

White Water Weekend!



The winners of the race, Shallow-All!

By Lexie Kydd, S3

The Inverurie Raft race took place on June 4th, 2022. The raft race has many participants that build their rafts and then sail along the River Don. The rafts set off in Kemnay and then finished in Davidsons Park. The teams usually consist of 2-6 members in each team, and the teams usually take about 2-3 hours to sail their way along the river. The teams get sponsored and raise money for a charity or organisation.

In the past, it was originally run by Garioch Lions. It was started by a man called Donald Ingram, a local man, who wanted to raise money to go towards research for

cancer and kidney disease. Unfortunately due to Covid, the race hasn't been able to run since 2019, but it's back up and running now. As well as the raft race, there is a bottle stall, various activities, a bouncy castle, bubble football, a BBQ and an ice cream van.

This year, there were a number of different activities you could take part in, such as a tombola, a bottle stall, various food stalls and a bouncy castle. The public took part in these activities while waiting for the rafts to come in. The total amount of money raised was over £4000. All of the money that is raised from the stalls will go towards the scouting.

The first raft came in at 2:30, and the winners were the owners of Shallow-All, they were the only group that didn't have any problems with rocks. They took about 2.5 hours to row down the river, as there had not been much rain-fall and all the rafters had been a bit slower than usual.



Second place came in 10 minutes after the winners. The third finisher came in about 20 minutes after Second place. All the rafts came in one by one after that.

The rafts themselves were really creative, including rafts that were inspired by the British and Scottish Government, there was a Ghostbusters Raft, a canoe and a dinghy and there was a paddle board inspired by the millennium falcon. A lot of the raft names were also very innovative, such as 'Shallow All', 'Falcon Sub-C' and the 'Explorer 2'.

Well done to all the rafters who took part, and well done to the scouts and the volunteers of the community who helped to make this such a fun, fantastic day!

Selbie Success at Sports Day-



By Liam Sharp, S3

This year Inverurie Academy hosted sports day for the first time in three years. All the teachers and staff were ecstatic to be back at Aberdeen Sports Village (ASV).

There were 9 main events at sports day this year: Discus, Shot Put, Long Jump, High Jump, 100m Relay, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and a teachers event which was amazing to watch!

At ASV selected pupils were chosen to compete after a series of trials that took place during PE,

the best of the best. All year groups were involved at Sports Day and it all ran smoothly thanks to the amazing staff at Inverurie Academy And Aberdeen Sports Village.

The trip to sports day started at 9am. House groups were organised on to their al-



located coach. The coaches arrived back at ICC at 3pm.

On arrival at ASV the events began, starting with Long Jump, High Jump And Discus with some outstanding winners, Miguel Stewart throwing 10 metres 93 centimetres on shot put and Oscar Cook making a school record of 4.61 metres for the S1 Boys long jump.

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Selbie Success at Sports Day



proud of all the pupils that took part at sports day. It was such a great day and I am especially proud of team Selbie for their hard work. They showed a great sense of team spirit and determination and I'm proud to be part of that."

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Once the above events took place the running events commenced with: 100m Sprint, 200m, 300m, 400m and 800m. Jessica Christie smashed the record for S2 Girls 400 metre and got a time of 1 minute, 7 seconds and 19 milliseconds!

After that the final event, the 100m relay took place, with the fastest time it was Crichton S3 Boys who got the fastest time of 55.03 seconds. That was the concluding event at sports day 2022.

In the end Selbie struck gold and won the winning trophy for the most team points at the end of the day.

Mrs May was over the moon about the win, telling us when we spoke to her that she was: "So



Garioch Run Returns



By Molly Bryce, S4

Run Garioch took place on the 15th of May this year and is the first since the global pandemic struck in early 2020. Hundreds of people participated in the run no matter if you were in a running club or just having a bit of fun. As per usual there were 9 races which occurred: 5K, 10K, Half Marathon as well as 6 separate Junior Races, Category 1 for ages 4,5,6, Category 2 for ages 7,8,9 and Category 3 for ages 10,11 and 12 (Each category was separated by gender). After each run there is a prize giving ceremony for the win-

ners lasting around 15 minutes. The winners for each race received incredible times, even due to the tough routes the run follows with numerous challenging hills facing the participants. The winners for each event were:

- Aaron Odentz 5K Mens (15:11)
- Chloe Gray 5K Womens (18:03)
- Aaron Odentz 10K Mens (32:54)
- Nicola Macdonald 10K Womens (36:54)
- Jason Kelly Half Marathon Mens (1:14:41)
- Grace Thompson Junior Run Category 1 Girls (03:00)
- Lochlan Royan Junior Run Category 1 Boys (02:40)
- Hayleigh Reid Junior Run Category 2 Girls (04:22)
- Euan Scallon Junior Run Category 2 Boys (03:49)
- Alana McDonald Junior Run Category 3 Girls (07:43)
- Ben Johnson Junior Run Category 3 Boys (07:33)

For those who were not running there was plenty to keep friends and family occupied with multiple

stalls placed in the Garioch car-park. Catering by Davidsons Butchers was available as well as a selection of stalls from the Scouts, Colony park and much more. Runners sponsor money can go to run Garioch's partner charity of their choice for instance: CLAN, Charlie House, Inspire as well as Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland. This year Run Garioch had a more eco friendly approach making the T-Shirts optional for those racing. The T Shirts for the adults were made out of recycled materials and the T shirts for the juniors were made out of 100% cotton. Runners were also encouraged to bring their own water bottles in order to limit the amount of plastic used.

The event turned out to be a huge success and everyone who went had a great time.



Leavers Light up Lochter



warm evening so all photographs were taken outside overlooking Bennachie.

The room had been decorated with black tablecloths and silver sequin runners as well as having lots of fairy lights. Table decorations were balloons from Strachans of Inverurie. Many of them were personalised with “Inverurie Academy Class of 2022” and they were in the school colours of blue, white and gold. Glitter and confetti in the school colours was also scattered around the tables. This meant the room certainly looked ready for a party!

All of the pupils and staff dressed up for the event. Mr Hendry and Mr Anderson looked spectacular in their kilts and Mr O’Connor, Mrs O’Connor and Dr Drysdale were very glamorous as well.

The pupils wore a combination of kilts, suits and ballgowns, including a few tiaras!

By Mrs Elrick

The S6 Prom took place on 1st June at Lochter Activity Centre. There were 70 pupils and 31 members of staff in attendance at the first Prom to be held since the pandemic started.

The event was organised by a large group of S6 alongside Mr Duncan and Mrs Elrick. Mr Duncan also provided music for the event. Tickets had been donated by Papeterie Crafts and sold via the school office which helped build excitement. The pupils gathered in



playlist which meant that many of the songs were chosen by the attendees. He also made sure there were a few ceilidh dances – showing off all those years of December social dancing training by the PE department superbly – as well as a few party classics. Mrs Elrick was even seen dancing the Cha Cha Slide for the first time ever.

At the end of the night, Mr Duncan made a lovely speech thanking everyone for coming, thanking everyone for their help and wishing all of the S6 pupils the best of luck in the future. The final dance was to Take That’s “Never Forget” which has very appropriate lyrics: “We’ve come so far and we’ve reached so high, And we’ve looked each day and night in the eye, And we’re still so young and we hope for more”. Pupils were then returned to Inverurie.

It was a very successful, very enjoyable night. All the best to the Class of 2022!

After many photographs had been taken, the meal began: one of Lochter’s legendary buffets with roast turkey and gammon, lots of sides and an excellent vegan option of roast butternut squash roast. Dessert was sticky toffee pudding and ice cream which also went down very well. Despite being very full, the dancing then started. Mr Duncan had asked pupils to suggest songs for the



A Warm Welcome for S1 Students



Scan the QR code to watch the ICC virtual tour video



lasting three days.

This year Miss Maguire is running the S1 Leadership group to help all the new S1s gain some leadership skills and responsibilities for going on into their future at Inverurie Academy.

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Two of our student leaders, Libby and Jess.

By Liam Sharp, S3

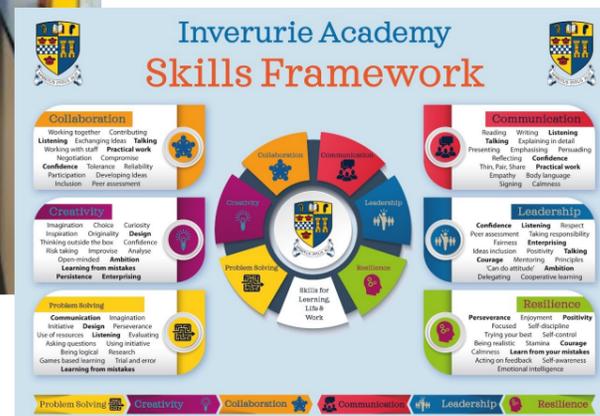
This term we welcomed our new S1 year group to Inverurie Academy and there have been a lot of exciting events that they have been taking part in!

This past year, Aidan Cheung (former S6 pupil) and Liam Sharp (S3 pupil) have been working very closely with Mr Anderson to create an amazing school tour in Minecraft for the new S1s to find their feet before coming into the building. It has been a great success and there has been a lot of positive feedback about the experience from Teachers and Primary Sevens.

P7 students also visited ICC (Inverurie Community Campus) for their transition week on Tuesday 14th June, with the visit

students. Workshops ranged from story writing to a treasure hunt and even a sandwich challenge! The P7 students were so positive about their experience and this also gave Inverurie Academy students a fantastic opportunity to take the lead and develop their skills.

We spoke to Mr Anderson, the Depute Head Teacher in charge of organising the P7 transition, to see how the visit went. He told us that "It was great. The P7s were able to have an enjoyable three days at the academy, get an experience of the different subjects and meet their teachers. We



Our Skills Framework at Inverurie Academy seeks opportunities for students to develop their skills in Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Leadership, Problem Solving and Resilience. As part of Miss Maguire's leadership project, a group of enthusiastic and dedicated young leaders worked busily behind the scenes to plan an exciting afternoon of 'Skills Workshops' for P7

were really impressed with them as a year group and how they embraced coming to the new school. The feedback has been really positive and the P7 parent/carer tours went really well. It was great to let them see the campus. We look forward to welcoming the new S1 students in August."

Academy is Alive with the Sound of Music



By Lexie Kydd, S3

After all the challenges of the last 2 years, the musical activities are back up and running! Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, everything came to a halt, the music department couldn't host any performances and had to do some clubs virtually. Now that restrictions are lifted, all the

clubs are starting up again and performances are planned for the end of the year.

Currently, there are 2 clubs, ukulele and guitar, and BGE choir. Look out for other clubs such as:

- Orchestra
- Percussion Ensemble
- Ceilidh group
- Wind Band
- Brass Group
- Senior singers (although they are hoping to combine both choir groups)
- Private lessons after school

for an instrument All of these clubs will either be taught by an instructor, Miss Maguire or Mrs Purvis. These clubs will either be held at lunchtime or after school.

Each club will showcase their talent at the upcoming Christmas concert. It will take place in the auditorium, on the last week of school before Christmas. The music department is very excited to be back up and running, so if any of these clubs sound good to you, drop in at lunch time and check them out or speak to Miss Maguire or Mrs Purvis.

Kick-start to S3!



Mrs Sherrington came to the newspaper to share the achievements of two of pupils, Lee Simpson and Dylan Ross.

Lee Simpson in 3D2 and Dylan Ross in 3S3 both play for Aberdeen Football Club's under 15s team. Dylan has played for them for several years and Lee has been playing for them for about a year now. As part of the AFC youth team, both

boys have shown a great deal of commitment and dedication when training four times a week, including a weekly game on a Saturday, and this is all on top of their school commitments. In addition to this they are required to travel down to Glasgow every week for a game.

Both boys have been selected to represent AFC's under 15s youth team in Norway in June this year. They will be playing a range of teams including Liverpool Football Club and several Scandinavian teams. We wish Lee and Dylan all the best for their tournament in Norway. Well done on your fantastic achievement!