

Written and produced by Erin Flannery, Charlie Pettigrew, Hannah Zielke, Cameron McKechnie, Oliver Cummings, Will Bristow, and Alexander Miller

Inverclyde Academy Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the Inverclyde Academy newsletter! We will be trying to publish these once every term. We chose topics that we thought would be interesting to the students of Inverclyde Academy. We are accepting volunteers to help run the newsletter. If you would like to help, please get in contact with Miss Stevenson in room 50 or come to room 50 at lunchtime on Tuesdays.

Meet Our Team

Hi, I'm Erin, and I'm in S4! I'm the Editor for the Newsletter Club and I organise meetings, give people jobs, and make lots of the important decisions. A fun fact about me is that I love decorating my uniform with bows and accessories!

Hi, I'm Hannah, I am in S5, and I am one of the writers for the newsletter! A fun fact about me is that I am fluent in German.

Hi, I'm Charlie, I'm in S4. My job is getting the newspaper up onto the website. I also bring the topics that everyone else writes into one document. A fun fact about me is that I love technology, so much so that I am learning a couple of different programming languages in my free time.

Hi, I'm Oliver and I'm in S4. I help get information to write about from students and teachers, as well as planning meetings. My fun fact is that I'm also a House Captain for Arran house.

My name is Alex, I'm in S4 and I do the photography for the Newsletter Club, a fun fact about me is that I'm the Ambassador for Music Tech.

If you want anything to be added into the next edition of the newsletter, come find us and tell us! We will be happy to help!

Pupils' Recent Achievements

Inverclyde Academy pupils are incredibly talented and bright individuals – both in and out of school! Let's take a look at some of the achievements that have been made recently by pupils:

Congratulations to S1 pupils Keir McMaster, Austin Rice and Cole Robert Taylor, who have all won different football tournaments recently! We look forward to seeing what else you can win in the future!

Well done to: Sienna Amber Harrison (S1) who won a solo band competition, Graeme Blair (S1) who learned the ukulele, Skye Sims (S1) who learned a new song on the keyboard, Reem Fadi Alaa Eddin (S1) who completed a clarinet song, and Dean Wilson (S2) who learned the Up song on piano! The music department loves seeing the many amazing things you do!

Well done Carlie Love (S1) who won a golf competition, and Nathan Love (S4) who won a club championship at Greenock Golf Club!

Impressive work from Robbie Stewart (S1) who wrote a 600 word essay!

Well done to Mirrin Mackay (S1) who did a difficult trick in gymnastics!

We can't wait to see what other achievements can be made by our school pupils, and we will cheer you on along the way!

Home Economics

Recently, Home Economics has been reintroduced for BGE pupils. In previous years, you could not take Home Economics as a class until you picked it in Senior Phase.

Students have been learning about different types of food and writing about how to store them safely. They have also been learning about how to cook meals properly and avoid things like food poisoning – food safety is a very important topic, after all!

They also do things in the kitchen, like cooking and baking. A lot of BGE students have said that “Cooking is much more fun than writing” - but hopefully they’re not just saying that because they dislike writing!

So far, pupils have made various dishes, such as: quesadillas, rock cakes, coleslaw, tray bakes, omelettes, and more! They sound excited at the thought of learning more recipes and eating more food.

PE camera

Our PE department has recently gotten a state-of-the-art VEO video camera. This should make it much easier to record any school games as it is able to track a football or any other object of interest. This will allow teachers to watch the captured footage of the games and analyse the team’s strengths and weaknesses. It also means that students can watch it back too, and learn where they could improve. This means that the camera can also help with assessment data for exams, match reports, among other things.

The PE department is also now looking to add competition highlights to their YouTube channel, to show everyone how great Inverclyde Academy’s PE department and sports teams are!

This camera will help create a positive learning environment for pupils and will be incredibly helpful moving forward. We are excited to see what this camera will do in the future!

Library computers

The school library has finally replaced and updated their computers. As anyone who has used them in previous years will know, they were incredibly slow, and a large percentage didn’t even work at all.

They now have new cables and monitors, and hopefully they should run smoother now and be a lot better for students. Ms Glass says the staff are “really happy that we’re moving forward” and that she hopes more people will be able to use them. She has invited everyone to come to the library to try them out, and to check out the new wall displays!

Sports Updates

Inverclyde Academy's football team has kicked off the new season with an impressive start, winning their first three games in a row. The academy's senior squad has shown great determination and skill, making their mark in the local football scene.

The first match of the season saw Inverclyde Academy take on their rivals from St Columba. The game was intense, with both teams putting up a strong fight. However, it was Inverclyde Academy who emerged victorious with a 4-1 win.

In their second game, the team faced off against Hermitage Academy. This match was a true test of their abilities, but Inverclyde Academy once again proved their mettle, securing a 5-2 victory. The team's solid defense and coordinated attacks were the key to their success.

The third game of the season was against Park Mains, and it was another dominant performance by Inverclyde Academy. The final score was 7-2 with standout performances from Aidan Docherty and Jay Dooley – Aidan with three assists and Jay scoring 3 goals.

The coaching staff, led by the inspirational Peter Gavin, has been instrumental in the team's success, alongside Mick Smith – both have been praised for their dedication and support. Their leadership has been a driving force behind the team's strong start to the season.

Inverclyde Academy is known for its emphasis on teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship. These values have been evident in the team's performances and the players have shown great **respect** for their opponents and the game itself.

As the season progresses, fans can look forward to more exciting matches and memorable moments. Inverclyde Academy's football team is determined to continue their winning streak and achieve even greater success.

School Pantomime

This year, our school are doing Jack and the Beanstalk as our pantomime! Some of the main cast agreed to be interviewed, and this is what they said.

Emily Humphreys, who is playing Jack, said that she was "overjoyed" at getting the part, and that she has wanted to play Jack since she was in S1, when we did the show in 2022. She says that Jack is a very clever character and would do anything to put the Princess first. "Learning lines is a challenge, but once you get used to it and get onto the stage, it starts to feel more real and exciting", she says.

Casey McAleese, who is one of the people playing Silly Simon, says that the cast are like a second family, and doing this show is amazing. She says she loves playing Simon, and that she "relates to Simon because he's daft". Before we said goodbye, she claimed "It's called Jack and the Beanstalk, but in reality, I'm the best character in the show."

Abbie Henderson, who is playing Dame Dotty Dilly, said that the show is “chaotic and funny” and that she’s really happy she got this part! She does S3 drama as a subject, and says she loves it!

Kaitlin Gallacher, who plays the Princess, was talking all about her lovely dress for the show, and how much she loves it! She is very happy with the part she has and says that it is exciting to be a part of the cast. She also said, “I like the fayre scene because I feel like it’s one of the most romantic scenes between Jack and the Princess”.

Molly Humphreys and Sienna Harrison were interviewed together, since they play the rivals in the show – the Fairy and the Witch (Act 1 only). They said that they love these parts because they have their own spotlights and are some of the most important characters in the story. “Without us, there would be no show, and no giant”. Molly says that she relates to her character, because her attitude is similar to the Fairy’s, and she loves having light up wings. Sienna says that she loves being the Witch, because it means that she can make fun of the audience and be evil. According to her, the Witch and the Fairy are the best characters. They also said that there is a lot of banter – not just among the characters, but the cast as well! There was even lots of banter during their interview!

Overall, there is a great cast dynamic in Inverclyde Academy’s drama club, and Ms McCallum is a great director. Everyone works together as a family and always welcomes newcomers into their club! We can’t wait to see everyone at the pantomime on the 17th of December!

That marks the end of this edition of the Inverclyde Academy newsletter, if anyone would like to volunteer to help with the journalism, writing, formatting, publishing, or photography involved in the production of the newsletter, please contact Miss Stevenson in room 50.

Special thanks to Mr Harkins, Mrs Crawford, Mr Campbell, Miss Quinn, Miss Glass, and the Inverclyde Academy drama club for providing information that made this whole thing possible.

