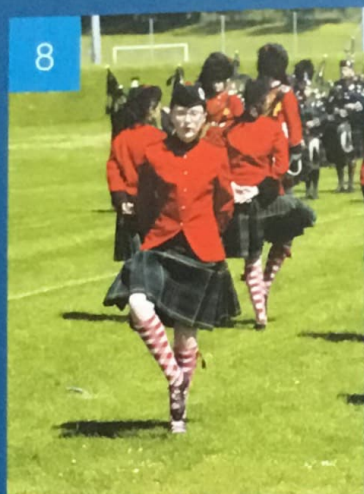




The Victorian 2019

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL





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Vision Statement

Ethos

Queen Victoria School embodies, demonstrates and promotes the following values:

- Integrity and honesty
- Respect and responsibility
- Justice and equality
- Compassion and empathy

Academic

The School strives to help each pupil realise his or her individual academic potential to the full at each stage of his or her school life.

Non-Academic

The School strives to provide a wide and diverse range of extra-curricular activities to develop the whole person.

Civic and Service Responsibility

Queen Victoria School is an asset to the Ministry

of Defence, and through it to the personnel of the Armed Forces. It provides a Service benefit by offering stability and continuity of valued Scottish education to the children of serving military personnel who are Scottish or who have served in Scotland.

Pastoral

Queen Victoria School aims to ensure that at least one adult member of staff takes a continuous, proactive interest in the development of each pupil, meeting with him or her regularly and providing both structured and responsive discussion. Through its boarding house structures the School provides a valid and valuable alternative to the pupil's home environment during term times. Partnership with parents and carers is welcomed. The School encourages parents and carers to involve themselves actively in their children's learning and in the life of the School.

Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners For The Government of Queen Victoria School, Dunblane

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The Rt Hon Dame Anne McGuire DBE

Mr I K Ritchie FRCSEd (Orth)

Mrs K Ritchie OBE

Mr C Ross (until July 2018)

Mrs C Yates

Headmaster

Mr D Shaw

Secretary and Treasurer to HM Commissioners

Mr N Cunningham



Colour Party.

From the Headmaster

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, students, parents, staff and invited guests, it is with great pleasure that I again have the chance to update on all the positive things that have gone on at QVS throughout this year.

Before I start those updates, I want to say a massive thank you to you all. You are, without a shadow of a doubt, the most supportive group of parents we could ever wish for. The way you support the school while handling adversity is phenomenal. You know, as we all do, that this year has been very difficult at times, with infrastructure problems causing many issues, including an early school closure in December. Added to that, the teachers and students have had to cope with no heating in the teaching block, lack of running hot water and a variety of issues in the boarding houses. But through all that, your support for QVS has kept us going – your ability to respond and support us when we need you is second-to-none and I am so proud to work on your behalf. I know state schools get a flood of complaints if they have to close for an afternoon – we had to shut down the school for a whole week and I received not one single complaint on the matter, despite many of you having to travel hours, if not days, to get here. You are an incredible group of parents and your children are lucky to have you, even though they might not always show it! By way of an update, almost £1 million was spent on sorting infra issues here in the last year and because of that, we expect a much better year ahead.

There have also been several bereavements within our community over the last year and I want you all to know that our thoughts and prayers are with everyone affected by bereavement, whether in the last year or prior to that. The strength within the community extends to those families affected and we will continue to support you all in every way we can.

When dealing with Safeguarding issues too, you have shown real trust in me and my team which has allowed us to work as hard as possible to ensure we do safeguard your children to the very best of our ability. It is genuinely appreciated – I hope I am making that clear

– we are all part of a big family, a community and the fact that we have shown great togetherness this year will never be forgotten. Thank you again from all of us.

Let's put a wee focus on the positives. This year has seen us take part in a selection of academic competitions. Miss Thomson took a group of Geography students to take part in the Worldwide Quiz and one team, Alfie Walker, Alex Skinner and Rio Gregory, progressed to the Scottish National Final – an excellent achievement. Miss Thomson has been active with her classes throughout the year and even just this week, she took a group of S4-S6 students to do some work on the path up Ben A'an – next time you are walking up that hill and you note how good the path is, it's partly down to QV!

The Maths department have been competing this year too in the Scottish Mathematical Challenge and 14 students were awarded prizes, our first lot of prizewinners in many years. We got three silvers and a wonderful Gold award for Rachael Brown. The department also sent a team to enter the Scottish team Maths challenge and were heavily involved in the Race for the Line competition, run by 32 Signals. All S1 designed and raced a rocket car for that and winning team of Eva Rennie, Mica McCloud and Aaliyah McCloud went to Redford Barracks to compete in the final. Great fun.

I mentioned 32 Signals there and they have been wonderful in supporting our CCF this year. We now have a signals section within the Army CCF, run by parent Capt Jimmy Scott and it's been transformational in what we can offer our youngsters – a fantastic development. The army section were also 2nd in a national first aid competition, proving that there is room to develop on many areas within the CCF. In other CCF news, Simoon and Nanda are heading to a summer Camp in Bristol, PK, Gabbi, Greer and Caitlin are all going on a paddle sport camp and Charlie, Molly and Kenzie are off on a sailing course. Topping all of that is Cadet Aidan Horsburgh who is off to Canada after earning his place on an Expedition Instructor Course with the Royal Canadian Army Cadets. Great stuff.



Left to right: Monitors; Cunningham House prefects.



Our Duke of Edinburgh awards continue to impress – more than ever this year in fact. Jacob Codd and T-beau Bark have completed their Gold with 4 others on track. Fourteen pupils are working on Silver and 27 ready to complete their Bronze.

Among the many sporting achievements we have had this year has been wonderful athletics performances by, in particular, the McCloud twins in S1. Aaliyah is turning out to be a great 800m runner, reaching the final of the Scottish schools while Mica is already Scottish Schools 100m champion, running 13.01 seconds this year in the U13 age group. She would beat the vast majority of students and all of the staff with that time! They also both broke several school records during the recent Sports day. We are lucky enough to have a high number of top quality athletes at the moment – including SM Josh King, who gained a silver in the discuss. Connor Paterson, Michael Draunidalo, Ayden Paterson and Deeyana Gurung all represented the school at the Scottish Schools Championships and reached their respective finals.

In Rugby, Josh King has also been capped several times for the Scotland U18 squad, playing in the 6 Nations competition at Easter. We have Aminio Bogidrau, Amena Caqusau and Tom Main playing for the Caledonia U16s along with Euan Lee, Rays Gurung and Theo Natiri at U15 level.

This year also saw us enter teams in Volleyball and Netball competitions. With Netball currently being the fastest growing female sport in the UK, the PE department are hoping to develop this further. With Mrs Elliot now being a qualified Mountain Bike leader, the department have purchased seven new bikes in order to develop mountain biking at QVS, very exciting!

Activities week was fabulous this year and is now an embedded part of our year – your children are an adventurous bunch and we are delighted to be able to offer them challenging activities which they throw themselves into with real gusto. At the end of activities, we now have our annual sponsored walk, which raised over £2300 this year – thank you for your contributions.

In PDD, the band performed magnificently at the Basel tattoo out in Switzerland and closer to home, we were asked to take part in two very special events this year. The first was Sounds from Stirling Castle where we were honoured to be asked to perform and even more delighted that we ended up being the main entertainment for the evening. The band also performed some amazing combined sets with The Capital Concert Band and the Herald Trumpets of Scotland. The highlight had to be the final piece which was Highland Cathedral played by all musicians with our dancers taking pride of place performing the village maid alongside them.

The second event that we took part in was in support of The Royal Caledonian Education Trust, which is a charity that is massively close to the hearts of all of our community here at QVS. The event took place at Edinburgh Castle which was quite the ongoing joke for us all, after not getting to perform at the Tattoo last summer. The kids really were proud to take part in the event as they appreciate all of the work and time that RCET invest in children and Families of the armed forces.

Now for a word on retiring members of staff: Steve Laing, PT Technical, has worked with us from 1st September 1984 and has had many roles in the school; he will always be highly respected by those he has worked with and the students he has supported over the 35 years he has worked here. They say that no-one is irreplaceable but he comes pretty close to it. As well as being QV through and through, you might be interested to know that Steve has a long history in athletics and is a multiple Scottish internationalist in that sport.

Carole Phipps, Deputy Head Pupil Support, was instantly someone I could look up to and learn from when I first arrived here. Carole always seemed the most patient, the most kind and the most sensible member of the team. Carole has never been shy in keeping the rest of the team grounded – and never shy at keeping me in line – always supportive and reassuring. She has provided support of the highest quality to students when they needed it most and will be missed.



Clockwise top to bottom: Haig House prefects; Trenchard House prefects; Wavell House prefects.

Tom King, PT Primary is also retiring this year. Tom has been instrumental in helping our new students settle into life at QVS. I can't stress just how important the first year is here for our Primary 7s and Tom has been very much at the heart of that during his time here. The consistent high standards and expectations in his classroom are an example to us all.

Mike Eastham, HoM Cunningham, arrived at the school in January 2008 when I was a tutor in Cunningham. I was immediately drawn to his relaxed, patient, firm-but-fair attitude in the House and I know the boys at the time really enjoyed settling in to the new routines and mantra he brought along with him. He's made Cunningham House a real home for the boys who stay there and will be missed by all.

Sarah Eastham started as Matron in March 2011 and made an immediate impact, providing a high level of support and advice to the boys – she has most definitely been the most consistent female influence on their young lives and has been instrumental in ensuring the boys managed their transition from Trenchard to Cunningham well. Sarah went on to qualify as a counsellor and has put these new skills to great effect over the last year in particular.

Those members of staff represent over 90 years of life at QVS and so they are leaving big shoes to fill – life won't quite be the same without them.

D Shaw, Headmaster

Alan Plumtree Chair of Commissioners

School Days

Most of us tend to think of our time at school as being spent learning languages, or science, subjects which we increasingly narrow down and bring into focus until we arrive at those qualifications necessary to take us from school into tertiary education as a prelude to our chosen long term career.

The Scottish secondary education system has always provided a much broader range of final qualifications than the English 'A' level system and this is in my view a considerable advantage. In reality very many of us change direction in the years after school and a broad education is an undoubted advantage. In my own case with science 'A' levels I left school to read physics and chemistry and instead spent all my working career as a Chartered Accountant !

But in fact school life and more particularly boarding school life offers each of us much more than just the examination subjects. In this regard QVS offers an exceptional range of extra curricular activities whether it be learning to play squash or experimenting with a Raspberry Pi. These 'out of hours' activities are not just enjoyable, if not why would we do them, but also offers us the opportunity to absorb other skills which much later in life may come back to us to provide career enhancement, fresh enjoyment or even a life long interest.

Long ago when I was at school the CCF not only taught me to shoot with reasonable accuracy but then taught me how to repair car engines in the REME section (engines were much simpler then) and finally took me into Signals. In my school days many more secondary schools around the country then had a Combined Cadet Force and a lot had a Signals section. Using radio frequencies reserved for the CCF we could talk to schools all over the UK. That beginning in

the CCF led in time to me acquiring my UK amateur radio licence followed by my Australian licence and most recently my Falkland Islands licence. A life time of enjoyment and meeting people arising from an extra curricular activity at school.

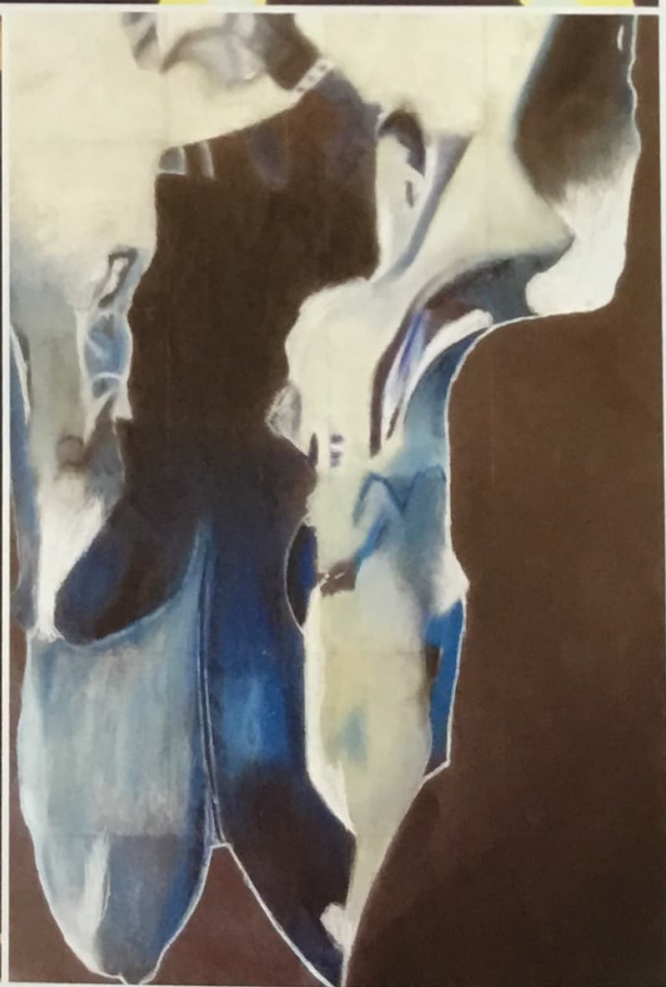
I was particularly interested to see that in May of this year "Exercise Blue Ham" was run, largely by RAF Cadets, reviving the idea of a national radio field day for both Cadets and amateurs much as it was some fifty years ago. Of course some of the modes of radio communication are much changed from then but the principles remain the same. So successful was this exercise that a similar exercise is being run again this coming October.

My interest in radio, largely sparked and fostered by the CCF, at first sight has nothing to do with my subsequent daily working career. In fact though it has played a continuing role, and has on several occasions let me build a much better relationship with an electronics based client than would otherwise have been possible. All thanks to the Combined Cadet Force .

As I write this the Highers results have just come through. Yet again I am delighted to say QVS has performed well above the national average with most of our students obtaining the grades they require to pursue their chosen careers. I wish them well and, as I say every year at Grand Day, I hope they will continue to keep in touch with their old school. I hope too that like me they will come to realise that their time at school taught them much more than the three 'Rs', Alongside the confidence and discipline to achieve that every QVS pupil acquires there will be other incidental or so called " soft skills " that will undoubtedly stand them in good stead in the future.

A J C Plumtree, Chairman





Clockwise top to bottom; Isla Gilbert S4; Sharmeer Gurung S3; Amy Gray S5.



From the Senior Monitor

Hello and I would like to personally welcome each and everyone of you to this year's Grand Day.

When Mr Shaw announced me as Senior Monitor, my mind was bombarded with thoughts but the one that stood out the most was that I now had bragging rights over every one of my siblings.

As many of you know, I am the final member of the King family to attend this school. It started with my sister Emma, who joined in 1997 and was awarded prefect, Andrew followed and was also awarded prefect and then Tom, now Tom was awarded Head Boy but was only Deputy Senior Monitor so I think I still win that one – and then Sam and well... We love Sam.

Now even though we fight and argue constantly, we support each other as much as possible, this led to my main aim of being Senior Monitor. Bring the brothers and sisters of QV together, as that's what we are. We're not just pupils in this school anymore, we're a family.

Over the years we've organised socials including a water balloon fight, a groovy disco, scary horror movie nights and many other fun and enjoyable experiences for the younger years. These socials were fantastic and did exactly what we hoped, it brought the pupils together.

I struggled for the first week, wondering how I was going to fulfil the prestigious role of Senior Monitor but I soon realised that the skills and attributes that I have acquired over my time playing rugby were transferable.

For example, time management, I had to manage my time to complete my work to the highest standard as well as completing my duties as Senior Monitor, another example is leadership, I have led both regional and international squads as well as leading the ceremonial side of the school, sock up or down. Finally, and in my

opinion the most important, resilience. It's been a tough year, filled with injuries, illnesses and stressful times and without the resilience I have developed through my time playing rugby I could have been overwhelmed and crumbled.

However, this year has been by far the most exciting and enjoyable year filled with so many joyful experiences and there are a few people I need to thank for these experiences.

First of all I would like to thank Mrs Adams for her words of wisdom over tea and biscuits and for teaching me the ways of the Senior Monitor.

Next, I'd like to thank Mr McLay for being the best coach and the best school dad I could ask for.

Mr Stacey. The school Sergeant Major. My Tutor. I'd like to thank you for all the great times over my seven years here, all the birthday handshakes and the rugby games you came to watch. Now many of you know Mr Stacey to be a big scary man, but he's just pretending. He's a sweet and caring man who said and I quote, "You're my favourite Senior Monitor ever".

Now my time here would have been nothing if it wasn't for my year. I will cherish and never forget the brilliant memories we have made with each other. I'd also like to thank Evie for all her help and for keeping me right this year. I can't thank you enough.

Finally I'd like to thank everyone from Mr Shaw to the catering staff to then all the pupils. Thank you for making my time so enjoyable and hope you can fully experience the school just like I did.

Thank you and good luck.

Josh King, QVS Senior Monitor 2019







Prize Giving

Primary Prizes

1	Attainment	P7	Tina Thapa
2	Progress	P7	Cilla Gaha
3	Fowler Art Prize	P7	Tina Thapa
4	Music	P7	Maeghan Clark
5	Paul Mcshannon Quaich	P7	Ethan Murphy

First Year

Attainment

1	Business	Alfie Walker
2	Computer Studies	Swayam Limbu
3	English	Adyn Camlin
4	Fowler Art	Ayden Paterson
5	French	Ceara Gowans
6	Geography	
7	Guildry of Stirling History Prize	
8	History	
9	Mathematics	Daniel Evans
10	Modern Studies	
11	Music	Millie Keightley
12	Physical Education	Female – Deeyana Gurung
13	Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Holly Hunter
14	Science	Daniel Evans
15	Social Subjects	Swayam Limbu
16	Spanish	Ceara Gowans
17	Technical Studies	Liberty Brown

Progress

Holly Hunter
Alfie Walker
Abbie Stewart
Deeyana Gurung
Deeyana Gurung

Alicia Bullock

Boyd Scott
Male –
Ayden Paterson
Casey Dickinson

Holly Hunter
Holly Hunter
Deeyana Gurung
Litia Seru

Second Year

Attainment

Rachael Brown
Samuel Macpherson
Anju Gaha
Iona Duffy
Anju Gaha
Sasha Walker
Anju Gaha
Lexine Mccappin
Lexine Mccappin
Rachael Brown
Ellie Robinson
Female –
Rachael Brown
Rachael Brown

Madison Bailes

Rachael Brown
Madison Bailes

Progress

Lauren Mcculloch
Ellie Robinson
Daniel Rae
Madison Bailes
Madison Bailes
James Mathieson

Daniel Rae
Molly Young
Ellie Robinson
Samuel Macpherson
Male –
Theophil Natiri
Lauren Mcculloch

Arran Scott

Anju Gaha
Iona Duffy

Third Year

1	Biology
2	Business Management
3	Chemistry
4	Computer Science
5	Design & Manufacture
6	English
7	Fowler Art Prize
8	French
9	Geography
10	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize
11	History
12	Mathematics
13	Metalwork
14	Modern Studies
15	Music
16	Physical Education
17	Physics
18	Pdd
19	Spanish
20	Sports Leader

Attainment

Grace Hutchinson
Samay Limbu
Grace Hutchinson
Grace Hutchinson
Aidan Horsburgh
Nanda Seru
Freya Bolgere
Gabrielle Class
Rio Gregory
Subhaashish Gurung
Simoon Pun
Simoon Pun
Joseph Long
Nanda Seru
Lucie Evans
Nanda Seru
Gabrielle Class
Freya Bolgere
Freya Bolgere
Millicent Macdonald

S4

Greer Walker
Aird Mathieson
Rebecca Anderson
Pratistha Khawas
Rebecca Anderson
Pratistha Khawas
Erin Sim
Jake Leatherbarrow
Hollie Scott
Hollie Scott
Jazmyn Dougherty
Hollie Scott & Gabrielle Codd
Eleanor Codd
Charlotte Kelly
Rebecca Anderson
Greer Walker
Rebecca Anderson
Jake Leatherbarrow
Christopher Skinner
Duncan Hughson
Kristin Sibeth

S5/6

Amy Gray
Sophie Murphy
Caitlin Richardson
Marcus Wakefield
Shristi Gurung
Jacob Codd
Molly Horne
Cerys Hutchison
Rachel Loudon
Alexandra Lee
Treshing Gurung
Caitlin Richardson
Rhys Owen
Olivia Dunbar
Anna Macpherson
Alexandra Lee
Charlotte Gothard Oliver
Brodie Paterson
Ross Merrick
Stewart Brown
Anjipa Malla
Evie Clarke
Evie Clarke
Ethan Rowe & Ben Adam
Rachel Spence

Grand Day Trophies & Awards 2019

1	Cameronian Shield For Piping (For The Best Piper)	Benjamin Adam
2	Senior Drum Majors Shield (For The Senior Drum Major)	Ethan Rowe
3	Highland Dancing (Highland Dancing Society of London Cup)	Charlotte Gothard Oliver
4	Combined Cadet Force (For the Best CCF Recruit)	Arran Scott
5	Sir Charles Grant Memorial Trophy (For Outdoor Pursuits)	Jacob Codd

6	Victor Ludorum Trophy (For Best Sports Person)	Josh King
7	The Ben Philip Senior Memorial Bowl	Tiernan Bark
8	The Ben Philip Junior Memorial Bowl	Cilla Gaha
9	Annual Challenge Cup (For Outstanding Contribution to Wavell)	Charlotte Gothard Oliver
10	The Dr Lindsay Memorial Salver (For Leadership 'On' and 'Off' The Games Field)	Josh King
11	The Prince Philip Medal (For Outstanding Contribution, Participation and Achievement during their time at Queen Victoria School)	Josh King



Cunningham House.

Cunningham House

I can't quite comprehend that this is my eleventh Victorian article, but sadly my last as Housemaster of Cunningham. As they say time certainly flies. Sarah and I came as partners, nearly twelve years ago and over that time we got married, had two wonderful and special children – who still feel they have grown up on the movie set of Harry Potter and I have had the rare privilege of being given responsibility to run a unique boys' boarding House that of Cunningham House.

Of all the things that I dreaded, over those twelve years, was getting the boys together to say that Sarah and I were leaving Cunningham and consequently the School. The school has uniqueness, rarely found, within Education. It has great traditions, Ceremonial service, academic achievements and above all its community environment. This is along with the sons of parents who are serving their country, in dangerous conflicts and operational theatres and tragically giving their lives to keep us all safe. With this special understanding QVS and Cunningham will be remembered by myself not just as a 'job' but a lifestyle that touched and moulded us and that, as a family, we had the honour to do our small part, especially with the Cunningham boys.

My explanation, on that occasion, to the boys was that Cunningham House was bigger than all of us and that we were all journeying through it and had the privilege to be chosen to be part of it and Cunningham would always be our spiritual home when we returned as 'old boys', but the values, principles, history and atmosphere of Cunningham would always be there for the new boys passing through.

Like all success it isn't about one individual but the 'Team' and I was blessed by a great, loyal and stable team and Cunningham House benefited so much from them. Looking back, over 80% of the Team have been with me over my time in Cunningham and the tutors who have left the House moved on as promoted members of staff to other Houses and we even had one tutor become Headmaster! What stability brings to the boys moving through the House is

unmeasurable, but one the boys see as 'family' and consistency which allows them to grow and flourish. I personally can only say thank you to the unstinting efforts, flexibility and humour of the Cunningham Team and I will be ever grateful for their personal support and role models for the Cunningham boys.

As one can imagine over nearly twelve years we have had many boys start and finish their journeys in Cunningham. My simple philosophy was that boys need the space, environment, non-judgemental approach and time to develop as an individual. We accepted the raw materials in S1 and spent time 'polishing' these raw diamonds until they appeared as young, well balanced, mature men in S6. Like a good wine it takes time to mature and we have had many 'vintage' individuals who have confidence in themselves, have empathetic values and above all self-discipline and focus to know where they are going. I know this is unfair to single someone out, but I must make an exception with my last House Captain, who personified these qualities. T-Beau woke me up one early morning by asking for my iPad so he could speak with someone abroad - thinking this may be his Dad I lent him the iPad. About thirty minutes later he came back and told me he had just had a job interview with a business man in Hawaii and he had been successful to pick 'Pineapples' for his GAP year and he had also sorted out an internship in America for a year – then he would return to study History at a prestigious Scottish University!

My best wishes and thoughts to all the boys who have passed through Cunningham and who are now still doing so that they use all the opportunities on offer and strive to become well rounded individuals.

I also wish Damien and Caitlin the best for the future as the new Cunningham Housemaster and Matron and I am extremely confident that they will nurture and develop Cunningham even more to the benefit of the boys journeying through now and for its future development.

Finally many, many thanks from all of the Easthams, to the Cunningham boys, parents and guardians and the Cunningham Team for your kind words, thoughts and presents. We are extremely touched by your generosity and can only hope that, over our short time in the History of Cunningham and Queen Victorian School that we have offered to your sons - stability, continuity and a thriving boarding House within an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect for all.

We will certainly return in the future and I hope we will catch up on our journeys

"Lang may yer lum reek"
("I wish you good luck and good fortune for the future")

Mike Eastham, Housemaster



Art; Olivia Dunbar S6.



Top to bottom; Greer Walker S4; Rebecca Kane S6.



Haig House.

Haig House

2018-2019 has been a good year for Haig House. The new boys settled quickly into the routine of the house and seem to have enjoyed the variety of events which have been planned for the year groups. In August the new S1 pupils got together for their culinary evening to design their own pizza, which certainly inspired healthy competition and a good team spirit. Continuing in our food theme, always a winner with the boys, the S6 joined together to cook their own curry and were delighted to be joined by Mr Adams. The S3's munched on down on hot dogs for Guy Fawkes Night, and while the S4 Chinese New Year evening seemed doomed to never happen, however in the Summer Term, well into the Year of the Pig, they enjoyed their own celebration to mark the end of the exams. Even the 5th years threw themselves into their Murder Mystery Night, costumes were sought and a gathering of investigators found themselves round the dining table in the Masters' Dining Room to solve the whodunnit.

The Halloween Party was a great success as indeed was our belated Christmas Party with Secret Santa, postponed due to our unexpected early closure in December. This year the boys ran the Burns Supper, where our invited SLT guests were treated to a wonderful meal and some memorable speeches and poems. Next year, I hope that the organisation will be even more of their making. Throughout the year the S6 have risen to leading the house community; not only have they worked well in support of the ethos of the house, but have thrown themselves into ensuring that the house parties have been a great success, leaving them no doubt with many happy memories.

It has been a busy year and it has been pleasing to see the boys nominating their interests for the Parade Trips, hopefully this expression of pupil voice is something we will see continue and develop in the coming years.

In October, we were delighted to see Carmen O'Neill return to Haig as our Housekeeper. She and Anne King have worked well as a team in ensuring that the boys are well turned out and their rooms are kept up to scratch.

This year we have had a wonderful team of S6 boys in the house, ably led by Dipen as House Captain. They have all played their part to the full as mentors to the younger boys, as volunteers helping Matron and as lead House Prefects. It has been a pleasure working with each of you. You have all come on so well since you arrived in Haig in S1. I thank you for your assistance and support, not only of the house, but also of one another, particularly in December when we learned of the passing of one of our former students.

2018/19 has been a year of stability in the house team, which has been a wonderful experience however, with the retirement of Mr Laing on Grand Day, a new face will no doubt be appearing.

Mr Laing has been the embodiment of Haig House. He was House Master of Haig for ten years. During the intervening years however, Mr Laing has found himself called back to the post to help cover subsequent absence, much to the delight of the boys. So much of what Mr Laing does resonates well with the boys of Haig who have enjoyed his guidance, inspiration and of course his Christmas Quiz down through the years. While we are sorry to see him leave, we wish him well in his retirement and hope that he will not be a stranger, when he just becomes our neighbour. Perhaps he might return as our guest quiz master?!

My thanks go to the staff of Haig for all their support of the boys, without your help the house would not be the bustling place that it is.

I close with a word to our leavers. This year, not only our S6, but some of our S5 pupils are stepping out on the next chapter of their lives. I wish you well. During your time in Haig, you have contributed to what the house has become. We have watched you grow into the young men you have become; talented and inspirational Victorians ready to move into your future. May you always know sunshine on your back and good fortune in your lives. Be assured there is always a warm welcome for you all in Haig when you come back to visit.

Ron Boyd, Housemaster



Trenchard House.

Trenchard House

As a Housemaster you have the unique overview of the house and individuals, the bigger picture. Although the journey for Trenchard boys only lasts one year, and for the girls two, within this relatively short time, we certainly cram a lot in. Having lived and worked with the children over this last year, I have observed the highs and lows, personal growth and development of the children, achievements and milestones. In these formative early years, I believe it is vital to get it right and set the foundations for moving into senior school and ultimately beyond the gates of QVS. Therefore my staff and I are motivated by having unconditional positive regard for each and every pupil and an understanding that the journey for individuals is never linear or straightforward. I believe that when all is said and done, relationships are at the heart of everything I do in life, and as such, my team and I have worked to establish this as the culture and ethos of the house. Trenchard House is a place where the staff provide nurture with structure in preparation for moving into senior school.

It has been an absolutely fabulous and satisfying year, and as 2018-19 draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of the staff who have worked so hard to make this year a success.

I have been extremely fortunate to work with an enthusiastic and dedicated team of tutors who are committed and passionate about getting to know their children well. My staff work hard to provide continuity and enhance the experience of life at QVS for the children either academically, emotionally, or from an extra-curricular perspective. This is complimented as ever by our wonderful House Matron Heather who provides invaluable support and care, not always noticed. Matron is highly respected by our staff and children and often works beyond the remit of her job description in order to provide the best for the children in our care. Matron is the life blood of our boarding house, its beating heart, and I could not lead this house without her by my side. Heather is quite simply an amazing woman who loves the children dearly. She has over thirty years

experience in QVS and is part of the fabric of the place. We would be lost without her.

Other notable changes include the arrival of Mrs Rankin who has already stamped her mark on the house since taking up the position of Assistant Head of House in mid February. Mrs Rankin is super organised, quick witted, and doesn't suffer fools gladly. Some might say I'm in trouble then!

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Mr King, also Principal Teacher – Primary, who has been associated with Trenchard House for many years now. Mr King has lived and worked in all four boarding houses during his twenty-five years service. His knowledge and experience of life at QVS has been of great value and support to less experienced staff, and his presence in and around the boarding house will be missed. Best of luck for your retirement Mr King. Saddened by Mr King's departure but excited by the influx of new staff such as Miss Stinson and Mr McConnell who bring with them a wealth of boarding experience and unique personal qualities and strengths which will benefit the children of Trenchard House immensely. These two new members of staff are already well known to the children and are exciting new additions to the Trenchard tutor team.

Over the last year our time has been populated by wonderful displays on numerous parades, trips and events.

This year's social calendar began in earnest with the newly 'revamped' Halloween Ghost walk, which witnessed plenty of terror and tragedy in the belly of the school's boiler house and darkest Wavell Wood. Unfortunately our eagerly anticipated Christmas party and ceilidh were cancelled due to the early closure for the holidays, but we did manage the annual treat of our Christmas pantomime which is always a crowd pleaser. Oh no it isn't! A whole host of other parade trips and events followed, including; Dundee Olympia swimming pool, Christmas market shopping, ice-skating, 6 Nations



Rugby trip, trampolining and hillwalking, to name but a few. The primary boys and girls experienced a real taste of Scottish heritage with their visits to Bannockburn, Stirling Castle, Wallace Monument, and let us not forget Blair Drummond Safari Park. Trenchard's merit winners also enjoyed a trip to Allanwater chip shop in Bridge of Allan. Finally, this year saw a change of plan with our annual summer house party being held on St Andrews beach. Despite the chilly breeze, the children had a packed programme of activities organised by our senior girls, followed up by a scrumptious BBQ back at Trenchard house. Each of these events were well received and commented on as being particular highlights of the academic and boarding experience here at QVS.

The house has had a number of individual successes with Mica McCloud Representing club, school, and country in athletics. Mica's impressive CV includes becoming number one in Scotland at 100 meters, Scottish schools champion at 100m, and 3rd in 200m. Not to mention being ranked 3rd fastest in the UK 100m at under 13 age category. Very impressive!

Aaliyah Mccloud has also had a very successful year with a Scottish schools 4th place in long jump, and 6th place at 800. These numbers are more spectacular when you realise that the competition comes from a pool of over two hundred schools nationwide. Aaliyah is also QVS champion in 800, high jump, and long jump, all with new records being set. It must be in the genes!

Deeyanna Gurung set a new school record at under 13 age group in Javelin with a massive throw over twenty meters.

Turning our attention to the boarding house, I am so proud to announce Cilla Gaha as this year's Ben Philip Junior Memorial Bowl

winner in recognition of her contribution to boarding. Cilla has been a model housemate and a beacon of excellence throughout the year. She has involved herself in every event and been a massive support to her friends in times of need. Cilla has embodied the values of Trenchard house and has been a credit to her school and her family. As such she has been awarded the House prize for the most outstanding contribution to Trenchard House.

Whilst it is important to recognise individual achievements, I must congratulate the contribution all of our housemates make to fostering our positive culture of respect and responsibility over the last year. Valuable life skills of conflict resolution, tolerance and resilience are all values the house staff and pupils have worked tirelessly to nurture. These attributes will serve the children well in their future houses and beyond.

The P7 boys who arrived back in August 2018 all excited and keen to do well, head to Haig and Cunningham Boarding Houses. The S1 girls who have worked hard to bond as a year group head up to Wavell Boarding House, hopefully equipped to overcome the challenges that they will face in the years to come. For both year groups, I believe they have been given a great start to life in QVS and offered the best opportunity to develop and grow in an environment which provides nurture with structure. Trenchard is a vibrant happy place which encourages them to build the foundations necessary to thrive in a boarding environment and reach their full potential. The Trenchard staff and I wish them every success and will watch with interest, and pride, their progress over the coming years.

As another set of sixth year pupils prepare to depart Trenchard House, we can look back at the year with fond memories.



Each of them have experienced the highs and lows of a challenging academic year. As Head of House, Anjipa Malla has led by example from day one by working hard to influence and embed the culture and ethos of the junior boarding house in a positive way. Her legacy is firmly established as a strong leader and a very principled young woman. Anjipa moves on to university excited to step up to this next chapter in her life.

Alex Barron has demonstrated her tenacity and resilience in her journey towards studying law at Dundee University. Alex has battled hard through adversity and made every effort to impress the admission board in Dundee in order to follow her dream of Higher Education.

Finally, but by no means least, Evie Clarke our school Head Girl is off to read pharmacology at Glasgow University. Evie has worked tirelessly throughout the year both on whole school events and closer to home in Trenchard House. Evie, has contributed so much to the culture and ethos of the Queen Victoria School and is more than

ready to face any challenge life throws at her, head on.

To these young ladies, I'd like to thank them publicly for all of the support and for the respect they have shown me in my first two years as Housemaster of Trenchard House. Each one of them has contributed so much to the boarding house and has been an excellent role model to the younger students. I hope that when they leave after Grand Day, and travel beyond the gates of QVS, that they can look back on their time with fond memories, and quietly smile at the fun times we have had over the years. The contribution made by all of our seniors girls has no doubt left Trenchard House a better place. It has been an honour and a privilege to live and work with them.

You will all be sadly missed.

Mr D Mackay, Housemaster





Wavell House.

Wavell House

Well, what a fun packed year it has been for Wavell!

We began events on a high with a whole school trip to the McRobert Theatre for the Pantomime, 'Sleeping Cutie'. This was followed by numerous tutor and house trips to Nando's, the cinema, the Allan Water Café and to Avengers Endgame to name but a few. The S6 also organised an amazing Halloween party and this was rounded off with an early finish for Christmas, due to our heating and plumbing problems.

The year continued on a high note with the Winter Formal, Spring Fling and Prom. Glamorous as ever, our Wavell girls proved to be outstanding role models and ambassadors for the school.

Our summer party, a festival themed fair and silent disco, was fabulous. Led by the S6 we all got disco fever and partied on to different music through our head phones.

This has been a very successful year in Wavell, despite all of our plumbing problems, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank our hardworking Wavell staff for their dedication and commitment and for all they have contributed this year.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to our Head of House, Charlotte Gothard-Olver and Deputies, Alex, Caitlin and Rebecca. In the best traditions of Wavell they have led their house, proving to be a good team and a hard act to follow!

Sadly this year we said goodbye to two key staff in Wavell. Ms McBlain, as a Wavell tutor is someone who has spent a great many years supporting our girls in every way possible and we will all miss her. Mrs Adams will also be leaving the Wavell tutor team in order to take up the post of Acting Deputy Headteacher Pupil Support next year. The support, guidance and wisdom Mrs Adams has brought to Wavell over many years has literally been life changing for some of our students and we will all miss her.

During the year we also welcomed Mrs McIntosh to our Wavell staff team, replacing Miss Stinson as our new Assistant Housemistress. We are also looking forward to welcoming Mr Leitch to the Wavell staff team at the start of next year, as our new Pastoral Support Assistant.

We have all had hugely memorable experiences within Wavell this year and look forward to many more next year!

Miss R Appleyard, Housemistress

This year I had the privilege of being Wavell House Captain. It has been a difficult year for all of us, but thanks to the constant support of my deputies, Rebecca, Alex and Caitlin, and the rest of the S6 girls, we got through it together, and I happen to think we did a pretty good job!

Halloween came around, and the unanimous decision was that the party theme would be fairy tales gone wrong. So, with that in mind, it was a night packed with bobbing for apples and a classic ghost walk as well as many other activities.

The Christmas party... didn't happen. The whole school closed early so unfortunately we had to let it rest.

The Summer Party, however, was the best of all. With a silent disco, planned since S2, and a festival theme that got all of the girls dancing. Amongst the glitter tattoos, face paint and ice cream it's safe to say it was a bit of a messy one.

At the end of the night we announced the new Head of House, Rhaea Clark, to whom I wish the absolute best of luck for next year.

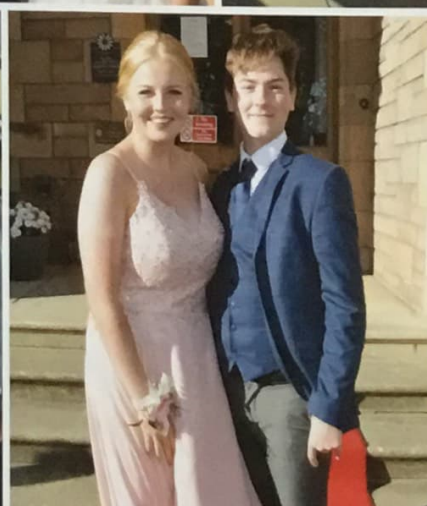
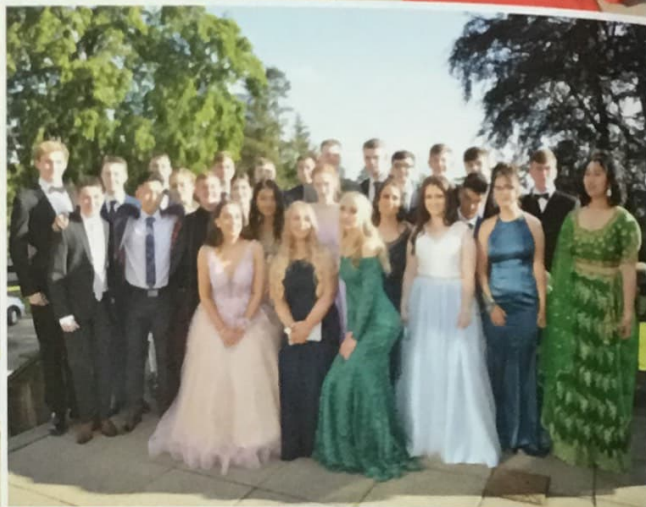
Finally I would like to say a massive thanks to the staff who have always been there to support us. A special thanks go to



Miss Appleyard, Miss Stinson, Mrs Hiddleston and Mrs McIntosh who took over from Miss Stinson as Assistant. I think I speak for all of the girls when I say we could not have gotten through this year without you. And I couldn't finish this summary without saying a huge thank you to Matron for always keeping us on the straight and narrow, particularly with regard to our uniforms.

Good luck to all of the leavers and to next year's S6, and in the finest dramatic tradition... break a leg!

Charlotte Gothard-Oliver, Head of House







Clockwise top to bottom; U16; 1st XV; U15 Rugby.

Rugby

This has been another very successful year for Queen Victoria School. To come second in the Conference of 10 teams is no mean feat. We routinely have over 85% of the boys playing games on a Saturday morning, which would be one of the highest percentages of participation in Scotland. The strength and depth we now have, throughout the younger years, means that we have many good years ahead to look forward to. With many of the S2, S3 and S4 looking forward to a tour to South Africa in August 2020 and several of our players being selected for District level rugby and beyond, rugby at Queen Victoria School is in a good place. One boy in particular has personified this, Josh King. He captained the Caledonia District U17's to victory against Glasgow, Edinburgh and the Borders, he captained the Scotland U17's side last year and this year he played in the U18's 6 Nations Championship in March. He has been awarded a stage 2 contract and will be playing for Stirling County next year. Well done Josh and all the very best in the future.

1st XV

All rugby seasons come with highs and lows and this was no different. This will be my 29th year coaching rugby in the school context and it proved to be one of the most frustrating seasons I have had for some time. This was not for the usual reasons of losing conference deciding games or having players out due to injury, we had some of the best players we've had at QVS in recent times but just not enough of them. This was highlighted in our first game against St Columba's. We travelled down to Greenock Rugby club with 13 players, the minimum we can play with without conceding the game. This game truly showed our potential for the rest of the season as, although we were 2 men down, we played well as a team and made St Columba's work hard for their inevitable victory. It was disappointing that we had to play 13 men against 15, however the game gave us all an insight as to how our season would progress. Rugby is very much part of our Physical Education programme and it is a game that we look to instil skills that pupils can take forward into



Clockwise top to bottom; 2nd Year; P7; 1st Year Rugby.

other sports, other subjects and into life in general. Throughout this season we were going to need a lot of resilience, determination and trust in our fellow players as demonstrated in that first game.

The Conference matches proved to be a mixed bag of experiences with some hard-fought games against St Columba's, Morrisons and Lomond. We also had some comfortable victories against Lenzie, Jordahill and Carrick, although we always had to work hard for the points. There was one match this season that we confined to the vault and we shall never speak of again... suffice to say Marr were a strong team.

At the end of it all, with a squad of 13-15 we did extremely well to come 6th in the Conference. The players, to their credit, accepted the situation, probably better than I did to be honest. They turned up to training every Tuesday and Thursday without fail and were keen to make the best out of a difficult situation. Our forwards worked hard at making the lineouts 'interesting' and T'Beau was determined to be more consistent with his throw. They were creative with how we formed pods, given our lack of numbers and through the leadership of Kier Dillon, they were able to put all of the opposition forwards under pressure at the breakdown. Steven "I'm never playing rugby

again" Rae went from being the ruck inspector, to a force to be reckoned with. At one point the crowds gasped as he took his opposite number out (legally apparently) at the ruck. Ayup Malla worked tirelessly throughout the season in games and is the most under-rated player on the team. If he realises his true potential, by actually putting in 100% in training, he could be one of the best players of the team. Cameron Crawford showed passion and commitment throughout the season and proved his worth as a leader on the pitch. His ability to make yards, even with several of the opposition hanging off him, was impressive. As soon as he realises that carrying the ball in two hands isn't illegal, there will be no stopping him. Although he was a force to be reckoned with playing as a centre, his best position is certainly back row. T'Beau has tirelessly and selflessly committed to the team over the years and his focus and hard work in training paid off when we looked at the GPS stats. T'Beau clocked the highest amount of meters ran in one of the games... however there is still work required on his acceleration! Callum Dalrymple, what more can I say. His ability to carry the ball forward, run into several of the opposition and, against all odds, still manage to get the ball placed cleanly on the deck for the ensuing forwards to seal was formidable. If ever you wanted a battering ram, Callum was your man. David Burns had left rugby in 4th year, as at



the time, he wasn't enjoying it. Rugby isn't for everybody and players have the choice in 4th year to pursue other activities. I always say that the door isn't closed and that they are welcome back anytime, David not only came back, he ripped the door off the hinges and pronounced "I'm Back!" David was the most improved player over the season, he listened and although he got frustrated at times, worked hard to understand the structures that we employ. Game after game, we saw more and more of David as his confidence grew, even scoring the odd try now and again! Finally, Kier Dillon was an excellent role model to the younger players and his work rate and steadying influence on the park meant that he was the obvious choice for Captain when Josh King was not available due to International Duties. He has developed into a player that could play in so many positions, just not the 10 that he pleaded to play most of the season!

Moving onto our backs, Rhys Owen became a very proficient scrum half over the season. He was our linchpin that connected the hard work that forwards did, to the incisive running that the backs produced. After his initial 'blow up' against Balfron, which I tirelessly brought up in Higher classes as an example of managing emotions... or not, he steadied the ship and his work rate and tactical thinking led to many of our victories. Dipen Ghale was our TDM (tactical decision maker) this year and controlled the game well from the fly-half position. He also nailed some incredible kicks from the touch line that contributed to our wins over the season. Dipen has a huge amount of potential in this game and with his dedication to improving his strength and power over the year, I hope he looks to continue to play after he leaves QVS. Cameron Taylor played some of his best games for QVS this season and when 'on games' (Cameron's idea of "On Games" was always different to the Med Centre's!) he proved to be invaluable in the mid-field. In attack, his deceptively quick turn of pace and ability to fend meant that he found gaps in the opposition defence which he routinely exploited. In defence, he was able to put the opposition under so much pressure that we were able to turn over

possession frequently from the 'hits'. Cameron is venturing onto the dark side now and is playing for a Rugby League team down south, good luck. Treshing Gurung 'The Silent One', quietly got on with his business and was utterly reliable and consistent throughout his years at QVS. He turned up to every training session, always turned up to games, unless injured (which was rare). He worked hard at improving his passing and tackling under pressure and was one of the players that thrived from having to work harder due to having less players. Treshing was a stalwart of the team, conscientious and diligent at all times. Ross Merrick... I remember Ross in P7 when he played against Strathallan. We were a couple of tries down and the Strathallan, Australian fly-half (recently imported) had the ball and was expecting to carve his way through the team. Ross blind-sided him and hit him like an exocet missile, parents winced on the side-line and at that point I thought, he's one to watch for the future. He never changed. He loves the contact and his defence is a joy to watch. Occasionally we hear a yelp or a scream from Ross as he halves his opposite number but oddly on the two occasions he dislocated his pinky, he calmly walked up and said "This doesn't look right". Ross's hard work and determination to win had a huge impact on the team this year and all of the characteristics that he developed through rugby and playing in a team will stand him in good stead as he leaves us to become a Marine. I would like to quote from his legendary half time talks but time prevails... Alex Holiday was another of our success stories. Alex had a little break from rugby then subsequently had a bigger break... in his right arm against Morrisons, which put him out for the majority of the season. Now this doesn't sound like a success story but Alex came back from this injury stronger and better. His elusive running and speed often put the opposition under pressure in the wide channels and although he initially found catching that 'last pass' difficult prior to the injury, on his return to full fitness, this got better and better, which resulted in tries being scored. Alex 'Jinky' Malcolm was our dependable and athletic full back. Our exit strategy for releasing pressure in the 22 of kicking down field, was rarely used



as Alex liked to throw in a couple of side steps, a twist, a 360 and then accelerate which annoyingly often worked and proved to be the better option. I never know whether Alex just liked to show boat or that he couldn't kick. Alex linked up in attack with the backs and offered real pace to the back line, acting as a strike runner. His defence was solid and because he was often smaller/lighter than the opposition his technique had to be perfect, thankfully it was.

Josh King, our Captain for this year, not only proved his worth on the park, he also introduced current tactics being employed at both Caledonia and Scotland U18's level. We were able to structure both our attack and defence using these tactics but most of the time adapting them to a team of 13. Josh's leadership was demonstrated through his work rate and level of motivation on the park. Whereas, in younger years, he was able to dominate teams on his own, at U18's level all of the players had to work as a team to break down opposition's defences. Josh constantly motivated those around him and was instrumental in developing many of the players over the season. As a 17-year-old, playing at an International level, it is very difficult to stay grounded amongst peers and for the peers to accept your success. However, although it was difficult at times, this situation proved highly beneficial for us. Josh continues with his rugby next year with Stirling County, however will be with us as a coach to impart his knowledge and understanding to the younger years.

I would also like to thank the guys who stepped up during the season from U16's to U18's. Stewart Brown, Duncan Hughson, Rajeb Thapa and Tom Main, all stand out at U16's level and all of whom slotted into the team seamlessly. It was great to see them play at this level and show how much potential they have in future years.

Next season, for the first time ever, we will not have a 1st XV due to a lack of eligible players. This is a blip, as we have strength and depth in the years below. For me, it will be a year of focussing on the U16's and developing them for future years but I will also ensure that the 5, U18's players have the opportunity to play rugby somewhere.

To finish with, I would like to say, despite the frustrations from having too few players, this was one of the most enjoyable seasons I have had as a coach. It was great to see the players just get on with it and even though we knew that it was unlikely that we would win, we got on the bus and turned up ready to play. As a result, there were quality passages of play that surpassed teams from years gone by, players rallied together and supported each other in adversity, every single player developed both their skills and understanding of the game. This came about as a result of the nurturing, time and effort that the coaches have put in throughout the years. A huge thank you to

Mr MacKay, Mr Bryce, Mr Wright, Mr Oatley and Mr Adams for all of their enthusiasm and encouragement that they have imparted over the years, even in the cold, wet, dark months of a Scottish winter. Through these years the resilience, determination and passion has been instilled into the players to be able to and desire to play at U18's level.

QVS 1st XV

Before we even started, we knew that faced a challenging and difficult season ahead, especially since we only had 13 players. But that didn't stop us. Here are some of the memorable games that we played

1st game – St Columba's 29/QVS 21

We travelled away to St Columba's raring to go, being our first game, we wanted to prove that having no subs wasn't going to hold us down. We started the game off effectively with solid defence, defending a 2 man overlap every time but soon the fatigue began to set in and we let in 3 quick successive tries. A very motivating half time talk from Mr McLay led to a fired up QV squad for the second half. Some great aggression and pressure led to a half way scrum where Josh Picked and went around the flanker and winger before crossing the line. The KO after was received by Rhys Owen which he managed to return and recover with a well-placed kick. Some great quick rucking and brilliant passes from the back line led to Josh crossing the line in the corner for his second try. We sadly, took our foot off the pedal allowing the opposition to score 2 tries. The resilience of QV was held when technical scrumming from the forwards allowed Josh to pick and go over the line, making the final score 29/21.

2nd game – Carrick-5/QV-58

This Game allowed our side to show our creativity in attack. We immediately put Carrick under pressure putting 4 tries on the board against Carrick, 3 from Josh and 1 from Dipen. The back utilized some of their skilful moves to put Cameron Taylor, Crawford and Rhys over the white line. Dipen also utilized his football side to grubber and crossfield kick Josh into the try zone, bring his total score up to 7 tries and the teams score up to 58 points. We switched off only momentarily allowing Carrick to break through the line but only once, bringing the score to 58 points to 5.

3rd game – Kelvinside

This wasn't the best start for QV as the Kelvinside number 8 managed to score in under a minute, this single try lowered the QV heads allowing Kelvinside to build pressure and score a total of 5 tries against the demotivated QV side. However, the half time whistle led out a determined QV side ready to bounce back from an



embarrassing first half. The tackling became much more dominant with the number 8 who previously ran through the team, was driven back around 10 metres. Ross Merrick used his pace to run around his opposite number to score two back to back tries. Josh King followed with a strong pick and go to break the wingers tackle and score in the corner making the final score Kelvinside 29/QVS 17

Final game – Morrison's

The highly awaited Derby day was upon the QV boys and we knew the pressure of this game, this was the most anticipated game of the season and the boys were ready to play with aggression, discipline and confidence. The game started off strongly with great tackles from QVS but the fatigue set in quickly and Morrison's capitalized on this and crossed the QV line. The score was 7-0. It was clear from the side line that the QVS boys were not ready to lose this fight which was showed through a great run through the middle from Josh King getting QV from the halfway line to the 5 and with a sharp offload, Keir crossed the line. Dipen sadly missed the conversion making the score 7-5 but if anything, this pushed the QVS boys to fight harder. A missed penalty kick from Cameron Crawford from the 22 left Morrison's leading into halftime. The whole second half was spent in the Morrison's 22 but time after time, QV lost the ball or were driven back by a very impressive Morrison defence.

Even with defeat in the final whistle, they QV boys played fantastically over the whole season and it's been such a rewarding feeling to see how well they players have progressed. Good luck QVS First 15.

Josh King

U16's

It has been a hugely rewarding experience coaching the U16 rugby team this season. As the S4 year group only has 13 boys (12 rugby

players) it was always going to be a challenging task to field a team for every fixture. Things looked to have gone from bad to worse when Brodie Paterson, one of QVS' rare outstanding forwards succumbed to nasty wrist break early in the season. However, by hook or by crook we managed to cobble together enough of a team to fulfil all our fixtures this season.

The boys played with pride, determination and confidence and were close to being undefeated throughout the Barbarian conference, taking scalps such as St Columbas (with a Sam Raikadroka brace and a Saphal Gurung show-and-go) and Lomond School (featuring prop!? Lewis Gibson's 50m break down the wing).

Our decider game saw us travel to Troon to play Marr College, and our squad was bolstered with the U15 players; Amena Caqusau, Aminio Bogidrau and Subhaashish Gurung. A slow opening 10 minutes saw us conceding several tries in this untested and oddly unfocused team – trailing 27-7 at half time all seemed lost. However, an inspired and honest team talk and few positional changes saw an electrified XV bring the score back to 27-26 with 2 minutes to go. Amena appeared to have scored a last-minute winner – however the referee (in purple socks) felt otherwise – alas a glorious second place finish.

Queen Victoria School continue to have a strong representation at the Caledonia regional level with Tom Main preforming well at this level and progressing into the Glasgow Warriors U16 side – a fantastic achievement. In addition, Tom Main, Stewart Brown, Duncan Hughson and Rajeb Thapa made the step up to play for the 1XV in their final game of the season, a nail biting 5-7 loss to Morrison's Academy.

Next year QVS are in the unfortunate position of not having enough players to field a 1XV. For players staying at the school in S5 and S6



we will endeavour to find rugby opportunities for you next season. For rugby players who are leaving Queen Victoria School. You have continuously proven you have the attributes required as a rugby player, sportsperson and person in society. Passion, respect and determination – well done.

Mr Wright

The U16s started off the season with a strong performance against St Columba with tries coming from various players stepping up who you would have never expected. Unfortunately, Callum Muirhead started the season off with the team's first yellow card. With a lot of players suffering injuries throughout the season, the team faced the challenge of having little numbers for fixtures, however this made players step up and take leadership and giving excellent performances. Shout out to Lewis Gibson, Saphal Gurung and William Sanmani for putting in a shift that no one thought they had. All together the season went very well with QV U16s, finishing second in the league, due to a Marr coach disallowing an obvious full pitch try from Amena Caqusau. The team really came together this year and managed to come away with all wins but one against Marr. Also a big shout out to the following U15s players who came up to the U16s and really showed that they could play at a higher standard with out any problems, Aminio, Amena, Sub, Roman, Connor, Aidan, Shameer, Michael, Magnus and Arran. And lastly thanks to Mr. Wright the terminator for his great coaching and questionable refereeing.

Tom Main

U15's Rugby Report

I believe that participation in rugby helps to develop personal qualities and skills that transcend sport and contributes to the boys fulfilling their potential. Rugby encourages and cultivates a boy's ability to work in a team, his courage, resilience, leadership, respect and discipline, whilst also teaching how to win with humility and lose with grace. This is exactly what I have witnessed during the last two years in coaching and nurturing this group of Victorians.

There were realistic high expectations for the 2018-2019 season having experienced a very successful season the year before. Hopes and aspirations were high leading up to the first conference game against St Columba. The squad were fully aware that this game was ultimately going to be the conference decider. Unfortunately, due to the game being on the first weekend back from a long summer holiday the team just weren't physically or mentally prepared for such an intense battle. However, the loss did not have a negative impact

on the team, in fact the result had quite the opposite impact. They recovered well from the initial disappointment and trained hard, learnt from their mistakes and became better players and thus a better team. They finished 2nd overall in the Barbarians Conference.

They dominated the majority of games they competed in, with convincing wins against schools such as Marr College, Morrison's Academy, Kelvinside Academy and Stirling County. The manner in which the squad performed was outstanding; with pride, determination and a willingness to work for one another, the team grew from strength to strength through the season.

The forwards started to not only compete with, but dominate the opposition and were able to create a strong platform to release the talented and pacey back line. The team started to play with structure, and develop and change strategies within a game defeat other teams. Back to back wins built confidence and confidence developed a mind-set of learning how to win. The team built a culture of expecting high standards and a desire to work hard for one another – A formidable blend for success! All of the squad stepped up and were prepared to challenge their own comfort zones in an attempt to strive for individual and team success.

There is no doubt that the boys should be commended for their efforts this year. The captain, Subhaashish, should be congratulated for setting the tone throughout the season. He is highly respected by his peers and always leads by example in training and during fixtures. He has been selected for Caledonia U15s. The team has an abundance of talent, with Amena and Aminio providing the trickery and game play at No. 9 and No. 10 respectively. Both have been selected for Caledonia U16s squad and have the potential to perform at a high level of senior rugby. Throughout the season Roman has proved to be a centre that is rock solid in defence. Jake and Magnus have been formidable in individual defence and have been backed up with a determined and ruthless pack of Samik, Saphal, Lewis, Arron, Shameer, Joe L, Samay, Aidan, Will and Mitchell. With their fearless approach to the physicality of the game, they have proved to be a tough pack to break down. In attack, these boys have worked tirelessly in training to improve their individual and collective skills on ball retention in contact and at the break downs and thus were able to provide clean ball for Amena and the rest of the backs to create all sorts of problems for the opposition.

I was impressed with Joe's admirable approach towards the end of the seasons, when he stepped up to captain the side on two occasions in the absence of Subhaashish. For me this typified the positively and confidence in the team to take on new challenges and experiences.



The backs have been full of pace, confidence, skill and out and out talent. They have, at times, destroyed some of the opposition. With the pace of Michael, Connor, Jaheem, Chris and Roman and the ball handling skills of Amena, Aminio and Subhaashish, the boys has been just awesome. Sean, Joe, Will C and Will H should also be mentioned for their continued support and desire to develop their skills and understanding of the game, they have again stepped up admirably and I hope have gained many positive experiences this year. I look forward to seeing them represent the school more in the forthcoming years. Euan, Theo and Rays have also proved valuable additions to the team this year. They have performed with confidence and have certainly not been intimidated by the more senior seniors they have been competing against.

The squad have produced some of the best rugby I have witnessed in some years at this level of the game and I know I will miss working with them.

I have been thoroughly proud to be part of their development and wish them well as Mr McLay (Head of Rugby) takes the reins next year. I have no doubt the boys will continue to grow and develop as players and individuals under Mr McLay's guidance. Boys, I wish you well. Please continue to lead by example both on and off the pitch.

Subhaashish, Amena and Mr Adams

U14's

This season has been both a successful and captivating one for the S2, culminating in a second place finish in the Barbarian Conference in the Scottish Schools Leagues. The boys were regularly bombarded by physical, technical and tactically drilled opposition but they held their heads high throughout the campaign.

The boys started their season with a sense of optimism after a very successful campaign at S1 level. Once a very short preseason had come to a conclusion the boys had their first test against St Columbas. The S2's demonstrated a masterclass in maintaining possession and controlling the plays from the break down; simultaneously putting St Columbas under increasing pressure. After some excellent attempts by the forwards working on 'pods' and backs focusing on plays the match concluded with a successful win (32-7). Following the match, training consisted predominantly of tactical plays with a significant portion of each session dedicated to specific forwards and backs drills. This was to prove essential in the future games.

After some convincing wins against Carrick (24-6), Balfron (32-15), Marr (30-0), Morrisons (52-15), Lomond (50-12), Hills (30-0) and Lenzie (47-0); a 'league decider' was setup at home to Ayr/Wellington. Both teams had won all their matches and the winner was likely to go on and win the conference. Both teams started strongly and it was clear the game was to be defensive in nature. With both the forwards and backs well-rehearsed in their specific plays it was clear this was likely to be a game won by determined grit and capitalising on the smallest of opportunities. After some intense tackling, strong rucking and great supportive play, Wellington/Ayr were awarded a controversial penalty for offside at a ruck by referee Mr Wright. A quick tap and pass caught the team off guard and Wellington/Ayr successfully won the game 17-14; consolidating the team's 2nd place in the Barbarian Conference. After a successful post-Christmas training macrocycle the S2's successfully revenged their loss with a 32-16 win at Wellington.

I would like to thank all the players, gaps and coaches for their hard work over the season. Their ongoing enthusiasm and commitment is a major factor in their success and their ability to show dedication through all the conditions thrown at them is impressive. The boys'



willingness to learn, adapt and support each other through their experiences sets them in good stead for S3 where I look forward to working with them again for the new season.

Mr Bryce

Rugby report – 2019

Once again we started the season off playing really well and just like last year we were just a couple of points down (Mr Bryce's coaching, maybe) and our final conference match against Ayr/Wellington put us in second place in the conference but overall it was probably the best we have performed as a team. This year we have also had a few players picked for training with Caledonia and we hope that they will get into the team next year and there will also be more players from our team getting selected for Caledonia training next season too, this is really good for our team as well as the players as they can bring key feedback into training sessions so we can help improve the team to be better.

The last match of the conference against Ayr/Wellington started off with them getting a quick early try as not everyone was fully switched on, but as the game continued everyone got into the game which got us our first try, the match continued to be pretty even in tries as we were both scoring one after another and as their rucking was substantially better than ours we all had to put maximum effort into first time tackles, after a hard match Ayr/Wellington scored an annoying try from an offside call leaving the score at 32-37 to them. The improvements our team could make for next season is to work on our rucking as in most of the games we played this season they dominated us with their rucking, as a team we also will be working on building the confidence of the less experienced/able players in skills such as tackling, passing, rucking and running with the ball. Some of our strengths this year have been fitness, determination and just overall teamwork and encouragement towards each other. The captain from this season was both Euan Lee and Theo Natiri which both showed good leadership and encouragement to the team. A big thanks to Mr Bryce and Mr Wright for both being great coaches and helping our team to become the best we can.

Euan Lee

S1's

The S1s came back from the summer holidays enthusiastic and raring to go for the upcoming season. This was great for us as they turned up to training sessions eager to learn and ready to improve their skills.

The season started with some encouraging performances but unfortunately the end results were not in our favour. We took the positives from each game and looked to strengthen our weaknesses throughout the weeks training sessions. Through our first few games we noticed that we were able to score tries with ease. However, as a team we identified that our defence and rucking was lacking and therefore became our main focus points for the season.

In the conference this year we saved our best performance till last after a season of ups and downs. On the final match day of the conference season we put in an all-round team performance and managed to put 10 tries past Jordanhill school. It was great to see both forwards and backs working together and scoring some quality tries.

The highlight for the second half of the season for us was the game against Morrisons Academy. At the start of the season Morrisons beat us comfortably exposing our weaknesses in the rucks especially. This time however this was not the case. The forwards were unstoppable in the rucks winning all of ours and even outmuscling Morrisons to gain some turnovers. The backs also put on an attacking show and if it hadn't been for a last-minute conversion we would have won the game. Seeing the improvement however from the start of the season to this game was brilliant to see.

I would like to thank all the boys for the commitment and hard work over the season. I wish them the best of luck for next season and hope they continue to work hard and improve. Remember boys – "Big Hits , Big Smiles."

S1 Rugby

The S1 rugby team was nervous about the upcoming rugby matches this season as we love competition when it comes to sport. When we got a good result in our first game against St Columba (which was 42-14) we had more confidence in one another but also in ourselves. Positives: During the season we had both good times and not so good times but throughout all of these our key strength was our defence. As when we got to the middle of the season our rucks grew stronger as we now knew how to set up properly. We were winning more of the opposition's scrums as it got even more powerful and when we came up against George Watsons they spent a lot of the game sitting on our 5 meter line as we were not willing to give up. As the tension and intensity rose we all dug deep and gave it our all, finally succeeding as a team by winning 16-15.

Aim for next season: At times we all felt that we could have done better and this was probably because the pressure got to us. The more pressured we became the more we panicked and this led to



penalty chances for the other team. My goal for next season is to lead the team while improving our respect for one another and increasing our ability to handle the ball under pressure.

Summary: Overall it was a great season for the team as most of the time we came off the pitch with a good spirit and good sportsmanship towards both each other and the opposition. Particular mention must go to Savenaca Golea as he was the top try scorer this season. Also a big shout out to Jason Osei-Bonsu for covering more ground than the rest of us and for the sterling support he gave the team. The team performance is definitely improving and a huge congratulations to all of the S1 boys this season. The great performances this year mean that I can't wait until next year.

Aiden Patterson

P7 Rugby

P7 rugby at QVS continues to thrive. James Douglas, our captain, has led his team well throughout the year and the coaching staff are proud of his achievements, and the way he has helped to nurture the less experienced players during training sessions and on match days. Players arrived at QVS with a varied spectrum of rugby experience, and I am so proud of the philosophy our team continues to foster, that rugby can be a sport accessible and fun for all boys irrespective of their athletic ability and expertise. We are fully committed to developing the values of teamwork, respect, integrity, trust, and sportsmanship through playing and enjoying rugby.

As results go, it could be argued that we did not have a very successful year, winning only one match over the season away to Lomond School. However, the whole squad have played with guts and determination in every single encounter. Players will take with them memories of the fantastic rugby and comradeship they have experienced, but also the raw fun they have had throughout the season. The boys trained hard, listening intently and enjoying themselves whilst playing some outstanding rugby. As a result, the P7 squad has made improvements in both their skills and fitness, together with increased tactical awareness and understanding of the game.

Several special moments stick out for me such as the way in which our best defenders committed everything into their tackles with little regard for their own bodies, throwing themselves into every ruck and tackle. This inspired less confident teammates to model their own performance and grow in confidence. Other notable memories are the excellent tries scored following strong and physical running, which were direct, speedy and deceptive.

Although results have not gone our way, the players have made fantastic progress over the course of the year. Injuries to key players towards the end of the season, such as our captain James's shoulder injury lost us some momentum. From a positive perspective, James's absence gave way for other boys to step up and have the opportunity to shine.

Our season ended with the eagerly anticipated return clash against Morrisons, and as per usual, the crowd were treated to a feast of end-to-end rugby in the crisp sunshine. Again, we competed well, but the game slipped through our fingers at the death. In reality, this game was lost due to a lack of concentration and a drop of intensity towards the end of each half. Disappointing, but character building nonetheless.

A big thank you to all the boys who represented the school, a brilliant effort against sides with more strength and depth in their squads. I would like to thank my players for the enjoyment and pride you have brought to QVS and the coaching staff over the year and I wish you well for the new season as you progress up to the S1 squad.

Mr D Mackay

Captains point of view

This season of rugby was good and bad depending how you looked at it, we only won one game but the fact it's that most of us came here never having touched a rugby ball. We had some players that had never played rugby and still turned out to be great players because of our great coaches, some of these players are: Oliver Hobern, Jeshon Thapa, Regam Bura, Swayam Gurung, Cameron Leonard and Jacob Raduadua. These aren't the only people that improved everyone improved massively, but I think the player that I proved most is Jeshon Thapa. He improved in his tackling massively and his running. We had a lot of strong points but the thing we need to improve on next season most is confidence, not everyone is going in for tackles and not everyone is going for rucks, if this gets better in S1 we will dominate the pitch.

Vice captains point of View

I agree with the captain but I think our team should also improve on getting into space instead of crowding around the ball. If we succeed in doing all of these things we will win a lot more games in S1. This team has potential.

James Douglas and Cameron Leonard



Clockwise top to bottom; U15; S2; S1 Hockey.

Hockey

1st XI Hockey

With this year's season at an end, it's safe to say that the team has experienced both ups and downs. Due to the absence of many highly valued players from last year, we have all had to pick ourselves up greatly which in turn has allowed our skills and teamwork to improve massively.

This year our defenders, with the help of our goalkeeper, have played a huge part in securing our many victories this season. Anjipa Malla, Shristi Gurung, Yancy Gurung, Amber Goodall and Molly Horne have worked extremely hard this year mainly focusing on improving their transfers and communication which in the end has paid off. Looking back to the beginning of the season, it's fair to say that we've come on leaps and bounds.

The teams midfield included myself, Olivia Oatley, Evie Clarke, Charlotte Gothard-Oliver, Caitlin Smith and occasionally Marcus Wakefield. We primarily worked on supporting each other when passing the ball forward to our strikers and also transferring the ball which in turn has allowed us to score many goals across the entire season. I've really enjoyed working with this part of the team this year as we just 'clicked' from the beginning and I think this has shown in the way we have played together.

Our strikers this year have been Shaune-Lee Young, Elisha Bura, Molly West and Rhaea Clark. The main focus this year for our strikers have been their positioning when QV were in possession of the ball. Half way through the season we all saw this very well as this was when we really started to pick ourselves up and win many of our fixtures.



Clockwise top to bottom; Hockey; Training; P7.

This season, "the girls and Marcus" have built strong friendships that I think will last and I'd say this is due to the tiring training sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Name any Scottish weather condition possible – we would all still attend training whether we liked it or not but being positive in these moments really cheered up the team. Winning or losing, the team's determination to do well and support for each other has really been displayed and is something that has made this year's season so great.

As a team, we'd like to thank Mrs Elliott, Mr Oatley and Mrs Scott-Laing. Without these members of staff, we wouldn't have improved as much as we have this year.

Even when some games weren't going as well as we had hoped, the staff's patience (and sometimes ruthlessness) would keep us going till the end. A special thank you from me goes to our S6 leavers – Anjipa, Charlotte, Evie and Elisha – for staying so committed to hockey for the seven years you all have been here. Good luck for the future and I

hope you continue with hockey. The best part of this year has got to be witnessing the improvement we've made as an entire team and it's something that'll hopefully happen next year as well. Being captain this year has certainly been a great experience and I'm looking forward to see what next year's season has in stall for us!

Sophie Murphy (Captain)

U15 Hockey

This year the U15 team have thoroughly enjoyed playing together. As captain I've enjoyed watching the team come together and work hard to succeed in something they're all passionate about. Our team's bond and friendship has helped us immensely through this year's Hockey, and I'm sad to say that next year we won't all be playing together since some of us will be leaving to play for the 1st team. The U15 team have had many good games this year including our game against Dundee High. We started off the game very nervous due to



rumours of Dundee's higher playing level. We were determined to win. So we all came together, came up with a plan and successfully battled through the game. In Hockey, everyone has to put in work for a goal, no matter if you're defence, or up front but there are always some players who will stand out more due to a higher desire to win. Everyone on the team has shone through this year, each in their own ways, showing off their own skills. During this season we wouldn't have been able to make it through without the help of Nanda Seru, who managed to battle through anyone who stood in her way and the trio of strikers Hollie, PK and Erin who worked exceedingly well together.

On behalf of the team I would like to say thank you to the staff who have helped us train and get through this year successfully.

Mille MacDonald (Captain)

S2 Hockey

This year we've had a great season and an even better team. We started off the season with a rusty first match but after that we talked tactics and knew how to improve and be even better for the next. We went into the next match with confidence and came out with a win against Morrisons. Another match that really stood out was when we play against Glen Almond and won 5-0 with 4 goals scored by myself and one by Abbie Gibson my co-striker. Also when our team played against High School of Dundee and Rachael Brown was captain for my absence. Rachael did an amazing job of leading the team to victory with an immense score of 4-0, and to be honest I couldn't have been any prouder of the way they came together.

In conclusion, I feel that this season was packed with lots of matches and a lot more of competitive energy spread amongst each and every

member. Everybody who was on the team was also very passionate to be representing the school. This made a big impact because everyone would use every last breath, tackle, sprint and piece of energy to try and win. Therefore, when we did win and we received the three cheers at the end everyone would have a smile beaming across their face, and that's when I felt proudest to have such a lovely bunch of girls on my hockey team. Well done to everyone that participated in each and every match and good luck for the upcoming season.

Lily O'Neill (Captain)

P7 Hockey

P7 Hockey was a great start to get to know each other. Most of us came to the school not knowing how to play Hockey. Despite not having many matches, we had a great experience getting to play against other schools and with each other. We played our first match against Mary Erskine and there were two teams. We lost one but won the other match. We all enjoy Hockey very much and can't wait to play many more in the upcoming season.

Patricia Bogidrau

My year at QVS has been great with all the Hockey fixtures we have had. The first game we had was against Mary Erskine and we had two teams. Sadly, one of the teams lost and fortunately the other team won. Throughout the time we have had a few fixtures but in S1 I'm sure we will get more games and it will be good because we'll know what we're doing and how to do it.

Lilly Leweni







Netball

It's kind of strange how we started out as a group of girls who were playing Netball as a hobby which then progressed on to playing actual matches against other schools. Throughout the year we have won, lost and drawn most of our matches but we all had a great time. I still remember during one of the games Ceara thought the scoreboard with rigged yet it was the actual time she was looking at(!) One time, we were on our last match and Mrs Elliott bribed us with food if we won the match. Somehow, we did win! It's true!

As a whole, we've mostly enjoyed working together as a team, working with Mrs Elliott, Maggie and Kate and just having fun. It was a nice opportunity for all of us to play in matches and we will all do our best for the upcoming year.

Deeyana Gurung









Ski Trip to Pila, Aosta Valley

This year took 42 pupils and 6 staff to a different resort in the Aosta Valley and although Courmayeur is hard to beat, we were not disappointed. After 26 hrs on the coach, only made bearable by the dulcet tones of the S1 girls singing 'Let it Go', which Steven Rae and Cameron Crawford couldn't resist in joining in with, we arrived at the hotel. The rooms all had ensuite facilities, comfortable beds and as we had only just arrived, were quite tidy, this was a good start. We were also then introduced to our legendary Rep, Barnaby. Barnaby reminded me of Lt. George in 'Black Adder Goes Fourth', in so far as he was incredibly enthusiastic in all situations, could not have been more helpful in ensuring that the pupils had a wonderful week and was very funny, not always intentionally! It also helped that he looked like him.

As we hit the slopes the next day, the pupils were placed into their assigned groups and were whisked away by their instructors. It was great to see the progress that each individual made over the week. As their confidence grew, (sometimes too much Daniel Rae) they went faster and faster and challenged themselves on more and more difficult slopes. The slope to ski turned out to be a run called 'THE WALL'. Each day a different group would return with tales of fear and crying, having put themselves through the ordeal. Eventually, I thought, if Mr Bryce is going to have any bragging rights, he needed to face this fear. Mr Bryce disagreed. We managed to get him to the top of this formidable black run without letting him know he was on it, after that there was no turning back. I would like to say he gracefully

carved his way down, keeping control and managing his emotions, however it would be a lie. He only made two turns on the whole slope, the first one at the top, after which he fell over and then slid, out of control, screaming like a banshee, all the way down to the half way point. He then stood up brushed himself down, took several deep breaths, made his second turn and then fell over and ended up at the bottom with snow in every place that you could imagine. To his credit and partly to us tricking him again, he did eventually conquer The Wall toward the end of the week in style... or certainly a style.

Throughout the week we had several après-ski activities which Barnaby organised. On Monday we had a walk around the lovely town of Aosta, on Tuesday the group went ice-skating. It was lovely to see the pupils gracefully glide around the rink and also to watch Aird come up with his own 'Dancing on Ice' choreography. On Wednesday we had all you can eat pizza night which tends to become a challenge rather than an invite. Cameron Crawford was disappointed that the restaurant had to close at 23:00. We went onto what was certainly the best school disco I have seen. Dry ice, a DJ that wouldn't be out of place in Ibiza, 'banging' tunes (I was reliably informed) and a performance of Barnaby's pole dancing routine (if only the Victorian could include movies!) made for what was a memorable night. Thursday night was the much requested and enjoyed karaoke night. Although Steven Rae's duet with Barnaby of 'A Million Dreams' did indeed bring a tear to the eye, (not for the right reasons), Freya Costello stole the night for not only having the guts to



be the first to sing, solo might I add but also by singing confidently and in tune, which was not a feature of the night! You owned it Freya!

At the end of what was a busy week and reflecting back, this trip was indeed one of the best trips we have had over the years. Thank you to the parents for making my job much easier by meeting deadlines etc. Thank you to the pupils who represented the school in such a positive manner and were once again a credit to their families. A huge thank you must go to the staff on the trip, Mrs Elliott, Ms Stinson, Mr Bryce, Mr Wright and Mr Scott for giving up their holidays and for all of their support and investment into the trip. Without all of this, trips like this, are impossible to run. As Albert Einstein said

"Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school."

These are the experiences that pupils talk about positively long after they have left school. They reinforce lifelong friendships and provide memories that are funny, enjoyable to look back on and a source of many a good story. The week also allowed students to push themselves outside their comfort zone whether it be on the slopes, at the Karaoke or on the dance floor. It only leaves me to say one thing,

No Mr Wright, your group were not holding you back

This was one of the best weeks of my life, I made so many memories like the time Aaliyah and I had a massive wipeout or when Euan dropped his pole on the chairlift. I had a great group too and our favorite place was the jump park. Our instructor was very nice and always wanted to do what was best for us. We did lots of activities after skiing, so we were never not doing anything. Some of the things we did were ice skating, pizza nights, trips into town, but what I found most enjoyable was karaoke and the disco. Also, the food in the hotel was absolutely amazing, the rooms were lovely too. I would love to go again in the future.

Eva Rennie S1

It was my first EVER skiing and I was petrified about hurting myself badly. I was in the level one group with Finlay, Tiliat, Elliot, Abbie and Reagan. Personally, I think we had the best instructor, his name was Ryan. Unfortunately, on the second last day I dropped my pole on the chairlift, I was so upset. After the skiing we would all go to the ice cream shop just around the corner, my favorite flavor was the Meringue ice cream. That was my favorite part of the trip. In my opinion it was totally worth it.

Mya Ellis S1



Girls Active Day

As part of the Enterprise and Employability course, we needed to create an event that people would enjoy. After lots of thinking myself, Molly and Cerys came to the thought of organising the Active Girls Day as a team, which had run the previous year. This national event helps support women who may have low self-esteem by using sport to bring out their confidence. This brings confidence and passion for people who are sometimes a bit afraid to show it. On this day we provided a lot of different activities, for example: Swimming, Clubbersize, Badminton, Hockey, Gymnastics, Cross Country and Yoga. P7-S6 took part in these activities and from what we saw, they

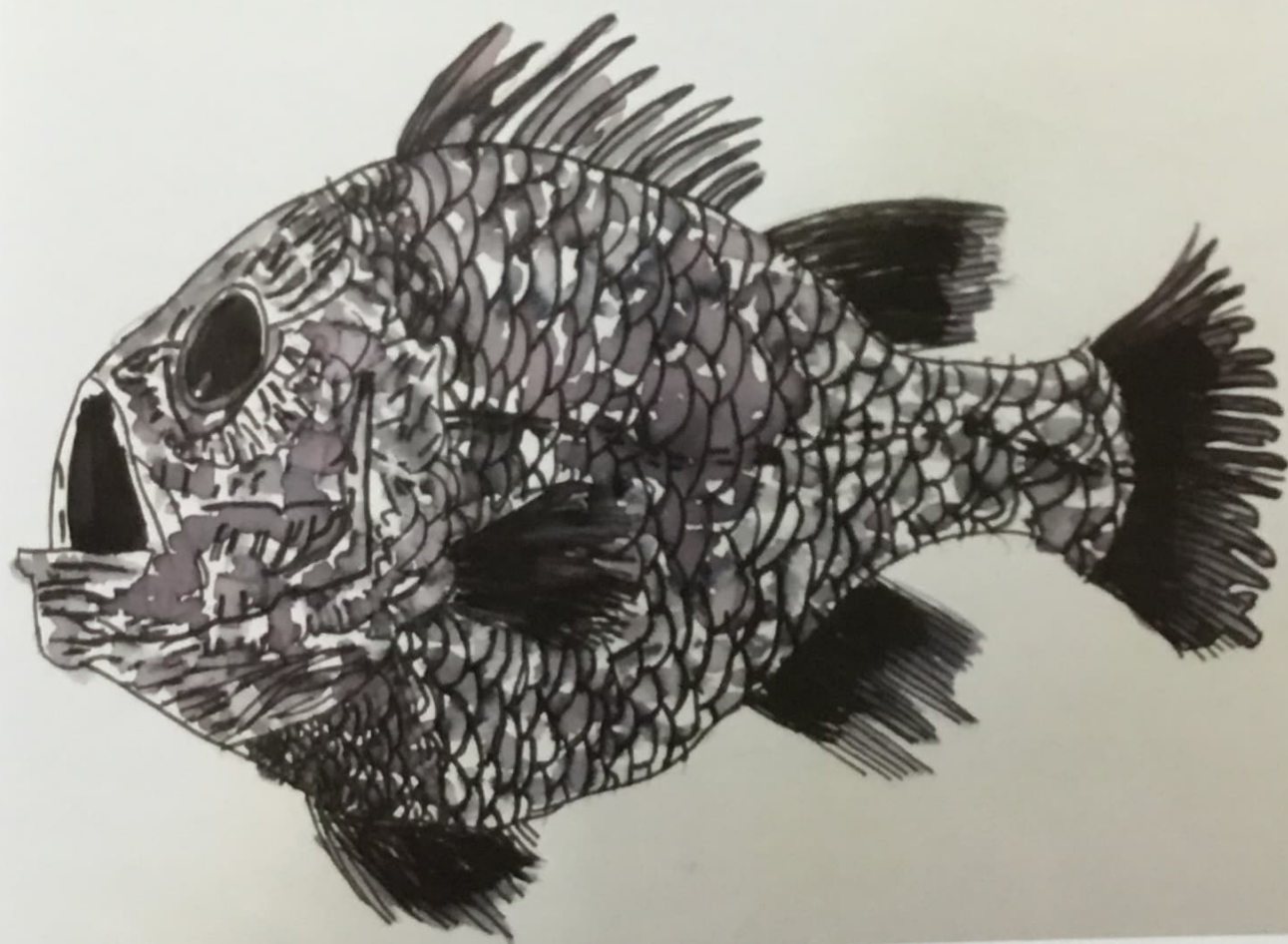
fairly enjoyed themselves. The pupils took part in a very respectable manner. The thought process of Active Girls day was extremely difficult and took an extreme amount of planning! There were exactly 12 drafts of activities and who was taking part in those activities, because we tried to suit the pupils to the activities chosen. I'm so glad that myself, Cerys and Molly worked so well together, and all the hard work payed off. Mrs Elliott was a big help and we would like to thank her for helping us and supporting us through the whole year.

Dannii Blyth

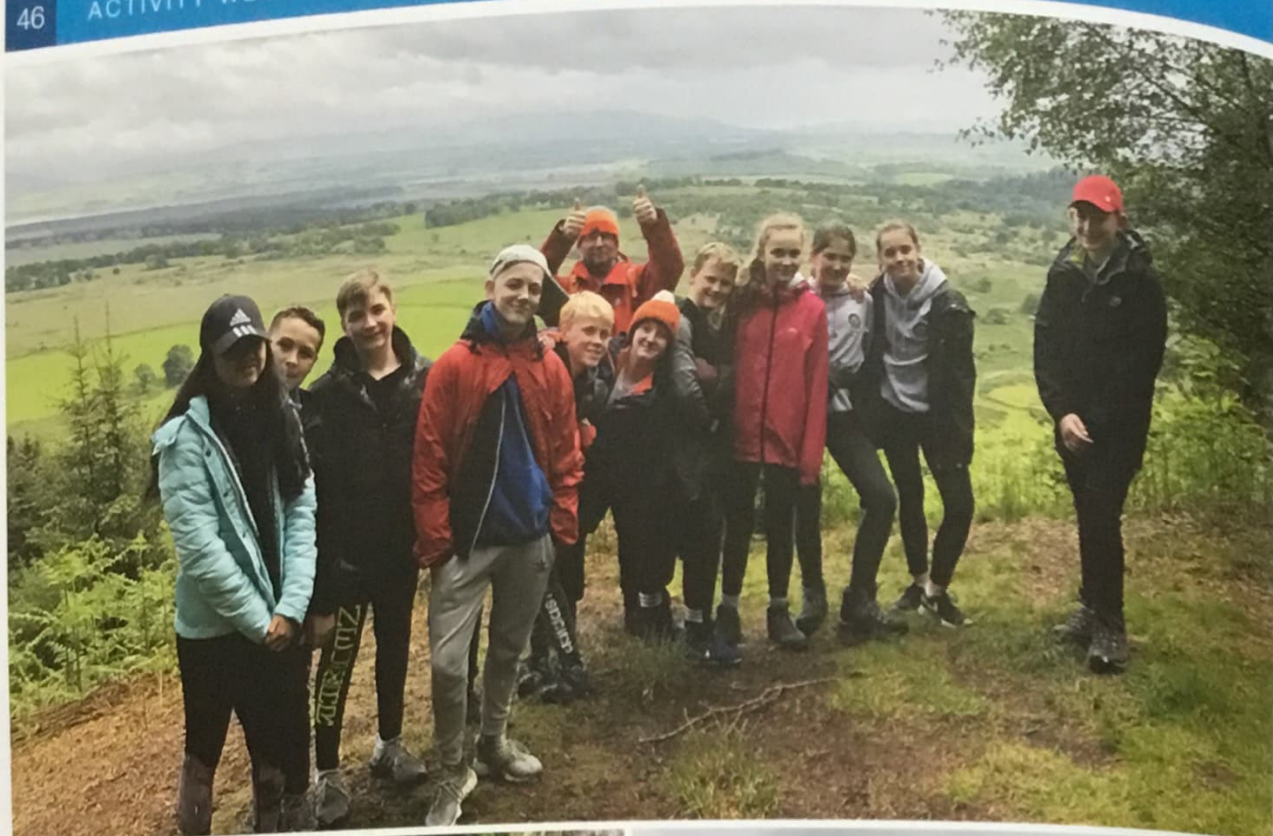


P7 Murrayfield Trip.





Top to bottom; Greer Walker S4; Steven McCallum P7.



Dounans

Dounans Residential Trip 2019

This year we went to Dounans for three days and two nights. Whilst we were there we took part in activities which included: climbing, abseiling, canoeing, hill walking and burn scrambling. My favourite activity was either burn scrambling or abseiling because they were both very challenging. I never thought I would abseil because I am terrified of heights.

Our year got split up into four different bedrooms, two rooms for boys and two rooms for girls. The food was actually really good. We had to wake up at eight and go to sleep at ten. All activities would start at about 9.15 am. The only annoying thing about the residential was the STUPID MIDGE!!

I would like to thank all of the staff that got involved in this like Mrs Wood, Mr Johnstone, Sophie and Ross the gappies. Without them the whole residential would not have happened. The staff at Dounans also deserve a massive thank you for making the activities really fun.

I really enjoyed this residential. I hope the upcoming years will have just as much fun as we did.

Sophie Glen (S1)





Rothiemurchus

I found my time at Rothiemurchus to be quite enjoyable. Our bus ride was around two and a half hours long. This flew by with all the excitement bustling around on the bus. We also did an hours' worth of walking to reach the lodge.

Our rooms were properly suited to our needs, fitted with wardrobes, a chest of drawers and bunk beds. Outside there was a rope swing for us to use in our spare time. We had both aquatic and land based activities. Aquatic included sailing, paddle boarding, kayaking canoeing and mountain biking and a small hike. All activities apart from the hike were done at Morlich Watersports. Overall a great experience for all.

Eroni Tuiwaiwai

When we arrived at the lodge, I got really excited. I was in a six man and the rooms were cosy and big. The food was cooked really well and it looked tasty too! The activities were really fun and I enjoyed them. The walk turned out to be fun as I fell in the mud three times and we saw a red squirrel and a cuckoo. The week was really fun and I would love to do it again.

Alexia McIlwraith





The Outward Bound Trust

Loch Eil Activity Centre

This year's activity week for S3 included a trip to Fort William, where we went to the Loch Eil Centre run by Outward Bound Trust. On Sunday morning we departed and after our three hour bus journey we were split into our three clans – The MacDonald Clan, Cameron Clan and MacLean Clan. We were deliberately grouped with people we don't normally hang out with at school and I was placed in the MacDonald clan. We met up with our instructor for the week Seori, and took part in some team challenges to get to know our group – later on we had to run down to Loch Eil and jump in for our swim test – it was very cold! That night we got to relax at the centre with some hot chocolate for supper.

By Monday morning we were all geared up and ready to go. We met Seori in the clan yurt and went over the plan for the day. When we arrived at Glen Nevis for rock climbing and abseiling the weather took a turn for the worse. However, we all learned the safety procedures and knots we needed to know and all climbed up and down the slippery rock faces. A special shout out for Mr Wright for when he leant too far back in his harness and proceeded to hang upside down on the cliff edge!

That afternoon the weather cleared up and we decided to climb one of the massive trees at the centre tied together as a group. Gabrielle impressed with her leadership skills as she guided Roman and Samay up the tree. Mr Wright yet again had the time of his life as he slipped and was left dangling from the tree!

On Tuesday morning all the clans got ready for their hill climb. The MacDonald clan went 999m high to the summit of Stob Ban – the only group to climb a Munro. We all found it challenging however all managed to bag a Munro and the view was stunning!

On Wednesday we had the opportunity to go canoeing in the loch. Rio had mentioned to Mr Wright that she was a nervous canoer hoping she would be placed with Seori! We were placed in pairs within our clan and after mastering the basics had to navigate with one team member blindfolded! We all got very competitive with a game of water polo at the end!

By Wednesday afternoon we were already soaked and had an orienteering task that afternoon to collect pieces for our raft building competition. We did well and collected lots of equipment for the raft and had planned our building project.

On Thursday morning we got to put our plan into action – however we did not expect the hour to go by so quickly. When it was done we put our buoyancy aids on and made our way out to the water. Within 5 seconds of the raft touching the water it fell apart and everyone fell in the water. We were about to give up when Mitchell Pratt carried the team and swam the course with one of the barrels. He pulled us into second place closely behind the Cameron Clan.

Following lunch we were presented with our certificates and were all recommended for the summer adventures at Outward Bound. Overall

we had an amazing week with everyone at the Outward Bound Trust. A special thank you to all the staff that came with us and the three group leaders that led the clans!

Rio Gregory

On Sunday the 2nd June we went on a three hour journey to Loch Eil with Outward Bound Trust. On arrival we were split into three clans – McLean, MacDonald and Campbell. We were introduced to Jo who was our instructor for the week.

The first activity was the traditional 'jog and dip' into Loch Eil. Leading by example, the courageous Mr Stacey dived head first into the icy depths, followed by Sean and Magnus. Pair by pair, we all faced the waters of Loch Eil... and we loved it!

The following day was filled with more exciting activities. We drove half an hour into the countryside and walked to the rock we were abseiling down. Almost everyone abseiled down the rock and we were all proud of Jaheem for attempting the abseil. After abseiling we went scrambling up the rocks.

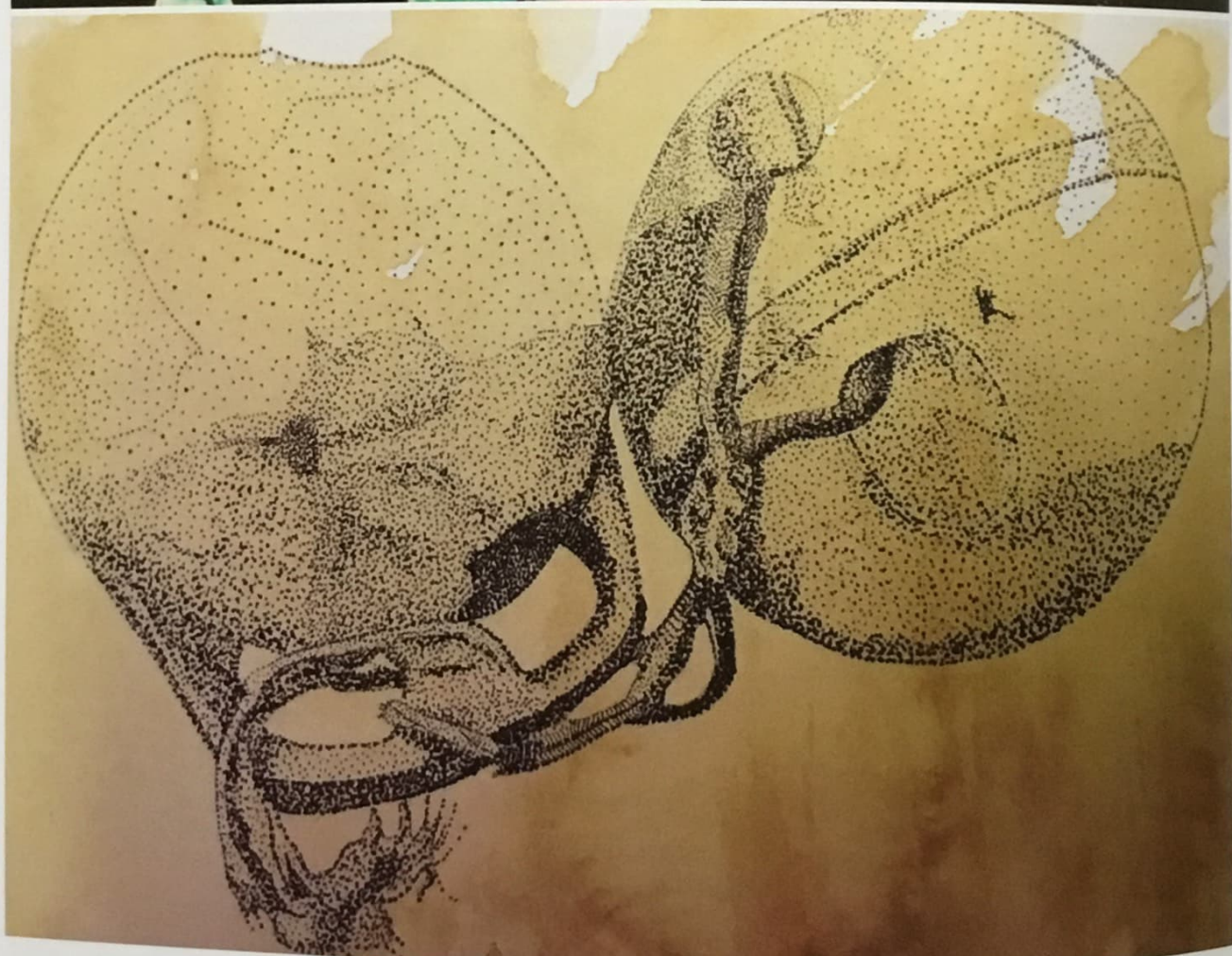
On Tuesday, we climbed parts of Ben Nevis – the tallest mountain in the UK. Although it was a tough walk, we managed to work as a team and maintain the same pace – apart from Amena who ran away from us and flexed on the rocks like Spiderman.

The next day was an eventful day. We played games and we went orienteering in groups of two. After lunch, we got the chance to climb Jacob's ladder in teams of four. Everyone managed to climb up high with the support of others, especially Sean's group who climbed nearest to the top. After climbing halfway up Jacob's ladder, Jaheem, dangling 20 feet in the air, needed some support and motivation to come down. Next we went canoeing, which resulted in a capsized canoe and Amena and Aminio squealing in shock.

On Thursday (our last day) we competed against the other clans to build the best raft for a race. After completing our amazing raft, we got into the water and realised it was much harder than it looked. After 10 minutes of paddling and getting nowhere, Jo – our instructor – decided to stop timing us! We somehow got beaten by Mitchell and his group who carried his disintegrated raft to the finish line. Irena launched Amena's paddle into the Loch and Sean pounced into the water to retrieve the paddle. As payback when Irena wasn't looking Amena pushed her off the raft into the cold waters of Loch Eil!

Ultimately, it was time to head back to school. Despite the typical Scottish weather, we had lots of fun! Thank you to Mr Wright, Mr McLay and Mr Stacey for taking us and to the Outward Bound staff for looking after us so well!

Simoon Pun and Magnus Gothard-Oliver



Top to bottom; Simoon Pun S3; Rebecca Kane S6.



RMPS Trip to Rosslyn Chapel

On Monday 10th June Miss Appleyard, Mr Boyd and S3 visited historic Rosslyn Chapel. We all enjoyed a truly magical day, with blue skies and warm sunshine helping us to enjoy the wonderful and quirky architecture of Rosslyn.

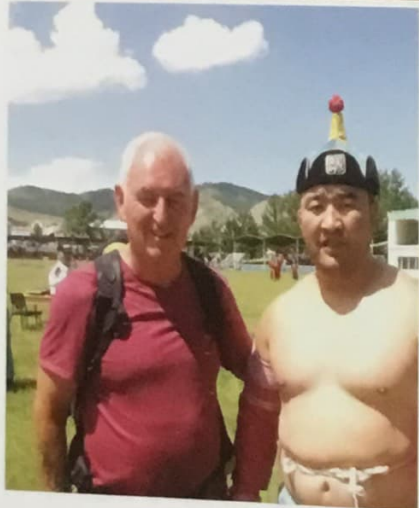
Rosslyn Chapel itself was built by the Sinclair family in the mid-15th century and became famous worldwide through *The Da Vinci Code*, a novel written by Dan Brown. In the story, the main characters investigate a murder mystery in the Louvre, travelling to Rosslyn after uncovering a number of clues.

As part of our visit to Rosslyn this year our students had a tour of the Chapel and learned about the significance of the carvings of plants and animals, some of which clearly represent plants which grow in the United States, despite being carved before the official discovery of America. We also found out about the story of the murder of a young stonemason, the result of artistic rivalry by another.

It was a fascinating experience and we are looking forward to taking next year's S3 to learn more about Rosslyn Chapel next year!

Miss R Appleyard, RMPS Department







On the trail of Ghengis Khan

QVS Expedition to Mongolia & China 2019

They say that as you get older, it's important to keep doing things that take you out of your comfort zone. I can safely say without a shadow of a doubt that this trip involved 28 whole days outside my comfort zone – but what an incredible 28 days they were...

QVS Mongolia and China Expedition was organised with Outlook Expeditions who planned our 4-week adventure and made sure that we experienced a range of travel, volunteering and cultural experiences during our trip.

From an unexpected stopover in Kazakhstan to riding wild Mongolian horses across the Steppe; from an impromptu Tug-o-war with the children of Bayasgalant Orphanage to wild camping under the stars in stunning Arkhangai province and from travelling overland on the Trans-Siberian Railway, one of the most iconic rail routes in the world, to waking up at dawn to hike the Great Wall of China, we definitely had the experience of a lifetime and made memories that will be impossible to forget.

Mongolia is an incredible place and its people are some of the kindest and most hospitable in the world. We were fortunate enough to be able to visit Mongolia during the Naddam – their world-famous festival – and see the Mongolian wrestling, archery and horse racing in Tsetserleg for ourselves. We were also extremely lucky to get to live and cook with a nomadic family and camp with them alongside their Gers (which is their name for the yurt-like tents that they live in all year round, even in minus 40 degree winters)

Working with the orphans was one of the most memorable aspects of our trip to Mongolia and it was humbling to see what happiness small things like making bracelets, singing songs and holding a sports day could bring for these children. Team QVS provided activities for the week as well as camp duties such as cleaning and washing up for the 70 or so inhabitants of the Summer Camp. The Team are keen to keep up a link with Bayasgalant now we are back home and organise some support through the MAD group to help provide education and support for the children that we met there.

The one aspect that I found the most challenging was the Mongolian cuisine – namely boiled mutton for breakfast, lunch and dinner. This

was quite literally hard to swallow and by the 18th day even the smell was enough to send me running towards my tent. Thank heavens for Mr Stacey who finally took pity on me and made me some army 'Compo' which was the most delicious thing I felt I'd ever tasted by this point in the expedition!

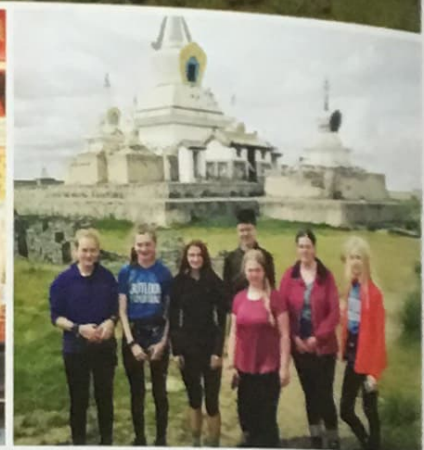
The expedition challenged the team to manage their money, their accommodation, their food and their transport and was very demanding for the whole Student Team – who had to work hard to ensure that we were all fed, had clean water and somewhere dry to rest our head at the end of a day's trekking. Everyone had to take a turn as the group leader and manage any conflict or differences of opinion by talking things through and reaching a compromise which really allowed them to experience leadership in action.

As well as the amazing places we saw and the unforgettable experiences we had, this is one of the main positives of the expedition – that everyone worked together and tried hard to make sure that we were making the best decision for everyone involved. Given that we all made it home in one piece, I think it's safe to say they did a sterling job.

Travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway to Beijing was definitely an experience that was on my bucket list and waking up in China to green trees and shimmering blue lakes after the arid terrain of the Gobi Desert that we'd been travelling through as we left Mongolia definitely did not disappoint. It was a perfect bridge between these two very different countries and allowed us to have a little bit of a breather before the next stage of our adventure.

Mongolia was all about the outdoors, my memories are full of the smell of wood smoke, the sight of eagles soaring above our campsite and the feeling of icy mountain springs to soak your feet after a day's hiking or riding. China was a completely different world and it really was a case of culture-shock as we were plunged into the hustle and bustle of Beijing with neon signs, thousands of bicycles and unlimited places to buy food – with no mutton in sight!

China was an incredible place to end our expedition and the Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven and Tiananmen Square were all even more stunning in real life. Beijing Zoo, the city's many stunning parks and squares and the fascinating Hutong districts with their



warrens of tiny streets and market vendors kept us busy and fascinated over our week in the city – but nothing could have prepared us for what was one of the most amazing experiences of our lives: hiking the Great Wall of China.

Our Great Wall Trek along the Huanghuacheng section carried us over its peaks to fortified Lookout towers, set high up in craggy mountains which dipped and soared above the deep blue lakes below. The wall itself was so much steeper than I'd imagined and we needed to crawl up on our hands and knees in some sections. The views from the top of the towers were truly breathtaking and it was incredible to think that we were hiking along one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

When you see it for yourself, it's difficult to explain the impact it has on you and it's not surprising that it's one of the few man-made sights that can be seen from space – it is absolutely immense in its size and seems to rise and fall across the peaks forever. It was one of the highlights of the entire expedition for many of the Team and the photos can't capture a fraction of its grandeur and immensity.

The expedition truly was a trip of a lifetime. When I got home, it felt like it was Scotland that felt unfamiliar and strange after so long spent moving every day and getting used to new places, people and

experiences. Travel is said to be one of the only things that you pay for that end up making you richer and I wholeheartedly agree with this. Alex, Olivia, Rhaea, Rachel, Brodie, Jamie, Ella, Kristen, Chris, Marcus and Carly have had an experience like no other and I'd recommend it to all Victorians if you're ever lucky enough to get the chance.

We have all come back having learned things about ourselves that we could never have anticipated and with memories that we will never be able to put into words – whether they were moments spent gazing out of your tent at a million stars whilst hearing wild ponies gallop across the Mongolian grasslands right next to your tent, or moments spent talking yourself into mutton for breakfast (again) whilst pulling on muddy and damp walking clothes and swatting away a million flies before starting your next day trekking – they all added up to a totally unforgettable journey.

Mongolia will always have a special place in my heart and despite everyone being shocked that I wanted to go in the first place, I've even found myself tempted into thinking about what expeditions I'd like to go on in the future. It just goes to show that you shouldn't underestimate yourself and that pushing yourself outside of your comfort zone can lead to some of the most rewarding moments of your life. Now that I've survived this trek, who knows what's next on my travel bucket list?



Cadet Aidan Horsburgh's Canadian Adventure

The Ex-Oak leaf exchange to Canada was an opportunity open to all 68,000 cadets in the UK. However only 46 cadets in total were selected to participate in this exchange.

Selection consisted of many activities; mountain biking, hiking, kayaking, swimming and fitness test, map and navigation skills, and finally our social skills throughout. We were assessed on all of these activities, and 12 people were selected to go for each course.

Whitehorse CTC is one of the smallest CTC's in Canada, consisting of roughly 30 buildings, an abseil tower and a parade square about the same size as the one here. Whitehorse CTC is located in the north west of Canada near Alaska (where we went for a day as our culture tour) and was also in the middle of the vast forest.

The first 2 weeks of camp all cadets were just getting used to camp routine of waking up at six o'clock doing PT for thirty minutes. Then breakfast at seven followed by classes until lunch at twelve then more lessons until dinner at five and then free time. And on beds by ten. Lessons consisted of team dynamics, journaling, first aid, hiking, biking, canoeing, abseiling, packing, and map and navigation with a GPS. All of which we needed to complete to pass the course.

On our first day of our expedition we did community service at the library in Carcross by scraping the paint off of the outside walls with credit cards for four hours, then repainting it again.

Then we were hiking for three days. During this three days we summited a mountain, walked on the side of mountains in valleys through the scorching sun and torrential rain all with thirty kg rucksacks on. We also cycled for 46 km in total during this cycle.

For the second cycle we were canoeing for five days. During this five days we canoed on a lake and also on the Tikini River, the Yukon River, and through the rapids called the Jaws of Death. During this cycle we canoed 181.2 km in total.

Our last cycle of the 18-day was mountain biking, and for this five days we cycled uphill, downhill, through water, on trails, on the new and old Alaskan highway, and as a bonus I learned to do a wheelie and a j hop, as well as getting some first aid experience when two girls decided to fly down a mountain instead of cycle.

Before I knew it the 18-day expedition was over, but now we had the solo to do. The solo expedition was meant to be a thirty hour period you spent in the wild with only a tarp and some string. We had to make a shelter and a field amenity during this time. However my platoon's solo got cut short to nine hours due to a family of black bears coming into the area to say hello.

As a result of this all twenty cadets plus three officers had to get into a six man truck as we drove down a biking trail being chased by the mother bear as her three cubs sat back and watched. We went back in the morning to get all of our stuff and clean up the area and another bear came to say hello so we had to run out with our twenty kg rucks.

Canada has definitely been the highlight of my life so far and I know that it will be hard to beat. Whilst in Canada I have learned a lot about myself and developed new skills as well as new friends. If anyone asked me to travel four hundred and two point two km in eighteen days hiking biking and canoeing last year I would have said no but now I would happily do it again. I hope others will try to do this next year because including the pain it is a great experience. And finally I would like to thank the school for opening up this opportunity to me.



Top four, bottom; Olivia Dunbar S6; Connor Mathison P7.



Balmaha.

Geography

It's been an exciting year for QVS Geography. The pupils have had many opportunities to further their interest in the subject including attending a talk by cameraman Doug Allan, taking part in the WorldWise Geography Quiz and volunteering with The Mountains and The People Project.

In September, S4 Geography pupils visited the lovely village of Balmaha on Loch Lomond to gather data for their assignments. The fantastic National Park Rangers provided the pupils with lots of information about the impact of tourism on the landscape. The pupils enjoyed their walk up Conic Hill which provided beautiful views of the surrounding landscape. They were also able to measure the extreme footpath erosion which has taken place due to the hill's popularity.

Also in September, the S5 and S6 Geography pupils visited Glasgow for their Higher assignment research. They enjoyed their day of data collection apart from trying to count the number of pedestrians on a very busy Buchanan Street for 10 minutes!

The Junior Geographers have also had a good year with classes completing projects on Wild Weather, Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tsunamis and Shanty Towns. They have been developing their geographical skills by making use of the school grounds to learn new fieldwork techniques. It's great to have such a big site with the space, woods and a wee burn right on the doorstep!



Mountains and People Project Volunteering



Doug Allan

On Monday 4th February my Geography class mates and I went to Wallace High School. We went to see a man giving a presentation about his career and life. This man's name was Doug Allan.

Doug Allan is a camera man who has filmed wildlife on land as well as specialising in underwater filming. He has been to places like Africa, Asia and the South Pole. One of his most recent trips was to go to an island in the Arctic located to the north of Norway and see the wonders of the sea and land life there. He told us about the penguins and seals and how precious they are, but his favourite of them all was the polar bear. He described polar bears as 'sexy, charismatic' bears which made people snigger as no one had really heard of that before! He described the life of the polar bears and the adventures he had been on with them. He told us about filming on the island when the polar bear mother and cubs emerged from their winter home after hibernating under the snow. He had to wait outside in the freezing cold for 5 days until the polar bear family appeared. The footage he captured was amazing and showed the baby polar bears struggling

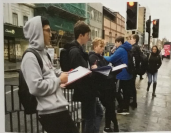
to walk on the snow for the first time.

Doug Allan has worked with David Attenborough. He has filmed camera work for Blue Planet, Planet Earth and other shows. He described working with David as a pleasure and he got on really well with him.

As this talk was aimed at S5 and S6 pupils, he also spoke about career options. He informed us he didn't really know what he wanted to do until after he left school. He also advised us to take a gap year to really evaluate what we want to do before we do it. To not rush into a job, really think about things.

Overall, Doug Allan was a very interesting and funny man. It hasn't made me want to be a camera man but it did make me wonder. I think we all enjoyed the talk, so thank you Doug Allan.

Rio Gregory S3





WorldWise Geography Quiz

Each year teams from all across Scotland take part in the WorldWise Geography Quiz organised by the Scottish Association of Geography Teachers. For the first time QV entered two quiz teams: Daniel Evans, Rachael Brown and Tiana Robbins in Team 1 and Alfie Walker, Alexander Skinner and Rio Gregory making up Team 2. After weeks of preparation learning about Weather, Geography in the News and Lochs of Scotland, we headed to Dollar Academy for our Local Heat. Both teams performed well in the first six rounds and made it into the top four highest scoring teams to make it through to the Local Final. There was much excitement amongst our teams, as the top two would progress to the National Final. I was also excited; I had never had a team make it to the Final before. What followed was four tough rounds, including an incredibly challenging Geography Spelling Bee with words I couldn't even pronounce never mind spell! However, Team 2 were able to stay focused and did fantastically well to go through to the Scottish Final.

In the run up to the final, Alfie, Alex and Rio worked incredibly hard. Many lunchtimes and evenings were spent preparing for the big day studying OS Maps, learning the Rivers of Europe and practising anagrams of Scottish places. We set off for Belmont Academy in Ayr feeling confident and the team were very excited to show off everything they had learnt. They even continued to quiz each other and practise for the entire hour and a half journey there!

There were 9 teams taking part in the Scottish Final with teams from all across Scotland including Aberdeenshire, Edinburgh and Perth. The standard was extremely high, with last year's winning team sitting at the table next to us but that didn't seem to faze the QV Team. The team did well in some of the initial rounds, which included showing off their fantastic European River knowledge and OS Map skills however after a very tricky anagram round, they fell just short of making it into the top four teams who progressed to the second stage of the final. We then watched in amazement as the top four teams battled it out showing off some very impressive Geography knowledge. After a tense four rounds, Broughton High School were crowned the winners.

The team headed back to QV with their heads held high, big smiles on their faces and two new Geography books! They may not have done as well as they'd hoped in the final but they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and seem to already be looking forward to next year's quiz! I feel incredibly proud of all the pupils involved in this year's quiz, they inspired me with their commitment and determination and I can't wait to see what fun next year's quiz will bring!

Miss Thompson



History

This year in History we have been having fun bringing the workers of the Cotton Mills to life. We visited the New Lanark World Heritage site and had a great time seeing the living conditions of people in the 1800s. The highlight of this trip was the radio call for one of our pupils who had got his head stuck in a character picture board. Please see the picture. (No child was hurt in the taking of this picture) Only ego's which were bruised. But we rescued him once he was cut out by an enthusiastic member of staff.

S1's learned about the Aztecs, loving recreating the sacrifices which took place with true dramatic flair. They were also gripped by the stories of the Jacobites and Bonnie Prince Charlie. They also massively improved their ability to use historic sources.

The S2's created stunning poetry to mark our celebration of the end of World War One and its centenary year. They took their historic study of WW1 and combined this with the English Department who examined war poetry. The end result was inspired poetry from the jnr's.

Modern Studies

Democracy – Taking Part S2 Mock Election

As part of the unit on Taking Part in Democracy, all S2 pupils participated in a series of lessons where by, divided into political parties, they researched policies, devised a manifesto and created campaign materials. Each party elected their own campaign manager to oversee the process and ensure every pupil played an active part. The event culminated in a grand election day involving candidate speeches, a Question Time event and ultimately the big vote! Katie Melke, Chanel Parker and Ellie Robinson tell their story of the day!

Katie Melke explains...

On Thursday 29th November 2018 both S2 classes gathered in the theatre to begin the mock class election. When we were walking into the theatre the nerves started to hit us all. Once we were all sat down it was time to find out who our candidates were; representing 2A SNP was James Mathieson, 2A Conservative was Anju Gaha, 2A Liberal Democrats was Lily-Grace Methuen, 2A Green Party was Daniel Rae, 2A Labour party was Alex Skinner, 2B Conservative was Rachael Brown, 2B SNP was Ruan Imrie, 2B Labour was Sam Lawrie, 2B Liberal Democrats was myself and 2B Green Party was Charlie Scott. Next we finally started campaigning for our parties. In our groups we all walked round each others tables and found out lots of information about the different parties. After 40 minutes campaigning it was time for a break!

After the break we listened to the candidates speeches. Each candidate gave a speech on how they were going to help the school

and what they wanted from us. Once the speeches were over the spotlight was still on the candidates for question time.

Chanel takes up the story...

Question Time was where all of the candidates sat at a desk in front of the whole year group and anyone with a question to ask would just put their hand up and ask the specific candidate. During question time all of the candidates received good questions and answered them well. After all of the questions were asked, row by row we were asked to go forward and vote for the party we thought gave the best reasons for winning.

The voting process was managed by two Electoral office people, Madi Bailes and Lily O'Neil, explains Ellie Robinson. We all lined up and got our name ticked off so that we could get a ballot paper. With the ballot paper you had to put a cross in the box next to the person you wanted to win. If you put anything other than a cross it wouldn't count. At the end of voting the electoral office people counted the votes.

Chanel continues...

So the winner of that day's election was James Mathieson 2A, SNP party. When he won, he made a speech saying thank you to everyone who voted for him and promising that his party will make a difference!

The last word goes to Ellie...

It was a fun day. I would definitely recommend it to anyone who thinking about doing this.

English

A Child's Perspective

Eva
The fiery red leaves crunched beneath my feet. I was running. Fast. Breathless. As if it was the only thing my body was capable of doing. The weight of my backpack whacking rhythmically against my lower back and causing a piercing pain to shoot through me with every placement of my feet. Faster. The sound of the wind rustling the trees, the trees full of flames. The weight of the knife in my hand, heavy.

The blood in my body burned. I could feel it pumping through my veins, keeping me going. Where was I going? That was a question I didn't have the answer to. The wetness of the ground seeped into my shoes making my socks damp and uncomfortable. I didn't care. I didn't care where I ended up in - I was just running. I wasn't frightened, no, in fact I was excited. A new adventure began to unfold with every second. I could feel my run turn into a skip as I started to weave in and out of the dark oaks surrounding me. The orange of the leaves falling around, like a fire spitting and sparking, almost as if a warning sign.

I let myself become distracted. I shouldn't have. I could feel my body ache, starting to realise I've slowed down and not being happy about it. My stomach growled as I realised how hungry I'd become. I reached into my bag and find nothing but a lousy orange. It'll do. I started to chew as the sweetness consumed my senses. The smell lingering on my hands making me feel slightly nauseous, or maybe that was just my body's way of telling me I've ran too much. Maybe so, but I must keep going.

Off I go again, the crunching of the leaves on the floor almost drowning out all other sounds. Like the stream. I caught a glimpse of silver reflection, my feet digging into the ground to slow me down. I turned and started to jog down the river bank towards the glistening flow of water. It's not moving fast. I felt the hair on the back of my neck stand on end. My senses heightened, I could taste the danger in the air. It's then I saw it, a slick flash of orange under the surface. Lurking. I saw the ruin of the old bridge, the water thrashing against the bits of wood and rock. I can do this, just keep calm.

As I stood on the first rock, I steadied my breathing. I reached my arm out as far as it could go until my joints were aching. The rock slimy beneath my fingertips, causing me to dig my nails in until almost at breaking point. I reach my leg over and hurdle myself onto the debris. Causing my leg to catch and blood to gush, the crimson running down my knee. My heart about to burst out of my chest. I felt a whimper escape my lips as a tear rolls down my cheek. I am scared. Absolutely terrified.

Grace

As the sun warmed my skin I walk slowly, taking in every moment. The feeling of happiness washing over me as I watch my little girl running through the autumn leaves. A stick in her hand. The leaves falling all around her as she waves it around. She is just beautiful. She had stubbornly insisted that she carry her own backpack even though I knew that it would annoy her, but nevertheless, I let her take it. I don't feel in a rush. She's dancing between the trees, laughing as she goes.

I examine her as she opens her backpack and pulls out the orange I packed her. She peels it all by herself. Pride is all I feel as she pulls a face with each bite, the sweetness filling the air. I tidy up the peelings as she takes off running again, the sound of her little red boots squealing in the mud. I take my time, following behind at a slow pace to make sure not to catch up with her. As long as she's in my vision it's okay.

She's gotten fast. I remember reaching out and holding her hand as she wobbled towards me. As she fell onto my knees, I would pick her up over my head and kiss her belly, her angelic laughter filling the room. Before I knew it she was walking around the living room table, terrorising the dog as it tried to avoid it's tail being pulled.

Wait... Where is she?

I start to panic, my pace quickly turns into a jog. Oh no. She can't have gotten far. I'm so stupid, how could I have lost her? I can't hear her footsteps or her laugh. My minds reeling, faster than I can run. My lungs burning, the taste of blood in my mouth. I used to be able to run for ages. Just like Eva. My whole body protests. My heart hurts as I scream her name. Where is she? Why not turn around and come back?

I've been looking for hours. My legs are shaking and painful. It's become dark, my eyes are beginning to adjust as I hear the river flowing. I thought out loud, she must be there. I hold onto the sharp skeletal trees and I lower myself down onto the rocky bank. Squinting, I see a small figure about halfway out on the river. My heart drops. The river flowing fast. She must be terrified. I call out her name. No movement. I question whether my eyes were playing tricks on me as I ran over.

The river roaring as its rushing past me. I gain my balance on the first rock. The wind blows against me, sending a chill through my body. My blood pumping inside me drowning out the sound of the water battering against the rocks. My heart beating so hard I feel like it is going to burst out of my rib cage. I look across at her. The adrenaline pumping through me as I climb rock to rock. As I place my feet, the wet algae falls from beneath me. I hold on as tight as I can. For her I pull myself up, my arms burn. Almost there.

I pick her up. Her eyes fluttering. I hold her on my chest as I carefully scramble back to the bank. I lay her down and check her pulse. Weak. She is freezing. I wrap her in my jacket and I take a tissue out of my bag to wipe her knee of blood. Why was she out there? I pull her into my embrace as I begin to weep. My little girl. So beautiful. As she cuddles into my shoulder the panic washes away, and once again I'm happy.

Rhese Clark, 55

Luke

I snap awake to the feeling of my heart dropping and my neck swelling, the symptoms of a perfect dream turned into a nightmare. The sun's rays cut through the blinds like long shards of glass, slicing through my pupils. I glance over to her side of the bed, empty and unbothered - I still can't bring myself to sleep there. My eyes linger for a moment, imagining her there, the blanket falling on the curves of her body as they once did. But not anymore. I force myself to get up from the comfort of the bed and lazily plod across the wooden floor to the kitchen.

I know I've gone crazy. I still sometimes hear her voice in the morning, even though it is beyond impossible. I am stopped dead by the sight of her coffee cup on the kitchen counter as I always am. The soft rouge lipstick stain she left behind has now faded with time. As much as I try and know that I should, I cannot bring myself to wash it, as I fear I will lose what I have left of her if I do. I grab my own dirty mug from the sink and fill it to the brim with the usual sickly alcohol I use to drown her and all the vicious memories out. I down it in one.

I slide the stiff wardrobe doors open. As I search for something to cover my body, my fingertips toy with the edge of my old Zeppelin shirt - her favourite. The one she always wore. I exhale through my nose in a forced sigh, grabbing the black hoodie that has become a part of my signature apparel. The smoky shade represents the troubled cloud that has engulfed my body. I pull it on in front of the mirror, watching it mess up my tousled hair even further. My vision settles on my face; it is cluttered with deep purple bags and rough stubble. My skin reminds me of crumpled paper, the wrinkles cutting deep into my skin like the pain in my heart. My sunken eyes travel down my body, and where a strong, healthy man once stood now pathetically sits an old, sagging, filthy mess. I continue getting dressed.

I numbly carry myself towards the front door, trampling over small hills made of letters and disregarded clothing. I need to see her. I force my bare feet into my worn converse, preparing to leave. I hesitate at the door, but turn back to the kitchen and grab a fresh bottle of whiskey to keep me company.

The cold, winter wind whips into my skin, almost like a punishment. My eyes water and my lips crack, creating even more pain. I wrap my arms around myself as tight as I can, envisioning her warm embrace. God, I'm an idiot for not taking a jacket. She would've told me the exact same thing.

My eyes are locked on the ground. I watch concrete turn into stones, stones turn into grass. I'm almost there. The frozen air I'm forced to breathe in makes me wheeze, a cry for help. Not long to go.

I finally arrive. The peeling black gates welcome me like the outstretched arms of Lucifer himself. I dread my next steps, but I push myself through the opening and into the underworld. The moss-covered gravestones are teeth protruding from the earth consuming the dead, consuming my joy. I pace through the ordered graves like a zombie, I belong here yet I continue to live on. Names of the unknown both forgotten and remembered fly past me on my search. Finally, I can see it on the far right. Covered in flowers and gifts, it looks almost as beautiful as her. My pace speeds up and

suddenly I'm running, desperate to be with her once more. The bottle of whiskey is long gone, I don't know where I dropped it. My knees give out and I crawl the last few steps. I am sobbing now, so hard that my sight is now a watery blur as I struggle to read the name on the headstone.

Kate

My eyes flick open to see sunlight weaving gracefully through the dusty Venetian blinds. My husband stirs next to me, groaning, returning to earth from his dreams. I sense him slowly stretch his limbs, get up, and leave the bedroom. I continue to lay peacefully for a few more minutes before heading to the kitchen to join him.

"Morning, love," I gently call to him. He doesn't answer. He's probably just tired; he didn't come to bed until late. The marble chair is cold against my thighs, so in an attempt to feel some sort of heat I wrap my thin hands around my coffee mug and take a long, slow sip. A plush pink lipstick stain appears around the rim from makeup I don't remember putting on. It seems I don't remember much these days.

I glance down and notice that I'm wearing Luke's old Zeppelin shirt that I always seem to end up in, but I've given up trying to figure out how. I must've thrown it on last night before bed. I focus on Luke. He looks so perfect standing there, in his pyjamas with his messy hair. He pours a cup of a sweet smelling coffee and finishes it in one. He's definitely tired this morning. He disappears for a moment, then returning with soft looking clothing on. I admire him further: his strong jaw and perfect skin glowing in the early morning sun, his toned body that I can never get enough of.

I watch Luke suddenly go towards the door. Is he leaving? He is still for a while, then he puts on his shoes. I guess we're going somewhere. I run quickly to throw on some trousers, picking up some random leggings leftover from another day. I fumble with my shoes and luckily make it just in time to follow him out the door.

Today is beautiful. I can hear all sorts of animals, and the sun feels refreshing on my skin. I wonder where we're going. It is a perfect day to walk and wander with my perfect husband. I notice Luke appears cold. "You should've worn a jacket," I laugh at him.

We cross from crunchy paths onto soft grass, and I'm enjoying this journey. I see battered black railings to my left, the sight of them opens up an uneasy feeling in my stomach. What's happening? Clouds have appeared above us now. I have a bad feeling. I feel I've lost control. Luke is far ahead of me now. "Where are we going?" I shout. He isn't listening, why isn't he listening? I'm panicking.

I finally catch up to Luke standing at the entrance. A rotting wooden sign tells me we're at the local cemetery. What are we doing here? "Luke, I want to go home," I plead to him, hoping he'll just look at me, listen to me, take care of me. "Luke?" Too late, he is running into the garden of death. I have no choice but to follow him. My legs are tired, but I keep sprinting after him. I see a bottle of something fall from Luke's jacket and it's not long before I reach it. I stop, pick it up, and read the label. Glenmorrien's Own Scotch Whiskey. I look up, and see a strange sight. Luke sitting in front of one particular gravestone, staring. The unease within me is now at its peak.

My feet carry me with apprehension towards my husband. The world is fully grey now, and is spinning like my uncontrollable thoughts and emotions. The air is dense, hard to breathe. I reach him. My knees press against his shoulder. I didn't realise how much I was shaking. I use him as support. His eyes are completely focused on the words engraved on the slab in front of us. I follow his line of sight.

No, that's not right.

My heart drops. The blood drains from me.

Written on the gravestone is my name.

Kate Rose Irwin.

Rachel Loudon, SS

Last One Alive

In the end, the world didn't end in fire or ice. The earth didn't explode and kill everything, or get sucked up by a black hole into an unknown and limitless abyss. There was no zombie apocalypse, no deadly epidemic disease, nor did aliens invade to wipe humans out.

In the end, it ended because of them. Human beings.

It happened slowly at first: days became shorter, crops struggled to grow, the birth of stillborns increased. I remembered that day clearly. I had to collect as twice as many souls that had barely formed. The next day, that number doubled, and then again, until there were less living babies than there were dead ones. It was little things like that in the beginning. Those were the first signs.

Then all of a sudden, the moon disappeared.

The first thing I remember was footsteps. Numerous thunderous footsteps, striking the concrete ground. At first they were masked by the heavy rainfall, but suddenly the rain halted, and the ground beneath our feet began to pound. My feet were glued to the tarmac, my whole body paralysed. My brain couldn't comprehend what was happening. I could feel my heart beating in my throat, threatening to burst through my ribs. For a while, I was in a trance; my mind stopped functioning, my body froze, my vision blanked out and all I could hear was a deafening, high pitched screeching - like metal grinding against metal.

What woke me up was when the flaming asteroids zooming across the sky.

I realise I was no longer standing, and had collapsed onto gravel, helplessly watching the earth swallow humans. Overwhelmed by screeching, and millions of other ungodly sounds, I gasped while buildings collapsed and crashed down onto helpless families.

"Run!" Those were my brother's last words.

A jagged comice, falling from a ruptured building was brutally attacking me, free falling through the air like a deadly missile, before crashing to earth. My breath became ragged, my eyes wandered so fast that I felt lightheaded as I attempted to scramble to my feet, but my legs had turned to lead. Icy beads of sweat ran down my mud

stained forehead. I tried so hard to move, yet not a muscle twitched. Opening my tightly clenched eyes, I gagged at the sight.

Thick, crimson liquid surrounded me.

I tried my best to swallow, yet the lump in my throat seemed determined to stand its ground, like an anchor or a large stone would do. Something in my chest compressed. Breathing became difficult. No matter what, I couldn't calm myself. The only thing stopping me getting flattened was my sibling's mutilated, lifeless body. I was left shaking. I tried to scream. I wanted to scream, but when I opened my mouth, nothing came out. My eyes only stung, and the pit of my stomach was left bare and empty.

Above the stone, the chaos continued.

Suddenly, the gates to hell opened up, causing concrete to shatter, and water started to flood. Earth was shedding its manmade skin, and it's true form flourished.

It was funny how the destruction of something could be so exciting to watch. I gazed in silence as the end of the world began.

My mistake. It wasn't the end of the world, it was only the end for humans. The Earth wasn't dying, she was only remoulding her features. Freeing herself from all the restraints that humans' placed on her glorious body.

I went to visit Mother Nature when it all began. I was thoroughly confused. She was usually calm, but had a tendency of being over dramatic when she was angry. I wondered if she was just in one of her rages, but she was definite this time. This was punishment; she gave them plenty of chances. I did often find it strange how much she liked these little creatures.

She had gifted them with her body, and they abused her, cutting her apart, muddying her, taking parts and adding them as they please. They had forgotten that the Earth didn't belong to them, they belonged to the Earth instead.

As she changed, she destroyed. And it was a beautiful disaster. Beauty is so often tempting. The Earth decomposed most of them during the second sign. Although, the remainder of of weren't far from that state. I could feel their would withering away.

I hadn't moved in nearly a week. My limbs became lead. I laid sprawled on the floor, as numbness had taken over me now.

Pain radiates through my head, like a sledgehammer whacking my temples repeatedly, leaving me nauseous and feeling increasingly sick. My head always pounded. It was no mystery why.

The sensation of suffocation was inevitable. It was like I was breathing through a filter. The air that we once needed to survive had turned into our poison. Every breath I took, I was inhaling acid. My throat was raw and blistering, acids in my stomach tormented me by swirling inside my gut, jumping to escape my body. The air wasn't something that changed overnight, it happened gradually. So gradually that I couldn't even pinpoint when it began to hurt breathing.

My mouth was a desert. I don't think I had a drop of saliva left in me. My tongue rasped, grainy and rough as sandpaper. Occasionally the taste of rust and salt lingered on my taste buds, usually after one of my coughing fits. I felt as if I had ground to a halt. Paralysed with horror.

The evening sun shone past the window and through my closed eyes, leaving the burning memories of the dying sky sketched in orange-red on the back of my eyelids. The shrunken days were only ever scorching now. Rays of light seared my tattered skin. Wind didn't exist anymore either, everything was abnormally still, not even the litter on the ground lifted anymore. The wind was dead.

Through my half-opened eyes, I could make out very little. Blurs of colour bled into each other, making it hard to indicate where the outline of each shape was.

An eerie silence washed over me. The feeling of isolation washed over me; I wished I hadn't woken up at all. In some ways I envied my sister. Unlike me, she wasn't so bitter. She was the type of person

that would appreciate life until the very end. If anyone deserved to live, it should've been her, but death doesn't discriminate.

The only noise I could make out in this deafening silence was my breathing. It matched my heartbeat: slow and unnaturally steady. The tiny pulse in my hollow fingertips echoed. I felt my heartbeat ricochet and shake against my rib cage. With every single heartbeat, I could feel a slight delayed tremor, daring to end me. Sometimes, if I focused hard enough on it, I could ignore the pain.

Thump. Thump. Thump.

It bought me a strange sense of peace, listening to my heartbeat. The constant pattern of inhaling and exhaling, even though it made my head woozy, put me at ease.

So that's what I did. I closed my eyes and listened, until all I saw was white.

Anjola Malla Ah, 55



Art: Amy Gray 55



Top to bottom: Megan Clark PT; Charlotte Kelly SA.



Maths

UKMT Team Maths Challenge

In March 2019 a team of four pupils took part in the UKMT Team Maths Challenge Regional Finals. The team of Rachael Brown, Ellie Robinson, Ceara Gowans and Dweyana Gurung tackled a variety of engaging Mathematical activities while developing their teamwork and communication skills. The team performed admirably, and finished in our highest position to date.

UKMT Individual Junior Maths Challenge

In April 2018, Primary 7, S1 and S2 pupils participated in the UKMT Individual Junior Maths Challenge. The challenge consists of 25 questions and is a real test of the pupil's problem solving skills. I am delighted that this year we had a really successful year gaining 14 certificates in total, including a gold certificate for Rachael Brown (S2).

Gold: Rachael Brown (S2)

Silver: Lexine McCappin (S2), Elliot Jones (S2), Ellie Robinson (S2)

Bronze: Robert Cordner (S2), Ben Main (S2), James Mathieson (S2), Ceara Gowans (S1), Suyen Limbu (S1), Liberty Brown (S1), Ayden Paterson (S1), Kieran Horner (S1), Connor McQuat (S1), Tina Thapa (P7).

SMC Maths Challenge

This year pupils also participated in the Scottish Mathematical Council Mathematics Challenge. This challenge consists of two rounds of five problem solving questions. Lexine McCappin (S2) and Katie Makle (S2) both received bronze awards for the competition. This is a tremendous achievement and they should be very proud of being able to achieve such an award.





Modern Languages

The year has started very well in Modern Languages with the arrival of two new members of staff, Miss Taylor, our Spanish teacher, and Melissa Wright, our French Language Assistant, who joins us from the Pyramide National Militaire. We are delighted to have maintained links with this school, which shares many similarities with QVS, and hope that Melissa gets as much out of her time in Scotland as our pupils will from her work in the department and around the school.

I will be able to write only about the first half of the year, as I am shortly heading off on maternity leave, but there is already so much to say! Spanish is now running for the second year at QVS, and three brave 5th and 6th Year pupils are undertaking a 'crash' Higher this year. I hope that in future, this option will be appealing to 56 pupils who have completed Higher French, or who have a keen interest in Spanish. Miss Taylor is settling in to life at QVS, and is planning a 'Tapas Trip' to Glasgow before the Christmas holidays, which I know pupils are definitely looking forward to.

In November 55 - 55 pupils studying French enjoyed a trip to the MacRobert cinema at Stirling University where they enjoyed the emotional rollercoaster of the film 'De Toutes Nos Forces' or 'The Finishers' - I still don't know how there were dry eyes from most of our pupils! To round off our afternoon, a selection of students who are studying Languages at Stirling University were kind enough to volunteer their time to meet with QVS pupils to speak to them about what life as a Languages student is really like. It was a great chance

for our pupils to ask questions relevant to them, and hopefully it will inspire some to continue their study of languages in the future. Huge thanks to the students involved and to the Head of Languages at Stirling University, Dr Cristina Johnston, for facilitating this event.

I look forward to hearing about more events and successes from QVS Modern Languages Department over the next year, and if you want to know more about what we're getting up to, give us a follow on Twitter! @qvsmlf @QVSSpanish - Madame Baimar

A little word from Señorita Taylor...

What a fabulous first year that I have experienced since joining QVS to teach Spanish; I have just loved getting to know each individual personality and subjecting you all to some spontaneous salsa dancing and singing in class. I would like to say a big thank you to all of the staff, pupils and their parents for being so welcoming to me during what has been a prosperous year of growth. I say this with a huge smile on my face as the Languages Department grew in more than one way with the safe arrival of Madame Baimar's beautiful twins babies Ruairdh and Rowan - welcome to the world little ones! They are already practically fluent in French & Spanish - don't believe me! Check out our Twitter pages!

Speaking of fluent, did you see the impeccable ordering skills of our three Spanish crash Higher pupils otherwise known as Lisa Peabody, Bravias? One dreich evening in December, Evie, Rachel and Kenzie



enjoyed an authentic language experience to Málaga Tapas Restaurant in Glasgow and led by example by ordering in Spanish – the younger pupils who also attended were in awe of their skills. We also had the pleasure of Mr Smith's company to have a good wee natter en español.

On the topic of nattering, Higher Modern Languages pupils also enjoyed a Pizza and Ping Pong Night to practice their Exam Speaking Skills and just like magic, all of the self-doubt disappeared. It is amazing what some pizza and homemade tortilla can do for the soul! I am pleased to share that all pupils performed well in their Speaking Exam and it was down to all of their dedication and positivity – ¡bien hecho chicos!

Pupils have also enjoyed attending the Foreign Languages Cinema Club hobby and Bullet Journaling at lunch times and it has been a great way for us to share our passions and talents further than in the classroom.

Madame Hamilton, our French Supply Teacher, has joined us for this year and I would like to say a big thank you to her for all of her hard work so far. It has been great working alongside you and thank you for helping the senior pupils through their final stages before sitting their exams. We were lucky enough to have a few weeks of sunshine

in May and had some Outdoors Learning, which pupils thoroughly enjoyed. French pupils played games like 'Pétanque' and 'Salade de fruits' and Spanish pupils enjoyed 'Race against Time' and 'Al Fiesco Pictionary'.

Our French Language Assistant Mélissa has been a helpful addition to the department by leading small group activities and games, taking part in French conversation classes and even treating us to a song. The pupils have taken to her outgoing and relaxed personality and have even set up an unofficial drawing club in Trenchard inspired by her creative talent. In fact, Mélissa has fallen in love with Scotland so much that she has decided to study at Stirling University this year. A big thank you to you Mélissa - we wish you all the best for the future and we hope that you will come back to visit us someday.

I must say, it has been a wonderful year for all at GVS Modern Languages with lots of more exciting things to look forward to in the future. We will soon welcome our first ever Spanish Language Assistant who will join us all the way from the beautiful Canary Islands. We are also looking forward to continuing to celebrate the successes of all our pupils (you are all stars!) and to meeting our new Primary 7 as they embark on their GVS journey. First stop? ¡Vamos al zoológico!



Rip to bottom; Simpson Puri 53; Carley Cunningham 54.





Primary

Bannockburn

During the first term of 2018, the P7's went on a school trip to The Bannockburn Heritage Centre.

At the time, our topic was Robert the Bruce and William Wallace, so our trip was very fitting. We learnt about the Battle of Bannockburn and all about Wallace and Bruce's battles against the English. We went into a special room with a round table and half of the table represented Scotland and the other half was England. We were in teams to fight each other and recreate the Battle of Bannockburn to see who would win. Scotland won our round but it was very close. There were many artefacts, belonging to Bruce and we went to see the statue of Robert the Bruce.

Maeghan Clark and Isabel Gregory

Blair Drummond Safari Park

Blair Drummond Safari Park is an animal sanctuary which P7 get to explore. It is full of animals and rides such as The Flying Fox, Chimpanzee Island boat ride the Astra glide, restaurants and gift shops.

It involves a drive through the animal paddocks so we can get a close view of the lions, deer, and monkeys.

Afterwards we got £10 to spend in the shops and we went on lots of different rides. We had a BBQ at lunch time which was really tasty. Near the end of the trip, we got to watch an amazing sea lion, named Bella, perform a show with tricks and we learnt about what litter in the sea can do to harm them.

It is a really fun and exciting trip for the staff and pupils to enjoy.

Casper Jackson

Tutor Trips

In QVS we all get tutors my tutor is Mrs Adams each term we go on at least one tutor trip we have gone bowling, shopping and the cinema.

When we went bowling it only took ten minutes on the bus since it's only in Stirling, most of the trips we go on are in Stirling. When we got to the bowling place we got our shoes and headed to the table and ally it only took about an hour before we finished but when we did finish we got back on the bus and went to McDonalds! So we got our pocket money out and ordered what we wanted. When everyone was finished eating we got back on the bus, normally we wouldn't be back until half eight which also meant that when we got back we had to hand our phones in get our pyjamas on and then at half past nine we would get to sleep and have lights out that is the end of our tutor



trip to the bowling we had tons of fun I would love to go again.

We also went on a tutor trip to the cinema we got to watch Captain Marvel which was a movie I have been wanting to see for ages so we got on the bus and drove for about half an hour we were all really excited so we were talking and laughing and just messing about on the bus when we got there we could all smell popcorn and we really wanted it but we were waiting until we got to McDonalds so we got our tickets and went in. After we watched the movie we got on the bus and went to McDonalds so once again we got our pocket money out and ordered what we wanted, once everyone had finished we got back on the bus and drove back to school when we arrived back at school it was about nine o'clock so we had to hand our phones in and go straight to bed but you can kind of guess no one actually did some people were hyper because they had coffee of some people were just hyper talking about what we did and what we hope to do next it was a really good and amazing trip I would totally go at any other opportunity.

So that is the end of my two most favourite trips they are only in Stirling so if you get asked if you would like to go, I definitely recommend it is the best two trips of QVS!

Amy Simpson

Dunblane Cathedral and Museum

During the summer term, P7 visited Dunblane Cathedral and Museum as part of Our School Topic. We went there to learn about the history of Dunblane. When we arrived we split into A's and B's, the A's went into the Museum first and the B's went across to the Cathedral.

I went into the Museum first and we went to the very back of the museum and we all watched a clip about Dunblane back in the day and how it was a city and the many buildings back then. After the clip ended we looked around the Museum. There were lots of interesting things to look at like old pictures of Dunblane and people that have lived in Dunblane, kilts and typewriters.

After the Museum we went across to the Cathedral and we learnt many different facts about it in the 19th century. We got to look around the Cathedral and see what was laid out there like the stone pictures and the different items from the old days.

Overall it was a good last trip of P7.

Patricia Bogidrau

Election week

Election week is when our year group, P7's, hold a general election in groups to see whose idea will get the most votes to help improve the school.

This year's parties and leaders were:

The Late Sleepers party – Oliver
 Wacky Woods party – Charlie
 Greener is Greater party – Meggie and Sumika
 The Blue Bear Charity party – Olivia
 No Boundary party – Steven
 Fort Tweedy party – Keziah
 Gym time party – Sophie
 Good foods party – Archie
 Old school party – Taina

What do we do?

In the groups, each person will usually have a role, for example, there will usually be a leader, an advertiser or a person who makes posters and other things to spread the word on the matter, such as someone who writes a press release and prepares a speech.

At the end of the week, the polling cards are given out and the election will be held. Everyone will vote for a party and then put their votes in. Members of staff can also vote if they wish. Once all the votes are in, they will be counted up and the party with the most votes win. When the party with the most votes win, their plans will be mentioned to the SLT to see if they can take the party's idea in consideration.

The winner of the P7 Election was Greener is Greater.

It was a great week, well done everyone!

Tina Thapa and Caela Welsh

Hobbies

Queen Victoria school started doing hobbies so that during the winter months we would have some activities to do after school.

There are lots of hobbies to choose from, some of them include; gymnastics, dancing, football, netball, basketball, swimming, knitting and arts and crafts. I loved picking new hobbies rather than being stuck in the house.

Also at QVS you can take music as a hobby such as brass, strings,



woodwind and percussion. In P7 you learn how to play brass instruments for the summer concert at the end of the term. Parents can come and watch you play.

During the summer term most hobbies stop so we can get out to the fields and the astro to get a run around and play fun matches with our friends.

Ava Wood

Meeting Rookie Keepers

When you first arrive at Trenchard, you will meet your rookie keeper. A rookie keeper is a pupil in the year above you, who is assigned to help you through your early months of school life.

Sometimes they will show you around the school and sometimes they will just introduce you to them. They can bring you to town and show you around so you know the way.

At the end of the year, in P7, you will be assigned a rookie to look after next year. My advice for people who will have a rookie is to look after them as best you can and to be nice. It's their first year of school, so they might be nervous, so it's your job to help them get used to boarding school and get relaxed.

Caela Welsh and Tina Thapa

Money week

Money week takes place in the spring term and it's when all of the P7's learn about money and profit. In class we got given a big piece of paper with lots of questions about money in foreign countries. It was a good week because we went to visit Museum on the Mound in Edinburgh which was really fun and educational.

For money week we had to plan a party, we had a set budget and we could pick different decorations and presents for the birthday person. At the end of the week six people were selected to go to Tesco to plan a party for everyone in P7. We bought all the food for the party like crisps, sweets, biscuits, drinks, sausage rolls and popcorn.

The pupils that went were Keziah McCappin, Lilly Leweni, Regam Bura, Ethan Murphy, Ava wood and Eroni Tuiwaiwai.

The category that Keziah and Lilly got was sweets and biscuits. Regam and Eroni bought juice and popcorn. Ava and Ethan got all



the savoury items such as crisps and sausage rolls. The party was really successful and everyone loved all the food and drink, we all watched a film called "Martian".

The trip we went to was called the Museum on the Mound and it was all about money and what we used over the centuries. They also told us about all the detail that goes into one coin and the security features on it. We also learnt about the £20 note and how it is really hard to copy as there is so many security features on it.

Lilly and Keziah

My First Year at QVS

Maths was quite challenging but fun and I enjoyed it. You're probably going to enjoy games a lot.

Food at QVS is quite good, breakfast, lunch and dinner. I have enjoyed the school trips and the tutor trips. Rugby is my favourite sport since I first joined the school. Swayam was the first person I met here in his room. The teachers are nice here and help you if you need help.

You are going to make lots of new friends here at QVS. End of the day is the best because you can take a break from school. At the weekend you can go to first shop or Tesco. Rugby fixtures were almost every weekend for the boys.

At games we practice rugby for the weekend and play matches at the end of a lesson.

The parade trips are really fun and you get Chinese on a Saturday.

Queen Victorian School first opened in 1908. Victorians we become after Rookies Parade. School used to be on a Saturday here at QVS.

Regam Bura

Outdoor Learning Week

On the 14th of May 2019 P7 took part in Outdoor Learning Week. We had lots of different challenges to complete in Wavell Woods. On the Monday we had our first challenge, we had to create a poem with the object we had selected from Wavell Woods. Our second challenge was to make a Carroll diagram out of twigs sticks and leaves. Next we had to make a skeleton out of any natural objects that we could find in the woods. My partner and I made a skeleton called Benjamin!



Our final challenge was to design a Master Chef Kitchen menu with a starter, main meal, pudding and a drink. We had to be as imaginative as possible and then present our menu to the group.

It was a great week and we were glad the sun was shining for us!

Skylla and Sophie

Rookies Parade

Rookies parade is a massive parade that happens every year for P7s. The parade is on December the 2nd. Mr Stacey our school Sergeant Major and is the one that organises all the parades. The few weeks before rookies parade Mr Stacey takes us out most days of the week to prepare us for rookies parade. The rookies parade consists of two guards; one from P7a and one from P7b and also we have a parade commander and two guard commanders. The guard commander P7a was Isabel Gregory. The P7b guard commander was Cameron Leonard. Also the parade commander for the parade was myself Ethan Jones. It was really fun practicing for the parade it was difficult learning the commands but since we did so much drill at the time I learned them all. When the day came we had to get dressed up in our ceremonial all the commanders wore a sash and white gloves. It was a bit nerve racking but after the first time it got easier and I got more confident. When the parade was finished I got my name engraved into a massive shield with all the past rookies parade commanders. After the parade we had a chapel service where we did readings and songs the best song we did was the Twelve Days of Christmas. We did loads of other Christmas songs as well it's a great day and it's definitely something to look forward to.

Ethan Jones

Parade Trips

Parade trips are something we do on a Saturday before we do our parade on the Sunday. For example some of the trips we have done was Swimming, Shopping, Ice Skating, Cinema and Ryze.

When we went swimming at Dundee swimming pool, the pool, slides and the diving boards were amazing. It took about 45 minutes to get to the Dundee swimming pool.

When we went to the cinema we all had had three choices of films to watch they were: Goosebumps, Small Foot and Johnny English. Most people chose Goosebumps and Jonny English and then we had to choose with those two, and we chose Goosebumps. We got to buy

sweets there, we watched the movie which was good. It took 30 minutes to get there and back.

We also went ice skating but half of us didn't even know how to ice skate so half of us were holding on to the side and the other half were zooming off to race each other everyone seemed to enjoy the ice skating. After ice skating we all got a McDonalds, the line always seemed to take a while but we eventually got our food and headed back to school the journey there and back was about 15 minutes there and back.

Last but not least, Ryze, Ryze is a trampoline park with lots of trampolines and similar stuff to trampolines. At trampolining we were all there for about an hour or two we all enjoyed it and were all tired out for the night, after trampolining we all nearly slept on the bus.

Lastly the shopping. We went shopping in groups so the day before we had to sort the groups out. It was really confusing but we got there at the end. When we got to the shopping centre we got told our meeting point and what time we had to be there when, we were finished shopping. After that we got to go shopping in our groups. Some shops we went to were: Lush, Primark, New look...etc. When we were finished shopping we back to the house ready for bed.

Katie and Sumika

Tutor Trips

Here at QVS we enjoy a number of activities during the school year, these include trips, class projects and many more.

On a Monday we have one period of a class we call Tutor Period. During this period we do things like a regular check of our academic progress and sometimes do activities in our pupil passports.

Tutors are teachers in the school with their own classes and pupils they also take a small group or tutees.

There are also many trips that we go on. Sometimes we go on trips with our tutors and we go to lots of really fun places. One of our favourites was our massive Christmas shopping trip at the Thistle Centre.

The shopping centre offered a large variety of great shops such as: Many clothing manufacturers, coffee shops, Yankee Candle, Costa Coffee, Flying Tiger, Lush and many more. We had a blast as we went around the stores manically spending money. Also afterwards we had



a delicious dinner at MacDonald's this was a great experience for us all and brought us closer together. It was an extremely enjoyable night and I can't wait until the next upcoming trip away.

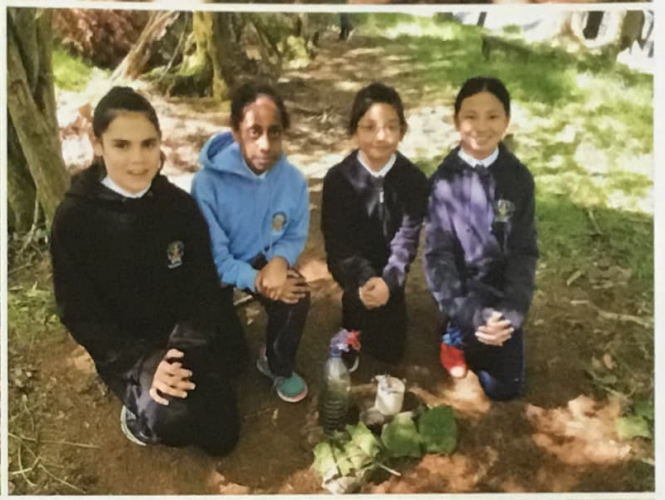
Eroni T

The Match Girl

In the December of 2018, the Primary 7's got ready to perform their Christmas show, The Match Girl's Christmas. The leading roles of the Match Girl were, Mary, Joseph and Old Tom, played by, Maeghan Clark, Isabel Gregory, Cameron Leonard and Casper Jackson.

The story is set in Victorian times and the Match Girl is starving on the streets, trying to sell matches so that she can eat. In the end she dies and is taken away by angels because she was kind. Unfortunately, the school term was cut short and the P7's didn't get to perform their show. When we came back after the Christmas holidays, we were given the chance to vote if we wanted to do the show in January, but some people didn't want to do it so unfortunately we didn't get a chance to perform the play.

Maeghan Clark and Isabel Gregory

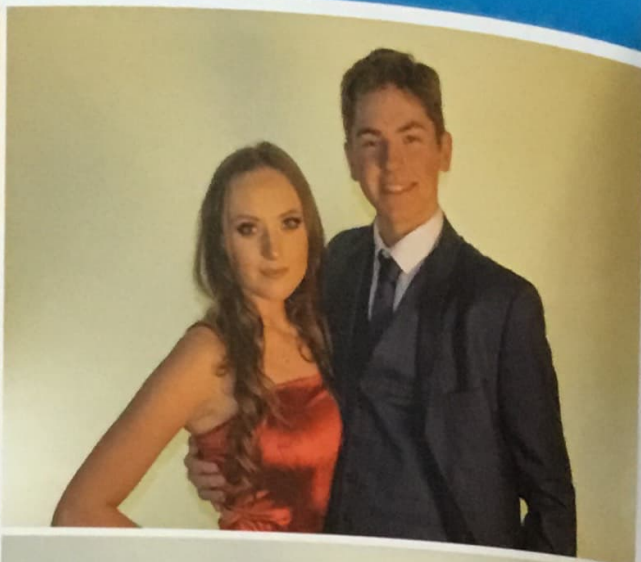




Art top to bottom; Lily O Neil S2; Sam Leweni S2; Iona Duffy S2.



Top to bottom; Eilidh Patterson S3; Freya Bolgere S3.





Careers

The S3-S6 careers programme has been busy with lots of external speakers and trips to various careers events. School is lucky to have support from Rosanna Ciccu from Skills Development Scotland who visits the school every Wednesday. Individual appointments are made for senior pupils and a drop-in session runs at lunchtime for any pupil to seek careers advice. Pupils from S4 up also have profiling interviews with Margaret Graham who then meets individually to discuss what careers match their skills and qualities.

S3 spent the first part of the year looking at their own personality traits and looking into jobs which were matched to them. They were then introduced to the amount of different job sectors and undertook research into jobs within some of the sectors. This gave the pupils the opportunity to discover just how many different areas of employment there are and let them discover possible future pathways.

S4 careers focussed on preparing pupils for a work experience placement. Each pupil completed a workbook in which they identified their own personal strengths and preferences and identified the factors which would attract them to a career. From there each pupil found themselves a work placement which they completed in the week of 3rd June. During the week pupils were required to record their activities and reflect on what they had learned from the placement. Hosting employers were asked to complete a report on their pupil, providing useful feedback on how they had performed. For the first time at QVS, pupils who successfully completed the work

placement will receive formal recognition of this, through a unit award at SQA Level 4.

S5 spent their time in careers thinking about their future plans and how to go about achieving them. To assist this we had many speakers visit the school sharing information about their industry, different entry routes – apprenticeship, graduate – and the reality of work in terms of pay, benefits and importantly the perks of the job! They also went to the Skills Development Scotland conference where they had the opportunity to meet with various employers and colleges to discuss possible career options.

The focus for S6 was preparing for life post QVS. The whole group attended the UCAS roadshow at Stirling University which helped make up the minds of those who were not sure if this was the route for them. Those applying to university worked on their UCAS applications, whilst others focused on college or employment opportunities. The final destinations of our leavers is varied highlighting the breadth of talent of our youngsters.

The year would not have been possible without the help of the following, and our thanks go to them: Stirling University, Skills Development Scotland, Margaret Graham from Inspiring Futures, Sqn Ldr George Morris - RAF Careers Engagement Officer, Amy Mackay - Army Careers, Prudential, Students Award Agency Scotland and Lockheed Martin UK.



2019 Saltire Awards



Stirling University Boob Team

#BoobBall2019



S3A Dementia Friends



#QVS #InteractClub #MAD

#MarchMatinee2019



#CitizenshipAwards2019



QVS Junior Awards 2019



QVS Shoeboxes 2018



#QVSBronzeAwards 2018



#SafeDriveStayAlive



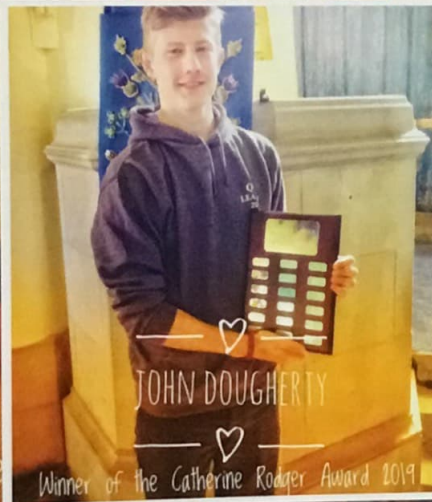
Queen Victoria School



#AbbiesSparkle #CoffeeMorning



Rotary Community Volunteer of the Year



Winner of the Catherine Rodger Award 2019



Start Up Stirling



#StrathcarronHospice



Abbie's Sparkle ✨



#YesWeCan



MAD Group

March Matinee & Daffodil Tea for the Senior Citizens of Dunblane – Sunday 24 March 2019

Feeling so proud of the boys and girls from the MAD group who willingly gave up their Sunday afternoon yesterday to host a #MarchMatinee and Daffodil Tea for the Senior Citizens of Dunblane.

This ties in with the Inter-generational work they have been doing with #AlzheimersAwareness #DementiaFriendlyDunblane and the #BraeportMemoryCafe within the local community.

Currently all of S3 and S5 are trained Dementia Friends and by September we have planned that all of S4-S6 will have this qualification. Many of our guests have no family nearby and absolutely loved being entertained by Anjipa, Christian, Molly, John Doc, Dannii and their perfect group of attentive and chatty hosts.

Thank you to Dannii and Charlie for being thoughtful and giving each guest a golden bunch of daffodils as they left – a lovely touch. Some of our guests were visibly emotional at the kindness and care offered by our volunteers, it was really wonderful to see.

President of QVS Interact, Anjipa Malla was fantastic and set a great example to the younger volunteers by going above and beyond to give our guests a wonderful afternoon. Well done to my tech crew, the ever-reliable Ethan and Ben who got the cinema screening of *Scotch & Wry 1981(!)* up and running.

Not really sure what the kids made of it, but it had the elderly guests creasing up at Reverend I.M Jolly, Supercop and co.

In the photo with Christian above, this lady's late husband was a student of QVS in the 1950s and she was very emotional talking about seeing the QVS Pipes and Drums perform Highland Cathedral in Sydney in 1999, the year he died. She enjoyed a great chat with our students looking at photos of her son, who is now in the Blues & Royals.

As a response to the event, Senior Monitor 1998, Leigh Bissett who's now a doctor with Air Ambulance Critical Care Team wanted to commend the students for such a positive community initiative – so he has donated a certificate and an Easter Egg to all of the Volunteers



Dance

This year has been another exciting one for the QVS Dance Team and it has seen us perform for all sorts of audiences.

As ever, Mrs Adams done a fantastic job at organizing the Winter Treat, which brought the senior citizens of Dunblane into the school for a night filled with cakes, cups of tea, some entertainment and a good old chin wag with our willing pupils. Our S2 dancers put on a great show in the first half, with some of them performing their sailor's hornpipe for the very first time which was a big confidence boost for them. The audience seemed to really enjoy it too.

We also had a visit from Deputy First Minister John Swinney, who was welcomed into central hall by the school pipe band and a performance from our S3 dancers. This was the first time that they had ever performed to an audience of 4, which made for a tense atmosphere. This was quickly eased by warm smiles and enthusiastic applause.

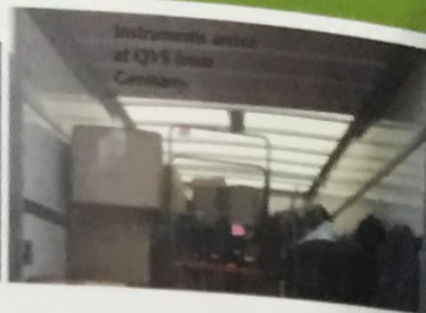
The Piping, Drumming and Dancing department was asked to support two events which were held by organisations very close to our hearts here. The first was 'Sounds from Stirling Castle', hosted by Erskine Charity who do excellent work in supporting Scotland's Veterans. This event saw our dancers perform at Stirling Castle alongside the Capital Concert Band and the The Herald Trumpets of

Scotland. This was a really special evening and the pupils of Queen Victoria School were so well received by the audience. In fact, call me biased, but I think they stole the show!

The second event that we were asked to take part in was for The Royal Caledonian Education Trust, Scotland's Armed Forces Children's charity. This is a charity that works closely with the school and it was lovely for the dancers to be asked to support their fund-raising event. We were all very excited to go along to Edinburgh Castle and we were greeted by an Old Victorian who said that the second she saw our red jackets, she felt like she was 'home'. This really highlighted how special Queen Victoria School is, and so it was really fitting that we were there to support a charity who works to raise awareness and support for children with parents in the armed forces.

The Dance Team this year have been a real joy to teach and practice with on Mondays and Fridays. The pupils have really been a 'team' and there has been such a supportive atmosphere which has been lovely to be part of. Sadly, we are saying goodbye to six senior dancers this grand day, and to say that I will miss them all is an understatement. I wish them all the best of luck in their future ventures.





Yet Another Very Interesting Year for Music

I was looking at the music report in the 'Victorian 2012' titled "Another Very Interesting Year for Music" and thought 2018-19 might just have surpassed any that have gone before.

I'm looking out at a brand new view as the school's main music building was demolished at just a few days notice just two days ago. I now have a beautiful view of the electrical substation outside Trenchard. Music room 20 was at least 20 years old when I arrived and lasted new enough another 20 years after that. It was a perfectly proportioned music class room known as a 'terrapin'. Like its tough little reptilian namesake it seems to thrive in harsh conditions, much of the time under water!

This building had seen many years of QVS music making with rock bands, choirs, jazz bands concert bands and string groups, depending on the music staff of the day, all working to prepare their performances after the classes had finished for the day. On my first visit to room 20 Headmaster Brian Raine asked me if I wanted the rather worn interior painted with the words, "Don't worry there will be a new music building built in the next year or so". Last week, still without new paint I watched the building being demolished. The good news! Plans in the future for a purpose built music building! The bad news! Not sure how far in the future!

As the MOD has closed schools in Germany, QVS was given the opportunity to acquire the equipment and materials for our own use. For a variety of reasons we failed to receive the musical instruments on offer. This year with the closure of the Gütersloh Music Centre I was determined to make use of the opportunity to enhance our own instrument stock. With the help of Mr Carr we went on line and wrote our list to Santa? The only way we could acquire the instruments for QVS was if we went, in a 7.5 ton truck and picked them up ourselves. On the Monday after Grand Day I set off for Germany, returning on Friday with thousands of pounds worth of instruments including a very nice baby grand piano for the school theatre. (When I leave teaching I think I'll buy a lorry.)

Our visiting instrumental staff continue to provide a very high quality musical experience providing over 100 instrumental lesson each week on instruments from drum kit to folk harp. It is with great sadness that we have lost the teaching excellence of Ruth Bamforth who has been the flute tutor at QVs since before my own arrival. Ruth has decided to simplify her life and reduce her teaching commitments. Over my time at QV around a quarter of our advanced higher music candidates were tutored for their practical by Ruth.

The pupils this year have performed in a number of concerts outside the school as well as taking part in a very exciting day of rehearsals

and performance with the Royal Regiment of Scotland Band. We also took part as the guest act in the annual Stirling concert by the Strathcarron Singers. Our four dancers: Madi, Abbie, Katie and Megan. Clarinet and sax group: Eleanor, Millie, Rebecca, Iona and Mia, solo piper Grace Hutchison and solo singer Lilly-Grace Methven charmed the audience. One of the audience contacted the school to say that their heart sank when they saw that there were school pupils taking part in the concert, however, the pupils turned out to be the stars of the show with LG the outstanding memory of the night. The P7's annual outing to Sauchie was a fantastic success with dancers, solos, poems and some great singing by our youngest pupils.

As our Christmas holiday approached the wind band singers and soloists were in full preparation mode for the annual Christmas concerts, however, due to water and heating issues all the pupils had to go home a week early as so we missed our Christmas concert. As the pupils left with their parents one of them came up to say she was so sorry, and that she felt really bad about the fact I would miss my favourite event of the year! We really have the nicest youngsters.

This year in the a number of our young musicians sat ABRSM music exams with Rio Gregory sitting and passing her grade 2 piano and grade 2 flute on the same day. Molly Horne quickly learned her saxophone scales the day before her grade 5 exam just in time to pass. Sam MacPhearson also scored excellent marks in his grade 2 flute.

QVS has also been the venue for the first concert of the Scottish Clarinet Choir. This is a brand new national performance group conducted by the ex solo clarinet.

We finished the year, as is traditional, with the summer concert. Solos from Scott on xylophone, Molly on saxophone, Christian on piano, Iona on tenor sax, Charlotte G-O singing and playing, Sam on flute, Grace on piano, duets from Katie and Ellie on alto sax, Josh and LG and Charlotte and LG. The fantastic S6 leavers joined the wind band to lead with the help of Josh King the whole school in an enthusiastic performance of YMCA. The wind band and P7 wind band played some new and exciting pieces as well as the old favourites leading the whole evening. Like many of the audience and other performers I thought that Nanda's piano solo of her own arrangement and improvisation was the musical high of our concert. Many thanks to the instrumental tutors who help out on the night and a special thanks to Connor's dad, the baritone sax player that we sneaked in. With all the talent we have I hope we manage a Christmas concert this year!



Top to bottom; Pipe Band; Junior Minstrels; Wind Band.



Top to bottom; Army; Navy; RAF

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

Contingent Commanders Notes

Since joining the Combined Cadet Force in 1985 I have had so many wonderful experiences and adventures and am glad to say I still find being a member of the Combined Cadet Force very rewarding. I am so proud of the Queen Victoria School Cadets and CCF Staff. The collective dedication, time and effort everyone makes is fantastic.

Once again this year I must thank School Sergeant Major David Stacey for his invaluable council and support, David's wealth of experience and expertise is second to none. Another stalwart of the Contingent is OC RAF Section David Gilhooly. David has been managing the RAF Section single handed for many years. This coming session he has organised two CCF Ski camps involving over seventy Cadets. I am indebted to David's selfless commitment to the Cadets. OC RN Section Caroline McBlain, who despite being a young mother and Principal Teacher of maths, is dedicated to the CCF, offering RN Cadets amazing opportunities. Caroline is ably assisted by Highland Dance Instructor Stephanie Stinson, now Stephanie Landsburgh. Congratulations from the Contingent and all the best in your new married life.

The growing popularity of the Army section is great to see and OC Army Sarah O'Neil has played a decisive part in this regeneration. Unfortunately due to other demands Sarah has had to take some time out from the Contingent; however I hope she is able to return soon.

Three new Staff have joined the Army section; Lt David Atchison, Sergeant Mark Baley and Sergeant Steven Kerr. These gentlemen are most welcome and are already having a positive influence in the Army Section, including the return of weekly shooting training.

The key person in the Contingent is the SSI. All the activity paperwork, planning and preparation which goes on behind the scene is down to Linda Green who does an amazing job. In the short time Linda has been in post she has achieved so much, thank you!

I do not have enough room to mention all 150 cadets in the Contingent, however here are a few, giving a taste of the residential activities our Cadets have been getting up to;

Paddle Sports; Caitlin Smith, Pratistha Khawas, Greer Walker and Gabby Codd.

RN Section Summer Camp; Simoon Pun and Nanda Seru.

Northern Lights Sailing; Mackenzie Berry, Charlie Fanshawe and Molly Horne.

Army Summer Camp; Cameron Brown, Lucie Evans, Abbie Gibson, Riley Jardine, Sam Leweni, Lily O'Neil, Daniel Rae, Arran Scott and Nanda Seru.

Exercise Oak Leaf, Canada Exchange; Adan Horsburgh

There are so many people and organisations external to the school that provide valuable help and support to the CCF Staff and Cadets. Thanks to Stevie O'Neil CPOPT CCF AISNI for looking after the RN Section and supporting Caroline and Stephanie.

Thanks to SO2 Ian Ludlow and Carly for all their help and support from HQ in Stirling

Thanks to Major David Harvey, Capt Ruairi Fitzpatrick, Capt Colin Carr and particularly Sergeant David Scott from the Cadet Training Team for their continued help and support

Thanks to Capt Jimmy Scott and his team from 42 signals for their fantastic support. Very much appreciated.

Thanks to Flight Sergeant Richardson without who's help and support the RAF Section would struggle to continue.

And thanks to all the other people and organisations behind the scenes. Here is a good example; this is an excerpt from a letter from the Commanding Officer of HMS Montrose, our affiliated ship.

Ahoy from HMS Montrose in the Strait of Hormuz! Over the past few months our work has been the subject of a number of headlines. As you may have read, in response to Iran's recent threats to UK shipping in the Strait we have been tasked to protect our Merchant Ships as they pass through this vital waterway. To date we have escorted 5 million tonnes of Red Ensign shipping, conducting 30 transits in the face of 136 interactions with Iranian forces. As I'm sure you'd agree these are busy times, but the team are relishing the opportunity to get stuck into this operational tasking.

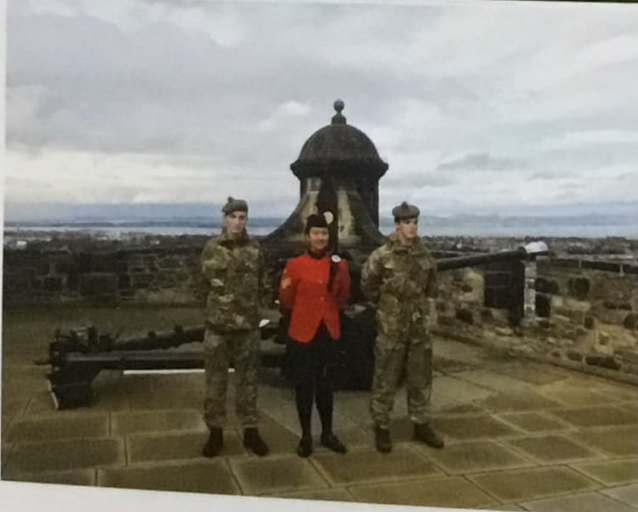
W R C King, Commander Royal Navy, Commanding Officer

We are always looking for staff to come and join or help out in the CCF, the opportunities for teachers joining the CCF are amazing. As well as the unique opportunities in training, development and leadership, it's great fun.

If you would like to become more involved in any aspect of the CCF your help and support will be greatly appreciated.

The Royal Marines

The session started with a day with the Royal Marines. The marines spent three days in the school, which they used as their base and were visited by a variety of school and collage groups. As QVS hosted the marines we were given a day all to ourselves.





CCF

It was a busy year for the CCF with the cadets getting many opportunities to develop their skills.

The Army Section were lucky to have the support of 32 Signal Regiment who have developed a specialized Signals Troop. The cadets had taster sessions at 32 Signals Reg in Glasgow and at 2 Signal Squadron in Dundee over the course of the year. This allowed the cadets to see the skills and capacity of the Royal Signals. They also set up two overnight field exercises for the Army section at Barry Buddon Training Camp. This involved the cadets living in the field and learning how to operate tactically. They were able to develop their leadership and teamworking skills by patrolling and attacking an enemy position. In the second exercise the Signals section provided operational support by setting up a full detachment with the assistance of the Royal Signals. The army section also entered some National competitions, the first was Alban Sodger which was a research project on a soldier from World War One. Our team presented their research on QVS' number one pupil to a group of senior officers at Edinburgh Castle. The second was a first aid competition where a team put their skills into action in both a team and individual competition.

The RAF section learned more aviation techniques and had the opportunity to experience gliding at Glasgow Airport throughout the year. They also had a visit to the National Museum of Flight. Cadets also got the opportunity to learn leadership skills with a number of projects and tasks throughout the year.

The Navy section had a visit to Clyde Fleet Tender where they were introduced to navigation, pilotage and other key elements of afloat training. They also had the opportunity to go to Rosyth for a Meet the Marines event where they learned all about what the Royal Marines have to offer. This was continued with several visits to the School by the Marines to continue some training.

Several cadets took the opportunity to attend courses throughout the UK during the summer break with Simoon Pun and Nanda Seru going to the RN Summer Camp at HMS Bristol in Portsmouth. Caitlin Smith, Greer Walker, Pratisha Khawas and Gabrielle Codd went to a paddle sports course in Portsmouth where they spent a week on the water. Charlie Fanshawe sailed from Ardrossan to Wales on one leg of the Northern Lights expedition throughout the UK. Nine cadets attended the CCF Summer Army Camp at Barry Buddon Training Camp.

The biggest opportunity came for Aidan Horsburgh who was selected as one of 46 cadets from the UK to spend 6 weeks in Canada on an exchange with the Royal Canadian Army Cadets. Aidan completed the Expedition Instructor Course in Whitehorse, Yukon where he took part in an 18 day expedition which involved kayaking, hiking and biking.

The CCF has also welcomed three new instructors to the fold with Lt David Acheson and Sgt Steven Kerr and Sgt Mark Brailey joining as instructors in the Army Section. David and Steven both have a wealth of experience with the Army Cadet Force and Mark is a member of the school's facilities team.



Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions

This session the practice Bronze expedition took place in the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park. The reason for the change of venue was to find an area where our pupils would have toilet facilities at the campsite. The Loch Chon Campsite was perfect; this campsite was specifically designed to provide wild camping with facilities. It was a great success and next session both the practice and assessed expedition will take place in the National Park taking advantage of these organised wild campsites. The Bronze assessed expeditions were carried out on the Ochil Hills. Our groups all started in Glen Devon then via different routes to the campsite area by the river Devon. The second day of the assessed expedition involves the group navigating their way back to school. So after 33 years of using the Ochil Hills for our assessed expeditions, we say a fond farewell and look forward to the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park.

Pupils starting their Bronze Award

Girls; Freya Bolgere, Marykate Charnley, Megan Clarke, Lucie Evans, Leoni Gallagher, Gabrielle Glass, Rio Gregory, Grace Hutchinson, Robyn Lindsay, Millicent MacDonald, Eilidh Paterson, Simoon Pun, Tiana Robbins, Merewalesi Seru, Alexx Skinner, McKenzie Smiles, Irena Watson, Leah Wight, Mirren Wood and Ellie Wynne.

Boys; Michael Draunidalo, Magnus Gothard-Olver, Samik Gurung, Subhaashish Gurung, William Horne, Aidan Horsburgh, Samay Limbu, Joseph Long, Sean Melloy and Mitchell Pratt.

Staff; Mr Shannon, Mr Kirk, Mr Lawrence, Mr Wright, Mr McGeechan, Mrs O'Neill, Mrs McBlain, Miss Thompson, Miss Lauritz, Miss O'Leary-Noyer, and Mr Olive.

Staff training

Mr Wright, Mrs O'Neill, Miss Thompson, Miss Lauritz, Miss O'Leary-Noyer, and Mr Olive all attended a Duke of Edinburgh expedition skills

course in April. This was excellent preparation for the expedition season and our operating authority, Stirling Council, were pleased to accept the staff as assistant leaders.

On all of our expeditions the safety of our pupils is paramount. One of the factors to be considered is the weather. Every now and again poor weather causes postponements to expeditions. This session, after the tragedy on the Mammors where a woman hill walker was killed by Lightning, this is the advice we give pupils: Checking the weather forecast should ensure that you avoid a day when lightning is likely, as storms in the UK are generally known about in advance. But, sometimes they do happen without warning, so you could be caught out.

A lightning bolt making contact with the ground could carry approx 30,000 amps of electrical current.

Guidance

If you are unfortunate enough to be on the hillside when an electrical storm is close by, you need to take the following precautions:

Do not sit under a tree, for example, to stay dry. Lightning will strike trees as they are high, and you don't want to be close by! do not seek shelter in a cave or old mine. If lightning strikes the ground above the cave, it will take the shortest route downwards, which will be through the empty air of the cave. If you happen to be taking refuge in the cave, the lightning could take a path through you.

Place any metal and/or electrical objects away from you; at least 20 metres away. Such items include; mobile phone, GPS unit, watch, ice axe, walking pole, crampons, pans, knife etc. Be mindful that your rucksack – older ones especially – can contain metal.



Silver group.

If possible and safe to do so, descend to lower ground.

Sit on your rucksack (which insulates you from the ground) on the hillside, with feet off the ground too, and wait for the storm to pass.

Proximity

The time between seeing a flash of lightning to hearing the crack of thunder can be used to calculate the distance of the lightning from you. When you see a flash of lightning, count the number of seconds until you hear the thunder, then multiply that by 300, which is the distance in metres between difference in the speed of light and speed of sound. For example, if you count 3 seconds between flash & bang, the lightning is approx 900 metres away.

If the storm is far away but getting closer and you can safely descend to lower ground, you should consider doing just that. If the storm is close, sitting it out – as above – is probably safer than trying to out-run the storm.

Pupils working on their Silver Awards

Mollie Alexander, Rebecca Anderson, Amber Goodall, Cameron Morrison-Smith, Hollie Scott, Kristin Sibeth, Erin Sim, Christopher Skinner, Eleanor Codd and William Sanmani.

The silver practice expeditions went ahead on Rannoch Moor, near Corroir Station (the most remote railway station in the Britain).

The Gold practice expedition went ahead in the Rothiemurchus area while the P7's were on their activities week at Rothiemurchus Lodge.

The Gold assessed expedition

Well done Jacob Codd and Tiernan Bark for successfully completing all five sections of their Gold Award. This is the assessors report:

Start date: 12/06/2019 End date: 15/06/2019 Assessor accreditation number: NOA 2236 A I was delighted to be able to assess Jacob and his group from Queen Victoria School on their Gold Expedition

through the Cairngorms. Starting from the Invercauld Estate near Braemar, the group walked through to camp at Derry Lodge, then passed the famous Corroir Bothy to camp at White Bridge, before walking one of the classic Scottish routes through Glen Tilt (camping near Marble Lodge) to finish near Blair Atholl. This trip gave them the opportunity to see at first hand the whole range of rural land use, from forestry through to tourism and traditional estate management. During the expedition the group was very well organised, and coped well with all aspects of the journey, including campcraft and (mostly) navigation). They all made a good team, enjoying some good company and good food, and benefited from decent weather, so overall an excellent venture.

I hope that they go on to produce a report or account of their expedition as soon as possible, and that they go on to complete their Gold Awards.

I know that some of the group are leaving school soon on the next stage of their careers, and I wish them every success for the future. Well done on completing your Gold Expedition! Kelvin Martin, DofE Gold Assessor, (Assessor No: NOA 2236 A).

Assessor Name: Kelvin Martin
Job Title: DofE Assessor/ Stirling Council Youth Worker

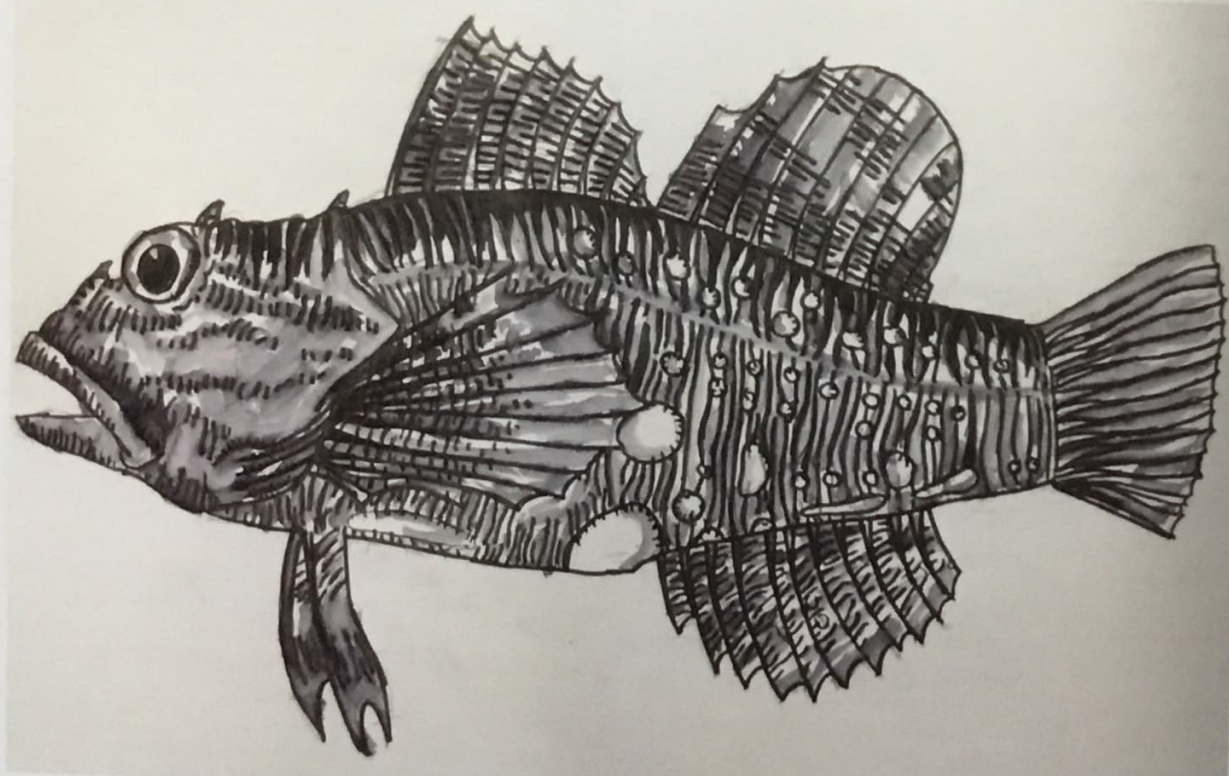
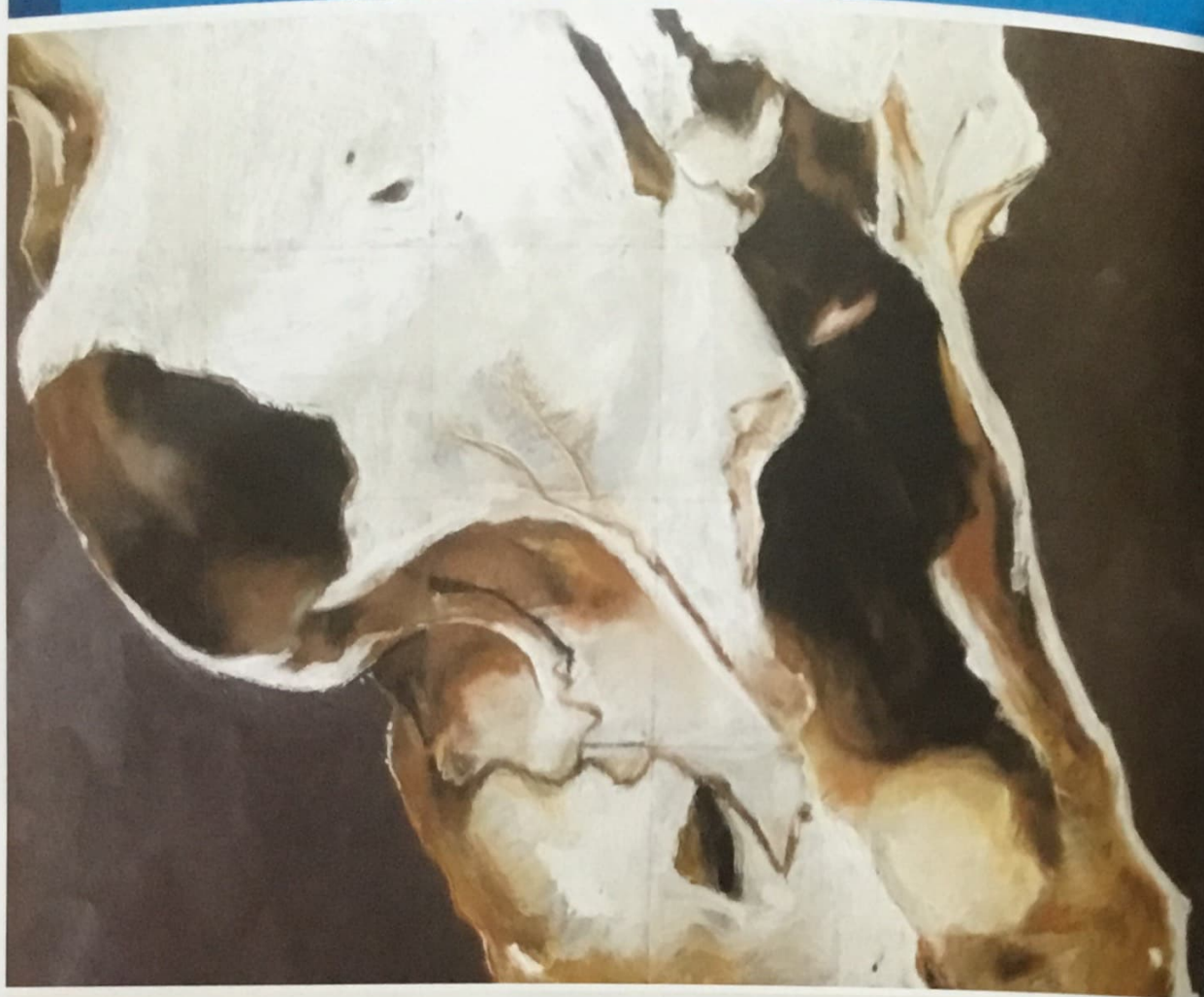
Thanks to all staff who help our pupils in all the other sections of the Award, providing a variety of opportunities.

The PE department take the lead with the physical recreation section.

The PD&D department take the lead with the skill section.

MAD group is the main lead in the volunteering section, however many other departments and staff provide valuable activities.

If you would like to become more involved in any aspect of the DofE your help and support will be greatly appreciated.



Top to bottom; Gabrielle Glass S3; Archie McCulloch P7.



Farewell Mr Laing

QVS Old Victorians pay tribute to his 35 years of service to the school

Grand Day 2019 was Steve Laing's 35th and final Grand Day as he finally hung up his overall and retired from his role as PT Techie on the last day of term.

Mr Laing has been the backbone of QVS through so much change and has had a huge impact on the lives of so many Victorians across the years as Housemaster, Running coach, Tutor and Haig Quizmaster - to name but a few of his 'hats'.

He will be a much-missed colleague and friend. He's someone who you can always turn to for a listening ear, a well-timed pun or a supper biscuit which he'll produce at a moment's notice.

Famously known as 'Scrawny' or 'Skinny Laing' when I arrived at school as a young teacher, he was always there to explain the intricacies of 'The Guide to Life' in his bright pink Russell Athletic sweatshirt and mop up any catastrophes in his inimitably calm and unflappable way.

His tuckshop was always well-stocked, his stealth-shoes were well-used in pursuit of any dastardly deeds and his love of The Jambos was legendary. He made that most difficult of jobs - Senior Housemaster - look easy and is still the standard I hold everyone else against.

He and Mr Shannon have been together across the years in the Techie Dept, where their very own brand of humour has served them well - taking them across the years from being the QVS Young Guns to their current nicknames - 'Jack & Victor'

It doesn't seem possible that he won't be in the 'Staffy' in his blue overall when we go back in August and although they say that no-one is irreplaceable, I think that Steve Laing comes pretty well close.

QV Legends are rare, but I feel very lucky to have worked alongside the genuine article.

Good luck in your retirement Mr Laing, I'm sure that the fact that you'll still be living on site means that we'll still be able to count on

you to support us with the QVS Highland Games 2020

Here are a selection of the retirement wishes and memories from Mr Laing's Haig boys over the years:

Murray MacDonald - Mr Laing (can't bring myself to call you Steve!). Thank you so much for the example you set us as kids - a fantastic role model. Enjoy your retirement and I hope to catch you for a beer at a future OVs or Grand Day. That said, I've just remembered you used to drop us off on a minibus miles from school to 'train' for cross country. I was terrible at running. And you may have been involved with Tam Shannon when I went windsurfing for the first time and ended up stuck in the middle of a bloody freezing Loch with Jamie Baird for 2 hours who kept on singing 'Can't Touch This' by MC Hammer to keep himself occupied. I'm still disturbed by the experience.

Ilona Rich - Mr Laing was/is always friendly and kind; especially with my mum when she would call up with last minute "pass" suggestions for any Haig boys caught up in Saturday night festivities with me or my brother. QV drama never seemed to faze him. I wish you a happy and healthy retirement, thank you. Ilona x

Andrew McInnis - An absolute diamond of a man, all the best for the retirement Steve, it was an absolute pleasure to be taught by you

Colin Stewart - Didn't realise this was your last year Steve, I remember you arriving to replace another QV legend (Jim Urie). All the best sir, you've been a true credit to the school.

Graeme Tennick - I remember him arriving at the school, and the difference it made to athletics in less than a year. He was always on hand, and always lent a friendly ear

Stuart Walker-McInnes - Stevie Laing gave me more information to take to my future years than anyone has ever done since I left the school in 1987. Hope you enjoy your retirement sir. Sorry I didn't get up to attend your last grand day

Murray McLeod - Hard-working, humble and an all-round good egg. Happy retirement, Steve!



William Ford - Well said Mrs Adams, the man is an absolute stalwart of the institution. All the best Mr Laing...to you and yours.

Paul Porter - Hello Skinny Laing. It's kind of remarkable that I have three kids of my own, and I look back with the fondest of memories of our time together at QV... We had massive highs and shocking lows including the deaths of teachers. I remember the support and kindness from all teachers at the time. For me, the school catapulted me into a work ethic that made me stand apart from my counterparts. Skinny Laing had a massive part to play in that. I remember "not" signing out from school hoping to see my Dunblane Girlfriend for longer and sneak back into school much later at night. Mostly this tactic would pay off, however I do remember being chased by Mr L from time to time and cutting it fine. I either relied on two things, Mr L's poor sight or his generosity of deliberately not catching up with me.... I'd like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your Time and attention Mr Laing. Enjoy your retirement knowing you made a massive difference to others. Thank you, Sir,

Kris Edwards - Good bloke, terrible jokes but a good positive person to be around! Also that vein that pops out from his head when he gets angry.... which came out a few time but none more so than the day he caught us splashing about in the river Allan after sneaking out of the school grounds

Steve Boyne - A great role model to us all especially the athletics/ cross country teams. Thanks for all the hours you gave up, especially over your weekends, to allow us to compete all around the country it was and still is greatly appreciated. All the best in your retirement Skinny. Ziggy.

Stuart John Rae - Happy retirement one of the few teachers who made a difference in my school life.

Ross Stevenson - Happy retirement to a stand-up guy - especially for putting up with my occasional shenanigans in Haig house

Ian Stewart - Many stories about Mr Laing but let's just condense it to he is a great man who made a huge impact on me and many, many more people. The school is probably a very different place than I remember, no doubt Mr Laing was a key part in helping to change the school for the better.

Scott Connelly - Happy Retirement to a man who shaped me as a person from cross country to Athletics and as little guy going into the big world. He was never anything but honest, and heartfelt although lost it a few times with me. Fond memories of a top bloke.



Bryan Espie - A QV legend. Had the great fortune to be in the school cross country team from 1987-1994 and will never forget the escape from 'normal' school life that brought. Weekends travelling around Scotland in the school minibuses and running in and around Dunblane mid-week. Fantastic memories. I was also in 5th year when Ben Philip tragically passed away and will never forget Steve's professionalism and care for us as pupils as he supervised this period of transition and became our house master. Thank you for everything you did and all the best in your retirement Steve.

Chris Maher - All the very best to Steve Laing! I visited the school last year for the first time since 1989 and had the good fortune of catching up with him briefly, considering the number of pupils / ex pupils over the years he was able to pinpoint my year accurately... speaks for itself really. Even my 6-year-old twins were motivated ;)

Daryl Haldane - All the best, sir! I'm sure you could write a few books on some of the banter you have heard over the years. Now you have retired, can I have my confiscated property back?

Craig Curson - I always remember his words of encouragement standing behind my goal when playing for the first XI with his wee dog Skye. Enjoy your retirement Mr Laing, very well deserved!!

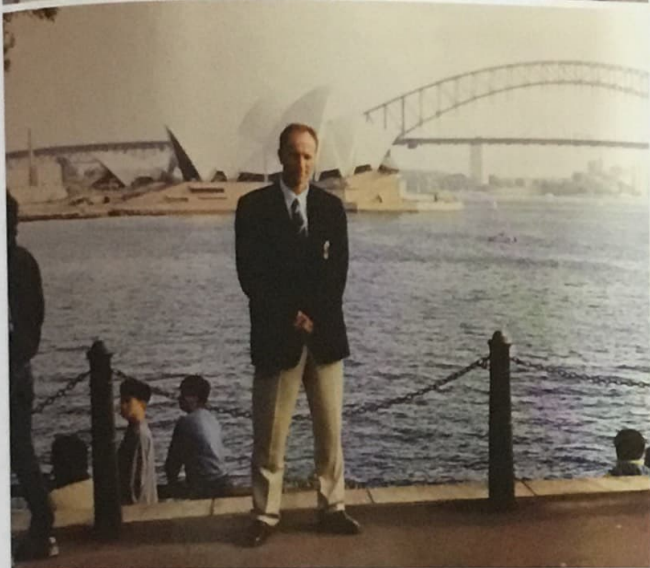
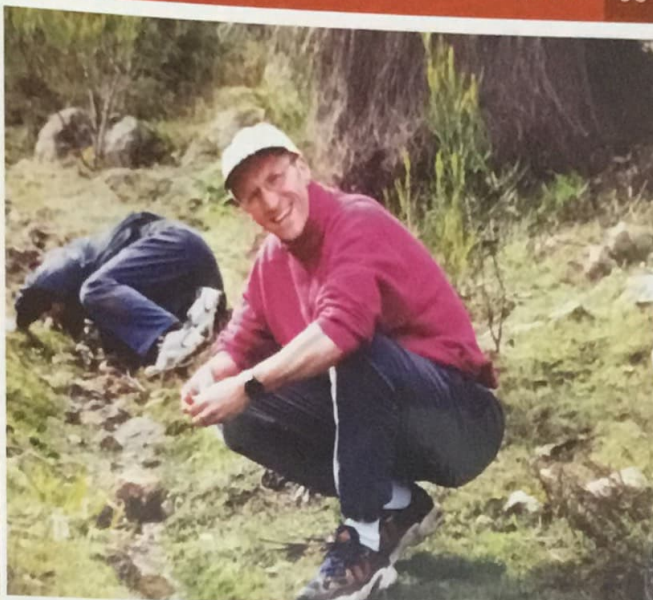
Liam Bridgeman - Congratulations Steve Laing on a well-deserved retirement! I know how much you are looking forward to spending more time with the boys, Savannah and the rest of the family. Who would have thought you would have gone from my housemaster to my future father in law!

Scott Macfarlane - Happy retirement! Great teacher and house master! Huge respect.

Robbie Herd - Congrats Steve. It's been great reading all of this and realizing you weren't just a catalyst for positive growth with us in the 80s - but continued to be so for many more.

Ralph Bowman - I wish you a long and happy retirement Steve. I was never a 'sport billy' or Craft & Design genius but your eagerness to get the best from us is remembered. As is your sense of humour. All the very best to you and your family.

David Porter - What an amazing innings!! 35 years. Wishing you a wonderful life after QV and thank you for all you did for me growing up in the "good old days". Happy retirement. If you are ever in Sydney let me know. All the best, sir



Jennifer MacKinnon - Happy Retirement Steve, congratulations on your long, illustrious career at QV.

John Ross - All the best for the future Steve. Such a positive impact when you arrived.

Stewart Gardner - the man is a legend, helped me to a good cross country career, all the best for your retirement.

Steve Cairns - All the best Steve Laing. Never a fairer teacher than this man. Gave me a three for my Craft and Design, even though I didn't finish it. I'm definitely not a joiner, that's for sure.

Cameron Chisholm - Mr Laing as Housemaster made a huge impact on me. Eternally grateful.

Gordon Stewart - Brilliant teacher. Remember having to hand in a folio of work, cos who would be daft enough to do higher techie and German? Vorsprung Durch Zeichnung. A for Techie though! All the very best!

Matthew Scott - Enjoy your retirement Mr Laing, you carried me and many others through the good times and the bad times (one particular dark horrible December night) and for that I will be forever grateful

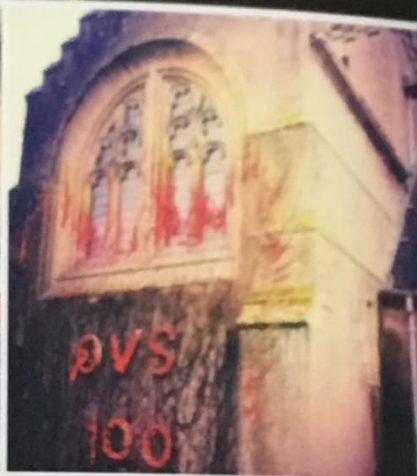
Jon Kidd - As a pupil I didn't make life particularly easy for the teachers primarily because I was so badly behaved however I always remember the fair and measured manner with which Mr Laing dealt with people including absolute horrors like me!

Ian G Ramsey - Congratulations on your retirement Steve Laing. Well-deserved after shaping nightmares like me along the years! It's all paid off well for us both I hope. Thanks, and here's to the future...

Del Murray - Happy retirement Steve. Never did catch me either sneaking out of the school or sneaking back in from my frequent soirées back in the late 80's, despite his best efforts. Columbo he was not, however a great teacher and personality

Jamie Crouch - Good luck Steve Laing, an understanding fair man who would listen to reason. All the best in your retirement

Matt McLeish - A fitting finish to a truly great person. "Skinny" Laing was instrumental in getting me into cross country which gave me focus and determination which ultimately led me to achieve great things later on. Aside from running he was always a great sounding board and - let's be honest - had an adult approach to us in 6th year. I really wish all the best for Steve Laing and his family in the future. Great guy. (P.S. I reckon I could take him in a run now...challenge?)



Remembering Our Fallen: The Seventeen

It was an incredible honour to be part of the WW1 Centenary Team at QVS. The Seventeen Victorians who fell during the Great War have been remembered by our whole community with dignity, honour and pride in this its centenary year.

From our weeping window tumbled a Poppy for each of our current Victorians, symbolising their act of remembrance, assembled by a group of Volunteers and artfully draped by Mr Boyd before our Remembrance Day Parade.

Mr Laing's students made stunning metal poppies - each of which had a hand stamped name of one of #TheSeventeen attached to an oak cross before being planted in a very moving ceremony in our new Centenary Remembrance Garden designed by Mr Breingan

The students of the school worked hard with the local Rotary Club and Scotland's People to find out the stories of our Seventeen fallen boys. This really made their names come alive as we found out which of them struggled at maths, who joined with two of his brothers and which of them joined the same regiment their fathers had, before being killed in the Boer War only a decade before. We are indebted to Mrs Sheerin for her librarian powers and research skills in helping bring it all together.

This has been an emotional experience as so many of the stories are heartbreaking. We discovered a rugby star who fell far from home and family, a boy who was killed at the Quintinshill rail disaster before he even got the chance to fight for his country and a drummer boy who died at sea when he was only 15. The student researchers loved finding out the things that connected them to these fallen boys - whether it was the sports they'd loved, the regiments their fathers had joined or the fact that these boys ate in the same dining room, played rugby on the same pitches and sang hymns in the same chapel as we do now.

So many of our staff joined in to make this special season of Remembrance so unforgettable. Mrs MacLeod made our QVS 100 sign out of giant poppies which was placed by the Centenary Garden to commemorate the fact that it was 100 years since the Great War ended and to officially mark the crosses being put in place by our current Victorians.

We also held a very special Remembrance Day service, led by the pupils. Special mention must go to Cameron Crawford, Steven Rae and Christian McBrearty for the planning, research and delivery of a very moving occasion indeed. The service included a Parade of Poppies, accompanied by a Roll of Honour and Act of Remembrance

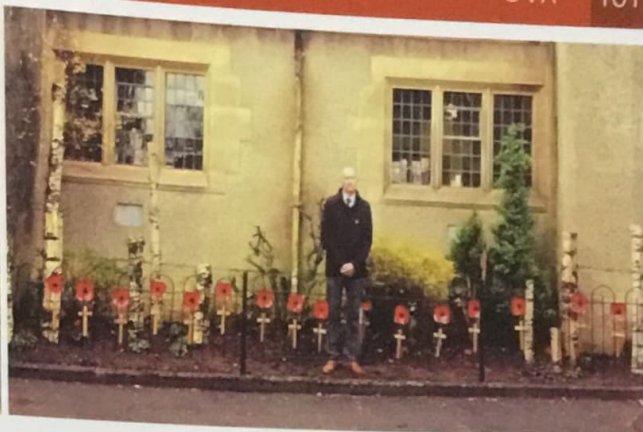


before the poppies, representing each of the Fallen 17, were piped out of the chapel for the final time.

The student Remembrance Ceremony reminded us that as Victorians it is important to know our history so we can carry that forward with pride into our future. It made all the staff immensely proud to experience such a heartfelt and moving tribute from our student body in this centenary year.

It's been a huge privilege to help Mr Laing make this happen. His craftsmanship and dedication to this task honours these boys, some of whom were only 15 and 16 when they fell. This was a fitting way for our whole school community to come together in an act of Remembrance and ensure that their names and stories are remembered for ever more.

The photos here show some of the Centenary commemorations as well as the results of some of the research that we uncovered over the last four years.



They are listed with their school numbers below
#TheSeventeen #WeWillRememberThem

John William Gibbon (1)
George William Archer (20)
Peter Duncan Binnie (27)
Edward Brett (57)
Omond Cassie (80)
William Lawson Crichton (3)
Donald Fraser (96)
James Kennedy (77)
Robert Mackenzie (143)
James Wilson (65)
John Muir (111)
James McGillivray Pollock (26)
Henbry George Robinson (174)
James Frederick Ruddle Stevenson (4)
John Robert Thomson (18)
William Tinlin (82)
John Young Watt (66)

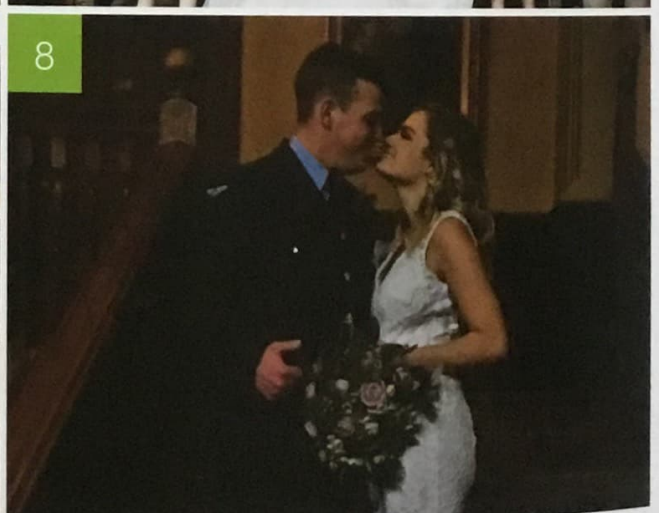
Centenary Bench



Many thanks to OV Martin Shaw for taking the lead on an innovative appeal to commemorate 'The Seventeen'. The current students were overwhelmed that the Old Victorians had been so inspired by their Commemorative Project, that they commissioned a bespoke wrought iron bench to mark the centenary project and remember our fallen seventeen boys.



Martin's project, ably assisted by OVs David McElhoney and James TY Laws was so successful that it raised enough in donations from Old Victorians to commission two benches, commemorating our fallen from both WWI and WWII. The two benches are placed at the front of the school, underneath the flagpole as a mark of respect for all those Victorians lost in both wars. #WeWillRememberThem







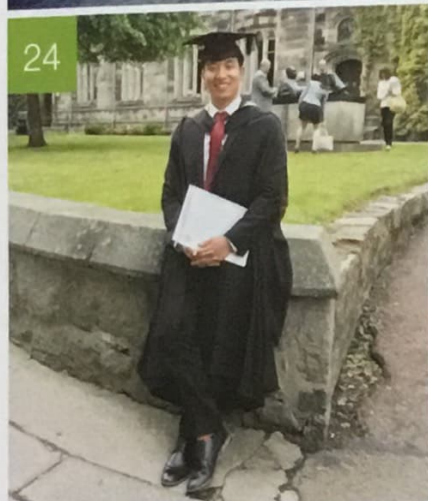
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Queen Victoria School Leavers

1. Grand Day 2019 brought an OV Reunion with Gen. Bob Bruce, Paul Clark, Neil Campbell and Jamie Wilson pictured outside the Band Block at QVS

2. A gathering of the Macleod Clan on the Isle of Iona to celebrate the wedding of Isla to Neil in April 2019. Isla is surrounded by her sisters and fellow OVs, Susan, Fiona and Lorna.

3. OV Alanna Macfarlane performing with QVS Music Teacher David Breingan in St Columba's Church Portree in August after graduating from the Royal Academy of Music with First Class Honours.

4. A collection of OVs came to QVS Chapel to celebrate the inaugural Bronze Awards for Wider Achievement here at school. A huge thank you to Martin Sinclair, Paul Kane, Nick Burge, Mhairi Robertson and Rebecca Johnson for giving up their time to support this initiative.

5. Congratulations to OV Tom Wilson, Player of the Tournament at this year's Hawick 7's this April.

6. This summer saw the wedding of OV Claire Crawford (McGillivray) to her wife Gillian in a festival-themed wedding extravaganza.

7. OV Kyle Rowe celebrating Heriots winning the Premiership and also being named man of the match with girlfriend and fellow OV Rhona Wilson there to cheer him on.

8. Many Congratulations to OV Callum Halliday on his wedding to Bethan. What a handsome couple!

9. OV Leah Tytek representing Scotland at Tartan Day in NYC with her cheerleading squad from St Andrews University after graduating last year with an MA in Arabic and International Relations.

10. Stuart Howell passing out as P.C Howell. Thanks to his sister, O.V Charlotte Howell for sending over the photo before Stuart started his first day on the beat in the Gorbals, Glasgow.

11. OV John Willans taking part in the Warrior Games in Tampa, Florida after his trials for the Invictus Games 2020.

12. Congratulations to Senior Monitor Nikita Gurung who recently passed her LLB in International Law from the University of Nottingham.

13. Thank you to her sister Rosa for sending me this photo of OV Cara King graduating with her Masters in Chemistry from the University of St Andrews in June of this year.

14. Many congratulations to OV Doctor Hannah Shaw (now Hannah Prentice). Graduating with a PhD from the University of Edinburgh in Infection and Immunity. Thanks so much to OV Arnie Williams for the update.

15. OVs Emily Collins and Ellis Majid, celebrating his passing out on H.M.S Raleigh.

16. Mackintosh Gin celebrations from the three OV Barron sisters, Charlotte, Stephanie and Alex, who are proud to be part of the family's successful craft gin business.

17. Congratulations to OV Shona McAuslane on her marriage to Kyle Johnston in Australia and becoming stepmother to a delighted Cadence.

18. OV Hannah Sloan graduating with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Fashion Communication in Galashiels this June.

19. Congratulations to Morven Craib, graduating with an MA (Hons) in French from the University of Aberdeen - looking forward to hearing what this International traveller does next, watch this space!

20. Deputy Senior Monitor Kelsey Swan and her wife Katy at their wedding this Summer. Looking very dapper indeed!

21. OVs Lorna Macleod and Steven Mallett finally tied the knot in Langkawi Malaysia this February - half way between their families in the UK and their current home in Melbourne.

22. This double OV Wedding cements Lorna and Steven's relationship of more than a decade after falling for each other when piping and drumming with QVS at the Edinburgh Tattoo.

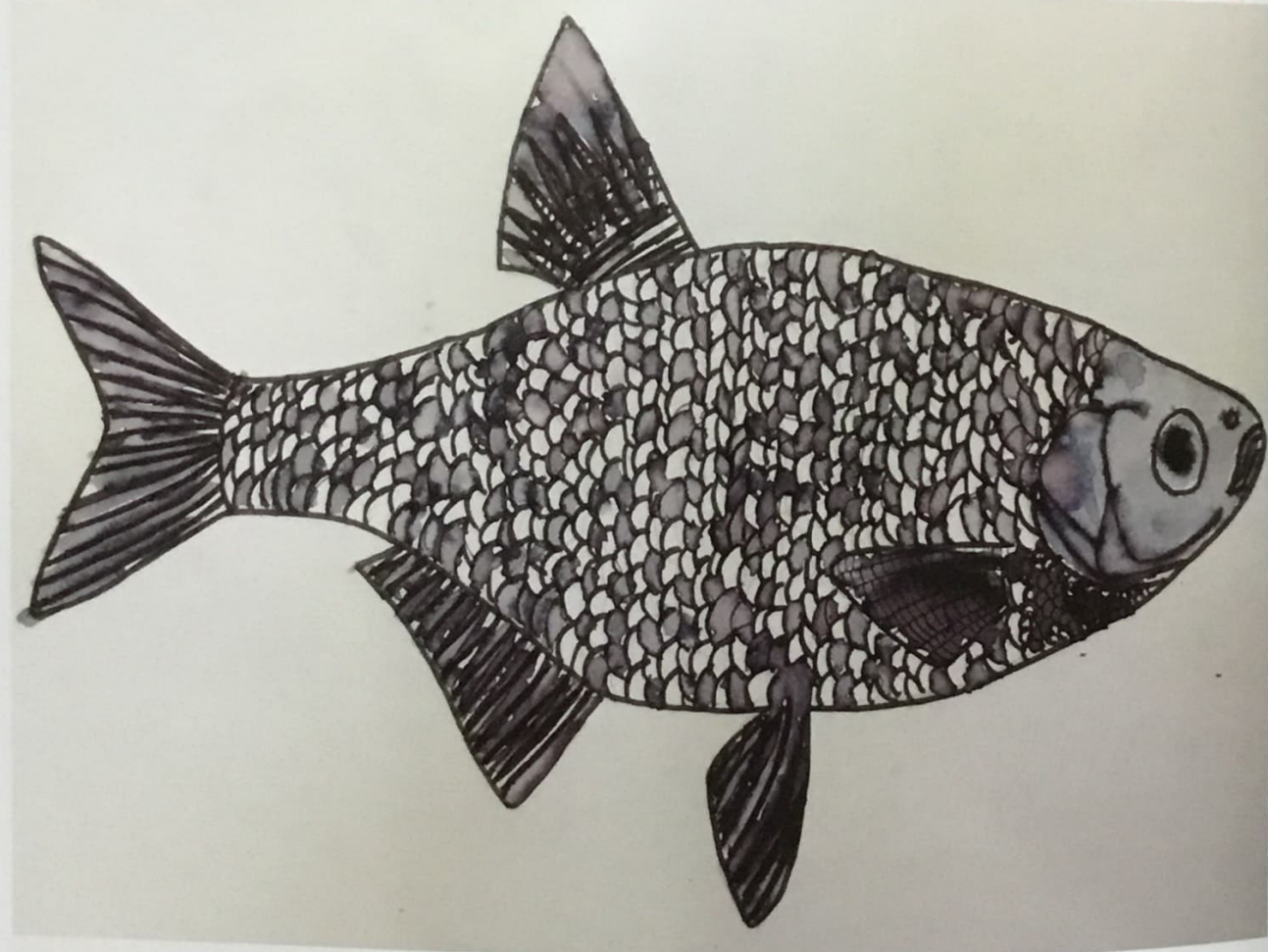
23. Huge Congratulations to OV Tom King on graduating with his Masters yesterday in Glasgow, after declining to attend his Graduation last year for his First-Class degree - and going sailing instead! He is now officially a Master of Naval Architecture and High-Performance Marine Engineering.

24. Lovely to see OV Veeransh Bohra achieving a First-Class Honours degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Aberdeen.

25. Well Done to OV James Wootton for his achievement in being awarded #ReservistofTheYear in his role within the #LondonScottish With great moustache comes great responsibilities, clearly!

26. Great to see OV Heather Bulumakau celebrating at Army v Navy with her husband Junior and children Noah and Roana whose ambition is to follow in their mum's footsteps to QVS.





Top to bottom; Gabrielle Glass S3; Megan Clark P7.





Staff List

Senior Leadership Team

Headmaster D Shaw BSc (Hons) PGCE
Deputy Head (PS) C A Phipps BA (Hons) PGCE PGCG
Deputy Head (PS) J Adams MA (Hons) PGCE
Deputy Head (P&G) S J Adams BSc (Hons) PGCE
Deputy Head (Academic) J F Scott Laing BEd (Hons)
School Business Manager S N Cunningham AdvDipBFM (CIPFA)

Housemasters & Housemistresses:

Wavell R L Appleyard BA (Hons) PGCE
Cunningham M J Eastham BA (Hons) PGCE
Haig R M H Boyd BD (Hons) PGCE DipTh
Trenchard D H MacKay BEd (Hons)

Principal Teachers:

L A Bairner BA (Hons) PGDE
G J Beattie MA MEd PGCE PGC in SFL PGD in SFL
D V Breingan DRSAM DipEd
D J Davey BSc (Hons) PGCE
D Gilhooly BA (Hons) SQH PGDSLMDipEd
T King BEd (Hons) PGCE PGCG ATQ Primary DRSAM PGRNCM
A M Kirk MA (Hons) DipEdTech PGCE
J S Laing DipTechEdn
J S Lawrence BSc (Hons) MSc PGCE
C McBlain BSc DipEd
D McLay BEd (Hons)
K L Rodger MA (Hons) MSc PGCE
R C Wright BA PGCE

Teachers:

J Adams MA (Hons) PGCE
V Adams BEd (Hons)
R L Appleyard BA (Hons) PGCE
G E Borthwick BA (Hons) PGDE
R M H Boyd BD (Hons) PGCE DipTh
A Bryce BSc (Hons) MSc PGDE
A Duncan MA (Hons) PGDE
M J Eastham BA (Hons) PGCE
K Elliott BEd (Hons)
M Hamilton BA PGCE
S A M Hastie BEd (Hons) PGCE
S C B Johns DipEd
G Johnstone BSc (Hons) PGCE
S Leitch MA PGDE
D H MacKay BEd (Hons)
L MacLeod BA (Hons) PGDE
L McGeechan BSc PGDE
S L O'Neill BA (Hons) PE
S W Renwick BSc (Hons) PE
T McP Shannon RD HNDMechEngDipTechEdn
C-A Taylor BSc (Hons) PGCE Cert PP in BE PGC in SFL
K Taylor BA PGDE
S Thompson BSc (Hons) PGCE
S Wright BSc (Hons)

Ceremonial:

School Sergeant Major D D H Stacey MBE (late Black Watch)
Pipe Major G R Ross Dip Piping (late Gordon Highlanders)
Drum Major J G Clark (late The Highlanders)
Highland Dancing Instructor S S Stinson Associate BATD

Visiting Music Teachers:

C Buchanan	F Henderson	J Thewlis
J Bamforth	I Hood	G Spowart
J Torrance	R Digney	J Van Der Zwet
M MacSporran		

House Matrons:

Cunningham S M Eastham
Haig A King BA
Trenchard H A Devlin
Wavell M C Sword

Housekeepers:

D McIntosh K McVey
M del C O'Neill

Medical Centre:

Sister M A Skeith RGN
Sister A E Ketteringham RGN
Sister A L Simpson BSc
Auxiliary V J Hiddleston

Foreign Language Assistant:

Mélissa Wright

Overseas House Assistants ('GAP' Students):

M O'Leary-Noyer S Turner
S Lauritz R Olive

Business Management:

Resources Manager R McKinnon Associate MCIPD
Deputy Resources Manager I M Mair MAAT
Facilities Manager & SSYO J Robinson
Deputy Facilities Manager & Dep SSYO T Thomson
Library & Information Manager Vacant
ICT Manager G Carr

Business Support:

M Symon B McCluskie
A B Gauld BA (Hons) A Paddon
A MacFarlane

Academic Support:

L M Craig	A Nicolson	C P Rankin
L Sprouting BSc (Hons) RsciTech		G R McConnell

Facilities Support:

M Brailey	R G MacDougall
T Carr	P A Warner



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