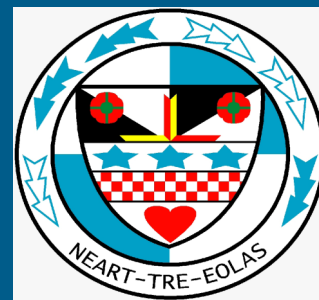




# DOUGLAS ACADEMY NEWS

## SUMMER 2018



*strength through knowledge*

### **Note from the Head Teacher**

After a very busy term, staff and pupils are now looking forward to the summer break. The end of each school year is always very busy with a range of activities, S6 Leavers' Day and Prom, as well as the organisation of BGE Prizegivings. We have also launched a new uniform policy and I am encouraged and greatly appreciative of the continued support of parents and carers in this regard. Ensuring that every young person in school is easily identified as a pupil of Douglas Academy is very important and helps build on the very positive ethos of our school.

In June there were no less than three overseas trips – to Italy, the Ardeche and Iceland. From photographs and reports from staff and pupils so far each trip looked amazing, with our young people continuing to enjoy the many memorable experiences and opportunities offered within Douglas Academy. The August/September newsletter will feature accounts of each trip.

Meanwhile, back in Milngavie there were a number of visits to local industries and businesses, all of which enhance the curriculum and which you can read about in this edition. In June, we held BGE Prizegivings and for the first time hosted an evening reception for S1 pupils and parents. I am delighted to say that, even with an important World Cup football match on television at the same time, it was very well attended. In light of this, next session we will continue to consider how best to celebrate the success of our junior pupils.

Watching young people grow up over their time at Douglas Academy is a privilege and while saying farewell to our S6 pupils is sad, to watch them move on to the next stage as mature young adults is hugely rewarding for all staff. I wish them well and every success in the future. A number of our former S6 pupils will indeed continue to represent Douglas Academy in July at the European Youth Parliament in the company of Mr Gray. This is a great honour, demonstrating their hard work and commitment over a long period of time.

At the end of this school term, we have a number of colleagues who are moving on to new positions. We congratulate Mr Quinn on his permanent appointment as Team Leader – Secondary Wellbeing Support in Kirkintilloch and also Mrs McNeill who, after many years in Douglas Academy's Art Department, is moving to Gleniffer High in Paisley. We also say goodbye to Miss Penman and Mr Reilly and to our NQTS - Mr Conway, Mr Gracie, Miss Higgins, Mr Johnson, Miss MacLean, Ms Russell, Mrs Tayler and Mr Wiggins and wish them every success as they embark on new posts. Finally, congratulations also go to: Mr Stepney who was appointed as a permanent teacher in the PE Department; to Mr Burton and Ms Christy who take up a temporary posts in CDT and Art respectively; to Mrs Kennedy who is now Acting Principal Teacher of Business Studies; and to Mrs Forsyth who has just been appointed Principal Teacher of History and Modern Studies. Our thanks and best wishes go to Mrs Ralston (former PT Business Studies) who took the decision earlier this year to assume a part-time position within the department and finally, to Mrs Baillie, our Support for Learning Assistant who is retiring.

On behalf of all of the staff at Douglas Academy, I extend to you our very best wishes for a happy and sunny summer holiday. I look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready to start again in August!

**Barry Smedley**  
**Headteacher**

*The Douglas Academy News is produced for the parents, pupils and friends of Douglas Academy. It usually appears towards the end of every other month. All comments, enquiries, suggestions or contributions will be very welcome.*

## Silver Surfers @ Milngavie Library, Computing Science Department, Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Douglas Academy was delighted to continue our outreach relationship with Milngavie Library by sending 6 S3 pupils to help with their weekly "Silver Surfers" programme. While this visit is usually undertaken by senior pupils, while they are on exam leave our S3 stepped up and did a magnificent job of helping out some of the local pensioners with their technological queries. The pupils were asked about iPhones, Android phones, tablets and laptops on subject matter ranging from emails to photo manipulation. It was a hugely enjoyable visit to an important local community initiative, with the pupils asking if they could return the following week to catch up with their new-found friends and confidants! The feedback from the library was very complimentary. Douglas Academy is proud of all who took part and we look forward to continuing to play our part in the local community.



Iain Park with silver surfers to the left and to the right!



Philippa Neil helps out.



Maeve can see her future in tech support!

## RRSA Gold Award



On Friday 15th June staff and pupils celebrated the achievement of our RRSA Gold Award. We had a lovely morning celebration and cake and chocolate coins were distributed as our new banner was proudly unveiled. Staff past and present were in attendance, as were former pupils who played a huge part in promoting the award - Hannah Duthie, Hannah Beardsley, Arun Smith and Alice McIntyre-Beon, as well as staff and pupils from our cluster primaries. Thank you too to Councillors Jim Goodall (Convener of Education) and Graeme McGinnigle (Vice Convener of Education) for coming along.







## Library Inter-Class Quiz

The final of the annual first year Library Inter-Class quiz took place on 1<sup>st</sup> June with Mr Gray acting as quizmaster. A range of questions tested pupils' general and literary knowledge. In a nail-biting final, the winners from 1B were: Caitlyn Bain, Dylan Clark, Ava Jackson and Lewis Preston Monteith. The winning team were presented with their medals and the prized Library shield.

**First Year Library Inter-Class Quiz (photo attached, left to right**

**back: Lewis Preston Monteith, Dylan Clark; front: Caitlyn Bain, Ava Jackson)**

## SHELF HELP

East Dunbartonshire Council secondary school libraries have recently introduced Shelf Help – a collection of books to remind you that you are not alone.

The Shelf Help book collection contains a range of non-fiction books on a variety of topics including how to maintain good mental health and cope with stress and also fiction books featuring characters who may be going through similar experiences.

As part of the Shelf Help project a competition 'The Book That Saved My Life' was held. Pupils and staff were invited to submit entries for publication in a booklet to be launched across East Dunbartonshire secondary school libraries as part of Book Week Scotland in November 2018. Entrants were asked to write a short piece on a book which has had an impact on them. From the many entries, eight from each secondary school were selected to appear in the booklet: 'The Book That Saved My Life'. Congratulations to 2nd year pupil, Dominic Morgan; David Smith, Maisie Franssen McIlroy, Lara Swinson, Emma Sherwood, Lauren McGuinness and Sulayman Sarr (S3) who were selected from Douglas Academy. We look forward to seeing their entries in print!

*This project is supported by the Scottish Government Library Improvement Fund which is administered by the Scottish Library and Information Council.*



Congratulations to Marnie Sayer of class 1.4 on achieving Artist of The Month. Marnie's, "Artist's Studio" inspired still life shows excellent use of form, colour and media handling. Her artwork is displayed in the art corridor during the month of June and August.

## S1 Right Here, Right Now Challenge

During May all S1 pupils were invited to take part in the 'Right Here, Right Now' challenge. This was a Wider Achievement opportunity designed to increase their awareness and understanding of children's rights and to promote citizenship.

A big thank you to everyone who participated in this challenge. Many pupils put in a great deal of effort and undertook a wide range of activities, and parents/carers did a lot to support them in this. The pupils' feedback was very positive and showed that participation in this programme greatly increased their knowledge of rights and also many commented that it had helped them to feel more grateful for things and to appreciate the opportunities they've been given. What a great outcome!

Congratulations to Marnie Sayer 2C who won the prize-draw for a £20 voucher, and to the group of pupils who worked with the school's Youth Worker Claire Pearson to achieve an SQA-accredited Dynamic Youth Award. Well done everyone!



## Visit to Daycare Centre

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, Douglas Academy's Junior Choir visited Oakburn Park Daycare Centre in Milngavie where they received a very warm welcome from a very enthusiastic audience! The choir enjoyed a lovely buffet lunch in the sunshine before getting to work entertaining for the afternoon. Pupils sang a varied programme including songs from 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' and 'The Greatest Showman' and the audience also enjoyed a number of fantastic solo and duet performances by various members of the choir. The afternoon was rounded off with a big sing-song of some of Oakburn Park's favourites such as 'I belong to Glasgow' and 'It's a long way to Tipperary'. A fantastic afternoon was had by all, and we look forward to visiting Oakburn Park again soon!



## U13s Boys Football

A massive congratulations to our U13 boys football squad who lifted the EDC Cup on Thursday night (14th June) at the Celtic training centre.

The boys were nothing short of outstanding from the first minute to the last, securing a 4-1 victory against the current Scottish champions Boclair Academy.

Starting line up:

Richard Banks GK  
Josh Watson RB  
Mack McManus CB  
Nathan Docherty CB  
Rauiri Stevenson LB  
Patrick Spence RM  
Alasdair Spaulding CM (Captain)  
Jack Rice CM  
Adam Kyle LM  
Mihai Urse ST  
Lewis McKean ST

Substitutes:

Robbie Readie  
Blain McQuillan  
Ben Spaulding  
Alex Simpson



Douglas Academy started the game incredibly well, pressing the Boclair team from the very first minute. Throughout the game there was some fantastic football played by both teams in a very competitive, back and forth game. Going in at half time, Douglas Academy were up 2-0 after two outstanding free kicks from Jack Rice. Shortly after the break, Jack Rice sent yet another fantastic free kick high into the net. After looking dangerous during a number of attacks, Boclair scored from a corner kick. The Douglas team, however, kept their nerve and defended exceptionally well, holding off further attacks from the Boclair front men. Five minutes before the end, striker Lewis McKean ran onto a fantastic through ball from Alasdair Spaulding, blasting a well deserved goal into the roof of the net to secure the victory. Very well done to all of the boys who have been involved throughout the year in our league and cup campaigns.

A great end to a fantastic season!





## The Stocks are High!!

On Tuesday 15 May, the Business Education and Maths departments ran the annual **Stock Market Challenge** for 80 S3 pupils. Pupils were given the opportunity to work as stock brokers and experience the excitement of buying and selling shares and dollars on a real trading floor! Pupils worked in teams and were given an initial £15,000 starting capital which they had to invest and reinvest during the five days. The five virtual days of trading were condensed into a dynamic, exciting and highly competitive 4 hours.



Throughout the event pupils displayed excellent team work, communication and strategic decision-making skills as they had to deal with many twists and turns as the prices of shares plummeted and soared depending on the news stories for each day.

The winning team (Imogen Milling, Rohan Hart, Will Fleming and Conor McAloon) won with an impressive £250,000!

The event was a huge success for pupils and teachers alike. It proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile experience for all involved - allowing pupils to relate what they learn in Business Management and Mathematics to the world of work. According to one trader, "I had to be a good communicator and learn to be smart with money. I also learned more about how the stock market works!". Another observed, "Working on the Stock market is not for me – it is far too scary!".



Thank you to all pupils for their hard work and willingness to participate on the day and to all members of staff that helped with the event. We look forward to running the challenge again next year with the new S3 cohort.



## Wood'n Stock Go to Hampden!

After winning the Young Enterprise Dunbartonshire Area Final, Wood'n Stock represented Dunbartonshire at the Young Enterprise Scottish Finals on Wednesday 6 June at Hampden Park. They competed with 16 other Young Enterprise Companies from across Scotland.



The company was represented by both the management board and company members including Craig Kidd – Managing Director, Jennifer Cockburn and Mia Evans – Marketing Directors, Scott Brown – Finance Director and Francesca Nicholson – Company Member.

On the day, Wood'n Stock and the 16 other companies had to set up their Trade Fair Stand for judging, they also had to present to over 200 people and 10 judges from both the business world and Young Enterprise Scotland, their presentation was based on their experience with Young Enterprise, including achievements and challenges that the company faced. All company members participated in an interview



whereby 4 judges from Young Enterprise examined Wood'n Stock's company report in strategies. At night pupils attended an evening awards ceremony and dinner event.

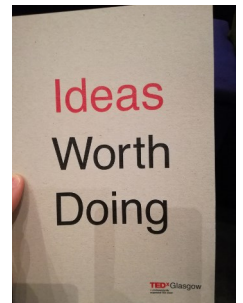


The company members who represented Wood'n Stock were faced with tough challenges throughout the day at such a valuable event. They found the whole experience with Young Enterprise very valuable and worthwhile, demonstrating commitment and dedication to follow the whole experience through to the end. Congratulations Wood'n Stock - we will be looking out for Douglas Academy's future entrepreneurs!

## TedXYouth Event



On Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May the Computing Science and Business Education Departments partnered up to take a group of S3 pupils to the TedXYouth event held at Glasgow SECC & Armadillo. The event was organised as part of Scotland's Year of Young People. First up in the SECC we visited the main hall which was full of exhibits showcasing some fantastic ideas and projects from many different areas of science and technology. There were robotic hands, a



1000mph car, a camera designed to broadcast from within the human body, a robotic dog, a silent disco, magicians, computer games consoles and much, much more. Our pupils made sure to get around as many stands as they could, and we're sure that more than a few creative sparks were lit! Across in the Armadillo, a number of speakers, all with stories that were as meaningful as they were inspirational. The pupils heard from a woman who had conquered Everest, twice; two young men who had overcome mental health issues; a doctor who researched the influence of smartphones and tablets on our mental health states; entrepreneurs and company starters. There was one underlying message – believe in yourself! The pupils afterwards agreed that particular message was a powerful start and end to the day. Thanks to TedX for having us!

## SmartSTEM Trip, Computing Science Department, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018

On a crisp Wednesday Spring morning, 6 S1 pupils and 4 S2 pupils from Douglas Academy went to be inspired into STEM by an event at Glasgow Clyde College's Anniesland Campus organised by the SmartSTEM charity. There was a wide range of exhibitors there, showing their products and giving advice; from the Royal Navy to Medical tech to outdoor education services to an actual Dalek! The pupils were kept engaged all day with workshops on fixing a floating Ikea shelf, programming drones around an assault course and using Jelly Babies to look at the nature of DNA. Talks from a 17 year old entrepreneur and Virtual/Augmented Reality businesses meant that the pupils had a full day of encouragement to follow their dreams and enthuse about what their imaginations could build. Pupil feedback was enthusiastic and positive, particularly from the girls who went. Here's hoping today's learners can turn into tomorrow's leaders!



*Isla and Catherine have nailed it!*



*"How many shopping days until Christmas?" Scott and Greg get to grips with programming a drone.*



*The DNA of Jelly Babies. The best kind of DNA!*

## S3 Visit to Schaw Court, Bearsden Retirement Home

A group of S3 pupils, Isla Farrell, Edie Roper-Caldbeck, Aiden Smith and John Stewart accompanied by Mrs Halkett were invited by the Trust Housing Association to attend the Digital Participation launch event. This means that residents, family and friends will have access to Wifi to allow them to make greater use of technology.

Our students worked with the residents, family and friends for the afternoon to introduce some of them to l pads for the first time and to help others further develop their IT skills.

The photograph shows Aiden Smith helping to launch the initiative. It was a privilege to be part of the launch and we had a very enjoyable and productive visit.





## Music in the Community



Martha McKay, Paul Tollin and Michael Panaretou who performed in the Lilie Art Gallery in Milngavie on Saturday 9th June for the start of Milngavie Week.

## We're in Business Challenge Final

As part of the S2 Enterprise Course, all S2 classes created their own Theme Park including making effective business decisions relating to marketing activities, business ethics and budgeting. Groups of pupils worked together to come up with a theme park idea which they then presented to their class, with the winning group going through to the final.



After hours of dedicated practice, the pupils presented their theme park to three judges, Mr Kick, Mrs Ralston and Lara MacDonald from Glasgow Children's



Hospital Charity. All groups were able to present their theme park idea confidently whilst having their business acumen challenged by the judges. The winning group's Theme Park was called 'Thrill Paradise' created by John Cattanach, Orla Doherty, Jack Docherty and Lauren MacQueen. All S2 pupils were able to demonstrate their Skills for Learning, Life and Work. Well done S2!

## Our school uniform for 2018/19 is as follows:

### Pupils in S1 – S5

- \* School blazer
- \* Black trousers or skirt with tights (no shorts, leggings or jeans/denim material of any colour)
- \* White school shirt/blouse with collar and school tie (school tie must be visible at all times)
- \* Plain black cardigan, pullover or sweatshirt (no hoodies)
- \* Plain black shoes or trainers (footwear must be completely black)
- \* In inclement weather pupils will be encouraged to wear a plain black jacket over their blazer which should be removed when entering the building and should not be worn in class.

### Pupils in S6

As above with:

- \* S6 school tie

Blazers can be purchased online at: [www.logoxpres-schoolwear.co.uk](http://www.logoxpres-schoolwear.co.uk)

## Douglas Academy - Enterprise Showcase 2018

On Friday 8 June, Douglas Academy held another highly successful Enterprise Showcase event. The purpose of the Showcase is to highlight and celebrate the many enterprising activities undertaken by pupils throughout the year.

There were fifteen stands this year, ranging from the Computing Science Department showcasing the fun and challenging games that their S2 classes had designed using Scratch (programming language) to the Music Department's 'chair drumming' stand.



Primary pupils were also invited and over a hundred P7 pupils participated in a range of activities at the various stands – pupils were able to erect an emergency storm tent at the Duke of Edinburgh exhibit and the highly talented Creative Cakes Club pupils gave a live demonstration of their cake decorating skills.

The primary pupils had a fantastic afternoon and the school looks forward to welcoming all the P7 pupils in to S1 in August!



## Milngavie Week Creative Writing



As part of the local Milngavie Week celebrations, some of our new S2 pupils took part in a creative writing competition. Local author Leela Soma judged the competition and came into school to award prizes. The winners were: 1st prize - Victoria McLaren; 2nd prize - Megan Ronald. Congratulations Victoria and Megan and thanks to all S2 pupils who participated.



As part of the S2 Modern Studies course each year our pupils participate in The Youth and Philanthropy Initiative, which is managed in Scotland by the Wood Family Trust Foundation. The Trust distributes YPI grants of £2500 to local, community-based agencies by encouraging pupils to work together to research different charities and present their findings. The school raised a further £500 to contribute to the award. This enables pupils to develop a range of skills while increasing their awareness of the needs of the wider community. By choosing a local charity to research pupils gain hands-on experience, thereby helping to promote a sense of responsibility, respect and a commitment to building compassionate communities.

Since January, all S2 pupils in Modern Studies have been involved in preparing presentations about their chosen charities with support and help from class teachers. Pupils in each class selected what they felt to be the best presentation and this went forward to the final, which was held on 15th June. The charities and groups chosen for the final were:

**2A – Funny Lumps**

Abigail Carrick, Poppy Hamilton, Christopher Lawson, Sam Scordia

**2B – East Dunbartonshire Visually Impaired People's Forum**

Jonny Jones, Hugh Kaliski, Ashley Semple, Katie McKnight

**2C – Cathleen's Cabin**

Fraser Spiers, Lauren MacQueen, Gregor Cunningham, Molly Thomson

**2D – Maggies**

Farhang Bakhshi, Meira Jardine, Ross McAllister, Alex Parlane

**2E – Addiction Recovery Centre**

Rachel Jobson, Ben Morrison, Adam Nicolson, Lucy Wink

**2F – East Dunbartonshire Visually Impaired People's Forum**

Megan Johnston, Amy Sale, Lewis Taylor, Lachlan Tucker

The finalists delivered well-researched and insightful presentations each highlighting a very good cause and the judges, Hannah Duthie, Adam Murray and Mr Smedley had a difficult decision to make. The winning group came from 2F with Megan Johnston, Amy Sale, Lewis Taylor, Lachlan Tucker winning £3000 for the East Dunbartonshire Visually Impaired People's Forum. Sandy Taylor and Margaret Hutchison from EDVIP attended the event and were delighted that their group won £3000 for their charity.



Class teachers are proud to have watched the pupils develop new skills, gain a real understanding of the difficulties some people face in our modern society and make a difference through this very positive contribution to the local community. Our sincere thanks go to the finalists who delivered their presentations with such commitment and to Lynne Raynal of YPI who continues to make such an exciting and rewarding event possible.



### **Celebrating Creativity**

Sophie Gartshore (S1), Sarah Greer (S4) and Colin Hood (S5) recently acted as ambassadors for the English department, representing Douglas Academy in prestigious Speaking and Writing competitions. These pupils were rewarded for their talents and success.

### **Poetry by Heart**

Sarah Greer and Colin Hood have worked tirelessly to promote Creative Writing in the school through their involvement with the Creative Writing Group, which runs on a Wednesday lunchtime in Room 22. They have both represented the school through the 'Poetry by Heart' competition and have shared their love of spoken poetry when visiting Abbotsford House Care Home as part of the Intergenerational Project arranged by Douglas Academy's Health and Food Technology department.

The pupils recited poems by Carol Ann Duffy, Norman MacCaig, Alistair Gray and others, including Sarah's own poetry. Sarah and Colin were fantastic in their delivery, impressing the residents.



### **Pushkin Prize**

Sophie Gartshore was selected as a winner of the Pushkin Prizes in Scotland and St Petersburg 2018 creative writing competition. Each year, hundreds of pupils across Scotland submit their creative folios to a panel of judges from which ten pupils are selected, making this a very tough competition. Sophie is to be congratulated on her success for securing first place and winning this prestigious award.

Sophie attended the prizegiving in Edinburgh and later attended a five-day creative writing course at the Moniak Mhor Writers' Centre near Inverness. This course was tutored by professional writers, including Gerry Cambridge and Joan Lennon.

Well done to Sophie and to other Douglas Academy entrants.

An extract from Sophie's winning story, 'Viola', is included below:

**October 28<sup>th</sup> 1922**

**Dear Diary,**

***Please listen closely because this will be my last entry. This last year has been a whirlwind of different feelings and thoughts. I cannot begin to tell you how frightened I have been, but at the same time, I am glad that it will end this way. On my terms.***

***I feel like, even though I am barely qualifying as an adult, I have lived a fuller life than most before me.***

***So the last thing I need to say is this. Thank you. For reading, for listening and I know that all this will ever amount to is words on paper but, I feel better knowing that as long as this diary and these letters survive, I will not be forgotten.***

**Goodbye.**

**-Viola**



# Springtime Cous-Cous with Pomegranate, Lemon, Mint, Spinach and Sultanas

This is a great vegetarian option to serve with a casserole. This dish is packed with early spring flavours and is most colourful. The pomegranate seeds add texture and crunch. For a gluten free diet the cous - cous can be replaced with cauliflower.

## Ingredients Serves 8

200g cous- cous  
375mls vegetable / chicken stock  
Salt & black pepper  
2 pomegranates (seeds & juice)  
1 Lemon - oven roasted & blackened  
6-8 basil leaves  
100g fresh garden peas  
50g sultanas

## Dressing

5ml olive oil  
1.25ml cumin powder  
10ml balsamic vinegar  
50g sultanas  
50g cranberries fresh or dried  
20ml honey



## Method

1. Place the cous-cous in a large bowl. Pour over the stock and seasoning and leave to infuse until the liquid is absorbed.
2. Place the lemon in a roasting dish in a hot oven 200 C for approximately 15 minutes. This can also be blackened below a hot grill.
3. Prepare the vegetables. De-seed the pomegranates, blanch the peas, mint, spinach and cranberries.
4. Heat the oil in a small pan, add the cumin powder, sultanas, balsamic vinegar and squeeze the juice from the blackened lemon. Heat through and then cool.
5. To assemble the salad, sprinkle the cous-cous with prepared vegetables. Pour over the cool dressing, toss through lightly and serve.