

# NEWSLETTER

## WE THRIVE TOGETHER!



Dear Parent/Carer,

This newsletter will give you an update on some of the things that have been happening across our school in the last couple of months. It has been designed to be easy to read on digital devices and our plan is to issue one newsletter each term next session via our app. If you have any feedback on the layout, please email Miss Cuthbertson.

[gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mrs McAlaney

## PRIZE GIVING

Our annual whole school Assembly and Prize Giving will take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 11am in Wellington Church.

This will be an opportunity to celebrate pupil success and showcase our school values, a perfect end to another fantastic year at Hillhead High School.

SAVE  
THE DATE

*Pupils return to school Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August*

SAVE  
THE DATE



KINDNESS



AMBITION



INTEGRITY



RESILIENCE



RESPECT

# **RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL**

# **GOLD AWARD**



## **RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL**

**We are delighted to announce Hillhead High has gained the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools UK Gold Award**

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Gold is the highest accolade given by UNICEF UK and shows a deep and thorough commitment to children's rights at all levels of school life.

The Award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of a school's planning, policies and practice. A Rights Respecting School is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted.





# RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

# GOLD AWARD

## LEARNING AND TEACHING ABOUT RIGHTS

### OUTCOME 1



## DELIVERING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

### OUTCOME 3 - continued

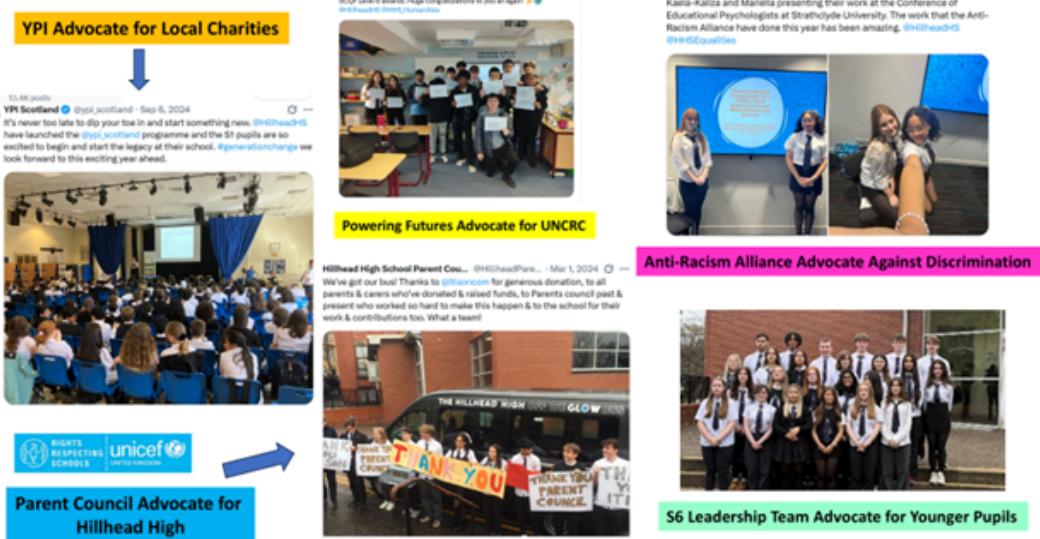


1 Hillhead High School reposted  
Hillhead English Dept @EnglishDept\_HHS - Nov 26, 2024  
It was a pleasure to meet our P7 pupils today. We hope they had a great c in  
@HillheadHS. Shape poems created by pupils from @AnderstonPS  
@OakgrovePri @GarnetbankPS @HillheadPrimary 🌟



## CREATING YOUNG ADVOCATES

### OUTCOME 9 - continued

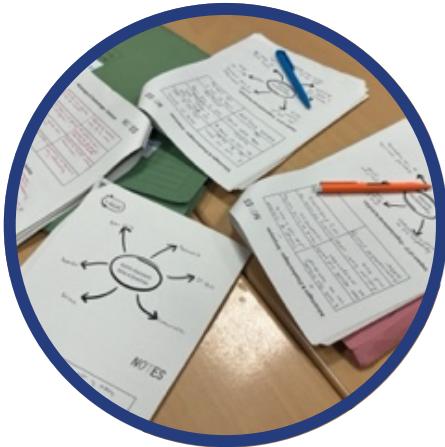


# TECHNOLOGIES FACULTY

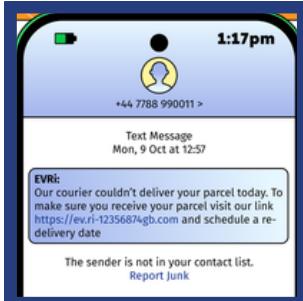
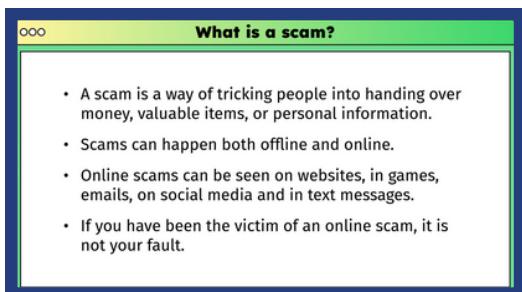
## EVERY MARK MATTERS MANTRA



Creative and innovative revision lessons have been taking place in the faculty to prepare pupils for their SQA exams. The focus has been on storing information in pupils long term memory to allow them to recall this information. This links into the faculty mantra of **EVERY MARK MATTERS**



## RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL - GOLD AWARD INTERNET SAFETY MONTH



During Internet Safety Month all S1 pupils had the opportunity to learn about online scams. Pupils learned what a scam was and how to look for signs of a scams. For example **demanding language, spelling errors, suspicious links, making you feel worried.**

## NEW COURSE

### Level 5 Furniture Making



S6 pupils have been actively engaged in the new Level 5 Furniture Making course. This course has developed pupils' practical woodworking skills through reading and interpreting workshop drawings, selecting appropriate materials, use of a range of woodworking tools, developing productive work practices, and understanding workshop health and safety.

# TECHNOLOGIES FACULTY

## **CYBER SECURITY AWARD**



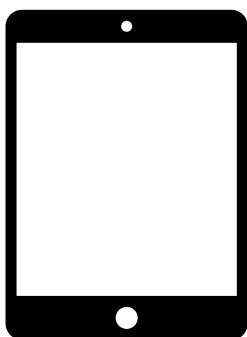
Hillhead HS was awarded the National Cyber Security Centre's CyberFirst Bronze School award in March 2025. This means that we are "aspiring to provide excellence in cyber security education". This recognises that we are teaching Cyber Security Education to S2 and S3 pupils.

S6 pupils will be able to select a new course in August called Cyber Security. This course will allow pupils to dive into the exciting world of cyber defence, learn how to identify threats, secure networks, and become a vital part of the digital future.



## **Level 6 Cyber Security**

## **IPAD CHARGER**



If you need to charge your Ipad please visit Miss Cuthbertson or Miss Whyte in T09 to charge your Ipad. We have a new 30 dock charging locker.

## **COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY**

### **SAY 'YES TO THE DRESS' AND 'AYE TO THE TIE'**



Over the past 3 years our school community donated various prom outfits and accessories and as a result we have been able to offer these to pupils, resulting in them not having to buy a new outfit for prom.

# COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY

## FISO SUPPORT

Our Financial Inclusion Support Officer is Nicola McCaskill. You can contact her directly or if you would like more information you can speak to your child's pastoral care teacher.

Nicola can offer advice and support on the following:

- Benefits Advice
- Educational Maintenance Allowance
- Free School Meals and Clothing Grant
- Free Bus Travel



Tel: 0141 648 2022 email: schools@moneymattersweb.co.uk

Between April 2021 and 2025 the FISO has supported many families. Please see the details of this below:



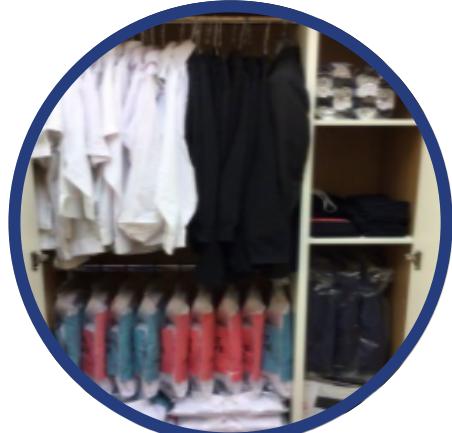
## PERIOD EQUITY & FREE TOILETRIES

We continue to support our pupils by having free period products available for pupils to access easily. Pupils can access these during term time or they can stock up on products before the holiday. They can come in to Pastoral Care and help themselves.

## NEW AND RECYCLED UNIFORM AND CLOTHING

The school has a store of uniform and casual clothing which is accessible free of charge. There are new items and good quality second hand items too. Please contact your child's Pastoral Care teacher if you would like any items.

Look out for the launch of our new uniform cupboard in August!



# **SUPPORT FOR LEARNING**

We have been busy recently in the faculty of Support for Learning, EAL and Nurture!

We have been helping arrange SQA exams and additional assessment arrangements. Our staff have been involved with reading, scribing and prompting for pupils during their exams as well as general well-being support for senior pupils.



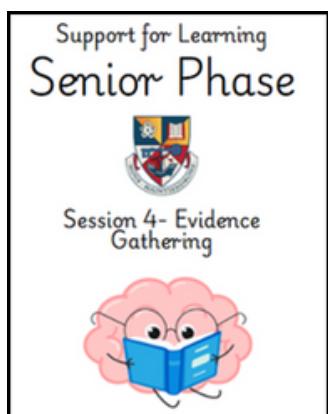
## **P7 TRANSITIONS**

We have welcomed lots of soon to be S1 pupils to the department. It has been lovely meeting them all.



## **NURTURE GROUP**

Our Nurture Group have had lots of fun doing a variety of activities. They even became chefs for the morning and made delicious cheesecakes.



## **S4 STUDY GROUP**

Our S4 Study Group have also been preparing for their exams and learning about different mindfulness techniques



# **SCIENCE FACULTY**



## **PUPIL VOICE**

Our S1 and S2 pupils have been telling us their thoughts on Science courses by completing pupil voice surveys to help us make improvements for next year.

Our S4 Young STEM Leader Wider Achievement group have finished their YSL Level 4 awards and have been working hard leading STEM workshops in the Faculty for pupils in S1-3.

**STEM**  
WIDER ACHIEVEMENT

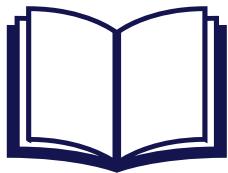


## **THE INDUSTRIAL CADETS CLUB**

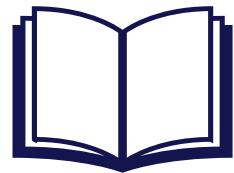
Members of The Industrial Cadets Club attended a graduation ceremony at Glasgow City Chambers. At the event they were able to talk to their industry mentor in person and used their display model to describe the features of their eco-friendly Themepark of the future to a panel of judges and industry experts.



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



## WE ARE A READING SCHOOL!



Well done to all the pupils who took part in a variety of reading challenges this term such as the Spring Bingo Challenge and the Genre Challenge.



### IDL PROJECT - FISH CHEEKS BY AMY TAN

S2 pupils took part in a very interesting IDL project to look at the text *Fish Cheeks* by Amy Tan to explore ideas around culture, self-awareness, and self-identity!



### CURRICULUM IMPROVEMENT VISIT

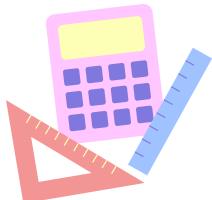
In April, the English department were involved in the Curriculum Improvement Visit for English and Literacy. Colleagues from Education Scotland came to observe the good work we do in the school and to discuss literacy with teachers across all curricular areas.



### FAREWELL MR MACPHERSON

In May, we bid a fond farewell to our school librarian Mr. MacPherson, who has moved on to pastures new within the library service. We wish him all the best and thank him for all his hard work during his time at Hillhead High School.





## MATHS PACKS

for Our Future S1 Pupils

We've begun assembling Maths packs for our incoming S1 cohort, ensuring every pupil starts their secondary journey equipped and ready to learn. Each pack includes a calculator, pencils, ruler, sharpener, and rubber—everything they'll need for Maths throughout their time at school. This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to reducing the cost of the school day and supporting all pupils with the tools they need to succeed.

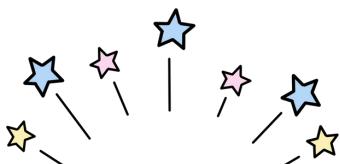


## ENHANCING ENGAGEMENT

Through Staff CLPL

LEARNING  
NEVER  
ENDS

As part of the All Learners, All Thinking Strategy the Maths department have been looking at the use of mini whiteboards. This has transformed classroom dynamics by encouraging real-time participation, instant feedback, and greater pupil confidence. This simple yet powerful resource has helped boost engagement, understanding, and formative assessment, making Maths lessons more interactive and inclusive for all learners.



## CELEBRATING OUR PUPILS' HARD WORK AND DEDICATION

A huge well done to all our S5 and S6 pupils for their dedication and effort in preparing for their SQA exams this year. We are incredibly proud to have presented **240 pupils** across National 5 Maths, Higher Maths, Advanced Higher Maths, and National 5 Applications of Maths—an outstanding achievement that reflects their hard work and commitment.

A special shout-out also goes to our S2 and S3 pupils, who have shown great determination in preparing for their recent assessments. And to our S4 pupils—congratulations on tackling your first assessment experience in the hall during S4 Evidence Gathering. Your focus and resilience have been truly commendable.

Keep up the fantastic work—your efforts are not going unnoticed!

**"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out."** – Robert Collier



Your efforts are building a strong foundation for a bright future—keep going!

## UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE



We were thrilled to see the **UKMT Maths Challenge** return to its original format this year, with a small pilot group of S1 pupils taking part. This nationally recognised competition is known for its challenging and thought-provoking problems, and we are incredibly proud to celebrate the amazing achievement of five pupils who earned Gold, Silver, or Bronze awards.

A special congratulations to **Alexander Lewin**, who achieved a Gold Award, an outstanding accomplishment! Well done also to **Cormac Macleod** and **Charles Shea** for earning Silver Awards, and to **Gibson Doyle** and **Hibah Umar** for securing Bronze Awards. Their success is a testament to their problem-solving skills, perseverance, and enthusiasm for Maths.

# **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**



## **YOU SAID WE DID!**

BGE Feedback / Pupil Voice: Pupils in S1, S2 and S3 undertook a pupil voice feedback activity. We were really keen to hear their feedback on their experiences in Physical Education, so that we can continue to improve and offer the most enjoyable experience as possible. There were many items of feedback that we will consider but most noteworthy to share right now is the following:

With significant requests for football to be delivered within the curriculum, in S1+S2 the Ultimate Frisbee Block, will now be Football / Ultimate Frisbee!



Thank you to all pupils for their honest feedback!



## **SPORTS DAY 2025**

Pupils are looking forward to our two Sports Days. As always, every S1 pupil will participate in the S1 Sports Day, and for all other year groups Sports Day is optional. Sports Day will comprise of events in a timed row, shot putt, standing long jump, endurance running, obstacle run and a sprint.

Please see the dates below:



**Tuesday 10th June - S1 (New S2) Sports Day - Periods 3, 4, 5 + 6**  
**Monday 16th June - Sports Day for all other year groups - Periods 3, 4, 5 + 6**



## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH - WIDER ACHIEVEMENT**



Our cohort of Bronze Duke of Edinburgh candidates all successfully completed their final expedition in Inverclyde in May. Twenty eight students departed school, journeying to Greenock by train and embarking on a 15km walk. The route included the 'Greenock Cut'- a scenic walk within Clyde Murishiel Park.



# HEALTH AND WELLBEING

## HOME ECONOMICS



## S6 BRUNCH CLUB

The S6 Hospitality class had a very busy and successful year running their takeaway brunch service on Thursdays. They also ran Christmas Lunches in the Pathways classroom.

Miss Park can't wait for the new S6 to start this up again next year.



## CREATIVE CAKES



This term S2 took part in a unit learning about the science and art of baking. They completed a cake experiment to look at the functions of ingredients and designed their own cupcakes to make.



# SPORTS CLUBS AND TEAMS

Session 2024 to 2025 has been a busy year for our sports teams! All our teams have consistently displayed our school values and have endeavoured to learn from every fixture played. Below you will find the highlights for each of our teams.



**Under 15's Boys Basketball Team** – West of Scotland League Runners Up and West of Scotland Quarter Finalists

**Under 15's Girls Basketball Team** - West of Scotland League Cup Finalists

**Under 18's Basketball Team** – Narrowly missed out by 1 point on Quarter Final Qualification for the West of Scotland League

**Under 18's Girls Basketball Team**- West of Scotland Schools Cup Semi-Finalists

**Senior Volleyball Team** – Scottish Cup Quarter Finalists and 4th Place in the Glasgow Cup

**S3 Girls Netball Team** – Scottish Cup Plate Competition Quarter Finalists

**Gymnastics** – The gymnastics club train three hours per week (Tuesday after school for 2 hours and Friday before school for 1 hour!). The dedication and commitment to this training led to them competing in the Scottish Schools Floor and Vault competition. Pupils also showcased their skills at the recent P7 Transition Parents Evening.

**Senior Boys Football** – The Senior Boys Football team narrowly missed out on play off qualification. Highlight results include defeating Cleveden 4-3 and John Paul Academy 6-3.





# HUMANITIES FACULTY



## Youth and Philanthropy Initiative

### S1 HAVE BEEN COMPETING IN THE YPI PROJECT TO WIN £3000 FOR THEIR CHOSEN CHARITY

On Friday 6th June the final 9 groups presented in front of an expert panel including our Head Teacher, local business leaders, charity heads, Parent Council members and S6 pupils. We are really pleased to announce the winner of the 2025 YPI project was Isla Szczerkowska, Maysam Alshibane and Gaia Rey who represented Possibilities (a local Glasgow charity). They have done our school and community proud, many congratulations



### SWAP SHOP

As a result of learning about the impact of fast fashion on climate change Miss Thomson's 2B RME class organised a Swap Shop on the 31st of May. There was fantastic support from the local community, councillors and MSP Pam Duncan-Glancy. In addition, pupils in Mrs Hanson's Friday 5 class sold craft items, raising money for CALM, a mental health charity. The Gender and Sexuality Alliance also sold cupcakes to raise money for LGBT Youth Scotland. Finally, Mrs Campbell-Marzella hosted a Cost of the School Day stall. Thank-you to everyone who came along to support on the day and to 2B pupils Olwyn, Nel, Celia, Mischa and Izara for volunteering on the day!



### MICRO-TYCO

For the second year running our amazing pupils have reached the national finals of Micro Tyco. This challenges young people to work together and develop innovative solutions to address The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Well done to Maisie MacQueen, Freya Mors, Aria MacArthur, Hiabh Umar, Indi Aditiya

# **LANGUAGES FACULTY**

## **INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL GLASGOW**

IFFG (International Film Festival Glasgow).

Languages: Unlocking Creativity, Bridging Cultures, Empowering Dreams. Pupils enjoyed watching variety of animated short films from different countries. They also made some short films of their own.



## **OUR WORLD COMPETITION**

Our World is a national, inter-disciplinary competition for S1-S6 learners. It combines language learning with the art of filmmaking, bringing in aspects such as design, drama, sound and technology within the context of Learning for Sustainability and environmental education.

## **LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS**



# LANGUAGES FACULTY

## EDINBURGH ZOO TRIP

Visiting Edinburgh Zoo offers a fun, hands-on way to learn Mandarin outside the classroom. Engage with animal names and descriptions in Mandarin through interactive signs and guided tours. Practicing vocabulary in this lively setting makes learning immersive and memorable. Connect with fellow learners or native speakers to enhance your skills while exploring the zoo's vibrant wildlife.



## SCOTTISH MANDARIN SPEAKING COMPETITION



Scottish Mandarin Speaking Competition. The event brought together schools from across Scotland to celebrate Mandarin learning and Chinese culture.



# EXPRESSIVE ARTS FACULTY

Ella Sharp has had a wonderful year. Ella was a World Finalist at the Junk Kouture Finals in Dublin and walked away with the London Designer of the Year Award. She is also just back from showcasing her work at the Cannes Film Festival. While at the **Junk Kouture** finals in Dublin, we also got to bump into Alexandra Skowyra (former pupil), who won Junk Kouture back to back in Scotland in 2015 & 2016. She was giving a talk to all new Junk Kouture World Finalists about her journey in life.



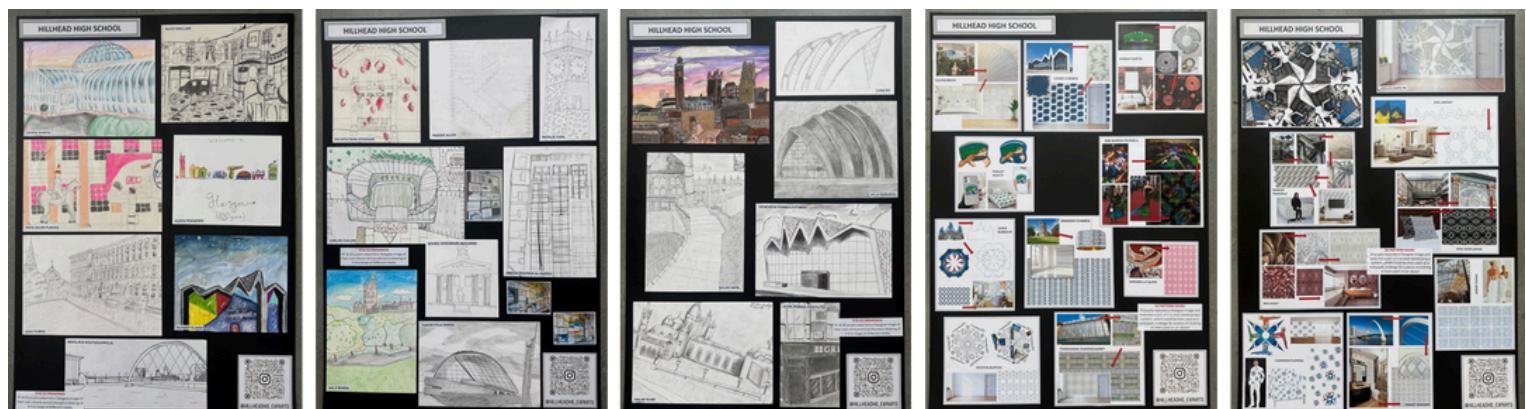
## DEGREE SHOWS -FORMER PUPILS



It's a special time of year when we get to catch up with former pupils and see what they have been doing at Art School. Mr Reid caught up with Thalia & Rhona at the Edinburgh Performance Costume Show and also got to see the amazing work that Nuala produced. Art staff are going to be catching up with other pupils in the coming weeks. Watch out for these images on Instagram

## GLASGOW SCHOOLS ART EXHIBITION GOMA

Around 40 S1-S3 pupils will have their artwork shown at the Gallery of Modern Art in Glasgow. The school has 5 A1 boards on display. The Hillhead High School work will be on shown between the following dates 13th-25th June 2025.



# EXPRESSIVE ARTS FACULTY

## THE SCOTTISH ENSEMBLE



The Scottish Ensemble recently came out to the school to run some workshops. It was amazing to have them out for the day, and it has certainly inspired our pupils.



## PHOTOGRAPHY TALK

It was fantastic to be able to welcome Alex Reilly into the department. Alex spoke to our Higher & NPA Photographers about his work and gave them some ideas for their own work.



## THE THEATRE ROYAL DRAMA TRIP

S4 Drama pupils recently went along to see *War Horse* at the Theatre Royal. Seeing live drama has really helped them consider their own practical performances.

## P7 INFORMATION NIGHT

Thanks to Ms McCue and two S3 Bands who recently performed at the P7 Information Night.



## CHINESE NEW YEAR POSTER COMPETITION



Here is a selection of our S1 Chinese New Year posters. Thanks to Mrs Wang who issued some excellent prizes.