



Auchinleck Academy Christmas Newline

Head Teachers Message

Welcome to our Christmas edition of Newline. This is my first time writing for the Newline as Acting Head Teacher, a post I took up on Monday 23 October. Peter Gilchrist has moved to Cumnock Academy as Acting Head Teacher and has taken on additional responsibility for leading the merger of the two schools in the next few years.

It has been a busy term since returning from the summer, news of which you will find in these pages and via our website and twitter feed which I would highly recommend following.

Foremost amongst the successes has been the U16 Boys Rugby Squad winning the National Bowl final. This group was our first intake to our School of Rugby and it shows the dedication and hard work all of the boys and their coach Mr Raby have put in it to progress to winning a National Final.

Finally may I wish all pupils, staff, parents, friends and the communities of Auchinleck Academy a peaceful and relaxing Christmas break.

Martin Robertson

Acting Head Teacher

Auchinleck Academy— Bowl Champions 2017

After a tough loss in the opening round of the Scottish Schools Cup Auchinleck Academy went into the Bowl campaign. After a bye and a team withdrawing the first full game in the bowl would be a quarter-final away to Stornoway to play the Nicolson Institute.

Auchinleck were in unstoppable form winning the game 72-12 with some aggressive running and slick handling. A trip and game that the whole squad will remember for a long time.

The semi-final in Jedburgh was postponed due to bad weather but a week later the team and a supporters bus full of fans set off on their quest for the final. The game was tight with Auchinleck eventually taking the game 36-29 to book their place in the National Bowl Final.

The team competed against Oban High School in the Under16's Competition. They put in a gutsy performance, beating Oban HS 24-21 in a hard fought game.

Head of Rugby Mr Raby is the inspiration behind the team and ensures that the school is building a rugby culture of respect, hard work and shared values on and off the pitch.





EA Enterprising Maths Challenge



Heather Gemmill, Megan Gemmill, Alice Gemmill and Emma Gemmill represented Auchinleck Academy at the East Ayrshire Enterprising Maths Challenge hosted by Loudoun Academy earlier this year.

The girls put in a very strong performance, managing to WIN the competition with a massive 38 point lead! This is an amazing achievement for the girls and the first time Auchinleck Academy has managed to win.

Drugs Awareness Week

A week long programme of events took place from Monday 4th December to Friday 8th December to highlight the dangers and consequences of substance misuse for all pupils. Throughout the week PC Baillie engaged with pupils through PSE classes to share information about the dangers of illegal drugs, alcohol and new psychoactive substances (also known as legal highs). During these classes question and answer sessions proved vital in allowing pupils to gain important information and dispelled some myths regarding substance misuse. PC Baillie set up an information board with a wide range of leaflets full of useful information on issues surrounding drugs and invited a variety of speakers into school to talk to all year groups at the assemblies held. Pupils learned that they can only make informed choices and shield themselves from harmful outcomes when they are equipped with the relevant drugs information.



LGBT Mural

The Art & Design department at Auchinleck Academy have recently completed a mural on the stairwell walls displaying the school's support for the LGBTQ members of our community. The mural took a week to paint with the support of the staff and pupils. Each person painted a brick, in the colours of the pride flag, to show their support for this important issue.





Rights Respecting School News

Friday 13th October was our annual fundraising day to support children’s rights and raise money for the Mary’s Meals charity. Pupils took part in various sponsored events including a walk to Dumfries House, cycle, silence and dance. Despite the miserable weather all pupils and staff showed great determination and perseverance, and didn’t let the rain dampen their spirits!

In addition to the sponsored events, the Modern Languages department at Auchinleck Academy put on a French breakfast for all S1 pupils, who contributed a small donation to enjoy a croissant with chocolate spread and an orange juice with their friends. This event would not have been possible without the support of Tesco in Auchinleck who kindly donated breakfast items for over two hundred pupils!

Over £4000 has been raised so far as a result with the proceeds being used to allow Auchinleck and Cumnock Academies to continue our sponsorship of Jebbeh Kiazolu School in Liberia for the second year running.

This involves providing every child with a daily nutritious meal from the Mary’s Meals kitchen which was set up in the school with the funds that we raised last year from our Rights Respecting school activities. As a result of our actions, the children of Jebbeh Kiazolu are now enjoying their basic rights to nutritious food and education- the Head Teacher has reported that attendance has increased dramatically since the introduction of the daily meal!

Well done everyone!



Auchinleck Academy Rights Respecting School Charter



Article 2
Non Discrimination
Nobody should be discriminated against because of their ethnicity, gender, sexuality, religion, language, ability, family background or any other status.

Article 12
Respect for the views of the child
We have the right to express our views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting us, as long as we don't cause offence to others.

Article 13
Freedom of Expression
We are free to express our thoughts and opinions as long as we don't break the law or infringe on the rights of others.

Article 16
Right to Privacy
We have the right to privacy. Our private, family and home life should be protected.

Article 19
Protection from violence, abuse and neglect
We should be protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment.

Article 28
Right to Education
We have the right to an education that develops our personality, talents and abilities to the full.

- Pupil Actions**
- Understand that all people are different and be considerate to others. Do not tolerate or participate in any form of bullying, and or report any incidents.
 - Work hard to achieve your potential and make the most of your education.
 - Behave responsibly and follow the Respect Policy
 - Use social media responsibly.
 - Voice your opinions in a respectful way, ensuring that you do not offend others.
 - Listen to and respect the views from others.
 - Seek help from a teacher, captain, prefect or mentor if you have a concern.

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- Actions for All**
- Encourage open, positive and supportive relationships.
 - Promote our school values of Respect, Equality, Achievement, Teamwork and Responsibility in all that we do.
 - Respect other people's views, gender, religion, sexuality and race.
 - Treat one another fairly, equally and without prejudice.
 - Respect one another's privacy
 - Work together to restore positive relationships when they break down.

- Staff Actions**
- Have high expectations of all pupils.
 - Encourage pupils to have a voice and take their views into account.
 - Apply the Respect Policy consistently and fairly.
 - Create a safe and welcoming environment that allows everyone to feel included.
 - Support pupils to develop their skills, knowledge, talents and abilities to the full.
 - Act upon any concerns about pupil welfare and offer care and support if needed.
 - Encourage pupils to meet their responsibilities and respect on another's rights.

Rights Respecting IDL

S1 took part in a Rights Respecting Inter Disciplinary Learning Event in November. The PE department led them in a variety of Paralympic and Disability sports and it was a great chance for them to work together and with different pupils from their year across a variety of new and challenging sports. They got the chance to experience Boccia, wheelchair basketball, sit-down curling and goal-ball. The morning was a huge success and the feedback from the pupils was that they enjoyed it and they have a better understanding of just some of the difficulties that disabled people can face on a day-to-day basis.



DYW/Princes Trust Innovative School Project Launches

An exciting project was launched with the opening of our BMX (Bike Maintenance Xtreme) bike repair facility. This aims to provide a wide range of skills which will enhance the employment prospects for a group of our pupils. The young people will also have the opportunity to obtain qualifications in a number of areas through the support of the Ayrshire College. The funding for these projects has been provided by Developing Young Workforce Ayrshire and Prince's Trust Scotland Development Awards.

Severe Weather Routine

During spells of hard frost or snow, it is important that pupils are aware of the dangers from slipping on un-treated paths. The Janitors have priorities to consider when gritting areas around the School. Therefore when pupils are coming into school they should keep to the paths cleared.

From the bus drop off point a path will be

- ✓ When entering from Auchinleck a path will be clear from the bus stop entrance, around the assembly hall and down to the dining hall.
- ✓ Pupils being dropped off by car should also use the bus drop off point as highlighted.

