



# Boclair Academy

## Newsletter May 2024

Welcome to the May edition of our newsletter filled with some of the achievements, hard work and events from across our school.



Over the last 6 weeks our senior phase pupils have undertaken their SQA exams. During this time all pupils have been exemplary in their work ethic, conduct and attitude. We wish them the results they deserve and are very proud of them.

It has been mixed emotions as we say a fond farewell to our S6 students.. We are thrilled to see them leave to exciting destinations but sad to see them go as they have been a truly wonderful year group. We wish them every success as they embark on their next chapter and hope they keep in touch. We have welcomed our new S1 pupils for their induction days and they have been terrific, more about this in our next newsletter.

We have very exciting events ahead in June and hope you will join us for some of these including our Summer Fayre and school show.

Our new timetable for all students begins on Monday 3rd June and we hope it's a great start for all young people.

### Upcoming Events



#### School show

5-7th June 7pm Tickets £7

#### Blazer Fitting

10th & 11th June 6pm - 7.30pm

#### Summer Fayre

15th June 11am - 3pm

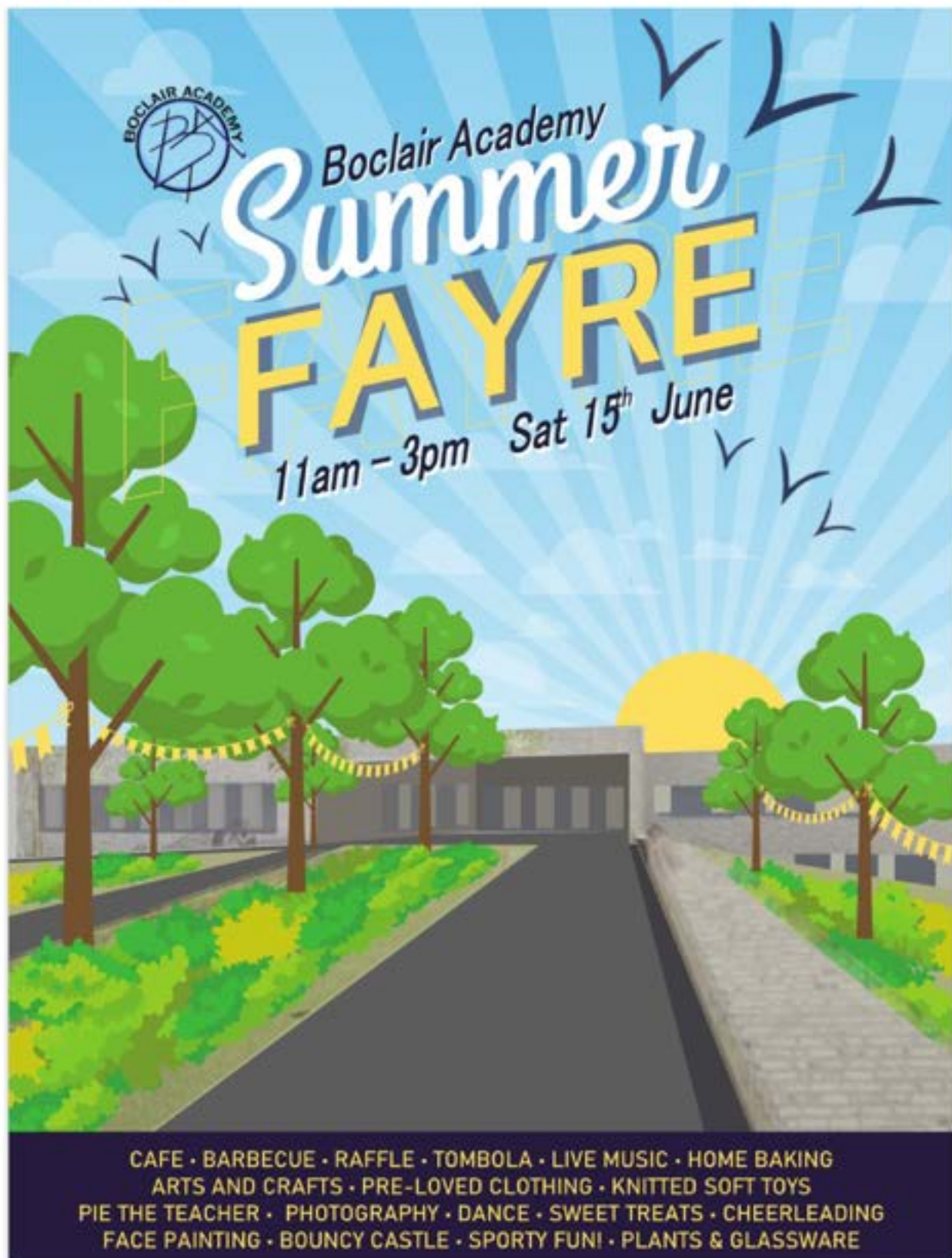
#### Junior Awards Ceremony

21st June

#### Summer Holiday

26th June 2024 - School closes 1pm





The Boclair Summer Fayre returns **June 15th!** This is a huge fundraiser for the benefit of our young people and we hope this year will be a huge success!

Stalls will include; bake sale, raffles, tombola, crafts, music, bouncy castle and much more!! Please bring the whole family and friends!

**If members of our school community have any items they could donate as prizes for our raffle they will be very gratefully received and can be handed in at our school office.**

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Ambition

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DANIEL!**

**Youth Photographer of the Year**



Congratulations to S4 student, Daniel Murray, on winning the international award for 'Best Youth Photograph of the Year' at the 2024 Sony Awards. Selected from a shortlist of ten photographers under the age of 19 years old, Daniel received a Sony digital imaging kit and global exposure. A beautiful picture under the theme 'Through Your Eyes', showing his interpretation of the world around him. A well-deserved winner showing his talent and ambition.

Well done Daniel!



© Daniel Murray, United Kingdom, Youth Photographer of the Year, Youth Competition, Sony World Photography Awards 2024







## Class of 2024

S6 pupils had a brilliant final day at Boclair Academy. Students enjoyed signing shirts, going 'retro' with breakfast rolls and watching a beautiful video filled with school memories past and present. This was all topped off with an excellent time at Delta Force Paintballing.

S6 were an outstanding year group through out their time at school and their conduct and behaviour on their final day was no different.

Good luck to all our leavers and we will miss you all very much!



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# Prom night

A wonderful evening at S6 prom held at the Hilton Grosvenor Hotel, West End. All students looked stunning and had a wonderful night. Thanks to all our S6 year group for being so well behaved, respectful and a total pleasure to work with.







Some of our S3 pupils have taken over running of the cafe during study leave! S3 baristas are learning how to make hot and cold drinks, customer service, stock take and money handling. Well done everyone!



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# LEADERSHIP

Our final S1/2 Leadership Academy was filled with exiting tasks to get young people thinking, working together and goal setting.

With values and mental health at the heart of the workshops young people created bridges out of spaghetti and marshmallows using their communication and team working skills. #Respect

They also heard from Miss Birch who shared her experience of building confidence, inspiring our young people to believe in themselves and show that they can do anything! #Ambition

S1 and S2 also explored journaling as a technique to help set and achieve goals but also to reflect on their daily achievements not matter how big or small.

We are looking forward to building our leadership academy as pupils move into S2 and S3.





## Bocclair Academy

Fantastic trip to La Traviata with our Higher and Advanced Higher Music pupils as well as Bocclair Academy alumni!. Beautiful production & performance by Scottish Opera. Amazing to see our young people engage with the performing arts on this level.



Congratulations to Sophie Jenkins, S6, on her commended entry in the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators competition run by Queen's College at Oxford University! There were over 3600 entries so this is a fantastic achievement!



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A group of our S2 students recently competed in the Bronze Industrial Cadets Award, where they were tasked to produce a project focussed on "Zero Waste World" with the help of our industrial partners Chivas Brothers, they came up with some amazing ideas on how to make Boclair Academy carbon neutral, and produced a detailed report and model to be assessed by a panel of experts. As a result of their amazing work the team came in 1st place in the West of Scotland region and have been invited to attend the national finals in June. Each team member will also receive a Young STEM Leader award for all their hard work.





## S2 Dragon's Den

S2 classes spent 4 weeks taking part in the Dragon's Den project. This involved coming with a unique business idea, creating a prototype and developing a presentation including elements of the marketing mix. The classes presented their PowerPoints and a winner from each class made it through to the final. The effort and engagement from all pupils was incredible. Well done to Wavey Waters from 2.7 who were the overall winners. Well done to our S2 Dragon's Den winning teams.



Wavey Waters were the overall winners - Congratulations!



Kinetic Edge had the best pitch - so proud of you!



# S2 Dragon's Den



Very well done to our S2 Dragon's Den winning teams. We are so proud of all the hard work and creativity that went into your creations!



Our S1 boys football team have successfully reached the final of the EDC league Cup. This demonstrates their year of hard work and dedication! We are very proud of their teamwork and resilience, and we wish them the best of luck in the upcoming game against St Ninians.



Congratulations to Chloe Gray and her horse Firefly in their selection for the Mounted Games Association U15 Scotland team. They will be representing the country this July. Best of luck to them both.



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To draw our athletics blocks to a close S1-3 have been taking part in our Interclass Games Athletics Event. They have upheld our school values of respect and ambition to the highest standard, as they have been supporting and encouraging each other during their events. Well done to all who have signed up and good luck to the young people of S1 who are taking part in their events during the first week of the new timetable.





**WE WILL  
ROCK  
YOU**

**BOCLAIR ACADEMY  
@ 7PM**

**WED 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024  
THURS 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024  
FRI 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024**

**SCHOOL EDITION**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM MUSIC AT BREAK AND LUNCH  
£7 EACH OR 4 TICKETS FOR £25**

Tickets are now on sale for our school show **WE WILL ROCK YOU!!!**

Our cast have been rehearsing tirelessly behind the scenes to create an amazing performance of We will Rock You and we cannot wait to see it!

We hope you will join us on one of the three performances. You will not be disappointed.

Tickets are priced at **£7 each or 4 tickets for £25** and available from the music department at break and lunchtime.





## Mindfulness in Nature

'As part of 'Mindful May' and Scottish Outdoor Learning Fortnight Princes Trust have been participating in a Mindfulness in Nature gardening project.

They have enjoyed spending time outdoors, connecting with nature and planting and growing flowers, fruits, vegetables and herbs. Our herb garden is now blooming, and we are looking forward to cooking with them very soon, everything else is coming along nicely. Young people have gained a greater understanding of what mindfulness is, its benefits to their wellbeing and how small actions to connect to nature can enhance their wellbeing. Gardening and spending time outdoors in nature can give us a sense of achievement and boost our confidence and self-esteem.







## Mindful Art

Mindfulness means paying more attention to the present moment – to your own thoughts and feelings, and to the world around you which helps to improve your mental wellbeing. Mindfulness can help us enjoy life more and understand ourselves better. Art is a natural way to practice mindfulness. Making art can make you feel more present, and it activates a variety of networks in the brain including the relaxed state and the focused attention. There have been many studies to show that cortisol levels can be reduced when we engage in creative activities which has a positive impact on our mental health,



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# SCOTTISH OUTDOOR LEARNING FORTNIGHT!



Outdoor education represents an instructional approach that transcends conventional classroom settings, immersing learners in the expansive outdoor environment.

Our students have been enjoying their learning outdoors as part of Scottish Outdoor Learning Fortnight. Staff and pupils are making excellent use of our beautiful outdoor spaces.



SI maths classes made use of the fantastic outdoor classroom space and good weather to apply the skills gained in Maths to solve real-life problems.



# SCOTTISH OUTDOOR LEARNING FORTNIGHT!



Young people sampling using quadrats, pitfall traps and pond dipping.

S3 also enjoyed making their own branched and paired statement keys in the sunshine



Staff braved an outdoor picnic lunch in our courtyard despite the typical Scottish weather!



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# S1-3 Mental Health and Wellbeing Day

Boclair hosted another S1-3 mental health and wellbeing day in May! This was a wonderful day which included lots of fun wellbeing activities such as crafts, drawing, sport, beauty and board games, a carousel of wellbeing and mindfulness practices, learning about The Teenage Brain from our very own Miss Hackett, and a special guest speaker, Gordon McKinlay, who helped our young people understand how to manage conflict and other stressful situations.

Staff and pupils all got involved and it was great to walk around the school seeing so our pupils learning more about mental health and wellbeing. Well done everyone!







## **Crochet Club**

The crochet club has hooked many of our BGE pupils this term! Some of our members have crafted some intricate animals, hats and fashionable bracelets. It is a calming zone where Ms Davison has us in stitches and Miss Scott is learning her craft. Our goal for next term is to make individual squares and sew them together to create a giant wellbeing blanket! This is a club for absolute beginners and experts alike - everyone learns from each other! So come along to try something new, meet new friends and spin a yarn!

## **Drama Club**

The S1 Drama Club has been working incredibly hard on a Victorian Murder Mystery Performance. We are delighted with their effort and enthusiasm every week. The group are certainly giving Agatha Christie a run for her money.... Well done to Anya, Daisy, Elliott, Jessica, Annabel, Sonny, Max and Hayden for all their contributions this year!

## **Film Club**

The S1's this year have been enjoying their Thursday lunchtime film club where they have experienced a number of blockbuster movies from a wide range of genres. Recently on the top hit list we have had: The Hunger Games, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone as well as some classics such as Jurassic Park. The club has been a great success this year with many S1's attending weekly, with the classroom full most weeks!





## Creative Writing Clubs

We've had another great time with creative writing club! We made the sixth edition of "The Writing Warren" and said goodbye to one of our most committed members. Pop into English to get a copy of "Inside The Mind", the sixth edition!

## Advanced Higher

Advanced Higher English had some lovely celebrations to say goodbye to a wonderful class.



## Exam Calm Space

We have hosted a calm space before every exam to allow pupils to attend their exams fed, calm, and prepared. This has been a well-attended and lovely space which pupils have enjoyed using!





# Junior Drama Dioramas

S1 & 2 Drama recently had a competition to make a set design for "We Will Rock You" to show their understanding of the technical side of the theatre. We had some incredible entries!

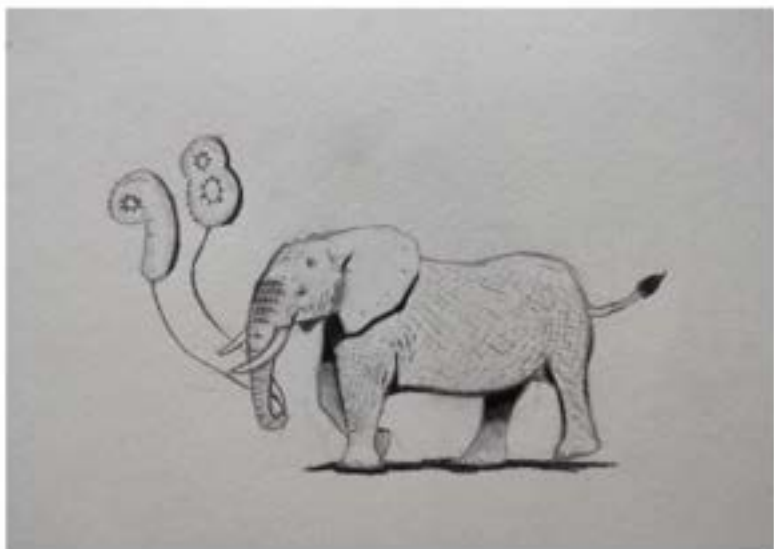
*Winners*      *Honourable mentions*

S1   

S2  

Tristan Cheung from 2A drew this beautiful elephant to wish Sir David Attenborough a happy 98th birthday in May this year.

He then got this lovely thank you letter. ↘



We agree – it really is a truly delightful drawing. Well done, Tristan!

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# S1 John Muir Award



S1 pupils have been working hard to achieve their John Muir Award as part of our whole school Wider Achievement programme. Following a few visits to Temple woods our pupils enjoyed a day at Mugdock Country Park where they engaged with the Mugdock Rangers to complete various outdoor tasks.







# S1 John Muir Award

All our S1 pupils are almost finished the work to achieve their John Muir Award and should be very proud of themselves. Well done to everyone!



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# S1 John Muir Award

More amazing photos from our S1 John Muir Award!







## S1 John Muir Award

Lovely article below about the John Muir experience from an S1 pupil, Anya!



Last Tuesday, S1 classes went out to Temple Woods to work towards achieving the John Muir award. The award aims to encourage people to get outdoors and enjoy nature. I'm sure I speak for everyone when I say that we all loved it! The tasks we completed for French and English were fun and engaging. For French, we had an I-spy style worksheet where we could tick off the things we saw. Recently, S1 covered nature words in French during lessons on dictionary skills. For English, we wrote down things we saw, touched, tasted, smelled and heard as well as completing a sensory alphabet and sketching task, with the aim of writing a poem later on. The tasks were fun and we got to walk about the woods in groups on our own, exploring nature in the best way possible – by discovering things ourselves. This was definitely a fun excursion for the John Muir award and a great way to consolidate our knowledge and put the award's goal into practice – exploring wild places.

Anya Thomas 1D







Maximising Potential

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