils listened to a presentation about the company and were given suitable health and safety garments. Several pupils were horrified to find they had to wear hair nets! After being given some health and safety training they had a tour of the factory.

The most popular part of the visit was when they were allowed to work on various production lines on the factory floor.

Pupils threw dough into hoppers (that was popular!), put cheese on pizzas, loaded production lines and packed finished products. They were involved in all the stages of producing a finished pizza ready for sale. They were all very enthusiastic and the permanent staff were delighted with their efforts!

After all their hard work the pupils enjoyed some of the freshly made pizzas before returning to school. Pupils agreed that the visit was a lot of fun and they learned a lot about how goods are produced.



S6 Enterprise Group

Our S6 Enterprise group have been working extremely hard preparing Christmas Eve boxes. Their business skills have helped them complete market research to ensure customer's needs were met. Therefore, the team's very popular products achieved high sales at the recent Christmas fair. Well done!



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Trip to Amazon Warehouse

National 5 Business Management pupils had the fantastic opportunity to visit Amazon Warehouse in Dunfermline. As part of the course pupils must study a unit in Operations. In order to improve their understanding of this unit pupils were given a guided tour of the Amazon Warehouse. They were shown every aspect of order fulfilment from the moment the product is ordered by the customer to the packaging of the product into the correct delivery van. They were given a fantastic insight into their unusual stock storage system, quality assurance and the innovative technology that Amazon are striving to use and improve daily to make them more efficient. The pupils gained a huge amount that they have been able to enhance their understanding of the Operations topic.



S5/6 Administration and Business: Newcastle Trip

Pupils from Higher Business Management/Administration got the opportunity to visit Newcastle as a school trip. Firstly, pupils went to Beamish which is a live museum with actors and old fashioned settings.

Beamish provided pupils with an educational presentation about the Marketing and Events Management strategies they implement. The presentation explained the target market and the strategies they are implementing to target other members of the public. The pupils were also informed of the promotions Beamish offer i.e. once you purchase a ticket, you are entitled to unlimited access to Beamish throughout the year. The presentation also included the up and coming improvement plans and the reasons behind the reconstruction. For example, Beamish are currently reconstructing an actual 1950s cinema which they will take apart brick by brick from its current location and rebuild on the Beamish site.

After this presentation pupils were given the opportunity to further explore the attractions like the schools and houses and see what life was like throughout the different eras. Old buses and trams were also available for pupils to go on, just as it would have been in the 1950s. There was also a fairground, mines and a farm that was set up for viewing.

A central point of Beamish was the old fashioned sweet shop and bakery which had lots of sweets and fresh baking which were on offer for purchase.

Thereafter, pupils headed to the enormous Metro Centre in Newcastle which was so big that a map was required to help navigate the centre. Pupils were given the freedom to do their own shopping and have a relaxing dinner within the centre. Fortunately the Christmas decorations were up and allowed pupils to get into the Christmas spirit and even start some Christmas shopping!

All pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have already expressed an interest for next year!



S6 ENTERPRISE & EMPLOYABILITY

INTERVIEW DAY!

In Enterprise & Employability S6 students have been researching career paths. They found an appropriate vacancy, completed Application Forms, drew up CVs, wrote covering letters and prepared for an interview.

Two entrepreneurs from the private sector of industry came to Boclair Academy and interviewed all the applicants.



Although some students felt a little nervous they all agreed that it was a useful exercise, particularly for those who had not previously attended a job interview.

Both entrepreneurs commented on the high standard of the interviewees.
Well Done S6!

Junior Enterprise Group

A number of S1 and S2 pupils have been involved in the Junior Enterprise Group which is held every Wednesday lunchtime.

Pupils have been creating "Festive Hama Bead Coasters" which were sold at the S5/S6 Parents' Night. The group managed to sell out of their coasters and received several orders to fulfil as well!

Junior Enterprise are now busy working extra lunchtimes to make more Coasters to sell at the Christmas Fayre! All money raised is going to Calums Cabin.



Respect

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Achievement

Business Management visit to Krispy Kreme

As part of the National Business Management course pupils have to study a unit in Operations. In order to enhance our young people's knowledge of this unit some of our S4 pupils visited Krispy Kreme. They were given a tour by the manager who explained their inventory/stock management system, quality assurance and the batch method of production used to produce their famous doughnuts. Our young people then completed a Marketing task on some stores in Braehead shopping centre



Second Business Primary Enterprise Challenge

This time with Torrance and Killermont- brilliant morning! Pupils extremely creative and made huge profits for their mini enterprises.



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Iceland Trip 2020

In October 2018, the Global Studies department ran a trip to Iceland for S4 – S6. Pupils undertook many different activities including visiting the LAVA centre, exploring a lava tunnel, walking around many waterfalls, splashing around in the all-natural 'Secret Lagoon', eating out and discovering the capital Reykjavik, walking along a volcanic ash beach and glaciers. In October 2020, the Global Studies department are running another trip to Iceland for S2-S4 pupils.



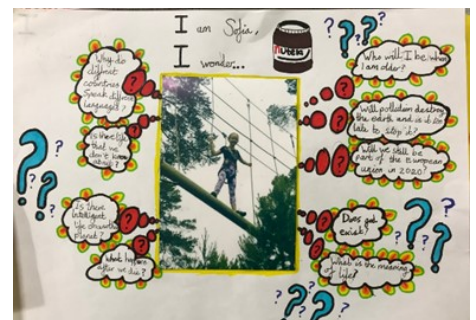
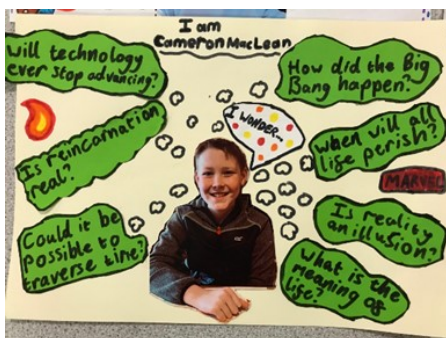
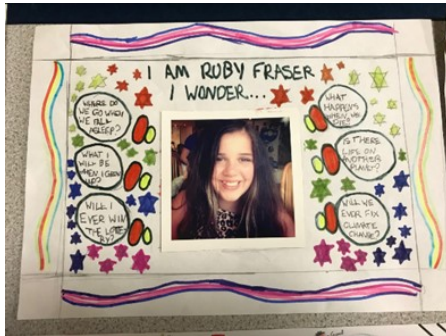
Mock Elections

As part of S1 Modern Studies, pupils created their own political parties and held their own mock election. Pupils must present their manifesto as to what they would do to make the school better for everyone so that things can run more smoothly and improves the learning for all pupils.



'I Wonder'

In S1 RME, we have asked pupils to reflect on who they are and what they're interests are. We tasked pupils with trying to decide which big questions in life they would like the answers to. If they could ask anything and get the answer, what would they ask? They then created 'I wonder' posters.



RME Creation Stories

In S1 RME, we explore 'Ultimate Questions' with the focus being, 'Where did everything come from?'. As part of the unit, pupils are tasked with creating their own stop motion animation of a creation story of their choice.



Advanced Higher Geography Field Work Trip

To enhance their outdoor learning skills, Advanced Higher Geography spent three days at the fieldwork centre on the island of Cumbrae investigating Geographical factors in the town of Millport. Working in collaboration with S6 students from Bearsden Academy, pupils undertook fieldwork research relating to changes along a soil catena, factors that affect flooding on the island and the impact of tourism in Millport. They then presented their findings to one another and undertook further independent research to draw conclusions. Pupils were a credit to the school on this trip and will use their findings to inform their Geographical Study folio piece later in the school year. Well done to S6!



S3 River Posters

Recently, S3 Geography were challenged to work together to summarise their learning of rivers. Classes worked really hard to display their knowledge in informative and eye catching posters, well done to everyone involved! The posters really showcase examples of excellent work completed by S3 and have brightened up our classroom displays.

S4 Achievement

Our S4 pupils have been working very hard this session and their recent reports show they are making good progress with their studies.

Their attendance at Supported Study has been very good and they have been working hard ahead of their Preliminary Examinations which start on 13th January 2019.

They have also successfully completed an SQA accredited First Aid Qualification already this session as part of our school's all through Wider Achievement Programme.

All pupils who attended received a unit award at SCQF Level 6 (equivalent of Higher level) and were praised by their instructors for their contributions, cooperation and effort.

We are so proud of all their work and we wish them well with their studies ahead of their January Prelims.





Travel and Tourism – Skills for Life

Our senior Travel and Tourism class have been developing their skills for learning, life and work by successfully running a MacMillian cancer support coffee morning for staff. Pupils worked together and developed their enterprising skills by advertising this event, liaising with Mr Brown, baking cakes and decorating the staff room to create a welcoming environment. The class were successful in raising £109.00 for MacMillian cancer research- well done to everyone involved. They have also been working hard this month to independently research long haul tourist destinations and will be running a pop up travel agent in January for staff who wish to discover where they can go to escape the cold Scottish weather!

Bar National Mock Trial Success 2019



Congratulations to our Bar Mock Trial team this session. Following months of hard work and with the support of our Advocate Mentor from the Faculty of Advocates, Scotland, the team took part in the Scottish Bar Mock Trial Competition on Saturday the 2nd November at the High Court in Glasgow.

Captained by Jamie Williamson and Sophia Pettigrove in S6 the team tried and defended two cases during the course of the day. As always, the performance of the team was outstanding throughout the day but this year we narrowly missed a place in the final.

Well done to all members of the team.



Christmas Concert



Well done to everyone who contributed to our Christmas Concert which this year included a Winter Fayre. Supported by pupils parents and staff this was another wonderful night in Boclair Academy.

Respect

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Armistice Day 2019

On the lead up to Remembrance Day a number of events took place in the school that brought the whole of Boclair Academy together to raise money for the Poppy Appeal and to commemorate those who have lost lives in various conflicts. Young people in S4 visited the battlefields of France and Belgium as part of the annual History Trip and took part in the ceremony and the Menin Gate. Our pupils then led a series of Remembrance Assemblies which highlighted the significance of armistice and the need to continue to remember those who have fallen in the many battles throughout history. These assemblies offered young people the opportunity to reflect on those who fought and died to earn us the freedoms we enjoy today. Poppies were on sale at the start of the Assemblies. We also held a one-minute silence across the whole school at 11 am on Monday 11 November as a mark of respect.



Senior Dance

Thanks to all the senior pupils who came along to our senior dance this year. As always this was a hugely enjoyable event and the dancing was excellent.

A huge thank you to the PE Department for all their efforts in preparing the young people for the dance. Thanks to all the staff who came along to help on the night.



Glasgow trip

S4 Geographers took part in their annual Fieldwork trip to Glasgow. This was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to put their learning into context, take part in some fieldwork data and enjoy being outdoors and learning about the city they live in. All pupils represented the school brilliantly and collected valuable data to complete their N4/5 assignments. We visited the CBD and inner city to compare land use, environmental quality, storey count and pedestrian/vehicle counts. Pupils then collated data, processed it into graphs and tables and analysed the main differences between both areas. Staff and pupils had a brilliant day we are already looking forward to next year. Well done S4 Geographers!



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School Garden

Since receiving a £4000 grant from the British Academy, we have been working hard developing our school garden. All Global Studies classes spent time working hard in the school garden in June digging, planting and having fun! We have been working closely with Dr Ian Shaw from the University of Glasgow to create a garden space for all pupils to use and hope to extend this to a community space in the future.

School gardens are bursting with potential. Whether in Arizona deserts, or Scottish lowlands, these urban gardens provide a space of outdoor learning, fresh food for local communities (from families to food banks), and a space of health and mental wellbeing for students.

There are over 4,000 secondary schools in the UK and 350 in Scotland, yet school gardens remain under-researched spaces for building **socially progressive urban ecologies**. Accordingly, this project will test the effectiveness of a school garden in one Glasgow secondary school (Boclair Academy). This innovative garden will be designed, built, and evaluated, by a team of interdisciplinary researchers from the University of Glasgow and the University of Arizona, as well as teachers from Glasgow and Tucson.

Learning how to grow vegetables, collect rainwater, aerate the soil, and design sustainable growing spaces, immerses students in their local environments, communicates important scientific knowledge, and prepares them for enacting different, more dignified, urban futures.

Recently, we were able to welcome teachers from our partnership in Arizona to Boclair where they worked closely with staff and pupils. Arizona staff ran several workshops throughout the day for pupils and all of the Global Studies staff were able to spend time out in the garden working collaboratively!

We have also successfully ran our first ever gardening elective in which 18 keen gardeners learned invaluable tips about how to grow crops and maintain a garden. Pupils have worked closely with Miss Duncan (Geography teacher) and Ian Shaw (Glasgow University) throughout the 10 week block which will run again in March when the warmer weather kicks in!



AH Library Trip

Advanced Higher Geography pupils had an unforgettable experience at the Mitchell library in preparation for their Advanced Higher essay. Pupils were given a tour of the famous library and shown how to access library materials. All pupils were fortunate to be given access to the Mitchell Library archives where they were able to access thousands of academic journals - an invaluable resource for progressing onto higher education in the near future.



Gymnastic success

Hannah is a competitive gymnast in the disciplines of Double Mini Trampoline (DMT) and Trampoline and has recently participated in 2 major events.

She qualified for, and participated in, the British Championship Finals which were held 27-29 September in Birmingham. She finished 13th overall in Britain on DMT at FIG Elite Level for age 13/14.

During the weekend of 5-6 October she participated in the Scottish Championship Finals in both disciplines. She finished 4th on DMT at FIG Elite Level for age 13/14. She also finished in 1st place on Trampoline at NDP 5 for age 13/14 and is now the Scottish Champion at this level.

Hannah has also been very fortunate to be selected for Team Scotland at FIG Elite Level age 13/14 in the Discipline of Double Mini Trampoline (DMT). As part of

Team Scotland she will be participating in a World Invitational Cup Event in Loule, Portugal, from 10-13 October. This is the first International competition she will have taken part in, it is a very exciting opportunity, where she will meet, and compete against, competitors from many of the World's top gymnastics countries.



Hannah with her Gold Medal as Scottish Champion for Trampoline 13/14 age group.

Arizona Visit

As part of the International Green Academy partnership, two geography teachers (Miss Duncan and Mrs Crilley) were given the opportunity for a once-in a lifetime trip to visit partner schools in Tucson, Arizona. The purpose of the 7-day trip was to learn how to successfully run a school garden, by visiting schools who had been running for 10 years. The trip was invaluable – learning about different success stories from many schools who have faced adversity and the key tips on how to run a garden and most importantly the impact a garden has on the young people. The Arizona trip was a truly life-changing experience and it has been a privilege to share our knowledge with the pupils at Boclair and use the skills learned to run an amazing and successful garden!



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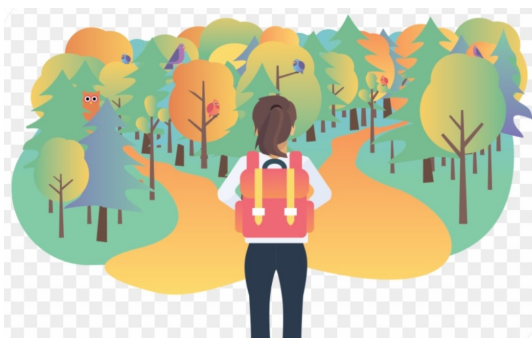
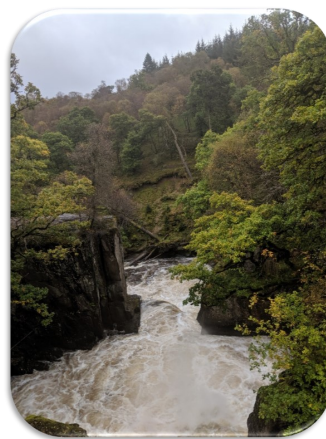


Duke of Edinburgh's Award: Bronze



Duke of Edinburgh Expedition 6th – 7th October

Group 4 –
Michael,
Gregor,
Angus,
Jamie,
Eden,
Evan,
Lara.



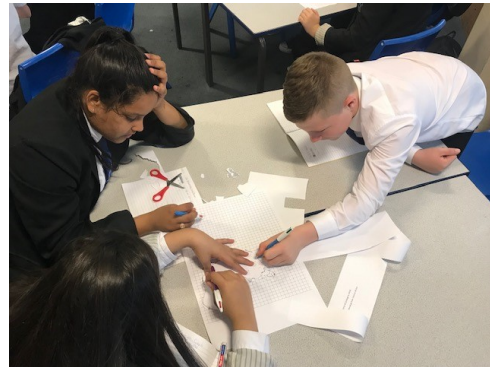
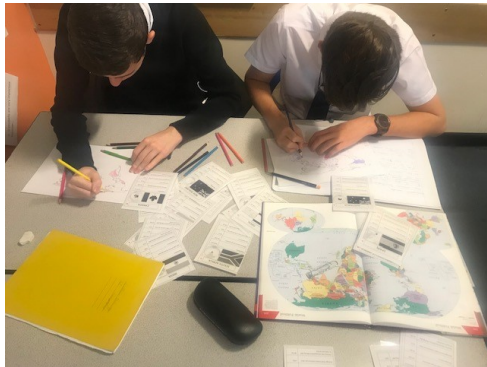
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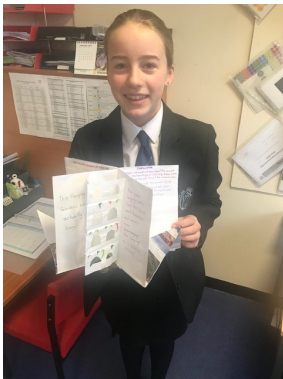
Achievement

Numeracy



S2 Geographers have been working hard on their numeracy and problem solving skills. Pupils were set the challenge to work out the number of times the UK could fit into Australia. Pupils had to work out scale, a way to work out the size of each country, work out the km² for each country and then how many times the UK could fit in. Needless to say this was challenging and really pushed our pupils to achieve level 4 benchmarks. All pupils were fully engaged and enjoyed the challenge and helped each other as part of a team. Well done S2, keep up the excellent work.

WOW projects



S2 pupils were given the chance to lead their own learning and choose a Wonder of the World, researching their chosen Wonder and then presenting in any way they like. Pupils really took this challenge on and came up with models, cakes, posters, lego structures to create their chosen Wonder of the World. We were blown away with the efforts from pupils and the creative ideas they came up with. We loved reading all of your information too. Fantastic effort.



Higher Environmental Science



This year we are running Environmental Science Higher for the first time! Pupils are enjoying the course along with staff. Pupils have had the opportunity to work in the school grounds and in the local woodland to do experiments and field work for their assignments.

Environmental Science is a fantastic subject that allows pupils to learn about our planet, how it works, human interactions, globalisation and sustainability all whilst collaborating with other fields of science such as physical, chemical and ecological studies. Essential skills are developed in how to conserve the natural resources, to help in protecting, nurturing and defending the natural resources of the world.



Respect

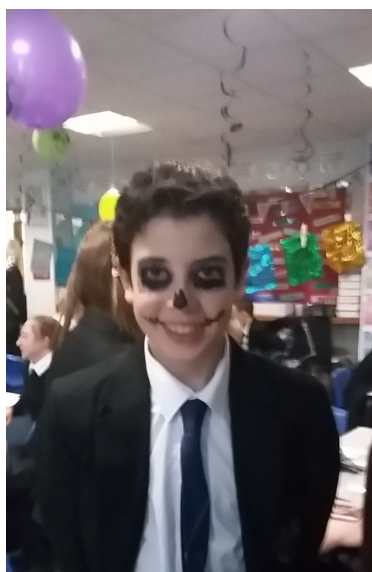
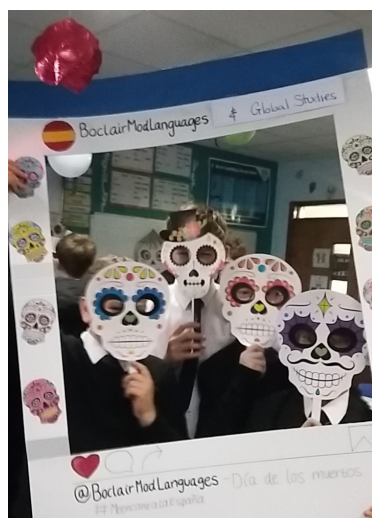
Honesty



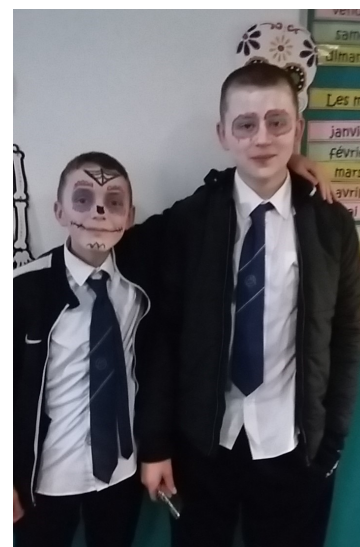
Fairness

Achievement

Day of the Dead IDL: Global Studies and Modern Languages



Global Studies and Modern Languages teamed up with S2 to study the Mexican traditional celebration Day of the Dead or Dia de los Muertos. Pupils were given the opportunity to learn about cultures and traditions through their RME lessons and were taught key vocabulary in their Spanish class. Pupils then watched the Disney movie Coco and were given the opportunity to see what the real celebrations would be like in Mexico on the 1st November (one of the days it is celebrated in Mexico). There was an opportunity to play games, observe the ofrenda, enjoy a hot chocolate and see the decorations that would be seen in Mexico. Pupils then had to produce either a poster or a comic strip explaining the story of Coco. Another fantastic effort S2!



John Muir Award



This year we started early with the S1 John Muir Award. Pupils visited our local country park Mugdock to discover and explore a wild place. Pupils were such a credit to the school taking part in activities like Den Building, Orienteering and a Scavenger Hunt. This allows pupils to build up hours to achieve their John Muir Award by the end of S1. Look out for more exciting trips in May.



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S3 Elective

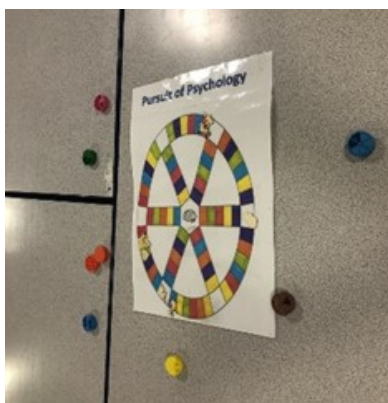
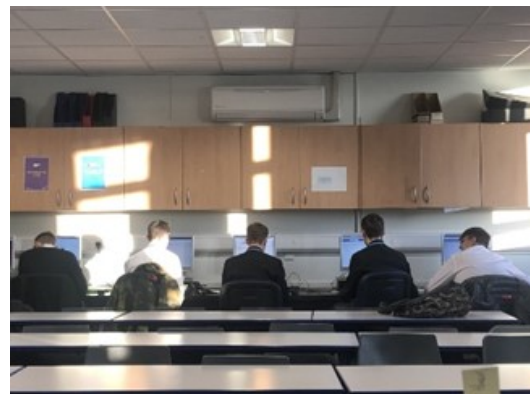
Through the S3 wider achievement programme, pupils have elected to learn about special effects makeup. The SFX elective has allowed pupils to develop their creative skills in makeup application and develop their understanding of products, tools, and colour through the creation of bruises, scratches, cuts, open wounds, and burns. The pupils showed great enthusiasm for the course, particularly enjoying the gore. Please do not be alarmed if your child comes home with a bruise or wound, its only makeup!



Higher Psychology

The S5/6 Higher Psychology class have been learning about Memory in their Individual Behaviour unit, Conformity & Obedience in their Social Behaviour unit, and developing an understanding of the requirements, processes, and purpose of research in their Research unit in preparation for carrying out their own experiment with senior pupils as part of their assignment.

Through these units, pupils have been engaging in active learning, co-operative learning, teamwork, competition, with digital technology, using their higher order thinking skills, and on occasion using sweet treats to exemplify and progress in their learning of psychology. The pupils show a great amount of enthusiasm for the subject, showing up with positive attitudes, posing challenging questions, and completing their homework to a high standard. A great start to their course!



Boclair Academy Interclass Games Program

A massive thank you to the teachers and staff who have given up their time to organise and run all of the events below. A special mention to all the S5 and S6 pupils who took leadership opportunities to make the events such a success.

Annual S5 & S6 Interclass Team Games Event

This event took place on Wednesday 18th of September right at the beginning of the year. Each class entered a team combined of S5 and S6 in football, basketball and softball. Due to excellent weather, all events went ahead. In total, **112** S5 and S6 pupils voluntarily turned up to represent their class! Well done to all those involved, and to class B for being the overall champions. We will see the current S5 next year



New S4 Interclass Team Games Event

For the first time ever we held a S4 interclass games on Wednesday the 25th of October. This involved a mix of activities: Football, Dodgeball and Basketball! Selected teams made up from DEF competed against rivals in ABC which made for a great morning of competition. The 4 core school values of Fairness, Honesty, Respect and Achievement were all witnessed throughout the event. Although attendance was not compulsory and the weather was average, this did not stop a great turn out from S4. We had 86 young people taking part across the three activities. Well done to all those involved and a special mention to DEF who were our overall winners.



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Interclass Games Program continued

S1-S3 Interclass Games 2019

On Thursday 10th of October Boclair Academy hosted the first of the interclass competitions for students in first, second and third year. Throughout the day, pupils came down in their year groups to compete in a round robin style tournament to earn points for their class. Each class entered a football, hockey and basketball team. Across all activities and year groups, we saw excellent:

Communication, Creativity, Cooperation, Teamwork, Problem Solving and many more skills for life, learning and work!

An impressive **506** young people were involved throughout the course of the day, this number made up of participants and senior helpers. Well done to all those involved who made the day such a success, we will see you all again at the next event.



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Physical Education

BASKETBALL ACTIVE SCHOOLS

A number of S1/2 pupils have been involved in basketball events representing Boclair Academy. The boys played well and represented the school brilliantly. Well done!



GIRLS FOOTBALL

The girls football team represented the school at the first EDC festival of the year!

The girls won 3 games and drew 1, remaining unbeaten and winning their group.



RUGBY

The rugby teams have been busy this term with the Boys Under 16's and Under 18's combined with Bearsden Academy have been competing in the Scottish Quaichs at their respective age bands.

The Under 16;s played some competitive games against Lomond and Helensburgh School, St Thomas Aquinas, Shawlands Academy and South Argyll Schools.

The Under 18's were in a group with Shawlands Academy, Lenzie Academy, Biggar Academy and Hamilton Schools. The 18's finish this term with 3 wins against Biggar, Hamilton and Lenzie. Well done boys.



Our **GIRLS RUGBY** Team have had 2 festivals over this term and are continuing on their journey and development. Lots of fixtures

Respect

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Physical Education continued

NETBALL

Netball Club is back underway and the games are coming thick and fast! Numbers have been great and we are excited to get our match at S1/2 and S3/4 played.



SCOTTISH SWIMMING

Well done to all our Scottish School Competitors. We had over 45 entries into events from the school. Well done to all involved and to the swimmers who achieved their qualifying times.

Killermont P7 visit Boclair



S1 ICT CLUB

A number of S1 pupils have been involved in the S1 ICT club which is held every Friday lunchtime. Pupils come along each week and get a chance to play a mix of educational computer games and also interactive games on the computers with their peers. Each week we take part in a Kahoot quiz and the pupils have the opportunity to come up with new ideas for the topics of these quizzes. So far the club has proved extremely popular with pupils!

J Canning

New School Ties

Over the course of Session 2017/2018 our Pupil Council worked with the school captains on designing new ties for the Junior and Senior School. These ties are now on sale and over the next three years the older versions of the ties will be phased out.

Please note that new ties can be purchased from the school office. New blazers can be ordered online from Academy Uniforms.



School Uniform

Thank you for all your support with school uniform this session. The vast majority of our young people are setting high standards and they have been looking fantastic. As you know, school uniform must be worn every day by all pupils.

School Uniform consists of :

School blazer

White blouse or shirt

Black jumper or cardigan

School tie

Black trousers or skirt

Please note that hooded tops, coloured tops, leggings and jeans are not part of the school uniform. We will continue to work with the young people and families on this important area of school life and we ask for your continued support in ensuring young people dress appropriately for school every day.



Twitter @BoclairAcademy



Boclair Academy is on twitter. With almost 1000 followers this is a terrific way to share good practice within the classroom, wider school life and to promote the fantastic work of our pupils and staff. Follow @BoclairAcademy for daily news and updates.

Please note that pupil photos will be used occasionally to showcase good work. If you would not like your child's photo on twitter for educational purposes then please contact your child's Guidance Teacher.

Absence Reporting Line

Parents/carers are reminded that pupil absences can be reported between 7.00am and 8.30am by telephoning the dedicated Absence Line 0141 955 2361.

After 8.30am please report any absences by phoning the School Office on 0141 955 2358.

Please note that e-mails are not accepted as a method of reporting pupil absences.

School Drop Off

Can we remind parents and carers not to drive into the school grounds and car park area to drop off or collect pupils.

Finally - some dates for your diary....

January 2020	
Pupils return	Monday 6 January
S4/S5/S6 Prelim Diet	13-24 January
HPV Vaccinations	Thursday 23 January
February 2020	
Swimming Gala	4-6 February
In-Service Day	Friday 7 February
Mid-term holiday	10 & 11 February
In-Service Day	Wednesday 12 February
March 2020	
DTP/Men ACWY Vaccinations	Thursday 5 March
April 2020	
School closes for Easter at 2.30pm	Friday 3 April
Easter Holiday	6-17 April
School opens at 8.50am	Monday 20 April
SQA Exams commence	Monday 27 April