

What's happening in the Faculty of Social Subjects and RMPS?

There are a range of activities on offer across the faculty from trips, working in partnership with employers to contributing departmental improvement.

In June 2018, History pupils visited Krakow in Poland, to learn more about and experience first-hand the impact of the Holocaust during World War 2. This included visiting some historical sites around the city, including a visit to Schindler's museum. Some very powerful learning took place at Auschwitz I - main camp and Auschwitz II – Birkenau, which has very recently been in the news, following a visit by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, who has highlighted the importance of these sites in educating young people on the dangers of racism and prejudice in society. We look forward to a return visit in June 2020.



Each year S1 pupils are invited to visit the Titanic Museum and Dry Dock in Belfast, learning about the building of and life on board the iconic ship. This allowed pupils to contextualise learning taking place across S1 about the ship.



On Wednesday 18th September, we worked in partnership with Police Scotland, who delivered a presentation to senior pupils on Terrorism Prevention. This informative information session, not only supported Modern Studies pupils in the International Issues unit of their course, but also allowed them to address many of the key issues surrounding the topic in real life contexts. It is hoped that the Campus Police Officer will offer a follow up presentation to S4 who also focus on this issue in National Modern Studies

On Wednesday 25th September, National Geography pupils took part in some fieldwork in Saltcoats town centre. This involved them carrying out; pedestrian and traffic counts, with the information gathered then analysed. Followed by measuring land use and function. Data can then be gathered to support learning in a real life context as well as potentially being of use in course Assignments.

On Monday 7th October, as part of Careers Week in the school, Jet 2 came to the faculty to speak to Travel and Tourism pupils from Auchendarvie Academy and Irvine Royal Academy. The presentation focused on the wide range of careers available in the industry and linked to several of the outcomes delivered in the T&T course. It was also a great opportunity for pupils from the different schools to work collaboratively.



On Tuesday, 8th of October, former pupil, Chantelle Robertson, came into the school to speak to senior Modern Studies pupils about her route into law, from school to her current post with a large law firm in Glasgow. Pupils reflected very positively on this event, with many now looking into a career within the field. We hope to work with Chantelle in the future to support pupils who are pursuing a future within the profession.



Capturing Pupil Voice - Pupils from S1 to S6 were invited to join staff to discuss faculty priorities and to give their opinions on what should be included in the Faculty Improvement. There were many imaginative and creative suggestions that the faculty would like to take forward. We hope to arrange a follow up session soon.

National 5 and Higher Modern Studies pupils welcomed, Patricia Gibson MP, representative for North Ayrshire and Arran to the school to discuss her role both in the consistency and in the parliament. Pupils reflected on this experience positively, commenting on how useful, interesting, informative and enjoyable the meeting was. We look forward to welcoming other representatives, as well as a return visit from Patricia, in the future.



Mr Sheriffs' S3 Social class had a great time learning more about Stevenston in the past and the changes that have occurred over the years as part of our People & Society course. We found out a lot about where we live and the changes that have taken place using a range of different resources in Stevenston Library.



As part of our faculty Reward Scheme, senior pupils are taken to Edinburgh. Whilst there; depending on the subjects studied, they visited: Edinburgh Castle; The Scottish Parliament; Edinburgh Mosque as well as having a tour of the city.



In October 2019 the Social Subjects Department hosted an education workshop from the Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). A number of pupils from first and second year became "Animal Advocates", learning about the laws that protect animals from harm and learning in detail about a real case of animal neglect. To fully understand the case, our pupils took on roles such as, procurator fiscal, defence lawyer, vet, SPCA animal welfare officer, psychiatrist, jury, and judge. They learned about animal rights laws, the moral issues around animal rights, and how to present an argument based on evidence. The SPCA website (www.scottishspca.org) has more information about animal rights and pets that need rehomed.