



**Loudoun Academy**  
**Christmas**  
**Newsletter 2016**



**Dear Parents/ Carers**

It has once again been a very quick term and a very eventful one ! We are delighted to have welcomed Hurlford Primary School pupils and staff to Team Loudoun as of September 2016 and we look forward to working with them until June 2017.

I hope that the newsletter will give you a great sense of the wonderful achievements of our pupils, staff, parents and partners as we hurtle towards our holidays. Can I take this opportunity to wish you a all a very happy festive season and a happy and healthy 2017.

**Linda McAulay-Griffiths**

**Head Teacher**



TEAM LOUDOUN ARE  
TOP OF THE CLASS !



We are delighted to report that for the first time, Loudoun Academy have **topped** the tables for Higher exam performance in East Ayrshire Council at **both crucial 3 and 5 Higher benchmarks**. This represents a HUGE amount of effort on the part of pupils, parents, staff and partners to bring about continued transformational change in the school's performance. We are also delighted to report that we also came within 1% of the top spot for National 5 passes in S4, and finished in second place.

	5 or more L3 in S4 Nat 3	5 or more L4 in S4 Nat 4	5 or more L5 in S4 Nat 5	1 or more at L6 in S5 Highers	3 or more at L6 in S5 Highers	5 or more at L6 in S5 Highers	3 or more at L6 in S6 Highers	5 or more at L6 in S6 Highers	1 or more at L7 in S6 Adv, Higher
2010-11	88%	72%	26%	44%	15%	5%	31%	18%	8 %
2015-16	<b>93%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>21%</b>

**We would like to thank EVERYONE involved in bringing about the best possible outcomes for our young people in the Loudoun Valley and for the amazing contribution to Team Loudoun.**

(Figures are drawn from INSIGHT figures from Sep 2016 and compared with INSIGHT 2011)

# Loudoun Achieves: U-13 Ayrshire Rugby Champions

The under-13 squad made history for Loudoun Academy rugby by becoming the school's first squad to win an Ayrshire Schools Cup after a nail-biting final against Belmont Academy at Rugby Park on Friday 9th December. The boys finished top of the East Ayrshire conference and won the final 29-22 against a very good Belmont side. It is a historic win for the school and was all the better with the level of support the boys received from staff, fellow pupils and parents at the game.

Our ongoing thanks to Mr Mc Call from Science, as link teacher, Mr Ally Mc Call, rugby development officer for East Ayrshire, Glen Tippett from the SRU and all of the coaching staff. Thanks also to Mr Lennox from PE for the superb liaison with all agencies to make our school of rugby a reality.

The squad were treated to a formal reception back in school on Monday 12th December where they presented their silverware to a packed staffroom, followed by a lap of honour of the playground. As a very new SRU school of rugby, we look forward to further success and to expanding our squads, including our mission to have a full female team.

Squad: Aydin Akar, Lauchlan Bennett, Jack Bryson, Charlie Crawford, Adam Dowling, Bailey Greer, Alexander Hendrie, Ben Jebb, Caleb Kerr, Kelvin Kirkland, Andrew Laird, Zane Lotter, Cian MacDonald, Leon McArthur, Luke McCoy, Brian McLean, David Murray, Victor Murray, Jack Provan, Adam Richmond, Ryan Russell, Mark Russell, Ethan Speirs, Myles Todd, Jay Trainers, Finlay Wishart

**Please follow on twitter : @loudounrugby**



# Loudoun Business: Developing The Young Workforce



Loudoun Academy were delighted to welcome the leader of the council, Cllr Douglas Reid, Chief Executive: Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive: Alex Mc Phee along with elected members, representatives of Ayrshire College and one of our business partners, Mr Colin Blair of Buzzworks Holdings (pictured below) ,for the opening of our Hospitality Suite on 29th November.



The finance for the suite was secured by a bid from the school and EAC to The Scottish Futures Trust: Inspiring Learning Spaces Fund and we were awarded £100,000. The suite is now used to train groups of pupils on barista and service skills to ensure that our young people are ready to meet the challenges of a potential career in the hospitality industry, which remains the biggest employer in East Ayrshire.

The development responds directly to Scottish government priorities in “Developing The Young Workforce” in the most practical and innovative way, and this resource is the first of its’ kind in East Ayrshire. We look forward to holding many parent and pupil events and the facility will shortly open as a training café for pupils. We thank all of our partners in turning this from bid to reality in just over one year.



# Loudoun Leadership : Senior Team and House Captains—Meet the team !



Warmest congratulations to (L-R) Cameron Wilson (DHB), Laura Fulton (HG), Craig Wilson (HB) and Charley Robertson (DHG) .



Arran House Captains  
Erin Tonner and  
Kimberley Chow



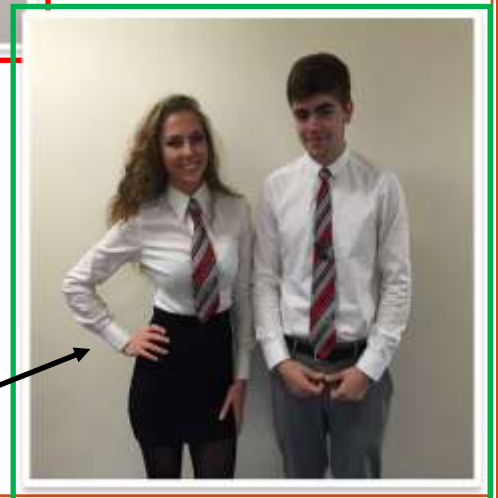
Barra House Captains  
Aaron Collins and  
Katie Graham

Harris House Captains  
Hannah Lyttle and  
Scott Mc Cain



Hoy House Captains  
Sarah Mc Clelland and  
Katie Waller

Skye House Captains  
Nicola Burns and Aiden  
Paterson



## Loudoun Community: Go Purple



Team Loudoun and Team Hurlford took on the challenge to “Go Purple” this October and raised an amazing £1850. Senior pupils on our barista course organised a purple coffee morning, both school held a purple non-uniform day and Mrs McAulay-Griffiths “ran” the Scottish half marathon in Glasgow and raised £500 which was merged in the school total. A great time was had by all and we look forward to making such a local cause a regular feature on our fundraising calendar. Pupils and Mrs McAulay-Griffiths are pictured handing over the cheque to Mr Ron Swanson from Ayrshire Hospice.

## Loudoun Community: Children In Need

Team Loudoun continued its’ tradition of supporting Children In Need again this year and raised a whopping £2300. Activities included a non-uniform day, “I’m a teacher: Get Me Out Of Here”, staff/pupil football (won by staff), Pudsey’s Moviethon, PA for the Day, Zumba, Captain’s Quiz and a sponsored silence. A great day was had by all and many thanks to Mrs Whiteside for co-ordinating this annual event.

Picture below : Zumba with Siobhan (from Silly Gilly)

Picture below : Captain’s Quiz



## Loudoun Community: Dementia Friendly Awards



Massive congrats to our S6 pupils and Mr Jim Baird from Alzheimer's Scotland on receiving certificates following a series of training events to raise awareness of Alzheimers . Pupils organised a dementia-friendly coffee morning for a group of residents and will be seeking to repeat this in the New Year in our Hospitality Suite. Let's create a more dementia –friendly world for all.

## Loudoun Community: Ayrshire Cancer Support



HUGE well done to Mr Mc Quade, Josh Beckett, Brandon Scott, Jay Campbell and Jamie Muir who recently undertook a 10 mile charity walk for Ayrshire Cancer Support who provide a vital lifeline for individuals suffering cancer all over Ayrshire. The team raised a whopping £359 which will continue to help these most in need in our local area get the treatment they so badly need.

**CONGRATULATIONS !!!**

# Loudoun Community: Creative Industries Group



We are delighted to report on the success of our new “Creative Industries” course, taught by Mrs A Wood of the English dept. The N5 Creative Industries class have been working with Mrs Sally Cogley on a mission to clean up the River Irvine from source to mouth. They have been finding out what's involved in this community initiative and hope to use that knowledge next term to create a social media presence which will raise the profile of the fabulous work Sally has already done, and hopefully generate some new recruits to the mission! If you are interested in helping to improve our local environment, please get in touch.

# Loudoun Community: Loudoun Xmas Fayre



On 7th, 8th and 9th of Dec, pupils from our Communication held their own stall as part of our Xmas Fayre. The pupils and staff did a wonderful job of preparing and labelling cat and dog treat packs, as well as reindeer pamper packs that the staff and parents all snapped up. Congratulations to all pupils in the Centre who did a wonderful job of selling their products and raised a whopping in the process.

GREAT JOB !!

On Sunday 11th December, the school held its' first Christmas Fayre in many years and thanks must go to Mrs Shona Mc Laughlin, Teacher of Modern Studies, for her overall organisation of the event.

The Loudoun Valley community came out in force to support the local businesses, school and parents who ran stalls at the event. Musical accompaniment was provided by the Loudoun Jazz Band as well as a variety of performances from senior pupils.

The Parent Council ran a fantastic tearoom, complemented by the sale of beautiful preserves and jams made the wonderful Mrs Caroline Mackay, whose efforts for the Parent Council are just outstanding. We are indebted to the EAC Vibrant Communities team who supplied us with a "photo booth" and two lovely staff that our Parent Council ran as a fundraiser using a variety of Xmas props.

Our Home Economics staff ran a much-loved and welcomed "Roll 'N' Sausage" service and also a chocolate fountain.

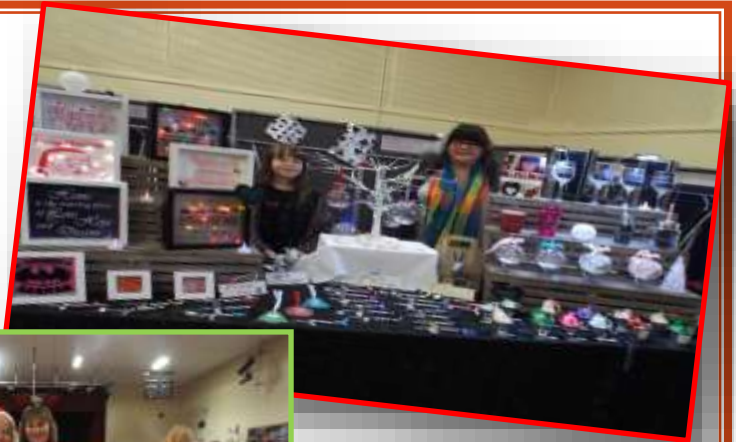
Our huge thanks to all staff, pupils and parents who supported us and a list of contributing businesses and stallholders can be found on the next page. We are hugely grateful to you all !

**#TEAMLOUDOUN**





# Loudoun Community: Loudoun Xmas Fayre



# Loudoun Community: Loudoun Xmas Fayre

## Huge thanks to our prize sponsors

Tesco Galston
Coop Galston
Ronalds bakery Newmilns
Kilmarnock Football Club
Galleon Centre
JH Donald (Hurlford)
Ali Mc Call
William Wales Butchers
Brownings Bakers
McDonalds Ltd
Linda Mc Cain
Newmilns Ski Slope
Universal Takeaway (Darvel)
Tron Ice Cream Kiosk
Fenwick Hotel
The Wee Train
Maxwood Hotel
Isbah Sharif :Darvel post office
Fenwick Primary

## Our stallholders

Sunnyside nurseries
Keepsakes Anne Hume
Craig Denim
Nicola Malloy (sweets)
Creations by coppertop Claire Provan
Deluxe Designs MaddieTelfer
LA stamping Liz Allan
David Powell Woodcraft
The Dress Exchange Kayleigh Wright
Fenwick fine foods Graeme Colville
Samantha's personalised gifts
Poppy's at 11
Personal touch
Fiona Gilmour Beautiful Bunting
Usborne Books Marilyn Yates
Absolutely WK Jackie Steel
Look again Linda
Sweet art

A HUGE TEAM LOUDOUN  
THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR  
AMAZING SPONSORS AND  
STALLHOLDERS

## Loudoun Achieves : Digital Developments

Due to our early closure at the end of the Summer term, we were unable to produce the Summer newsletter, our sincere apologies for this.

Since then, all areas of the school have been working hard on developing digital capacity and every department and subject now have a GLOW site that is accessible to pupils. ALL pupils have a GLOW login and it is easily accessible from GLOW. There is also the added bonus of FREE access to Microsoft Student Office through this package, which is an outstanding resource for our young people for work and study. We are hugely grateful to Gary Neilson and David Anderson who were of huge assistance in setting up our GLOW capacity.

We are hugely grateful to EAC ICT for 20 new Promethean boards that will be installed in the New Year and teachers and pupils alike will get great benefit from what is , cutting edge software. A full ICT review was carried out earlier in the year by Mr Robertson and ALL school areas have access to excellent pupil facilities for ICT via a variety of desktop, laptop and IPAD resources.

Our school website has also had a full refresh and new items are being populated almost every day through the school blog. The new website can be found at : -

**<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/loudounacademy2016/>**

We are looking forward to the launch of Parent Pay in January 2017 to help make Loudoun a cashless school and help parents with making payments to trips, proms, uniform etc. We hope that parents will register for this to allow us to progress as planned.

In the new year, we will be working with colleagues from EAC Education ICT to look at “Microsoft Classroom” and help push forward our digital learning plans to ensure we meet the demands of a technologically changing environment.

## Loudoun Achieves : Twitter Feeds

The Loudoun Academy twitter feed @loudounacademy1 now has over 1000 followers and is updated daily with the latest news and events across the school. If you do not have a twitter account, it's really easy to sign up at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and receive these updates straight to your phone. Undernoted are all of the school feeds, thus far, to allow you to follow depts. or subjects.

@langloudoun

@loudounpsupport

@loudounpe

@loudoun dt

@loudounmaths

@loudounenglish

@loudounidl

@loudounrugby

@loudounscience

@loudounhe

@loudounmusic

# Loudoun Community: Design A Sign



We are delighted to be involved with the Galston Community Area regeneration Scheme and you can see above the winning Bucks head design that we featured in a previous edition of our newsletter. We are delighted to report that the sign has now been beautifully made at Ratho Forge by the wonderful Pete Hill and has been erected at The Bucks Head in Galston.

Warmest congratulations go to the team of pupils who designed the sign, and also to Pete at Ratho Forge, who came into school to deliver a series of lessons on the art of the blacksmith. We are sure you will agree, it's a superb model of partners, pupils, school and the community working together to best effect.

**#teamloudoun**

# Loudoun Developments: Parent Council

We said a very sad, but fond, farewell to Mr Graeme Winning as outgoing Chair of our Parent Council in June 2016, and we are delighted to advise that Mr Paul White has been elected as Chair as of August 2016. Mr Tony Newlands is our new Vice-Chair and Mrs Claire Mair is our secretary. Mr Stephen McDougall continues as our treasurer and Mrs Caroline Mackay is the new Chair of our newly founded Parent Council fundraising Group.



The Parent Council, pupils and staff came out in force to support the Newmilns Food Festival in September. A simply fabulous event with superb organisation by the Newmilns Regeneration Association. Massive thanks to Caroline Mackay and all of the parents who organised the mammoth task of the tea tent, with over 1000 visitors !!

Thanks also due to East Ayrshire Council's Chris Walker, for his fantastic support of the PC endeavours.

The PC ran a fabulous chocolate tombola stall at the excellent Galston Christmas Fayre. The stall was well-attended as always and huge thanks to The Candy Cart in Galston for donation of the star prize.



The Parent Council ran a very successful tearoom in support of the Loudoun Academy Christmas Fayre on Sunday 11th December, with some very welcome warm mice pies and a cuppa for the weary shoppers! The last event of the year will be at Tesco Galston on Saturday 1st December for the bag backing event.

Strategically this has been a mammoth year for the Parent Council, and we have welcomed Mr Donnie Mc Leod, HMI inspector to one of our meetings to discuss parental role in self-evaluation using HGIOS 4. Parents were HUGELY involved in setting the strategic direction for the school as part of the consultation process and were guided by the new national Improvement Framework. Mr John Bryson attended the recent NPFS event in Stewarton and Mr Paul White has joined the EAC Parent Steering Group. The Parent Council also led an excellent session on Parental Engagement with "Tree of Knowledge" who provide fantastic support for pupils already in Loudoun Academy. **Facebook : Loudoun Academy Parent Council Twitter: @loudounparents**

# Loudoun Achievements: Duke of Edinburgh



Pupils have been working hard so far this session to complete at Bronze, Silver and Gold level.

By February we should be in a position to award Bronze certificates to 19 pupils, Silver certificates to 4 pupils and Gold certificates to 12 pupils. This will be the first Gold awards in Loudoun Academy and due to the hard work and commitment of the pupils, and also the support of Mrs Dunlop, Mrs Johnston and Mrs Hight. Special thanks also go to Tim McCarthur, Graeme Winning plus the parental support which allows the youngsters to complete Bronze and Silver level expeditions. Peter Stewart and Willie White , East Ayrshire, organised and assessed the gold expeditions leading to fantastic success in challenging the youngsters in both sailing and walking expeditions.

**Bronze awards due to complete:** Stephen Morrice, Robbie Hamilton, Jasmine Jardine, erin Baird, Molly Argyle, Victoria Speirs, Hannah Brown, Yasmin Sharif, Laura Wallace, Ethan Watt, Mhairi Ross, Ellie Black, Caitlin Taylor, Megan Barker, Cameron Daniels, Rebecca Baxter, Sophie boyd, Jessica Wilson, Joe Aiwansoba.

**Silver awards due to complete:** Elan Baird, Heather Craig, Junior Gregory, Emma Caldwell, Harris Keegan, Reece Gregory, Declan Millar, Tammy McLean

**Gold awards due to complete:** Emma Kerr, Catriona hoy, Charlotte Winning, Daniel Little, Michael Little, Rhys Larmour, Cameron Bone, Hannah Messer, Fiona Cuthbertson, Karen Foster, Alaxander MacDonald and Findlay MacDonald

As always it is a superb team effort to get pupils through the award and congratulations go to all of them for their achievements so far.

17 S3 pupils have registered to start the Bronze award this year – good luck to them and we look forward to awarding their certificates in a years time.

These pupils are Thomas Hornsey, Eilidh Browning, Holly Downing, Morgan McPheator, Ewan Bone, Abby Caldwell, Sophie McGeough, Jayme Pollock, Iona Scott, Robert Hendrie, Jessica Tannoch, Jake Ballantyne, Shayla Ross, Eve McKie, Elliot MacDonald, Rosie Wilson, Lucas Angus.

# Loudoun Achievements: Champions in Team Loudoun

We are delighted to share some recent successes of our pupils in the national and world stage and invite ALL parents and carers to please let us know of ALL achievements so that we can share in your great news ! We know there must be more out there !!!



Cameron Radigan : Silver in Scottish Archery U-16 Recurve Event



Sara Barbour : Bronze in Scottish U-15 Javelin



Blaine Lyon Scottish youth Flyfishing Champ

Liam Donnelly— WORLD champ in K1 mixed martial arts !



Jenny Bone : World Burns Federation 3rd place : recital of poetry



Callum Kerr: admitted to The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland



# Loudoun Achievements: Team Loudoun in China

Martine Forbes and Kimberley Chow were selected to attend the China immersion trip this Summer and here is an account of their travels.....Huge thanks to Mr Iain Wilson at Grange Academy, Miss O' Rourke and our Mandarin staff for making our Mandarin hub a huge success.

## China Bridge Immersion Trip 2016



During the summer we were fortunate enough to go to China for 17 days, (10<sup>th</sup> July – 27<sup>th</sup> July), along with 140 other Scottish students from 21 hubs all over Scotland.

While there we studied mandarin for 5 days learning; greeting, family members, personal details and directions. At the end we did our HSK 1 assessment – which we passed!

Also we had a range of cultural classes, which included; painting opera masks, Chinese knot making, calligraphy, kung fu, Tai Chi and much more.

We stayed in Tianjin for 11 days, which is where we learned the mandarin and had the cultural classes. We then went to Beijing for 5 days, which is where we visited tourist attractions. This included the Great Wall of China, Birds Nest, Tiananmen Square, Temple of Heaven and more.



We also had the opportunity to visit our partner school – Xinhua High School. This is where we met Chinese students of our age and learned a little about school life in China. After we got to go to one of the student's houses and spend time with them and their family to learn more about everyday life.



Overall we thoroughly enjoyed our time spent in China. It was truly incredible and something we will never forget as it gave us some many good memories and friends we will never forget. We would also highly recommend this excursion to anyone who gets the chance!





# Around Loudoun :Social Subjects

In September Modern studies teachers Shona McLaughlin and Sheryl Cornelius led a three day visit to London, for S4 pupils. Pupils visited the House of Commons where they met our MP Alan Brown as part of their work on democracy.

They also visited the Harry Potter experience as an example of enterprise in action and also relates well to their Business studies. Pupils and staff also enjoyed an excellent performance of “Mamma Mia”.



Geography Higher pupils benefitted from undertaking a field trip to Dolphin House, Culzean on 9 September, organised by Andy Cartmell and Evelyn Waughman. This really enhanced pupils' classroom learning with some hands - on field work directly linked to their assignment. This contributes 33% to their overall grade so it's a very practical and valuable way to boost the overall marks of our pupils. The pupils will write up their assignments on 6 December. (pupils pictured above)

S6 Travel and Tourism pupils recently enjoyed a presentation by a representative from Visit Scotland which raised awareness of the vital role that tourism plays in the Scottish economy.

Sarah Murray, history teacher, lead a team of S6 Advanced higher pupils to raise awareness and valuable funds for Poppy Scotland through our November House assemblies. As well as the important historical dimension of the massive impact of World War 1 on a generation, this plays a big part in enabling Poppy Scotland to help many victims of more recent conflicts and their families.

# Campus Police Officer: PC Davidson



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

We are delighted to welcome a new Campus officer to Loudoun Academy following the departure of PC Frank Kennedy in June 2016. Welcome to Team Loudoun.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Loudoun Academy's new Campus Police Officer. My name is PC Jemma Davidson and I have been a police officer for over 10 years. I am very excited about this role and look forward to working with all the staff and pupils.

## Positive choices group

During group times I have the opportunity to speak with pupils about their decision making and explain that the choices they make now can affect the rest of their lives. I invite speakers in to give their life experiences which encourages open discussions. My aim is to inform the group of the choices they can make and that they can choose a path that will lead them to a positive future.

## Match fit programme

This programme is run by Barnardo's and Kilmarnock football team. Pupils attend on a Friday morning to play football at Rugby Park after inputs relating to alcohol and drug misuse.

## Inputs

Over December I will be visiting S5 and S6 PSE classes doing an input on drink and drug spiking awareness.

If you would like to speak to me about any matter, please call the school and I will be delighted to advise or assist you.

PC J Davidson  
Campus Officer  
Loudoun Academy



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**  
Keeping people safe

# Around Loudoun: Pupil Support

Most senior pupils who are applying to university next year have completed and sent away their UCAS applications. Some have already heard back from universities and been given conditional and unconditional offers. Senior pupils who are intending on leaving next year and going to college or applying for jobs and apprenticeships have been researching their intended industry and creating personal statements they can use when the applications open.

All senior pupils have received input from Ayrshire College regarding available courses next year and the change from school to college and university life.

The presentations were very interactive and engaging and very appropriate with all S5 pupils going through or have been through their mock interviews this year. This consisted of creating a C.V, filling in an application form and attending an interview with the selected company. Employer engagement this year was excellent with around 20 different companies supporting the students in this process.

S5 Reach pupils have been involved in group sessions with staff from The University of Glasgow. This is to help prepare the pupils for applying for select university courses next year.

Some S5 pupils attended an army information evening in Glasgow, creating great contacts and gathering information which will help the pupils increase their understanding of what is involved in a career in the army.

Select senior pupils attended an apprentice open evening in Govan for engineering with BA Systems. The evening was very worthwhile with pupils making contacts with possible future employers.

S5 pupils who are interested in a career in the NHS had opportunity to attend an NHS careers awareness day on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November at University Hospital Cross house.

Some interested senior pupils attended a Skills Development Scotland event on 26<sup>th</sup> October. The event was focused on possible destinations and routes after school. Pupils met with companies offering jobs and possible apprenticeship opportunities.

Some S4 pupils who have always shown an interest in entering a career in the police and the army, have successfully completed a work experience week with the police and the army.

All S5 pupils have had input from a member of staff from the Ayrshire Chamber on developing their C.V. Pupils have taken this information and used it to create their own personal C.V's through the Employability Award course.

All S4 and S2 classes have been presented to by Judy Ferguson from East Ayrshire Woman's Aid to help educate pupils on domestic violence. This is aimed at both males and females.

Judy Ferguson has also presented to all S3 pupils on the topic of sexual consent. The session was very informative and raised the awareness of a sensitive topic.

All S3/4 pupils have had career input from 9 local companies regarding Modern Apprenticeships. The skills fair was held in Loudoun Academy on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November with the feedback from

# Around Loudoun: Pupil Support

All S3/4 pupils have had career input from 9 local companies regarding Modern Apprenticeships. The skills fair was held in Loudoun Academy on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November with the feedback from pupils being very positive.

S3/4 pupils have been completing their Employability Award and most have completed the first assessment and working on their C.V and application form.



Our team of MVP mentors



All S1/2/3 classes have had Mentor in Violence Prevention presentations from the cohort of senior pupils who are MVP ambassadors within the school. The younger pupils respond very well to the senior pupils who done extremely well, delivering information on some hard hitting topics.

All S1/2 pupils have been working through their Developing the Young Workforce booklet to help increase their knowledge and understanding of possible future career paths and what they need to achieve to reach their future aims and goals. Pupils can always research careers at home as most pupils have now created accounts on my world of work and planitplus.

S1/2 pupils are half way through their positive achievement class and are making good progress with this. S1 pupils are now very settled in the school.

All S1 pupils have had a presentation on Autism Awareness from Catrina Walker. This helps for all pupils to understand what Autism is and what forms it can take.

It has been a very busy term for the Pupil Support Team and after Christmas the focus will be on exams, options choices and helping pupils apply and leave in to a positive destination.

The Recognition Tokens have been made and the store is making good progress. Look out for the store at the entrance to the Assembly Hall. Teachers will be issued with their tokens soon.

## The new house system and points

Our new house reward system is going very well and a massive thank you to Mr Hendry for all the time and effort he has put into creating the token box and tokens. The new house point system within the school is constantly developing and this will be a huge addition and a great way to help pupils recognise positive achievements, actions and behaviours in Loudoun Academy.



Have a great Christmas from the Pupil Support Team.

Mr Patterson (Hoy), Mr Hendry (Barra), Mr Vickers (Skye), Mrs Highet (Harris) and Mrs Mc Caffrey (Arran)

# Around Loudoun: Communication Centre

ON 20<sup>th</sup> of October the centre celebrated it's first birthday in our new location. This occasion was marked by an informal Parents' evening which was extremely well attended. The S3 Centre Enterprise group filmed and edited an excellent DVD explaining the role of the centre and their thoughts on it. This was well received by the audience and pupils had a great deal of fun making it. Pupils also made a decorative canvas showing their thoughts about the Centre which is very illuminating and takes pride of place on the wall.



On 16 November pupils (27 pupils in total) from the Communication Centre and their YASS S6 supporters attended a showing of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" at Kilmarnock Cinema. They were accompanied by Centre staff. This was an excellent experience to help build up social skills and all the pupils were great ambassadors for our school.



The s1 Enterprise group are making Dog and Cat Christmas treat packs which will be on sale in the staffroom later in the term. They are also creating reindeer and teddy bear wash packs. We would Like to thank Gibb of Galston for their generous donation to make this possible and Tesco Galston. We hope this will be well supported and will allow us to develop the Enterprise course.



# Around Loudoun: Art and Design

S1/2/3 students are well settled in now and working through courses set by individual teachers, who provide a range of themes to follow. Many are becoming noticeably accomplished within each stage, and it is good to see their images develop and mature. This session, the S1 classes were able to adapt their emerging design skills to the whole school Interdisciplinary project by designing a Logo for the theme of Human Rights.

Soon all will be asked to comment by writing about the work of artists and designers, looking at examples of work, and giving opinions and judgements based on the visual elements of art and design, e.g., tone, shape, perspective, colour, or texture. The element of Numeracy in Art and Design tends to take the form of perspective drawing and cylinders and ellipses.

In addition, they will make judgements about their own progress, through use of a personal learning plan, which details some of the skills they can acquire. They can also review their progress by discussing with others in the class. This session, they can also comment on Health and Wellbeing, and how confident they feel in the art class.

Senior students are progressing towards completion of course unit work based on their personal projects and themes. In particular, they are finalising the development stages for both design and expressive units. This personal approach sets them on a unique journey where they must use their own initiative and creativity. This can be disconcerting for a while and requires bravery, but already we can foresee some high quality final outcomes.

S4/5 students are also finalising preparation of written work which will enable them to discuss the work of artists and designers in a formal exam later in the session. They are encouraged to link the work of famous artists to their own classwork as a means of inspiration. This approach was used very successfully last session.

The Photography Higher group have completed initial coursework which involves written analysis of the work of famous photographers, and are now exploring the school campus and local landscape environment with cameras in order to develop their own photography themes.

A group of our Advanced Higher students have been attending a Saturday afternoon Portfolio Masterclass at Kilmarnock Academy, focussing on experimental drawing techniques for the theme of Abstract Still Life. This will help to boost their portfolios and give them the opportunity to mix with their contemporaries in other school.

One of our S6 students, Erin Wilson, produced a powerful personal painting for a National Competition organised by the famous contemporary Scottish artist - John Byrne . Erin became a national winner and her work is shown to the right of this text. You can see how beautiful and compelling this piece is.



# Around Loudoun: Mathematics

## Promoting Positive Behaviour

This session, the department has introduced a Promoting Positive Behaviour strategy to recognise the many positive achievements of pupils in the department. This is aimed at S1 and S2 pupils and certificates are awarded to “Elite” and “Performance” pupils selected by class teachers. All students selected appear on the department picture boards and parents/carers also receive letters of commendation. House points are also awarded to pupils.

October recipients:



November recipients:



Huge congratulations to everyone for their excellent efforts do far this session.

# Around Loudoun: Mathematics

## Enterprising Mathematics Competition

Well done to Jasmin Jardine, Iona Bishop, Jack Johnstone and Hannah Graham who represented the department at the recent East Ayrshire heats of the Enterprising Mathematics competition.



## **S1 Rights Respecting Schools**

In November, S1 pupils were involved in Rights Respecting Schools activities.

The task was entitled “Speed Debating - Money, Money, Money” and pupils were split into groups then issued with a numbered statement card and record sheet. The statement cards were based on financial issues and included statements like: “However much you earn or have as pocket money, you should always save some of it”, “Young people should help out at home financially when they start to earn some money from a part-time job”, “Money brings happiness” and “Money will be really important in helping me to achieve my aspirations and goals in life”.

In groups pupils were given time to discuss the whether they agreed or disagreed with the statement on the card which was then the focus for a class discussion. There were many interesting and some very responsible for the youngsters in S1 throughout the task.

## **Maths Workout**

A reminder to all students and parents that there are good support resources available through the Maths workout website. This site is mainly aimed at pupils in S1-3 classes and it contains an almost unlimited bank of resources and activities to support their learning using technology. For your information, the web address for this site is [www.mathsworkout.co.uk](http://www.mathsworkout.co.uk)

Log in details are: Username: loudoun Password: exact17

## **Scholar**

Scholar is a free online resource which has recently updated its online content and now provides some excellent resource to help prepare students at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher levels. All students should have their own log in details and can access the resources at home. There are also online homework and tutorial sessions. All maths classes at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher levels will receive further information about accessing the site in December. If any student does not have log in details they should speak to their maths teacher as soon as possible.



# Around Loudoun: Interdisciplinary Learning



Through Interdisciplinary Learning in Loudoun Academy we offer enhanced opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work as well as opportunities for learning which present a challenge and are engaging.



This term we have delivered our Rights Respecting Interdisciplinary Week for S1. The IDL week brought great learning opportunities for all S1 pupils. They experienced the importance of the Rights of the Child from the UNCRC from a broad variety of lessons and activities from every subject in their curriculum.

All pupils had a Loudoun IDL Rights Respecting Passport which was used to evidence learning and which the pupils and staff worked very hard together to complete.



Loudoun is currently at Recognition of Commitment stage of the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Programme and our dealings with young people must reflect our understanding of the content of this convention (UNCRC). We are working towards level 1 Rights Respecting School status.

**Coming up...** in March we have our S2 China Interdisciplinary Week

Mrs R Jakeman

PT Interdisciplinary learning and outdoor learning

# Around Loudoun: Home Economics

S1 pupils have settled in well and have just experienced their first practical cookery test without any assistance. It was quite a challenge for a number of them but we are pleased with their final result. S2 pupils completed their design a cushion for their textiles technology with some superb cushions being taken home. They have now returned to the food side of the subject learning about dietary needs and developing their practical skills.

Our S3 Hospitality pupils just recently sat a written assessment and have completed a number of practical cookery challenges. 30 pupils took part in yet again, a very successful Rotary Cookery Competition. There was an article about the school and the pupils in the West of Scotland magazine with photographs of the winners. They are now helping prepare foodstuffs to be sold next week at the Christmas Fayre. S3 Fashion & Textiles class are really enjoying the course with many pupils wanting to attend extra times if possible. They made bunting to be hung around the department, working very well as a group to produce work of an extremely high standard. S3 –S6 pupils took part in the Newmilns Food Festival with the school entering 15 large, Victoria Sandwiches and 20 very large Lemon Meringue Pies. The pupils and staff worked extremely hard on this task!

S4 Hospitality students are now practising their dishes for the Nat5 prelim in December. Six S4 pupils represented the school at the Inner Wheel Charity lunch helping set up, prepare and serve for a number of ladies. They were a credit to themselves and to the school. S5/6 Higher Textiles class have all made their toddlers sleepsuit and have all completed a sleeveless top incorporating a number of difficult techniques.



Rotary Cooking Competition Entries

Newmilns Food Festival Entries



Textiles work

# Around Loudoun: English

The S1 Reading for Gold poster winner is Lauren Davidson and S2 Reading for Treasure poster winner is Abbie Smith- with super efforts from both girls. Well done! Some posters are shown below



S3 were involved with creative writing and some extra special scary stories to tie in with Halloween; corridor boards were updated and staff went the extra mile and dressed up!

C Millar had S6 Advanced Higher to the Mitchell library on a research trip; D McCrone and C Millar liaised with Greenwood Academy for N5 Media, establishing new fruitful working relationships for the future. Former pupil Daniel Russell gave up his time to speak to N5 Media students about his film studies course at university. This was a hit with staff and pupils. Members of staff met with Alan Muir, editor of The Sun newspaper, to form creative links for members of The Sun team to come in and work with pupils and staff in the English/Art departments. This was inspiring and a great opportunity for the dept. and the school.

Former member of staff S Millar did a creative writing workshop with seniors which was very productive and will contribute greatly to creative writing in pupil portfolios.

A Wood 's senior pupils successfully achieved N5 Literacy outcomes and have been working with S Cogley, Eco group chair, on a community clean up initiative which has been progressing well. Regarding the new Creative Industries course, the dept. received a successful SQA visit approving the course, which is running for the first time.

L Livingston, librarian, has been delivering bibliography presentations in the dept to S4-6 pupils for discursive/persuasive portfolio essays. This has been very helpful.

The transfer of materials to Glow has been gathering momentum; the dept have now been given 10 ipads for ICT use and look forward to pupils making good use of these.

Overall the dept. has been very busy and pupils working hard. Supported study starts on Friday this week and senior pupils are finishing assessments and getting ready for prelim exams in January. S1-3 pupils are working on media texts; listening to texts; poetry; creative writing and many other topics.

We also have a brand new and regularly updated twitter feed @loudounenglish—follow us for news, events and achievements and some brilliant insights into the English (and Scots) language !!



# Around Loudoun: Computing & Business Education

Third Year Business Studies and Computing students are once again being given the opportunity to take part in the Ayrshire Young Entrepreneurs Club. The event is ran in conjunction with Developing the Young Workforce Ayrshire and a group of ten S3 pupils will attend workshops on a monthly basis from January-April 2017.

#AYE 2017



The workshops are on topics which are business and computing related such as Marketing and IT. The pupils will be given presentation by existing Young Entrepreneurs on their business ventures, which have all been supported by the Princes Trust. Selection for the group of 10 pupils will starts ni December and the 10 lucky students will attend the workshops. All costs of transport are covered by DYW Ayrshire who will also give grants of up to £2500 to start an in-school sustainable business venture. The 10 students will have the opportunity to give a presentation to the judges from DYW Ayrshire on a business idea they might have for Loudoun Academy.

GIRLS INTO COMPUTING - TechFuture

The Computing Science Department have a new initiative to attract Girls into Computing. A new lunchtime club has been started and is for S1 and S2 girls who want to improve their IT skills in a fun fashion. The club runs on a Monday lunchtime in Mr Keirs computing room 219. Sixth year students Nicola Burns, Rachel Wolschke and Codie Smith will speak to the first and second year girls and presenting excellent role models of senior pupils who have excelled in IT subjects in Loudoun Academy. Hopefully this club will dispel the myth that computing and IT is only for boys!



## Around Loudoun: Library

The term began with all S1 pupils receiving their Library Skills and Information induction and all S1 pupils settled in well to the Library routine. Carrying over from last year were lunchtime groups- The Colouring Club, Creative Writing Workshop and S3 Book Group.

In October pupils were invited to attend Stewarton Library and listen to author Danny Weston talk about his new book and give a brief biography about himself and his books. This event was run as part of East Ayrshire Leisure's Imprint Competition. The pupils were very inspired with Danny and had the opportunity to get copies of his books signed.



Three S6 girls, Erin Frater, Amy Fraser and Charley Robertson were keen to start a School Newsletter showcasing the talents of Loudoun Academy. The Loudoun Chronicle was born and the first issue went live on the school website on 31/10/2016 with the apt theme of Halloween. The girls received great feedback from staff and pupils alike.

With Hurlford Primary decanted into Loudoun, the staff and pupils were made very welcome to use the school library. Story telling sessions with P1-P3 are on-going and every P1 received their P1 Bookbug pack as part of Book Week Scotland at the end of November, with a special Bookbug session. The P4-P7 pupils are also taking part in The First Minister's Reading Challenge with all pupils receiving their reading passports and visiting the library to choose books specially selected for them.



The Library held a Scholastic Book Fair to celebrate Book Week Scotland giving the pupils and staff an opportunity to browse and buy some top titles of their own. This has been the first Book Fair for a few years and hopefully will become an annual event.

# Around Loudoun: Technical Education

We are delighted to welcome two new staff to the Technical department, Mr Henderson (PT) and Miss Hood. It has been a very busy time as the new team get to work with all of the new classes as you will see below.



## New Logo:

We set a logo design competition for S3 Graphic Communication pupils and we are delighted with the final result. The winning design is shown here.

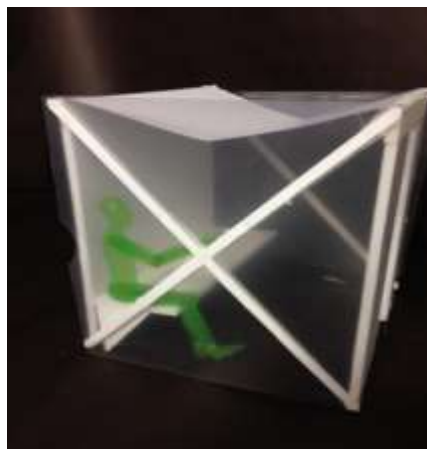
## S1 Pupils get creative in Plastic:

As part of our course re-design programme, we have introduced a new S1 plastic key tag project which teaches pupils idea generation techniques and how to cut shape and finish plastic. The wonderful results from 1P are shown here.



## Higher Design and Manufacture

Our Higher Design & Manufacture class are making good progress through their Design Unit. They have been challenged to design a new bus shelter which will hold 5 people and contain an interactive digital signage board. Here are some the sketch models pupils have created to check the sizes of their designs and work out how they will develop their ideas further.



# Around Loudoun: Technical Education

## 3D printer Crazy!

As part of their Materials and Manufacture unit for Higher Design & Manufacture pupils have been designing a hand held GPS system for hill walkers. Their designs needed to be designed for commercial manufacturing. To test out their ideas our 3D printer has been utilised to take 3D CAD files and make solid models. An example of one design is shown here.



## Practical Woodworkers get busy:

Our S3 practical woodwork class have been busy building a rotating picture frame to build up their skills in flat frame construction. The results are shown here.



Our S4 class have finished their corner cabinet model which displays their skills in Carcasse construction. Next the tool box model and the wood lathe.

Mr N Henderson

PT Technical Education

@loudoundt (Twitter feed)

## Around Loudoun: Support For Learning

This term the Support for Learning department has started working towards the Dyslexia Friendly Schools Bronze Award. We have formed a DFS pupil committee which meets once a week. The pupils have prepared a power point which will be presented at assemblies during our Dyslexia Awareness Week in March. They have also begun to create help boxes for each department in the school. Pupil links have been established for departments who will monitor the contents of the boxes.



The committee have distributed posters to classrooms giving hints on how to make the classroom more dyslexia friendly, including how to support pupils using ICT. Staff receive weekly bulletins giving information on dyslexia friendly approaches. DFS is visible throughout the school through the creation of information noticeboards. Links are being established by the committee with two of our feeder primary schools, with the intention of visiting these schools in January. All S2pupils have taken part in a DFS Logo competition in Design & Technology. The winning logo will appear on Loudoun DFS materials.



St. Andrew's Day has been celebrated throughout the department in SfL groups. S1-3 pupils have been looking at the history of St. Andrew and researching famous Scots.



This term S4-6 pupils have been taught how to use digital materials in preparation for SQA exams. Parent workshops on the use of digital papers have taken place prior to S4-6 parents' evening. Further parent workshops on dyslexia are planned prior to S2 and S3 parents' evenings.



# Literacy & Numeracy

## Literacy

In August, Education Scotland published Benchmarks for Literacy and Numeracy. These clearly set out what a child is expected to be able to do in order to achieve a CfE Level. This should make the assessment of Literacy across the curriculum easier, more accurate and more meaningful for both pupils and teachers. This term, all departments have undertaken an audit of their S1-3 courses using the Benchmarks in order to ensure that all junior pupils are being provided the opportunity to develop their Literacy skills and achieve a wide and broad range of Literacy Experiences and Outcomes across the curriculum.

The Literacy page on Glow is up and running for pupils. Here, they can access with ease the Loudoun Academy Correction Code, the whole school Writing Checklist and the TiPToP rules for paragraphing. There is even a 'Goldilocks Test' which helps pupils determine whether the book they are planning to read is 'too easy', 'too hard' or 'just right' as well as useful links to webpages. The parent page is being developed along with the school website and will be available soon!

Mr D Ball

PT Literacy



## Numeracy

There have been some important publications from both Education Scotland and the Scottish Government regarding Numeracy and its importance in life, learning and work.

The "Numeracy and mathematics glossary" is now available on Education Scotland's Parentzone and provides clear definitions of some of the commonly used terms in Numeracy and Maths. In addition to the glossary there is "The importance of numeracy and mathematics" document which gives examples of how different aspects of Numeracy and Maths relate to real life contexts.

The "Making Maths Count" final report is also now available on the Scottish Government website and outlines the Government's aims to improve attainment in Numeracy and Mathematics.

Finally the National Numeracy charity has released an app called "Star Dash Studio" and this available to download free for phones and tablets. This is a fun game that includes challenge questions on Money, Time, Measurement and Angles that need to be answered correctly in order to progress through the levels. It also contains a link to the National Numeracy Challenge.

Miss K Dempster

PT Numeracy

## Around Loudoun: Modern Languages and RMPS

What a term so far! We celebrated Halloween in the Modern Languages department by running a spooky Halloween quiz for S1. The winner Anna Walsh in 1 Hoy received a bumper bucket filled with Halloween goodies – well done Anna! We also had some “big weans” wanting to join in the fun so the Higher Spanish class translated a traditional Costa Rican Halloween song “Los esqueletos” in to English, giving them a chance to practise their translation skills and compete to win a goodie bag of their own! Our winner was Hannah Messer 6 Skye and runner up was Alice Scott in 6 Arran. Watch this space for some Christmas themed competitions!

Our fabulous Chinese ambassadors Kimberly Chow and Martine Forbes delivered an excellent presentation to the Parent Council at the beginning of November on their trip to China in the summer. There will be an opportunity for at least two S5 pupils from Loudoun to go on the trip again next summer who have an interest in learning Mandarin and Chinese culture.

Our Chinese teacher Miss Wang has settled in very well and is already a popular member of Loudoun with both pupils and staff. She is running a fantastic Mandarin club on Tuesday lunch times for S1-S3 pupils. Miss Wang is also working closely with two of our pupils in the Communication Centre who are hooked on all things Chinese! She is also teaching S1 classes and is spending some time at both Galston and Newmilns primaries.

“My name is Wangwei and I am a Mandarin teacher in Loudoun Academy . I came to this school in September, and I really appreciate what I have got from this school. My colleagues are very friendly and always help me a lot, especially when I go to observe classes. I see teachers using colourful ways to teach, such as creating a harmonious class atmosphere, making jokes and using body language to tell stories. When I meet difficulties in teaching, teachers in the Modern Languages department will help me solve issues, encourage me to face challenges and take care of me. As for the pupils here, I cannot believe they are so brilliant and like Mandarin so much. When I teach, they behave well and make the effort to be better Chinese speakers. They also like to make comparisons between China and Scotland and they are interested in Chinese culture too, which gives me more motivation. In this school, I feel like I am part of a big family, and in this family, I enjoy, learn and improve”.

One of our S6 pupils Alice Scott has been selected to attend the Rotary Euroscola trip to Strasbourg in February. The main focus of the visit is the Euroscola debate and all other activities will reinforce and complement the aims of the project. Alice will have the opportunity to use her French in Strasbourg through visits to institutions, participation in tourist activities and via research questionnaires. Bon voyage!

A group of S3 pupils studying French will attend a “Languages for Business Event” hosted at Kilmarnock Academy in January. This ran last year and was very well received by our pupils. They will attend various motivational workshops including a Welsh Taster and will speak to people who use languages in their jobs.

Finally, our RE teacher Mr Wotherspoon has been busy along with S4 pupils and the pupils who attend the Christian Café lunchtime club making up shoeboxes for the Blythswood Care shoebox appeal. A total of 18 boxes went to Moldova, well done to all pupils involved!

Follow us on Twitter for regular updates @langloudoun

# Music

## PUPIL MUSIC COMMITTEE

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of October our newly formed pupil Music Committee held their first meeting and discussed a charity raffle for the Christmas Concert.

## GALSTON CHRISTMAS MARKET

Performers from S3-S6 entertained at the Galston Christmas market on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> Nov.

## AYRSHIRE HOSPICE LIGHT UP A LIFE CONCERT

The Loudoun Academy jazz band performed at the Ayrshire Hospice light up a Life concert. The hospice thanked them for "Jazzing up their concert". All pupils were a credit to the school.



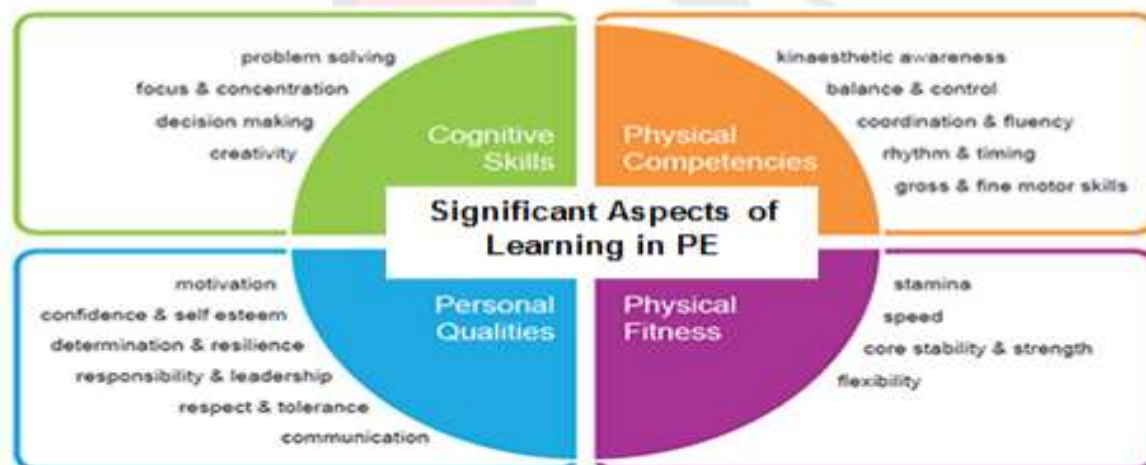
# Around Loudoun: PE

## Broad General Education

All BGE Classes complete 4 activity blocks before Christmas and then participate in a further 4 different activity blocks in the New Year. Below is an outline of the activities all classes have covered so far.

CLASS / BLOCK	17/08 - 15/09	20/09 - 28/10	31/10 - 02/12	05/12 - 23/12
1 Arran / Barra BOYS	RUGBY	BASKETBALL	SWIMMING	SOC. DANCE
1 Arran / Barra GIRLS	NETBALL	HOCKEY	GYMNASTICS	SOC. DANCE
1 Hoy BOYS	RUGBY	BADMINTON	BASKETBALL	SOC. DANCE
1 Hoy MIXED	NETBALL	HOCKEY	DANCE	SOC. DANCE
1 Harris / Skye BOYS	RUGBY	BASKETBALL	SWIMMING	SOC. DANCE
1 Harris / Skye GIRLS	NETBALL	HOCKEY	GYMNASTICS	SOC. DANCE
<b>S3 PE CORE (MON 5 / TUES 6 / THURS 6)</b>				
S3 BOYS	RUGBY	BASKETBALL	FITNESS	SOC. DANCE
S3 GIRLS	HOCKEY	FOOTBALL	NETBALL	SOC. DANCE
<b>S3 CORE PE (TUES 1 / THURS 1 / FRI 3)</b>				
BOYS	RUGBY	FITNESS	TABLE TENNIS	SOC. DANCE
MIXED	BADMINTON	HOCKEY	BASKETBALL	SOC. DANCE
GIRLS	HOCKEY	NETBALL	DANCE	SOC. DANCE
<b>S3 PE STUDIES</b>				
3PES BOYS	HOCKEY	GYMNASTICS	TABLE TENNIS	LEADERSHIP
3PES MIXED	TABLE TENNIS	HOCKEY	BASKETBALL	LEADERSHIP
3H1 PES MIXED	TABLE TENNIS	HOCKEY	BASKETBALL	LEADERSHIP

Pupils are developing the Significant Aspects of Learning featured in the diagram below. Breadth, Challenge and Enjoyment are important features of the BGE with pupils experiencing 15 different activities across S1 and S2. Pupils are then offered a structured choice of activities in S3 where they get the opportunity to personalise their curriculum through repeating activities which encourages deeper learning. Pupils who choose S3 PE Studies in S3 also undertake further work on the Mental, Emotional, Social and Physical factors which impact on performance in order to support their transition towards N5 PE in S4.



# Around Loudoun: PE

## National Awards and Qualifications

### Junior Sports Leader Award

Our S2 pupils are currently participating in the Junior Sports Leader Award as part of the curriculum with East Ayrshire Active Schools. This course has been a great introduction to leadership, giving pupils the knowledge of how to organise and lead small games/activities. All pupils will receive the award which aims to help learners develop leadership skills such as organisation, communication and teamwork, as well as helping to build confidence and self-esteem as they take on responsibility of leading class mates and primary pupils.

### SQA Wellbeing Award

All S3 pupils this year are also getting the opportunity to complete the SQA Wellbeing Award at Loudoun Academy. This comprises of two units: the Exploring Wellbeing Unit and the Improving Wellbeing Unit. The Improving Wellbeing Unit is being delivered as part of S3 PE where pupils experience a range of different fitness activities and then have to complete a short project based on improving their own physical wellbeing.

### STA Lifeguard Qualification

Congratulations to the following pupils who have successfully completed the STA Lifeguard Qualification. This is a fantastic achievement as it involves passing examinations on pool assessment, CPR, first aid and a multiple choice theory exam as part of a 34 hour course.

Zaya McMillan-Grant  
Johnson Clay  
Laura Fulton  
Kerr Borland  
Ciaran Malyan  
Junior Gregory  
Cameron Wilson

### N5 / Higher PE

All three S4 National 5 Classes and both S5-6 N5 / Higher classes have been working hard since August to complete the mandatory Factors Impacting on Performance Theory Unit. Pupils have answered a range of seen questions in class based on the process of investigating, developing, monitoring and evaluating their performance in swimming. The majority of pupils have made excellent progress both in the swimming pool and in the classroom. S5/6 classes have also been learning about the impact of Tactics and Social Factors within the activity of Basketball. S4 pupils recently completed a block of Badminton where they have been investigating the impact of Skill and Emotional factors on their performance. Pupils are currently finalising their Portfolios on the work they have undertaken during this block. These portfolios will be typed up on the following dates.

Miss Breen's Class: Tuesday 31st Jan P1-3  
Mrs Forsythe Class: Wednesday 1st Feb P1-3  
Mr McQuade's Class: Thursday 2nd Feb P1-3

# Around Loudoun: PE

## Sports Leaders

Senior pupils undertaking the Sports Leaders Course now have the opportunity to achieve the CSLA Award as well as the SQA Leadership Award and other SQA performance units. There will also be opportunities to achieve various National Awarding Body Awards throughout the year. Thanks to Lynsey Hogg and Active Schools for organising and delivering the recent Positive Coaching Scotland Award Course. The class have also enjoyed participating in the SFA Early Touches and Club Golf Coaching courses. The class also enjoyed applying their skills and knowledge when coaching Galston Primary Pupils.



# Around Loudoun: PE

## Extra-Curricular Activities

The PE Department are delighted with the participation levels at Extra Curricular Activities so far this session. Activities on offer include Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country, Dance, Fitness, Golf, Gymnastics, Football, Netball, Rugby, Swimming, Table Tennis and Volleyball.

LOUDOUN ACADEMY EXTRA-CURRICULAR PE, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SPORTS TIMETABLE 16-17							
	LUNCHTIME				AFTER SCHOOL		
<b>MONDAY</b>	S3-S6 Swimming Mrs Dunlop (Wed)	S1-S6 Girls Football Lynsey Hogg (Dry)	S1-S2 Girls Fitness Mr McQuade (Dry)	S1-S6 Athletics Mr Lennox Annley- Anne Smith (Dry)	S1-S4 Dance Miss Brown (Dry)	S3-S6 Girls Netball Miss Brown (Dry)	Staff Swimming Mrs Dunlop
<b>TUESDAY</b>	S3-S6 Gymnastics Floor work Miss Brown (Dry)	S1-S2 Boys Fitness Mr McQuade (Dry)	S1-S6 Volleyball Miss Shylop Miss Hood (Wed)	S1-S6 Badminton Mrs Forsythe (Wed)	S1-S4 Swimming Mrs Dunlop (Wed)	S1-S3 Basketball Mr Mountain Mr McQuade (Dry)	
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	S3 Football Mr Lennox (Dry)	S3-S6 Gymnastics Apparatus Mrs Brown (Dry)	S1-S6 Badminton Mrs Forsythe (Wed)	S1-S4 Swimming Mrs Dunlop (Wed)	S1-S2 Boys Rugby Mr McCall Ali McCall	S3-S6 Fitness Lynsey Hogg	S1-4 Girls Fit for Girls Janice Miller
<b>THURSDAY</b>	S3-S6 Table Tennis Mrs Forsyth	S3-S6 Swimming Mrs Dunlop (Wed)	S3 Football Mr Lennox Eliat Kenny Bryce Baine (Dry)	S1-S3 Basketball Mr Mountain Mr McQuade (Wed)	S2-S2 Dance Miss Brown Dance Leaders (Dry)	S1-3 Girls Netball Miss Brown (Dry)	Staff Fitness Mr McQuade
<b>FRIDAY</b>	S3-S6 Girls Netball Miss Brown Netball Leaders (Dry)	S1-S6 Swimming Mrs Dunlop (Wed)	S1-S4 PE Homework / Counsellor Support Mr Lennox	S2 Football Mr McQuade (Dry)	Staff Football		

## Golf Programme

The S3 after school Golf Programme in partnership with Fields and Trust Charity took place over September and October. Thanks to Loudoun Golf Club for use of their practice area. If you are interested in taking up golf then please see Mr Lennox.



# Around Loudoun: PE

## Basketball Review

The basketball club has had a great uptake with over 20 S1 pupils attending regular sessions. The boys played a brilliant first game against Stewarton Academy and were in the lead for large parts of the game. Stewarton fought back to win the game.

The second fixture was against Ardrossan Academy and Loudoun were ahead in the by as much as 8 points at times. The Ardrossan boys brought it back to level near the end to put the game to overtime. Despite everyone's brilliant effort Ardrossan narrowly won by 4 points.

In their third game of the season, the S1 team faced Largs Academy. The boys started very well with a 10-0 run to start the game. The bench rotated in brilliantly and we kept that 10 point lead with the score at 24-14 at half time. Largs started the second half strong reducing our lead to 6 points. However the boys kept their composure and a great team performance finished with Loudoun winning the game 42-26.

This has been a fantastic start to the basketball season with a lot of support from senior pupils too. Thanks to Jodi, Sophie, Jessica, Loudon, Gregor and Tammi (S6) for helping with scoring and support!



Squad: Ross Taylor (G/F), Jackson Tindle (G), Lewis Ferguson (F/C), Jack Fraser (F), Adam Richmond (C), Joseph Lindsay (G/F), Aidan Short (F), Euan Bishop (F), Marc Macdonald (F), Aydin Akar (C), Mark Russel (C), Rhys Rennie (F/C), Ewan McClure (F), Robbie Boyd (F), Gregor Droy (F), Lewis Mullen (F/C), Leon MacArthur, Kenzie Martin



# Around Loudoun: PE

## Football Review

### Under 13's

Our Under 13 football team demonstrated an excellent attitude in their first game of the season narrowly losing 5-4 to James Hamilton Academy. Loudoun scorers were Calyn Paton, Joe McSkimming and Ryan Staker (2). The following week they performed well again winning 3-0 away to Auchinleck Academy. Loudoun scorers in this match were Calyn Paton, Joe McSkimming and Kyle Connell who was also awarded Man of the Match. The boys have been training every Wednesday Lunchtime since the start of the term and are looking forward to their next matches.



### Under 14's

The Under 14 team started with a tough game against Kilmarnock Academy. Despite missing a few players, the boys performed well and were narrowly beaten 2-1 with Kilmarnock scoring in the final stages to win the game. Aaron Kerr played a fantastic through ball to set up David Sawyers who showed brilliant skill and composure to beat the defender and goalkeeper and bring Loudoun level not long after half time.

### Under 15's

Well done to our Under 15 football team who won their first game of the league campaign 5-2 against Auchinleck Academy. Loudoun scorers were Scott Sherrie (2), Stephen Gray, Jai Ewing and Daniel Wamazuri. Thanks and good luck to PC Kennedy who coached the team for the last time in this game before moving onto a new post. Mr McQuade took charge of the team for their second game of the season against Irvine Royal Academy this time winning 16-0. Loudoun scorers were Jai Ewing (4), Kyle Bracher (2), Ryan Hannah (2), Andrew McGillivray (2), Daniel Wamazuri (2), Scott Sherrie, Nathan Cox, Euan Geddes, and Craig Ronald. Ben Hamilton and Stephen Gray were voted as joint man of match. The boys are looking forward to their remaining group games and hope to retain the Ayrshire title they won last year.



# Around Loudoun: PE

## Rugby Review

Rugby in Loudoun is as popular as ever with over 60 registered players all taking part in the East Ayrshire Schools conference. School of Rugby pupils were given the opportunity to meet players from the Scotland Squad ahead of their big fixture against Georgia at Rugby Park and were not disappointed with the stars that were on offer. Mark Bennett, Johnny Gray, Alex Dunbar and other members of the men's team along with the women's stars like Jade Konkel all signed autographs, took selfies and met with all of the school of rugby pupils.



## Under 13's

The under-13 squad made history for Loudoun Academy rugby by becoming the school's first squad to win an Ayrshire Schools Cup after a nail-biting final against Belmont Academy at Rugby Park on Friday 9th December. The boys finished top of the East Ayrshire conference and won the final 29-22 against a very good Belmont side. It is a historic win for the school and was all the better with the level of support the boys received from staff, fellow pupils and parents at the game.

Squad: Aydin Akar, Lauchlan Bennett, Jack Bryson, Charlie Crawford, Adam Dowling, Bailey Greer, Alexander Hendrie, Ben Jebb, Caleb Kerr, Kelvin Kirkland, Andrew Laird, Zane Lotter, Cian MacDonald, Leon McArthur, Luke McCoy, Brian McLean, David Murray, Victor Murray, Jack Proyan, Adam Richmond, Ryan Russell, Mark Russell, Ethan Speirs, Myles Todd, Jay Trainers, Finlay Wishart

# Around Loudoun: Rugby

## Under 14's

The under-14 squad has enjoyed huge success after the school's first year as part of the conference set-up, with home wins over both Grange Academy and Cumnock Academy. They missed out at a chance of the knock-out stages but can take real positives after some hugely exciting rugby against some very competitive teams.

Squad: Nathan [Bigham](#), Declan Casey, Thomas Cathcart, Kyle [Comiskey](#), Jordan Clark, Liam Donnelly, Finley Douglas, Ewan Finnie, Jon Grant, Bailey Greer, Aaron Kerr, Zane Lotter, Andrew [MacGilvary](#), Murray McAllister, Cameron McCall, Luke McCoy, Stephen Morgan, Logan [Muirhead](#), Ethan Shaw, Josh Smith and Myles Todd

## Girls

The school has also boasted girls rugby players taking part in the School of Rugby for the first time and they enjoyed a trip to [Scotsdown](#) on Friday 18th November to watch [Scotland's](#) Women take on their Spanish counterparts in the first leg of their World Cup Qualifier. The girls are keen to move forward with their rugby and hope to welcome more girls' rugby players into their ranks next year.

Squad: Zoe Campbell, Heidi Gilmour, Chelsea Miller, Liana [McConway](#)

Next year's conference looks to be our biggest yet and the school hopes to compete at 3 different age groups for boy's rugby as well as an under-15 girl's side. Hopefully our teams can continue to grow and build upon the success of 2016 and make 2017 another historic year for Loudoun Academy rugby.

# Around Loudoun: Netball

## Netball Review

### S1/2

It was a tough start to the season for the S1/2 Netball team with two consecutive losses both by 1 goal to Carrick Academy and Queen Margaret Academy. There were some great game play in these matches but the team struggled to consistently get the ball through the court and capitalise on any interceptions which meant they struggled to pull ahead. In their latest games the girls have improved with some great decision making and defending resulting in a win against Ayr Academy. The girls were delighted with their win and this boosted morale in the team greatly! Well done girls.... keep the great effort up and hopefully we will get some more wins under our belt as we move into the second half of the season! Player (s) of the match so far have been Sarah Morton, Abbie Smith and Kirstie Moir! Well done girls!

### S3/4

The S3/4 team have had a tough start to the season losing their first 2 games. They came up against a very strong Largs team in their 2nd game which was a tough game but they learned lots and have moved forward fantastically securing a strong win against Carrick Academy. The squad have been working hard in training under pressure in conditioned games to develop their consistency and decision making. Let's hope the winning streak continues in their upcoming game against Cumnock Academy. Player (s) of the match so far have been Alison McCall, Erin Baird and Abby Caldwell! Well Done girls!

### S5/6

The S5/6 team have had a fantastic start to the season winning both of their games. A strong solid performance has been demonstrated against both James Hamilton Academy and Ayr Academy. After a ropey start in both games the determination of the girls always shines through and they have pulled ahead convincingly in the second half of both games! Let's hope the winning streak continues! Keep up the good work ladies! Player (s) of the match so far have been awarded to Cara Smith and Lowri Butler! Well Done girls!

## Netball Leaders

Loudoun Academy pupils are giving something back to the local primary pupils. This term has seen senior pupils Lowri Butler, Laura Fulton, Zaya McMillan Grant and Erin Baird deliver Netball skills to Primary 6/7 pupils at Galston Primary and Newmilns Primary. This will be developed further in the new term with more schools/pupils gaining from this fantastic opportunity. Thanks and well done to all the girls involved as the sessions have been well organised and great fun for all pupils taking part.

# Around Loudoun:

## Events

### Inter-House Games Round 1

Well done to our Sports Council who organised a very successful Inter-House Games. All S1-3 pupils enjoyed competing in games of dodgeball, football, hockey and netball. The overall results were:



S1	S2	S3
1st - Hoy	1st - Barra	1st - Barra
2nd - Barra	2nd - Harris	2nd - Harris and Skye
3rd - Skye	3rd - Arran and Hoy	3rd - Hoy
4th - Harris	4th - Skye	4th - Arran
5th - Arran		

Arran House performed better in the S5/6 Inter-House Games winning the football tournament. Barra house were victorious once again finishing first in the Hockey Festival. Well done to all pupils who participated.



### Active Girls Day

Over 100 girls participated in our Mass Zumba & Fitness Activities as part of Active Girls Day. Thank you to S6 pupils Hannah Lyttle and Tammy Maclean for leading part of the session. Well done to all involved!



# Around Loudoun:

## Children in Need

### Staff v Pupils Football

12 different teams braved the challenge of an 8-a-side football match against the staff football team to raise money for Children in Need. There were lots of close games throughout the day but no-one managed to overcome the formidable staff team. Well done to all who participated.

### Pudsey's fun Swim

50 pupils participated in Pudsey's Fun Swim raising £25 for Children in Need. Well done to all involved.

## Cross Country Championships

Well done to our 10 Cross Country competitors who all finished in the top 20 of their respective races at the East Ayrshire Cross Country Championships at East Ayrshire Athletics Arena. Huge congratulations to Jennifer and Molly Jennifer Murray who both ran excellent races to win gold medals in the S2 and S3 Girls events.



Eilidh Ballantyne, Jennifer Murray, Ryan Littlejohn and Molly Murray also competed in the Ayrshire Schools Cross Country event at the Magnum Centre, Irvine. All four pupils were a credit to the school. Molly won gold in the S3 Girls Race. Jennifer won silver in the S2 Girls Race. Eilidh finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the S1 Girls Race and Ryan was placed 12<sup>th</sup> in the S2 Boys Race. Well done to all on a fantastic achievement!

## Scottish National Athletics Championships

Huge congratulations to Sara Barbour who won a Bronze medal at the Under 15 Scottish National Javelin Championships.

# Around Loudoun:

## Ayrshire Schools Swimming Championships

Congratulations to our medal winners James White (Silver Medal) and Callum Dunsmuir (Bronze Medal) who competed in the 100m Breast Stroke Finals at the Ayrshire Schools Swimming Championships. Well done also to Emily Petrie and Megan Fulton who competed at the event.

## East Ayrshire Table Tennis Championships

Congratulations to our Table Tennis Team (Jessica Wilson, Erin Baird, Tammy Maclean, Holly Kerrigan, Alasdair Chapman, Declan Millar and Ethan Watt) on winning the first ever East Ayrshire Competitive Sport Table Tennis Tournament at Ayrshire College.



## East Ayrshire Badminton Championships

Well done to our Badminton Team who came 5<sup>th</sup> at the East Ayrshire Schools Badminton Competition. Alasdair Chapman deserves a special mention for reaching the S3 Boys Final.



# Around Loudoun: Strategic Planning

The improvement plan this year was borne of extensive consultation with staff arounds school, pupils via pupil council meetings and our Parent Council.

In ensuring an effective improvement plan for this year we took into consideration:-

- ◇ Self-evaluation of the school through a variety of measures and observations such as attainment, attendance, exclusions etc.
- ◇ Guidance from Education Scotland on improvement planning
- ◇ Changes to assessment, particularly within the BGE
- ◇ The National Improvement Framework Priorities and drivers and priorities therein.
- ◇ EAC being named as a Scottish Attainment Challenge authority
- ◇ New self-evaluation procedures via the publication of "How Good Is Our School? 4 "
- ◇ The CfE Implementation Plan 2016-17

Our improvement plan is very concise and reflect the key priorities as above, adapted to serve the young people of Loudoun Academy.

In summation, we have focussed on three key areas

- ◇ To develop our young people as leaders and partners in learning via self-evaluation .
- ◇ To ensure an excellent level of care and education in all areas of school life for our learners.
- ◇ To ensure that our young people achieve the very best that they can in their wellbeing, attainment and achievement.

We have deployed new self-evaluation software, a huge amount of staff and parent training, and are now working hard to look at next steps in ensuring that we continue to seek to be the very best school that we can possibly be. Please keep us availed of your views and ideas at any time in the school year by contacting us.

## STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT GROUPS

We ae delighted to advise of the existence of a HUGE variety of strategic improvement groups in Loudoun Academy who meet twice per term and involve ALL staff around school . They are :-

- ◇ Teaching and Learning
- ◇ Self-Evaluation
- ◇ Parental Engagement
- ◇ Closing The Attainment Gap
- ◇ Tracking and Monitoring
- ◇ Raising Attainment For All
- ◇ Promoting Positive Relationships

In addition we have four key teams working on responsibility of all on every inservice day

- ◇ Literacy
- ◇ Numeracy
- ◇ Health and wellbeing
- ◇ ASN Task Group

## HELP WANTED !!

We are seeking parents to join our parent engagement group (funny that !)

If you can spare two hours per term—please get in touch with Mr Lennox who is chairing this group—we would LOVE to hear from you !

## **And finally.....**

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Christmas Concert: 19/12/16**

**Pupils return : Mon 9th Jan 2016**

**Prelims begin: Fri 13th Jan**

**( timetable online on school website )**



### **TEAM LOUDOUN BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY XMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL**

#### **Goodbye and Good Luck to**

**Mrs Heather Dodds who leaves us on maternity leave this Christmas**

#### **Welcome to .....**

**A warm Team Loudoun welcome to the following staff who joined us this term**

**Miss Melissa Hood : Teacher of Technical**

**Mr Connor Mc Quade: Teacher of PE**

**Mr Neil Henderson: PT Technical and STEM**

**Miss Elaine Struthers:Teacher of Music**

**Mrs Katrena MacDonald:Teacher of Physics**

**Mrs N Costello: Teacher of French**

**PC Jemma Davidson : Campus Officer**

**Mrs Marie Wylie : Catering Manager**

**Mrs Christina Berry : Teacher of Biology (after Xmas)**

#### **Thank you to**

**Mrs R Jakeman who steps down as PT IDL and ODL**

**Mr Charlie Scott who covered our Physics post this term**

**Mrs Elaine Hamilton who has now left our school office**

**Mr Graeme Winning for his hard work as outgoing Chair of Parent Council**

**Mr Robert Lynch for his service to Parent Council**