

What Good Sports!

This year on the 31st of May at approximately 3pm Selbie won the 2017 sports day cup with 203 points, with Davah coming close behind with 194 points. Just behind Davah, Harlaw had 177 points. Barra then came 4th only 3 points behind Harlaw, and putting in a valiant effort, Crichtie came 5th with 129 points.



Harlaw boys competing in tug of war



Mrs Campbell presenting the trophy to the winning house, Selbie

Every pupil who took part in sports day put in a great effort, while enjoying themselves too. People came within seconds of coming first or beating their personal bests but most will be able to return next year and possibly win and enter the NASSA school championships.

Mr Jones was really impressed with the performance of each and every pupil that took part and he told The Academy Star that "This was my first experience of the

Inverurie Academy Sports Day. As with most big events, I am left with a series of still photographs in my memory which encapsulate the day: the colourful bunting around the running track, the organisers' tent and trailer full of purposeful bustle, the first of the 100 metres races with students straining towards the finish line and the crowds cheering their house during the tug 'o' war. This was a superbly organised and great occasion where we joined together, teachers and students, participants and audience, to celebrate success together. It was a fitting way to mark potentially the last time we are able to use the fields at this time of year before our new Community Campus is built."

Among the winners for S1 were George Teasdale winning the shot put and 100m and Alicia Morrison winning the shot put and long

jump. From S3 there were Melissa Jack from S3 winning the discus and shot put, Erin Fraser winning the long jump, high jump and 100m and Taylor Chapman winning high jump and 400m. These competitors are the only pupils to win more than one event and therefore deserve a huge congratulations from The Academy Star.

The Academy Star was also really pleased to see Mrs Campbell returning to the school to present the winners with their awards

Overall, sports day was a great day for everyone even if they didn't take part due to the inspiring success of everyone else and the supportive atmosphere on the day.



Sports Day Competitors race to the finish line

By Luke Wraight, S2

YPI Triumph for S3 Pupils



From left to right, members of the winning group Sophie Still and Emma Whyte, alongside parent council representative, Anne Hitchcock.

All pupils in S3 have taken part in the YPI project this session in an effort to win £3000 for their chosen charity. Mr Kirk was responsible for running the project this year and it involved pupils preparing a group presentation on a charity of their choice. Sophie Still, Emma Whyte, Courtney Gilbert and Hannah Redfern made up this year's winning group and they really did the school proud with their efforts. Not only did they win £3000 for their chosen charity, CLAN, but they were also awarded an additional £500 from the

parent council.

After speaking to Emma and Sophie from the winning group, we managed to find out more about the background of the project. What was extremely powerful about their story was that CLAN was chosen because of Emma's own experiences. Emma's mum died of cancer in 2013 and her family was supported by CLAN, particularly Emma and her sister. This meant that choosing CLAN was an obvious choice for Emma's group.

The winning team prepared for their final presentations by doing lots of research about CLAN. When asked what the winning money would go towards, CLAN said they could offer 120 complimentary therapies and it could also go towards accommodation where families can have a holiday to have a break from everything. Mr Kirk then introduced S3 pupils to the demands of the final presentation and showed them pictures of last year's winners.

Continued on page 2

YPI Triumph for S3 Pupils Continued



CLAN House, Aberdeen

Continued from front page

Finalists were chosen from all S3 classes and the presentations were delivered to the families of those presenting. They were then judged by a panel which included a pupil representative from last year's winners (Abby Mutch), Mr Jones and the parent council. On the night they felt quite nervous but had practised a lot, to each other, the other groups and to Mr Kirk. Emma told us that she was careful to avoid looking at family and friends during the presentation as emotions were running very high.



Inside Clan House, Aberdeen

When they found out they had won Emma said, "It was quite unbelievable actually. It was a really emotional moment. My auntie said how proud of me she was and she certainly took a lot of photos! She also expressed how proud she was in a very lengthy Facebook post!" After initially receiving £3000 for

their charity, the winners were then told that the parent council wanted to add another £500 to the cause. Sophie told us that, "£3000 is already a lot so to add another £500 is really amazing."

We spoke to the parent council and they told us more on their perspective on the event. "The presentations were of a very high standard, with a huge amount of work invested in them by the pupils. Passionate presentations were made for some very worthwhile charities

which had impacted personally on at least one of the pupils from each team. Presentations were given in the form of PowerPoint slides, videos and role play. All the pupils spoke clearly showing confidence and knowledge in their chosen charity and the judging panel, as I'm sure the audience, were extremely impressed with the quality and work invested by all the teams."

Given the high quality of the presentations, the Parent Council also told us that it was difficult to choose just one winner. "Scoring for all teams was extremely close with the two leading presentations scoring the same amount of points. The judging panel therefore had an immensely difficult decision to make. CLAN was eventually chosen as the winner based on the strong impact that the very personal story had on each and every member of the panel and we felt the bravery shown by the pupil telling such a personal and difficult story must be rewarded."

The Academy Star is definitely in agreement that Emma's team was a very worthy winner. CLAN is a fantastic charity that helps those affected by cancer in so many different ways. The £3500 that has been donated from the YPI competition will help CLAN to continue offering these invaluable free services to those who need it and the winning team should be very proud of that.

By Arran McIntyre S3

Sports Day Success

TRACK EVENTS WINNER

100 metres

S1 boys	George Teasdale
S1 girls	Hannah Walker
S2 boys	Thomas Slade
S2 girls	Ellen Thom
S3 boys	Jack Lovett
S3 girls	Erin Fraser

200 metres

S1 boys	Ewan Skinner
S1 girls	Mya Christie
S2 boys	Thomas Slade
S2 girls	Kirsty Sutherland
S3 boys	Evan Simpson
S3 girls	Chloe Anderson

400 metres

S1 boys	William Hope
S1 girls	Amira Cheyne
S2 boys	Max Rossvoll-Booth
S2 girls	Caitlin Dick
S3 boys	Taylor Chapman
S3 girls	Chloe Anderson

4x100m relay

S1 girls	Crichie
S1 boys	Barra
S2 girls	Harlaw
S2 boys	Davah
S3 girls	Barra
S3 boys	Selbie



FIELD EVENTS WINNER

Discus

S2 boys	Aidan Galashan
S2 girls	Dara McKenzie
S3 boys	Evan Orr
S3 girls	Melissa Jack

Shot Put

S1 boys	George Teasdale
S1 girls	Alicia Morrison
S2 boys	Tommy Harvey
S2 girls	Hannah Taylor
S3 boys	Dougal Whyte
S3 girls	Melissa Jack

Long Jump

S1 girls	Alicia Morrison
S1 girls	Emma Heith / Abbie Glennie
S1 boys	Kane McDonald
S1 boys	Ethan McGinn
S2 girls	Faye Hark
S2 girls	Stacey Reid
S2 boys	Dawid Nowak
S2 boys	Callum Thomson
S3 girls	Erin Fraser
S3 boys	Jack Lovett
S3 boys	Taylor Chapman

Comic Strip By Andrew Cunningham



"And I must protect Inverurie with my three trusty sidekicks!"



Out with the Old; in with the New?



An artist's impression of the new Inverurie Community Campus

As you all may know, the building of the new school is due to commence in 2018. For those of you who are in S1 and S2, you will be in 5th and 6th year in the new school. The new school will be built on our current playing field and football pitches. As part of the new school, we will also have the swimming pool and Community Centre so the new name for the school site will be the Inverurie Community Campus but the school name will remain as Inverurie Academy. There will also be St Andrews School attached to the Community campus which will be situated on the ground floor.

The subjects on the ground floor will be Drama, Technologies and P.E. On the first floor, we will have Business and I.T, Modern Languages, Mathematics, Home Economics and Music and on the second floor, Science, English, Social studies and Art.

After speaking to Mr Paterson, Depute Head, and Mark Mitchell

from Learning Estates, we have managed to find out more.

The construction of the new Inverurie Community Campus will start early next year and completion of the building itself is expected to be in March 2020. Following completion of the build, the former academy and associated buildings will be demolished and landscaping, including an all weather pitch and multi use games area, and car parking will be constructed. All works are expected to be completed by 2021.

The new school will have a range of modern features for pupils and staff to enjoy. This includes Wi-Fi throughout the building; reduced noise with improved acoustics; 21st century technology throughout the campus; modern furniture and fittings, bright and airy spaces, social spaces for pupils, breakout learning spaces off classrooms, improved dining experience and modern sporting and leisure facilities.

Another exciting part of the new school will be the community facilities and this includes us having a swimming pool within our school! This will also be open to members of the community and members of the Learning Estates team who are responsible for the project told us that "The timetable for the new swimming pool has yet to be finalised. However, this will be done in partnership with the school. It is likely that there will be dedicated sessions for school use of the pool and separate community use." We think that this new campus will really be at the heart of the community and those responsible for the build also remarked that "The council is keen to ensure our buildings are used as much as possible which includes usage of the pool".

A team of staff has been working hard to maintain the history and heritage of the original building. So while some might say it's "out with the old and in with the new", we really do want to pay respect to the building that has served us for so long and this is something they are looking to incorporate in the new build. Most importantly, Mr Paterson thinks that the new school will "have a big impact on the learning and teaching happening within the school" and this is something that we should all look forward to when the new school finally opens.

By Arran McIntyre, S3

We're All Going on a Summer Holiday!

The Academy Star's top holidays destinations, whatever your budget.

Low Budget: Aviemore



Aviemore is located next to the Cairngorms and is only a two hour drive from Inverurie. There are plenty of things to do in Aviemore which suit everyone. For example, you can go cycling nearly everywhere! Even if you are not the strongest on a bike, there are routes which do not involve many hills and for those who enjoy a challenge and are quick on the bike, there are plenty routes which show you great scenery and make you work.

Another prime example of things to do in Aviemore is the local theme and adventure park, Landmark. At Landmark you can enjoy their unique water slides or explore their grounds which hold many surprises and interesting things such as illusions or fantastic views.

Costs: (based on family of 3)
Accommodation: £585 (in a log cabin); transport: £40 (in car)
Total: £625 + cost of food and activities

Mid Budget: Lanzarote



Lanzarote is a Canary island located off the coast of Spain which is the home of an amazing sport resort named club la Santa. This resort is located just down the road of the local town La Santa. Club la Santa has facilities for nearly every sport.

At the resort you can stay in an apartment and will have free use of the facilities and can also rent equipment for the activities whenever you like! The island of Lanzarote is also home to an extinct volcano named Timanfaya where visitors are given the opportunity to go on a bus ride round the volcano and be just a few metres away from an exploding geyser (powerful jets of water exploding out of a hole in the ground). As well as all this fun, you have the chance to ride a camel. Timanfaya is part of a mountain group named "Montanas del Fuego" which means Fire Mountains in English.

Costs: (based on family of 3)
Accommodation (at Club la Santa) - £800; Flights (with Ryanair) - £915 + luggage
Total: £1715 + spending money

High Budget: China

China is a country located in eastern Asia and is the second largest country entirely located in Asia. Shanghai, one of the largest cities in China, is home to one of the best tracks of the F1 season. The capital city of China is Beijing and the Great Wall of China is located in Beijing.



China is the most populated place in the world. China currently has 1.338 billion people which is the same as 18% of the world's population. So as you can probably guess, China is a very busy place which is why anyone who goes is very lucky.

Nearly everyone has heard of the Great Wall of China and is one of the world's greatest landmarks. The Great Wall of China is 5,500.3 miles and stretches from Hushan in Liaoning to Jiayugan pass in Gansu.

Costs (based on a family of 3):
Flights: £2660 to Beijing
Accommodation: Average price is £706 a week

By Luke Wraight and Ciaran Hall, S2

Wider Achievement

There have been loads of wider achievements this year, so many that we cannot mention them all. From sporting success to magnificent music, our pupils really have so much that they can be proud of.

The Academy Star recently interviewed Miss Rapley who is Principal Teacher of Wider Achievements and she was able to give us all of the details for all of the success stories from 2016 to 2017.

Many of Inverurie Academy's pupils have had an amazing year when it comes to sporting achievements.



Well Done to Luca Ivory Hunter, Connor Stuart and Taylor Shields 1B1 for being part of the winning Colony Park team. Very well done to Morgan Johnston 3B1 for winning 2 gold and 1 silver medal in swimming. Well done to Josh Byres and Dara Mckenzie for winning the interschool Badminton tournament. Well Done to Harrison Hinks and

Connor MacLeod 6B1 for being the football league cup winners and a very well done to Matthew Begg for taking trials for Aberdeen Football Club. A huge well done to Jordan Jones 3D2 for being the northern district boxing champion with 63kg.

We'd also like to offer our congratulations to pupils whose individual achievements have not been mentioned here. Keep up the good work!

By Arran McIntyre, S3

Exciting Local Events

"Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat"

GYMS is a dance and singing group. They are due to perform "Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat" in the town hall. The show is on for three days, starting on 28th of September until the 30th of September. Joseph is an amazing musical which involves no dialogue and instead tells the story through all the amazing songs and dances. Last year they did Grease and it was a hit! They sold out and ended up needing to add more seats to ap-

pease the crowd and they are hoping to do the same this year.

Blast from the Past—North East Scotland

On the 22nd of July at Thainstone Centre from 10-4pm, there will be a classic car show, a fun event for all the family. Not only will there be a whole array of amazing cars on display, there will also be kids' rides, a bouncy castle and other things to do for the little ones. Entry is £5 with under 12s going free and free parking is available on the day.

AIYF Inverurie Gala

The AIYF Gala is taking place on the 1st of August in the Town Hall from 19:30. This musical event will include an international mix of music, song and dance, including musicians from St Petersburg, African dance and many more.

By Ben Sharp, S2



Inverurie Academy's got Talent

As part of school newspaper, The Academy Star has decided to run school based competitions on a regular basis. The first competition required students to show off their artistic flair. Entrants were invited to produce a piece of art which responded to one, or all, of the following words:

Identity Fear Scotland

After much deliberation, the team agreed that the winning entry was Devryn Bisset's in S4.

We really liked Devryn's unique style and response to both the words Scotland and fear. Huge congratulations to Devryn and thanks for entering our competition!

We also had a range of other high quality entrants and we would like to thank all off those students for their participation. Look out for future competitions in the school bulletin after summer!

By Ben Sharp, S2



Devryn has really captured the feel of Scotland with the Maiden Stone. You can see how she has also looked at fear with the woman under the stone. She's used Scottish dress to celebrate one of Scotland's most treasured traditions, and that's why the Academy Star loved her entry.

Strong and Stable



From left to right, Evie Robertson MSYP-elect, Gillian Martin MSP and Josh MacRae MSYP-elect.

In the month which has seen Prime Minister Theresa May lose her majority in the House of Commons and seek to form an alliance with the DUP, we must reflect on the decision-making process and how young people could have an increased role.

I am an unashamed political nerd who freely admits to staying up on election night to see the results come in from across the country. I watched in awe as, at 4:19am, longstanding political heavyweight, Alex Salmond, lost his seat to the Conservatives. Across the

UK, turnout was at its highest since 1997, standing at 68.7%. In Scotland, it was a different story where turnout decreased by 4.7% to sit at 66.4%. One promising indication is that turnout amongst younger voters has grown significantly since the last general election and this can be linked to new methods of campaigning.

Politicians, spin doctors and

campaign strategists have finally addressed the frequent use of social media by young people. In this election, political parties noticeably utilised social media as a means of obtaining the youth vote and this has been effective given the increased political discussion amongst young voters.

Since the last issue of this publication, Evie Robertson MSYP-elect and I met with our local MSP, Gillian Martin, to discuss a joint project to promote online safety amongst young people. The Scottish Government recently released its Online Safety Strategy which was debated in the Scottish Parliament in May. During the debate, Gillian Martin MSP told the

Chamber of our plans and we are very much looking forward to implementing the first stages so we can make a difference for our constituents in Aberdeenshire East.

The 63rd National Sitting of the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) will take place in West Dunbartonshire between 24th and 25th June. This Sitting marks the completion of the transition process and we will be able to drop the '-elect' from our titles to take office officially as the MSYPs for Aberdeenshire East. The new membership will select the SYP Annual Campaign from a pool of five options which are as follows: young people's rights; climate change; PSE; transport and youth work. Unfortunately, this issue will go to print before the verdict is announced so watch this space to discover which topic was selected.

Soon, I will be holding my first constituency surgery (informal meeting with constituents) as your MSYP and I hope to be able to do so before the end of term. Please keep an eye on the school bulletin as the date and time will be published in due course. I greatly value any thoughts and comments on my work as your MSYP and will always have an open door to anyone who wishes to contribute to the democratic process in a constructive way.

Josh MacRae MSYP-elect, Columnist to the Academy Star

Bon Voyage to S6 pupils



S6 students celebrating their prom at Meldrum House Hotel

It's that time of year again when the students in S6 are leaving Inverurie Academy.

The S6 students have been through six years of education and three lots of exams. This year, pupils in S6 and specifically the School Captains and Vice Captains have had a crucial role in establishing a new set of core values for the school. They worked with staff, pupils and parents to establish the key values that we wanted to embody here at Inverurie Academy. It was agreed that ambition, inclusion, integrity and respect would make up the final four. With their hard work, they have really left behind their legacy for the new House Captains to build on this session.

All students who are leaving us are going on to the next stage of their lives and starting a brand new adventure. Some of the S6s will go to college or



university; others will be going into things like apprenticeships and others will be going to work. Whatever they choose to do, we wish them all the best of luck and every success for their futures.

By Ciaran Hall, S2

A Fond Farewell to Retiring Staff

It is that time of year when we bid a farewell to valued teachers from Inverurie Academy. This year, there are several retirements and we would like to acknowledge what these individuals have brought to the school. For other teachers leaving, we wish you well in your future schools and thank you for all of your work.

Mrs Sheila Benzies

Mrs Benzies started her teaching career in 1982 and began working here at Inverurie Academy in 1992. She has dedicated her enthusiasm to teaching art here ever since and we are very grateful for all of the years that she worked here. Mrs Benzies is renowned for having a good sense of humour and she always made her pupils laugh! She would always give you help if you needed it and she supported each and every one of her pupils. We would like to thank her for her long service to the school and wish her all the very best for her retirement.



One of the corridor displays created by Mrs Benzies and her pupils



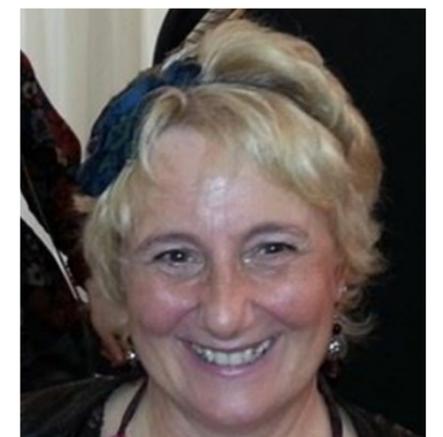
Mr Graham Hepburn, PT Guidance, Davah House

Mr Graham Hepburn

Mr Hepburn is the guidance teacher for Davah house. He has been my guidance teacher since joining the school in S1 and he is really enthusiastic and passionate about his job. He was first appointed to Inverurie Academy as Teacher of PE in August 1979. After a short period working in the USA, Graham returned to Scotland, before joining the school once again in 1986. He was appointed to the post of Principal Teacher of Guidance in 1994. Mr Hepburn genuinely cares for the pupils he helps. We all wish him the best for the future and hope that he enjoys life after retirement as much as he did before.

Mrs Jacqui Campbell

Mrs Campbell was appointed to the post of Principal Teacher of Drama on 20th August 1990, before being appointed as Principal Teacher of the Creative Arts Faculty in 2005. She is an enthusiastic teacher who had a great passion for teaching pupils within the Creative Arts Faculty. On a more personal note, she always gave a huge amount of help and support to each and every pupil she taught. During her time here, she has been part of many successful shows and helped pupils to achieve their best and get to where they have aimed for. Mrs Campbell will always have her place at this school and will always be remembered by those she taught.



Mrs Jacqui Campbell, retiring PT of Creative Arts

By Luke Wright and Andrew Cunningham, S2