

Sporting Update

Term 1 has been exceptionally busy; extra-curricular sports are bursting at the seam!

Hockey

S1 - Played -32 games (won 20, drew 9, lost 3)

S2 - Played -7 games (won 4, drew 1, lost 2)

S3 - Played - 7 games (won 4, drew 0 lost 3)

Seniors - Played - 8 games (won 0, drew 3, lost 5)

Rugby

S1 - Played 6 games (won 6, drew 0, lost 0)

S2 - Played 7 games (won 6, drew 0, lost 1)

S3 - Played 7 games (won 7, drew 0, lost 0)

U16 (Cup/Plate) - Played 3 games (won 3, drew 0, lost 0)

U18 (Cup/Plate) - Played 3 games (won 2, drew 0, lost 0)

The extra-curricular programme consists of more than just Rugby and Hockey and participation is rising in every activity; in most cases we could put out two teams per year group for both rugby and hockey (senior hockey squad consists of 57 players for 15 spots on a Saturday morning). In addition to the results above, Netball, Basketball, Fitness, Badminton and Biking continue to be a huge success.

A new librarian?

Students are encouraged to develop their employability skills and gain an understanding of the world of work through work experience. In recent weeks, fourth year student Kieron Shaw has helped Mrs Fairbairn, one of the library supervisors, with the librarian's duties. He has assisted when students and members of the public have been selecting books and returning them.

Kieron had to use his people skills while doing this by being polite and talking to the students and the library users from Earlston community.

Another duty involved planning displays and presenting them.

Mrs Fairbairn said that Kieron was a very enthusiastic student and presented well on his work experience.

Fantastic work Kieron - well done!

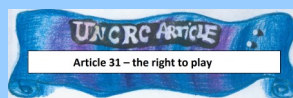


School Hockey

The 2016/17 season has kick started with over 200 hundred girls coming along to weekly training sessions and fixtures. With enthusiasm levels at a high, we have had up to 100 pupils out representing the school across the Borders over the last five Friday afternoons. The results have been very promising across the board with the S1, S2 and S3 squads winning most of their matches against Hawick, Kelso, Selkirk, Berwickshire and Peebles. The seniors have started the season with some very tough games and are hoping to see things 'click into place' over the next few weeks!

Congratulations to Chloe Richardson, Ellen Keefe, Amy Inglis, Lara Howard and Imogen Dawson who have been selected to represent the South U18 and U16 squads respectively. They will be competing at this weekend's Inter-District Tournament up at the Glasgow National Hockey Centre.

School hockey will continue up until December with weekly fixtures happening across the Borders and one up in Edinburgh against Trinity High School. Throughout December and January we will be taking a 'winter break' during which we will offer indoor hockey to many of the pupils throughout the school.



Girls Rugby

The girls' rugby has started with a 'bang' with lots of new and old faces returning to take on the increasingly popular game. The girls have been training every Tuesday afternoon for the last five weeks with sessions taking place at the school from 5-6pm. We have been delighted to see numbers increase again to over 20 girls coming along and trying out the game. We are hoping to arrange a number of fixtures post October Holidays in order for the girls to experience the competitive side to rugby and put into practice everything they have been working hard on at training.

Special thanks must go to Miss Miller for her continued support, coming along to help coach every week. Also, to Ciaran Hogg (DO) and Mr Changleng for supporting the girls rugby with such enthusiasm.

Finally, we must say a huge thank you to Jeremy Brett who has very kindly offered to sponsor a new training top for the girls squad - this is very much appreciated by all involved.

Dates for the Diary

Tues 8 November : S1 Careers morning

Thurs 10 and Fr 11 November : In-service days

Mon 14 November : Remembrance Assemblies

Thursday 24 November—World of Work Evening S3—S6

Monday 28 November—St Andrew's day holiday

Thursday 1 December : S1 Parents' Evening



Earlston High News

Respect - Responsibility - Honesty - Commitment - Excellence

November 2016

Congratulations to our 2016 Dux Medallists

Cameron Daly, Hugh Robinson, Adam Hall, Corran Macfarlane, Iona Clark, Lucie Billet, Ben McKinlay, Gavin Ross, Elizabeth Bowie and Robbie McLeish.

The students were presented with their medals the Special Assembly (see below). Well done and congratulations.



A Special Assembly

On Thursday 6th October EHS held a Special Assembly to recognise the significant achievement of the senior students and introduce the first years to the sixth years. One of the reasons it is so special is because it celebrates the success of those students who achieved the highest grades in their SQA Higher examinations: A grades in each of their five or six Highers. These students were presented with the Burt medal and are the Dux Medallists for 2016.

Parents of the Dux Medallists and the Head Team, S1 and S6 students were invited to watch on as the Head Team - Duncan Moore, Hugh Robinson, Bethany Hamilton and Kirsty Davidson - spoke about the range of opportunities available to pupils at EHS. They outlined for the first years the wide range of extra-curricular activities, school trips and the fantastic teaching that allows students to achieve success. The significant amount of work and dedication to achieve was also highlighted as they each reflected on their experience and encouraged the first years to be all they can.

After the Head Team had concluded their speeches, they were presented with their certificates by Mr Sinclair, who then awarded our Dux students with their medals.

Duncan S6

Message from Mr Sinclair

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope our pupils had restful mid-term break and are ready for the challenges of the second half of this autumn term.

As part of our drive to extend leadership roles within our school community, I would ask that parents/carers continue to support and encourage their young people to be actively involved in the life of our school - there is something for everyone. Our new S1-S5 Ambassador programme is now underway and we will continue to develop and offer our pupils the opportunities to contribute to leading our school to excellence. I have been really impressed with some of the school service our S6 have been involved in, they are truly making a difference in our school and in the wider community - keep up the good work!

I wish all our pupils a successful term and am looking forward to our fulsome programme of Christmas events.

Mr Sinclair



Jenga Joys!

There was a fantastic amount of people at this week's House competition. Jenga fans from all round the school joined in the fun in Gym 2 and earned many House points. With over 100 people joining in, the hall was packed with people playing, waiting and stacking the Jenga games.

With groups of 2-6 playing one game, the competition levels in the hall were as high as the Jenga towers that were being built - quite high! The Jenga House competition was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated and resulted in Leader earning the most points. Well done, and see you all at the next event!

Leonie and Ruth S6



Blair Drummond Safari Park Trip

On the 26th of October, some of the S1 pupils went on a trip to Blair Drummond Safari Park, Stirling. At the park we saw lots of animals and even watched some shows. We also went on some very fun rides.

My group went to the birds of prey display first. We watched a show where they showed us 2 types of birds and then we walked through the park and saw the elephants, rhinos, wallabies, ostriches, giraffes and lions all before lunch.

After lunch my group watched a sea lion show then we went on a boat ride to Monkey Island where we saw the chimpanzees. We also visited Lemur and Bug Island where we saw tortoises, lemurs and many types of bugs.

Overall I think everyone had a very enjoyable day. Thank you so much to the Sixth Years on the S1 Events Committee for organising such a great day out for all of us.

Mateja Andrews S1.



Senior Hockey Tour

This October the senior hockey team was given the opportunity to have a hockey tour to Barcelona. After multiple fundraising events, such as bag packing in a local supermarket, and kind donations - from Mr Roy Firth and Hogg and Thorburn - we raised enough money to fund our transport and tour kit.

We arrived in Barcelona on the 8th of October on a sunny afternoon, where we made our way to the hotel in Santa Susanna. At the hotel there were great facilities such as a pool, which we took full advantage of, no matter the weather. The hotel also had organised games which many of us participated in. In our free time we were able to go to the local businesses which included shops and restaurants, such as traditional tapas bar. Although the weather wasn't the best, we had a great time at the nearby beach playing competitive tournaments of volleyball. At night-time, we visited the lively local market stalls which made many things to offer such as hair braiding, tattoos, live music and homemade items. Many of the tour got hair braids, even Miss Pate!

Tour games were a big part of the fun and excitement that happened in Barcelona. We had an on-going card game, sneaky moves from Mrs Lawrence and Miss Pate resulted in Danika Green's victory. Group challenges in small mixed groups were established on the days when the weather wasn't prime, these included tasks like craziest hair, most intimidating face paint and best rap to sum up the tour. The tasks were great in making year groups interact and few friendships were formed.

On one of the days we ventured in Barcelona, where we did a spot of sightseeing. We posed in front of the Sagrada Família Cathedral and climbed to the top of a high hill to see Barcelona from a higher perspective. We were given free time to have lunch and do some shopping; a tour favourite was cosmetic store Sephora. After that we went on to play our first hockey game.

In regards to hockey, we were fortunate enough to have enough numbers to bring an A and B team. We played two fixtures at different locations on water based pitches playing club level hockey teams, sadly our third fixture was rained off due to the torrential rain after a mere 15 minutes. Both teams represented the school well both on and off the pitch and we were even lucky enough to win two of the games, thanks to the goals by Christie Rout and Chloe Richardson!

On our last night of the tour, we had a mini award ceremony where many awards were given out, both for hockey and tour contributions. For the hockey awards, both Captain and Vice-captain of each team were given awards as well as man of the match, most improved players, best wipe-out and best tackle. Tour contributions awards went to individuals for best banter, best joke, Little Miss Forgetful, biggest poser and best fall.

Overall, we had a brilliant time on the hockey tour 2016 despite the less than desirable weather and questionable strangers we encountered. We had a brilliant time playing hockey, making new friends and jumping in the pool. The tour has helped to bond our team which will benefit us this hockey season. We would like to thank everyone who made the tour possible, especially Mrs Lawrence for the time, effort and commitment she put in to making it possible and to Miss Pate and Miss Ross for giving up their October holidays to accompany us. We will all never forget the memories that were made.

Barca... Woo!

By Danika Green and Susan Arkley. (S6)

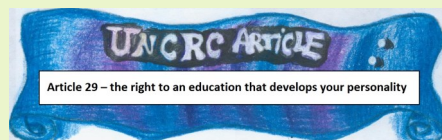


D of E Update

The last assessed expedition of 2016 was a huge success for 10 Silver and 24 Bronze students.

In their groups, they battled with the wind, cows, bees, hills, sheep droppings and mud to pass all of the requirements and achieve their Duke of Edinburgh's Awards.

Many thanks to all the staff and volunteers who made this possible.



Learning Together

Nine children from East Green Early Learning and Childcare nursery came to Earlston High School on the 6th of October to display the paper plate faces they'd spent the last few weeks creating. Helping them with this each week were two EHS sixth years, Eilidh Brown and Carly Ingram. The two seniors have been assisting the staff and working with the children at East Green as part of their school/community service.

Mrs Fairbairn, one of our school librarians, said "It's lovely to see the 3-18 Curriculum in action as our S6 students work with the toddlers from East Green Nursery. The youngsters are an inspiration!" Eilidh added that "It was a fantastic learning experience for them," and "everyone - including Carly and I - had a fantastic time."

The display is hanging pride of place in the school library and is a wonderful piece of work. Each plate is a self-portrait created by the children with lovely wee speech bubbles, which describe them. *Rowan S6*



DEVELOPING YOUNG WORKFORCE



S1 STEM Day

On 19 September our S1s enjoyed the first of 5 career sector information days. The focus of this first day was Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. These days will focus on growth industries and are aimed at increasing the awareness of the range of jobs available now and in the future, the importance of developing employability skills, appreciating the different career pathways and an awareness of opportunities available locally - not just jobs but also aspects such as work experience and volunteering prior to embarking on a career.

We were delighted to welcome guests from Kyowa Kirin, Roslin Institute, Plexus, UK Astronomy Centre, Mainetti, Edinburgh University, NHS, Marshall Tractors and the Army. Their enthusiasm and extensive knowledge helped ensure that was a very successful day.

The feedback from pupils following the STEM day was very positive and they are looking forward to future days covering Media, Health, Finance, Retail, Tourism and Food & Drink.

World of Work 16



Last year we had a successful World of Work evening. This will run again on November 24. Aimed at all S3 students, this event is an excellent opportunity for students and parents/carers to meet a range of employers and ask questions about skills, qualities, qualifications and routes into employment. It also gives the opportunity to seek advice and guidance for future subject choices. Senior Phase students and parents/carers are also welcome to attend.

We are very appreciate of the help and support offered by our business partners in the school and are always keen to engage with new partners for events such as WoW16 and our S1 Career Sector Days. If you are able to offer help with these

events or any other aspect of partner working please get in touch with us.

My World of Work Ambassadors

We are delighted to announce a team of S5/6 students as our My World of Work Ambassadors. They will be tasked with raising the importance of career management skills and the My World of Work online resource. They will work with teachers and parents/carers as well as with younger students.

The team will be supported by Skills Development Scotland and will have responsibility for a range of in-school projects, as well as being a very visible presence at all parents' evenings and careers events.



College Links

We are delighted to be able to offer students places on courses at Borders College and Queen Margaret University as part of their senior phase curriculum. We have students embarking on courses on Computing Science, Construction, Childcare, Creative Industries, Engineering, Hairdressing, Health & Social Care and Psychology. These courses have proven to be an excellent bridge between school and further/higher education and EHS appreciate the benefits of good school/college partnerships.

Volunteering Ambassadors

Supported by Volunteer Centre Borders, we have appointed two S6 girls - Amy Wilson and Ruth Aitken - as our Volunteering Ambassadors. Their task is widespread and includes helping to create and promote a culture of volunteering in Earlston High School, being a focal point for providing information about volunteering opportunities in and out of school to students and parents/carers and celebrating and sharing volunteering achievements at school assemblies and events. All students in the school will be registered for Saltire Awards and encouraged to take up volunteering opportunities.

Volunteering is an increasingly important aspect in helping to gain places on courses and work opportunities and we appreciate the support of our parents/carers with this.



DISNEY DAY!

On Friday 7 October, the S6 Charities Committee organised a Disney Dress Down Day.

There was an array characters from Pocohontas, Frozen, 101 Dalmations, Cool Runnings, Peter Pan — including his very onw pirate ship - Alice in Wonderland and many more!

In total we raised £891.40 for our three nominated charities for 2016-17: Macmillan Cancer Support, The Vine Trust and Borders Pet Rescue.

Amy Wilson

