

BOCLAIR ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the summer newsletter which captures some of the exciting activities from over the last few weeks. It has been an incredibly busy year and I am always delighted to report that your children have been incredible throughout the session. I would like to take this final opportunity to thank you for all your support of Bocclair Academy. As you know I am extremely proud of the young people and their achievements this year have surpassed all expectations. We close the school for the summer after what has been the most successful year we have ever had, and yet I am already looking forward to even greater success next year.

On behalf of all the staff in Bocclair I wish you and your families all the very best for the summer and I look forward to seeing your children when they return in August.

Best wishes

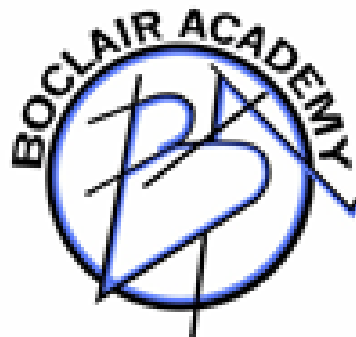
Douglas Brown
Head Teacher

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Honesty

Fairness

Ambition



SUMMER FAYRE



This year's Summer Fayre (our sixth!) was only the second to be hosted in the new school. Parents, pupils and teachers came together on the fifteenth of June to offer more stalls and attractions than ever before. Perennial favourites such as Bouncy Castle, Face-Painting, Raffle and Tombola stalls rubbed shoulders with home-baking, hand-made crafts, art and photography and the (relatively) new pre-loved clothes pop-up. The famous Bocclair burger stall made a reappearance and our Formula One club provided thrills and spills on the Hellerup Stairs. Behind the family fun however, the Fayre also raised nearly £6000 to replenish the school fund, meaning that more extra pupil activities will continue to be supported over the course of the next year. Well done and thank you to everyone to helped, donated or came on the day! You all made a huge contribution.



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SCHOOL SHOW



Well done to everyone involved in the amazing production of
WE WILL ROCK YOU!!



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LONDON DANCE TRIP



46 pupils had an amazing experience during our London Dance Trip. The weekend was packed with activities including dance lessons at Pineapple Studios, West End show Wicked, shopping and a sightseeing bus tour!

Well done to all the young people who took part – an excellent trip full of wonderful memories!



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SPRINT KAYAK

Congratulations to Rory Strachan who is part of the Scottish Performance Squad for Sprint Kayak, pictured here racing in Nottingham. He won a bronze medal in the K1 500m race at last year's British Championships and will be competing again this year. Good luck Rory!



Rory's younger sister Abigail is also part of the Scottish Performance Squad for Sprint Kayak. She started racing five years ago and has gone on to win a number of medals in the K2 and K4 events. She will also be competing at the British Championships this year. Good luck Abigail!



JUNIOR STEM CLUB

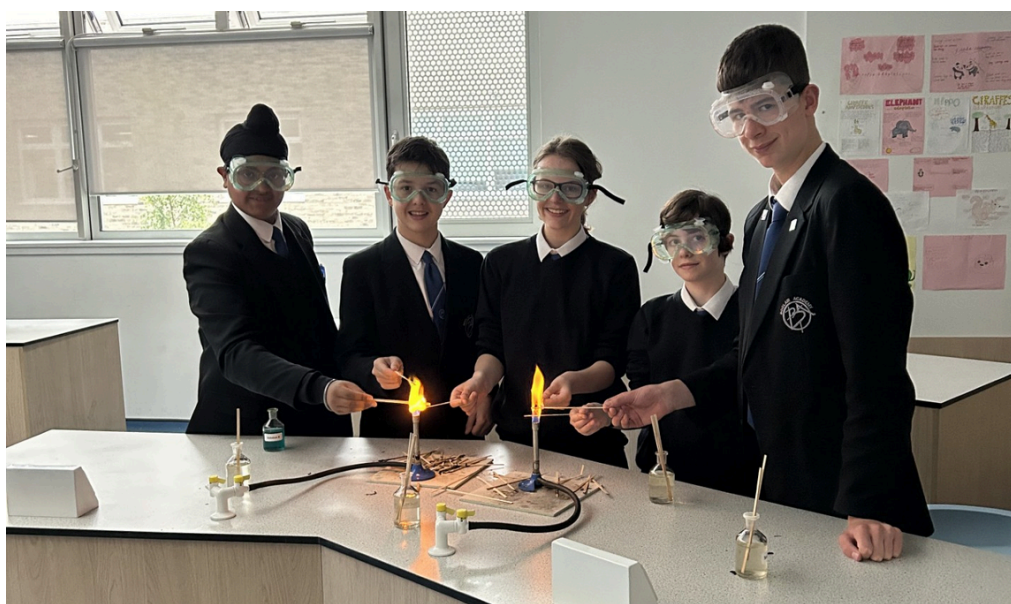


Junior STEM Club have had a great year, full of exciting experiments. Whilst building 'Bionic Hands', balloon cars and creating sparklers during our lunch time sessions, the group have developed lots of beneficial skills.

They worked incredibly well as a team, communicating effectively to tackle different challenges. This was particularly important during our 'CSI Bocclair' sessions in which they had to solve a crime using forensic techniques, including finger printing and analysing evidence left at the scene.

These young scientists impressed us each week with their skills in lab safety and problem solving. In every challenge they learnt the importance of perseverance, as they were often required to adapt and improve their designs to complete the challenges to their best ability.

Well done STEM club!



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RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

2024 – 2026



**Rights
Respecting
Schools**

UNITED KINGDOM

unicef

**Bronze
Rights Committed**



Our Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors had a fantastic day at the East Dunbartonshire Council celebration event! Brooke, Obianuju and Aaron are the three leaders of the Rights Respecting Schools Award Group who have been working so hard to ensure that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is enshrined throughout life in Boclair Academy.

The UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award puts children's rights at the heart of school life in the UK. UNICEF works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. The Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives young people the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

Our proud ambassadors achieved the Dynamic Youth Award for their hard work and dedication to the Rights Respecting Schools Award and for their participation in East Dunbartonshire Councils 'My Voice My Choice' project.

We are very proud to announce that we have currently achieved the Bronze Rights Respecting Schools Award which means we are Rights Committed and have the foundations to progress towards the Silver Award: Rights Aware.

We look forward to beginning new projects relating to the UNCRC in August and continuing to work towards the Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award.



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SPACE SCHOOL



Andrew wins a place on the Scottish Space School visit to the NASA facility in Houston, Texas!

The Scottish Space school programme is an opportunity for pupils to participate in a number of engineering-based activities, all of which are aimed at increasing the awareness of engineering and the career opportunities available.

Space school was a one-week, residential programme run by the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Strathclyde. 600 S5 pupils from across Scotland applied for the 80 available places. Andrew and Freya won places on the school, which was fantastic. Andrew was then invited to attend a further selection day with just 30 of the students. This was to decide the 8 who would be selected to go to NASA, USA. At this event Andrew had to complete a group task and go through tough interview process. Andrew excelled on the day and has been offered a place on the Houston trip! This is a superb opportunity and very exciting for Andrew and the school.

Very well done Andrew.

S2 WIDER ACHIEVEMENT

The wider achievement activity in S2 is called the Saltire Award. The Saltire Award is an award that recognises young people aged 12-25 who have helped in the community. Young people who achieve the Saltire Award receive a certificate from the Scottish Government to reward their effort.

To achieve our Saltire Award everyone in S2 works to help the local foodbank. We spend time in PSE learning about food poverty and the role of foodbanks, making posters to raise awareness and planning fundraising activities. For example, our class organised a whole school bake sale to raise money. Some pupils in S2 also go to parents' evenings to collect money and food donations. Also, all S2 classes had a Home Economics lesson about cooking on a budget and then designed and cooked a dish. This helped us understand the prices of food and how to try to get the best value when shopping.

As part of their work, each class also planned a trip to Asda and were given a budget to buy things from the shopping list. We used the money we had raised through fundraising to buy the essential items. Two representatives from each class then took the items to our local foodbank, which was the Drumchapel foodbank. They were very grateful for our donations.

The skills that we have gained by doing the wider achievement work were working well with others, communicating, budgeting and providing support for people in need. The benefit of us doing this is that everyone has been recognised for their contribution to volunteering through Saltire and can continue to increase and log volunteering hours by helping in school and the community.

By Alex Hughes and Millie McIntyre



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JUNIOR AWARD CEREMONY

Congratulations to all our S1-3 Award Winners on receiving recognition for excellence in attainment over the last year. Thank you to parents/carers who attended the ceremony and below are a selection of photos from the day. Particular thank you to Elspeth Smith, Head Teacher in Killermont Primary School. Good luck on your retirement and we will really miss you.



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It's been an absolute privilege to be a part of S6 this year in school.

From opportunities as a senior prefect, to mock interviews with professionals from the fields in which we will blaze trail in the future, S6 at Bocclair has helped me feel so much more confident in what lies ahead. Whilst there have been some setbacks, all the S6s have achieved wonderful places in universities, colleges, apprenticeships, and jobs across the UK, and everyone is going on to big and magnificent journeys beyond Bocclair.

It's been some hard work this year, with dissertations and coursework galore, but being in such a supportive environment has made me feel so capable and I've been pushed to create some of my best work, submitting dissertations I'm proud of and – whilst the exams are definitely grueling – feeling more prepared than ever before. The first few years of school were anything but smooth, but all of my teachers told me that sixth year would be far better, and they couldn't have been more right. I've had so much freedom to explore my own interests and achieve things I never thought I would manage.

My top highlights from school are almost exclusively from sixth year. Aside from work, I've been able to complete Mental Health First Aid Training with Danny from Be-inn Unity and I also achieved a commendation for the Anthea Bell Translation Prize with the French department, not to mention writing for the school newspaper! I've had the chance to be free to love my passions so deeply, and the end of school was celebrated perfectly with a music class opera trip, going to see Scottish Opera's 'La Traviata,' which was just stunning and a fun night out with all of my friends! I've gained the confidence to start and lead the school's first ever Junior Shakespeare Club, producing and directing two plays and being able to confidently hand over the reins to the next generation of this school's thespians in a very emotional last club meeting, but walking out of the rehearsal room for the last time I felt an unbelievable sense of pride at everything I have achieved, and this carries over to everything I've done at school.

Needless to say I was among those crying on the last day, but at prom I found it a chance to forget about the sadness and spend the night on the dancefloor with the friends that make me feel truly part of a family, and even though we won't be spending every weekday in the same building we will definitely see each other again. As I prepare to head off to the University of St Andrews in September and I start to meet some of my new classmates for next year, I can't help but feel an irrefutable pride in my time at Bocclair and a sense of school spirit that beats any other. Despite anything that may happen I know that, many years in the future, I will still be saying, "I am Bocclair."

– Sophie Jenkins, Bocclair Class of 2024



Exam results day can be exciting but also stressful. We hope that all our senior pupils get the results that they need and have worked hard for.

If you don't get the results you need and want to talk to members of staff then our SLT and Guidance Team will be available on Thursday 8th August to discuss results and/or make any changes to your curriculum.

A reminder about this will be sent out via email and text over the summer holidays.



lifeline Summer Holiday Support

Call 0808 196 3830 or text LIFELINK to 85258

Telephone and 24hr text chat support during the Summer break

Our trained Lifeline staff will continue to provide support to young people during the Summer break through our holiday helpline and 24hr text Lifeline service.

The helpline will be available Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm. Our text support service can be accessed at anytime by texting LIFELINK to 85258.

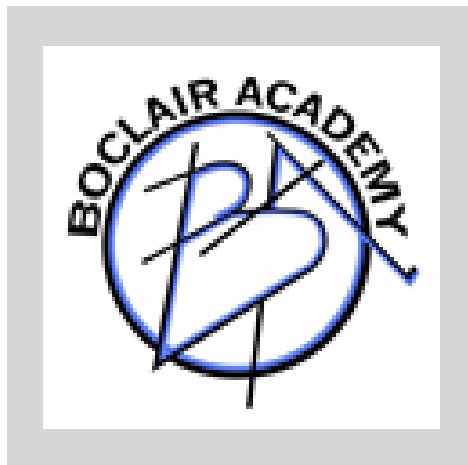
lifeline.org.uk

Twitter and Facebook icons

The Lifeline Counselling Summer Holiday Support service will be running again this year.

Please see flyer with all details of the support offered. The Support line will be open from 10am–3pm Monday to Friday and the text Lifeline service will run 24/7.

BOCLAIR ACADEMY



Maximising Potential

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