

AYRSHIRE DEAF EDUCATION SERVICE

S U M M E R 2 0 2 3

Session 2022/2023 has been a very busy year for our service and our fantastic team has worked extremely hard.

With the absence of Covid-19 restrictions, we have enjoyed bringing our deaf children together to meet with their deaf peers. Pupils have attended workshops delivered by the British Deaf Association (BDA) to learn about transition support and their rights as young deaf adults. We had great weather for both our primary football festival and the secondary football tournament - we were delighted that our Ayrshire team achieved second place! Our pupils gathered for a signed performance of a play run by the Solar Bear deaf theatre company, and some P7 pupils enjoyed an end of term visit to Morrison Equestrian Centre for some horse riding lessons. It has been wonderful to see our pupils have fun, make new friends and consolidate existing friendships.

There has been a huge interest from families and schools wanting to learn British Sign Language (BSL). We are so lucky to have Kat Bennett, our BSL tutor, who supports parents and pupils across Ayrshire. Please subscribe to our BSL YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKLMX9yCsdPIATHrDE1p51g>

Our teachers of the deaf continually grow their professional knowledge and expertise. This year we focused on how we can develop our deaf pupils' ability to self-advocate.

A huge well done to Miss Louise Phillips who has completed the mandatory teacher of the deaf post-graduate qualification at Edinburgh University. We wish Mrs Lesley Wright all the best as she starts the same post-graduate qualification in the autumn.

In April, we held our first online parents' information evening, discussing topics such as technology and deaf awareness strategies. We would like to hold another information event for parents, so if you have any suggestions or topics of interest, please do get in contact:

stacey.mccann@eastayrshire.org.uk

I wish you and your families a safe and lovely summer break.

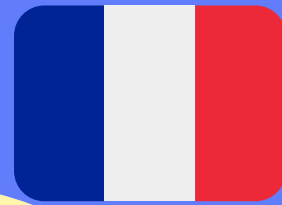
Stacey McCann, Service Manager



Leila, P2, had a great time at the Primary Football Festival, here she is getting warmed up with some stretches.

Finley, P2, was also enjoying joining in with the different games and activities and making new friends.





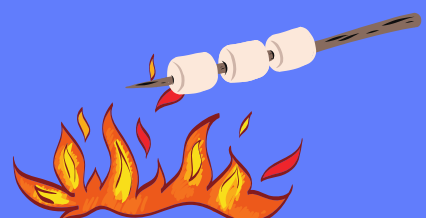
Every year Lourdes welcomes visitors from all over the world, following in Bernadette Soubirous' footsteps on their pilgrimage. David was really lucky to go along with Father Martin and lots of other boys and girls to experience this. It sounded great David and what a super picture!

Thomas (EYC) takes part in Show-works drama classes. In March, he performed in The Wacky Wizard of Oz at Irvine Harbour Arts Centre. Well done, Thomas!





Amy (P4) went to Dumfries House for her first Brownie pack holiday in May. She had a fantastic time and took part in lots of activities (rock climbing, play park, midnight walk, under the sea party, camp fire, roasting marshmallows, paddling in the river, crafts and team building games). She did really well at the climbing and got higher each time she did it!



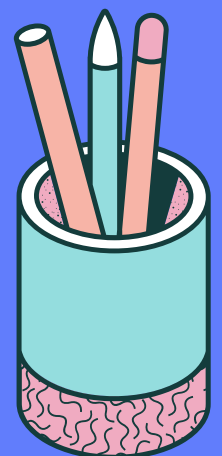


Arianna has worked very hard on her reading skills this year. She can now decode a range of CVC, CVCC and CCVC words, as well as being able to recognise many common words by sight. Arianna enjoys reading and is very proud of her new skills. She has been reading to her family at home. Well done, Arianna!

A

B

C



Congratulations to Skye E, Naomi W and Graeme S who will all be starting college after the Summer. We wish them well with their courses and we are sure they will enjoy student life.

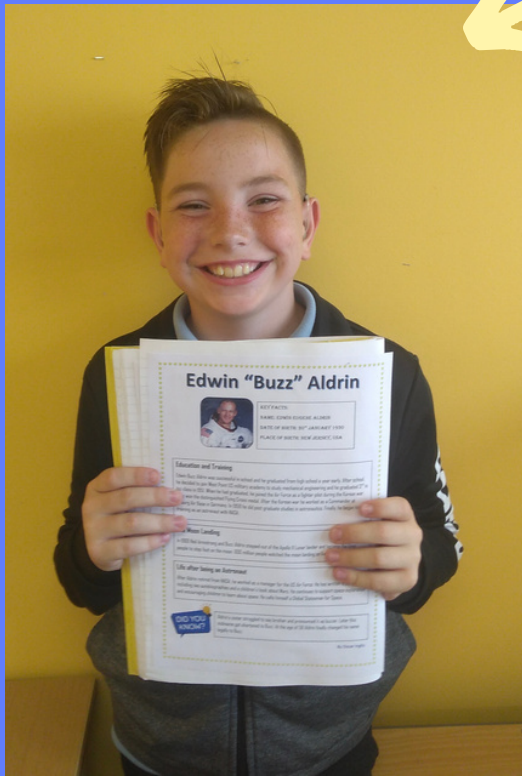
well done!

A huge well done to Lucy, S4, who achieved 100% on her recent National 4 Maths assessment.

Wishing the best of luck to Andy M, leaving to attend Ayr College where he has been accepted on to the HNC Art & Design course.

A special mention to Charlie and Toby who are both leaving primary 7 and heading to Kyle Academy after the summer.

good luck



This is Oscar, P5, who is fascinated by space and dreams of being an astronaut one day! He worked really hard to write a report about Buzz Aldrin.



Laycie, age 3, loves listening to music with her new hearing aids and enjoys playing in the nursery garden





Caden, P5, has had 4 Head Teacher's awards this year! One was for being a great defender in the school's football team and another was for drawing an amazing picture of the 'Auld Alliance' when he was learning about the Scottish Wars of Independence. Caden also performed as a lion in Scottish Opera's school production of 'The Lion King'.



Leo (P5) was chosen to take part in a workshop led by an artist and painted this beautiful landscape.





Some of our Secondary pupils headed up to Pro-Soccer at Rouken Glen to take part in the 20th Anniversary of the Secondary Football Tournament. They had a great time and were delighted to receive a trophy for runners-up.





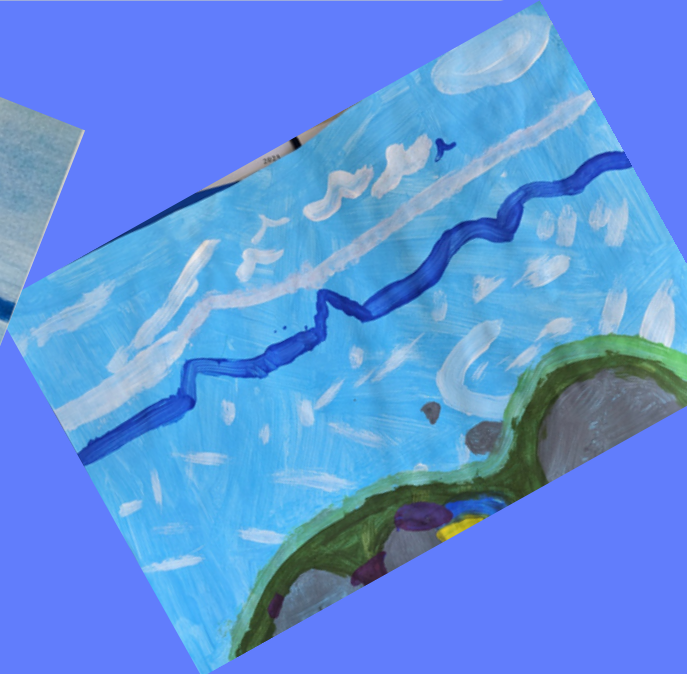
Jack (S2) received a Prizegiving award for 'Most Improved in Computing'. Jack has worked very hard throughout the year and is ready for the challenges of S3. Great work Jack, keep it up!★😊


Molly has come to the end of her pre-school year at nursery. She has made excellent progress in her listening skills and phonological awareness this year. Molly is excited and ready for the new challenges of Primary 1. Good luck Molly!





Kaylin has been looking at different types of artwork this term. She learned about deaf artists and recreated 'Lake Tahoe' by Hamish Rosie. She also learned about Pop Art and created images of herself in a pop art style!





Good luck to Billy who will be studying 'Horticulture & Gardening' at Ayrshire College from August. Billy is a great role model for younger deaf children and wants to volunteer at our events.



Evie, P5, moved school just before Easter and she settled in really well. She made a big list of things she thought her new friends and teachers would need to know about her Cochlear Implants, her Roger microphone and about being deaf. She demonstrated lots of self confidence and self advocacy skills.



Amara was really excited to move up to the blue room for bump up day, so much so, she made a cake with a candle using play doh to celebrate



British Taekwondo Champion, Jack, was awarded a gold medal in extreme forms, a gold medal in extreme weapons and a bronze medal for combat sparring.

What an achievement. Well done, Jack!



Levi, P4, really enjoyed his day at the Primary Football Festival. He was nervous about meeting new people and joining in but showed lots of confidence.