

Kirkwall Grammar School Newsletter

June 2013

Fond Farewells...

GOODBYE!

- ☺ Mr D Drever, Depute Head Teacher retires after 27 years in KGS.
- ☺ Mr J Pettet, Technician retired in April after 20 years in KGS.
- ☺ Mr G Taylor, Teacher of English retires after 32 years in KGS.
- ☺ Mr A Skene, Teacher of Physics retires after 29 years in KGS.
- ☺ Mr A Askew, Teacher of Physical Education retires after 30 years in KGS.
- ☺ Mrs M Drever, Support for Learning Assistant retires after 18 years in KGS.
- ☺ Mr E Nind & Ms L Reid who have been on their Probationary year.

They will all be greatly missed and on behalf of the pupils and staff of Kirkwall Grammar School we would like to wish them all the very best for whatever plans they have in the future!

And Warm Welcomes...

We welcome new members staff:

- ☺ Mr T Groat who joins the English Department.
- ☺ Mr D Watt who joins the PE Department.
- ☺ Mr S Thompson who joins the Technicians Department.
- ☺ Mr E Johnston who joins the Chemistry Department in August.
- ☺ Mr A McLean joins the Physics Department in August for his probationary year.
- ☺ Ms S Tonelli joins the French Department in August for her probationary year.



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Congratulations

- ☺ Mr N Ewing who was appointed as Depute Head Teacher.
- ☺ Mrs K Warman who is now PT of BTE Department.
- ☺ Mrs M Phillips who is now PT of Curriculum Support.
- ☺ Ms J Hutchinson who became permanent in the Curriculum Support Department.
- ☺ Mrs C Kennedy who became permanent in the Curriculum Support Department.
- ☺ Mrs L Richard who became permanent in the Curriculum Support Department.
- ☺ Ms C Howard & Mr J McCabe who have had their temp post extended for a year.

Awards Ceremonies

By now all award winners will have received their letters detailing awards won and times of ceremonies, which are as follows:



Tuesday 25 June	Dingieshowe	11.30am
	Berstane	2.05pm
Wednesday 26 June	Newark	11.30am
	Inganess	2.05pm
Thursday 27 June	Waulkmill	11.30am
	Scapa	2.05pm



End of Term Arrangements

Traditionally, on the last day of the school year we have our Closing Assembly and Awards Ceremony, with shorter periods and activities for pupils.

Lunch will be available until 1pm.

Buses leave at 12.45pm but town pupils may leave at 12.20pm.



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Trips, trips and more trips....

Activities Week—S1-S3 pupils took part in Activities days at the end of May which were extremely successful. There was a wide range of activities on offer including: Bird-watching, Blues Jam, Fashion Show, Outdoor Art, Scuba Diving, Sailing, Snooker, Trout Fishing, Trail Riding, Coastal Walks, Horse Riding, Crafts, Dungeon & Dragons, Football, Debating, Bowls, Robotics, Shapinsay Trip, Sports at Picky & European Citizen.



S1 Outdoor Education—This year S1 pupils were at the Birsay Centre in May. The focus of the trips was teamwork, enterprise and assessment of risk.

S3 & S4 Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions

With many more pupils taking part in Duke of Edinburgh this year it has been very busy trying to fit in their training expeditions and qualifying expeditions. Nevertheless these have been a great success and all the pupils have gained so much from these experiences.



Drama Trip—68 pupils travelled to Inverness and Edinburgh at the beginning of June to attend performances of Ghost, The 39 Steps and The Pirates of Penzance as well as attending workshops run by the Lyceum Theatre and various other activities in the city. The trip was a great success with the pupils once again being complimented on their attitude and behaviour!

New York Art & Design Trip—A group of 32 pupils have just returned from a very exciting, action packed trip to New York City. The group stayed in a YMCA hostel just across from Central Park and have had the opportunity to visit such places as the Chrysler Building, Bloomingdales, the Empire State Building, Grand Central Station, the Guggenheim, Ground Zero and the Brooklyn Bridge amongst others. An amazing experience for all.



Dress Code Reminder

We again ask parents for their support in ensuring a high standard of dress code is maintained. Pupils are to wear a top with the school logo. School tops should not be worn under other clothing and should be seen at all times. There are various styles available: Sweatshirt, Polo shirt, Rugby shirt or Zip top. Pupils may wear a white shirt and school tie. **Plain dark trousers, jeans or skirts (shorts are not appropriate) and plain navy, black or white layers are suitable under the school top.**

New School Moving Schedule

A letter is being issued to all KGS pupils on Friday 21 June to take home for parents. This letter can also be found on the new KGS website (see below).

Travel Plan & Parent Survey

KGS Travel Plan has been placed on the website and parents are invited to complete a traffic survey. The link for this can also be found on our website.

Dates for your Diary



End of Summer term	Friday 28 June
Start of Autumn term	Tuesday 20 August
End of Autumn term	Friday 11 October
Start of Winter term	Monday 28 October
End of Winter term	Friday 20 December
Start of Spring term	Tuesday 7 January

New KGS Website



With the new school building getting close to completion, staff at KGS have been busy updating the school's online presence. The results have now been launched, go take a look: www.kgsorkney.com

Feel free to let us know what you think of our newsletter format or you can contact us about any aspect of education at Kirkwall Grammar School!

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Sporting Success

Athletics

A number of pupils recently took part in the Scottish Schools Athletics Competition. Many of our pupils achieved successes and particularly Thora Cant who won gold in the U17 Javelin and remains the Scottish Schools Champion and Amy Davis was 3rd in the High Jump. There were many other personal bests and gritty performances were produced over the two days, very well done to all involved!



Swimming

Jack Duncan has once again competed in the Scottish National Age-Groups Championships. Competing over five days Jack did an excellent job of developing new skills and broke his personal best!

Rugby

The U16 Rugby team won the Highlands and Islands District plate competition earlier this month. Very well done to all involved!



Octopush

Two teams from Orkney competed recently in the Octopush Nationals competition in Leeds. The U-14 team came in 8th and the U16s coming in 3rd gaining a Bronze medal. Two S6 players also accompanied the staff and pupils as coaches and did very well indeed. Well done to all!



Young Enterprise Success

Kirkwall Grammar School's Young Enterprise group this year got through to the National Young Enterprise finals in Glasgow after winning the Local Presentation Evening. The team had a great time at the event and Shona Flanagan, their Business Advisor won the Scottish Business Advisor of the Year. A well deserved award. Well done Trua!!



More term highlights....

- ☺ Bridge Building Competition—this took place at Orkney College with KGS winning the overall competition.
- ☺ The P7 pupils had their visits on Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 June. A number of KGS pupils organised and ran a Metasaga tour for them which was a great success.
- ☺ Six S3 and 13 S4 pupils achieved Level 1 Sports Leaders this year.
- ☺ Nine S5/6 pupils achieved Level 2 Sports Leaders this year.
- ☺ One of the Parliamentary education staff was in KGS recently facilitating a session exploring the Scottish Parliament with the Intermediate 2 and Higher Modern Studies classes. The session explored the Devolved and Reserved powers, the work of committees and how petitions work.
- ☺ Robbie Firth from KGS won the Marjorie Linklater Writing Award this year—well done Robbie!
- ☺ Ten KGS pupils passed the Interdisciplinary Project element of the Science Baccalaureate this year. Very well done to all the pupils involved and also Dr Drummond for all her hard work!

Feel free to let us know what you think of our newsletter format or you can contact us about any aspect of education at Kirkwall Grammar School!

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