



BLT 6

BOROUGHMUIR LEARNING & TEACHING

SPRING 2018

As One Door Closes...

On the 7th February 2018 Holly Lumsden in S1 closed the door and Ellie Dowie in S2 rang the bell on our final day in our lovely Viewforth old building...It was an emotional day when our building stopped being a school for the very last time. We braved the snowy weather to listen to Mr Dempster say his final and fond farewell from all of us after 100 years of school life at Viewforth.

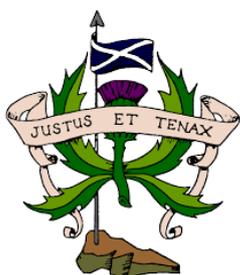


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Another One Opens...

On 21st February we opened our new doors and welcomed our pupils to our fabulous new building. Each year group was welcomed with an assembly. S1 first at 8.32am.

At the end of the first day in our new building Boroughmuir history was made when we held our first whole school assembly. Around 1200 pupils and 100 staff listened to Mr Dempster's welcome to our new school.



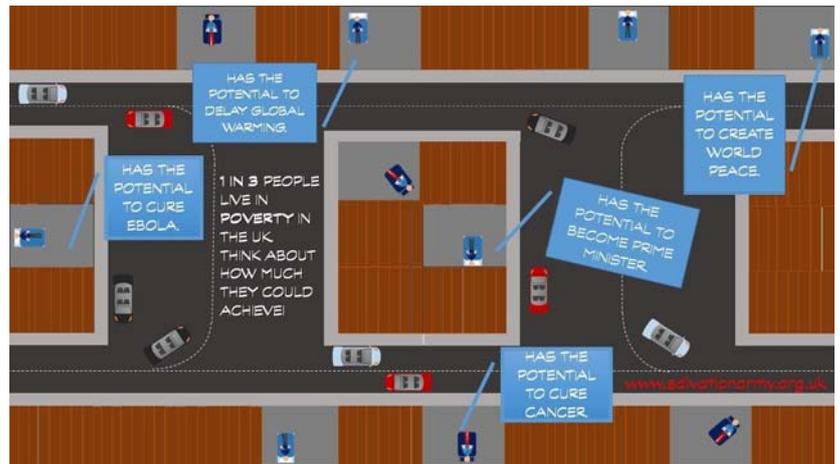


S3 Media

S3 MEDIA
Third year Media students have been showing how much they have learned in the advertising unit by responding to a brief asking them to create a persuasive advert on a social issue of their choice. Shown here are highly effective responses to this brief by Mairi McBrien of 3W2

(gender stereotyping) and James Johnson of 3L2 (poverty) . Well done to Mairi and James, and to Me-

dia classes 3G and 3H for their thought-provoking and professional work on this task!



Start of a Career in Education

“It has been an eventful placement at Boroughmuir with a school move and red weather warning within two weeks! In spite of (and because of) all of this I’ve learned a lot during my time here. The staff in the science department have been very supportive and

I’ve been able to see how classrooms and a technician’s lab are set up from scratch which has opened my eyes to the range of ‘behind the scenes’ work that goes on in a school science department. The highlight for me so far has been seeing some S6 pupils present an interdisciplinary project they

undertook as part of their Baccalaureate. I was hugely impressed with the effort they had put in, and the insight they all showed on each topic. Inspiring to see at the start of a career in education!”

Thanks to Elspeth our student teacher in Science on her second placement.



S4 Step Up

A big thanks to our S4 Prefects who took on the leadership positions to cover for S5/6 when they were on prelim leave in January. Your help and support was much appreciated to keep our school running smoothly and safely. A particularly big help at S4 Parents’ Evening in January. A good opportunity to develop your skills too.

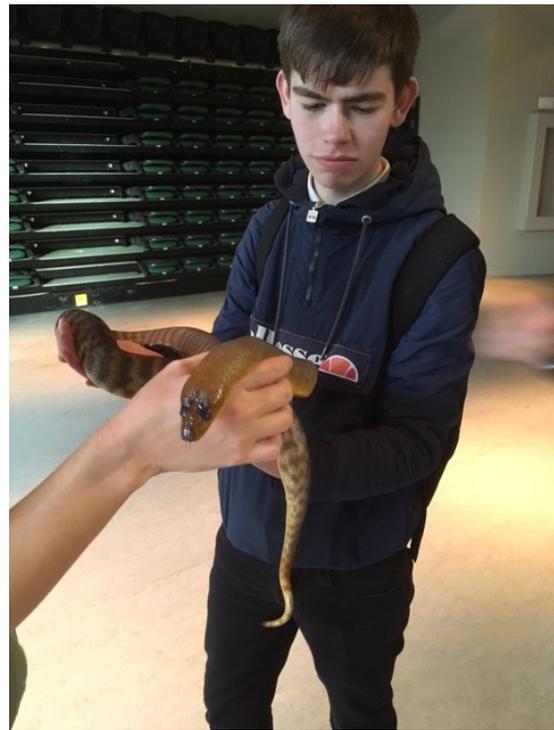
Thanks!



S4 Biologists go to the Zoo...

Why is a zebra stripy? What is genetic diversity? How can we protect the Scottish Wildcat? Is Calum as tall as a tiger? The answers to these, and many other important questions were explored by our National 4 Biology class during a Biodiversity study session at Edinburgh zoo this week. Students had a guided tour of the zoo, took part in a quiz to

review what they had learned and collected information on endangered species to add to the animal profiles they are completing in class. And to top it all off Ms Murray even got to visit her second favourite animal – the Giant Anteater!



S1 Mock Election



All S1 Modern Studies classes took part in mock class elections. The classes were in groups each researching a UK Political Party. They made posters, leaflet etc. A pupil from each group read out their election speech and pupils voted for their preferred candidate. This exercise was a great introduction to how the voting system and democracy works.





S2 Trip to the Career Hive



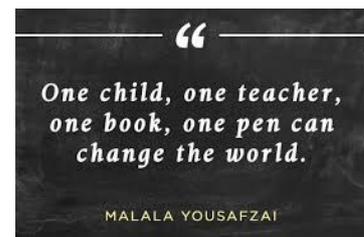
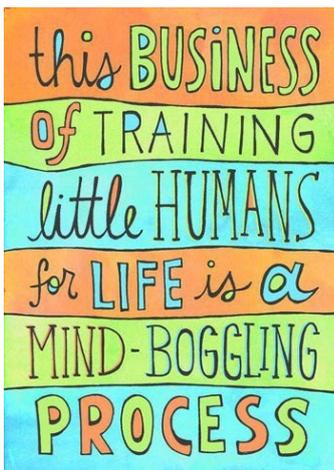
All 200 S2 pupils had the opportunity to visit the “Careers Hive” at the National Museum of Scotland on 26th February. There were lots of interesting opportunities to find out about (and try) lots of STEM career options.

Our pupils enjoyed the chance to try some keyhole surgery and listen to the career experiences of a paramedic and a acoustic sound engineer.

This was a well timed outing to coincide with S2 course

choices being made.

Thanks to all staff who went along and to Mr Hembury for organising and staff for helping on the day.



Senior Pupils Support Learning at Bruntsfield Primary School

Before Christmas, a number of senior pupils volunteered to help P6/7 pupils at Bruntsfield Primary School with their Numeracy and Literacy skills.

“We had an initial meeting with the Deputy Head at the Primary school as well as the class teacher we would be working with.

We were paired up with another senior pupil and would go over to the school to help for a full period that we had free.

At the beginning of each class, the teacher would detail what the class would be covering that day and we were given the responsibility of helping anybody that needed it.

As one of the volunteers, I found the experience to be incredibly rewarding as I was able to help pupils who found numeracy difficult and I was able to see their confidence grow over the course of the few months that we were helping the class. The teachers and staff were all incredibly kind and helpful and I believe they made the experience even better.

I would recommend this experience to other S6 pupils when the opportunity come along next session.”



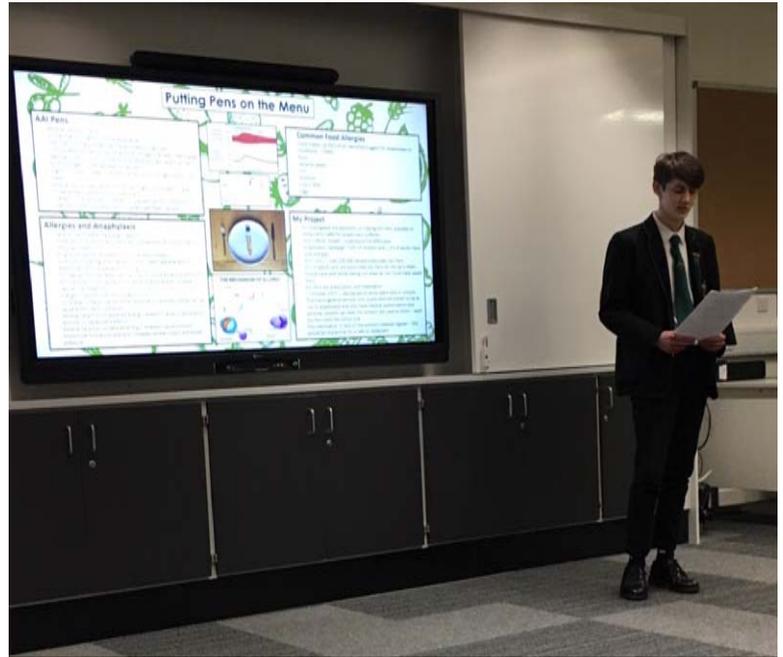


Science Baccalaureate Leading Learning

On Monday the 5th of March, 7 S6 pupils presented the findings of their Science Interdisciplinary Projects. This was the culmination of 9 months of work on a science project of their choosing. Throughout that time they had to formulate an area to investigate, plan their time for the year and then interact with relevant people outside school to get

answers to their questions. This has included the pupils visiting Perth prison, the Glasgow drug crisis centre, Professors at the University and Members of Parliament to name but a few. On Monday they had to draw all of their in-

formation and research into a 5-10 minute presentation that was given to teachers, parents, pupils and professionals from the Scientific world. To aid them they all made posters to summarise their findings and they did an excellent job standing up and speaking to a large group of over 50 people. For most of the pupils this completed project shall contribute to them being awarded the Scottish Science Baccalaureate. Well done to everyone involved for an impressive and informative night! Thanks Mr Lees for the article.





French Exchange

This month saw the arrival of our French Exchange partners. The 16 pupils from Lyon were paired up with some of our S3 pupils and took part in a number of activities throughout the week including visiting Edinburgh Castle and Camera Obscura as well as trips to Arthur's Seat and Glasgow with the Scottish contingent. The week ended with a fabulous ceilidh where both groups showed off some excellent Scottish country dancing skills! Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the time spent with their partners and are looking forward to the return leg of the exchange in May.

Many thanks once again to all the incredibly welcoming parents and families that made this half of the exchange such a success.



"It was good to experience having someone of another culture living with you" (Kate)

"I enjoyed the group activities, them coming into school and how we all got on" (Emma)

"The ceilidh was really good fun and a good way to get everyone together at the end of the week" (Georgia)

"I liked going to Glasgow and up Arthur's Seat with the French group" (Julia)

"I liked Glasgow as we got to spend time with our exchanges" (Amy)





Using our New Spaces for Learning and Teaching

Our new school has opened up new spaces for learning and teaching here are just a few recent examples from our first few weeks.



*S1 Maths Roadshow in the “Dual Teaching space”
Problem solving in much larger groups...we loved it.*



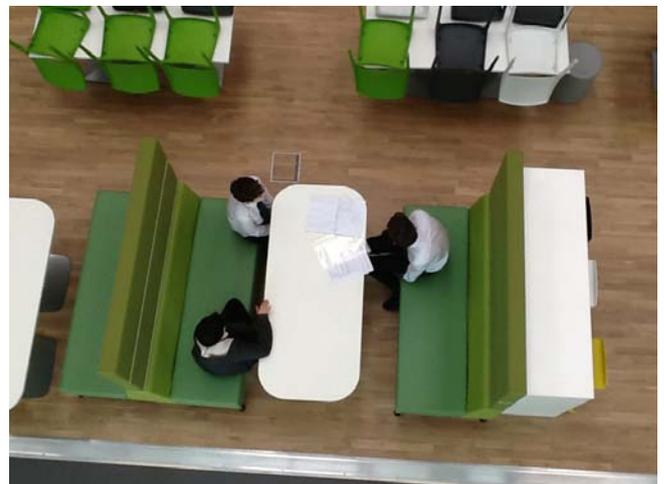
Seniors make very good use of the Nooks for studying and socialising. We all love the Nooks.



Mrs Hastings S1 French Class in action—More on P14



Our Atrium offers lovely break out spaces for learning and teaching. Ms Stratton and 2V1 are working on their “pitches” using their persuasive language techniques





Leading Learning

Miss Nisbet's S1 Science class have been supported by Peter Morgan in S6 all year. He has helped individual pupils and shared his knowledge and expertise. A couple of weeks ago he took over the lesson and Miss Nisbet sat at the back to watch this lovely scene unfold.

We have an extensive "In Class Support" programme which involves S6 supporting junior classes and working alongside teachers. Our Support for Learning Department train and support our S6 pupils and ensure the quality continues to improve year on year.



Some of the S6 Feedback about their "In Class Support" Experience

- * *I am getting familiar with the pupils and gaining confidence in helping them.*
- * *The class respect and listen to me.*
- * *I enjoy being able to help and show pupils what to do.*
- * *I feel as though I am helping people to become more confident in their instruments which I enjoy.*
- * *I enjoy working in the class as all the pupils respond positively when I try and help them.*
- * *Yes, it is fun to work with different classes and being able to support the pupils.*
- * *I enjoy explaining things to the pupils which is sometimes quite a challenge to get the level of detail correct and not going into too much depth or too basic. I think it is a useful skill to be able to explain ideas and teach people my knowledge.*
- * *I enjoy getting to see the S1s rehearsing in drama and seeing the development of their acting skills.*
- * *I have been able to build up rapport with most of the class and particularly with those, I have been working with most.*
- * *It is nice to help and see what younger years are doing.*
- * *I am seeing slight improvements when helping pupils as I feel they trust me now. In addition, a boy I help improves greatly on tests when I help him to focus.*
- * *I have been able to solve the majority of problems in the class.*
- * *I am able to talk through more challenging concepts with the pupils.*



Opening our Doors on Saturday 24th March

Lynn Hanley, a well-known Edinburgh artist was commissioned towards the end of 2017 to paint a colourful and playful representation of our old and much loved Boroughmuir High School building. We asked that this be set within the vibrant community of Bruntsfield, whilst giving it a wider Edinburgh flavour. We think she has excelled with this and hope you enjoy it too....



We combined a celebration of our new school with the unveiling of our new piece of art on Friday 23rd March by Ronnie Brown, former pupil and member of the Corries with staff, former staff and former pupils. This was followed hot on the heels with an Open Day on Saturday 24th March where we estimate we had over 3000 visitors through our doors to come and view the building and see our wonderful new teaching spaces. Visitors were treated to blue skies, sunshine sparkling on the canal and within the building they were serenaded, entertained and thoroughly welcomed!





S1 Race for the Line Event

On a rather cold, but thankfully dry, Wednesday all 220 of our S1 pupils were involved in an inter-disciplinary project which was part of the National BBC micro:bit Model Rocket Car Challenge called Race for the Line. Over 400 schools from all over the UK are participating in the competition. The

inspiration behind the national project is the Bloodhound car which is attempting to beat the 1000mph world land speed record and also inspire the next generation of engineers to get involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. #STEM

In Design and Technology classes leading up to the Race Day, pupils worked together in teams of 4 to make a foam rocket car creating a design folio which showed how they had considered aerodynamics, friction etc. In Computing classes the pupils programmed the Micro:bits which were used to carry out the timing mechanism on the race track and in Science they explored the forces which would be applied to the cars.

On Race Day we were joined in school by a team from the Royal Navy who are based at Rosyth and are members of the crew of the new aircraft carrier HMS Prince of Wales. The Navy team equipped each car with a solid fuel rocket and setup the Race Track in the playground. Each class took turns to race their cars and the times were recorded for each car. The Navy had brought along one of their PT instructors so to keep warm pupils carried out a fitness test with a couple of our S1's managing to reach the fitness standard for the Royal Navy while wearing their school shoes!!! After racing the cars the pupils then used our new Dual teaching space on the 3rd floor to create some posters to summarise their learning in this project. Some of these are now on display in the classrooms around the school.

The top 3 car teams will now go forward to the Regional Final on the 3rd of May when they will compete against all of the teams from other schools in East Central Scotland @ the Royal Navy facility at Rosyth. A big thank you to all staff involved and to Mrs Dighton for the article.





SPORTS LEADERS DO SPORT RELIEF

As part of the Sports Leaders course, the leaders must organise and run an event. What better way to pass this part of the course than to help run an event that promotes physical activity & sport as well as raising money for those less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you to those who donated the £1 participation fee, we raised a considerable amount that will be totalled with the trainer day and the bake sale.

The two – day event was a great success with each year group (S1 – S4) participating in 4 different options: Basketball, Fitness Challenges, Football & Table Tennis. The Sports Leaders ran each of the different activities and the pupils were involved in healthy competition with the other Houses. This was a good




opportunity for the leaders to show how their leadership skills have developed over the course of the year and work cooperatively with their peers. They were able to plan in advance, communicate with different year groups, run a sports tournament confidently, referee and score and they did extremely well.

The participants also did amazingly, trying their best and working well in their teams to encourage and work cooperatively with each other. The **Winners** for each year were:

1st Years: 1st – **Westhall**, Joint 2nd – Leamington & Viewforth, 4th - Hartington
 2nd Years: 1st – **Leamington & Viewforth** joint, 3rd – Westhall, 4th - Hartington
 3rd Years: 1st – **Westhall**, 2nd – Viewforth, 3rd – Leamington, 4th – Hartington
 4th Years: 1st - **Hartington**, 2nd – Viewforth, 3rd – Westhall, 4th - Leamington



Transform Burkina

On a chilly, but thankfully dry, couple of days in the February holidays a keen bunch of pupils, parents and staff worked really hard to package up all the items that we were sending to the school in Burkina Faso in West Africa, that we have links with through the charity 'Transform Burkina'



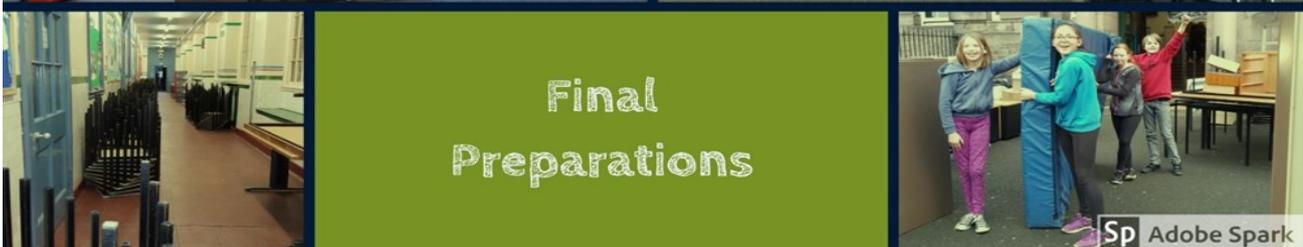
Furniture Movers



On the Monday we split the group of helpers into 2 groups. One group worked in the Atrium with Mrs Dighton on packaging all the donated items into boxes which then had to be weighed and recorded in the inventory which had to accompany the container. Amongst the donated items were medical supplies, toys, educational games, workshop tools and lots of books and stationery. The other group, under the guidance of Mrs Walker, were moving all the furniture items that were surplus to requirements from the various departments around the school. Some of our S4 pupils, Sonny, Greg, Lewis, Finlay and Declan became expert furniture movers and really had a workout moving some big items of furniture. Many of our parents and some of the girls moved literally hundreds of desks and tables to our holding area so that they were ready to be moved in to the container the next day. At the end of a hard day we had everything packed up and were ready to go.



Final Preparations





On Feb 13th it was Container day. Thankfully it was a dry day so we were able to move the vast majority of the items out into the playground and leave them there. The container arrived right on time and then it was all hands on deck to get the items packed into the container, even Mr Dempster got involved with lifting some of the heavy items into the Container. Some of the professional removal men from Pickfords gave up their lunch hour to help organize the packing of the container and their professional knowledge was much appreciated. After about 2 hours of very hard work it

was completely filled with about 150 desks, several filing cabinets, many storage cupboards, lab desks, PE vaulting horses, fridges, microwaves, wheelchairs and the final item to be crammed in were the old PE crash mats. Then it was time to close the door, pass on the Inventory to the driver and send it on its journey.



The Container then headed to Grangemouth where it started its journey, first of all by ship to Ghana, and then overland the rest of the way to Ouagadougou. It is due to arrive in Ouagadougou sometime in the next few days. Hopefully it will be able to clear customs quickly and then get to its final destination as soon as possible. The project was hard work but a fabulous example of parents, pupils and teachers all working together for a good cause. A huge thanks must go to Mrs Walker who was the driving force behind the project but it really was a massive team effort so well done to everyone. You can find out more about the work of the charity Transform Burkina on their website.

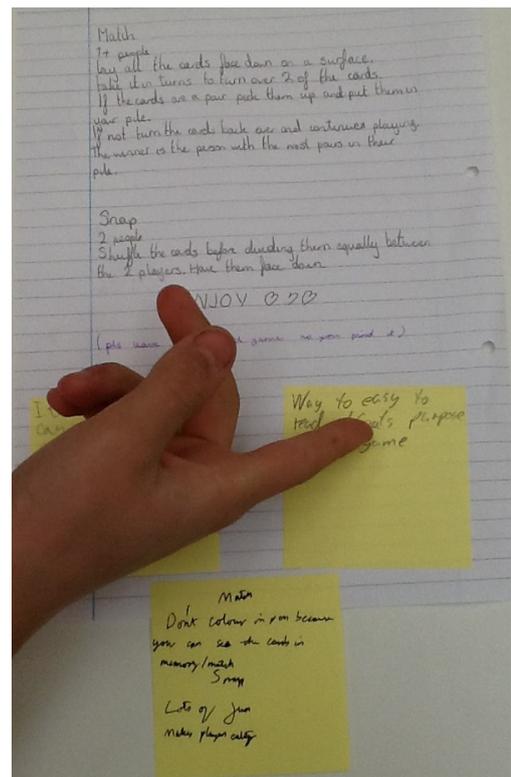
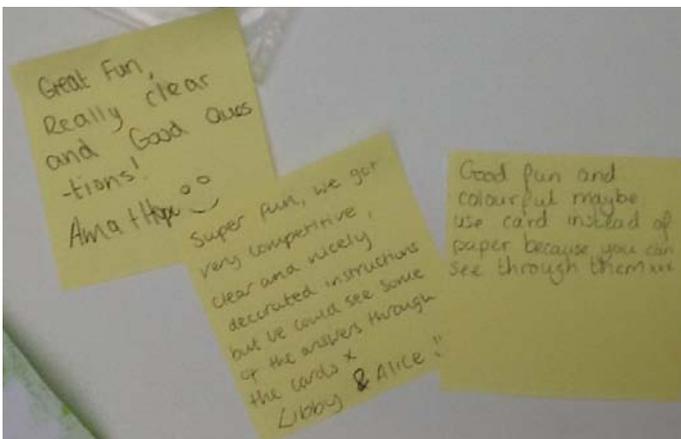
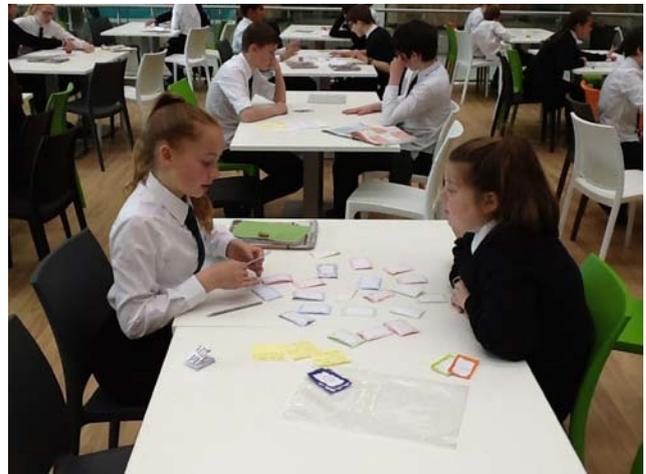




S1 French Pupils Using our New Spaces to Play French Board Games

Mrs Hastings S1 French pupils have been busy creating board games for each other to play which also reinforce their vocabulary from the last few weeks. The games were all ready and the pupils enjoyed using the atrium space to play and assess each others games. Some of the feedback is also included below. Pupils I spoke to commented that this was a really fun way to learn and they learn better when things are fun!

They also enjoyed using the atrium space for this learning opportunity. The feedback will improve the games even further.

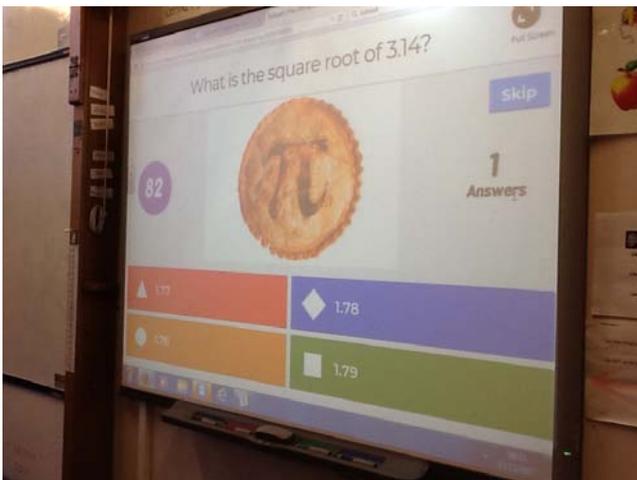




S1 Lead Learning Using Digital Technology

Mrs MacPherson's S1 Maths class recently took over the learning and teaching using their own skills and digital expertise. The pupils had been using *Kahoot!* in other subjects with other teachers and decided they wanted to use this method of learning in Maths. Mrs MacPherson said yes, why not! There were some guidelines that it had to be well planned and relevant learning. Noah and Mackenzie and others led the class over a number of weeks. They had to prepare a set of questions and answers to test the skills (and speed) of their classmates. Working in groups helped the class too.

As you can see Mrs MacPherson was free to



support others in the class (and join in herself)! It was a fantastic opportunity for S1 to lead learning and teach each other skills—both digital and numeracy...and a lot of fun.



This method of learning had also continued and incorporated feedback given about the quality of the lessons to pupils who were leading over a number of weeks.





A big thank you and well done to S1 pupils Ila, Libby, Lana and Eva for organising and running the first charity bake sale. When Ms Larter suggested that any other fundraising was welcome for Sport Relief these S1 girls decided to do a bit more to help.

This was our first Bake Sale in our new school and the girls did themselves proud, they ad-



vertised, organised and managed the crowds on the day! They were also helped out by Rose, Natalia, Eloise and Olivia on the day. They raised an additional £137 in 15 minutes to add to our total. Well done for taking the initiative and working hard to make this happen.



Leading Learning in Sport

Zac Forbes and Murray Wheeler in S5—Two of our senior boys have been fantastic attending every game and training session with our S1 boys football team and at times making their own way to away fixtures.

They have assisted training sessions by taking the warm ups and also coaching during drills and games and on match helping with team selection and warm ups

Our S1 boys have appreciated them coaching and they have built up a good rapport with them.

The boys have just recently been in touch to say that they now need to concentrate on exams and jobs but will pop along to games when they can. Thanks for all your help boys.

We are lucky as a school to have so many pupils, parents and staff who volunteer to run and support a wide range of extra curricular activities.

Coaches, pupils and parents efforts are recognised and celebrated by our “Sports Personality of the Year” Awards taking place tonight. A big thanks to our PE department for what promises to be another excellent night.



S2 Trip to Manchester City & United

A group of 46 S2 pupils made the journey to Manchester on 7th March accompanied by Mr Collard, Mr Boyd, Mr Sproull and MsPresly. Thanks to Mr Collard for organising the trip.

The article below was written by Hannah, Addie, Amelie, Esme, Molly and Freya—they had a great day out!!

"When we went to Manchester it was a great experience. On Wednesday the 7th March we travelled down to Manchester. We reached Old Trafford, the Manchester United Stadium. Rob gave us a very interesting tour of the stadium



giving us access to the changing rooms and the dugout. Old Trafford was really cool to look at with a whole stand dedicated to Sir Alex Ferguson. We took part in an educational workshop on nutrition—we also asked why there wasn't a professional women's team at Manchester United and a week or two later we saw on the news that Man U had started a women's team—we would like to think we prompt-

ed that!

Later that day we travelled to the Etihad Stadium. Lots of us bought scarves and got face paint. We had excellent seats giving us an amazing view of the match. It



was a fast paced and exciting match

with lots of goals. Overall we had a great day and would love to do it again!"





National 5 Cake Craft

Mrs Duffy and the Health and Food Technology Department always wow us with the professional standards produced by the National 5 Cake Craft class for their final assessment. We thought you might want to see them too.

