



### Diary Dates

**Tues 8 Aug** SQA results published  
**Mon 14 Aug** SQA Recoursing (if required) 1.30pm-2.30pm  
**Wed 16 Aug** Pupils return to school  
**Fri 18 Aug** Year assemblies S2-6  
**Mon 21 Aug** Edinburgh Book Festival Trip  
**Tues 22 – Thurs 24 Aug** House assemblies, Social Subjects Sky Academy trip to Livingston (S2) on Tues  
**Wed 23 Aug** Kindrogan Geography Fieldwork Residential  
**Mon 28 Aug** Year assemblies this week  
**Tues 29 Aug** Friends of Kirkcaldy High School Meeting at 7pm  
**Wed 30 Aug** S3 Jupiter Artland Trip  
**Fri 1 Sept** Visit of Katie Rafferty, Director of "Respectme"  
**Mon 4 Sept** Kwik Fit Trip, work experience at Broxburn  
**Tues 5 – Thurs 7 Sept** House Assemblies  
**Thurs 7 Sept** UCAS Parents' Night (S6)  
**Fri 8 Sept** Social Subjects trip to Sky Academy (S1)  
**Wed 13 Sept** S1 Numeracy – Growth Mindset Parents Night  
**Thurs 14 Sept** "Yerma" Drama Trip  
**Mon 18 Sept** Year assemblies this week  
**Wed 20 Sept** Fordell Firs team building and outdoor experience for S1 (Adam Smith)  
**Thurs 21 Sept** Fordell Firs (Carlyle), "Clued Up" AGM, with Rector as Guest Speaker  
**Fri 22 Sept** Fordell Firs (Oswald), Future Assets Business Conference in Edinburgh  
**Mon 25 Sept** S3 Employability Week  
**Tues 26 – Thurs 28 Sept** House assemblies with Chaplain Rev Ken Froude  
**Wed 27 Sept** "Streetcar Named Desire" Drama Trip  
**Fri 29 Sept** First Year Settling In Report Issued  
**Tues 3 Oct** S3 Parents' Evening  
**Fri 6 Oct** Dress Down Day for charity, Maths CSI "Court Case". Holidays begin  
**Mon 22 Oct** School returns after the break.

### The Rector Writes ...

**A**s I pen these words, the session winds to a close. I have to say that 2016-2017 has been a particularly successful one for our school on a variety of fronts. It started with some very encouraging trends in exam passes in the last exam diet. For example, well over half of our pupils enjoyed success in the Higher exams by the time they reached Fifth Year and almost a quarter managed five or more Highers by Sixth Year. We also had our best ever progression rate to a University course.



Kirkcaldy high School Prizewinners 2017

However, excellent schools, and we aspire always to be one, are about much more than paper qualifications. It's about the "whole person" and their character. This, for me, is where we certainly do excel. At the Prizegiving a couple of weeks ago, I offered a quote from Hugh MacDiarmid, the Scots poet. I urged our leavers to be themselves, and "mak' that worth the bein'". You'll find lots of evidence of that in our latest newsletter. Best wishes for the summer break.

### The Easter Break

The main feature of the Easter break was probably our netball training camp in Barcelona! Well done to Miss McIntosh, Miss Malcolm, Miss Ashby, Miss Mitchell and the 40 girls who enjoyed a great experience, with a packed itinerary ... and it was lots of fun too.

*Allan.*

Closer to home, it was satisfying to see such a good turnout for all our study support classes including our regular "Saturday School" sessions and "Easter School". This shows great commitment to learning and should produce positive outcomes when the SQA results come out in a few weeks.

### First Week of the New Term

We had Yeargroup Assemblies in the first week back. Ms Mahr (RME) shared some really heart-warming stories from her volunteering trip to Rwanda and all were especially impressed that the laddie who was top of his class (of 72 pupils) was delighted to be presented with a Raith Rovers strip which had been donated by a First Year here.

On the Tuesday evening we had SQA acting performances and Wednesday was a special S6 Games Night in the staffroom. It was good for the "Class of 2017" to enjoy some social time together just before they leave. Thursday's Assembly was for all of S4-6 and covered SQA exam arrangements.

On Thursday 20 April, Morgan Faulds and Cara Hayes represented Fife in the Sheriffdom finals of the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Public Speaking. This time it involved schools from Tayside and Central Scotland as well as Fife and took place at Perth Sheriff Court. We were up against Grove Academy from Broughty Ferry and McLaren High School from Callander ... and KHS won again, progressing to the national semi-final. The girls were both on sparkling form at Perth and gave passionate speeches about ending the stigma of mental health. Many thanks to David Torrance MSP, who put a motion of congratulations to the Scottish Parliament after the girls had won the Fife final in March.

There was also a meeting of the "Friends of Kirkcaldy High School" that night at which a date was set for their fund raising race night to be held in school. Please keep Friday 3 November free if you are interested, more details in due course.

### Week 2 Highlights, from 24 April

During this week we had House Assemblies led by our leavers from the Class of 2017. As always, it was an emotional experience and all were particularly moved by the lovely tributes paid to Gregor Smith, who passed away, from meningitis, in 2013 and would have been part of this leavers' group.

On the Tuesday evening, one of those leavers took centre stage at the Dean Park Hotel. Well done to Ashley Davidson (S6), who reported back to Kirkcaldy Rotary Club on her recent "Euroscola" trip to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, sponsored by the Club. It was a highly competitive process and Ashley's presentation was very interesting and thoughtful.

That evening, Ashley was also joined by Chloe McGlashan and Kyle Dick (both S5), our successful RYLA Leadership Camp candidates, who have won places on the Rotary's highly regarded Outward Bound course in the Cairngorms in July. They will report back to the Club in September. Also attending were Rachel Cummings (S2) and Connor Haining (S1), who gave an excellent talk about our "Interact" Group.



KHS Netball Training Camp in Barcelona

On Wednesday we had a rather special hi-tech science input when large groups of young people had the chance to undertake a "virtual reality" expedition to the Great Wall of China, Mount Everest or even the Moon! Many thanks to the Google VR educational team, who provided this brilliant opportunity.

On Thursday 27 April, we were particularly busy, with our S1 Girls' Netball Team involved in the Fife tournament. Well done to Hannah Payne, who was voted as the tournament's "fairest" player. It was also the Junior UK Maths Challenge

and we had a team competing in the Faraday Science Competition at Glenrothes High School.

The Friday was the last day in school for S4-6 before the SQA exams. Study leave started after the May Day holiday. S6 finished up at lunchtime after picking up their year book in the morning, adding their names to the traditional leavers' mural, and shedding a tear or two at our farewell get together in the library.

## Week from 1 May

The SQA exams started right after the Monday Holiday with Design and Manufacture on the Tuesday, Spanish on Wednesday, Latin and Music on Thursday and Maths on Friday. Candidates got off to a good start and made full use of the "masterclass" arrangements which applied to the day before each exam.

On the Wednesday evening, our U13 football team competed well in the Scottish Shield final played at Stenhousemuir FC. Unfortu-

That week ended with another primary liaison event ... our P7 Sports Day, with competing teams from Capshard, Fair Isle, Torbain and Valley.

## Week Beginning 15 May

On Monday 15 May we had a vaccination catch up session for those who were absent when the visiting NHS nurse team administered HPV, polio and diphtheria jags recently.

That week was also our S1-3 Health Week with a particular focus on physical activity and mental health.

We had S3 on Tuesday, S2 on Wednesday and S1 on Thursday with agencies delivering various sessions e.g. dance (with Love2Dance), karate (with JKS), Australian Rules Football (with Kingdom Kangaroos), football (with Raith Rovers and AM Soccer), rugby (with Kirkcaldy Rugby Club), floorball (with Fife Floorball Club), tennis (with Kirkcaldy Tennis Club), handball (with Fife Handball Club), boxercise (with The Edge Gym), and gymnastics (with Kirkcaldy Gymnastics Club). Many thanks to all our supporters, and also to Miss Mitchell (Principal

Friday 19 May was our annual Activities Day. All young people in S1-3 had the opportunity to take part in a great range of trips; trampolining, snowboarding and ski-ing, crazy golf, white water rafting, bowling and M and D's Theme Park near Motherwell. Thanks to all the staff involved, the day was a great success.

## Week 6 Highlights

The week's SQA exams were Biology and Human Biology on Tuesday, Health and Food Technology on Wednesday, Engineering Science on Thursday and Geography last Friday.

On the Tuesday of that week, it was good to welcome the Primary 6 pupils from Capshard, Fair Isle, Valley and Torbain for a themed learning day. We had a special sequence of lessons all on the theme of numeracy, having spoken with some of the young people in the afternoon, The primary kids enjoyed their day in school.

We also had the interviews for those who have applied for the Fife College Skills for Work programme in Construction. This involves the successful applicants attending the College on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

On the Wednesday, KHS was a big part of the Stonewall Scotland Education Conference in Glasgow. Mr Allan was honoured to be invited to be the "keynote" speaker at the start of the event, and spoke about school values and "culture" being of vital importance in helping gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and

Also on that Wednesday, 24 May, it was good to welcome Sarah Clark, the Commonwealth Games gold medallist and European Champion judo player. Sarah was in school as part of a sports mentoring programme sponsored by Sky Sports.

Along with fellow judo champion, Sarah Adlington, she worked with a group of KHS' budding champions of the future as part of the "Living for Sport" project making a primary transition video covering all the important points around the High School, with an emphasis on sport, physical activity and wellbeing.

On the Thursday we hosted a primary cluster netball competition whilst our S1 netball and football squads took place in the Dave Garland Memorial tournaments at Glenrothes. This is a Fife wide competition and our netballers did very well in qualifying for the final stages. Our football team went through the entire round robin tournament unbeaten and ended up winners! Dave Garland was a Guidance Teacher at Glenrothes High for many years who died of Motor Neurone Disease.

On the Friday we had another of our Primary liaison events, as around 75 primary 7 pupils joined us from Torbain for a day of sport and exercise activities led by our PE staff. We had several of these events over that fortnight, including Maths, English and Science as well as PE.

## Week 7, from 29 May

Exams that week were; Administration and IT on the Monday, Art on Tuesday and we finish with PE and Drama today. Apart from the exams, the week's main event for families was the S3 Parent/Carer Evening on the Tuesday.

We also had a group of S1 Chemistry enthusiasts taking part in the Salter's Festival at Heriot-Watt University on Wednesday. Then, on Thursday, all of our Second Year went "off timetable" to take part in our outdoor themed learning. It's was a team based disaster relief simulation exercise and was a great success.

On Friday 2 June, all those who had been off on exam leave returned to school. As well as returning books etc prior to the timetable change, the new S6 had an induction programme which had various inputs, including volunteering, study tips, university, college and apprenticeship routes etc



**Go4SET "Best Teamwork" Winners**

nately, after losing early goals they could not overcome a strong and skilful Lourdes Secondary from Glasgow, who were 3-0 winners. Well done to them. Mr Allan said that he was immensely proud of the KHS boys, and said that they are a credit to the school. Over 300 schools entered and to make the final was a massive achievement ... our first national final in 36 years. He also congratulated coaches Mr English and Mr I'Anson and thanked our special shirt sponsors, Glen Fisheries.

That week, our Go4SET Science team competed in the "STEM" competition at Fife College won the "Best Teamwork" Trophy. Very well done to Marina Chipalu, Emma Francis, Tammy Higgins, Katie Laverton, Rachel Lawson and Emma MacDonald, and many thanks also to Brand-Rex Ltd of Glenrothes for their excellent support.

## Week 4 Report

The following week's SQA exams were Chemistry on Monday, History on Tuesday, Graphic Communication on Wednesday and English on Thursday and Friday.

Then it was a case of commiserations to Morgan and Cara, who narrowly lost out, on a split decision, to Robert Gordon's College, a well known private school in Aberdeen, in the National Semi-Final of the Scottish Public Speaking Championships, organised by the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service and held at Dundee Sheriff Court on Monday 8 May. The girls did us all proud. They spoke about the right to protest and it was undoubtedly very difficult for the judges.

Also that week it was great to welcome the P7 pupils who will be joining us as new S1 from August when we hosted our "STEP UP" Enterprise Competition on Tuesday and Wednesday, supported by Matt Stewart of "Entrepreneurme". It was terrific, with "growth mindset" and positive thinking at the heart of it.



**Activities Day: Shooting the Rapids on the Tay**

Teacher of Health and Wellbeing) who coordinated a very full programme.

All pupils also had an input on emotional and mental wellbeing and were even offered the chance to spend some time with Alfie, the therapy dog! Many thanks to Ms Mahr for bringing him in. Alfie is a registered "therapet".

On the Tuesday evening we had a Parent Council meeting. One of the main issues was our plan for the "Pupil Equity Fund", the direct additional funding available from the Scottish Government. This will be used to support learners from families affected by poverty. The Rector explained to the Council that we will be addressing "gaps" in attendance, exclusion, attainment, participation, mental health and "destinations" on leaving school.

transgender young people feel safe, comfortable and able to be themselves. Mrs Pirie (Guidance) delivered a "workshop" session on supporting an in-school LBGT Group.

We'll continue to do all we can to support young people who identify as being LGBT and we'll also stand firmly against homophobia. We can't have young people suffering on the basis of their very identity.



**Salter's Festival of Chemistry at Heriot-Watt University**

## Week Beginning 5 June

After Monday's Public Holiday, we moved to the new timetable on Tuesday. This process went very smoothly, in no small measure due to the meticulous work undertaken by Mrs Aitken, our timetabler. It's one of the most important jobs in the school and Mrs Aitken has become adept at balancing all the different elements, including Fife College courses, the Foundation Apprenticeship programme which we offer and all the other competing demands.

During the day we held assemblies for all year-groups at which we had a time for reflection and a minute of silence to show respect for the victims of the terrorist atrocities in recent weeks. The message was the same one which was a big part of the City of Manchester's response, that hate cannot be beaten by more hate, and that hate can never heal divisions. Terrorism is a complex issue which requires a thoughtful, measured and vigilant response. Respect for others has never been more important.

The Yearheads also delivered important messages about the year ahead and many were particularly impressed by Mr Young's sporting analogy. He looked at the preparations and attitude of the All Blacks rugby team and urged our young people to take a few lessons to ensure success, in their exams and in life.

We also had a group of 35 young people competing in the Fife Schools' Athletics Championships at Pitreavie ... our best ever representation and thanks go to Miss Malcolm for her work with this. Congratulations also go to our medallists: S1 Girls 4x100m Relay - Silver, S1 Boys 4x100m Relay - Silver, S2 Boys 4x100m Relay - Silver, Scott Graves in the S1 100m - Silver, Katie Robertson in the S1 100m - Bronze, Sean Stewart in the U15 200m - Gold and Chloe Dargie in the U17 High Jump - Bronze.

At the end of the day on the Tuesday it was a pleasure to welcome Matthew Elder, the Sports Editor of the Fife Free Press (and a former KHS pupil) for our Sports Colours Ceremony. Those who have consistently represented the school in netball, football and basketball were recognised and other sporting achievements such as the contribution of our "Sports Leaders" was also rewarded.

It was also the time when our Saltire Volunteer Award winners received their certificates, the new Prefects received their badges and the Head Boy and Girl for the year ahead were announced.

Thanks to Matthew Elder or his words of advice and encouragement to our young people. He is a credit to his old school and remains one of the Rovers' most passionate advocates despite that being an emotionally draining experience at times. Good luck for the season ahead!

Well done to our Sports Colours recipients, our sixty Saltire Volunteers and the new prefects. Special congratulations go to Osama Aslam, Emma Fenton, Lucie Jones, Craig Kelly, Christy Ritchie and Sean Saunders, who have been appointed to the Prefect Leadership Team as Depute Heads.



## New Prefect Leadership Team with Mrs Aitken

We also held an election, which was open to all S6 and all staff, to decide our Head Boy and Head Girl for 2017-2018 and were delighted to announce that these positions will be filled by Jay Elder and Isla Wright.

The Friday was especially busy. We had a "STEM" trip to Glasgow Science Centre (organised by our Science Department) and a field-work visit to Shell Bay near Elie by our Higher Geography class. They studied coastal erosion and scenery supported by the University of St Andrews.



## Clem O'Mara Presents the Mike Withey Bravery Award to Ellie Cunningham at Prizegiving

We also had a group of young people taking part in the Young Citizen Advocate programme at Dunfermline High School.

On the Saturday, Mr English and Mr Young of the PE Department took a bus load through to Hampden for the big match - the World Cup Qualifier between Scotland and England ... and all enjoyed a few moments of sporting ecstasy.

## Week From 12 June

This was a very hectic one for us, probably the busiest of the entire session. It's the same every year at this time.

We had a special S3 assembly on Monday morning. It was the official launch of the Youth Philan-

thropy Initiative ... a charity focussed teamwork challenge. Many thanks to the pupils from St Columba's High School in Dunfermline, who helped out with the launch. We also gave details of the S3 "Enrichment" programme for the year ahead which includes a Modern Language short course and a further short course in "Career Management Skills".

Also, our next crop of "First Chances" students (from the new S3) had their first taste of university life at St Andrews. They enjoyed a 3 day residential "Summer School" with lectures and seminars supported by undergraduates. We have 20 young people involved and it's a chance for those with no family experience of Higher Education to sample something new. Those who attended had a great time and made new friends from other schools.

The S4 group had their graduation ceremony later in the week, after their residential. Many thanks to Mrs Hunter and Miss Nessel for their terrific support of this very worthwhile programme.

We are also delighted that we have our biggest ever group of young people involved in the Sutton trust Summer School this year. Again, it's a chance for working class pupils with no family tradition of university to build some confidence.

Also on the Monday, Academy Uniforms were in school. If parents/carers missed the opportunity to purchase new school uniform they can check out the Academy website.

Blazers, with an embroidered badge, can be purchased at only £31.50 and they also have jumpers and cardigans available with the KHS logo embroidered on them.

Tuesday 13 June was our annual Prizegiving, a real highlight in the school calendar. It was a pleasure to welcome Shirley-Anne Somerville MSP, the Government Minister for Further and Higher Education as our principal guest. The Minister is a former pupil, and she spoke with real conviction about self-belief and perseverance. Congratulations to all our deserving prizewinners,

One highlight was Logan Piotrowicz's spirited rendition of "The Boy in the Train" which opened proceedings. Logan did a fantastic job.

Another was the input from Clem O'Mara, the brother-in-law of Mike Withey, the heroic pilot of a jet fighter plane which crash landed near the school in 1957.

The full story was in the following week's Fife Free Press. Thanks also to the 500 or so parents and

carers who attended the event, and congratulations to Dux Medalist, Chloe Newton.

## S5/6 Academic Prize Winners 2017:

### Higher

Sign Company Art Prize: Amy Bell (shared)  
 Disability Sport Fife PE Prize: Fraser Binnie  
 John Smart Design & Manufacture Prize: Andrew Campbell  
 Waterstones Drama Prize: Jasmin Clunie  
 Highland House History Prize: Ashley Davidson  
 Dr McKillop Latin Prize: Ashley Davidson  
 PayWizard French Prize: Kirstie Gray  
 RBS Mathematics Prize: Tanya Grieve  
 Binnie Music Prize: Rosie Harp  
 PayWizard Business Management Prize: Abby Hitchcock  
 Waterstones English Prize: Jade Hood  
 Charlie Reid Travel Geography Prize: Jade Hood  
 Alison Stewart Health and Food Technology Prize: Amy Hope  
 Bill Ritchie Physics Prize: Craig Kelly  
 Cupcakes by Melissa Modern Studies Prize: Phoebe MacDonald  
 John Smart & Son Ltd Engineering Science Prize: Luke McQueen  
 Dr Guthrie Human Biology Prize: Rebecca Meekison  
 Sign Company Prize: Kiara Montgomery (shared)  
 Allan Wilson Care Prize: Siobhan Robb  
 Raeburn Construction Computing Science Prize: Saif Saleem  
 Dr McKillop Classical Studies Prize: Caitlin Simpson  
 R.B. Grant Chemistry Prize: Brad Sinclair  
 Colin Moyes Graphic Communication Prize: Jennifer Thomson.

### Advanced Higher

R.B. Grant Chemistry Prize: Tamara Alrahow  
 Waterstones Art Prize: Andrew Campbell  
 Disability Sport Fife Drama Prize: Kelsey Christie-Whelan  
 John Smart French Prize: Ashley Davidson  
 Waterstones English Prize: Kendra Gatherum  
 Raeburn Construction Modern Studies Prize: Casey Johnston  
 Bill Ritchie Physics Prize: Cameron Lafferty  
 Raeburn Construction Engineering Prize: Connor MacLean  
 The Sign Company Computing Prize: Calum McAdam  
 RBS Business Management Prize: Lauren McArthur  
 Dr Guthrie Biology Prize: Chloe Newton  
 Charlie Reid Travel Geography Prize: Chloe Newton  
 Dr McKillop Latin Prize: Siobhan Robb  
 RBS Mathematics Prize: David Smith



**Chloe Newton  
Dux 2017**

### Science Baccalaureate: Tamara Alrahow

### Lorna Mowbray Trophy, Dux Runner-Up: Ashley Davidson

### The Dr Guthrie Award, Dux: Chloe Newton.

## Week from 12 June (cont.)

Then, on the Wednesday and Thursday, we again welcomed the P7 pupils who will make up our new First Year from August. They were placed in their new classes and followed a normal timetable over the two days. It seems they had an excellent experience ... the feedback forms certainly show that. Thanks to the S6 "buddies" for the excellent support they gave the P7. This will continue in August.

Also on the Wednesday, our "Enterprising Maths" team competed very well in the Fife competition at Glenrothes High.

On the Thursday morning, our P7 visitors joined the rest of the school in our annual "Brake Walk" around Dunnikier Park and along the busy road. Young people carried banners and placards urging drivers to slow down near the school. Please take it easy along

On the Thursday evening, we held a parent/carer evening for the P7 intake parents. Guidance teachers met groups and were joined by Careers Advisors. Senior staff and our new Head Boy and Girl gave short talks on relevant subjects. At the same time, the P7 pupils had a disco/barbecue to keep them occupied.

The Friday was our leavers' Prom at Forrester Park Resort, Dunfermline. It was a fitting and emotional final farewell for the Class of 2017.



**"RUTS" Bike Mechanics Group at Knockhill**  
great success.

Also on Monday 19 June we had a team competing for the Strathmore Trophy at the Computing Department of Dundee University, a group of 10 out attending a medical based work experience at Ninewells Hospital (also in Dundee) and in the afternoon we had a STEM Showcase event in the Hall. This was supported by Fife College, Bright Green Hydrogen and the RAF.

We had House assemblies on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. It was great to introduce the recently elected House Captains. Adam Smith: Cameron Pilmer, Luke McQueen, Katie Love and Sarah Cook. Carlyle: Fraser Binnie, Jack Nicol, Kiera O'Hagan and Baraa Hasan. Oswald: Matthew Cargill, David Moir, Jennifer Thomson and Phoebe MacDonald.

Also at the assemblies we had an input from a group of young people who had engaged online via Skype with Leo Logothetis from the "Kindness Diaries" TV Show. They shared their views of the power of kindness, a relevant message given the recent terror atrocities and London fire, and the ways in which people have responded so generously.

Fittingly, on the Tuesday, the Rector met with Imam Mohammed Hammad of Kirkcaldy Mosque to plan engagements for next session. We'll be having a greater diversity of approaches in our "reflection time" assemblies next session. We'll have an input from the Mosque in October and the extension of an already established link with the Scottish Humanist Society too. We'll also have our regular chaplaincy inputs from Reverend Froude, of the Church of Scotland.

Also on the Tuesday we had our local primaries in school again to for the "Heather's Hut" energy efficiency exhibition, showing off models they had made of energy efficient homes. After school we held another regular meeting with local employers to plan further links and work experience in the session ahead. It was great to have input from Andrew Melville and Erin Johnston, who spoke of the value of their recent work placements.

That week, we held interviews for the Guidance Team and can that Mrs Hunter and Miss Torp-Petersen have now been made permanent to the team.

One of the team moves to a post

closer to home however. Best wishes to Mrs Pirie, who starts at a Livingston school from August. She has been a terrific asset here and will be a big miss. The same goes for Mrs Steedman, who heads off the lead the Maths Dept. at Madras College. Mrs Mellon of the Art Department takes retirement. Thanks and best wishes to Mrs Mellon too.

On the Thursday, we had a small group of young people attending the Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh and the following day we had another group of students attending the "Investment 2020" event at Standard Life HQ, also in Edinburgh. That same day, in school, our Biology students had an excellent talk from Professor Nikolai Zhelev of Abertay University. His area of interest is the use of stem cells in the development of drugs to treat cardiovascular disease.

## Last Week of Session

On Monday 26 June we had assemblies for all yeargroups on water safety (reservoirs, ponds, rivers etc). We were joined by Gillian Barclay, who lost her son in a drowning accident at Inverkeithing Quarry in 2014. It was an emotional but an important message about keeping safe.

The Wednesday afternoon was our "Big Event". This was our annual end of session celebration and was open to all pupils, with giant inflatables, the "Cool Creatures" mobile zoo, a graffiti art workshop, nail bar, ice cream, face painting etc. We also had a draw with numerous prizes - including a bike. The draw was open to all those who have had good attendance, punctuality, behaviour and timekeeping all year.

The session closed on Thursday at lunchtime and we held a "Dress Down" day with donations going to support the families affected by the Grenfell Tower fire. This cause was chosen by our new charities committee. It was also our annual Talent Show, always a great way to close for the summer vacation.

Then, on 5 July, our Prince's Trust Club XL team enjoyed a brilliant all expenses paid trip to Wimbledon after doing well in the Fife XL Tennis Championships last month.



**Club XL Tennis Winners**

It was a fabulous experience.

Looking forward, we would like to remind all parents/carers in advance of any purchases of new school uniform that leggings, jogging pants etc are not acceptable school wear and that we require black shoes or trainers. White or coloured trainers are sports wear and not suitable for class.

Very best wishes for the summer break. The exam results are due for publication on Tuesday 8 August and school resumes (after 2 days of staff training) on Wednes-



**Cameron Bowie and Mr Allan at the Scottish Parliament**

Dunnikier Way or near the school. On Thursday 15 June, Mr Allan was joined by Cameron Bowie (S5 and Chair of our LGBT Group) at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh to give evidence to the Equality and Human Rights Committee about our proactive approaches to tackling bullying and creating an inclusive school, especially for young people who identify as LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender). The committee had heard that KHS is an especially welcoming and tolerant school which takes issues of equality and diversity very seriously.

The MSPs wanted to hear more before advising the Government about new policy directions. It was quite an accolade for us to have been asked to do this. Cameron chairs our LGBT support group, which comprises of those who identify as lesbian or gay and other supporters or "allies" who are interested in fairness and equality. He was a fantastic ambassador for KHS and you can view the committee session on the Scottish Parliament TV website.

Also that day, we hosted a delegation of teachers from Hungary, Lithuania, Poland and Portugal who are visiting Scotland as part of an "Erasmus" study programme. Our visitors found much to take back to their schools. They all commented that it was the "best" day of their experience.

## Week from 19 June

The penultimate week of the session was a very productive one, with lots of rich and diverse activities for many different groups of learners.

All week we had a mobile workshop set up in the Astroturf car



**Strathmore Trophy at Dundee University**

park. It was a work experience for a group of young people in S4, who worked on motorbikes supported by "RUTS", the Rural and Urban Training Scheme. On Friday, our group went off-road biking at Knockhill. It was a