



The Victorian 2021

Queen Victoria School

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Queen Victoria School

Dunblane 1908 – 2021

Stability, continuity and an excellent education in Scotland for Armed Forces children

Vision Statement

We aim to provide a unique, thriving boarding and educational community in which all pupils and staff work to support and respect one another in realising their full potential.

Statement of Purpose

We exist to provide a caring but stretching learning environment, valued by the military families whom we serve. We embody and promote values of honesty, integrity, compassion and empathy.

Queen Victoria School has a long tradition of ceremonial excellence; we take pride in this and all that our School has to offer.

QVS Values

Positivity, Pride, Excellence, Trust,
Responsibility, Nurture, Integrity, Equality,
Independence, Respect

Educate the Child – Support the Family –
Defend the Nation

Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners

**For The Government of
Queen Victoria School, Dunblane**

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Headmaster

Mr D Shaw

Secretary and Treasurer to HM Commissioners

Mr N Cunningham

The *Headmaster*

Grand Day Message

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, students, parents, staff, HMC – more than ever, it is so good to see you all and be able to share a few things with you today.

Firstly, as this school year draws to a close today, I want to say a massive thank you to you all. There is no doubt in my mind that we are the luckiest school in the entire country as we have the best, most supportive parents you could ever ask for. The way you support the school while, together, we handle adverse situations is truly phenomenal. We've had to make several adjustments to school life this year but you have accepted each and every one of them – and because of that, we have been able to provide your children with as normal a boarding experience as possible.

Some schools found remote learning tough – and don't get me wrong, it had its challenges, but we excelled in what we were able to offer our students, thanks to buy-in from the staff, the parents and of course, our students. The feedback on what we offered was tremendous from all three groups – and it meant that, when this term started, we were able to hit the ground running as our S4-S6 students got ready for their evidence gathering assessments.

The last month or so, in particular, has been fantastic and has seen the return of several QVS activities that makes life here so good. We've managed to get some hockey and rugby back on – and the students have loved it. Thanks to Mr Shannon, we've had a Duke of Edinburgh expedition for all S3 students – and we were the only school in the area allowed to do so. Mr Adams managed to arrange an activities day for all P7-S3 students, rock climbing, abseiling and archery. This was paid for by HMC, which

was truly appreciated by all and made a big impact on student wellbeing. Trenchard House had a sunny day in St Andrews, and the senior houses all had end-of-term parties where a great time was had by all. And of course, we also managed a Rookies Parade for our new P7s – that was a wonderful afternoon and underlined our slow but steady return to normal.

Today, we are losing a few key members of staff. Mr Shannon, technical teacher and Director of Outdoor pursuits is retiring, as are Mr Kirk, our Head of English, and Mr Beattie, our head of Learning Support. Time today does not allow me to go into detail but those three teachers have given a remarkable level of service to QVS over the many years they have been with us and they will all be greatly missed. Another well-known figure at QVS – in fact, perhaps the first person you had contact with is also retiring – Ann Macfarlane, our admissions secretary. Replacing her knowledge and skills will be hard to do. Maureen Sword, the matron of Wavell, is giving up looking after 'her girls' and whoever replaces her has some very big shoes to fill – the girls will miss her high level of care and support. A big hand, please for our retiring staff.

When we return here in August, I am hoping to resume normal QVS life. No more restrictions, no more covid protocols, just good old QVS life. No matter what happens though, I know you will be behind us all the way and that we will continue to work together to get the best outcomes for your children – and that is exactly what we are all here for.

Once again, thank you and all the best for the year ahead.

Update – September 2021.

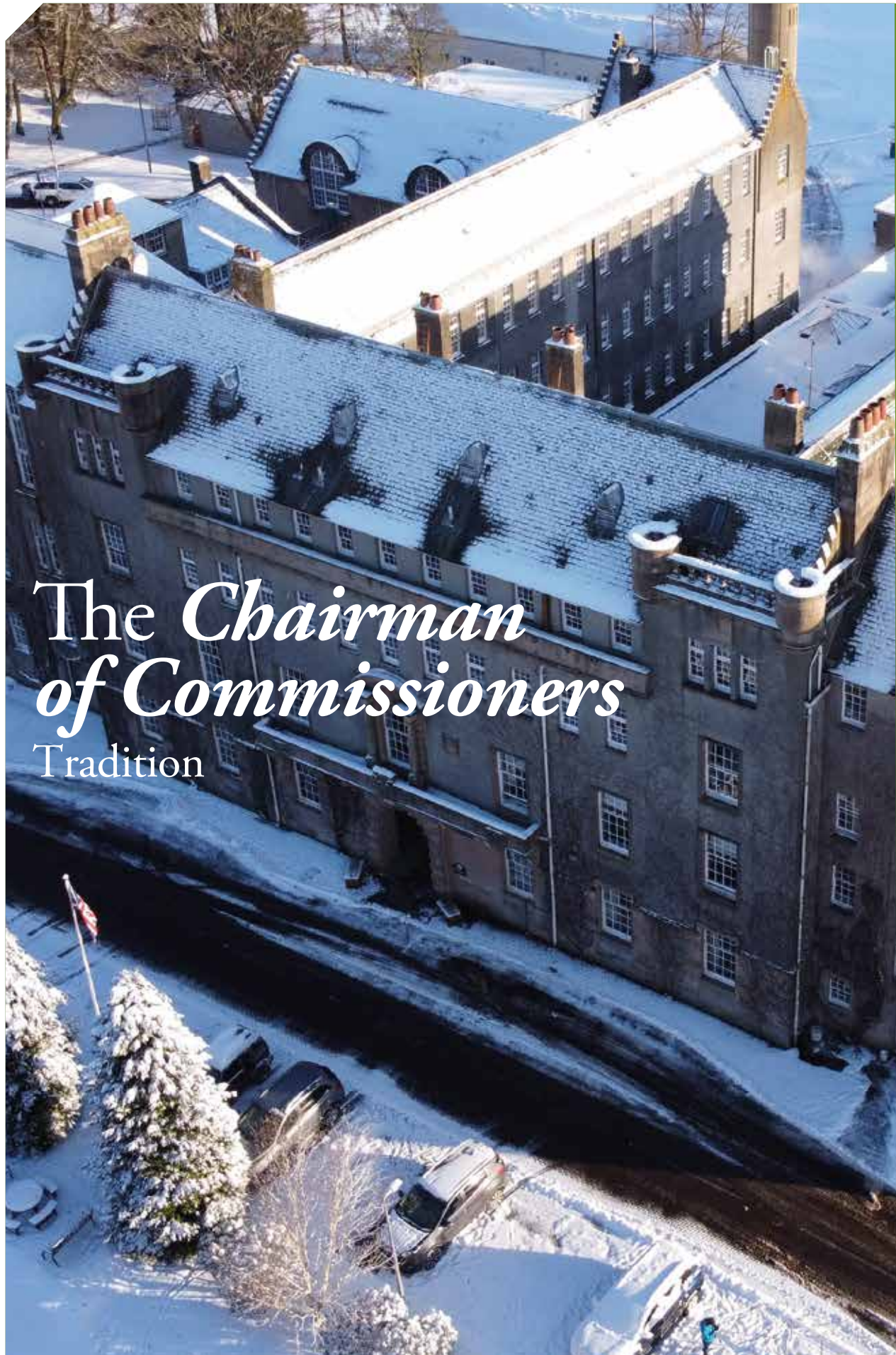
Well, my last paragraph, written for Grand Day, turned out to be a little optimistic. After just one week of school in August, we had a covid outbreak that resulted in a move to remote learning for a few weeks. I'm delighted to say that, as I write this, we are all back in school and enjoying being together again as a community. When our students are not with us, the school feels empty and far too quiet. As teachers, tutors and business support staff, we all prefer it when we can see, hear and interact with our students on a daily basis.

Thank you to you all for acting so quickly to help us manage the situation while doing our very best to keep our community safe. Our QVS families are absolutely fantastic – strong parents, good decision-makers and resilient in times of adversity – your efforts in supporting the school are always appreciated.

We move forward with a plan in place to ensure that we never have to move to remote learning again and we look forward to some more certainty over how we deal with covid in the future. The sooner we are all back to normal, the better.

Mr D Shaw





*The Chairman
of Commissioners*
Tradition

Grand Day, two simple words that mean so much to every Victorian and all of us associated with the School. The culmination of every school year and the final act for those leaving before moving to higher things.

The very first Queen Victorian School Grand Day was in 1910. Since the school role at that time was much less than today it must have been relatively modest and with few of the parents able to travel to attend, it would have been a muted affair by today's standard.

Never the less a great tradition was born and has continued ever since including throughout the Second World War. However, spending cuts in the late 1930s, (it was ever thus), meant that only the band were allowed ceremonial uniforms and this continued to be the way until 1954 when the tradition of full ceremonial dress was re-established.

Last year, thoroughly constrained by Covid, we only just managed to maintain a sort of tradition courtesy of some very clever video skills amongst our teaching staff. Commissioners and the Senior Leadership Team were determined if at all possible to bring back the real Grand Day this year and subject to rules approved by the Health Authorities, we succeeded. Even the weather this year decided to help with full sunshine and a gentle breeze for ventilation! We have had some great Grand Days whilst I have been a Commissioner but this year, particularly given so little time for practice, was unquestionably the most satisfying, a fitting tribute to a QVS tradition.

These last eighteen months we have gone through a period of great change in our socialising, perhaps some things will never fully revert to Pre-Covid. Over the next two years, we now have the likelihood of significant alterations in our School campus as we approach the construction of the new teaching block.

Yet something I hope never changes, our tradition of service, honour and respect that marks out the Queen Victorian School pupil of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

I have just returned from a visit to the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight at RAF Coningsby and the Bomber Command memorial in Lincoln. To see the care, attention to detail and even respect that is lavished by dedicated engineers on those few surviving aircraft, all that is left to represent what was done at a crucial moment in our history, to ensure our ability to enjoy our traditions today, is a remarkable experience.

I went on to visit the Norfolk Broads, the setting for Arthur Ransome's novels of young people sailing there. The Broads in 1934 when the book the "Coot Club" was written are of course vastly different in many ways from the Broads of today. The essence though is the same, slow-moving wooden hulled yachts still interact with powerful motor cruisers on narrow waterways, all subject to the rules of navigation and courtesy. Part of the plot in that story revolves around the bad manners and disrespect of some visitors to anyone who gets in their way. Of course in the end courtesy and good manners triumph. Queen Victoria School has a long tradition based on the military ethos of courtesy, discipline and respect. Those values are as highly regarded today as they were in 1934 or when our School was founded in 1908.



When doing the weekend shopping most Saturdays throughout term time I am reminded of this when I see QVS pupils on the High Street of Dunblane. Members of School may be away from school and out for the afternoon dressed casually but their regard for the town's residents never changes. This courtesy is of course recognised by the town and not infrequently commented on and reciprocated. The Victorian may not be standing out in full ceremonial dress but you are just as conspicuous by the standard and manner of your behaviour which marks you out as special.

Grand Day 2021 rejuvenated the traditions of the past and let us show that despite pandemics, cost-cutting and structural change, the enduring values that our School is built on do not change through adversity.

During the year, Group Captain Jim Leggatt retired as a Commissioner and we welcomed four new Commissioners onto our Board. Commodore Eric Fraser CBE joined us as the Royal Navy representative, Lieutenant Colonel Mike Onslow joined us as Army representative, Gavin MacEwan NP joined us from the legal profession and most recently Group Captain Clive Coombes OBE has joined us as RAF representative.

After about ten years in post, Mike Cooper, Director of Children and Young People services has moved on to a new position. Mike deserves a very big thank you from everyone at QVS for all the effort he expended over those years to modernise and improve the fabric and facilities of our school. I wish him well in his new post and am sure I will miss his help and advice.

Finally, I note that our Patron, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh died in April this year. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the whole school, I wrote to Her Majesty the Queen extending our sympathies for her loss and received in due course a most gracious response.

Alan J. C. Plumptre

The *Senior Monitor*

Grand Day Speech

Good morning Inspecting Officer, Commissioners, members of staff, Victorians past and present, honoured guests, friends and family. I would like to first of all say welcome to this year's Grand Day. May I say that on behalf of the entire student body; how good it is to see you all here today. We are all very much looking forward to everything that Grand Day brings, yet for me personally and my fellow leavers, we are sad that this day has finally come.

When I first found out that I would be the next Senior Monitor, I was extremely excited and immensely proud. However, when August finally approached, it soon dawned on me I didn't actually know the specifics of what being Senior Monitor consisted of. Now that I have the ability to look back, I would say that my successor should not worry about that as there is no one specific job description, as each year every Senior Monitor has a very different experience and we all leave behind a different legacy.

My main goal this year was to make QVS feel as much of a community as possible, and this meant bringing together all of the Victorians as ultimately, we are a family. This is because I know what it is like to live many hours away and be unable to go home often and due to the Covid situation, I thought that this was all the more important. Therefore, this year I saw it as my responsibility to improve school life as much as possible and that meant putting on as many movie nights, football tournaments and social events as we could.

I hope that our hard work as a team has left behind a lasting legacy that the future S6 teams can build on, as it allowed the S6's and S5 prefects to work together in order to make the weekends the best they can be, allowing the younger Victorians to always have something to look forward to. So for this, I would like to thank the S6 and S5 prefects for the time and effort you have all put in to organise so many socials and constantly having my back- it's something I'll always be grateful for. I wish our new S6 a huge amount of luck; it can sometimes get quite overwhelming, but I hope you manage to have as much fun as we all did. You may not be able to beat our new school record of managing to successfully organise 12 different social events,

between only August and December, but I'm sure you'll do a grand job trying.

This year has been a year that I will never forget, as it has been filled with so many exciting and enjoyable moments, despite us living through a global pandemic. From the excitement we felt when creating our Rookies' welcome packs back in August, to the pride we felt when we saw them pass out as Victorians at their long awaited Rookies' parade, it certainly has been a year like no other.

During the seven years of my time at QVS, there have been many people to thank along the way. I feel it is a privilege to stand up here and express my sincere thanks to all of the staff that have helped me not only just this year, but across my whole time at QVS. I am so lucky to have had their constant support and guidance over these past 7 years.

First of all, I would like to thank Mr Shaw and the SLT for giving me the opportunity to be Senior Monitor this year. It has allowed me to grow as a person, but also allowed me the opportunity to try and leave my mark on the school in a positive way. It has definitely improved me as a person in too many ways to say and I have learned some fantastic life lessons. The trust they placed in me and the prefect team has been outstanding and I will always be truly grateful.

Secondly, Miss Duncan, our year head. Along with Mrs Adams, she has worked tirelessly all year in making sure that we all know what we are doing, and when we are doing it- which I know couldn't have been easy! I can say on behalf of all of S6, we really do appreciate everything you have done for us.

Next, I would like to say thank you to Mrs Scott-Laing. Mrs Scott – Laing has played a huge part in my time at QVS, being not only a fantastic role model, but also my mentor. She knows me better than most and I genuinely don't think I would be standing up here today if it hadn't been for her advice and guidance along the way.

A huge thanks also goes to our School Sergeant Major, Mr Stacey. Without his massive efforts, today would just not have been possible and I hope that we repay all of that effort by doing him proud on the parade later and make sure that we maintain

his high standards. Not only has he enabled me to do my job this afternoon as Parade Commander, with many hours of extra drill, but he has also made it a fun experience. Who would have thought drill could be fun!

On behalf of all of the S6 Wavell girls, I would like to say thank you to the staff and pupils, in particular Miss Appleyard and Miss Christmas, for making Wavell such a pleasant and welcoming environment. This year it will also be sad to say goodbye to the Wavell Matron. We will all be sorry to see you go and we would like to thank you for everything you have done for us over the years.

Finally, no Grand Day speech would be complete without thanking the Deputy Senior Monitor. This year Cameron has taken the pressure off of me a lot, more so than I realised. Thank you for always being so reassuring and running through the parades with me a few too many times on a Friday lunch time before Parade Practise- even if it was in the pouring rain. I really have been so fortunate to have such a supportive Deputy and entire prefect team. I would like to take this opportunity to say the best of luck to Aidan, next year's Senior Monitor. You will do a fantastic job.

To conclude, Queen Victoria School has truly given me a home away from home and I have made some life-long friends here. I'm both excited and nervous to begin the next chapter of my life, as I'm sure all of the 2021 Leavers are, but I feel we will all now embark on the next phase of our lives confident that whatever we chose to do, we will be better prepared for all that it will bring, as a result of our time here at QVS.

On behalf of all of us, thank you to everyone who has made our time at QVS an experience that we will cherish forever. I hope that when we march off the field for the final time this afternoon, we will have done you all proud.

Thank you.

Hollie Scott





Cunningham House



I feel as if many reports that are written for school magazines begin with the familiar opener of “What a year.... was!” - I am confident that there will be a fair few reports starting in the same vein for the 2020/2021 issue of the Victorian. The “hot word” for 2020 and 2021 was, without a doubt, “unprecedented”. In preparing for this report, I made a promise to myself to steer clear of the familiar cliches which would state what a tricky year this one has been, and I want to, instead, celebrate the achievements of the wonderful Queen Victoria School, and Cunningham community. These achievements are not the normal ones, relating to the sporting prowess of our boys, academic accolades, or accomplishments on the cultural stage. Instead, these are remarkable achievements of, dare I say it, survival, and grit, as we have navigated ourselves and families through perhaps one of the most challenging times in our generation!

My previous Victorian magazine editorial touched on how tricky we found 2020 to be, due to the world learning of the COVID19 pandemic, for the first time in March of that year. I don't think that any of us quite realised back then just what lay in store for us, after the Summer holidays of 2020. Those holidays were almost cruel, in a way, they lured us all into a false sense of security, perhaps it was the long summer days and the warmth of the sun on our skin as we relaxed with our friends and families, discussing what a horrid couple of months we had all endured! “Lockdown 2020, that was something that we will never experience again - right?” WRONG!! As the winter set in, as our students were just getting used to the “new way of life”, walking in a one-way system around the school, maintaining social distancing, and sticking to their year-group bubbles, I am going to toss in a terrible pun and say that little did we all know that our collective bubble was going to be popped in a few short months time!

Before I move on to discussing the dreaded “Lockdown 2.0” that was about to show it's ominous head, I would like to note that in the months between August and December, I was so proud of the way in which our Cunningham Boys went about their daily business, and how well they adapted to all of the changes that faced them upon their arrival back to the house after the Summer holidays. There is never much point in complaining about issues which are a fait-accompli, but I wouldn't have held it against any of our boys if they had the occasional moan about how different things were, and how tough it was having to stick to all of the new protocols which were implemented in order to mitigate any danger which came with the virus, but, none of our boys ever complained, instead, they worked together to ensure that they did their bit to make life manageable for everyone within the house.

The Tutors and house staff were fantastic in ensuring that they provided opportunities for our boys to socialise, and along with that came many movie evenings, take-away runs and gaming socials. We even managed to enjoy a wonderful Halloween evening of spooky fun as we embarked, as a house, on a real-life version of the popular “Cluedo” game! For important recording purposes, it was Miss Scarlett, with a lead pipe, in Wavell Woods; this was cleverly deciphered by the Cunningham S3 group. Our boys also enjoyed a variety of social activities, which were arranged by the school prefects, and under difficult COVID protocol induced conditions, an end-of-year Christmas dinner was thoroughly enjoyed by the school. The Christmas break arrived, in what seemed like a flash, and before we knew it, the students were rolling down the school driveway, to the strains of Christmas carols, promising to see one another again in three weeks time. Of course, if the COVID pandemic has taught us anything, we should never buy green bananas, because one never knows when the next wave might appear. And boy, oh, boy, did the next wave appear, a new wave of infections, and several waves of uncertainty as well.



When the news broke, just two days before we were to begin school again, in January, many could not believe what they were hearing; "Schools in Scotland and the rest of the UK are expected to remain shut, at least until the mid-term break, and quite possibly through to the Easter holidays!". It was at this point that I was blown away by the resilience of our students, as the school's management team, and teachers, rallied together to ensure that QVS would offer a full academic timetable, which was to be delivered online, our students rose to the occasion and engaged in their new way of learning fantastically!

As a pastoral team, the Cunningham Tutors made it their mission to contact each Cunningham family individually, be it telephonically, or through Google Meet, we remained in touch with each and every boy, and tried to offer the best support that we possibly could for our Cunningham family. We arranged weekly drop-in sessions for our boys, where they could socialise with one another and the tutors, we had virtual challenges, and of course, we had one or two Rocket League tournaments, and online gaming competitions, which even some of our tutors engaged in. The camaraderie was fantastic to witness and to feel - this was exactly what we all needed - we needed to feel some sense of normality, and we needed to feel connected, in a time where we all craved that basic, but oh so important, feeling of human connection.

The predictions were all on point, and the students at QVS only returned to school after the Easter holidays, having been taught online for the first three months of 2021. The task which was laid in front of the S4 to S6 students was a daunting one - they were to complete an assessment period of four weeks, in order for their teachers to gather evidence for their results. Again - I couldn't be more complimentary of our boys, they put their heads down, knuckled down, and got on with the task at hand. The Summer Term is always an exciting, and action-packed term at QVS, this one, however, was touted to be fairly different, with the amount of evidence gathering to complete and, of course, the myriad of restrictions which were still in place due to the pandemic. I am thrilled to report, though, that the term, albeit a different one, was still over fairly quickly, from an academic perspective, and I think that our boys were just so thrilled to be back and enjoy one another's company, that they did indeed enjoy the term and made the most of a difficult situation.

We managed to host an extremely successful Cunningham House end-of-year party, which took the form of a scrumptious barbecue, and a variety of the ever-popular inflatables - photos attached. As with most end of year periods, we have to say goodbye to some members of the Cunningham family, to begin with, Cameron Mossison-Smith (Cunningham Headboy), Duncan Hughson, and Saphal Gurung, our S6 leavers, are departing and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours. As I have already

mentioned to them, they managed to get through an extremely difficult period in time, which quite literally wiped out their final years at the school, years which always promise to be memorable ones, if they got through this pandemic, relatively unscathed, then I can assure them that they will be just fine out there in the big bad world.

We then have the sad task of wishing two stalwarts of our Cunningham staff team a fond farewell; Alan Kirk (started at QVS in 1994), and Tom Shannon (started at QVS in 1985). It is hard to imagine a Cunningham House, or indeed a Queen Victoria School, without these two gentlemen. When I think of traditional school masters, I think of teachers such as Alan and Tom, these two exceptional members of staff are the definitive of what a school educator should be! Tom and Alan are both compassionate and passionate human beings, who have given everything that they have in their tanks, to ensuring that the students of the school, in the classroom, the boarding houses and the wider spheres of the school, have been afforded the opportunity to flourish to the best of their abilities. We salute these two remarkable human beings and I can comfortably state that you are real-life heroes, in the eyes of so many students that have passed through your care.

As I wrap this up, I would like to thank the Cunningham staff team, who continuously give their all to the greater cause, which is ensuring that we create a safe, home-away-from-home for our boys. Cunningham could not function without your invaluable input, I thank you on behalf of the boys, and Myself. As I mentioned earlier, although the achievements that our boys have achieved are not the usual ones, which come through attainment involving a ball, or the pen, we instead celebrate the achievement of getting through an incredibly difficult period in time, one that will be forever remembered as "COVID". Most importantly though, we did it together, and we did it with hope, love, and faith in each other.

Here's hoping for a bit of "normal", as we head into the 2021/2022 period, I wish you all a safe and warm Summer break, with your families, and look forward to welcoming you home in August. future and I know Cunningham is now under very capable and caring leadership. I'm not done yet, though: as Arnold Schwarzenegger would say: "I'll be back!" (as a tutor next session).

Nulli Secundus - Second to None

Mr Pitman, Housemaster



Haig House



Just when we thought that relative normality had returned with the boys settling back into the routines of the school, yet another lockdown appeared. This further disruption to our school year certainly proved that the Haig Clan motto “Tyde what may” had never been so appropriate. I am so proud of the boys of Haig House; they have weathered the storms of Covid as well as developed a strong sense of camaraderie.

Coming back in August to a new normal meant that the boys had to adapt to a variety of changes, limited year group socials, changes to mealtimes and routines and twice-weekly lateral flow testing all demanded a focus and resilience never before required. I am grateful to the boys for having coped with it all, they have risen to the challenges which have beset us.

During the second “Scottish” lockdown, many of the seniors threw themselves into the virtual boarding house life, meeting weekly for a catch-up, or taking part in the quiz activities and of course, the online murder mystery. Charlie Scott, Darran Young, Alex Skinner and Leon Gregory were fantastic contributors to the virtual house and special thanks must go to them for preparing the quiz nights which we enjoyed tremendously. However, as you can see from the pictures special thanks must go to Mrs Sherriff, Ms Taylor and Mr Davey whom the boys especially invited along to make up the numbers. They threw themselves into the event with great gusto, costumes and humour, especially when it was discovered that some “potential murderers” had not fully read their packs! Tears rolled down our faces as we meandered to a solution in a style far removed from that of Hercule Poirot!

Returning in the Summer term was such a happy event, the welcome balloon arch was but the start of a return to a stronger house community. Various reconnect events were held with each year group, most of them involved eating, although challenges were enjoyed and it was amazing to see boys throw themselves into events such as Trash Fashion, word association games and even, thanks to Mrs Rankin who designed the S1 evening, make the longest snake.

The last two academic years are years which we will not forget and which we hope never to have to relive. It was Benjamin Franklin who said, “Out of adversity comes opportunity”. Looking in the most positive way possible at 2020/2021, that sense of opportunity is the most beneficial of all.

I would like to thank the Haig tutor team for their amazing support this year when they have especially given up even more of their time and deployed their talents to make this year memorable for the boys. A special thank you to Mrs Rankin and Ms Taylor who have rallied around to help ensure that the appropriate nurture has been in place for the students. I would also like to extend a “Dunblane Hello” to Maxine who joined us as Matron in August and to Ali who joined as our Housekeeper in the Autumn. I am aware that they have not truly seen a normally smooth running QVS, yet despite it all, they have established themselves as people who have the best of the Haig boys at heart.

Lastly and most appropriately a word for our leavers. The famous six Lewis, Scott, Thomas, Callum, Will and Chris take their leave of us this year, along with Will Cook from S5. You have all contributed to the life of Haig in so many ways over the years, and I will certainly find Haig a greatly altered place without you. I will miss the chats and birthday cake celebrations, which we managed to get in at the end of term, as I know you missed the normal office chat at the end of a long day, in the days PC (pre-covid!). The last two years of your education have been impacted in ways no one had foreseen, yet you are the stronger for it. Please look in on us in days to come, we are always interested in hearing of our former Haig House family. Wherever you may find life takes you, be yourself, know peace, make a difference, and remember that in one part of Scotland, your alma mater remembers you.

Have a wonderful Summer.

Mr Boyd, Housemaster





Haig has been our second home for the past 6 years, and despite how quick it's all seemed to go by, every moment (well nearly) has been an absolute pleasure and the time spent here has made this place a place I'll never likely forget. I remember the first week in Haig being absolutely terrifying, with the huge seniors and the boom of Scott Higgins' name being shouted down the corridor outside my room. Thankfully pretty much all the staff help you get settled in really quickly, and soon enough you get comfortable with everything. What you gain from living in Haig is invaluable, and the greatest of all are the people you get to live with and grow around. So thank you to the boys, Will, Scott, Tom, Lewis, and Callum for all the years in Haig together (and Sam).

Thank you to Scott especially for being an extremely active deputy, this last year would undoubtedly have been way more stressful if not for you. I'd also like to give thanks to the house prefect team who have for the most part managed well in giving up evening sport one night a week.

I'd also like to give a humongous thanks to Mr Boyd and Ms Taylor for somehow managing to deal with us every year for the past 6 years, and for all that he does for Haig. This comes with thanks to all the house staff as well, and finally special thanks to Mr Mair, our tutor, and basically second dad who has seen and helped our small year mature and stay on the right path.

Best of luck to Samik - the next house captain, the rest of the new S6 Haig, and all the house and house staff for all the future in Haig House. Thank you.

Christopher Skinner, House Captain





Trenchard House



As another set of sixth-year pupils prepare to depart, we can look back at the year in Trenchard with fond memories, despite living through a second significant period of virtual learning during COVID lockdown two.

As we approach Grand Day 2021, emotions are running high as the realisation hits home that for some, they have reached the end of their journey here at QVS. Seeing Jazmyn Dougherty and Mollie Alexander grow in confidence and thrive in their final year in Trenchard has filled me with a great sense of pride. Both girls leave QVS to start new chapters in their lives studying different courses at Dundee and Angus College. On behalf of the staff and pupils of Trenchard, I'd like to say a massive thank you to each of you for all the energy and effort you both put into making Trenchard such a nice place to live and work. Best of luck in the future and keep in touch. You will always be welcome back.

Despite its obvious challenges, 2020/21 has been a satisfying year, and as it 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. As always, I have been fortunate to work with an enthusiastic and dedicated team of tutors who are committed and passionate about getting to know their children well.

Firstly, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Mr Bryce who is stepping down from his role as Deputy Housemaster in the new academic year. Mr Bryce has dedicated an enormous amount of time and effort to the smooth running of Trenchard for the bigger part of a decade now and has worked tirelessly to provide continuity and enhance the experience of life in the junior boarding house for all the children, either academically, emotionally, or from an extracurricular perspective. He has also been an awesome support to me since arriving in Trenchard Boarding House back in 2018 as someone unfamiliar with life in a boarding environment, and unskilled in the role of leading a team of tutors. Mr Bryce started as a tutor and worked his way up to the dizzy heights of

Housemaster for a short period of time in 2017. His knowledge and experience of life at QVS, specifically Trenchard Boarding House, has been of great value and support to less experienced staff. His presence in and around the boarding house will be sadly missed by all who still live and work here. Best wishes in whichever boarding house you may find yourself in the coming year Mr Bryce, and enjoy your newfound freedom at weekends without the pleasure of fire alarms and morning wake-up routines.

Saddened by Mr Bryce's departure but excited by the influx of new staff such as Mrs Hiddleston who joined Trenchard in the past year, and Mrs Thomson who arrived after lockdown #2 in April 2021, we look forward to the diversity and opportunities these new members of staff can bring to the junior boarding house. Both tutors have already stamped their mark on the house since taking up their roles. They bring a wealth of boarding experience, unique personal qualities, and strengths that I am in no doubt will benefit the children of Trenchard House immensely. Silent discos, baking, and fancy dress are some of the things we have already enjoyed since their arrival.

Despite the last year's challenges, Trenchard Boarding House has still managed to experience some memorable trips and events. Our silent disco and St. Andrews summer beach party are the two most memorable experiences. It was heartening to see so many Trenchard staff give up their free time to help make these two events happen.

Turning our attention to individual success now, I am so proud to announce Charlotte Douglas as this year's Junior Memorial Bowl winner in recognition of her contribution to boarding. Charlotte 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. Charlotte 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.





The P7 boys who arrived back in August 2020 head to Haig and Cunningham Boarding Houses hopefully with strong foundations laid for future success in QVS. The S1 girls have worked hard to bond as a year group and head up to Wavell, 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 that provides nurture with structure.

Trenchard is a vibrant, happy place that encourages our students 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.

Finally, all that is left for me to say is thank you, and good luck to everyone associated with Trenchard House in the year ahead.

Mr Mackay, Housemaster





Wavell House



The year 2020-2021 was another very unusual one for all of our pupils at Queen Victoria School and was significantly affected by the spread of Covid around the UK. Nevertheless, we were absolutely delighted to welcome back all of our girls to Wavell House at the start of the year and the house was also led very ably indeed by our senior team of prefects.

As Head of House, Olivia Oatley set a superb example, always positive and determined, with the help and support of her team to make the best of things, despite all of the Covid restrictions. Our Deputy Heads of House, Eleanor and Gabrielle Codd, Erin Sim and Mia Maskell were outstanding in their support of Olivia and our girls and Hollie Scott, as Senior Monitor, was simply amazing, combining superb diplomacy skills, with a fantastic sense of humour, great energy and an unfailingly positive outlook.

During the course of the year, as restrictions continued, we were not able to run our usual array of school trips but instead, we concentrated on making it as fun and full as possible within Wavell House itself. We were helped by many visits to Chocstop and by their special chocolate extravaganza evenings. Our tutors also made the most of the school resources available to try to make tutor events as fun as possible, with many movie nights, games nights and all of the girls lobbied for a return of House Bingo which proved to be very popular! Unfortunately, we were forced into another lockdown in January, as Scotland itself became hard hit with Covid.

On our return for the Summer Term, our girls were, as ever, positive and determined to make the most of the opportunities available despite having numerous assessments to complete as part of their public examination requirements. We finished the year with considerable aplomb, throwing absolutely everything at our Summer Party, which, due to the superb organisation of all of our S6 team, led by Olivia, was the best party we have ever had in Wavell. Not only did our girls organise a roller-beats disco, but we also had a whole array of inflatable items, ranging from an assault course, a bungee run, gladiator terminals and a rodeo bull rider, which proved challenging for both girls and staff! The theme

was 'A Night at the Movies' and the costumes our girls made or adapted were absolutely amazing! Popcorn and Candyfloss were supplied 'on tap' by Miss Christmas and Miss Hastie and our S6s also ran a photobooth for the staff and girls. It was certainly a night to remember!

In terms of our Wavell staffing in 2020-2021 we said goodbye to two of our Wavell Tutors, Mrs Thomson and Mrs Nicolson and we wish them well in their new houses. We were also delighted to welcome Mr Newham into Wavell House as a new tutor and member of our Pupil Support Department.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of our girls and all of our Wavell Staff this year, who have worked so hard to make this year truly one to remember. A particular thanks go to all of our amazing S6 team, and particularly to Olivia, Eleanor, Gabrielle, Erin, Mia and Hollie.

All in all a very different sort of year in Wavell but a very memorable one for all of our girls!

Miss Appleyard, Housemistress







Combined *Cadet Force*





Duke of Edinburgh *Award*





Ceremonial







Alan Kirk

It was a different era when I came into teaching in 1984. It was a time of leather patches on jacket elbows. I'd always sworn I'd never be a teacher, never in a month of Sundays. I'd given my teachers at Montrose Academy such a hard time that I couldn't understand why anyone in their right mind would want to put up with the likes of me. One day, when I was twenty-seven, during a morning coffee break, I was reading George Eliot's *Middlemarch* in Denniston Library in Glasgow when a line just resonated with me: "to influence young minds..." Well, I'd had an interesting set of experiences in my 27 years and felt that maybe I could do some good and so my oath never to become a teacher was overturned in an instant. I applied for entry to Jordanhill College and the rest was mostly plain sailing.

I used to be quite nervous and, as a result, was very strict - which did not go down well with pupils. It was a back injury that cured me of that or, rather, the potent painkillers a nice doctor had prescribed. They had the fortunate side-effect of making me smile and relax (ie: I was spaced out) in front of classes. I would perch on the edge of the desk while reading aloud or discussing topics and everything just settled down - the desk-perching approach to education: highly recommended.

In those days, my idea was that when I closed the classroom door and it was just me and the class, I could do pretty much whatever I wanted. I could take them to foreign countries, explore different cultures or travel backwards and forwards in time. It was a kind of magic, as someone once said. The great thing was you were more or less left alone, as long as you did a good job and got the kids through the exams. That suited me just fine. I've never much liked being told what to do. And here I was being paid to do what I've always loved - read stories. I've never been a fan of the bureaucracy, though - if I liked paperwork I'd have become an origami teacher. But I'd like to thank all the SLT members past and

present for allowing me to get on with the job without too much nagging, and not interfering - at least, not too much. I developed

a couple of catch-phrases that I've used often over the years. My favourite phrase at the end of lessons was "Off you go, folks." I have said that phrase 26,640 times. Curses...

I did drama in my first twenty years here and the QV Drama Group was pretty successful. We got involved in the local drama scene and entered national competitions. We were even invited to put on a play in Livingstone, where we met Richard Wilson out of *One Foot in the Grave*. We won a competition at Airdrie Town Hall and the group pinched the helium balloons decorating the stage. The minibus journey back to QV that night was one of the most hilariously weird ever as the kids in the back sucked on the balloons and carried on excited, high-pitched squeaky-voiced conversations, like electrified chipmunks.

There was Duke of Edinburgh, of course, with the indefatigable Mr Shannon. A few japes there, of course. A Silver assessment in Arran, where I had to point out to Tom that when it said in big white letters in the middle of the wee country roads "SLOW", that really wasn't meant as a criticism of his driving and so he didn't really have to accelerate like a madman when he saw that word. He once got all four-wheel of the minibus off the ground at once going over a bumpy road. The boys in the back hit the roof, literally.

I think I hold the record for having held the most promoted posts in the majority of the boarding houses. Deputy of Haig for a wee while, then Housemistress of Wavell, then Deputy of Cunningham, then for a wee while Housemaster of Cunningham. I once swore I would never do any promoted house job, never in a month of Sundays. But Housemistress of Wavell! Good grief! I have stopped making these swearing statements now. You never know what you can do when you gird your loins and rise to the challenge. Nothing like a good girding to bring out your potential. I'm actually sorry I never had a chance to be Housemaster of Trenchard... but the staff there continue in good health. Curses...

I'd like to thank colleagues past and present for making my job of PT relatively easy. Tom and Dave, the drouthy cronies, and latterly the Sergeant Major, whose kindness my wife, Inez, and I will always



remember. Jill's support and affection have been constant, which is just as well considering the number of jackets and shirts that have had to be cleaned on account of her apparent complete inability to simply hold a glass of wine in her hand without lobbing its contents over everybody. And when Jill took over as PT after my heart attack, I knew the Department would be in good hands: amongst other things, she had the great good sense to employ Ami. Now she and Andy, my successor, and Mr Pitman whom we are also lucky to have in the Department, can take the Department forward into the glittering Google future. New brooms are needed sometimes. Twenty-seven years ago, myself and Dave started here as the young go-aheads just before girls were admitted and technology was just newly being introduced into the classrooms. I've actually got a Diploma in Educational Technology, now that I think of it! But that meant something much different in the 1990s. Now we've got Mr Pitman and the Chromebook revolution that in a few short months has utterly transformed the way we do things. As the poet Tennyson once wrote, "The old order changeth, yielding place to new". Well, I wouldn't be an English teacher if I didn't squeeze in a quote or two.

One of my projects is to sign up for an acting agency, maybe get some work as an extra. They're always making films in Scotland these days featuring hairy old crusty guys, so I might stand a chance. So if you're watching *Outlander* one of these days and you see a white-haired old guy in a tweed suit or a bright Hawaiian shirt in the background... you'll know I'm still up for shenanigans.

Tom Shannon

Tom Shannon's contributions over the years to the full life of a busy boarding school have been far too many to count – whether that has been through the CCF, walking the hills, skiing, organizing adventures and his determination to inculcate a love of the outdoors in several generations of Victorians.

Whilst he will be missed by all of us at QVS, Tom certainly deserves his retirement. His hard work and commitment to the students of Queen Victoria School has been unstinting and his drive to encourage the young people of QVS to challenge themselves through the Duke of Edinburgh award and the CCF has left a lasting impact on students and colleagues alike.

Tom's years of commitment to the Techy department will also be sorely missed. They will miss him for his calm manner, his patience with people who don't master things easily at first and his sense of humour when things don't always go to plan.

The boys of Cunningham House will also have many fond memories of him as one of our longest serving tutors who was always glad to get a day out on the hills if he had the opportunity on a weekend duty. Tom has been a caring and approachable member of the boarding community who has made time for the many boys in his care and his genuine understanding of what a 'commitment to boarding' means is second to none.

So, while we are sad to see Tom go, we are confident that he will find the same success and happiness in retirement that he experienced during his time at QVS and we look forward to hearing about his further adventures on the high seas and all the sailing stories to follow now that he doesn't have to wait for the weekend to drop anchor.

We hope that Tom has a fun and adventurous retirement that he truly deserves, after so many years of putting the boarding community first, here at QVS.

Farewell Commander Shannon from all your friends, students and colleagues across the years.



Sally Johns

Hello everyone. As I am about to retire from my teaching career (Doug, my husband, would probably say I've been retired since 1985 when our oldest was born), I just wanted to say a few 'Thank you's'. Doug always tells me I am a person who likes to use far too much language; in other words, I talk too much! So, I'll try to keep this brief.

As I am about to retire from my teaching career (Doug, my husband, would probably say I've been retired since 1985 when our oldest was born), I just wanted to say a few 'Thank you's'. Doug always tells me I am a person who likes to use far too much language; in other words, I talk too much! So, I'll try to keep this brief.

I first came to QVS in August 1992 working as a supply teacher within the primary department covering for a certain Mr Beattie; little did I know to what extent our working lives would be intertwined in the coming years. Subsequently, there were several other periods of cover within the department and eventually, I was asked to work part-time teaching social subjects (yes, primary department, that's when we started covering the Scottish Wars of Independence).

In August 1996, I became a part-time Learning Support teacher, and I've been there ever since through various name changes, ie. Learning Support, Support for Learning and now Pupil Support. Reflecting, it has been amazing to note just how much the department's role has developed. There have, of course, been many changes since then, probably most notably the arrival of girls and of course GIRFEC! There have also been many changes of personnel (including 4 Headteachers, 5 DHTs, 4 DHT PS).

The main reason for this message is to say a big thank you to everyone I have worked closely with, and everyone who has helped me throughout my time at QVS: SLT, teaching staff, classroom assistants, medical staff, admin staff, ground staff, kitchen staff.... If I've missed anybody I apologise, it certainly is not intentional.

I can't think of another department that has had the same members of teaching staff for twenty-four years; quite a feat I think! I particularly want to thank Graeme who has been the most fantastic PT; he has shown great leadership and has always been extremely knowledgeable, supportive, understanding and helpful. There have been good times and more difficult times, and through it all Graeme has put up with me; the man deserves a medal for that alone! Pupil Support has changed a lot, and continues to do so. It really is a great department to work in, welcoming with great camaraderie, and the addition of our classroom assistants has greatly enhanced our service. Graeme, 'Thank you', really doesn't cover it, but it's the best I've got and it's really heartfelt!!

Bill Watterson award-winning American cartoonist (Calvin and Hobbes) said, 'There is not enough time to do all the nothing we want to do'. Well, I fully intend to give it a go!

I really am going to miss many aspects of my work, however, I can now head off to Dobbies (ask Mr Mackay about that one) although I do hope to visit from time to time to hear how you are all doing and to cadge a coffee. I wish the school and all of you the very best. I will always be interested to hear how QVS is getting on. I'm sure the next few months are not going to be easy but I hope the school will continue to flourish.

I leave you with a few words often used by my own dad (mostly after a few sherbets), which were, 'Aw ra best, aw ra time!'

Good luck for the future, Sally.



Graeme Beattie

Graeme Beattie has dedicated his entire career to boarding life at QVS and has engaged with so many aspects of our community that it is difficult to enumerate them all here. He was a promoted member of the Haig House Team for many years and worked closely with Mr Laing supporting the many boys that passed through Haig's doors. Graeme also contributed across the years to the extracurricular life of QVS through his love of skiing and Judo and his patience and kindness whilst running the Pupil Support Department had a hugely positive impact on several generations of Victorians.

While Graeme will certainly be missed by all of us here at QVS, we are sure that there can be few people who deserve their retirement more. His hard work and commitment to the students of Queen Victoria School has been second to none, and his passion for supporting the young people of QVS both pastorally and academically has left a lasting impact on our boarding community.

Graeme's years of commitment to boarding will be sorely missed. The students remaining will miss his unruffled way of dealing with things, his caring nature and his ability to throw himself into all aspects of school life – from rugby tours in Australia to ski trips on the Continent and from school discos to his key role on Sports Day, Graeme has certainly experienced all the variety that life at QVS has to offer.

The boys of Haig will also have many fond memories of Graeme as one of our longest serving tutors. He has been a caring and approachable member of the boarding community who has made time for the many boys in his care and his genuine understanding of what a commitment to boarding means has made a significant difference to many Victorians, through the support and advice Graeme have offered them, both in the Pupil Support Department and as a House Tutor.

Whilst we are all sad to lose him as a colleague, we are confident that Graeme will find the same success and happiness in retirement that he experienced during his time at QVS and we hope that he gets time to enjoy his passion for music and political affairs now that he finally gets the time to rekindle these hobbies.

We wish Mr Beattie all the very best in his future endeavors. Retirement will surely offer him many new opportunities, which I know he will embrace wholeheartedly, just as he did at Queen Victoria School. We hope that Graeme has a wonderful retirement that he truly deserves. We look forward to seeing that infamous long-promised photo of Graeme and Mrs Johns enjoying an afternoon tea together at Dobbies and embarking upon many years of happy retirement after so many years of putting Queen Victoria School first.



QVS *Interact*





DIB Planters

In 2019, two volunteer members of the DIB group drew up an idea for new planters to replace the existing green ones around Dunblane. The plan was to create the new ones from boards made from 100% recycled British plastic waste to ensure the longevity of the planters. The two volunteers ordered a small amount of the composite board, enough for two planters, and created the first two that are now in situ at Dunblane train station.

In 2020, my husband Dave, joined the DIB group as a volunteer. Through discussions with the group, he learnt about the plans to replace the planters. As he too is a Technology teacher, he knew he had the skills to transfer the manual drawings for the prototypes into CAD. Dave and another volunteer worked together to calculate materials needed and also created the planters as cost effectively as possible. They created a bid for the materials needed and were successful in gaining a sum of money from the Co-Op. It became apparent that storage of the materials was going to be an issue for the group, as was the manufacture of the planters on such a large scale. In total, the plan was to replace 28 planters across Dunblane.

I suggested that it may be a great opportunity for DIB and QVS pupils to get involved together in this venture. I sought approval for this from Mr Shaw, the Headteacher at QVS and things moved forward from there. The material was scheduled to be delivered in

January 2021 and work would start, with the pupils constructing the planters towards the end of January. This timing would be perfect as it would fit with DIBs planting plans for the year.

Unfortunately, we were faced with a second lockdown, and the pupils at QVS did not return until April. As a result, in February, my husband Dave and I started work. As well as preparing the material for the pupils returning, we made four small planters prior to the Easter break to ensure that I knew exactly how they fitted together and could iron out any teething issues that may occur in the manufacturing stage.

The pupils returned after the Easter break and I was quickly inundated with names of those who were keen and willing to help with this venture. Pupils have since worked hard making the planters, ably assisted by Mr Breingan, and almost as quickly as they have been made, the DIB volunteers have been planting them up in town. This has been fantastic, as the pupils have very quickly been able to see the planters in situ and have become immediately aware of the impact their work is having within the local community.

With only a few weeks to go until the end of a very different summer term. The pupils have worked so hard, that at the time of writing, there are only two planters left to make.

This has been a great project to be involved in, particularly as the planters will be visible in Dunblane for many years to come.





MAD Group

President Ella and her team are proud to be able to reflect upon a busy, positive and exciting year filled with Volunteering adventures old and new. They started the year determined to let nothing get in the way of their determination to 'Make A Difference' and I'm sure you will agree that they most certainly lived up to their aspirations.

They started the year off with an innovative approach to welcoming our P7 Rookies to QVS. All families received a welcome pack with supportive suggestions for this new journey into boarding, some tissues and a Tunnocks wafer to comfort the mums and dads after that last kiss goodbye on Trenchard doorstep.

Across the Autumn term, they were a dynamic presence - whether volunteering at Student Socials, organising events and awareness campaigns and getting the MAD group back up and running after the lockdown.

The Intergenerational work with Breda from Dementia Friendly Dunblane continued and we were delighted to be involved in delivering 100 Christmas Hampers to the elderly and vulnerable within the local community, as well as filling over 100 Shoeboxes for children in Eastern Europe with our friends from Rotary Dunblane.

Even though they were so disappointed not to be able to welcome our guests here for the traditional QVS Winter Treat for the elderly, they 'thought outside the box' and with help from Mrs Sherriff and Mrs Pitman were able to produce and distribute their own virtual version, much to the delight of the recipients whose handwritten letters of thanks were so touching.

Another highlight of the Winter Term was the Staff Christmas Thank you which was such a delight to organise and deliver. It was such a positive feeling to 'make a difference' within our school community

and it was fantastic to see the surprise and happiness on staff faces when they got their MAD Group Christmas Care Package delivered by our Christmas Elves.

Delivering and making the QVS planters in partnership with Dunblane in Bloom was a very different challenge for the MAD Group this year and gave us a real 'hands on' challenge that we really enjoyed. Along with litter picking, weeding and planting in the local community we are excited by this new direction for MAD and look forward to even more opportunities in 2022.

This year we had an amazing committee who worked so well together that it made every single event a pleasure. Ella, Erin, Kristin, Mia, Scott, Gaby, Kristen, Lewis and Pkay have all been involved with Interact from their younger days and have put 100% into the Club across the years. All Rotarians that they have worked with have been impressed by their passion, commitment and genuine wish to make a difference.

Across the second lockdown, their energy never flagged - from their wonderful Masked Singer to the wacky version of Among Us - and kept Mrs Sherriff and Mrs Adams on their toes across the year with a wonderful mixture of creativity, teamwork and commitment.

We would like to end by congratulating the winners of the highest accolades for Volunteering at QVS. Ella Codd received the Iain Smith Memorial Award for Community Volunteering and Erin Sim was the recipient of the Catherine Rodger Award for Inspirational Volunteer of the Year 2021. These two very worthy winners have been wonderful role models to the younger students and truly demonstrated all the school values by living them, across their time at school.

We wish all our MAD Group leavers the very best in their future endeavours and look forward to hearing about their volunteering and fundraising beyond QVS. We have every faith that it will be equally impressive in their future destinations and look forward to hearing all about it once they are OVs.



Grand Day *Prize-Giving*





Prize List – Third Year

1	Biology	Alfie Walker	13	Mathematics	Ceara Gowans
2	Business Management	Deeyana Gurung	14	Modern Studies	Kasey Dickinson
3	Chemistry	Ceara Gowans	15	Music	Connor McQuat
4	Computer Science	Ceara Gowans	16	Photography	Harriet Golder
5	Design & Manufacture	Holly Hunter	17	Physical Education	Jayden Gregory
6	English	Adyn Camlin	18	Physics	Suyen Thebe Limbu
7	Fowler Art Prize	Suyen Thebe Limbu	19	PDD – Dancing	Saskia Russell
8	French	Eva Rennie	20	PDD - Piping	Millie Keightley
9	Geography	Suyen Thebe Limbu	21	Practical Woodworking	Thomas Costello
10	Graphic Communication	Vatiliai Nakau	22	Spanish	Adyn Camlin
11	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Rebecca Holliday	23	Sports Leader	Rebecca Holliday
12	History	Ceara Gowans			

Prize List – S4, S5 & S6

		S4	S5/6
1	Art	Madison Bailes	Pratistha Khawas
2	Applications Of Mathematics	Leon Gregory	
3	Biology	Lexine McCappin	Subhaashish Gurung
4	Business Management	Rays Gurung	Eleanor Codd
5	Chemistry	Lexine McCappin	Aidan Horsburgh
6	Computer Science	Lexine McCappin	Gabrielle Glass
7	Cyber Security		Scott Higgins
8	Design & Manufacture	Alexander Skinner	Pratistha Khawas
9	English	Lexine McCappin	Nanda Seru
10	Enterprise & Employability		Megan Clarke
11	Eric Drew Memorial Prize – French	Anju Gaha	Rio Gregory
12	Geography	Euan Lee	Eleanor Codd
13	Graphic Communication		Christopher Skinner
14	Guildry Of Stirling Lead Drummer Award		Pratistha Khawas
15	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Catherine Meikle & Robert Cordiner	Simoon Pun
16	History	Euan Lee	Grace Hutchinson
17	Laboratory Science	Katie Wilson	
18	Mathematics	Lexine McCappin	Gabrielle Glass
19	Media		Keira Cole
20	Modern Studies	Isla Dalrymple	Lucie McDermott-Evans
21	Music	Ellie Robinson	Grace Hutchinson
22	Photography		Kirstin Sibeth
23	Physical Education	Catherine Meikle	Olivia Oatley
24	Physics	Robert Cordiner	Gabrielle Glass
25	Practical Woodworking	Alexander Skinner	Jazmyn Dougherty
26	Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies	Megan Diciacca	Gabrielle Codd
27	Spanish	Katie Wilson	Hollie Scott
28	Sport & Recreation	Theophil Natiri	
29	Williamson Salver For Girls		Erin Sim
30	HMC Centenary Quaich		Lewis Gibson
31	Commander Home Command Medal		Eleanor Codd
32	Dux Medal		Pratistha Khawas

Grand Day Trophies & Awards

1	Cameronian Shield For Piping (For The Best Piper)	Christopher Skinner
2	Senior Drum Majors Shield (For The Senior Drum Major)	Scott Higgins
3	Highland Dancing (Highland Dancing Society Of London Cup)	Kristin Sibeth
4	Combined Cadet Force (For The Best CCF Recruit)	Erin Sim
5	Sir Charles Grant Memorial Trophy (For Outdoor Pursuits)	Aidan Horsburgh
6	Victor Ludorum Trophy (For Best Sports Person)	Thomas Main
7	The Senior Boys House Award	Cameron Morrison-Smith
8	The Junior House Award	Charlotte Douglas
9	Annual Challenge Cup (For Outstanding Contribution To Wavell)	Olivia Oatley
10	The Dr Lindsay Memorial Salver (For Leadership 'On' And 'Off' The Games Field)	Cameron Morrison-Smith
11	The Prince Philip Medal (For Outstanding Contribution, Participation And Achievement During Their Time At Queen Victoria School)	Hollie Scott

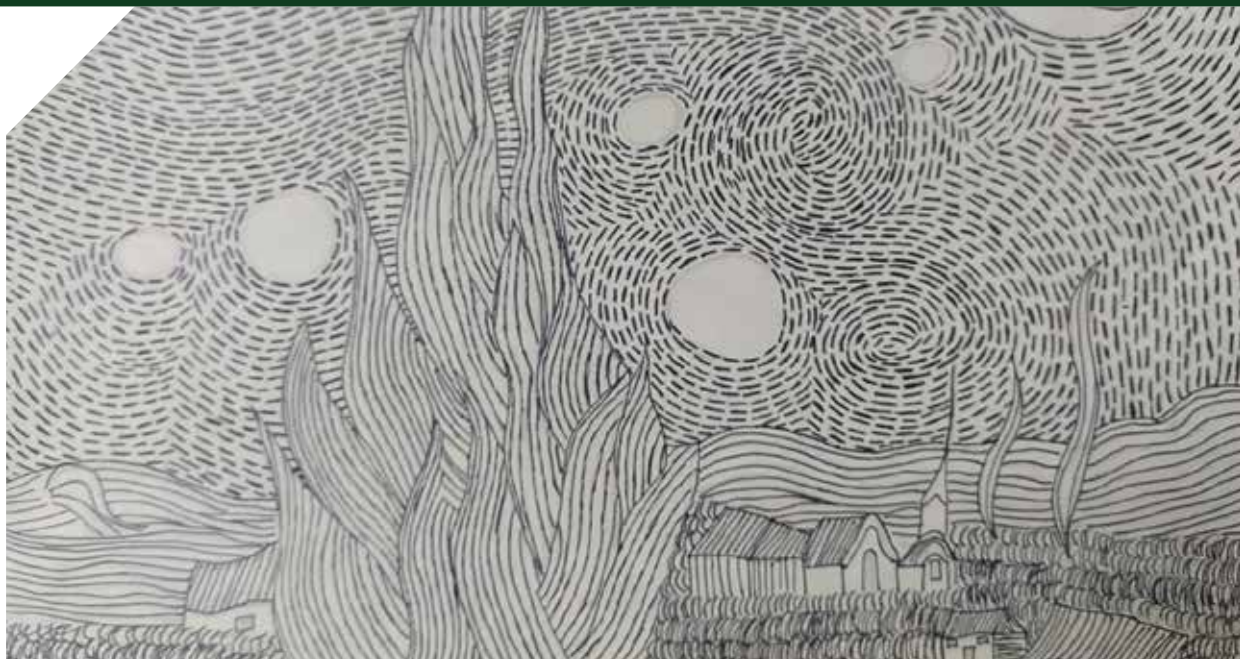


Prize List P7

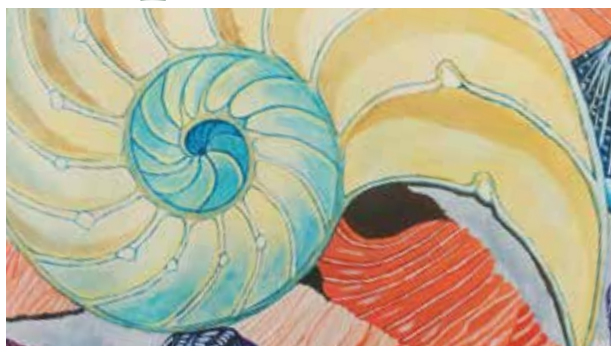
1	Attainment	P7	William Stephen
2	Progress	P7	Sophie Waugh
3	Fowler Art Prize	P7	Scarlett Bailes
4	Music	P7	Emily McIlwraith
5	Paul McShannon Quaich	P7	Abbie McConnell

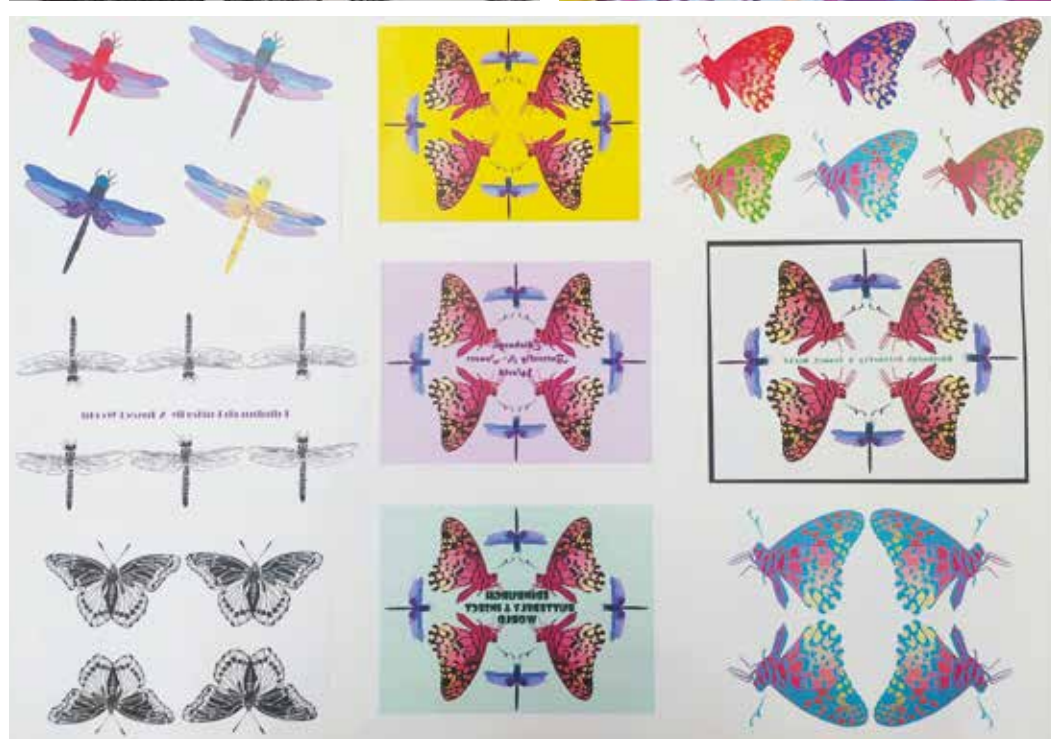
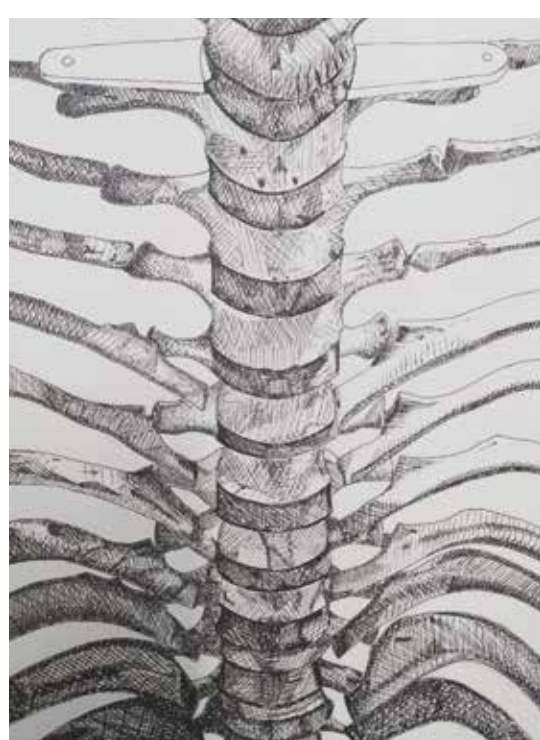
Prize List S1 & S2

	S1		S2	
	Attainment	Progress	Attainment	Progress
1	Business Rhett Jackson	Lewis Ferguson	Casper Jackson	Tobias Campbell
2	Computer Studies Oakley Clark	Luke Ord	Tina Thapa	Tobias Campbell
3	English Oliver Camlin	Brodie McNally	Alexandra Wilson	Alexander Duffy
4	Fowler Art Taylor Morrison-Smith	Brodie McNally	Caela Welsh	Lilly Leweni
5	French Abbey Scott	Connor Bullock	Tina Thapa	Patricia Bogidrau
6	Geography		Tina Thapa	Katie Diciacca
7	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize		James Douglas	
8	History		Alexandra Wilson	Archie McCulloch
9	Mathematics Duncan Stephen	Zara Long	Tina Thapa	Cilla Gaha
10	Modern Studies		Keziah McCappin	Oliver Hobern
11	Music Ashley Stevenson	Rhett Jackson	Maeghan Clark	Alexandra Wilson
12	Physical Education Female – Isabelle Collie	Male – Leo Rees	Female – Lilly Leweni	Male – James Douglas
13	Religious, Moral & Philosophical Studies Abbey Scott	Logan McFadden	Caela Welsh	James Douglas
14	Science Rhett Jackson	Chloe Jeffries	Tina Thapa	Charlie Meikle
15	Social Subjects Duncan Stephen	Brodie McNally		
16	Technical Studies Rhett Jackson	Brodie McNally	Tina Thapa	James Douglas



Art Department





English Department

Behind Your Eyes

Darkness. This is what I expected to see when I opened my eyes. To be surrounded by complete darkness. Instead, before me was the silhouette of a tall man with a slender frame. As far as the eye could see we were stranded in the middle of a vast, and mysterious ocean. The water seemed to glow a faint shade of green, which appeared to be the only source of light as the sky above was hidden behind a heavy layer of dark, gloomy clouds. It was like nothing I had ever seen before in my entire life. Almost mystical.

I soon realised we weren't stranded. We were sailing. I desperately tried to recall how I got here or where we were going but it was useless. The man stepped back down away from the ship's helm and approached me. "Hey, you're finally awake."

I had so many questions racing through my mind to ask him but I hesitantly decided to cross that bridge when I got to it and instead hear him out.

"I'm a ferryman from these parts. It is my solemn duty to guide people through their journey to see the gatekeeper." He spoke in a rather rough, yet soothing voice, it was very captivating and I quickly became entranced by his words. "She has decided that your turn to be judged is now before us. She values honesty over all else, so I can promise you as long as you are one hundred percent truthful you will be just fine."

One question stood out in my mind apart from the others more than ever now. How could I possibly be truthful if I can't remember why I'm here? I searched the very corners of my mind for some answers of my past but found nothing. No memories left, my mind was empty. The ferryman, as if hearing my exact thoughts, attempted to ease my mind.

"Don't worry if you can't remember. It will come back to you. Just close your eyes."

This only raised more questions but I had no reason to doubt him. He seemed like a genuinely nice guy, albeit slightly strange. But I trusted him. And so with nothing to lose, or at least nothing that I knew of, I took a deep breath and let my eyelids shut over embracing the darkness once more.

The world seemed to collapse around me and I felt my soul somehow being transported from my body far away from this place. Grass brushed against the side of my body. I felt small, like I was five years old again. Cautiously, I opened my eyes again, nervous of what I might be faced with. I was at a park with my parents. They seemed happy. I tried to move my body but try as I might, nothing happened. Someone else was in control of me like they were pulling the strings of a puppet. Only this time I was the puppet. My body stood up and started twirling in the sunlight. "Look honey, she's going to be a dancer" exclaimed my Dad, "just like her mum." Suddenly it dawned on me the reality of the situation. This was the past, my past - I was trapped behind my eyes. Watching my own life play out before me. I let my eyes rest and was transported once again.

Before me was an older lady wearing an elaborate tracksuit, with all sorts of glittery embellishments and rhinestones. I was looking up to her, she stood tall above me with lots of grace and poise. We were in a fairly sizable studio with mirrored walls. This must be my dance teacher. She expected nothing short of perfection from all her students. Nothing was ever good enough for her. I was surprised at all the memories that were returning to me now and I almost understood what the ferryman had meant before.

"Pirouette... and again... and again..." I twirled. And I kept twirling over and over again and suddenly I couldn't take it anymore. I shut my eyes tight and prayed I would be taken anywhere else but here.

I found myself lying in my childhood bedroom, something I hadn't seen in quite some time. It was totally dark other than the faint glow of the hall light creeping through the gap between the door frame.



"I can't do this anymore." Was that my mum? It sounded like she was crying. "I just... I just feel like I'm failing as a parent, you know. How could she not make the team? It's been her dream to dance ever since she was small. She was so upset. Should I have pushed her more, or did I push her too much?" I stopped listening after that, I couldn't bear it any longer. It wasn't her fault. How could she think it was her fault? Blink. Blink. Blink.

I was taken into another dark room. The landline was ringing, nobody used the house phone anymore. I figured it must've been important. Blink. As I reached for the phone I was transported. A beautiful cat was lying down on the cool stone path outside my window. It looked like it was a stray. I figured I could rescue her and decided her name would be Libby. Blink. I was sitting in the audience of my school summer show. They were performing the Scottish play, I think it's called Macbeth. Blink.

A whirlwind of memories flew past me uncontrollably: that time I got a bad filling at the dentist, even when I realised I loved my best friend. Every time I closed my eyes, even for a second I unlocked a new memory from deep inside my brain. Things I didn't even know I had forgotten. Maybe life was all just a series of mundane events and lessons, so uninteresting and seemingly unimportant at the time that form something so much bigger than you could ever imagine. I liked that thought.

When I opened my eyes again the ferryman met my gaze. It felt like years had passed since we last crossed paths, however in reality I'd been here on this ship the entire time. Even though I had learned a lot about myself in the past hour, I still felt like there were pieces missing somehow.

"We are nearing the gatekeeper, child. Are you ready?" That was the question I asked myself over and over again. Was I ready? It certainly didn't feel like it. I didn't respond because I wasn't sure if I had the answer. Deep breath. Close my eyes.

I was lying in bed and so glad to be back. Except there were no killer posters or fairy lights or clothes balled up on the floor.

Nothing like what you would expect to see from a teenager's bedroom. This wasn't my bedroom. I couldn't quite place it. I was lying in a white cave - with a small notice board and a cluttered desk overrun with school work. Bright white lights in the ceiling overhead were blinding me. I was completely alone here - isolated. What time was it anyway? Shouldn't I have been in class now? I felt myself grow fainter and fainter. I was fighting to stay awake, to stay in the moment. Until eventually I stopped fighting.

Tears began streaming down my face as I looked ahead at the ferryman and pondered over my next words. "I was seventeen. When I emm... when I died. In the hospital that's... that's where I was right," I stuttered. It was over just like that. I studied his face carefully, looking for his expression but it was blank. "Did you live a happy life?" he asked matter-of-factly.

"Yes." I thought about it for a moment but there was no better way to phrase it. "Yes, of course. I had loving parents and an amazing childhood." The ferryman smiled back at me.

"Then you are ready. It's time."

Gabrielle Glass, S5



English Department

Should the United Kingdom Keep Trident?

T Trident is the United Kingdom's nuclear weapons system, designed to act as a deterrent against any potential aggressor and to keep the citizens of the United Kingdom safe in the event of a nuclear weapons' threat. Operation "Relentless", the UK's longest single military operation, is to ensure that one of Britain's Vanguard-class submarines is at sea at any time; this is referred to as Continuous at Sea Deterrent (CASD). Trident is the weapon system fitted to all four Vanguard-class submarines. At present these are Trident II D-5 ballistic missiles, capable of delivering intercontinental thermonuclear warheads from multiple independent targeting re-entry vehicles (MIRVs). The four Vanguard-class submarines are HMS Vanguard, HMS Victorious, HMS Vigilant and HMS Vengeance. All four submarines are based at the Clyde Naval Base Faslane on the west coast of Scotland just outside Glasgow. Trident is the successor to Polaris and has been in service in the Royal Navy since the 1990s at a cost of approximately £9.8 billion. However, are they really just a waste of money as many people argue, and do they actually keep us safe?

Do nuclear weapons keep us safe? Trident is a deterrent which means to deter would-be aggressors from launching nuclear weapons at Britain. If we were to get rid of Trident this would make Britain extremely vulnerable to possible nuclear attack. The whole principle behind Trident is to protect Britain by keeping up a continuous at-sea deterrent. This means at least one of Britain's four Vanguard class submarines, HMS Vanguard, HMS Victorious, HMS Vigilant or HMS Vengeance is out at sea on patrol anywhere in the world's biggest oceans. The primary role is to remain undetected for their whole patrol and to be in constant communications with Downing Street, as the authority to launch a nuclear missile lies ultimately in the

hands of the Prime Minister. Only a few people know the actual location of the submarine, the captain, the prime minister and a few other high ranking individuals. The submarine is only allowed to contact the United Kingdom in extreme emergencies, but the British government stays in contact with the submarine 24/7. The main reason for this is to give authentic firing signals. Whilst the submarine is at sea the other three submarines are either in the base, on training, coming back from their patrol, starting a patrol or getting repaired. This system that the military has used for decades has done its job of keeping us safe so there is no reason for the UK to get rid of it.

However some people argue that the Trident programme is a waste of money. Trident costs over £40 billion; for comparison the furlough scheme cost the government £73 billion, almost double what Trident costs which is a colossal amount of money, even for the government. The £40 billion pays for the submarines, maintenance including the complete refit of all mechanical and electrical systems, the Trident II D-5 ballistic missiles, the maintenance and the safe storage of all non-deployed missiles. However, the technology the Trident missiles are using is starting to get old and outdated; the British government thinks that we need to update the whole missile programme which in my opinion is necessary as, if we have outdated nuclear weapon systems, it is more likely to go wrong. The Scottish government says that updating Trident is an enormous waste of money. Likewise, they do not want submarines to be based up in Scotland as they think that they should be kept down in England. The SNP also say we do not need a nuclear weapons system as the United States of America would protect us. Furthermore, they think other countries would follow us and no one would use nuclear weapons. However, this is not true. As long as these weapons exist countries will have them and they could potentially use them. It would be foolish to leave ourselves vulnerable to attack just to save some money.



Although we need to have a nuclear deterrent, do we actually need new submarines or are the ones we have good enough? How much longer will they be able to run for? In theory they would be able to run forever as long as we keep up with maintenance, but the technology will get outdated and we will be left behind whilst every other country progresses. The first Vanguard-class submarines have been in use since 14th of August 1993 and the rest followed shortly thereafter. This means that the submarines have been in service for almost 30 years. All four of the submarines are starting to age quite badly and soon they will start to malfunction meaning costly repairs. Because of this, the government voted to build four new submarines, the Dreadnought class. These submarines will be 12ft longer than the Vanguard-class submarines and a lot better all-around as they will have 21st-century technology. The four new submarines are called HMS Dreadnought, HMS Valiant, HMS Warspite and HMS King George VI. Dreadnought and Valiant are now both under construction and all four will be finished by the 2030s. The new submarines will cost the United Kingdom 31 billion pounds over its lifetime and 7.5 billion for each submarine but if we buy these submarines it will carry on CASD and will protect Britain for another 3-4 decades as long as we use it properly.

As well as protection, Trident also provides real careers for the people of Britain. Trident in itself creates well over 30,000 jobs across the United Kingdom. Some of the obvious jobs are submariners, engineers, cooks, builders, architects and designers but it also gives jobs to members of parliament and even janitors. There were even more jobs when they were creating Trident and a huge number of new jobs will appear when we upgrade Trident and create something entirely new to protect the United Kingdom. The new jobs will be mostly technology-based so technicians and programmers will be where most of the jobs are created. But they will also have to bring in electricians, carpenters and even nuclear scientists to build the nuclear reactor and configure the nuclear warheads for the new missiles.

There are clear advantages of Trident but does it actually have the power to end the world as we know it as some people claim? On its own, the Trident missiles could not end the world. In the past, the United Kingdom's prime ministers and parliament have said: "The point of a deterrent is to deter possible hostile countries". I think this suggests that the purpose of these submarines is precisely to stop total nuclear annihilation. There is a letter in the submarine called the letter of last resort. The letter is inside a safe that is stored on the submarine. There are four identical handwritten letters, one on each of the Vanguard class submarines. The options on the letters are to retaliate with nuclear weapons, do not retaliate, use your judgment or place the submarine under allied control if possible. If used, Trident would undoubtedly cause great damage, however as its primary purpose is to prevent nuclear attack, this should hopefully never happen and it should carry on deterring would-be attackers of Britain.

In conclusion, I think that we should keep Trident as it gives the United Kingdom almost guaranteed protection, and so far in its long time serving it has done its main purpose of deterring would-be attackers from launching a nuclear strike on Britain. I agree with the House of Commons decision to update Trident as I think we do need to do it as the weapons are getting quite old and it may shortly mean the missiles do become faulty, or they may not launch if we need them. Replacing the system would mean that we still have almost guaranteed protection over Britain. Upgrading it would make the submarines more powerful and be able to go even quicker so they could respond to emergencies faster. I do also believe that Trident is necessary in today's world as we have seen before with different countries that they can turn on each other at any time.

Joseph Long, S5,
Higher English Discursive Essay



English Department

Elevator

Whoever the genius was, that thought containing people in a confining metal box for transport, I hate them and they should take full responsibility for the reason I am stuck 100ft from the ground. As I was growing up, people would describe my fear of the boxes of doom as irrational and silly, to be honest, I thought so too. But the simplicity of merely pressing a button and being taken somewhere else gave me enough comfort to walk into the elevator this morning. I had planned to visit the swimming pool located on the 11th floor. At the time my only concern was if the lift had voice recognition.

The lift was lined with mirrors. This was really quite upsetting as I could see myself reflected off of them, still wearing my swimming goggles and swimming cap. It brought me great sadness to think that in a few hours I would be rescued by people dressed as a multi-coloured lump. Immediately once the lift stopped, I called for help with an emergency phone located inside the lift. The woman answering said I would be imprisoned inside this death trap for at least 2 more hours. Had I known that this tragic occurrence would happen to me, I would have worn a more fitting attire. Although I do like my spotty swimming costume very much, I can agree it is not the most formal.

My intention for this trip was to relax and improve my swimming skills. My newly found love for the sport began when my brother pushed me into a pond, a few months ago. He claimed to have fallen over, but I knew it was because he was jealous that I'm the favourite child. My face was submerged under the pond water for around 5 seconds, but those 5 seconds were enough to change my life. Since that calamitous but eye-opening event, I have made it a goal to be able to swim by the end of the year. I've mastered the art of flailing around in the water and trying not to drown, but I've not got much else going for me. The venture from my room to the huge swimming pool was an opportunity to make it across

the width of the pool. It would have been a significant event in my life and help me gain my worthy title of being not a complete failure. I haven't been to the pool yet this holiday, but I knew it was going to be breathtakingly fabulous.

When looking for a hotel to stay in for the summer, this one stood out to me. Words could not describe the tantalizing beauty of the place. The building towered over me when I first arrived, it looked exceptional, especially compared to the surrounding properties. However, I definitely thought the inside was superior. Resplendent features caught my eye as I glanced around my palatial room in which I would be staying for the next 2 weeks. The elevator was somewhat different though. It lacked the sense of wealth the rest of the hotel possessed.

Although it feels as if I have been stuck here for hours, logically thinking it can't be more than around 30 minutes. Within that time I have come up with a plan. I've always wanted to be in the news, and a death-defying escape mission is a heroic and valorous way to do so. The only issue I now face, is the sorrow-filled truth, that I'm in a metal box with no tools and absolutely no common sense.

Now, I do enjoy an action film every now and then so I am thinking about what would be the best course of action. After a moment of mental debate, I have decided that a quick nap won't do any harm. Once I put myself on the floor I looked at the ceiling. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw a vent. Flashbacks of me sitting on the sofa watching tv sprang into my mind. Me eating a lot of popcorn watching one of the best movie escapes I've ever seen. The main character climbing through a vent. Starstruck and dumbfounded at the fact I could be such a genius. I heaved myself off the floor, standing there for a few seconds, catching my breath.

Just like all action films I have reached a catastrophic problem in my journey to success. I am short and the vent is on the ceiling. Using the talent of climbing I acquired years ago after my mum hid chocolate above the counter, I scale the 8-foot wall, assisted

by only a metal pole halfway up, with ease. Finally, after 40 minutes of despair and hopelessness, I could see the light at the end of the tunnel. Flinging the cover of the vent on the floor, I began squeezing my body through the exit. Once both my head and my shoulders were squashed through in the path to my freedom another complication blocks the hopes of my liberty. I'm too large to fit through the gap. Honestly, I should have known, I've never seen an action hero with the body of a walrus.

Sometimes I believe that the luck of the world is against me. Do people typically get stuck in a vent while being stuck in a lift? I don't really think so. I'm a very unlucky person and so is the person that will find me here, dangling from the ceiling.

Lexine McCappin, S4,
Final Folio



Modern Languages Department

As we all know, 2020/21 has been a crazy time of Covid-19, Lockdowns, lateral flow testing, social distancing and mask-wearing. Despite all of this, pupils have worked hard, developed their language skills, and in true QV-style, they've kept plugging away, and for the most part, kept smiling!

Lockdown was challenging for everyone, but there were some fun, or at least memorable, moments! Gaby and Rio from Higher French had fun with their pairwork by donning tiaras for their Google Meets, and classes from all year groups enjoyed a competitive game using the online quiz app, Kahoot. The Junior French classes were sent on a 'Scavenger Hunt' around their houses to find various items of clothing, and Harriet, Mica and Eva in S3 put on a last-minute fashion show and put into practice the vocabulary they had learned by describing their outfits. Model Eiffel Towers were constructed from a (very random!) variety of objects that pupils found around their homes, and on many occasions, my classes were entertained by my twin toddlers causing all sorts of chaos in the background of their lessons (WFH life has improved my knowledge of how to remove felt tip pen from a variety of surfaces and materials!).

Chromebooks really helped us to stay connected and to keep learners motivated during the second lockdown, and the Modern Languages department is very excited by the opportunities they have opened up for our learners; we have subscriptions to some great sites and hopefully, pupils will continue to enjoy the variety of online resources which help us to jazz up verb and vocabulary learning.

Back on school grounds, we learned about the French Revolution, and Alexia McIlwraith handed in the first glitter-covered piece of prep I've ever been given in twelve years of teaching! S1 and S2 pupils were asked to suggest topics they'd like to cover in French, which led to some strange lesson themes, such as 'Baked Beans'. Primary 7's Jack Griffin and Callie Paterson were the winners of the Modern Languages Mask-designing competition, so their teachers have been sporting their designs on facemasks! We

had a festive Modern Languages Soirée before the Christmas holidays, with a festive Kahoot and a subtitled movie.

Mrs Cruickshanks joined us in the department on Mondays and Tuesdays this year, as I worked part-time for the year after my maternity leave. She has been a brilliant teacher to our pupils, who will miss her sense of humour and her understanding. The S4s would like to pass on their thanks to her for keeping lessons interesting during the lockdown. I have really enjoyed the short time that we have 'doubled up' and worked together, and along with Mrs Taylor-Meinz, I look forward to working with her on our Languages Day 2021 project! Thanks for everything, Mrs Cruickshanks!

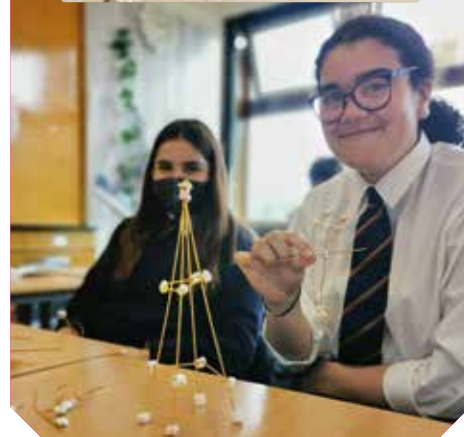
A big congratulations to Mrs Taylor-Meinz who got married at the end of 2020, bringing some happy news to the department during Covid life, and celebrated a milestone birthday! We missed her during her time off, and we're very happy to have her back in school, and we are cooking up some fun plans for Modern Languages in 2021/22!

Mrs Bairner, Principal Teacher of Modern Languages

Paragraph by Rio Gregory, S5, winner of the Eric Drew Memorial Prize for French.

'During the last year, I have been taking Higher French. In itself this was an achievement as I only just scraped past Nat 5, so to feel comfortable enough to be taking higher was great! The class was small and so I was able to ask lots of questions and get a lot of help and I improved my french quite quickly. I was determined to get a good grade at the end of the year so I put so much work into the subject, by asking Mrs Bairner for extra work and completing tasks on thisislanguage.com. This really helped to boost my confidence. We worked on our speaking throughout the year, so when the time came to present it I was very confident in it. Another huge achievement for me in French was getting 16/20 on my Directed Writing - this was an achievement as I had worked really hard to get this mark as my previous attempts were not quite as successful. All this hard work paid off though because I managed to earn myself a B in Higher French and

this year I really felt like I deserved it!! I also managed to get the French prize for all my hard work throughout the year and this made me feel really proud as it made me realise other people noticed how much work I was putting in to get my grade. '





Music @ QVS





History and Modern Studies Junior Phase

S1-S3 pupils have, as always, thrown themselves into their learning. With the introduction of Chromebooks for S3, the majority of teaching and learning now involves pupils using them. These were of great help during our remote learning time.

S2 Modern Studies saw pupils running their own election. They spent time looking at the real policies of the four main UK political parties - including their response to COVID - before combining campaign material and manifestos. On election day, the candidates representing each of the parties delivered excellent speeches - voters had a difficult choice deciding where to put their X! The winners were for S2A and for S2B.

In S2 history, pupils study the theme of conflict looking at World War One and the Cold War. Miss Bales joined the department in January and delivered some engaging lessons online with pupils assuming the role of the US president and deciding what action they would take in the Cuban Missile Crisis.

In S3 the focus for both History and Modern Studies is developing the skills needed to progress to National 4 or 5. Both subjects develop source skills enabling pupils to be able to make judgements, select evidence in support/opposition of a view, evaluate sources and draw comparisons.

Senior phase

Certificate classes have worked hard to cover the large content coverage of the National 4/5 and Higher courses. The department were impressed with how the pupils responded to the change in assessment and got stuck in! Mrs O'Neill created a website for Higher Modern Studies pupils to access resources. In a subject where examples and content are ever-changing, this is a great tool for the pupils to use ensuring they have the most up to date material.

Once the evidence gathering was complete, Mrs Rodger's higher History pupils enjoyed some downtime. (Rumour has it, she sets a lot of class/prep work!!) We had a very nice class trip to Bridge of Allan, admiring the local scenery and sampling some of the local businesses' delights - code for a play in the park and take away food! We also had a session in the pool or a game of rounders - making good use of the school's facilities. A nice way to end another unforeseen year.

Mrs Rodgers, Principal Teacher of Social Subjects

Geography

A year truly like no other. Despite the disruptive year, challenges of home learning and the 'gathering evidence' assessment period, the Geography pupils took everything in their stride and continued to work hard this year both at home and in the classroom. The Higher Geography class were lucky to get out on our annual Rivers Trip to Scone back in September. They spent the day investigating the changing characteristics of the Annaty Burn, before the compulsory stop at McDonald's on the way home. Have you really been on a QV Trip if you didn't get a McDonald's?

The department offered Advanced Higher Geography this year for the first time in a number of years. Kristin Sibeth took on the daunting task of her Geography Folio, writing an essay on a Geographical Issue and completing a fieldwork investigation for her study. Despite the challenging nature of the course and the constraints of completing fieldwork in a Covid-19 world, Kristin enjoyed developing her geographical skills and learning new techniques (I think!). She is now off to the University of St Andrews to study Earth and Environmental Science. Well done Kristin!



The S4 Geography class enjoyed a special guest speaker in the form of Lola the goat during one of our Google Meet online lessons. The pupils had been studying diversification in farming and I thought that this was the perfect example! However, the pupils did not seem that impressed... "Miss, did you really spend £5 for us to watch a goat eat?".

I don't think I've ever looked forward to a Summer Holiday more than I have this year...! However, I am also thoroughly looking forward to starting a new timetable in August, with new classes and the hope of fewer restrictions. I'm excited to be able to get back to taking the pupils out on Geography trips but also for the pupils in the wider school to be able to take part in all of the other things they enjoy but have been unable to do this year.

Mrs Humble, Teacher of Geography





August 2020 saw us return to school with the hope of a return to normality. After having anticipated only being allowed to have S4-S6 back, we were thankfully allowed to have all students return. August 2020 also sadly saw the start of Mr Shannon's final year as a teacher at QVS.

Pupils were excited to be back after five months of being away from school. BGE pupils were happy to be back in the workshop and able to get started manufacturing models once again. In September, pupils in S3 Graphic Communication began work on Onshape, a CAD software package that could be accessed from their Chromebooks. They took to this software very well and quickly became comfortable with its use.

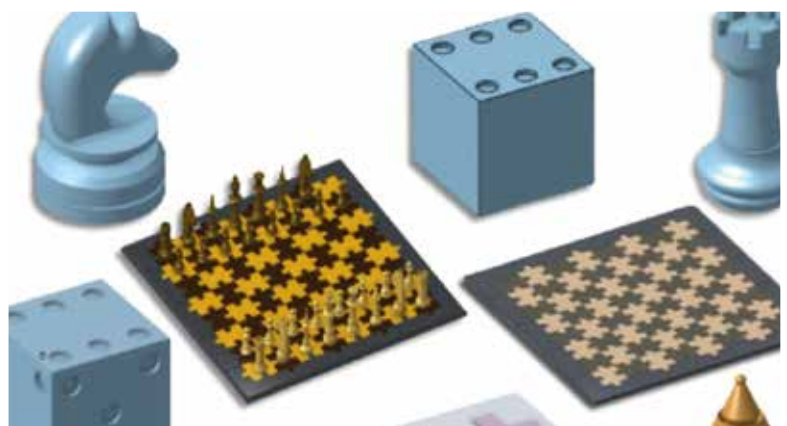
November saw various pupils refurbishing the crosses from the remembrance garden in preparation for Remembrance Sunday.

In December, we, unfortunately, went into a second lockdown. The second lockdown was difficult for pupils, particularly those in practical based subjects who had to then be taught theory only, for four months. They accepted their predicament, though, and worked hard in spite of the situation; they were absolute troopers!

After Easter, we returned to school ready and raring to go. The classroom had been redecorated, a new carpet laid and twenty-one new PCs installed. There was a real buzz about the department and pupils were very enthusiastic about getting back to work. Senior pupils started working on their assignments and we began the countdown to the SQA assessments.

A strange academic year once again with highs and lows, but with lots of achievements made along the way.

Mrs Sherriff, Principal Teacher of Technology





PE and Games Department

With the use of indoor facilities limited due to COVID, the PE

Department were busy adapting our programme of activities to ensure our pupils didn't miss out. We spent time putting together an outdoor gym for the pupils to use and also included Orienteering in a block of work for the younger years. As you can see from the photos, our new astro is looking great and being put to good use.

Our S3 Sports Leaders course which is run by Mr McConnell is producing some excellent young leaders in the school who have been great at facilitating during our Games periods in the week. We're looking forward to starting a new S4 Sport and Recreation course in 2021-2022 which further develops their knowledge and is a useful course for those looking to pursue sport and physical activity as a potential career.

We now have a fleet of nine mountain bikes in the department and a wealth of knowledge and experience from staff across the school. Mrs Elliott, Mr McLay, Mr McGeechan and Mr Newham all have their Level 2 MTB Leader Awards which opens up avenues for more pupils to get access to the bikes throughout the week. We're really looking forward to developing this further and are fortunate to have such great cycling on our doorstep. Here's to having a wheelie good time on them!

Follow the @qvspe Twitter page for regular updates from the PE and Games Department.

Mr McLay, Principal Teacher of PE and Games





Primary Department







Well P7 - what a year it has been! I'm sure that if we look back to last August, none of us were expecting to be at home for the whole of the Spring Term! I'm just delighted we have had the Summer Term together and that we have managed to finish on a high.

Although we started the new school year a few weeks later into the term, we couldn't wait to begin our 3 days of team building activities with Map Adventures. The inflatable assault course and bush craft skills were definitely a big success! Maybe next time we should have a Teacher versus Pupil race on the assault course!

I must commend the P7s on how well they settled into boarding school life, making Trenchard House their second home, adjusting to new school routines and building new friendships. Given the last time they were at school was in March 2020, the children have coped brilliantly with the transition.

Last year, we made a great connection with Mr Smith from The Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum and I was delighted that he was able to continue working with us on our WWII and Scottish Inventors projects. He delivered a variety of fun, interactive sessions, my favourite being the WWII lesson. Mr Smith got into character and the pupils took part in a typical school lesson from WWII. I will always remember the pupils' faces at the start of this lesson, trying to work out what was going on!

I think online learning during Spring Term was a new experience for us all but despite the need for daily live lessons and being on the screen for 3 hours each day, the P7's coped fantastically well. We quickly got used to seeing each other on the screen and having a slightly different style of lesson! Whilst we all missed direct daily interaction, the P7's can be really proud of the adaptability and resilience they showed.

We were all looking forward to the Summer Term. No more online lessons, finally being back in the classroom with friends - this was definitely something to smile about! The Summer Term has got to be my favourite and I'm glad we were able to organise so many of our usual activities.

We have managed to continue our connection with the P7s from Newton Primary School in Dunblane. Whilst we haven't been able to meet face to face and visit each other's schools I know they have enjoyed writing to one another over the year. Maybe you have met your Newton penfriend at First Shop, you just haven't realised!

At the beginning of May, we ran an Election Week. Pupils were split into 8 groups of their choice and selected an idea that they thought would have a positive impact on the pupils of QVS. We had some brilliant ideas and each party group produced some fantastic posters and manifestos. The Election speeches took place in the Theatre and each group was asked some challenging questions by different staff members. They certainly knew how to respond! I was delighted with how well each group worked as a team with their party members. Well done to Kelsey, Sophie, Mhyrren and Ava from the Equality Group who took the majority of votes!

At the end of May, the P7's had a few activity days, one of which was run by Map Adventures. They were all delighted to see Ash again and try some new activities such as rock climbing and abseiling in Crieff and Rifle shooting and archery at QVS. The Rifle shooting was definitely a firm favourite and there were a few competitions going on. Although he tried his best, Mr Adams' couldn't quite manage to beat me!

We also managed to enjoy a couple of walks around our local area, such as the Ashfield and Sheriffmuir Trails, as well as a trip to Laighills Park. We were definitely blessed with some sunshine that week - let's hope that wasn't our summer!



P7 had their Rookies' Parade and what a fantastic end to the week it was! The Rookie's Parade is normally held in December, so they definitely had to wait a long time for their special day. They were outstanding and are now proud Victorians. There was a fantastic spread of tea and cakes at Trenchard House and it was nice to see so many family members at school, for once it almost felt normal!

I would like to congratulate all of the P7's for successfully completing and achieving their Silver Jass Award. This is a fantastic achievement and I hope it gives them encouragement to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Award from S3 onwards.

The final few weeks of term are filled with lots of events and it wouldn't be the end of term without Grand Day rehearsals each morning, a trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park, Sports Day, creating personal projects and an end of term trip to First Shop! The pupils couldn't believe they were being treated to some goodies! I would like to say a BIG thank you to Miss Hastie and Miss Christmas for their continued hard work, support and enthusiasm throughout the year, both to myself and to the pupils. We are extremely lucky to have you. Maybe next year, we will have a whole year at school! Finally, I would like to say a MASSIVE well done to each P7 for all that they have achieved in their first year at QVS. Your positivity and determination have not gone unnoticed. We have thoroughly enjoyed watching you develop and learn over the year and you are all developing into fine young Victorians. Remember to keep enjoying your learning, try your hardest, be proud of what you achieve and always strive to be the best version of yourselves.

Mrs Adams, Principal Teacher of Primary

“PDD is a fun subject where you can learn to pipe, drum or dance.

Rugby and Hockey are the sports we play at school.

In Primary 7 we do Activity Days.

Many people enjoyed the inflatable assault course.

Archery, bush craft and team building were also some of our day's activities.

Rookies is our Primary parade to become Victorians.

You can have many achievements like your Jass award and Star of the Week.”

“Social studies is when you learn about yourselves and other people.

Every Friday we have Outdoor Learning.

Victorians in S1 are our Rookie Keepers to help us at QVS.

Everyone enjoys the Chromebooks we were given.

New teachers and subjects to look forward to in S1!”

P7C Acrostic Poems



Primary Department

P7 Activity Days

On Sunday we got the best surprise, and that was that we were having a three day Activity Week !!

On Monday we did team building activities and archery. I was with Jack and Ratu. We won all three of the little competitions. In team building we had to use crates to get from one rope to the other rope; we did it!!

On Tuesday we did orienteering, where there were stamps all across the school and we had a map which showed us where the stamps were. It was okay, me, Jack and Ratu got four stamps, it was hard. Next we did bush craft, we made fires. Jack, Elliv and I made a fire lots of times and it kept going out until we made one which worked.

We then went on the inflatable assault course, it was fun. It had pillars, tunnels and slides.

On Wednesday at first we did catapult building, my team came 2nd place. We only had bungee cords, newspapers and poles, it was a fun challenge. After lunch we went on the inflatable assault course, we were racing for chocolate and we came third.

My favourite activity was bushcraft, I enjoyed making the fires.

Elliot Lawton, P7C

Lights, Camel, ACTION!

As we drew closer to the Christmas holidays, it was looking unlikely that the performance of 'Lights, Camel, Action 2!' could be performed live to our audience of staff, pupils and parents, due to new Covid restrictions.

This didn't stop our enthusiastic group of performers. We quickly reverted to Plan B with help from Mrs Pitman, and the play was recorded.

During the last week of term, the play was accessed online by staff, pupils and parents

I know that the pupils missed the buzz and laughter you get from a live audience but that didn't stop them from having fun whilst creating a variety of dance routines and acting out different scenes. It still managed to get everyone into the Christmas spirit!

A big thank you must go to Mrs Landsburgh and her S3 girls, who helped choreograph the dance routines - brilliant work!

Election Week

Hello, my name is Sophie and I am one of the candidates from the Equality Party. The Equality Party wanted to raise awareness about school uniforms for pupils at QVS. We thought that girls should be allowed to wear trousers and boys should be allowed to wear

skirts. We also believe that girls should be allowed to wear their hair down in school, if they would prefer.

The election week started on Tuesday 4th May. All of P7 came into Mrs Adams' room and we wrote down ideas about what we thought would be a positive change for the pupils of QVS.

After that we all went into our party groups to choose a lead representative and choose a colour with which we identified for the party. The Equality group decided that Kelsey would be our lead representative and orange would be our party colour. We designed a logo for our party.

As a group, we wrote a manifesto and a speech together. We wanted everyone to know what our aims were, what we wanted to achieve and why they should vote for us. We made rosettes, so we could wear them on Friday for the speech.

On Friday 7th May, all of the party groups went to the theatre and that's where we said our speeches and voted. All of the P7 pupils and Mrs Adams, Mrs Scott-Laing, Miss Hastie, Miss Christmas, Mrs Pitman and Mrs O'Neill were there.

After the speeches had finished, we voted for the party group that we thought would be best for the pupils of QVS. Mrs Adams then counted the votes and told us that the Equality Party had won, we were absolutely delighted!

Sophie Waugh, P7A



P7A Acrostic Poems

Life in a boarding house is different to home, it's more active and busy but it's fun and an amazing environment.

In games, girls learn to play hockey and boys learn to play rugby.

Finishing the cross country run is a proud moment, especially if you are in the top 10!

Election week was a new experience but it was entertaining making the speeches.

Inter house competitions are always competitive. What house will you be in? Bannerman, Liddell or Ormond?

Now that we have been here a while, we have learnt different tunes and dances in P.D.D.

Penpals from Newton Primary School, we loved receiving their letters.

Running across the fields for cross country with your friends cheering you on.

In Trenchard, there are lots of fun parties for Halloween and Christmas.

Mr Smith came in and taught us about WWII and Scottish inventors.

Activity week was amazing, especially the inflatable assault course and learning new bushcraft skills.

Rookies parade is a very exciting moment, the day you turn into a Victorian.

Yes, we spent many months having live lessons during online learning but now we all have a Chrome book.

Swimming with my friends on a Friday night with the lights off and loud music playing!

Everyday you will wake up with your friends as if you have had a sleepover.

Venturing into Wavell Woods for Outdoor Learning is lots of fun.

Eating our meals in the dining room, pizza Friday is the best.

Now that you have been here a year, you must be ready for S1!

**Sumer, Maria, Charlotte,
Elainah, Kelsey, Myhrren, Suvan, Ratu,
William S, Viliame, Ron, Josh and Jack, P7A**

P7C Acrostic Poems

Liddell is one of the three sports houses, along with Bannerman and Ormond.

Inventors studying with Mr Smith

For our Christmas Play we performed Lights, Camel, Action 2, The Sequin!

Election week we had different campaigns.

In Primary 7 there are three teachers, Mrs Adams, Miss Hastie and Miss Christmas.

Newton Primary School are our Pen Pals and we send letters back and forth.

PDD is a fun subject where you can learn to pipe, drum or dance.

Rugby and Hockey are the sports we play at school.

In Primary 7 we do Activity Days.

Many people enjoyed the inflatable assault course.

Archery, bush craft and team building were also some of our day's activities.

Rookies is our Primary parade to become Victorians.

You can have many achievements like your Jass award and Star of the Week.

Social studies is when you learn about yourselves and other people.

Every Friday we have Outdoor Learning.

Victorians in S1 are our Rookie Keepers to help us at QVS.

Everyone enjoys the Chromebooks we were given.

New teachers and subjects to look forward to in S1!

**Hallie, Sakina, Seren, Eleanor, Abbie, Elliv, Kira,
Sophie, Scarlett, Angus, Alistair, Rhys and Ben, P7C**



P7C Acrostic Poems

Living at QVS is much more fun than you could ever imagine.

In January we found out that we were in another lockdown.

Friends are made for life at Queen Victoria School.

Everyone contributes to our special Parades.

In June we have the most spectacular day of the year...Grand Day!

November the 11th is when we remember those who bravely fought in wars.

Piping, Drumming and Dancing are very exciting.

Rookies Parade with Mr Stacey involves a lot of marching.

In summer we love all the athletics in PE.

Many rugby and hockey games are very challenging.

Activities weeks are very adventurous.

Reading in the library is nice and peaceful

You feel very welcome in Trenchard.

Science is one of our subjects in Primary 7

Every Friday we get excited for pizza and chips for lunch.

Ventures are exciting during activities week.

Everyone has a lot of fun at QVS

Newsround keeps us up to date with the news of the world.

Jaime, Elliot, Ryan, William L, Laighney, Emily and Ava, P7H

Imaginative Story Writing

Waking up in your childhood home doesn't seem like such a terrible idea. Some people still live in these homes. Most people's memories from when they were little are filled with happy faces and smiling parents and watching tv and playing with your toys and being told to eat your greens and mud and... I can't think of anymore.

Or maybe your childhood was a bit like mine? Shouting, the stinging of someone's hand across your face, constant arguing, no food at all if you were a bad child, hiding in constant fear of the two people in your life who were called your 'parents'. You get the idea.

You might be thinking to yourself, "Who is this strange person?". Well I'm nobody. Not anymore at least. And who I am isn't important.

My eyes opened and took a second to realise where I was. I could smell the peeling paint of my old bedroom wall waft up my nose and it took some strength to not start coughing. I stood up and the first thing I did was look out of the window, which was just to the right of my old, moth-eaten mattress (which was laying on the floor).

Nothing. Nothing I could see from the window. It's confusing to explain but just nothing. The searing pain in my head made it hard to make sense of the world anyways.

I looked at my old toys, lined up neatly side by side on the shelf above my bed. There was a teddy bear with little button eyes and a few dolls, who were half broken/torn apart. Not a tasteful selection if I dare say so.

The pain in my head was becoming worse, and I needed to get out of my old bedroom now or my head could, possibly burst like a big balloon.

Next up was the kitchen, where I mysteriously realised that I was starving. The black and white tiles were a weird temperature, (again, too confusing to explain) and sort of felt, sticky??

Opening up the pantry, which was across the table and just next to the fridge, its rusty magnets still stuck on, my eyes laid on a single can of sweetcorn. My mind was too hazy and too hungry to think of the consequences if I ate the said to be canned corn, so I wrench the lid off and stared at the contents.

The corn was a shade of yellow that made my mouth water, and mouths seemed to be forming on each piece, begging me to eat every one of them.

Then I tipped the whole thing in my mouth. Bad idea.

I could feel the corn turning into something in my mouth, glass. I could feel the shards scrape the inside of my mouth and I could taste the metallic taste of blood on my tongue. I spat everything out. The shards of glass lay on the kitchen floor and began to melt and take the shape of words.

"YOUR FAULT."



My fault? Memories rushed in my head like cold water and the pain in my head started again, this time worse. The kitchen erupted into bursts of colours, like a big broken kaleidoscope. I ran towards the closed door and it opened. I escaped the kitchen and found myself in the living room.

It was quiet. A bit too quiet. The quietness echoed around the room ever so quietly. Very much quiet.

The walls were an unpleasant shade of pink and the couches and armchairs were a sickly green colour. The carpet was faded red and in the middle of the room was an old, worn out TV. As I neared it there was a flash of colour and the TV turned on. It was unusual since the television wasn't connected to any source of power, but I was too blank-minded, too stupid to notice.

As bright colours flashed across the television my eyes were glued to the screen, and I could faintly hear something. It wasn't from the TV, it was from around me. I quickly whipped around, the pain in my head getting even worse. (which felt like sitting in a tub full of lemon juice with cuts all over your body) Around me, on the armchairs were black figures. They looked like they were laughing. Whatever was on the TV must have greatly amused them.

Hey, what was on the TV anyways?

I turned back around and once again the TV captured my full attention, like it did when I was little. Now however, the TV had someone's happy, smiling face on it. The corners of the smiling person's mouth were right up, almost reaching their ears. The person's eyes were sending a silent plea for help, and then I realised that person was me.

All of a sudden I was pulled back. Into darkness. I saw everything else disappear but the TV, which was getting bigger. The thing that was on my mouth that was stopping me from screaming (there's a reason I

said 'thing') was now reaching for the corners of my mouth and pulled them up, up, up! It was still pulling me into darkness which was a bit irritating.

Then I heard something. I can't describe it but it sounded a bit like, a ringing? And shouting. And crying. And screaming.

The pain in my head was now unbearable, and I started choking, gasping for air. But as you know, my mouth was pulled into a permanent smile, so no good results came from that sorry attempt.

Now the world was going out of order, time, space, sense. Chaos unfolded everywhere and my mind started flipping through memories like something flipping through a magazine. Barely any air was coming through my nose and I felt limper and limper, weaker and weaker, dazier and dazier.

And then I woke up.

I know!! I went through all of that rubbish just to wake up again in the same old gray room of the same old mental hospital.

But I supposed that's how the world works.

Suvan Rai, P7A



Lockdown Two





THE MASKED SINGER



ALICE IN WONDERLAND
SCOTT HIGGINS



TEDDY



PRINCE



PLAGUE DOCTOR
LEWIS GIBSON



CAT
KRISTIN SIBETH



PARROT
OLIVIA OATLEY



TEDDY



SMOKE



MC MONKEY



ZEBRA
ERIN SIM

QVS PRESENTS



AN EXTRAVAGANZA OF TALENT
TEN MYSTERIOUS PERFORMERS
FIVE NIGHTS - ONE WINNER

After the sheer talent we saw on display when the Senior Leadership Team delivered the 'SLT Shanty' of The Wellerman, and the unforgettable cover version of 'Back For Good' that the Social Subjects Staff serenaded us with, QVS senior students thought that it was time that they showcased their own singing and dancing skills during Lockdown Two.

For a memorable week in February, parents, staff and students were treated to a nightly QVS Masked Singer show, ably stitched together by Mrs Pitman. The voting opened and the whole community came together to see if they could deduce who had the charisma of Smoke,

the dancing skills of Parrot and the star quality of Zebra.

The QVS Connect initiative was a huge success and kept us all entertained through the dreich winter nights when we were apart – Teddy Bear AKA Ella Codd was voted our worthy winner, with honourable mentions to Mrs Rodger as Marshmallow and Mr Leitch as The Prince.

We had so much fun doing it, that we followed it up by a really successful Among Us interactive quiz in March that also kept the community on its toes as we tried to work out who the Imposters were and who was telling the truth. Well done to all the participants in both activities, it really showed how creativity can bring us together, even when Covid kept us apart.

By the Fireside



Across the second lockdown, learning took place in the mornings and Tutor Groups and Virtual Boarding Houses met in the afternoon for Coffee & Catch Ups, Virtual House Meetings, Quizzes, Entertainment and Challenges to stay connected.

To enhance the programme in the afternoon, Mr Pitman & Mrs Adams coordinated a fortnightly programme of Fireside Chats where a diverse range of guest speakers met with us virtually and held an informative, entertaining thought provoking seminar on a wide range of really interesting topics

These Fireside chats allowed us to gather together as staff and students and get a real insight into a hugely varied series of topics as well as the chance to ask questions and chat with an incredibly talented and interesting range of speakers. It was a real enhancement to the QVS Connect Initiative to be able to attend such an interesting variety of sessions and get the chance to meet people virtually and find out about their passions, their lifehacks and their words of wisdom

Our inaugural Fireside Chat was with Olympian Peter Lambert who led a really interesting discussion about ambition, teamwork and pursuing your dreams. Mr Pitman has known Peter for many years and it was a real honour to host an Olympic rower and former Member of Team GB at a QVS event and hear about the highs and lows of participating in sport at such an elite level.

Our next chat was with businesswoman Pamela Scott who really made a huge impact on her audience as she talked candidly about the idea of 'no wrong path' through exploring her career and her desire to help people realise their potential across their own career journey. Pamela is well known to the school through her sister Mrs Scott-Laing and inspired many of her guests to 'give something back' after listening to her experiences working with the Big Hearts Foundation.

We also welcomed OV Tom Wilson back to QVS to tell us all about his passion for supporting male mental health through sport. Tom has founded his own charity

'Support and Offload' working with professional sportsmen to destigmatise mental health through opening the conversation that even top athletes can have wellbeing struggles and that it's okay to ask for help. Tom and his team were a big hit with the audience as they opened up about the highs and lows they have experienced in their sporting careers as well as offering some great advice to the audience.

Our fourth Fireside chat welcomed Patrick Foster back to QVS, albeit virtually to give a moving and very personal insight into the world of gambling addiction and how it impacted his life. From a very happy childhood and academic and sporting success, Patrick became ensnared in online betting and came close to losing everything. Now fully recovered Patrick works with Epic Risk Management to raise awareness of this shockingly prevalent issue to ensure that young people know the signs and can get help if they need it. Patrick's talk absolutely blew the audience away and the time he spent answering the students' questions was profoundly appreciated.

The final Fireside Chat before Easter was with OV Matt McLeish and we definitely saved one of the most fascinating speakers until last. Matt has had a diverse career in the forces which has spanned festival planning to penguin spotting in Antarctica. Matt spoke warmly about the experiences he had at QVS and how they prepared him well for some of the highs and lows of his life after school. He enjoyed spending time with the students and staff afterwards in a lively online discussion about the polar expedition, being put 'on days' and what the 'good old days' were really like as a Victorian. We would love to welcome him back once Covid is over for a face to face presentation where he can revisit his old haunts and bring his schooldays to life for the current Haig residents!

We thoroughly enjoyed the range of presentations that were available to us through the Fireside Chats and look forward to having some face to face episodes here at school once restrictions ease. Thank you to Mr Pitman for the initiative and for making the tech happen too; it really was a great way to connect with each other over Lockdown and made sure that we always had something interesting to talk about when we caught up virtually across the winter.



Over the last few years, we have been working on developing a bespoke system in order to recognise the wider achievement of our Senior Students. The Victorian Awards have been developed in partnership with our students and track their achievements across a wide range of disciplines from Digital Citizenship to Volunteering and taking responsibility for whole school Wellbeing and Learning initiatives.

We were delighted when the OVA offered to sponsor these awards and present a stunning silver Quaich to the winners of these Victorian Awards at Old Victorians weekend.

The Awards begin in S4 with the Bronze Award, presented to students who gain achievements in three challenges, S5 and S6 undertake 5 and 7 challenges as part of the Silver and Gold Awards respectively and S6 students who complete all 9 challenges are eligible to apply for the Victorian Award which recognises excellence across all nine of the designated areas within the challenge.

Our inaugural awards were presented to four S6 students: Shristi Gurung, Molly Horne, Christian McBrearty, and Sophie Murphy who have taken an active role in the wider life of the school in an astonishing range of areas and definitely represent the QVS Values in action. The four winners attended the Old Victorians AGM and spoke to

the OVs present about their wider achievements which ranged from appearing at the Nanchang International Military Tattoo to setting up Maths Coaching sessions to tutor younger students, training all S3-S6 as Dementia friends, trekking for 28 days in Mongolia and achieving their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award as well as organising ceilidhs for their peers, volunteering for Poppy Scotland and celebrating the OV contribution to WW1 and remembering our fallen at the Centenary of the Great War.

All four very deserving winners were presented with their Quaich from our Inspecting Officer and Old Victorian, Captain A J Murdoch, who spoke warmly about the lifelong benefits of the skills we develop outwith the classroom and how delighted he was to see the school recognise the diverse skills which are developed at QVS through our students' diverse array of wider achievements.

We look forward to this presentation becoming an annual event and congratulate the four winners from 2020 who have really set the standard for the award in years to come.



The *Allotment*enters



Progress with our school garden project has admittedly been slow but we can now finally begin to enjoy the benefits of having our very own allotment. Since returning to school after lockdown 2 we have been busy completing the construction of the polytunnel as well as germinating lots of seeds and caring for seedlings in the classroom. If all goes well and we have a half-decent summer, we should be able to harvest the following once we return to school; garlic, onions, tatties, beetroot, leeks, tomatoes, basil, carrots, parsnips, butternut squash, courgettes, cabbages, kale, brussel sprouts, and baby pumpkins (we didn't have any success in germinating our giant pumpkin seeds). All this and it is only our first year!

In addition to the tunnel and the four raised beds, we also now have a large pumpkin patch. This brilliant idea was thought up by the gardening group to help use up a lot of the excess soil that we had. So we got busy laying a thick layer of cardboard to kill off the grass and weeds and put the school tractor to good use in moving tonnes of soil into position. It is hoped that an annual House pumpkin design competition will come out of this and that the Houses can come down to harvest their own pumpkins for Halloween. Now, what do pumpkins need in order to grow well? ... a lot of poo! We needed a supply of horse muck. I made contact with a local lady who has a supply of horse manure and she was more than happy to let us help ourselves to some. Well done to Alfie, Boyd and Jayden for getting stuck in with the dirty job of shovelling it up to fill twelve large bags - I can still smell it now!

Well done to everyone in the gardening group who has been involved in building our allotment. The hard physical labour of digging soil and compost and wheeling it around hasn't been easy but you should now feel a lot of pride in what your efforts have achieved. I would like to give a special thanks to both Mr Warner and Mr Breingan, and also Sam MacPherson and Arran Scott, for their assistance in the final stages of the build. Their help with fitting the cover and doors on the tunnel was greatly appreciated and allowed for significant progress to be made in the final few weeks of term.

Mr Renwick, Teacher of Biology





Sports *Department*

Athletics

Again it was really disappointing not to see our pupils compete at all in 2020, so we were determined to make sure that all of the P7-S3 experienced athletics in their core programme and had events to look forward to. It was great to see just how much potential we have in this area and this was demonstrated in our fixture against Morrisons.

With a reduced programme, we took athletes from S1 to S3 to perform in the 100m, 200m, 800m, Long Jump, Shot Putt and relay. The pupils seemed anxious at first as this was the first time for many of the youngsters to compete against another school

but as the afternoon progressed, they started to relax and we saw some excellent performances from both the boys and girls. The S3 boys, in particular, were dominant on both the track and field with an impressive time for the relay. Aaliyah McCloud ran an excellent 800m, with a perfectly-timed finish to cruise past her opposition.

It was then time for Sports Day and the pupils engaged in the afternoon with enthusiasm and effort. We were blessed once again with incredible weather which made for a memorable day. It was so nice to get the whole school down, with many of the staff present, either officiating or supporting, it almost felt as if we were getting back to some normality.

Once again it proved to be a very competitive afternoon at all age groups and in all disciplines. We were treated to several record-breaking performances which were as follows.

Event	Previous Record	Holder	New Record	Holder
Intermediate Boys				
Hurdles	13.1	M.Marshall/C.Carr (2003/2010)	12.25	S.Golea
Senior Boys				
Relay	49.3	Bannerman (1999)	47.86	Liddell
Intermediate Girls				
100m	13.7	E.Reid (2009)	13.64	M.McCloud
300m	50.7	A.Gray (2010)	43.77	M.McCloud
High Jump	1.35	K.Leith/A.Balfour (2003/2010)	1.45	A.McCloud
Senior Girls				
800m	2.52.4	K.Harrower (2005)	2.47	O.Oatley
Relay	59.61	Bannerman (2007)	57.07	Bannerman



The overall scores were as follows with Bannerman winning both the Junior and Intermediate competitions with their combined girls and boys scores however Ormond managed to stop the clean sweep by narrowly winning the Senior Competition.

Junior	Points	Total	Position
Bannerman Boys	86	159	1
Bannerman Boys	73		
Liddell Boys	79	153	2
Liddell Boys	74		
Ormond Boys	66	145	3
Ormond Boys	79		
Intermediate	Points	Total	Position
Bannerman Boys	110	196	1
Bannerman Boys	86		
Liddell Boys	80	161	2
Liddell Boys	81		
Ormond Boys	82	162	3
Relay	80		
Intermediate	Points	Total	Position
Bannerman Boys	86	113	1
Bannerman Boys	27		
Liddell Boys	109	130	2
Liddell Boys	21		
Ormond Boys	103	134	3
Ormond Boys	31		

Rugby 1st Team

S1 Hockey Team



S2 Hockey Team



S1 Rugby Team



U15 Rugby Team



U15 Hockey Team



S2 Rugby Team



P7 Hockey Team



U15 Rugby Team



P7 Rugby Team



Hockey 1st Team



Sports *Department*

Hockey

It's fair to say the 2020-2021 Hockey season has been an emotional rollercoaster. With the fixtures calendar turned on its head, it's been a tough one for the teams to maintain motivation particularly during the winter months, but they've trooped through.

Between August and December, we decided to focus our energy on developing the U15s game structure by playing them almost every other week against the 1st XI team. These were valuable training games for both teams as it allowed the seniors to see the maturity of their game against a fit group of S3/4 girls who still need some development on their positional play. Some of the matches were hard fought but the 1st team came out on top each time. The attacking force of Irena Watson and Olivia Oatley made it a difficult affair for the younger ones.

Lockdown between January and April allowed some of the team to come together via Google Meet to take part in live workouts each day to keep ticking over for the Summer. Once we were back into the swing of things, we were excited to pick up a fixture against the HS of Dundee in early June; a nice way for the girls to end their time at the school. We fielded 4 teams for the fixture with our 1st team and U15s playing away, and our S2 and S1 teams playing at home.

All 4 teams had a very tough task against the Dundee girls. The biggest performance came from Nanda Seru who dodged, ducked, dipped, dived and dodged her way between the posts to keep the number of goals down. She was outstanding despite a limited period of time in the goalie kit.

At home, the younger ones worked their socks off against girls who already had a good amount of Hockey experience under their belts. Despite the defeats, the girls were desperate to know when they could play another match because of the enjoyment they got from it, which at the end of the is what it's all about. Fun with your friends and learning from others. We're very much looking forward to a full fixture calendar for next season and can't wait to get to work.

A special mention in itself needs to go to Mr Motivator himself, Dave Oatley. He moved on from his coaching role at the school after he imparted a huge amount of Hockey knowledge (GB Masters player no less!!) to the girls. It was also extremely helpful to watch the master at work for my own development as a coach. We hope he's settling in with his job down south and still representing QV with his big bobble hat.

Thanks also go to Ray Donaldson who is always there to help out at the school. He is a reliable umpire and also great at coaching between the different age groups we have at the school. Ray will continue to work with us for the 2021-2022 season which is fantastic news.

And finally, a thank you to our seniors. They have had a turbulent final year across their whole school life but still succeeded in being role models to the younger years. Their time, effort and commitment to Hockey over the years has been outstanding. Thanks go to our S6 girls Olivia Oatley, Hollie Scott, PK Khawas, Erin Sim and Rebecca Anderson. Good luck to a small cohort of S5 girls who also move on to pastures new too - Millie MacDonald, Marykate Charnley and Lucie McDermott-Evans. We hope some of you continue to pick up a stick as you move on and look forward to the visits to tell us your tales of freedom and adulthood.

Running Group

Returning to school after the Summer Holidays, no Tutor Trips, no day trips to Stirling, shops are closed, cinemas are closed, what are the pupils able to do during their weekends to keep them entertained? Running seemed like one of the only ways for them to see life past the school gates and keep the pupils active. The Sunday School Run Club was born.

A few of the pupils had already shown an interest in running by taking part in our early Friday morning runs, however the beauty of running on a Sunday meant no time restrictions so we could start to push the distance. This started with runs over 5km and a few



weeks later resulted in a 10km run, the first time all of the pupils had achieved this distance. Well done to Hollie, Ella, Katie and Ceara on this achievement.

Unfortunately, after Christmas we returned to remote learning although through the QVS Running Strava Group, the pupils were still able to keep in touch, recording their runs and cheering each other on from a distance.

Once back at school after Easter, the Running Group expanded and diversified a little with a new aim - the Common Room to 5K Group. Many girls had shown an interest in running however as they didn't have much experience of running, they wanted to improve their fitness by increasing their distance every week first. We started with 1 minute run/1 minute walk type runs which quickly became 5 minute run/1 minute walk runs. The girls were always so positive about their progress and were ecstatic to complete a few 5km run/walks during the Summer Term. The original Running Crew were so encouraging with the newbies and helped to motivate them to keep going whilst also enjoying their own runs. They are looking forward to restarting the club again after the October Holidays and attempting a 5km without walking before the end of the year.

Rugby

Although we lost out on the 2020-2021 season with most of our fixtures cancelled due to COVID restrictions, we are now beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel and the teams seem more than ready to get back into playing against formidable opponents this year.

With the school being open between August and December, we felt that it was important that we kept the interest up. We made sure that, keeping to SRU

and government guidelines, we provided as many opportunities as we could for the boys to develop and improve their skills. This resulted in a lot of touch rugby being played and, for a short while, 1 on 1 tackling. We cannot fault the players, as they maintained their enthusiasm throughout and worked hard to make each session meaningful and worthwhile.

Having experienced a second lockdown, the pupils returned for the summer term and we were able to organise a few fixtures, just so that we could say that we had played in 2021! The 1st XV made the journey down to St Columbas, and were champing at the bit to get onto the park. Ably led by Tom Main, the game started at a ferocious pace with our opponents coming out on top at first. With a try being scored against us, the team reorganised and settled down. We then started to play to our potential with huge hits in the midfield that nullified their attacks. Our own attacks became more fluent with some outrageous offloads being thrown (too many if I'm honest) and at full time we were the worthy winners. With the drone footage and GPS units, the boys loved getting back the feedback from the games but very quickly realised there is now no hiding place.

Our second batch of fixtures were against the local team, Balfron. This is a club side for all intents and purposes which draws most of its players from Balfron High School but also attracts other players from further afield.

The S1 team headed over to Fintry and we really were not sure of what to expect. This was a team made up of players that had not experienced playing for QVS against other sides and also 4 P7's who had impressed throughout the term and earned the right to join the squad. They did not disappoint as they weaved up and down the pitch with good ball handling skills honed in the endless touch matches they had played. Their defence was good on the whole but they were narrowly beaten by 2 points. Regardless of this their faces said it all, there were smiles everywhere to be seen, although the hotdogs probably played some part in that.



Sports *Department*

The S2 match was a hard-fought affair with big players playing an important role of running in tries. However both teams started to realise that the big runners needed support and gradually as the game progressed more rugby was being played. It was great to see the team out on the pitch again and there is a lot of potential in this team. It was a narrow win for QVS at the end which meant they could be proud of their unbeaten season....

The S3's have a huge amount of potential but they were up against a very well organised Balfron team who had obviously spent lockdown in the gym. They were outmuscled at the breakdown and as result could not get any real quick possession to allow the backs to exploit. It ended with Balfron being the worthy winner in the end but individuals really stepped up to the mark in this game.

The U16's game was a tousy affair and we were under significant pressure at times due to the Balfron forwards being stronger and quicker to the breakdown, however we eventually started to ruck with conviction and good technique. This allowed us to create a good platform to attack from and the backs found space behind the defence through well timed passes and intelligent running lines. Mr Wright refereed the game with precision despite having had a few months off. The U16's won fairly comfortably in the end but were in no doubt that they had had to work for it.

Finally the 1st XV, having lost Samik to a shoulder injury in the St Columba's game, were under manned but still confident that they could produce the fast flowing game that they had had the previous week. This wasn't to be the case as Balfron completely dominated the breakdown and turned over many of our rucks. They were stronger and more aggressive at the contact point which took us by surprise. Our backs made things difficult for themselves by throwing away balls under pressure rather than being patient. It all came down to a penalty in the dying seconds. Aminio Bogidrau placed the ball, lined up his kick and took a deep breath. This was it, he struck it sweetly and the ball sailed through the posts. QVS won by 1 point. A real nail biter of a game to finish the unbeaten season.

A huge thank you to all of the coaches this year for digging deep and keeping the players interested and upbeat throughout what were difficult times. Mr Bryce, Mr MacKay, Mr Adams and Mr Wright all put in a huge amount of time and effort to provide opportunities for the boys and have done so for a good few years.

www.qvs.school

This is not just on game day but also throughout the weeks through good and bad weather. Rugby at QVS could not happen without their knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm. Thank you.

To the S6 men who have had a raw deal throughout their senior rugby years. It started with not having enough players to field a team in 2019, to not being able to play fixtures due to COVID. I cannot fault their attitude and drive throughout this time. Tom Main, Cameron Morrison-Smith, Lewis Gibson, Chris Skinner, Will Sanmani and last but not least Saphal Gurung. It has been a real pleasure coaching you over the years and watch you all develop into competent, skilful players who have offered so much to the team. All the very best to you all and I hope to see you playing in adult rugby in the near future.







Prom *Night*







Because we are so used to being together all the time, the Lockdown was even more challenging for the QVS Community as it was so different to all be apart for such large periods of time.

The teachers did an amazing job of supporting us when we were apart and the fun House activities, Tutor group meets, Virtual boarding Houses, and many creative challenges really kept us connected even though we were all over the country - and some of us were all around the world!

Once we came back to school in August, the challenges did not end and the teachers and house staff really did a great job of trying to keep us busy and active despite the many challenges of having to keep things Covid safe and the fact that rules and advice changed almost every week.

At Christmas time, we wanted to say a really big thank you to all of our teachers and tutors, so we came up with the idea of a Christmas Surprise care parcel that would show our appreciation for all of their effort and support across the year. Mrs A contacted some OVs in the Hospitality Industry to see if they would sponsor us and they provided us with a huge range of delicious treats for the staff. We even got The Broons Christmas pinnies and some limited edition Tunnocks treats, to make it a very Scottish festive surprise that we decorated with festive tags and ribbons to add that finishing touch.

We dressed up as Christmas Elves to deliver the surprises on the last day of term and it felt really good to be able to say thanks and surprise the Teachers & Tutors with a bit of Christmas cheer after the very long and challenging teaching year that we had all been through - We'd like to thank our OV Angels, who would prefer to stay anonymous. You really helped bring a bit of Christmas Magic to QVS and we really appreciate your kindness.

#QVSCConnect

A Christmas Thank You





Class of 2021

QVS would like to thank the S6 students formally as the Class of 2021 for all of their energy, teamwork and collaboration across the year as we came back together as a community twice amid a global pandemic.





Victorian Socials

This year it was very important to myself and the Prefect team to bring our community even closer together, which we achieved by putting on many different social events throughout the year. This is because we had all decided that improving school life as much as possible was our main priority. Fortunately, we managed to successfully organise multiple events for each year group- reaching a new school record. We ran several different social events throughout the year; our most popular events being movie nights in the theatre and football tournaments on the astro.

Due to the pandemic, socials were more complex to organise as we needed to put in a number of protocols to make the events deemed as safe. However, undeterred, the Prefect team still managed to put on a social event at least once every fortnight by being adaptable and staying within government guidelines. This meant seating the different houses 2 metres away from each other, not mixing year groups and distributing the food in a suitable way.

All in all, I am extremely grateful for the efforts and constant support from the Prefect team as they have worked tirelessly all year round to make QVS a more enjoyable place for our fellow Victorians, despite the difficult circumstances that we have all had to face. I hope that this tradition can carry on.

Miss Duncan, S6 Coordinator





Dancers

As I write my piece again for this year's Victorian, I am taken back to this time last year, when we had just spent a considerable amount of time under restrictions with a long spell of remote learning. Fast forward a year, and you could be forgiven for thinking that not much has changed since then.

However, despite having to face further restrictions in our new academic year, we still managed to achieve so much. We have been fortunate enough that our much loved morning music piece on Parade Sundays was reintroduced which gave the dancers something to work towards and to look forward to. Initially, the dancers were unable to practice as a whole team, and our dance practices were split into junior and senior sessions. As an instructor I was worried about the impact that this would have on team morale and motivation, I am grateful to say that I needn't have worried. As ever, the dancers met the challenges they faced with determination and resilience. The icing on the cake for us this year was finding out that our much loved Grand Day was back on - I wish I had taken a picture of the dance team when they heard the news. To see such relieved and excited faces was an absolute joy and I know that everyone involved enjoyed the process of preparing for it - including some soggy after school practices out on the fields.

Although this year was far from perfect, I was reminded of the importance of always looking for the positives and finding joy in the small things. Every single pupil in the dance team 100% helped me to remember that and to them I am thankful.

As ever, we have bid farewell to our senior dancers Kristin Sibeth, Erin Sim and Olivia Oatley - and what a trio these girls were. To say that they will be missed is an understatement. Perhaps I am even more emotional at this farewell as these girls started at QV the same year that I did, and they are the first pupils that I have taught from the very beginning to the end of their QV journey. On behalf of the dance team, I would like to wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

Before I sign off, I would like to finish with a special mention of congratulations to one of our Old Victorians and former Principal Dancer, Callum Pearson who graduated recently, after 3 years with MGA Academy of Performing Arts, with BA (Hons) in Dance for Commercial Performance and was awarded First-class Honours. Well done Callum, we are all very proud.

Mrs Landsburgh, Highland Dance Instructor

Following on from the outbreak of COVID-19 last year, the dance team were able to adapt to the new rules and regulations efficiently. In the beginning, we had regular practice with juniors and seniors separated due to numbers and space, but luckily towards the end of the academic year we were all able to come together and perform as a complete team. Dancing has been a mix of re-learning and perfecting dances as we've had a few new members join the dance team. Everyone has put in a lot of time and effort into dancing when required and were able to be flexible when things became a bit more tricky.

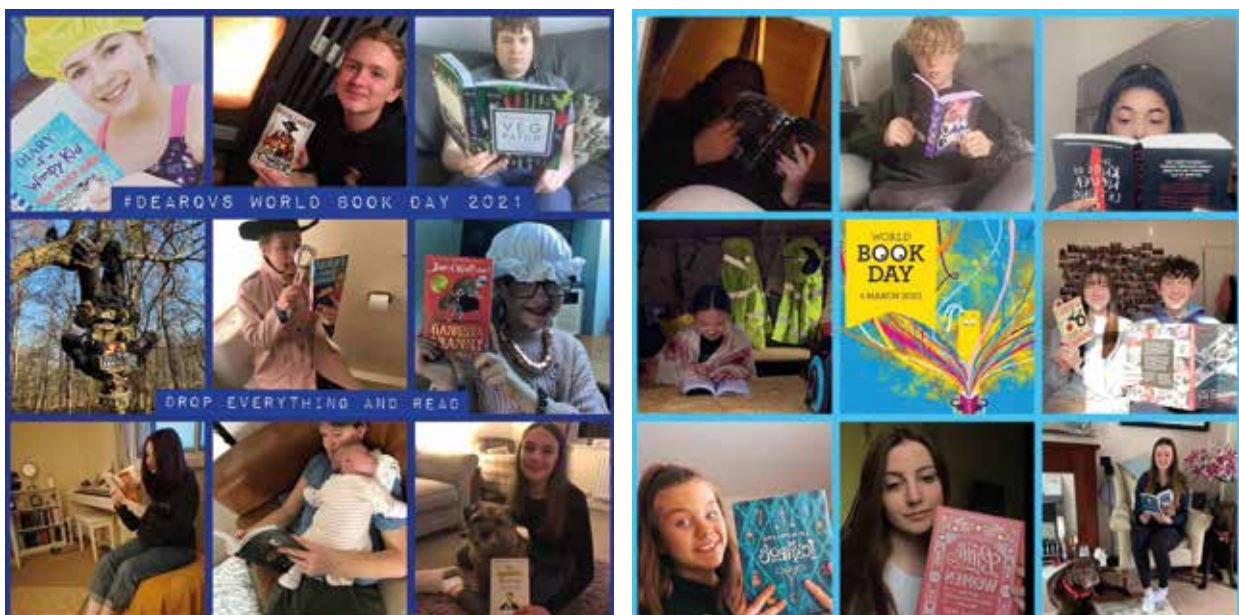


In the summer term especially, dancing became more exciting as we arrived back and got stuck into learning the Grand Day dance straight away. Since then, we practised consistently and were able to perfect the dance with the band much earlier than usual. It was much more enjoyable to be able to go outside and dance in the sunshine and endure the live music from the pipers and drummers while performing the Grand Day dance, rather than being cramped inside the dance hall with lots of waiting around. On a final note, although we haven't been back to 'normal' it has turned out to be one of the best terms at QVS as a dancer due to the lack of normality and routine therefore, it brought a bit of excitement as every week was a bit different. As well as, being able to have the summer party which was held by the S6 dancers which ended the term on a high as everyone was able to enjoy games and food outside altogether.

Lily O'Neill, S4

Being a part of the dance team means so much more than just dancing with each other. Representing the school, working together, either going outside the school to an event or dancing on a parade, an event inside the school. Having the opportunity to dance on a Grand Day with my fellow peers brings so much happiness to myself and others. Covid had brought so many missed opportunities for the dancers, so getting to go out and perform allowed us to dance altogether and say a goodbye to our head dancer Kristen and our other S6 girls, Olivia and Erin. I cannot wait to see what this next year brings the dance team and the opportunities we have with each other as being the Queen Victoria School Dance Team 2021-2022.

Rebecca Holliday, S3





Literacy Ambassadors

This year, I had the delight of starting the Literacy Ambassadors Club with my fellow classmates. We all agreed along with Miss Duncan, Mrs Thomson and Mr McHugh, that the school needed students to step up and take a role in promoting literacy among the students.

This also included creating the Book Club, which was open to all year groups. Throughout the year we were successful in providing a variety of events including; 'Roald Dahl Day', 'Black History Month', and we had a creative writing competition for Halloween.

All together, we had a really good turnout and the stories were epic! Of course we would have loved to do more, as the Juniors and Seniors loved all the events we were putting on, but then lockdown hit and we were all forced to go home again.

We didn't let this phase us. We continued to work tirelessly at home on top of schoolwork to make sure we kept the Literacy Group running as we all took part and created a Book Club Kahoot quiz and Book Bingo to keep everyone reading.

Next year, we hope to continue with the events next year and to add in new ones as COVID restrictions start to ease!

Rio Gregory, S5



Developing the Young Workforce

The year 2019-2020 delivered an amazing achievement for QVS when we were shortlisted as finalists in the Independent School of the Year awards for our Careers Service. This year, COVID 19 and remote learning brought a significant challenge to the Developing the Young Workforce team of providing a careers and guidance service to our pupils that maintained those extremely high standards. We are glad to report that with the support and cooperation of all of our partners we were able to rise to that challenge.

Through a combination of in-class and remote learning, it was possible to deliver the schemes of work developed last year, across our year groups. While external visitors to school were limited to some degree early in the year, we were able to find innovative ways in which to deliver careers guidance.

The Primary Department once again delivered their structured programme of lessons in a weekly slot within the curriculum, raising awareness of the wide variety of jobs that exist and sparking the pupils' imagination of what would be their dream job!

While S1 and S2 pupils would normally have experienced visits to external events or interventions from local employers, the pandemic severely restricted this. As a replacement however, on return to school, dedicated careers time was added to the S2 timetable and a scheme of work delivered that encouraged them to think about why people work and ways in which people can overcome the barriers to working.

All S3 to S6 pupils were again allocated dedicated DYW periods on their timetable with lessons designed around the national 'Skills for Careers' framework and the pupil entitlements within the Career Education Standards. During our enforced absence Google Classroom allowed us to maintain contact with all pupils, ensuring they were fully engaged and supported.

A new initiative was introduced this year which encouraged all S3 and S4 pupils to participate in a programme of online learning, which allowed them to study subjects of their choice, earning 'badges', towards certification. S3 pupils Libby Brown, Ryan Graham and Thomas Costello were the first to gain this fabulous achievement.

While the pandemic prevented work placement opportunities for our S4 pupils, classes in related topics

continued before and after the enforced absence. Most importantly, however, pupils were able to complete an online profiling assessment in early December and through the use of Google Classroom were able to attend one to one meetings with Margaret Graham, a careers consultant, to help them understand and interpret their profile. In addition, all S4 pupils were provided with an in-person meeting with Mrs Ciccu, a careers advisor with Skills Development Scotland.

Classroom activities for S5 centred around writing a CV, preparing for and practicing their interview technique. With a significant number of employers offering careers events and advice remotely, S5 and S6 pupils were encouraged to participate in events related to their areas of interest. These were promoted both through Google Classroom and the new @QVSDYW Twitter account.

In this most difficult of years, S6 pupils were fully supported in choosing and pursuing their preferred destination. Pupils interested in applying to university attended a workshop delivered by Stirling University and were then guided through the UCAS application system. The very successful outcome was that every pupil who applied was subsequently offered a place at university. The absence of external presenters again challenged us to think creatively, resulting in the new S6 wider achievement programme. Pupils were encouraged to study online courses from recognised institutions including the Open University, Alison Training and the Virtual College. As a result, many pupils achieved certification in a wide range of subjects including among others, Introduction to Immunology, Phases of Post Modern Architecture and Diabetes Awareness.

The Enterprise and Employability course continued to prove very successful this year, with S5 pupils Megan Clarke, Irena Watson and Ellie Wynne all achieving the National Progression Award at Level 5. This course provides excellent support for pupils preparing for the world of work and includes modules in Customer Care, Personal Development - Self and Work, Working for Yourself and Preparing to Work.

Challenging and ultimately very successful, this year would not have been possible without the help of the following, and our thanks go to them: Skills Development Scotland, Margaret Graham - The Career Place, Rachael Dorman - DYW Forth Valley, Gateway Shared Services, Live & Learn, Stirling University, Paula McMonagle - Atholl Accounting, Alan Rodger and the Army Outreach Team.

Mr Leitch, Developing the Young Workforce



Julian D. *Hankinson.*

(Headmaster, 1980 – 1994)

Churchill said that the characteristic of a great man was his power to leave a lasting impression on people he met; Julian fully met that criterion, as comments left by former pupils on Facebook after his death demonstrated: “He had such a positive influence over us all at QVS”; “Left an impression on many of us that we have taken into our adult lives”.

Julian came to QVS from Kelvinside Academy in Glasgow. After Selwyn College, Cambridge, where he read English, and a post-graduate teaching qualification from Leicester University, he began his teaching career at Kelvinside and during his time there became Head of Department, Assistant Rector, then Deputy Rector, and also led the school's Combined Cadet Force, coached 1st XI Cricket, refereed rugby matches and directed school plays.

Having been a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Norfolk Regiment during his National Service years, Julian was well suited to instilling military values in young men, and to running QVS for the Ministry of Defence as its first civilian Headmaster. He was a staunch supporter of the ceremonial life of the school, but also first and foremost a caring Headmaster and – throughout his life – a teacher of English. Former pupils remember him as “a no-nonsense leader with compassion and kindness”, “always very fair, understanding and approachable”. “He certainly put me on the right path,” wrote one, “and gave me some invaluable advice.”

Julian and his wife, Jeannette (or “Mrs H” as she was affectionately known), ran one of the boarding houses, too, for a term, a role in which they are warmly remembered. “He did a great job running our house,”; “he and his wife were totally committed to the school”; “his wife always concerned herself about the welfare of the boys”. (He would have agreed vigorously with Churchill's assertion that, “My most brilliant achievement was to persuade my wife to marry me.”)

School plays directed by Julian were a feature of his time at QVS, as were public speaking and debating, activities in which he encouraged and coached boys. He also, however, took care to work with pupils who were struggling with English lessons. According to his daughter, Julia, it was one of Julian's greatest sources of pleasure to see previously under-attaining students succeed in the subject he loved so much and to see them secure places of work or study as a result of the education they received at QVS.

Julian and Jeannette Hankinson saw the school through some difficult times, and also paved the way for it to become co-educational in 1996. They retired to Bute, where Julian used his love of language and his organisational skills to contribute greatly



to the life of the Church on the island. They visited their four children, fifteen grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren in various parts of the world, and took great delight in their extended family.

A piece about Julian's time at QVS, in *The Victorian* of 1994, mentions building works, curriculum changes, Feasibility Studies, Working Parties and Inspections. All of these things were part of his life as Headmaster, but it is the less obvious challenges that constitute the real achievements. As R. F. Delderfield wrote in his novel of boarding-school life, *To Serve Them All My Days*:

To run a place like this had seemed a more or less straightforward job from a distance, a matter of training and educating boys within a system of do's and don'ts, but it wasn't like that at all, not when you saw it from the inside. It was a task of fearful complexity, where it was easy to lose one's way and flounder. All manner of unlooked-for situations arose day by day and each demanded a personalised approach. ... Education, of the kind outsiders associated with schools, was a relatively unimportant part of boarding-school life. The human side of it, the sheer effort needed to keep a place as unwieldy as this on an even keel, required infinite imagination, endless patience and heaven knows what else besides.

Julian died at the age of 84 on 26th April 2020, just as the Covid-19 pandemic took hold. Julia and Jeannette were able to visit and support him in his final weeks and he was buried on a beautiful Spring day, 1st May, in the family plot at Cnoc na Rath cemetery. A memorial service will be held when conditions allow.



Boarding Life



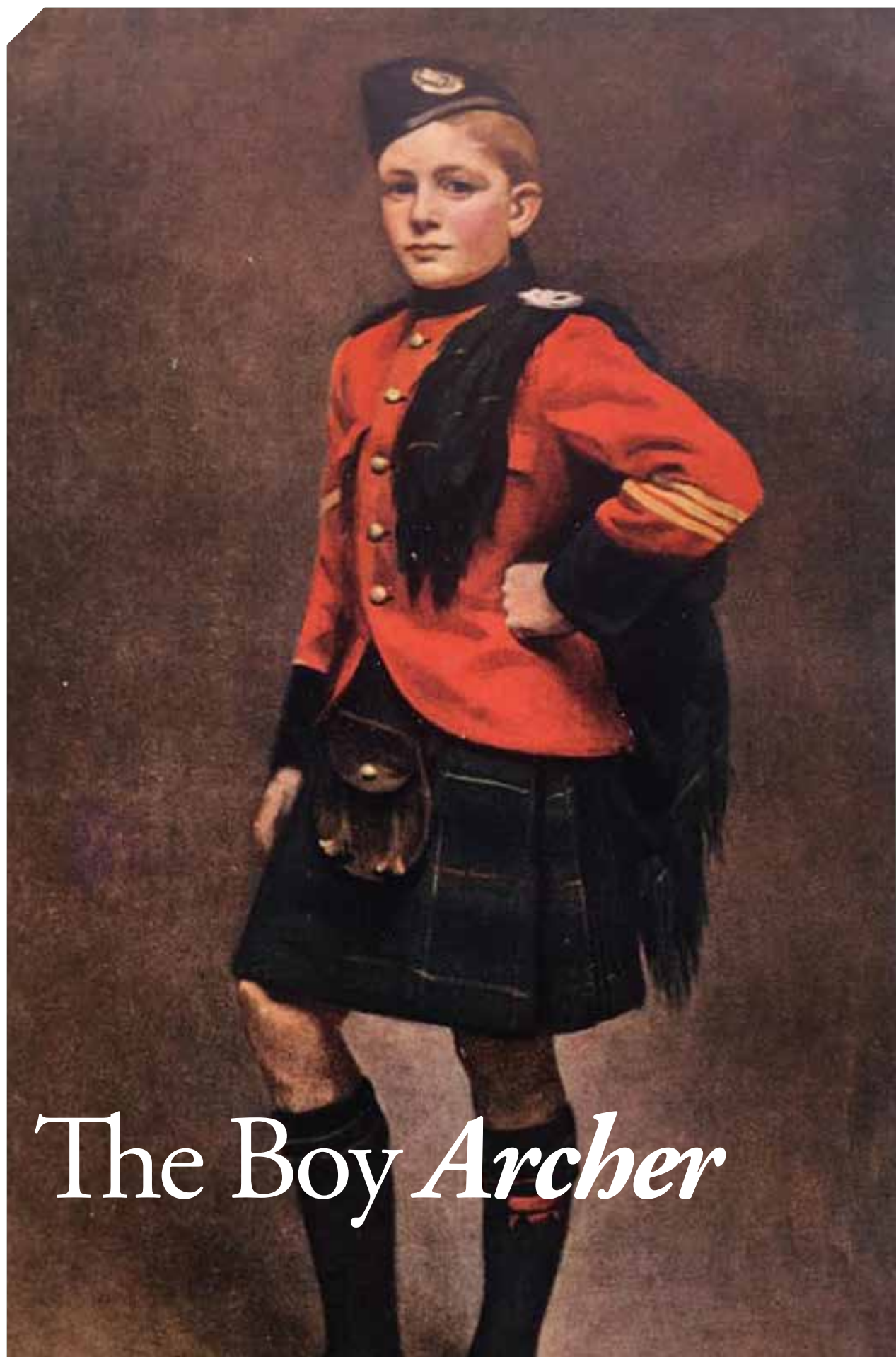
Premier league predictions hobby

School year 2020-2021, or as we prefer to call it, 'season 2020-21' saw the introduction of a new hobby, for those with a love of the round ball game! At the beginning of the season four fans, William Leonard P7, Jay Pearson and Ruari Imrie S4 got together with Mr Leitch, to share our passion for all things, English Premier League!

Way back in August we made our prediction of who would finish top 4 and bottom 3, who would win the golden boot and which goalkeeper would have the most clean sheets. Meeting on a Thursday after school, we then got together to watch Match of the Day highlights, 'argue' about our favourite teams, discuss the big moments from the games and predict the scores of the next week's games. Undaunted by lockdown, we were able to carry the hobby on remotely via the wonders of Google Classroom, leading to an exciting end of season when we finally did manage to get back together. After a nail biting finish, Ruari Imrie was able to go one better than his beloved Manchester United and become the first worthy winner of our prediction league, lifting the trophy at our end of season awards celebration!

A huge thanks to the boys involved for making it a most enjoyable first season and a big shout out to any pupil with an interest in football, boy or girl, to come and join us when we do it all over again for season 2021-22!





The Boy *Archer*



If you walk through Central Hall, you'll definitely have met 'The Boy Archer' through looking up at his famous portrait - but you might never have known his name or his story.

It was wonderful to have contact through the pandemic with his grandson Paul Archer, all the way from Australia who sent us some incredible family photographs that bring the boys' story vividly to life and allowed us a unique insight into the life of his grandfather and his brother George across the decades and the miles.

Paul shares that his grandfather Alfred James Archer born 1900, was Victorian number 19 from the original 'First Fifty' students at QVS. His portrait "The Boy" still hangs in Central Hall today and has become a historic emblem of the school for generations of Victorians. His brother George William Archer, born 1898 was also one of the first boys Victorian number 17. Sadly, George was killed in action in April 1917 in France, serving with the 1st Battalion of the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) Research carried out by modern Victorians tells us that George is buried at the Maroeuil British War Cemetery, France. Alfred's son and Paul's father Graham George Frederick Archer also attended the school between 1939-1945.

It is amazing for us to be able to see these photographs of the Archer brothers after looking up at Alfred's portrait every day for so many years. We are very excited to welcome Paul to the school after the pandemic and let him walk in his father and grandfather's footsteps in Central Hall, the Chapel and Dining Room which in lots of ways will be exactly the same as when George and Alfred were pupils here.

Our student Historians were absolutely thrilled to hear from a real life relative of George and Alfred and hope to host an interview with Paul for posterity. We promise to share details of Paul's visit with the QVS Community and will ensure that we get a photograph of Paul alongside the famous portrait of his grandfather Alfred.





OVA

Adventure Training

Jason Morrison, OV 4454
(joined 1994 and left in 1997)
was at QVS this week, organising
Activity Week for our P7-S3
students.

He got a tour of the school after all of his hard work and asked us to pass on his thanks and apologies (for his poor behaviour) to the staff who taught him. By his own account, he was not the best-behaved pupil - Jason admitted getting suspended for pouring talcum powder over a member of staff!!

But life has moved on for him - He is now part of the outdoor instructor team for Map Adventures and helped the junior pupils with climbing and abseiling this week - he was brilliant with our children. He also supports children who are involved with social services, helping them through critical incidents.

He was very open and honest this evening when touring the school - he said, "QVS and the Army were the only two things that helped me to redirect my life and to help others". Thank you so much to him for giving the QVS pupils a bit of normality after a very challenging year, Jason!

Alex Hume

Reporting the sad news of the
Death of Alex Hume (1827)
Alex was at the School 1936
to 1941 He was incredibly proud
to be a Victorian and continued to
attend Grand Day over the years with
his Brother Douglas. They would
introduce themselves as the Prime
Minister (Alex & Douglas Hume).

'Such sad news. I have many fond memories talking to the Hume brothers over the years. They had lots of funny stories of their days at QV as well as their adventures afterwards.

They would get the tour every year on open days to try and spot the changes and get to know the new senior students and what they were going to do after school.

My family and I often think of them and their kindness. My thoughts are with Alex's loved ones at this sad time, sending love'

OV Ilona Rich (nee Evenden)

Everesting

Delighted to share the
good news that OV Rich
McConnell summited
Everest at 06:15 Nepal time,
displaying a QVS Banner that he'd
had made specially before the trip.

Rich messaged me a few minutes ago and is happy to share a photo with the school and his fellow Victorians of him at the summit celebrating.

Rich hopes to come into QVS as soon as he is able, and share the full story of his epic adventure with the QVS Community, encouraging the current Victorians to follow their dreams. A lovely positive way to brighten up the middle of the week!

Alexander McVicar

Remembering Alexander
McVicar, The first Old
Victorian to get married
in the chapel 15 April 1954

Alexander served 27 years in The Royal Marines. He was a student at QVS from 1939 -44. His son Ross McVicar was at QVS 1964-1970 and went on to serve 22 years in the Royal Marines. They were both Sgt Majors.

Alexander won the Victor Ludorum at QV, his name was still on the trophy when Ross was there. Alexander's father refused to let him be in the QVS pipe band as he had been a piper in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, nevertheless he taught himself to play the pipes whilst in the Royal Marines and played in 42 Cdo RM pipe band.

He was a Physical Training Instructor and playing the pipes was a hobby to him. The photograph shows Sergeant McVicar with his bride Olive as the very first OV to marry his bride in the school chapel.

Thank you so much to OV Ross McVicar for sharing this story.

Obituaries 2021

Alan Cobb, (2844)

Alan joined the school in 1959 to 1964
Alan sadly passed away on the 11th May 2020.

John (Jack) Lee (2907)

Joined the school in 1960 to 1968,
Died: 19th November 2019
Jack had a heart attack while working at his computer.
Attended the Jubilee Grand Day in 2008.
Last visited the school in 2018.

John (Archie) Moore (2981)

Joined the school in 1962 to 1968
Died: 11th August 2020
Archie had a heart attack while walking on the West Highland Way.
Attended the Jubilee Grand Day in 2008.
Last visited the school in 2018.

David Finland (2898) (1960-68)

Died: 13th October 2020
David had a stroke 5 years ago and then contracted bowel cancer

Both Jack & Archie attended the Jubilee Grand Day in 2008 and our Year Reunion in 2018, but sadly we had not seen David in recent years as his health had not been good for some time.

Jack's funeral was in January and there were 12 OV's at Guildford for it, from quite literally all over the country;

Sadly both John's (Archie's) and David's have been during the Covid-19 pandemic and we were unable to attend either. They will all be sadly missed by their families as well as us.

Robert Bailey (2154)

Robert passed on the 7th June 2020, in Barrie, Ontario, Canada, Age 86.
While at the school Robert Served in the Military Band under Felix Lax, played E Flat Circular Bass.



OVA



10



8

2



3



13



7



14



5



Celebrating The Life Of



PAUL CHARLES DOYLE

1962 - 2021

11

1. OV Fiona Coyle, Husband Matt & son Charlie celebrate their wedding in style, despite a global pandemic to contend with.
2. OV Tarah Lynch graduating from Edinburgh Napier this year was determined to celebrate her big day with or without an official ceremony.
3. OV Callum Pearson celebrating his graduation in Commercial Dance and heading off on a showstopping European tour no less, almost immediately afterwards.
4. OV Adam Rainey & beautiful bride Leonie celebrate their big day by the sea in sunny Cornwall this summer.
5. The Spence family - past and present - Carly visiting from Spain before her wedding was reunited with brother Tommy and his daughter Hallie, who's now a Victorian herself.
6. Congratulations to OV & MAD Group former president Sushmita Gurung on her graduation in Winchester this summer
7. A double celebrations for the Williams family as OV twins Robert & Amie celebrate their wedding and engagement respectively
8. OV Jimmy Scott had a big day this Grand Day watching on proudly as daughter Hollie led the parade as Senior Monitor 2021 and son Charlie performed in the band.
9. Well done to OV Antony Tickel from D Flight MIOT4 as he passed out from RAF College Cranwell earlier this year
10. Congratulations to OV pair Kyle Rowe and Rhona Wilson who got engaged on Skye earlier in the year.
11. Remembering the life of OV Paul Charles Doyle 1962-2021. Warm memories of him from all his fellow Victorians for the time they spent together here at QVS
12. Well done to OV Steven Rae as he passed out from HMS Raleigh earlier this year, off to embark upon his Stage Two Weapons Engineering in Plymouth
13. Many congratulations to OV Matt 'Shep' Sheppard and Jen who were married in Dunblane Cathedral earlier this year
14. As well as getting engaged, OV Kyle Rowe is also celebrating signing for London Irish this year and scoring an amazing hat trick in recent weeks has meant that he's been going viral on social media for much more than his new haircut...
15. Congratulations to OV Eden Reid whose team took Gold this weekend at Clash of The Clans and proved once and for all that Crossfit's not just for the boys!
16. OV Ashley Lees collaborated with fellow OV Colin Douglas Usher to write and illustrate a wonderful story about the pandemic for younger readers, which is going down a treat in the OV community and beyond.

Staff

Senior Leadership Team:

Head	D Shaw BSc (Hons) PGCE
Depute Head (P&S)	J Adams MA (Hons) PGCE
Depute Head (P&G)	S J Adams BSc (Hons) PGCE
Depute 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	D J Pitman BEd
Haig	R M H Boyd BD (Hons) PGCE DipTh
Trenchard	D H Mackay BEd (Hons)

Principal Teachers:

V Adams BEd (Hons)
 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
 A M Kirk MA (Hons) DipEdTech PGCE
 J S Lawrence BSc (Hons) MSc PGCE
 C McBlain BSc DipEd
 D McLay BEd (Hons)
 K L Rodger MA (Hons) MSc PGCE
 L Sherriff BEd (Hons) PGCE
 R C Wright BA PGCE

Teachers:

R L Appleyard BA (Hons) PGCE
 N Bales MA (Hons) PGDE
 R M H Boyd BD (Hons) PGCE DipTh
 A Bryce BSc (Hons) MSc PGDE
 A Christmas MA (Hons)
 N Cruickshanks BA (Hons) Dip Ed
 A Duncan MA (Hons) PGDE
 K Elliott BEd (Hons)
 S Hadden BSc (Hons) PGCE
 S A M Hastie BEd (Hons) PGCE
 S Humble BSc (Hons) PGCE
 G Johnstone BSc (Hons) PGCE
 S Leitch MA PGDE
 D H Mackay BEd (Hons)
 L MacLeod BA (Hons) PGDE
 L McGeechan BSc PGDE
 A McHugh MA (Hons) PGDE
 R Newham BSc PGDE
 S L O'Neill BA (Hons) PE
 D J Pitman BEd
 S W Renwick BSc (Hons) PE
 T McP Shannon RD HNDMechEng DipTechEdn
 C-A Taylor BSc (Hons) PGCE Cert PP in BE PGC in SFL
 K Taylor-Meinz BA (Joint Hons) PGDE
 O White BA (Hons) PGDE
 S Wright BSc (Hons)

Ceremonial:

School Sergeant Major	D D H Stacey MBE (late Black Watch)
Drum Major	G Peters BA
Pipe Major	G R Ross Dip Piping (late Gordon Highlanders)
Highland Dancing Instructor	S S Landsburgh Associate BATD

Visiting Music Teachers:

C Buchanan	F Henderson
T Barrett	I Hood
V Lopez	R Digney
G Spowart	M MacSporran

Visiting Sports Coach:

R Donaldson

House Matrons:

Wavell	M C Sword
Cunningham	C Pitman
Haig	M Lewis
Trenchard	H A Devlin

Housekeepers:

D McIntosh	A McPhail
K McVey	L Crow

Medical Centre:

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

Business Management:

Resources Manager	K Lawrie BA(Hons)
Deputy Resources Manager	I M Mair MAAT
Facilities Manager & SSYO	J Robinson
Deputy Facilities Manager & Dep SSYO	C P Rankin
Library & Information Manager	T Thomson
IT Systems Engineer	S Nevill MBCS MCSE

Business Support:

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

Academic Support:

L M Craig	A Nicolson	G R McConnell
E Clark BE	E Mason BA	L Brown BA
L Sprouting BSc(Hons) RsciTech		

Facilities Support:

M Brailey	R G MacDougall	R Russell
L Henderson	P A Warner	





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