



# Auchinleck Academy

## Summer Newsline



### Head Teacher's Welcome

What a term! I can remember (long ago) when the summer term was a time when staff and pupils were able to 'wind down' a little and enjoy some outdoor learning in the June sunshine. Not Now!

Following on quickly after the SQA exams, June is an incredibly busy month with Sports Championships, Sports Dinner, School Show, school visits, Prize Giving and all the heats and rehearsals which go with them.

These all take place within a context of the new timetable starting up and the race towards the targets of the new session being almost three weeks down the line already.

Now all the hard work can stop for a few weeks and staff and pupils can have a well-earned rest.

As illustrated by this Newsline, the range of activities, qualifications and awards open to our young people continues to increase at quite an incredible rate. It is becoming more and more obvious that every young person has the opportunity to succeed in our school- whatever their skill or interest. Well done to all. And keep it up!

I wish all our senior pupils the very best of luck for their examination results in August. They have worked very hard both in class and at home so I hope they achieve the results they deserve.

To those young people leaving us, I wish you every success for your future. I know you will be a credit to yourselves, your parents and your school.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish all our staff, pupils, parents and partners a lovely, restful holiday. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the activities of our young people on the following pages.

Best Wishes

P. Gilchrist

Head Teacher





# Rights Respecting School



## Auchinleck and Cumnock supporting Malawi and Liberia



At the end of another session, the Mary's Meals van and drivers dropped by Auchinleck Academy to uplift backpacks collected and collated by dedicated pupils, seen here with head teacher Mr Gilchrist, ready for children in Malawi to enjoy.

The communities of Auchinleck and Cumnock Academies are taking on the commitment to feed Jebbeh Kiazolu school in Liberia (top right), and indeed after Auchinleck Academy's fundraising efforts this past session, all 309 pupils in Jebbeh Kiazolu school have been given enough food to eat for a whole year! This is an initiative which has been led by Auchinleck Academy's Rights Respecting School group, supported by pupils, staff and parents.

You can read an annual report from Jebbeh Kiazolu school on the difference being fed for a year makes, at: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/AuchinleckAcademy/> See there also the inspirational short film, "Generation Hope" which illustrates the dramatic effect a daily meal has made on the lives of young people who otherwise would not have been in school.

We are grateful to the local community for their support, without which this could not have happened, and we hope the communities of Auchinleck and Cumnock Academies will continue to support us in whatever way you can manage, as with very many of us contributing just a little, an incredible achievement can be made.



# Duke of Edinburgh



## Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards



This academic year has seen the DofE Award grow significantly in Auchinleck Academy. We have had 24 pupils start their Bronze Award, 9 start Silver and even more impressively 16 pupils start Gold. All of the pupils at all levels have completed their expedition section and are now completing the other parts of the award. They have been taking part in expeditions in the local area, Muirshiel Country Park, the Southern Uplands and in and around Dalwhinnie in the Highlands. Pupils working on silver and gold have had to complete three and four day expeditions respectively and have shown great resilience as they have had to face all weather conditions and have had to "wild camp" with no access to running water or toilets. As a school we are extremely proud of all of our pupils working on their DofE but in particular we have to say a huge well done to the pupils working on the Gold DofE. They have now shown great character throughout all expeditions and have bonded as a team throughout it all. We wish the S6 pupils who have completed their DofE all the best for the future and we know that the skills they have developed will stand them in good stead throughout life. We would also like to thank Natalie White for helping support our Bronze DofE Award and if any parents are interested in helping out in our DofE programme please contact Steve Tickner or Martin Robertson at the school.





Auchinleck Academy's school show this year was We Will Rock You. Our dynamic and talented cast blew the audience away over three nights with their take on some classic Queen tracks!

