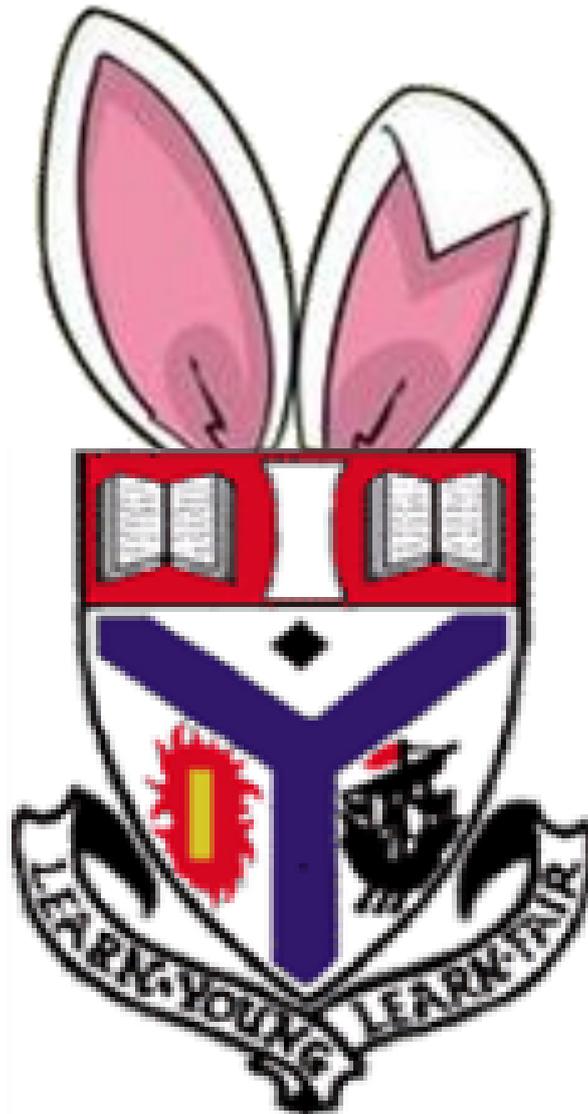


Auchenharvie  
Academy



Easter Newsletter  
March 2019



# Auchenharvie News



March 2019

On behalf of all of my teaching and non-teaching staff I would like to wish you all a relaxing break and a Happy Easter. Your continued support this session has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated by all of our staff. As we juggle the daily life of a very busy school we continue to make every effort to ensure that your child's education, both in and out of class, is the best it possibly can be.

Please find below some important information and a snapshot of some of the activities that have been taking place in our school recently. For further information on what is happening at school follow us on Twitter @Auchenharvie. Thank you.

Calum Johnston, Head Teacher.

## Family Learning

### Parents in Partnership

We are delighted to welcome our new North Ayrshire Family Learning Worker, Lauren Young to the Auchenharvie team. Lauren is one of the senior workers so we are thrilled to have such an experienced worker join us.

Our parents group have been working extremely hard over the past few months. Not only have they completed a Badminton unit in PE, they have now completed both their National 5 Literacy and Numeracy qualifications. We are also very close to completing the SQA Volunteering accredited course along with the customer services Barista training. Starting on May 8<sup>th</sup>, we have an Exploring Wellbeing course starting which will be provided by Ayrshire College. This is another fantastic opportunity for the group but also for any other parent/carer who would like to take part. To find out your eligibility for the course, please contact the Family Learning team on one of the numbers provided on the poster.



**Respect**



**Equality**

**Determination**



# Auchenharvie News



Ayrshire College Cross Campus Health and Wellbeing Course Family Learning Team

Ayrshire College and The Family Learning Team are bringing an exciting opportunity to Auchenharvie Academy in May 2019 for parents/carers from all associated primary schools and the Academy to come together and take part in the Exploring Wellbeing course.

Wednesdays 8<sup>th</sup> May - 12<sup>th</sup> June (6 weeks)  
9.30am - 12pm  
Auchenharvie Academy

**Wellbeing**

The course will include topic areas such as confidence building, stress management and an opportunity to interact with other members of the community taking part.

If you have any queries regarding the course or would like to take part, contact Allison Hopton (01294 605156) at Auchenharvie Academy or your Family Learning Worker (01294 552591), to book your space or find out some more information on the criteria to take part:

Jenny Brennan Shana Rae  
Lucy Watkins Lauren Young

The team will also be running a 'What is Family Learning' event on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> June in the school staff room which will provide our new P7 parents and carers with an opportunity to hear about Parents in Partnership, what the Family Learning team can support with as well as various schemes in the school which parents/carers may not be aware of. We look forward to seeing as many future and current parents/carers there as possible. More information to follow as the event draws closer.

## Nurture

### Group Work

Our group 1A are loving their double periods, so we are continuing until end of term with this set up. This is proving to be beneficial in allowing more time for activities, social time and in attaining targets.

Our 'Shopping for Points' system is still ongoing for our Group 1B. This system is giving us the opportunity to speak with teachers about the pupil's Boxall Targets, which allows us to collate the information. The pupils know their targets have to be achieved when also in class for them to gain their points.

We have also started a new group 1C. At the moment this is a small group and is working well.





# Auchenharvie News



## Sensory Area

Our Sensory area is now complete. Many thanks to our Technical Technician, Mr Burns, who helped create this for us. The beanbags, games and lights have all been added, and the pupils love being able to use this area now.

## Wellbeing and Mindfulness

Nikki Caig, from Girls Make Your Move, came into our groups twice a week for the last 6 weeks to deliver sessions on teaching relaxation and mindfulness exercises. Our pupils really enjoyed this and will miss her.



## English Department

### World Book Day 2019

Auchenharvie Academy celebrated World Book Day in style this year. We had a door decorating competition which saw staff and pupils from all departments decorating doors to represent their favourite books. We also had a lunchtime quiz in the library which was won by the 'Reject Specs' by a mere one point. Teaching staff from out with the English department were invited in to English classes to be 'guest readers' and read to S1 pupils for the first 10 minutes of their English class that day. Finally, there was cake. Cake and books – what could be better? For more pictures and to keep up with what the English department are doing follow us on Twitter @AuchenharvieEng.



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# Auchenharvie News



## **Trips**

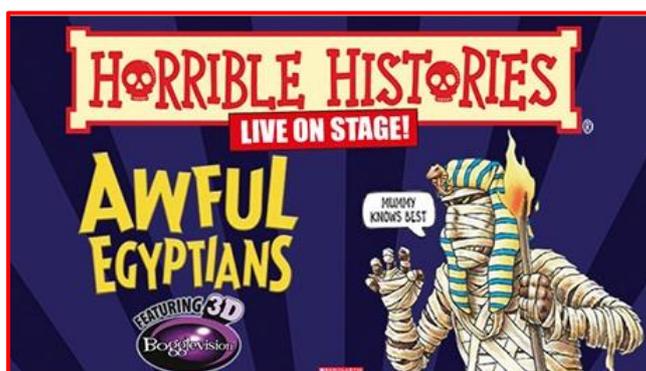
There are a couple of upcoming English department trips planned:

### **S2 Accelerated Reader Challenge**

The 32 pupils from S2 with the most quizzes passed at 85% or above will gain a free place on the trip to the Sky TV studios on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Horrible Histories: Awful Egyptians**

Consent forms for the S1 trip to Horrible Histories: Awful Egyptians on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June will be distributed after the Easter holiday. The cost of the trip is £14.



## **Music Department**

February 2019 was a particularly busy month for our musicians. Our senior phase pupils worked very hard on their Practical Programmes for their SQA National examinations, which have since been undertaken at the beginning of March.

In addition, many pupils participated in the North Ayrshire finals of Young Musician and Young Singer of the Year Competitions. Finalists included Dionne McGrory (S5) - Young Singer finalist, Rachel Irvine (S5) - Young Musician Finalist and Reece O' Hanlon - Young Traditional Musician of the Year finalist and Overall Winner. All were a credit to the department and to the school.



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# Auchenharvie News



Many of our Junior Singers also participated in Young Traditional Junior Singer of the Year, performing to a very high standard to a packed audience and the Provost of North Ayrshire.



Matthew Murdoch (S5) performed in the North Ayrshire Young Rock and Pop competition held in Ardrossan Civic Centre, and rocked the audience with his electric guitar playing.



Outside of school Reece O' Hanlon competed in the Burn's Federation Ayrshire finals, accompanied by Mrs Hands. Reece was again victorious, lifting the Winner's Cup as Ayrshire Winner; he will now proceed to the Scottish Finals held on 23rd March and we all wish him well.

The Music Department are busy rehearsing for a run of performances in the local community and also here in Auchenharvie Academy, where our Spring Concert shall take place in the school assembly hall on Wednesday 27th March at 7pm. Come along to hear a variety of music being performed by our very talented young people.



## Active Schools



### **Table Tennis Competition**

Auchenharvie was recently represented at North Ayrshire Active Schools Table Tennis competition. All three boys were seeded and drawn in a particularly tough group due to their involvement with North Ayrshire Table Tennis club but all boys played very well and Jamie Johnson came out on top winning the gold medal.

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# Auchenharvie News



## Girls Football

February saw the last of the S3 Girls football league run by Active Schools in partnership with Scottish FA “we play strong” campaign. The girls went into this fixture second top of the league and, after a great show of teamwork and resilience, managed to win the league being unbeaten in the last round of fixtures with the highlight being a feisty 5 goal thriller against St Matthew’s.



## NASA



Our six senior pupils have just completed this year’s North Ayrshire Sports Academy course run by Active Schools and will graduate in June. Amy, Karis, Abigail, Joshua, Lewis and Rhys have completed 12-15 qualifications each and have accumulated an impressive 300 voluntary hours between them. All 6 pupils are delivering weekly physical activity/ sport sessions in Auchenharvie or our cluster primaries.

## Dance Leaders

During the February break 8 of our S3 pupils gave up their holiday from school to take part in a Dance Leaders Award. This was a 4 day course where pupils complete a qualification to equip them with the knowledge and skills to lead a dance session for younger pupils. They are now delivering sessions to primary pupils to help prepare them for the Active Schools Dance Competition at the end of March.



## Leadership in Sport



We now have a number of S3/4 pupils out in primary school working closely with Active Schools where they are involved in the leadership of sport. The activities that they are involved in supporting are P5-7 Football teams, Dance clubs and P1-3 Multi Sports clubs. They have shown dedication, commitment and maturity as they provide role models for younger pupils in their community. We also have pupils who have been helping out at the increasing primary school sport competitions that are held both as part of the Auchenharvie cluster and North Ayrshire wide.

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# Auchenharvie News



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our extra-curricular club programme in PE is expanding term by term. Next term we will be adding even more clubs so keep an eye on the timetables around the school for updates on the timetable. If there is something that you'd like to do that is not on the timetable see Leanne (Active Schools Coordinator) who will be happy to look into setting up the activity if possible.

		Auchenharvie Academy Extra-Curricular Sports & Activity Clubs		
	Day & Time	Sport/ Activity	Location	Staff Member in charge
MONDAY	Mondays Lunch time	S3 B Team	Games Hall	Mr McDougall
	Mondays Lunch time	S3/4 Dance	Fitness Suite	Amy & Karis
	Mondays Lunch time	Dodgeball	Small Gym	Rhys Holland
	Mondays After School	Girls Only Fitness	Fitness Suite	Nikki Caig
	Mondays After School	Girls Football	Games Hall	Chelsie Watson
TUESDAY	Tuesdays Lunch time	Volleyball	Games Hall	Mr Gilmour & Abigail
	Tuesdays Lunch time	Trampolining	Small Gym	Miss MacDonald
	Tuesdays After School	Gymnastics/ Trampolining	Games Hall	Miss MacDonald & Rhys
WEDNESDAY	Wednesdays Lunch time	Basketball	Games Hall	Mr Murphy & Joshua
	Wednesdays After School	S1 Football Training	Games Hall	Mr Gilmour & Mr New
	Wednesdays After School	Zumba	Gym Hall	Mrs Bell
	Wednesdays After School	Girls Only Fitness	Fitness Suite	Nikki Caig
THURSDAY	Thursdays Lunch time	S2 Football Training	Games Hall	Brett McKenzie
	Thursdays Lunch time	S1 Fitness	Fitness Suite	Mrs Stewart
	Thursdays After School	S1/2 Netball	Games Hall	Mrs McLintock/ Mrs McMillan
	Thursdays After School	S1/2 Rugby	Grass Pitch	Andy Duncan & Johnnie
FRIDAY	Fridays Lunch time	Dance	Fitness Suite	Karis Kean
	Fridays Lunch time	S1-3 Badminton	Gym Hall	Joshua/ Abigail
	Fridays Lunch time	S4-6 Champions League	Games Hall	Speak to Leanne for info

**For more information speak to your PE teacher or Leanne (Active Schools)**

## Design & Technology Department

Miss McKeown runs a Sketching Club every Thursday lunch time in the department. Come along and join in the fun.

S2 Design & Technology pupils have been busy making their own personalised mobile phone holders recently and they are really pleased with how they have turned out.





# Auchenharvie News



## Update on Refurbishment

You will notice that our school refurbishment is coming along well. Works to the PE department, assembly hall and Music link corridor are well underway and will be completed prior to the SQA examinations. You may also have noticed that work has also commenced on completing the cladding to the rear of our building. We hope this will be completed over the next couple of months also.



## Senior Janitor Retiral

After nearly four years in post we are sorry to lose the services of our Senior Janitor, Mr Gerry Duffy. Gerry retired on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and we wish him all the best for a healthy and happy retirement.

## Attendance and Late Coming

Whilst we have noticed a significant improvement in our whole school attendance statistics we have also noticed that our late coming is considerably higher than would be expected. With effect Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 we will be implementing an initiative to improve punctuality. The school gates will be monitored by members of the Senior Leadership and Pastoral Care teams and pupils who arrive late to school will have their name recorded. If a pupil is late to school on more than two occasions in one school week they will be issued with a Friday lunchtime detention. We therefore seek your support in ensuring that pupils arrive in school on time each day to maximise their learning. The school day starts at 8.45am Monday to Friday.

## Positive Relationships

The school continues to promote and encourage our children to make positives choices in school. These choices are recognised using the merit system. A celebration of the positive choices is taking place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019. This involves our children taking part in a range of activities.



# Auchenharvie News



## **Easter School Timetable**

We are delighted to be offering our successful Easter school programme again this session. Mrs Riddell has finalised the timetable and copies of this have been issued to all senior pupils. A copy is also available on our school app and website. I hope you will support us in encouraging your child to attend as many sessions as possible.

## **Masterclass Timetable & Study Leave**

All senior pupils will begin their study leave on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May. All senior pupils are expected to return to school on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. During study leave, the school is offering a series of masterclasses for all National 5 and Higher subjects a few days before the final exams. This will give our young people the chance to revise intensively and ask any last minute questions to their teachers. Attendance at these classes is not optional and all pupils must attend them. A timetable outlining the range of classes organised has been issued to all pupils and is also available online.

## **Exam Breakfast Initiative**

All pupils who will be sitting an exam starting at 9am, will benefit from our free exam breakfast initiative. All senior pupils will be able to have breakfast in the canteen from 8am prior to their examination, in the company of subject expert teachers who will be available for much needed encouragement and to answer any last minute questions!

## **SQA Assembly**

Mrs Riddell, alongside the Chief Invigilator Lesley Anderson has organised an SQA assembly which will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am. This will allow pupils to go over their examinations arrangements and ensure they are fully aware of the restrictions in place in regards to accessing technology while completing exams.

## **Last Day of Term**

School closes for the Easter holidays on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm. This will be a dress down day if pupils wish to pay £1 which will be donated to Alzheimer Scotland. Pupils can also bring in a tin for the Saltcoats Swap Shop if they wish. School will reopen on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 8.45am.



# Auchenharvie News



## Easter Weekend

The school will close for the Easter weekend on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 2.50pm and reopen on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 8.45am.

## Future Newsletters

If you are happy to receive future newsletters via email instead of by post, and you haven't already notified us of your email address, please complete the tear-off slip below and return it to the main school office.

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I am happy to receive future newsletters via email.

Pupil Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carer Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_