



Auchenharvie Academy

Christmas Newsletter
December 2023



2023

A Message from the Head Teacher

On behalf of all my teaching and non-teaching staff I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Your continued support this year has been invaluable and is greatly appreciated by all 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, is the best it possibly can be. As ever we are keen that parents/carers have their say in improving our school and if you would like to support this by joining any of our working groups, please just contact the school office. Your voice in school improvement is important to us so please give this some consideration for the new year.

Please find included some important information and a snapshot of some of the activities that have been taking place in our school recently.

Thank you.

Calum Johnston, Head Teacher.



For further information on what is happening at school follow us on Twitter [@Auchenharvie](#).

To keep up with information from the school please download our Xpressions app.

You can find instructions on how to do this on the school website.

[Parental Support Resources | Xpressions \(groupcall.com\)](#)



Rights Respecting School Award

Previously, all pupils were given the opportunity to select which articles of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) match our school values of Respect, Equality and Determination. They selected the following articles:

Harvie Heros has been further updated with each faculty focussing on two UNCRC articles to focus on each term. We hope that this will allow staff and pupils to develop a deeper understanding of each article and increase awareness of where each article is evident in Auchenharvie Academy

The Rights Ambassadors used the pupil selected UNCRC articles to explore how pupils and staff can exemplify each article in their everyday actions. These were collated in the whole school charter.

Staff and pupils were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the charter.



Respect



Equality



Determination



In the coming months, we will continue to create rights displays in each school area, launch the whole school charter and start to explicitly link teaching and learning with articles of the UNCRC.

If you would like more information about the Rights Respecting School Award, scan the QR code



Work Experience Police Scotland

A big well done to Jayden Wright, Bethany Parker and Terri O'Hare who completed a week's Work Experience with Police Scotland and done themselves and Auchenhavie Academy proud.



As part of the programme pupils participated in scenario-based incidents that police attend, they visited Kilmarnock Sheriff Court, had a question-and-answer session with Judge Mundell. The pupils attended the Road Policing Department in Irvine Police Office and received inputs off the role on Road Policing and got to see how police equipment is used to stop vehicles. During the programme the pupils attended the Police Horse Stables, watched the Police Horses training, and learned about their role in the police and what their duties are at public order events.



Throughout the week the pupils visited Ardrossan Coastguard, Mountain Rescue, Police Marine Unit, Prestwick Airport, CID and had lots of fun learning about police procedures investigating crime and how the Police work with partner agencies to keep people safe.



At the end of the week the pupils were given their well-earned Work Experience certificates by Chief Inspector Norman-sell.



STEM

Our S1 to S3 Science Ambassadors have been supporting STEM events in Hayocks and Glencairn Primary this term. They have been working with P7 pupils to develop their STEM skills and provide information to support with transition



S5/6 STEM Leaders

Our S5/6 Young STEM leaders delivered an amazing Halloween themed Escape room during the P7 Open Evening in October. They developed a variety of themed activities and supported parents/carers and P7 pupils from all our cluster schools visiting the open event.



Duke of Edinburgh



LEGENDARY Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme leader at Auchenharvie Academy was recognised by the charity for his phenomenal contributions. Norrie Brown has led the programme at Auchenharvie for 20 years now, impacting countless lives in the process. Through delivering the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE), the 65-year-old has positively engaged some of the Academy's hardest to reach students. This is Youth 2023 award, where Norrie was crowned 'Torchbearer of the Year' The awards aim to recognise and celebrate the amazing stories behind The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. It showcases young people and the adults who support them doing what they do best: rising above today's challenges and making their mark on the world, their way. Norrie was simply blown away as he received the accolade at London's Postal Museum.



Family Learning and Equity

Zones of Regulation

Our family learning worker Jenny has been working with families around the Zones of Regulation and controlling our emotions. This has been a brilliant block which the families have loved to be involved with.



Christmas Fayre

We held our Christmas Fayre on Friday 1st December. It was a great success with a huge turnout from our school community. We have already started planning for next year's fayre!!



Hampers

All families were invited to apply for a Christmas food hamper this year and we had over 100 families applying. These will be delivered the week beginning the 18th December and will contain a variety of food items to support over the festive period.

November Spotlight group:
Auchenharvie Academy
Cost of the School Day
Ambassadors



(from left to right) Brooke, Ava, Hollie, Struan, Skye, Domanic, Emily, Lucy is not in the picture but is also in the group.

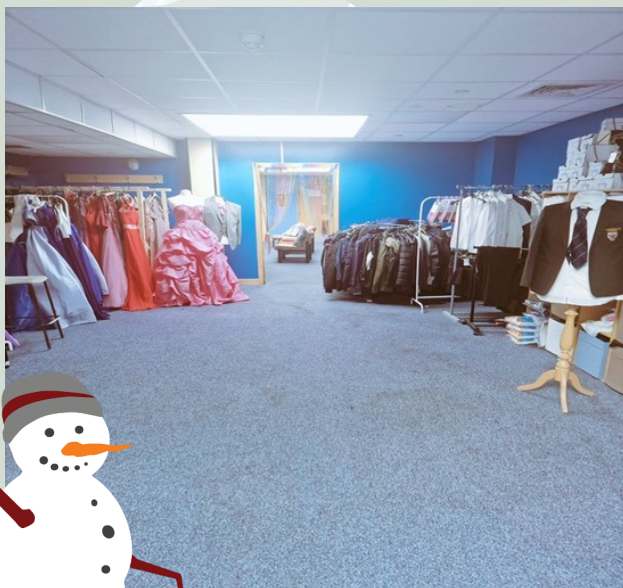
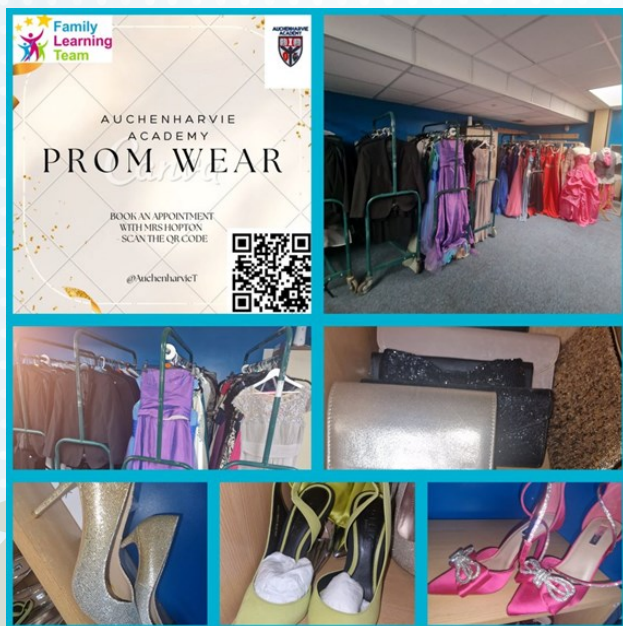
Cost of School Day

Our wellbeing boxes are being rolled out across our school. These have been created by our COSD Ambassadors and allow our young people to access toiletries, cereal bars and sanitary products from various areas in the school at a time that is best for them. This has been highlighted by the Child Poverty Action Group for Scotland as national best practice and was shared as their November spotlight.



Family Learning and Equity

Our prom area has also been accessed a number of times via our qr code and a few of our senior pupils have chosen their new prom dress. This can be accessed through our qr code (attached).



NAPLUS (New and Pre Loved Uniform Store)

A reminder that our uniform area is fully stocked for pupils to access either through me directly or through our qr (attached).



Remembrance Sunday

In November, our senior captaincy team represented the school today at the Stevenston remembrance service to honour those who lost their lives in past conflicts. Oran performed the Last Post at the service and the choir sang excellently too. Well done to all involved.



Annual Careers Fair

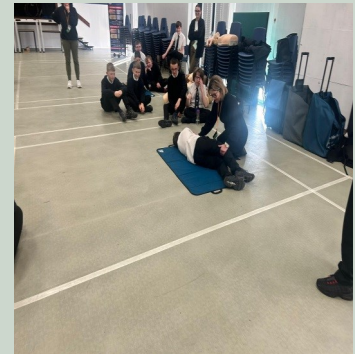
Our annual careers fair was held in November this year where 24 employers came to Auchenhavrie Academy for the afternoon. Pupils of S4, S5 and S6 were invited down to the hall to speak with employers regarding their future pathways. We had a vast range of employers and all pupils gained information regarding their next steps. All employers spoke very highly of our pupils. The event was a huge success and we look forward to next year's fair!



S1/S2 Employability



This year, we introduced Employability to our S1 and S2 curriculum. Pupils are exploring various post school destinations, working on developing skills and qualities. We have the support of a range of local businesses. Amalgamate training have delivered CPR training to all of our S2 pupils as part of this course which was a great success. We have input from more employers for S1 and S2 in the coming session.



Construction Course

Our construction course continues to successfully run at Auchenharvie Academy where we are supported by Ayrshire College in the delivery. We have had many employers working alongside our construction pupils. Robertson Construction have taken these pupils on a week long work experience placement to show pupils the relevance of their school based learning. Pupils are going out to their local construction site at Irvine at various points in their project to learn about their progress. RJ McLeod are another employer investing in our construction pupils by putting them all through their CSCS card training. This training allows our pupils to be able to go out and work in a construction site when they leave school. RJ McLeod are very kindly fully funding the training of all our construction pupils.



CSCS Training

RJ McLeod have been working closely with pupils at Auchenharvie Academy who are interested in a career in the construction industry. They conducted a 7 hour session to put our pupils through training to achieve a CSCS card which will allow them to work on a construction site. All of our pupils passed and have achieved their card which will help them secure a positive destination after school. We would like to pass on a huge thanks to Christina McKirtick and her team at RJ McLeod. Without all of their input and dedication, this would not have been possible. We look forward to continuing our partnership with RJ McLeod going forward.



Countryfile



We were one of two schools offered spaces to attend the opening of the Rural Skills Centre at Dumfries House in September. Pupils got hands on experience, exploring rural skills such as farming, supporting in the delivery of livestock and gained insight in to careers and opportunities in rural skills employment.



Work Experience

James Frew



Last week we had the pleasure of welcoming Auchenharvie student Bryony sharp, Bryony is 16 years old, and her dream career is to be a joiner, recently at one of Auchenharvie career events Bryony chatted with our training coordinator Elaine Kean and Training Compliance Manager Kevin Kidd regarding James Frew Apprenticeships and when she learned of a weeklong placement, she expressed her interest in being put forward.

Bryony's story from her time with James Frew


"My time at James Frew last week was such an amazing experience. Spending time with the Call centre staff, learning about what they do and how they get different engineers to different jobs, also listening on how they help customers over the phone with boilers, heating and Gas leaks.



Social Subjects & RMPS

Well done to our S1 Auchenhavrie Achievers who were presented with their awards today. Bronze awards for Ellie and Natalie. A gold award for Naomi and a platinum award for Dakota. Well done!





AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY ACHIEVERS

IN SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

BRONZE AWARD	SILVER AWARD	GOLD AWARD	PLATINUM AWARD
Awarded for 15 hours participation in school activities	Awarded for 25 hours participation in school activities	Awarded for 40 hours participation in school activities	Awarded for 50 hours participation in school activities

EXAMPLES:

- Participate in musical theatre for 15 hours - **BRONZE AWARD**
- Participate in homework clubs for 25 hours - **SILVER AWARD**
- Participate in Quiz/ chess clubs for 10 hours and football team for 30 hours - **GOLD AWARD**
- Participate in chess club for 12 hours, dance club for 12 hours and band for 23 hours - **PLATINUM AWARD**

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

BRONZE AWARD	SILVER AWARD	GOLD AWARD	PLATINUM AWARD
Regular participation in a local group or club	Representation at a regional or district level	Representation at a national level	Outstanding achievement at regional or national level

EXAMPLES:

- Dance regularly for the local dance club - **BRONZE AWARD**
- Selected for a regional football team - South West Scotland/Ayrshire - **SILVER AWARD**
- Represent Scotland in a national golf competition - **GOLD AWARD**
- Win a national award such as trophy with a National team - **PLATINUM AWARD**

Celebrated at assemblies, on Social Media and through achievement newsletters.
Pupils will receive certificates and badges to recognise in school achievement as well as house points.
Visit the achievement section of the website to nominate a pupil.

TO BE RECOGNISED WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING!



Carol Singing 2023

Singers took part in our school Christmas Fayre carol singing and also more recently at an event for the Hayocks community members who enjoyed a lovely Christmas dinner while our singers entertained them with their carol singing.



Our Christmas Concert takes place Wednesday 20th Dec 7pm - Donation entry - when there will be performances by various groups and soloists, followed by our Panto which this year will be Robin Hood.



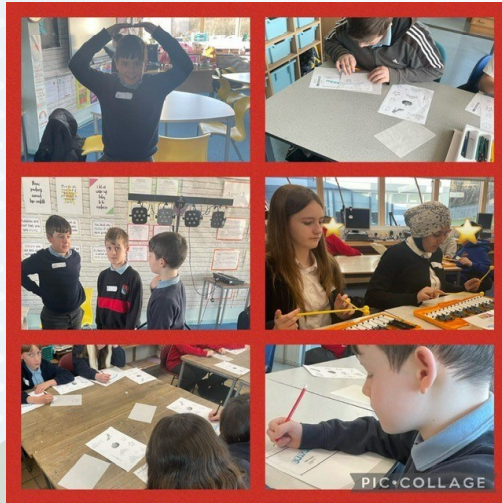
Annual Talent Show

We are looking forward to our annual Talent Show which will take place on the last day of term before Christmas.



Expressive Arts P7 Challenge Day

We had all our P7 pupils up for a very successful Expressive Arts Faculty Challenge Day in November when pupils took part in activities throughout the Faculty including Art, Drama and Music.



Mrs Hands and Miss Hobson were kept-busy working with P7s in Hayocks, Mayfield and Ardreeer. More visits are planned in the New Year to visit other Primary Schools.



Church Charity Concert

Our Band for All and Musical Theatre pupils took part in the charity concert in the EU Church in Ardrossan - our first Christmas performance for 2023!



Young Musician



Our annual Young Musician of the Year took place in November and over 70 pupils took part including from our Primary Schools.

