

ISABELLA'S FOOTSTEPS

Keith Primary children made waves this year in celebration of a legendary local scientist.

After months of preparation P4H, together with our fantastic school choir and children from Newmill Primary School, put on a performance commemorating the life of trailblazing marine biologist Isabella Gordon.

The event marked the culmination of Isabella's Footsteps, a year-long project merging science and the arts that aimed to celebrate Isabella's 125th birthday.

During a series of workshops provided by the Electric Voice Theatre group, our pupils wrote and performed their own songs based around the theme of marine life. They also provided beautiful illustrations for an accompanying book.



Isabella Gordon OBE was born Keith in 1901. She went on to become a world-renowned expert on carcinology, which is the study of crabs and sea spiders. Isabella forged deep bonds with Japan throughout her career, even staying there as a guest of Emperor Hirohito, a keen amateur carcinologist.



Our school was visited by a host of dignitaries for the event, including the Consul General of Japan, Katsutoshi Takeda, and the Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire, Andy Simpson. The Natural History Museum's Principal Curator of Crustacea, Miranda Lowe CBE, flew in from London to join in the performance.

The celebration culminated in the blessing of cherry trees beside our school, gifted by the Japan-British Society and Japan Matsuri as part of the national Sakura Cherry Tree Project.

Our pupils put on a super show and were very proud to honour the life of such a ground-breaking Keith resident.

