



SES NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

To mark the end of the year and celebrate the success and experiences of our pupils, this really is a full newsletter! As we reach the summer holidays, it is always a time to reflect and review the year that has passed, but also to look forward to the many exciting things that lie ahead. Change is a part of school life, and as we reach the end of the school year, we say farewell to 10 pupils who leave us, and we welcome lots of new pupils into Sgoil Araich, P1 and S1. In these pages you will see lots of photos of the wonderful end of term leavers' events and trips that help to create such special memories. It is important that we acknowledge and say a very big 'thank you' to the staff, pupils, parents and members of the school community who do so much to make these events happen.

We also say goodbye to several staff this year as you will see within the newsletter. We wish them all very well whether they are departing SES on a permanent basis, or leaving temporarily with plans to return.

Most of all, we wish all of our learners, staff and families a restful break this summer. The busy nature of the summer term is evident within these pages, so a chance for everyone to recharge their batteries and be ready for August is essential. Hopefully the exceptional weather of the last few weeks will continue (though this may be a bit much to ask for!)

At the end of this school year I am reflecting on my very warm welcome to the school, the privilege of sharing so many special moments, and a feeling of anticipation for the 23/24 school year beginning on Monday 14th August for school staff, and Thursday 17th August for pupils. Until then, I wish every member of our school community a wonderful summer full of adventure and relaxation.

Le gach deagh dhùrachd,

Andy Murray

Andy Murray
Head Teacher

Anndra Moireach
Ceannard na sgoile

LEAVER'S ASSEMBLY & DINNER

The Leaver's Assembly took place on Tuesday 20th June, school leavers were presented at the assembly with Amazon Vouchers from the Parent Council, which were very much appreciated. This was followed by a dinner in the Harris Hotel, then a Prom dance in the Community Centre. Thank you to the Harris Hotel for being so accommodating and providing an excellent meal as always. We wish all our school leavers all the very best for the future.



SGOIL ÀRAICH



Tha sinn air a bhith glè thrang anns an Sgoil Araich, fhuair sgoilearan na Bagaichean Book Bug aca an asgaidh. Fhuair sinn cuideachd a-mach airson tòrr chuirtean a' dèanamh an fheum as fheàrr den deagh shìde!

We have been very busy in the Sgoil Araich, pupils received their free Book Bug Bags. We also got out for lots of walks making the most of the good weather!



Chaidh sinn airson turas a-mach gu pàirc-cluiche Aline. 'S e latha sgoinneil a bh' ann, bha tòrr spòrs ann!
We went for an outing to Aline play park. It was a great day, lots of fun was had!



Sgoil Àraich Leavers

A' guidhe gach soirbheachas dhuibh uile, bidh sinn gar ionndrainn!

Wishing you all the very best,
we will miss you!

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

P7 Dinner



P7s from Sir E Scott and LMS went out to the Harris Hotel for dinner on Monday 26th June. Here is what they had to say:

“Bha e uabhasach sporsail agus chord e rium”- Abigail Gillies

“I’ll hold the memory of the dinner forever”- Catriona Macleod

“Bha a’ bhiadh delicious agus bha torr spors againn. ’S e cothrom math a bh’ ann faicinn na daoine bho LMS”- Eilidh Morrison

“Bha e math a bruidhinn mu dheidhinn rudan a thachair anns an sgoil.”- Katie Morag Barker

“It was fun getting ready with everyone.”- Kirsty Marie MacDonald

“It was nice and a good time seeing my friends from everyone LMS.”- Shaun MacAulay

“It was delightful”- DW Macleod

“The food was good and so was the weather.”- Ben Murray



CUACH NA CLOINNE



Bha Cuach na Cloinne uabhasach math. Ghabh e aite ann an Steornabhagh air 27mh den Ghiblean. Bha mi a' faicinn torr dhaoine bha fhios agam air. Bha Buidhean 1 Katie Morag, Kerry, Rosie, Duncan agus Finlay. Bha Buidhean 2: Mise (Rory), Jono, Jack, Henry agus Connor. Bha Buidhean 3: Roddy, Max, Fergus agus Annie agus Ethan bho Sgoil an t-Oib.
le Rory Fraser, P6GM



WIIGA

On Wednesday 31st May a team from Sir E Scott travelled up to the Stornoway running track on a bus with Mr Parr to take part in the WIIGA Sports Day. I was doing the long jump and I think I did quite well. I'm 50 percent sure I got 4th in the long jump as it was difficult, but I did I it. I was competing against my cousin and my friends from other schools. We also did a girls and boys relay but unfortunately the girls didn't get in the final but it was all about the trying. The Secondaries did well winning their section which was section D. I believe on the way back most people were sleeping as they were so tired and we didn't have time for Spar unfortunately. I enjoyed the day and would love to take part next year!

By Kirsty Marie MacDonald, P7



P7 TRIP TO BACK

On Monday 12th June, we had our trip to Back and it was really fun! Firstly, we got on the bus at about 9:30am. Our first stop was the Lochs Shop close to Stornoway and some people got drinks and food. I shared some of my money with my friend and we got Chew-its and a mystery Fanta which was horrible.



When we finally got to Back we went to the golf course. At first, I wasn't very good considering it was my first time but then got the hang of it. After that we went to the Back Community Centre and there was pool, air hockey, basketball, table tennis and table football. After all of that it was very fun and we went to the beach where some of us made football goals and played. After a long day we went back to school on the bus and our parents picked us up! By Jake Earl, P7

DILEAB AN T-SIORRAIDH



Ghabh Abigail, Eilidh, Lois agus Katie Morag pairt anns a' phroiseact Dileab an t-Siorraidh an teirm seo. 'S e cothrom airson sgoilearan Clas 7 ann a Leodhas 's na Hearadh a ghabhail gus an sgilean Gaidhlig a leasachadh. Bha aca ri agallamh a chlaradh, sgrìobhadh agus

taisbeannadh a deanamh air beulaibh breitheamhan mu dheidhinn eilthireach as na h-eileanan. Bhruidhinn Katie Morag agus Eilidh ri Aoghnas Mac 'ill Eathainn, Abigail ri Hamish Taylor agus Lois ri Lachlan Domhnallach a seanair. Bha torr obair an sas agus tha sinn cho proiseil gun d' fhuair a h-uile duine duais! Thainig Katie Morag san cheud aite, Abigail san darna aitea agus Eilidh agus Lois san treas aite comhla. Seo na bha aca ri radh.

Abigail "Bha e cho sporsail agus tha mi cho taingeil gun robh an cothrom seo agam."

Eilidh- "S e cothrom mor a th' ann an Dileab airson Clas 7 agus tha mi gu math toilichte gun rinn mi e agus bidh torr spors agadsa ma bhios thusa deanamh e cuideachd."

Lois- "Bha e doirbh ach 's e cothrom math a bh' ann"

Katie Morag- "Tha e math airson an Gaidhlig agad a faighinn nas fhearr. Tha mi toilichte agus cha robh mi smaoineachadh gun robh mi dol a bhuanachadh."

SUMDOG UK MATHS COMPETITION

Congratulations to the P1-4 class who recently came first in the UK Maths Competition. Well done to all who participated.



Class Prizes

Congratulation to Bella Macleod P4 who was the winner of the Class Worker of the Term. Bella has tried so hard to work on spellings, her writing has also improved and she is more confident in Maths. Bella is also patient with younger children and provides great support!

Andrew MacInnes, P4 who was the winner of the Class Worker of the Year. Andrew has made excellent progress this past year, he is a lovely reader, he tries very hard with spelling and his Maths is improving





Thàinig Mrs Finnagan a-steach dhan chlas againn airson sealltainn Marty dhuinn. Se robot a th' ann agus chleachd sinn laptop airson toirt air gluasad.

Chuir sinn flùraichean anns a' chlas. Fhuair sinn compost agus siol agus chuir sinn comhla iad ann a cupa plastaig. Tha feadhainn air tòrr fàs a dhèanamh mar tha. Thug sinn dachaigh iad.



Bha partaidh againn airson là crùnaidh Rìgh Tearlach.



Chaidh sinn cuairt a-muigh comhla ri Fiona CNAG airson coimhead airson eoin agus biastagan.



Dh'eist sinn ri fiosrachadh mu dheidhinn beathaichean mara agus sguadal a tha ri lorg anns a' mhuir. Leugh iad stòirdh dhuinn agus bha iad a freagairt ceistean.



Rinn sinn taighean airson na h-eoin comhla ri Fiona. Cleachd sinn pìosan fiodh.

Bha sinn a' seinn comhla ri NYCOS. Chluich sinn geama seinn agus bha e gu math spòrsail. Tha feadainn as a chlas againn a dol gu Steòrnabhadh airson seinn a-nis.



Bha sinn aig 'Art Bus' agus chunnaic sinn rudan gu math annasach mar film a bha cluich ann a sinc. Rinn sinn ealain anns a' chlas comhla ri Tess. Chroch sinn na dealbhan againn air ròp-anairt.



PRIMARY TRIP

On Friday 23rd June all primary pupils went to Leverhulme Memorial School for some fun and games. Despite the dreich weather, everyone had a good time. Thank you to staff at Leverhulme Memorial staff for being so welcoming and accommodating and also to Mrs Jenna Macleod, Active Schools for helping out on the day.



PRIMARY PROM

On Wednesday 28th June pupils and staff attended the Primary Prom. Many thanks to all the parents who helped with the organising this fantastic event.



PRIMARY PRIZEGIVING CEREMONY

The Prizegiving Ceremony was held on Monday 26th June. It was so nice to see so many parents attend this special event. Thank you to Mrs Mairi MacIver, CLD presenting the prizes. Once again P7 pupils were presented with Bibles from North Harris Free Presbyterian Church which is very much appreciated. The ceremony was followed by tea and cakes in the courtyard. Congratulations to all our prize winners!!



The Roderick MacAskill Dux Trophy:

Katie Morag Barker

HMIA Proxime Accessit Trophy:

Eilidh Morrison & Jasmine Morrison

Citizenship Cup for Girls: Lois

MacLeod

Citizenship Cup for Boys: Rory Fraser

Harris Tweed Shop Enterprise Trophy: Donald William MacLeod

Mod Na Hearadh Committee Music Trophy: Chirsty Bella Morrison

Williams' Family Art Trophy: Michael MacLeod



Harris Distillery Trophy

P1 – P3 Boy Sports Champion: Seonaidh MacLeod

P1 – P3 Girl Sports Champion: Bonnie Macleod

P4 – P5 Boy Sports Champion: Connor Campbell

P4 – P5 Girl Sports Champion: Lily Price

Flora Morrison Trophy

P6 – P7 Boy Sports Champion: Jack MacKay

P6 – P7 Girl Sports Champion: Eilidh Morrison/Mary MacLeod

SOUTH HARRIS AGRICULTURAL SHOW 2023 - ART COMPETITION RESULTS.

Congratulations to the following pupils who received awards for the above competition.

P 1-3 category

1. Cooper Maclean SES
2. Lydia Morrison SES
3. Fraser Morrison SES

P 4 -5

1. Alannah Macrae LMS
2. Margaret Jardine SES
3. Flora MacDougall SES

P 6-7

1. Daisy Williams LMS
2. Kate Macrae LMS
3. Lois Macleod SES



JOURNEY INSIDE A WHALE

On Monday 26th June EM P1-4 and GM C1-3 visited “Hope the Humpback Whale“ at the Community Centre as part of the Outer Hebrides Wildlife Festival’s Journey Inside a Whale exhibition. Whale and Dolphin Conservation were visiting the Hebrides with their brand new inflatable life size humpback whale and you could even go inside the whale!

The classes learnt about whales, how they feed, where you can see them and how you can help protect them.

“Bha e math a bhith ag ionnsachadh mu na diofar pìosan de muc-mhara” Emily King, C3

“Bha e math a bhith a’ coimhead air skeleton am muc-mhara” Fraser Morrison, C3

“It was good to learn about the organs inside the whale” Lydia Morrison, P3

“It was fun getting the leaflets with all the information and activities” Flora MacDougall, P4



SCOTTISH BALLET

Primary pupils were also fortunate to participate in workshops by the Scottish Ballet.



CHARLIE NICOLSON FOOTBALL FESTIVAL



The Charlie Nicolson Festival took place in Stornoway on the 21st June. Sir E Scott sent two teams- The Hearachs and SES FC. It was lots of fun getting to play against schools and seeing other people. The Hearachs were delighted with a 6-0 win against Lochs and SES FC were pleased with a 2-0 win against Laxdale. Well done to both teams!

‘CUACH NAN ÀRD-SGOILTEAN’

Sir E. Scott School’s football team was looking particularly smart at this week’s ‘Cuach nan Àrd-sgoiltean’ in Inverness, having received a brand new kit courtesy of ‘Kilda Cruises’.

The school would like to warmly thank them for their generous support, and we earnestly hope that this summer’s weather will be akin to that which we have enjoyed this past week – great conditions for a trip to St Kilda!

Pictured with pupils are Andrew Murray, Headteacher, and Angus Campbell, of ‘Kilda Cruises’.



Bha sgioba ball-coise Sgoil an Tairbeirt a’ coimhead gu math snasail aig ‘Cuach nan Àrd-sgoiltean’ ann an Inbhirnis an t-seachdainsa, agus iad air èideadh ùra fhaighinn bho ‘Kilda Cruises’.

Tha an sgoil a’ toirt taing mhòr dhaibh airson an taic fhialaidh seo, agus tha sinn gu mòr an dòchas gum bi an t-side ceart cho math tron t-samhraidh ’s a tha i air a bhith anns an t-seachdain a dh’fhalbh – deagh aimsir airson turas a Hiort! Anns an dealbh leis a’ chloinn tha ceannard na sgoile, Anndra Moireach, agus Aonghas Caimbeul, bho ‘Kilda Cruises’.

THE NEIL MARTIN HONOUR TROPHY



Members of the highly acclaimed musical group ALT from Sir E Scott School Tarbert, are this year's recipient of the Neil Martin Honour Trophy.

Isla Scott, Ellie-Ceit Johnson and Anna Macleod were presented with the Trophy and certificates at the school's recent Assembly, by Ailish Martin the granddaughter of Rachel Martin, Bunavoneadar.

Formed in the summer of 2022, Alt have accumulated wide-spread acclaim and recognition for their stunning singing voices, musical proficiency, endorsement of the Gaelic language and their representation of Harris on a local, national and international level. Alt has developed from a school ceilidh band to a band providing the girls with the opportunity of using vocals and experimenting with harmonies. In addition to releasing a three-track EP earlier this year the group were selected out of over 400 applicants to participate at the prestigious Celtic Connections concert in Glasgow in January. They now hope to perform at next month's Hebridean Celtic Festival in Stornoway.

Alt were nominated for the award by Iain MacSween, Gaelic Teacher at Sir E. Scott School, who commented: "It's been fascinating to watch the group grow in stature as the weeks and months have gone by. In a very short space of time, Alt have established themselves as an extremely accomplished traditional music group, and especially encouraging is their passion and determination to promote their beloved Gaelic language."

Alt is the third group from Sir E Scott to have received the Trophy. The Award went to the Sòlas Enterprise Group in 2002 with the Beartas Group picking up the Trophy in 2003.

Nominations are now invited for the 2023 Award. Persons up to the age of 25 who have brought credit to themselves or the community and with Harris connections are eligible to be considered.

Further information and a nomination form is available from Donald Martin –
e-mail: domhnallm@aol.com Mobile: 07803 737 473 Home: (01851) 704890



S4 SUMMER SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

Kitty Johnson and Archie Campbell recently attended a Summer School at the University of St Andrews aimed at giving pupils a taste of university life and a chance to meet other young people from around the country.

They attended a series of lectures on Art History, Biology, Geography & Sustainable Development, Medicine, Modern Languages and Psychology, then worked in teams to create a presentation on one of these themes.

There was also a programme of social activities in the evenings including trips to a famous ice cream café and a silent disco.

All in all, it was a great opportunity for the pair and one that has given them an excellent insight into student life – the hard work and the fun!



JOHN MUIR AWARD DAYS

S1 pupils enjoyed a few days out of school participating in various activities.



YPI

Sir E Scott School pupils took part in the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) again this session (2022-23) as we have for the past ten years or so. YPI is an initiative supported and financed by the Wood Foundation and leads to a local charity winning a £3000 grant to support their work.

Once again, YPI offered our pupils great opportunities to learn about some of the many issues facing people in our community. It allowed them to find out how local charities work to support those facing those issues and to consider how we can contribute to the important work these charities do.



YPI is undertaken by all pupils in S3 and is delivered through their English class. The work involved gives our students real life contexts in which to develop their literacy skills, grow their confidence, and engage with a wide range of adults and partners within and out-with the school setting.

Pupils work in groups to identify an issue they wish to focus on, establish a link with a charity addressing that issue, and to work with that charity on a business plan for the use of the £3000 grant they are bidding for.

The initiative culminates in a grand final in which each group gives a presentation describing the work of the charity they are representing, outlining how their charity would use the £3000 grant, and explaining the positive impact that support would have on those the charity supports.

This year the charities being represented were: Action for Children; Advocacy Western Isles; Alzheimer Scotland Western Isles; Befriending Lewis and Harris; Eilean Siar Foodbank; and Western Isles Cancer Care Initiative.

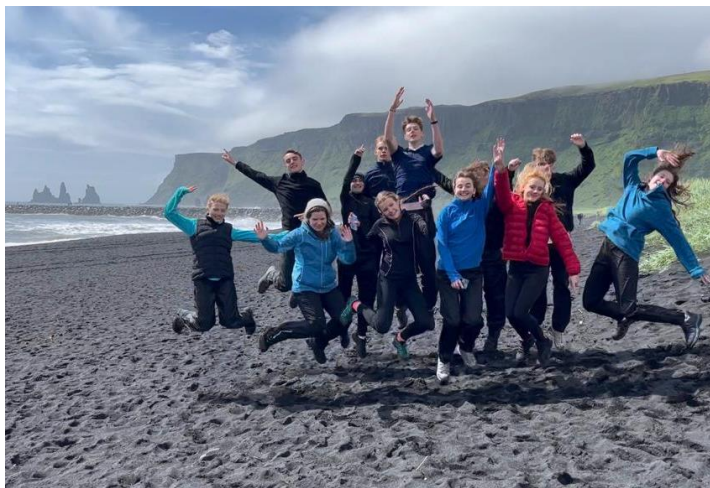
Well done to the winning group and indeed to all the groups who gave presentations in their bids to win the grant for their chosen charity. The presentations were informative, persuasive, creative, moving and entertaining. The hard work and commitment that had gone into the project was clear to see and our pupils were able to show their abilities as communicators and as responsible citizens and effective contributors to their communities.

The winners of the final were the group – Alex Passmore, Bella Maclean, Katie Rose Macleod and Seoras Macdonald -- representing Alzheimer Scotland. Alzheimer Scotland will receive a cheque for £3000 to spend on developing their online resources for those living with Alzheimer's and on extending their "Musical Memories" sessions in Lewis and Harris.

The rival groups also came together to put on a fundraising event. A coffee and home-baking morning in Taigh Mo Shennair at the Harris Hotel raised over £700, smashing their target of £250. The pupils led and organised this event largely by themselves and did it very impressively. Well done to all involved. We look forward to another round of YPI next session when we will learn more about the social issues facing our communities and the work of local charities, and hear the stories of those facing and tackling these issues.

ICELAND TRIP

Senior pupils from Sir E Scott arrived back from a spectacular trip to Iceland on the last day of term. The pupils enjoyed visits to some of Iceland's most well known volcanic and glacial landscapes including lava flows from recent eruptions, hot springs, hot rivers, massive waterfalls and glaciers. They took a boat trip amongst icebergs in glacier lagoon and bathed in thermal baths before finishing with a trip to Thingvellir and the continental divide and some time in Iceland's capital city, Reykjavik.





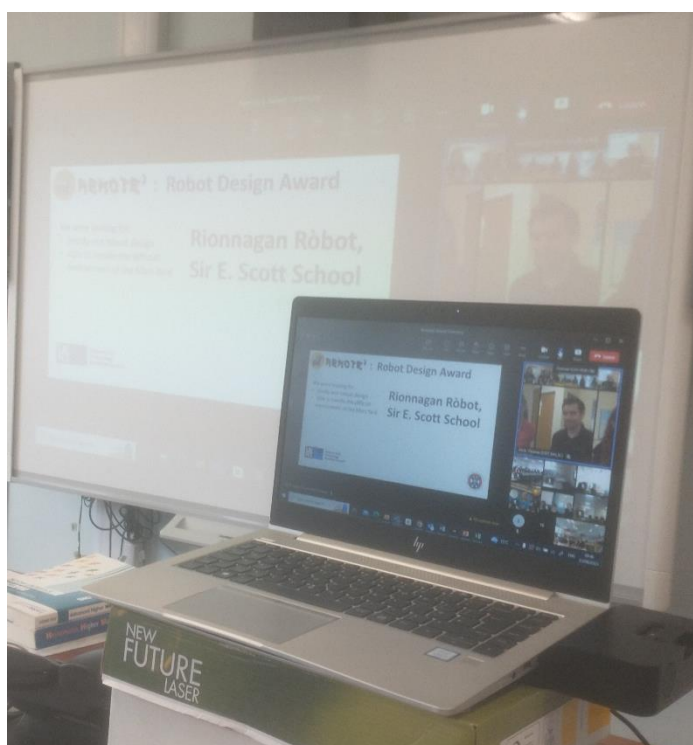
REMOTE 3

For the last 6 months, a group of S3/S4s (Alex Passmore, Bella Maclean, Bethany Macleod, Calum Macleod, Christopher Eadie and Seamus Mackay) have been taking part in a science outreach project run by the University of Edinburgh called Remote3 (pronounced *Remote cubed*).

The idea behind the project was for the group to design a Lego robot that could be programmed to complete a series of challenges in a harsh environment like that found on Mars. In June the *Rionnagan Robot* (as the group christened their team) watched on a live stream as *Domhnall the robot* went 1 km underground to the Boulby research facility – where real Mars rovers have previously been tested - and successfully completed all the planned challenges. The scientists running the tests, some of whom have worked on designing robots that have actually visited Mars, commented positively on a number of design features of *Domhnall* and at the final awards Rionnagan Robot won the prize for *Best Robot Design*. This was a well-deserved award and the team should be very proud of what they have achieved together.



Who knows, maybe we'll see one or two of them designing robots and rovers for future space missions.
'S math a rinn sibh uile.



HARRIS CAREERS FAIR

On Wednesday 21st June, Sir E Scott students from P4 up to S6 made the short walk up to the Tarbert Community Centre to take part in this year's careers fair. The fair offered the opportunity to speak with various local businesses and organisations, allowing students the chance to find out more about the wide range of job roles available in Harris.

This was the primary students first careers fair, and it was great to see the enthusiasm they had finding out about the different employers whilst collecting as many freebies as possible. Some of students had really strong ideas about what they want to do in the future, with at least two really keen to become Gaelic primary teachers in the future.

For the older students, it was more about asking questions about potential future jobs, upcoming opportunities, and the processes of applying to the different organisations. Students were also able to speak to Skills Development Scotland regarding potential pathways and UHI Outer Hebrides and the Comhairle's apprenticeship team about the different courses available and what qualifications they would need to be able to access them.

Overall, everyone had an great time, with students, staff and employers saying they enjoyed the event. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all the businesses and organisations who gave up their time to come: Harris Volunteer Centre, Mowi, Bakkafrost, North Harris Trust, Bord Na Gaidhlig, Skills Development Scotland, The Isle of Harris Distillery, Scarista House, Scaladale Centre, Harris House, Leverburgh Care Home, NHS, Home Care, Essence of Harris, Crossroads Harris, UHI Outer Hebrides, Harland and Wolf, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland, CNES, the apprenticeship and employability teams.



BADAGUISH TRIP



Some of our senior pupils enjoyed a few days at the Badaguish Outdoor centre. Pupils enjoyed a variety of outdoor pursuits and as you can see from the photos had a great time too!



SAD FAREWELLS!



We sadly said farewell to the following members of staff. Mrs Emma Mackinnon has secured a post with SQA and Mr David Murray is taking a year out of teaching. Mrs Anne Campbell who is retiring having spent 5 years at Sir E Scott School. We had a farewell tea where they were presented with gifts from their colleagues. We wish them all the very best for the future.



Miss Anne Macleod, Primary Department is also moving onto pastures new. Anne will also be greatly missed in the Primary department by her fellow colleagues and pupils. Anne was presented with gifts on her last day at SES. We wish Anne all the very best as she moves

Mrs Fiona Morrison, School Librarian is also retiring having worked at the school for over 30 years. Fiona will be greatly missed by staff and pupils. Below is a photo of Fiona who was presented with a card from Primary pupils. We also wish Fiona a long, happy peaceful retirement. Staff will meet at a later date to celebrate Fiona's retirement.



ACTIVITIES WEEK 2023

Pupils and staff were delighted to once again have the opportunity to participate in Activities Week. Despite the weather it was great to get out of the classroom and enjoy various activities! Thanks to all who helped out in anyway to make this possible for our young people.





As part of activities week Kyle went on a day trip to Uist. He enjoyed a walk through Langass Woodland, stopped off for a treat in the café before going on a lovely walk along the beach in Berneray.



SUMMER EVENTS



Free creative workshops and events for children and families



Scottish Ballet: Wee Mice

Thurs 29 June
Breasclete Hall
Grinneabhat, Bragar
3 - 5 years + parent / carer



Amazing Whales workshop

Wed 5 July : Lionel
Thurs 6 July : Tarbert
Fri 7 July : Bragar
age 8 - 12



Instrument making workshop

Tues 11 July : Bayble + Barvas
Wed 12 July : Talla na Mara
+ Balallan
age 5 - 8



HebCelt art tent

Thurs 13 - Sat 15 July
HebCelt festival, Lews Castle
Grounds
all ages



Insect Explorers

Thurs 20 + Fri 21 July
Sunken Garden, Castle Grounds
pre-school children and parent / carer



Art tent: Nature Printing

Community agricultural shows
and gala days
all ages



Story tree: The tree that was a harp

9 - 11 Aug
Lews Castle Grounds
children and families