



# Brechin High School

#ProudtobeBrechin



## Weekly Update 15/5/2026

### Timetable Change/Induction Day Dates

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Inservice Day.

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Tuesday 26th May</b>   | <p><b>New timetable begins for new S2, S3 and S4</b> (previous S1, S2 and S3)</p> <p>Pupils will be directed to registration classes by staff. Timetables for S2 and S3 will be given out in registration.</p> <p>S4 will participate in a senior phase induction programme with the theme of <b>Ambition</b> before getting timetables and starting S4.</p>                                       |
| <b>Wednesday 27th May</b> | <p><b>Induction day for new S5 and new S6</b> – go directly to the theatre.</p> <p>Timetables will be given out after a programme of activities. Induction Day will run Periods 1-4 then pupils can go home or make an appointment with PCS to discuss their timetable.</p> <p>S5 theme - <b>Ambition -The Future and Your Wellbeing</b></p> <p>S5/6 theme - <b>Ambition – Leading The Way</b></p> |
| <b>Monday 1st June</b>    | <p><b>New timetable begins for new S5 and new S6</b></p>   |

The purpose of the induction day for each year group is to help make the transition to senior school as smooth as possible by sharing the expectations, curricular requirements and skills necessary for every young person’s ultimate success. It is to encourage a team effort and team spirit for the year ahead where everyone will face successes and challenges. We can all help each other through these important years.

A programme of activities has been designed for each induction day, which will give every young person some insight into this next exciting phase of their education and will help them reflect on how to get the best out of the coming school year.

For many young people, the world of work, college or university will be their next step following these important years – the induction day also aims to provide information, support and advice on every young person’s progression to their future learning and future career.



## April Pupil Of the Month Awards

We have been celebrating the pupils who have been awarded Pupil of the Month for April across the school. Reasons for these awards appear on the individual pupil certificates and include:

- ✓ Effort & commitment in Rural Skills
- ✓ Excellent work on building the Drama Club Set
- ✓ Winning the National Circular Economy competition.
- ✓ Superb focus, neat work and great problem solving.
- ✓ Passing National 4 Travel and Tourism with such enthusiasm!
- ✓ For excellent focus and effort in Enterprise
- ✓ Achieving a Grade 4 Violin Performance Exam with Merit
- ✓ Diligence in English.
- ✓ Exceptional effort and outstanding achievement in assessment performance.
- ✓ A positive and ambitious attitude in Hospitality.
- ✓ Determined effort to work harder to achieve better results.

Award winners are

**Mason, Summer, Seren, Belle, Quinn, Harry, Keira-Leigh, Rose, Summer, Samantha, Jasmine, Halle, Elodee, Joshua, Briannah, Layton, Lydia, Lily, Emili, Grace, Lena and Maddison**



## A Birthday Gift for the Planet: Celebrating Sir David Attenborough at 100

This week, our students took to the outdoors to celebrate the incredible **100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough**. Rather than just watching his documentaries, we decided to act on his message by rolling up our sleeves and improving the biodiversity of our school grounds—one corner at a time.



### Our Conservation Highlights

The students have been incredibly busy transforming our local environment into a haven for wildlife:

- **The Big Forest Clean-Up:** We cleared the forest and the back of the school, collecting **two entire black bags of rubbish**. The area is now safer and cleaner for both students and local wildlife.
- **Instant Habitats:** We've been busy improving our soil and building **log piles**. Amazingly, nature moved in almost immediately—two ladybugs were spotted exploring their new log home within just 20 hours of it being built!
- **Future Blooms:** While we wait for the last frost to pass, we've been preparing to plant pollinator-friendly flowers to support our local bees and butterflies. Our young gardeners have been hard at work planting potatoes and carefully tending to new seedlings, learning exactly what it takes to grow food sustainably.



### Smart Sustainability

Inside the school, we've been looking at how we manage our waste. With our recycling bins overflowing, students have been "squashing" their plastic bottles and cans. This simple act of compacting our recycling means we can fit much more into the bins, reducing the frequency of collections and our overall carbon footprint.

*"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest."* > — **Sir David Attenborough**

By caring for our seedlings and cleaning our forests, our students are proving that you don't need to travel to the Galapagos to be a conservationist. You just need to look after your own backyard.

**Happy 100th Birthday, Sir David!** Thank you for inspiring us to protect the wild world.






## Wellbeing Resources for Young People

We have shared the following message and list of external supports with all our pupils:

*Staff here at Brechin High School understand that sometimes you can feel isolated and lonely.*

*Being a teenager can be hard as you navigate friendships, family and school. Staff are here to help you and listen to your worries. Please speak to your Registration teacher, PCS teacher, Emily Smith or any other member of the staff that you feel comfortable talking to. If you would prefer to speak to someone online or on the phone, we've put together a list of resources and links you might find useful.*

| Resource                                      | Outline  | Link / Contact Details   |
|---|--|--|
| Cool2talk                                     | A website which has information, and you can ask questions 24/7. They aim to answer your questions within 24 hours.  | <a href="#">Cool2Talk – A safe space for young people age 12 and over</a>  |
| Childline                                     | An online or call service to help support you deal with feelings you are finding hard to make sense of   | <a href="https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/">https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/</a><br>Call: 0800 1111 |
| Education Scotland's Mental Wellbeing Wakelet | This is a collection of resources to support wellbeing of young people and adults  | <a href="#">Education Scotland- Mental Wellbeing Wakelet</a>   |
| Breathing Space                               | A free, confidential, phone service for anyone in Scotland over the age of 16 experiencing low mood, depression or anxiety.  | Helpline 0800 83 85 87<br><a href="#">Breathing Space_</a>   |
| Samaritans                                    | Whatever you're going through, a Samaritan will face it with you, without judgement or pressure. Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.  | <a href="https://www.samaritans.org/?nation=scotland">https://www.samaritans.org/?nation=scotland</a> or call 116 123                            |
| SAMH  | Work with adults and young people to provide mental health social care support, services in primary care, schools, and further education, among others. Partners national 'See Me' and 'Respect Me' campaigns. | <a href="https://www.samh.org.uk/">https://www.samh.org.uk/</a>  |
| Young Minds                                   | Children & young people's mental health charity aims to equip young minds with mental health support, & build resilience. Support for both children and parents provided.                                      | <a href="https://youngminds.org.uk/">https://youngminds.org.uk/</a><br>24/7 text support – Text YM to 85258                                      |

| Resource       | Outline   | Link / Contact Details  |
|----------------|---|---|
| SeeMe          | SeeMe is an online resource and charity to end mental health stigma and discrimination, enabling people who experience mental health problems to live fulfilled lives   | <a href="https://www.seemescotland.org">https://www.seemescotland.org</a> |
| Togetherall    | Togetherall is free for all pupils in Angus between 16-18 years old. You just need to use your postcode to log in. If you don't know this, you can use the school's- DD9 6LB.   | <a href="http://www.togetherall.com">www.togetherall.com</a>              |
| Suicide? Help! |  <p>This app has all the local information you can access as well.</p>   | <a href="http://www.suicidehelp.co.uk">www.suicidehelp.co.uk</a>          |
| Decider Skills |  <p>The Decider Skills app supports you to use the 12 skills that we have discussed in Registration. These support you to deal with stress, anxiety and negative feelings.</p>  <p>The Stopp App is useful to support coping strategies when you feel dysregulated.</p> | <a href="#">The Decider Skills</a>  |

## Visitors

This week we welcomed some Madison's Café regulars for a tour of the school and of our new artwork.



## Library News –

The S3 Reading Ambassadors' amazing interview with fabulous local author, Anona Gow, for the Prêt Radio podcast is finally up on YouTube.

Amazing and inspirational, first-time author Anona's cookbook, 'The Venison Kitchen' is a huge hit here at Brechin High School. 🐕

S3 Wider Achievement girls' interview is too good to miss – touching on Anona's passion for sustainable food and conservation, easy venison recipes to try yourself, and the benefits of reading fiction – and non-fiction - for pleasure.



Find Anona's wonderful cookbook in good bookshops, and why not try some of the expertly produced venison from Pitscandly Farm near Forfar?

Very well done to interviewers, Mollie-Rose, Leigha, Jaime, and Lilly - amazing work girls! 🍌🍌🍌🍌

<https://youtu.be/2xtSysRS8Ek>

Paired Reading continued this week with Mr McKellican's S1s English class -



It's **Mental Health Awareness Week 2026** (11-17 May), and S3 Reading Ambassadors from the library's Wider Achievement class wrote and delivered an excellent presentation to several S1/S2 PSE classes. This year's theme is 'Action', and the girls successfully engaged their younger peers in positive discussions about what actions we can take to help ourselves. what we can do to support others' positive mental health.



Staff were very impressed with S3s and S1s alike – students approached the subject with maturity, and thoughtfulness. The Mental Health Foundation's 'Conversation Starter' cards were very useful as prompts to initiate meaningful discussion.



Ms Stewart, Librarian.

## The National Apprenticeship & Education Events – Scotland

Your child’s School or College has shared this email to give you the opportunity to attend one of our upcoming events in Scotland together with your child or children.

Both events are **free to attend** and offer an excellent opportunity to explore future career pathways with national and regional employers, universities, colleges, and training providers.

You may choose to attend **either** event:

### Option 1: National Apprenticeship & Education Event – Skills Scotland

**Date:** Thursday 3 September 2026

**Location:** Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh

### Option 2: National Apprenticeship & Education Event – Skills Scotland

**Date:** Tuesday 3 November 2026

**Location:** Hampden Park Stadium, Glasgow

AN UNMISSABLE FREE EVENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS SCOTLAND

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP & EDUCATION EVENT SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH GAS MURRAYFIELD STADIUM EDINBURGH

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2026

Book your FREE Places Today!

Pupils & students, Parents & carers, Careers leaders & teachers

Industry Event Partner: GGF (Glasgow Gateway Foundation)

NAEE Scotland - Edinburgh invites you to an inspiring, face-to-face event that connects employers, universities, colleges, and training providers in a welcoming and interactive setting.

Discover expert advice on apprenticeships, career options, and educational pathways – plus hands-on experiences from leading UK businesses.

Create positive steps towards your future by registering your free places today and connect with employers, and educators, at NAEE Scotland.

Make it happen! Register your FREE place today at: [www.nationalapprenticeshipsevents.co.uk](http://www.nationalapprenticeshipsevents.co.uk)

AN UNMISSABLE FREE EVENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS SCOTLAND

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP & EDUCATION EVENT SCOTLAND

GLASGOW HAMPDEN PARK STADIUM

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2026

Book your FREE Places Today!

Pupils & students, Parents & carers, Careers leaders & teachers

NAEE Scotland - Glasgow invites you to an inspiring, face-to-face event that connects employers, universities, colleges, and training providers in a welcoming and interactive setting.

Discover expert advice on apprenticeships, career options, and educational pathways – plus hands-on experiences from leading UK businesses.

Create positive steps towards your future by registering your free places today and connect with employers, and educators, at NAEE Scotland - Glasgow.

Make it happen! Register your FREE place today at: [www.nationalapprenticeshipsevents.co.uk](http://www.nationalapprenticeshipsevents.co.uk)

Partners: NICE, Apprenticeships, LEARNING, Research Directory, Morrisby, NGTU, APPRENTICESHIP CHAMPIONS, SPEAKERS NETWORK, Department for Work & Pensions, mcpop, Education Employment Trust, APPRENTICESHIP

Nikki Topper MBE presents WHERE TALENT MEETS OPPORTUNITY

### What you can expect at both events

- Talks and presentations from businesses
- Interactive activities, including competitions, virtual reality, and “have-a-go” sessions
- Opportunities to meet Colleges, Universities, Employers, and Training Providers from across Scotland
- A welcoming environment for parents, guardians, and students

Parents and guardians may collect their child or children at lunchtime to attend either event together. Both events finish at **2pm**.

Once you have booked your **free places** using this link [www.nationalapprenticeshipsevents.co.uk](http://www.nationalapprenticeshipsevents.co.uk) you will receive a **Booking Confirmation** by email.

**BIG LUNCH COMMUNITY PICNIC**

*Celebrate the World Cup Together!*

Join us for a fun-filled community picnic as we come together to enjoy delicious food, great company, and the excitement of the World Cup!

**DATE:** SUNDAY 7TH JUNE

**TIME:** 12 NOON

**LOCATION:** ST. NINIAN'S SQUARE

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

- Usual stalls
- Bring & share picnic lunch
- Music & entertainment
- Games & activities for all ages
- Community spirit & good vibes

**WHAT TO BRING**

- Picnic blanket
- Food to share
- Team colours, shirts & flags
- Friends, family & neighbours!

**COMMUNITY, FOOD AND FOOTBALL**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME – COME ALONG AND BE PART OF THE FUN!**

BRECHIN – FARNELL PARISH CHURCH SC 008630 | eden project | Pears Foundation | the BIG LUNCH | the BIG HELP OUT

**Angus Council**  
Comhairle Aonghais

**HOUSING SERVICES DROP IN**

We are bringing housing services closer to home. From May 2026, our Housing team will be holding regular drop-in sessions.

**The Crickety, Brechin**

Wednesday **20 May**, 9.30am -1pm  
 Wednesday **17 June**, 9.30am -1pm  
 Wednesday **15 July**, 9.30am -1pm  
 Wednesday **19 August**, 9.30am -1pm

**General drop in for all things housing**  
 No appointment needed, just come along