

Campus Connections



Issue 8: February 2017

Introduction

Welcome to the eighth edition of Campus Connections. Within this publication you will find out about some of the changes taking place at the Campus, information about school improvement, as well as the achievements of our pupils.

This publication is available on the website and to enhance the circulation of Campus Connections, we have merged some of our electronic parent circulation lists. If you do not wish to receive this communication by email, please send an email to kinrosshigh@pkc.gov.uk.

Sarah Brown
Headteacher /Campus Leader

Updates

Staff Update

We are delighted to welcome James Kidd as Principal Teacher of Learning Support. Mr Kidd joins us from Breadalbane Academy where he undertook a similar role.

We are sorry to be saying farewell to two members of our Administration Team. Sheila Herron and Gerry MacGregor will be leaving us in March. We wish them well in their new endeavours and thank them for their committed service to Kinross High School and Loch Leven Community Campus.

Community Campus Review

The Lifelong Learning Committee has passed the recommendations of the Community Campus Review. There are a number of changes which will impact on Loch Leven Community Campus:

1. Support staffing structures have been reviewed. The position of Campus Supervisor has been removed from the structure. The admin and campus teams will be integrated meaning that there will be a change to working practices across the team. Further information will be shared as the team develops their response to this change.
2. There will be a relaxation in the Live Active Leisure (LAL) contract to enable commercial sports providers access to the campus.
3. The current catering arrangements provided by Tayside Contracts will be changed. This means that not for profit community groups will be able to provide their own food and drink for meetings and events. The opening hours of *Food to Go* will be reduced.
4. The charging arrangements for campus facilities have been reviewed. This change aims to provide more affordable and flexible lets.

Library

The library is now open on Mondays 10.00am-1.00pm. It is being run by volunteers (Friends of Loch Leven Community Library). Teacher supervised classes are able to come down to browse, borrow books and use the laptops. The library is not open to the pupils without teacher supervision. Thank you.

Police Box - Kinross Community Team

From the middle of January 2017, Kinross Police Office have a new designated Community Policing Team. Sergeant Nichola Forrester is the new Community Sergeant along with Constables Dougie Stapleton and Atholl Spalding. The new policing model in South Perthshire including Kinross, allows for locally based community officers to be visible in the area they are dedicated to, engaging with the Community. Constables Stapleton and Spalding will be primarily tasked with identifying repeat issues and tackling them with problem solving approaches. This will include focused activities within the community including dedicated Hi-Visibility foot patrols, speeding issues, neighbourhood disputes and building long-term relationships with the local Schools, Community groups and Community Councils.

Constables Stapleton and Spalding will be holding Community Surgeries at various locations locally during the forthcoming months where members of the community can meet them and discuss any local Policing issues they may have. Dougie and Atholl will be attending the Kinross Community Campus on a regular basis at social times and lunchtimes. Please feel free to stop and have a "chat" with them regarding any queries or matters you wish to discuss.

The new Community team has a wealth of not only Police service but community policing experience and are happy to discuss any issues. They can be contacted direct via 101 or via the already set up community e-mail for Kinross: taysidekinross-shireCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk.

PC Spalding is also on Police Scotland twitter and can be followed on [@policescotland](https://twitter.com/policescotland) or [@KinrossPc](https://twitter.com/KinrossPc).

School Improvement

Helping Ourselves to Improve

We continue to work to improve the quality of education in our school. We have a self-evaluation calendar and a programme of classroom observations. We also have a programme of visits to our departments in which we evaluate the work of subject areas and help staff to develop plans for improvement. These departmental visits include a review of examination results, lesson observation, pupil questionnaires and focus groups. Review team members include staff from within Kinross High School as well as staff who are external to the school.

This academic year reviews have taken place in Maths, Pupil Support and in Modern Languages. Action plans which have been developed are reviewed regularly by Senior Management. Their full programme of these self-evaluation visits includes CDT and SMT this session.

Professional Learning Conference

The In-service day in February was an inaugural Professional Learning Conference for teaching staff. This conference focused on leadership of learning and teacher professionalism. The conference included inputs from the General Teaching Council of Scotland (GTCS), the Scottish College for Educational Leadership (SCEL), the Scottish Schools Educational Research Centre (SSERC), Perth and Kinross Educational Service along with presentations from staff at Kinross High School. In addition to key note addresses there were a number of workshops which provided time for reflection and skill development.

Collaborative Enquiry

Last week John Paul Cassidy (QIO Angus) and Tracy Stewart (Ed Officer Dundee) observed lessons in Modern Studies, Music and Physics as part of a pan Tayside collaborative enquiry. The visitors were very complementary about their experience and in particular commented on:

1. The welcome they received from all staff involved.
2. The very positive relationships that were seen in the school.
3. Very high standards of pupil engagement and behaviour.
4. The appropriately challenging pace of learning.
5. Pupils knew the purpose of their learning.
6. Pupils were very clear about the skills that were being developed through the learning activities.

How Parents/Carers Can Support the School

A small number of our pupils are arriving late to school. While we understand that there can be one off exceptional circumstances that cause lateness, some pupils are late on a regular basis. Parents are asked to ensure that young people leave home so that they are in school at the time of our first bell at 8.40am.

Campus Events

Kinross High School Charity Fundraiser Concert Wednesday 3rd March

Details available at www.khscharity.com

Kinross Hub The Carers Café Monday 6th March and 3rd April 2017 Activity Meeting Space from 10am to 12 noon

An informal meeting place to chat over a cuppa with other carers, cared for and family members.

Guest speakers start at 10.15am prompt.

March – Ian Robertson (Well-Being Support Team) who will be providing a talk and relaxation

April – Community Alarm Team

Astrophysics Presentation (Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust) - Thursday 16th March 2017

please see Campus Noticeboards for more information.....

Kinross High School Spring Concert - Wednesday 29th March 2017
please see Campus Noticeboards for more information.....

French Story Telling in the Library - Saturday 4th March 2017

This is a French themed story-time for 4-8 year olds from **11.30am - 12pm** on the first Saturday of each month. This project aims to support the 1+2 approach to modern languages, where every child has the opportunity to learn a modern language from P1 onwards. To book a **FREE** place or to find out more please contact Loch Leven Community Library at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk or 01577 867205 - We'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Antiques, Vintage, Retro and Collectors Fair Saturday 18th March 2017 9.30am – 3.30pm

More information on Campus events can be found within the Campus on the Notice Board or plasma screens.

Please also see the Campus page of the Kinross Newsletter or go to the Campus Facebook page - Loch Leven Community Campus Events.

School News

Visit of Tasmia Ahmed-Sheikh

This term is a particularly demanding one for the S4 Modern Studies classes. They are busy researching and writing up assignments on a political issue of their choice, completing course work and preparing for the final exam. To help with their research, the students were treated to a visit from their Member of Parliament, Tasmia Ahmed Sheik.

The students enjoyed a spirited question and answer session, discussing a wide variety of issues from the crisis in Syria to women's rights and also managed to fit in a few selfies.



Eurovision

A Romanian pop star is using a song Mr Jason Blyth wrote to enter the Eurovision Song Contest for Romania (having been rejected by the UK). It has just been submitted and still has to win the Romanian semi-final and final before it is the official Romanian Entry. The backing music was recorded at KHS and involved pupils from our Thursday Music Tech Club and has been a terrific opportunity for them. BBC Scotland News also visited the school on 26th January to film about the entry.



Chinese New Year

On 26th January 2017 we celebrated the Chinese New Year in Kinross High School with the help of Yongle and Mrs Macleod. Pupils were given the chance to wish each other Happy New Year; in Mandarin of course! We also were shown the traditional Chinese instrument 'the lute' and introduced to some activities which are carried out during the Spring Festival. The students were all keen to have a shot of playing the lute and thought it a bit tricky. Chinese zodiacs and the story behind them were shared with the pupils. We learned that this year is to be the year of the rooster. Finally, we taught the students to make Chinese lanterns, which they danced with in their hands, following the rhythm of the live lute music. All in all, a fun and really interesting insight into Chinese traditions.



Celebrating Success

Sportive Kinross

A Kinross teenager will see her winning design come to life in this year's Sportive Kinross cycling event. When Kinross Cycling Club needed a new design for their annual Sportive cycling jersey, they decided to call on the expertise of Kinross High School students. They set a project to the Higher Graphic students to come up with a jersey that was iconic, reflected the event and the area, and would be suitable for both sexes. The students took the challenge with great enthusiasm and presented the club with 7 different designs to choose from. They choose the design from S5 student Amy Broadhurst. Amy, 16, is a keen cyclist and based her design on the King of the Mountains jersey from the Tour de France, but with purple spots rather than red complementing the existing club kit. She will be riding the Sportive herself, alongside her very proud father Jon, both sporting the winning jersey of course.



Scottish National Solo Finals

On Saturday 4th February Gregor Koziel competed at the Scottish National Solo Finals and was runner-up in the U12 category. This was after he won the Fife area contest in October to qualify. This is the brass band world's highest level national solo competition.

The Perth Burns Club

Alice Girling won a trophy as part of the Perth Burns Club Schools' Festival Winners on Sunday 12th. She is now entitled to go forward to the RBWF area final which will be held at: Bantaskin Primary School, Falkirk FK1 5HY on Friday 24th February, starting at 1:30pm.



Creative Writing Club

Congratulations to creative writing club members Ailsa Bennet, Abbie Forrest, Eilidh MacGilp, Alfie Milligan, Isla Steel and Emily Toon – their short stories have been shortlisted for this year's Soutar Writing Prize for Children and Young People. They will attend an event at the AK Bell library on Saturday 25th February where this year's winners will be announced.

Scots Verse Recital Winners

Well done to our Scots verse recital winners: 1st Hannah Walker - 2nd Lilly Roy and 3rd Hollie O'Donnell.



Fencing

Congratulations to Charlotte Smith S2 who has been selected to represent Scotland for Fencing. She is attending a competition in Poland soon.

Swimming

Well done to Jack Muncey S2, who won a gold medal in the 200m backstroke. Jack also won a silver medal in the 100m backstroke at the Scottish Schools competition.

Curling

Congratulations to Sean Keegan S6 who has qualified for the Curling National Schools Championships. Beth Farmer S5 also qualified for the Curling National Juniors and the National School Championships.

Brave the Shave

Our S3 pupil Megan Ferguson raised over £200 for MacMillan Cancer in a “Brave the Shave”.