**Interdisciplinary Learning (IDL)**

**Mr Murphy (Acting PT Development)**

**What is IDL?**

In the Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) interdisciplinary learning (IDL) is one of the four “contexts for learning” sitting alongside curriculum areas and subjects.

Ultimately interdisciplinary learning (IDL) in secondary school –

* **Supports the development of skills for learning, life and work.**
* **Allows learners to demonstrate an inquisitive mind and attitude.**
* **Helps to build and develop confidence in facing challenges, both intellectual and practical.**
* **Is connected and directly related to real-life experiences.**
* **Provides opportunity to work individually and collaboratively.**
* **Allows learners to identify the appropriate knowledge and** **skills needed to investigate a particular issue or problem.**

In summary, IDL helps to develop the knowledge, skills and qualities that young people will need in the future -

**“Skills are the global currency of the 21st century, in which working life will become increasingly networked and employment growth will favour highly-skilled workers. Meeting future demand will require more inter- and multi-disciplinary knowledge, skills and training”**

Colin Graham

Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a member of the Learned Societies’ Group for Scottish Science Education and the STEM Educational Committee

**Mearns Castle High School IDL Events**

Throughout the academic year pupils across different year groups are given the opportunity to participate in various IDL work including year group events –

S1 S Factor and **S1 Rapid Response**

S2 STEAM

S3 Headliner

Other work occurs through longer courses of study when two (or more) Departments work together to ensure pupils can make connections with learning across the subject areas.

Our most recent year group event was the **S1 Rapid Response Event** which took place during **periods 2 - 6 on Wednesday 31 May.**

**S1 Rapid Response Event**

The overriding theme was to work in groups to adapt a ‘natural disaster situation’ with limited resources.

S1 pupils worked in House groups to fulfil various challenges. The challenges were spread over several ‘bases’ across the school –

**Base 1** – Build a shelter

**Base 2** – Water transportation

**Base 3** – Orienteering and Water Purification/Weather Instruments

**Base 4** – Food for fuel and Disaster Pack

S1 Pupils produced extremely high quality work and importantly they were given the opportunity to develop a variety of skills/qualities such as interpersonal and communication skills, ICT literacy, team work, decision making, confidence, resilience, problem solving, map reading and much more!!

Over 30 S3 pupils assisted with the running of this event. Well done and thank you to all S3 Pupils who volunteered.

Pupils were encouraged to use digital technology including chrome books, desktop computers and their own devices where appropriate.

The final results of the day (based on star ratings given by staff and pupil vote combined) –

1. Wallace
2. Balmoral
3. Ramsay
4. Gleneagles
5. Caledonia
6. Sutherland

Some pictures captured by Mr McDonald….

