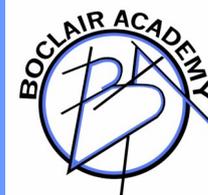


Boclair News



December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our December edition of Boclair News. It has been a very busy few weeks for our young people and staff as we approach the Christmas holidays. Our Christmas dances, Christmas carol singing events, a variety of trips and our final end of term rewards events, all combine to ensure a successful end of term.

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.

On behalf of the staff of Boclair Academy I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I look forward to seeing you all at one of our many events next year.

Douglas Brown
Head Teacher

Captaincy Team



Congratulations to our Captaincy Team who were elected to office at the start of the school year.

Our Head Boy, Jack Seath and Head Girl, Brooke Girdwood are supported by our Depute Head Girl, Kelly Tang and our Depute Head Boy, Greg Morris.

We know they will be a fantastic asset to the school as they represent Boclair at various school and external events.

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

SQA Star Awards Assembly Halls, Edinburgh

Our Senior vocal group “*Boca Bellas*” successfully auditioned for a performance slot at the prestigious SQA annual awards event in November. They performed 2 songs at the event and received lots of praise on our school twitter account, including one from John Swinney!

The group have been performing together as a group for four years and with their school choir since S1. They have featured on many in house school recordings recorded in our own recording studio. They are accompanied by two rising stars in the department; on the acoustic guitar, Ellis James-Wright who has been involved in work experience recently with Capital FM in London and Georgia Ferry on bass guitar, who recently won a songwriting competition for the Festival of Politics



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Dementia Friends

To celebrate the wonderful work undertaken by S3 last session, Alzheimer Scotland invited one of our pupils to attend a celebration session on 28th September. The session took place to celebrate National Poetry Day, and Georgia Ferry who is now in S4 wrote her own poem inspired by our local area.

Georgia recited the poem beautifully to an audience of local, elderly residents, some of whom live with Dementia. We are so proud of her contribution and that of last year's S3 pupils.



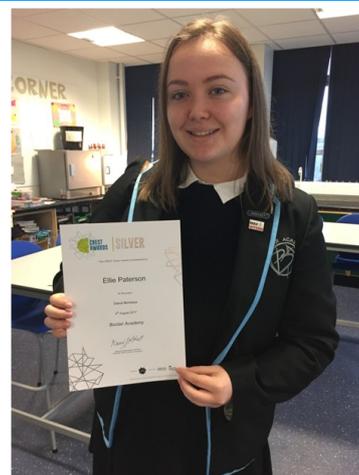
This session our S3 pupils have undertaken their Dementia Friends training at the end of October before taking part in a variety of volunteering/ befriending activities within the local community.

Keep up to date with our Dementia Friends work on our school twitter [@boclairacademy](https://twitter.com/boclairacademy)

Silver Crest Award

Congratulations to Ellie Paterson who has recently been awarded a Silver Crest Award for a project on Diana Monkeys she completed during the Summer at Edinburgh Zoo.

Any current S5 pupils interested in finding out about the project should contact Mrs Cleisham.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Krispy Kreme Visit

S4 Business Management pupils visited Krispy Kreme at Braehead to see first hand the production of doughnuts. They even got to make their own doughnut!

Operations which includes methods of production is part of the National 5 course. Pupils greatly benefitted from the experience.

Thereafter pupils visited Braehead shopping centre to investigate the marketing mix of 4 businesses.



Ibrox Visit

Higher Business Management pupils visited Ibrox in October. The pupils were given a tour of the stadium followed by a very informative talk on Marketing and Human Resources. The discussions which took place between the heads of department and our young people greatly benefitted our pupils when preparing their Higher assignment.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

S6 Enterprise

S6 enterprise have been very busy preparing personalised water bottles, Christmas Eve boxes (featured below) and the 2018 Boclair Academy calendar featuring art work from our talented pupils. To get more information on any of the above, please contact the Business and Information Management department.



Duke of Edinburgh

The weather has stayed dry the last few weeks to allow our S3 Bronze DoE volunteers to help with our Eco garden; filling raised beds and planting seeds and bulbs.



Excellent work - well done!

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Beatson Cancer Charity Fundraiser

S4 Biology pupils recently organised a charity fundraising and collection for the Beatson Cancer Charity. Pupils raised a whopping amount through donations and sales on Krispy Creme doughnuts.

A special mention needs to be given to Craig Maxwell who organised the sale of the doughnuts.



Pupils have been learning about cancer in class as part of the National 5 Biology course and were keen to give back to a local charity. A volunteer from each class visited the research centre at Gartnavel Hospital.

Here they were given a tour of the wellbeing suite and heard all about the ways in which their money would be used.

Well done to all S4 Biologists for their involvement in this.

Glasgow Warriors V Cardiff Blues Rugby Trip

The new Boclair Girls' S1/2 Rugby team attended their first out of school match on the 1st of December. They took part in a tournament organised by the Glasgow Warriors and all received a ticket for the match as well.



They played three games in the group stages against other schools from across the west of Scotland. They won 2 out of the 3 games and finished second in their group meaning they qualified to play a final at half time on the main pitch in front of a full Scotstoun stadium. The 10,000 fans were entertained by the girls half time performance but unfortunately we lost our final to a much more experienced team from St Andrew's Secondary School.

A massive well done to all the girls who took part!

Training will start back on the 1st Tuesday back after the holidays.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Basketball Festival

On the 15th of November the Boclair Basketball Club took part in the East Dunbartonshire Junior Basketball Festival at Lenzie Academy. Our teams were made up of a combination of boys and girls from S1 and S2 and included a range of abilities from club players to those playing for enjoyment. The event was a great success as it allowed the Boclair pupils to test their skills against all the other schools in the authority but also gave all children involved the opportunity to play plenty of matches.



Out of the 12 teams, Boclair managed to secure a 4th and 5th place spot, whilst also being the only school there with both boys and girls represented.



All the children involved said they had a great time and are already looking forward to the next festival after Christmas.

Remember basketball club is on at lunchtimes; Monday for the S4-6 and Tuesday for S1-3.

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Lifeguarding Qualification

Since before the summer holidays we have had 12 S6 pupils training toward achieving their pool lifeguarding qualification. This is a mentally and physically demanding course but anyone with this qualification can move immediately onto paid employment as qualified lifeguards.



Our assessment day took place on the 6th of December with two external examiners attending the school to test our senior pupils.



We, as a department, are delighted to say a massive well done to all 12 pupils who passed! They were Jamie Bennett, Leah Graham, Mitchell Thomson, Jenna Corrigan, Jack Seath, Jamie McKay, Nathan Findlay, Ellie May Dewis, Paula Gillon, Zoe McDonald, Kirsty McKenzie and Erin Smart

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Interclass Games

On Thursday 12th 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 skills:- Communication, Creativity, Cooperation, Team work, Problem Solving and many more skills for life, learning and work!



Special mention to all the senior pupils who gave up their free time to help make the day such a success. Altogether we had 467 pupils who took part and competed for their class which is a great achievement!

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Badminton Doubles Festival

On the 23rd of November Boclair Academy attended the East Dunbartonshire Badminton Doubles Festival at Kirkintilloch with 12 pupils. The pairs were; Anya Krishnaov and Lara McCulloch (S1) Katie Stewart and Matthew Smith (S1), Ross Colligan and Patrick Hamilton (S1), Tsvetomir Manoev and Connor McDonald (S2), Andrew D'Alessandro and Glen Hornby (S3) and Andrew Moore and Blair Johnstone (S3).



All of the pairs played with a good spirit and excellent sportsmanship. They were excellent at representing Boclair and we are very proud with how they helped organisers with tasks, encouraged each other when not playing and their overall behaviour at the event.



All the S2 and S3 pairs qualified for the top court and eventually all tied for second place overall. Two of the S1 pairs qualified for the second court and our final S1 pair qualified for the 3rd court. Katie and Matthew (S1) came out on top of the group for court 2 and were awarded medals at the prize ceremony at the end.

Remember Badminton club is on Wednesday Lunchtime and Thursday after school. See you after the holiday!!

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Scottish National Trail Championships



Congratulations to Ruaridh Stickland of 4D who recently achieved a gold medal in the the Scottish National Trail Championships with his running club the *Garscube Harriers*.

This was a fantastic result as Ruaridh was competing against athletes from all over the country,

A great achievement, well done Ruaridh!

Starstruck Stage School

Two of our current first year pupils performed in a recent production of "*Oliver*"

Chloe Campbell and Emma-Jane Clark have been involved in the Bearsden based stage school for sometime and have been rehearsing since March.



After a very competitive round of auditions they were awarded the parts "*Noah Claypole*" and "*Nancy*". The standard of performance was very high from all students (which can range from age 6-18) in this production.

Their enthusiasm and passion for being on stage was very apparent and led to a thoroughly enjoyable show.

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

CERN Trip

At 3.30 am on Friday 1 December 25 pupils and 3 Staff set out from Boclair Academy for CERN, Geneva. Despite the early start, there was much excitement as we looked forward to a packed itinerary.

On Day 1 there was a visit to the Christmas market for lunch followed by a walk along the shore of Lake Geneva to the Science Museum. This is a small museum overlooking Lake Geneva with many fascinating exhibits.



After a short time, we all marched to the UN Headquarters where we were given a tour of many of the impressive conference rooms and debating chambers.

We really got a sense of the vital role that the UN plays in helping to bring peace and justice to areas of conflict in the world.

A quick trip back to the hostel (via the giant chair) and then off out for a boat trip across the Lake with a walk round the old city to finish the day.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

CERN Trip (cont.)

On Saturday we had to get up early again in readiness for the CERN visit. The tour was 4 hours long and included a lecture by one of the computer scientists, a tour of several labs where we could observe scientist and engineers trying to solve the puzzles of the Universe like missing Anti-matter, Dark Matter and “How do you make a black hole?” We enjoyed both of the exhibition rooms and rounded of the visit with a Q&A session with scientists who are based at Glasgow University.



Much of the physics was mind blowing but it was inspiring to see the work that was being undertaken.



Returning to the hotel via a shopping centre stop for chocolate; we then headed out to the Eidelweiss Hotel for a 'Swiss' style meal. This comprised of Cheese Fondue, Sausage & Chips and Ice cream. But the best part of the evening was when we were given the opportunity to 'play' the Alpine horn. Some more successful than others!

After tea we walked to a local funfair for some stomach churning rides.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

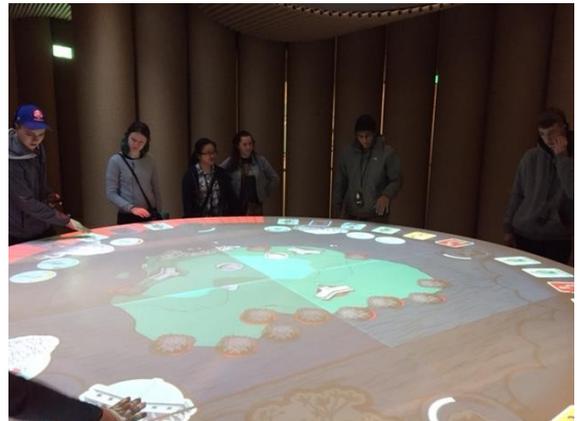
Achievement

Cern (cont)

Sunday, our last day, saw us sleeping in 'till 7.30am!

We packed our bags and headed to the Red Cross museum to read of the work of the Red Cross trying to ensure human rights in the midst of war and crisis. The staff and pupils found this to be very informative and quite harrowing.

We walked to a local funfair for some stomach churning rides.



We walked to the station via the Lake for a last look at the Jet D'eau fountain.

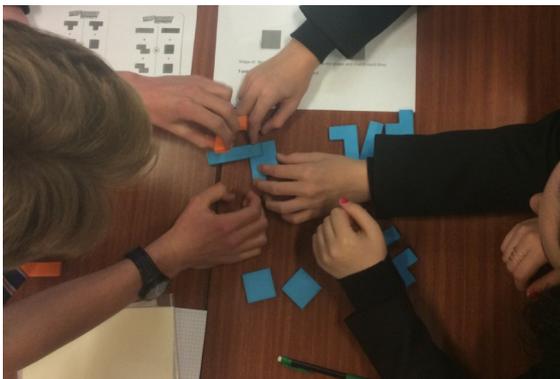
We travelled home after a crammed weekend with happy memories and expanded horizons.

East Dunbartonshire Enterprising Mathematics

In October, Boclair hosted the East Dunbartonshire Enterprising Mathematics competition. Teams of S3 and S4 pupils from across East Dunbartonshire completed a variety of challenges in an attempt to qualify for the National finals. There were four rounds: the Team Round, Speed Round, Practical Round and the Relay Round.



Boclair's team of Blair Johnstone, Louise MacKenzie (both S3), Cameron Devenny and Scott Roberts (both S4) worked exceptionally well together but were unfortunate to just miss out on qualifying for the finals. Well done to all pupils involved on the day!



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Arran Campbell



In September, Arran Campbell, 5F and other young people from across Scotland met First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon to present key recommendations about the rights issues that matter to them.

Having confidently delivered part of the presentation to the First Minister, Arran was nominated to attend the Children's Commissioner for Scotland National Residential Event in Linlithgow in November.



Festival of Politics

Georgia Ferry is studying National Music Performance this year and entered a singer-songwriter competition in October with the Traditional Scottish Song Forum.

The focus of the song was to be about growing up in Scotland. We were delighted that Georgia's song was chosen from a huge number of entries from all over the country



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Boclair House Hotel Lights Switch On

Our choir performed a programme of Christmas carols on the bandstand at Boclair House Hotel for their Christmas Tree lights switch on.

A huge crowd from the local community were there to watch the event.

We look forward to securing more performance opportunities at the hotel in the future.



Music Department Trip to La Traviata

S4-6 Music students had the opportunity to watch a fabulous performance of La Traviata by Scottish Opera at the Theatre Royal on 30th November.

It was a real treat for students many of whom have never been to the Opera before or the Theatre Royal and to have seats in the Dress Circle was quite a special event.

The music, costumes and set were beautiful and there was not a dry eye within the group. A brilliant experience that will be repeated in the near future.



Global Studies Department



Global Studies - Mr Shand, Mrs Bone, Miss Henderson, Dr Ross and Mr Higgins

The new Global Studies Department on the 3rd floor would like to welcome our new members of staff Miss Henderson and Mr Shand. We now consist of Social Subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies) in S1, RME S1-4, Geography S2-6 and Travel and Tourism S5-6. Since the team has grown we have been engaging learners across our curriculum in a number of events as you will see on the next few pages. Next year we hope to offer Higher RMPS and Higher Psychology and potentially Environmental Science. If you have any questions about these really interesting courses please come and see us and we will be delighted to talk to you.

Act of Kindness

We recently created an Act of Kindness board for Kindness Day on the 13th November. This was so successful and showed us how amazing Boclair Academy pupils are that we have decided to keep this going. Come and see our board and feel free to add your random act of kindness!



Respect

Honesty



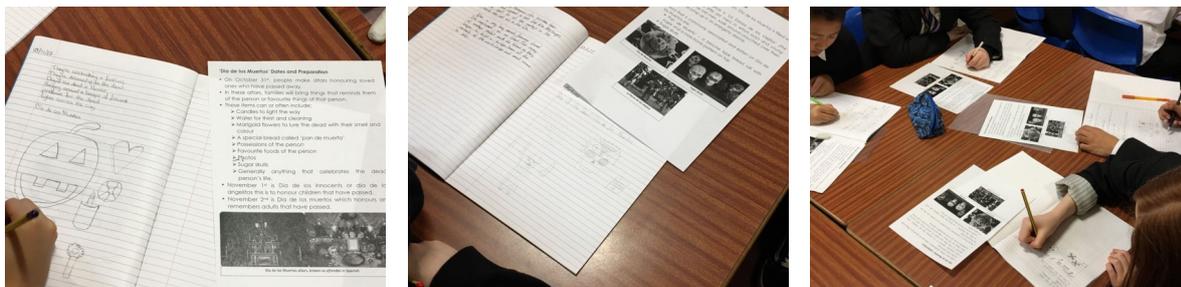
Fairness

Achievement

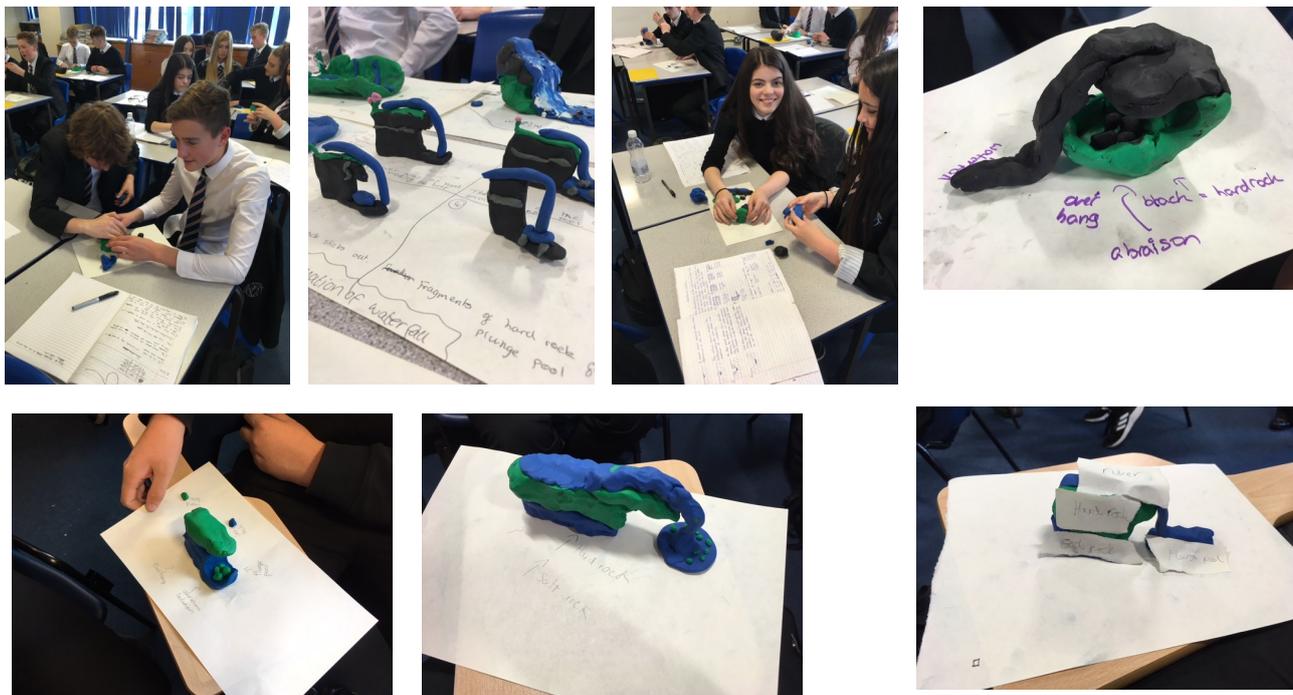
Active Learning

We have been allowing pupils recently to lead their learning in all areas of Global Studies. The results have been amazing with all pupils fully engaged and on task. Pupils have been able to be creative which is an important higher order skill valuable for any job when leaving school.

S1 RMPS Festivals



S3 River Studies Model Making



Positive feedback from pupils has been overwhelming. Thank you all for being so enthusiastic and putting in so much effort!



Respect

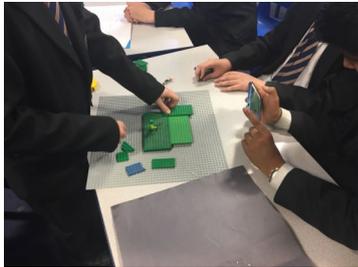
Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Active Learning (cont.)

S2 Creation Stories



S3 Atlas Skills



S1 Deforestation



Respect

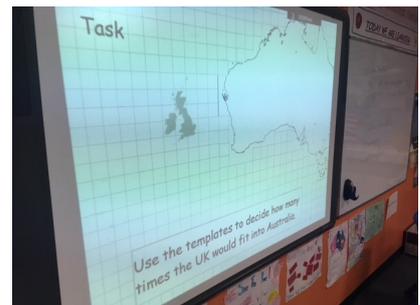
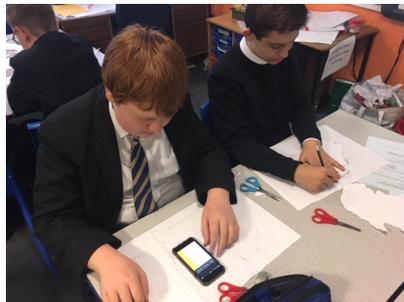
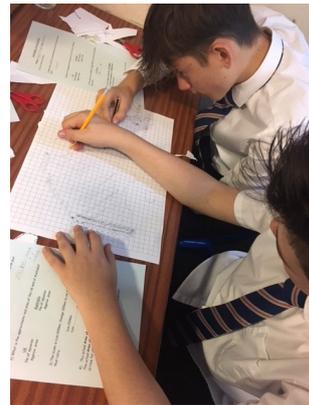
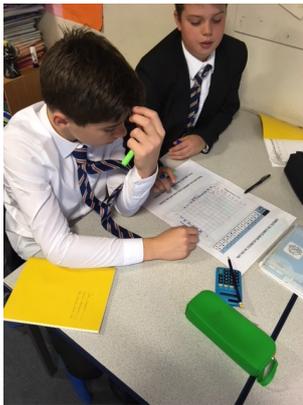
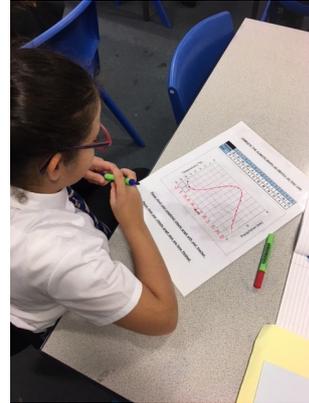
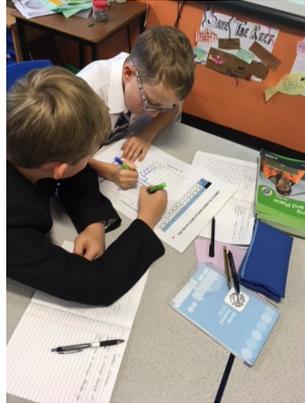
Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Numeracy in Geography

S2 study The Great Barrier Reef as part of the Wonders of the World topic. Pupils are challenged to estimate how many times the UK will fit into Australia. This allows pupils to utilise their numeracy skills across the school. 2E in particular were fantastic at this task and really worked well as a team to work out the answer.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

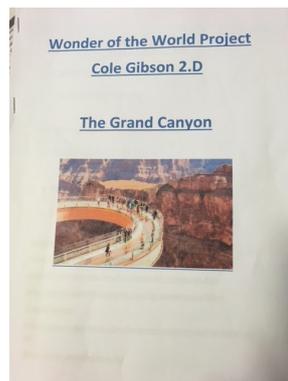
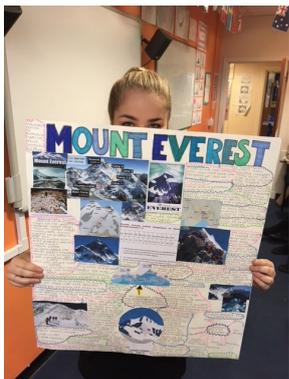
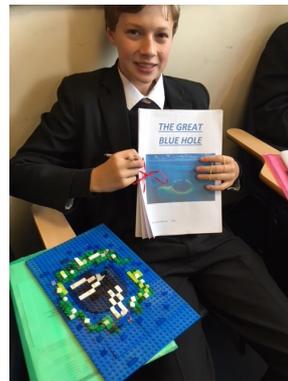
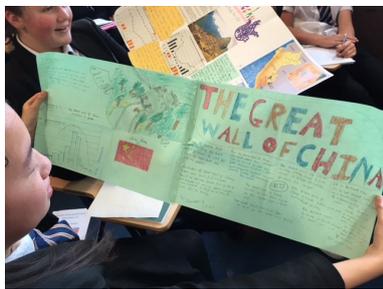
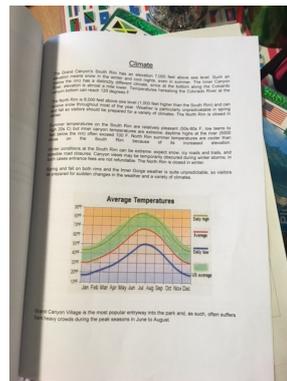
Achievement

S2 Projects Newsletter

Geographers were set a challenge to choose a Wonder of the World, research information and then create a way to present the information. The results were outstanding. We are so proud of all pupils as the projects completed were to the highest standard and clearly a huge amount of work had gone into it. Mr Higgins in particular enjoyed the cake models!

Well done all! We look forward to seeing what 2F and 2C produce over the next few weeks.

Knowledge and understanding	Excellent. Detailed investigation of chosen wonder. Includes information on the geographical location, the environment, the history and the importance of the wonder.	Very good investigation of chosen wonder. Shows a good understanding of the location, environment and history.	Good investigation of chosen wonder. Shows some understanding of the location and history.
Required elements	Includes more information than was required.	Includes all the information that was required.	Includes some information that was required.
Structure	Independently selected ideas and relevant information is clearly organized in a logical order using clear headings and sub-headings.	Information is neatly organized in a logical order using some headings.	Information is partly organized in a logical order using some headings.
Presentation	Layout and presentation includes excellent diagrams and other features to engage the reader. Excellent design showing creativity and originality.	Layout and presentation includes good diagrams and other features to engage the reader. Very good design showing creativity and originality.	Layout and presentation includes diagrams and other features to engage the reader. Good design showing creativity and originality.
Evidence of Research	A number of different sources have been referenced and used to select and summarise key information. Information has been sorted and lists have been made between different parts.	A number of different sources have been used to select and summarise key information. Information has been sorted and there are some lists between different parts.	Information has been selected from different sources and has been summarised.
Numeracy	Climate graph has been created and the information from it has been referred to in the text. Numerical data (for example percentages of history) has been included.	There is reference to the climate of the country. There is some reference to numerical data (for example population, currency, etc.)	There is reference to the climate of the country. There is some reference to numerical data (for example population, currency, etc.)
Library	Spelling, including specialist geographical vocabulary, is accurate. Punctuation and structure of different parts of text is clear and has been arranged to make meaning clear, showing good relationships between paragraphs.	Most spelling, including specialist geographical vocabulary, is accurate. Punctuation and structure of different parts of text is mostly clear and has been arranged to make meaning clear, showing an upward relationship between paragraphs.	Most spelling, including specialist geographical vocabulary, is accurate. Punctuation and structure of different parts of text is mostly clear and has been arranged to make meaning clear, showing an upward relationship between paragraphs.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Millport Trip

We recently took 56 senior pupils to Millport for 3 days to complete fieldwork for their assignments and study. It was a fantastic trip. The weather was amazing and all pupils had an excellent time collecting data to write up back in class.



Pupils collected soil samples from a Brown Earth catena, recorded data on coastal defences and completed beach analysis to determine if erosion and longshore drift were taking place.



Pupils are now working hard in class to complete their assignments.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Glasgow Trip

We recently took 55 S4 pupils to Glasgow to learn about different land use zones. Pupils completed fieldwork such as questionnaires, traffic/pedestrian counts, storey counts and environmental surveys. We then compared what we observed in the City centre to Dalmarnock, an example of Inner City zone. Pupils then came back to class to use the data as part of their N5 assignment. Pupils were all outstanding and represented Boclair so well when talking to the public. We were so proud.



We then went to Zizzi's for pizza after a hard day in the field.



Brilliant work S4!

Respect

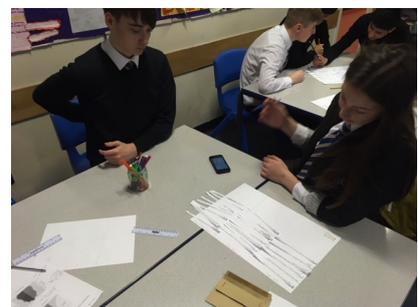
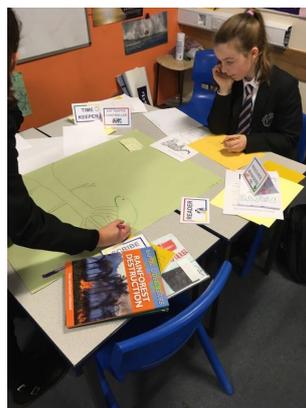
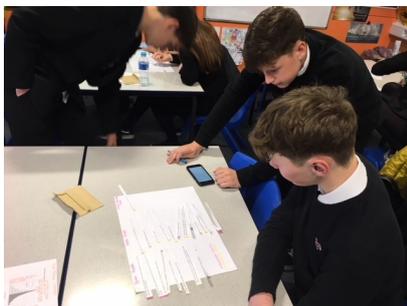
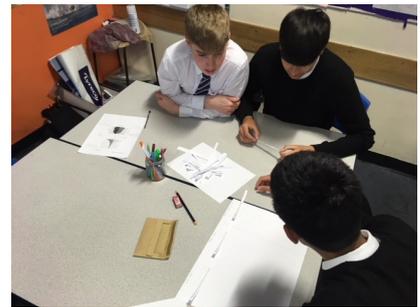
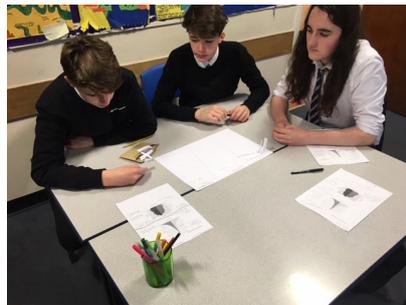
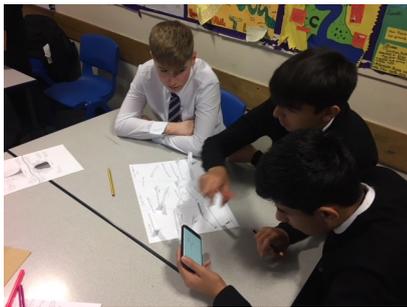
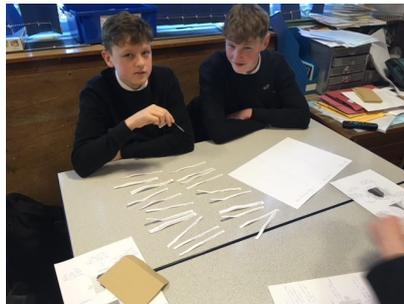
Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Co-op Learning

We have been trying to use cooperative learning where possible across the department and pupils have certainly helped us with this by being so fantastic at group discussions, leading their learning and questioning.



This has challenged pupils and engaged pupils in all year groups and we are certainly going to continue with this.

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Travel and Tourism Newsletter

Travel and tourism came together as a team to organise a staff coffee morning for Macmillan Cancer Research. It was such a lovely morning; pupils really came together for a great cause. We enjoyed excellent home baking too.



More importantly pupils raised a very impressive £114.00. Well done to our Travel and Tourism team, you were fantastic!



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Eco Boca Bake Off

Excellent work from our Eco team for organising and taking part in the Boca Bake off this year. We raised £50 that will go towards plants and bulbs for our Eco garden. Check out the amazing entries we had. Mr Higgins was our judge and thoroughly enjoyed the experience!



The winners in the close run competition were Holly and Caitlin in S1.

Well done to all! We are look forward to next year 's competition already!

Respect

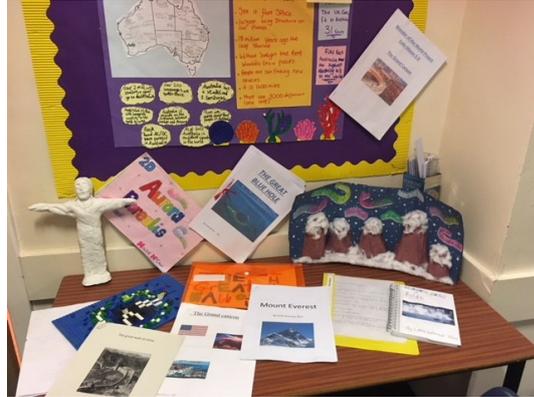
Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

P7/S1 Parents' Night

Global Studies recently put on an excellent celebration of pupil work for the P7/S1 parents. We had amazing volunteers from our younger Geography and RME classes.



All were outstanding on the night and we the Global Studies Department staff enjoyed working with you to showcase our work.



S3 Visit to Culzean Castle

At the end of August, S3 Biology pupils visited Culzean Castle in Ayrshire as part of their Life in Earth topic. The trip involved rock pooling and pond dipping. Here the pupils had the opportunity to learn about various sampling techniques and the factors affecting biodiversity in ecosystems. As you can see from the photos a large variety of life was found!



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

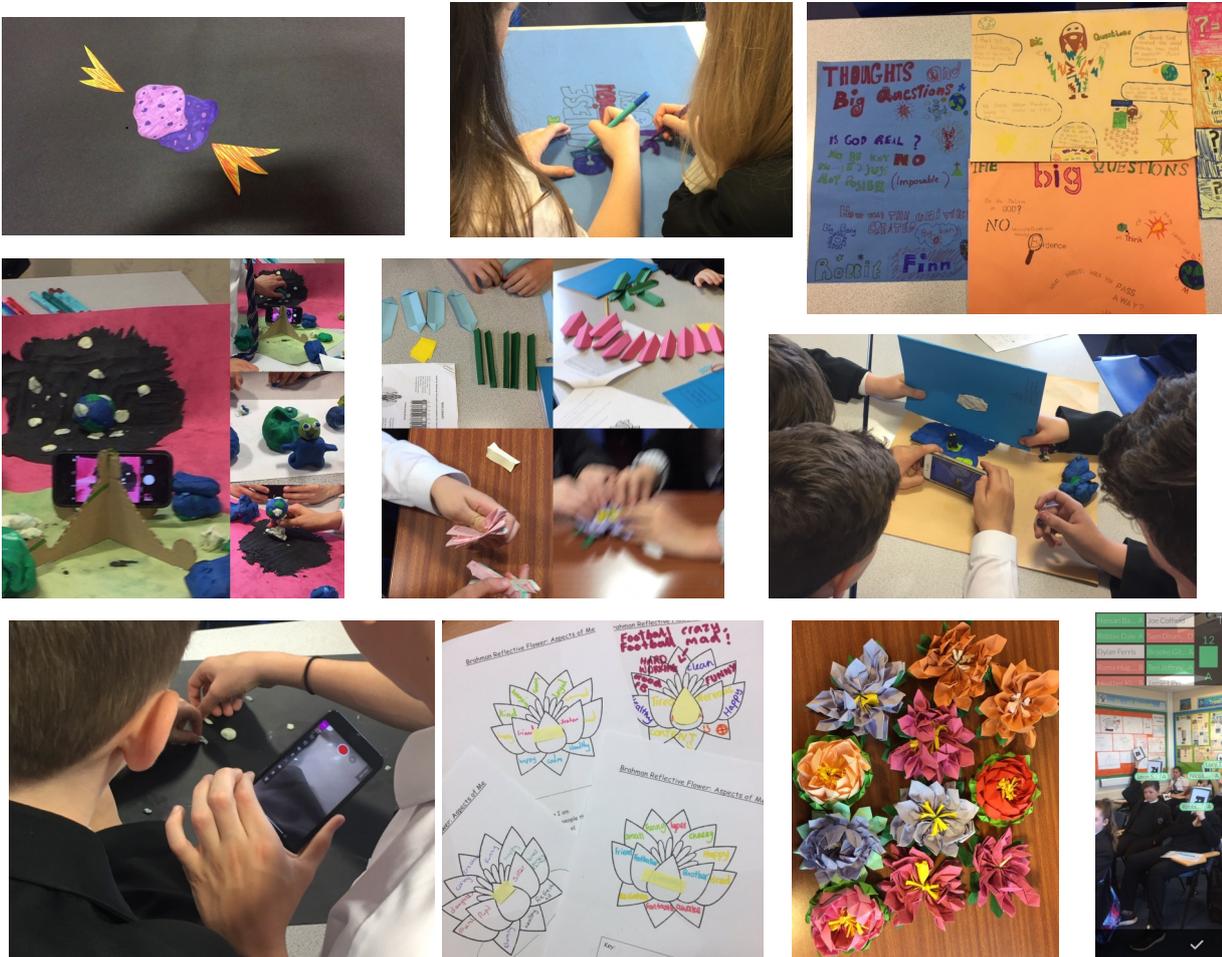
RMPS

In RME we have been working hard to develop a new curriculum that is fun and engaging for all learners that links with their wider learning across the school and with school values. Our courses focus on religious and moral issues that challenge pupils' understanding, beliefs and values while developing skills in critical thinking, literacy, communication, self-reflection and research.

Our S1 classes learn about religion through festivals that are celebrated around the world. So far we have studied Eid-al-Adha, Diwali, Halloween, Dia De Los Muertos and Bonfire Night.

Our S2 pupils have learnt about the many creation stories from around the world and have presented their understanding and interpretation of a chosen story through posters and stop-motion animation. They are currently working on our Random Acts of Kindness Unit which focuses on respecting different cultures and individuals, preparing them for our Charity unit. This unit will focus on the morality of charity and how charity is influenced by religion. This unit will also allow pupils to reflect on themselves and how they can help others at home, in the community and in the wider world.

S3 & 4 are working on moral issues with a focus on capital punishment. The content and skills developed have prepared them for the Investigation of Belief unit that they are currently undertaking as part of the Religion, Belief, and Values Award. This investigation allows individuals to select a moral issue of their own to investigate and develop an understanding of why it is a moral issue, understand secular and non-secular views on the issue, compare these views to their own beliefs and determine the impact the research has had on their own beliefs.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

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 over the last few weeks. 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. Over the next few weeks we will be working with the young people and families on this important area of school life and we would 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

Can we please remind parents/carers that absences can be reported between 7.00 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. in the morning by calling the Absence Line on 0141 955 2361. After 8.30 a.m., please report any absences by phoning 0141 955 2358.

School Drop Off

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

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Finally - some dates for your diary....

Friday	22 December	School closes (2.30 p.m.)
Monday	8 January	School opens 8.50 a.m.
Monday - Friday	15 - 26 January	S4/S5/S6 Prelim Diet
Week commencing	22 January	S2 Monitoring statements issued
Monday	22 January	Parent Council Meeting (7.15 p.m.)
Thursday	25 January	HPV Vaccinations
Thursday	1 February	S2 Parents' Meeting (4.15 p.m.—6.45 p.m.)
Wednesday - Friday	7 - 9 February	Swimming Gala
Monday –Tuesday	12 - 13 February	Mid Term Holiday
Wednesday	14 February	In–service (Staff only)
Thursday	15 February	S2 Careers Conference
Week Commencing	19 February	Prelim Reports and S5/6 Reports Issued
Thursday	22 February	S3 Parents' Meeting
Monday	26 February	Parent Council Meeting (7.15 p.m.)