

# WALLACE HIGH SCHOOL



## STANDARDS & QUALITY REPORT 2015/16

# INTRODUCTION



## MR PENNOCK, HEAD TEACHER

Welcome to Wallace High School's Standards and Quality Report for session 2015/16.

It is always interesting, as we look back on another very rich and busy year, to reflect on the range of successes for our young people across the school curriculum and beyond. As I spoke to proud parents after our S6 Graduation and Senior Awards Ceremony, their reflections focused on how time has passed so quickly for their children (now young adults) and how modern education has provided so many opportunities for them. This document, as well as providing an evaluation of our school's performance in the past session, seeks to celebrate the range of opportunities for our young people and, crucially, their ability to make the most of these and succeed.

Once again this session, as I have come and gone from events within and beyond school, I am struck by the range of cultural, sporting, technological and

creative activities that pupils in Wallace High School embrace and enjoy. I am also moved by regular displays of altruism and teamwork, where various combinations of pupils, parents, staff and partners combine to support each other in order to achieve. Nowhere was this more evident than in our PTN supporting our Young Carers by fundraising over £2000 to support their life-changing Ocean Youth Trust sailing experience. This will live with our pupils well beyond their schooldays.

This was also evident in many activities across the school I had the pleasure to observe and join in the past session, some of which are captured herein. In constructing this report, we do intend to address some important evaluative questions. Two key questions are:

1. How well do children in WHS learn and achieve?
2. How well do we support children to develop & learn?

Our key sections on SQA Attainment, DYW and wider achievement (p5-17), and the evaluation comments on our improvement priorities from last session (p18-19), aim to convey summary information as to some key work in the past year and its efficacy. SQA Insight data provides effective evaluative information on our performance in national examinations - the end product of learning and teaching throughout the session.

We are also interested in how well we improve the quality of our work and what we will focus on in the session ahead. This is evaluated on pages 19-20 under key headings from last session's Improvement Plan. A full summary of of improvement priorities for 2016/17 is published on our website.

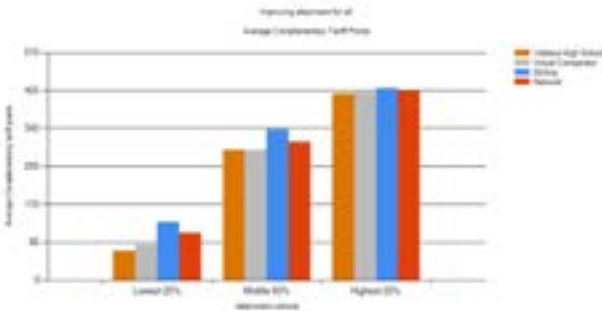
There is very good reason to be exceptionally proud of our youngsters across the school. As ever, reflection on the past year only fuels excitement about what is to come in session 2016/17.



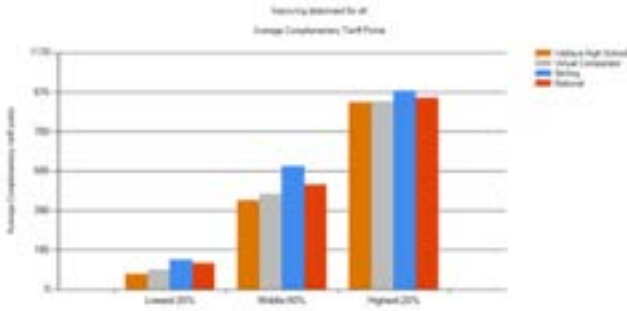
“The pages that follow utilise Insight data to give a rounded picture of school performance, broadening out the data that was previously presented nationally. Against traditional measures, we had a strong performance this session. Our S4 Nationals figures, indeed, convey 39% of pupils achieving 5 awards at National 5 level. Our figures for pupils achieving 5 at National 4 and one, three and five Highers, indeed, are all above historical comparator averages and convey sustained performance.”

# SQA ATTAINMENT 2015/16

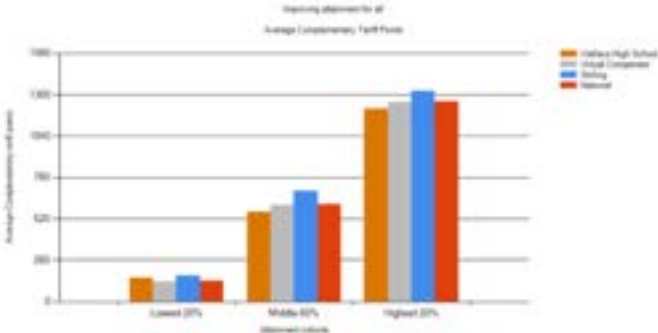
**Overall Attainment - Cumulative Average  
Complementary Tariff Points**  
**S4**



**S5**



**S6**

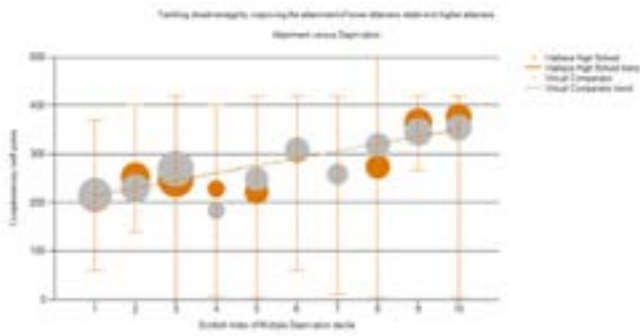


The bar graphs on this page capture overall attainment for the past session from the Insight government data hub that allows schools to evaluate performance more holistically than before. On this page, we can evaluate where our year groups sit (pre-February update to capture additional qualifications and any National 4 back-capture) in relation to comparator schools and the national picture. Wallace is in orange; the virtual comparator in grey (the most important measure as it places Wallace pupils against the same make-up nationally); the Stirling average in blue (not massively helpful as the school free meal equivalence in Stirling varies from almost 2% to 18%); and the national figure in red. The S4 figure captures attainment for the full year group in this session and the S5 and S6 tables capture cumulative attainment as pupils progress through each stage. As we can see, for both S4 and S5, Wallace has performed securely overall against comparator averages, with a focus on unit capture and new qualifications required to support a slight increase in the 'lowest 20%' figures. In S6, we see improved figures on last session, especially with our 'lowest 20%' and must be mindful that, alongside a 7% increase for pupils achieving one AH award and 5% rise in university places, pupils in S6 continue to enhance their wider education through volunteering and service options.

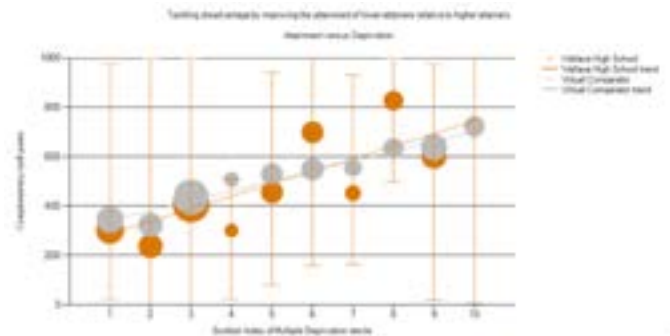


**Overall Attainment - Attainment vs. Deprivation**

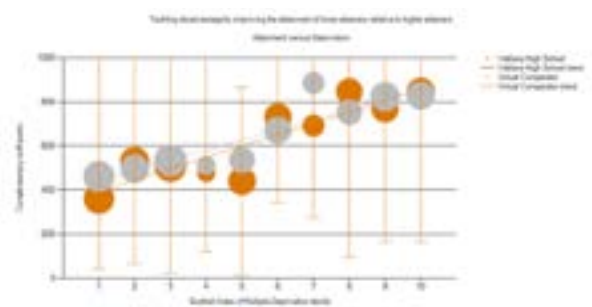
**S4**



**S5**



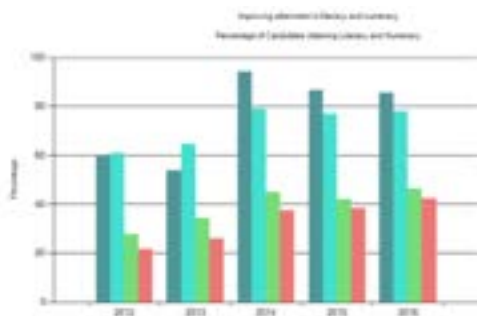
**S6**



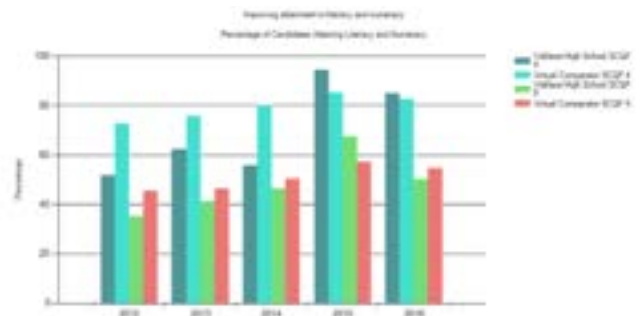
The graphs in this section split each year group into deciles that capture pupils from different socio-economic backgrounds, with 1 being the least affluent to 10 being the most. The size of circle broadly reflects the number of pupils in each decile. Wallace is in orange and the virtual comparator in grey. What is clear at first glance for our community is the rich diversity of pupils, present in volume at each stage. In terms of breadth, Wallace is very comprehensive. As we can see, in all graphs, the median lines are close, reflecting an overall consistency. Our S4 and S6 graphs reflect a closeness at all stages in the past session (with some near gains and losses). Our S5 graph is strong overall in the upper half but some points gain in deciles 2, 4 and 5 would improve performance. There is still some qualification capture to be added here for February update figures.

**Overall Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy**

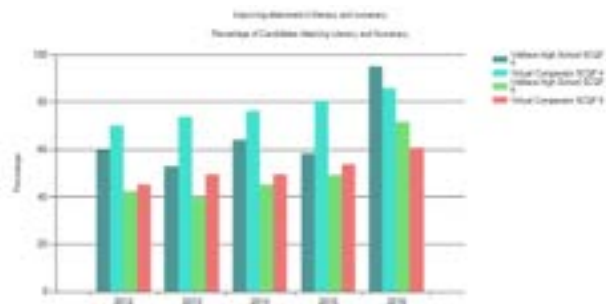
**S4**



**S5**



**S6**



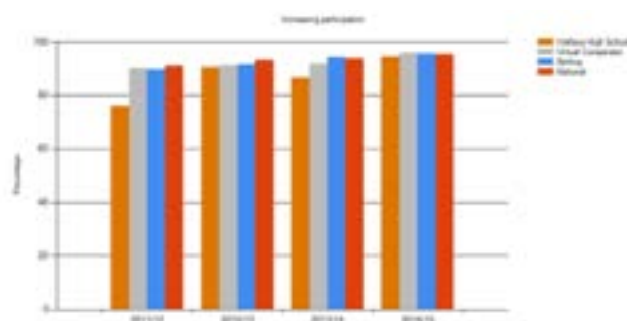
The graphs in this section capture combined achievement in Literacy and Numeracy at each stage, performance in which is a key national priority. In each graph the past five years' performance is captured. The first column is Wallace at National level 4 against our virtual comparator in the second column (darker vs lighter aqua). The third column is Wallace at National level 5 against the comparator in the fourth column (green vs peach). As we can see, utilisation of new courses such as Life Skills Maths and a strong focus on literacy and numeracy unit attainment has resulted in a very strong performance for Wallace against our virtual comparator across stages, with us only slightly behind in one of the six comparators across the three graphs (level 5 for S5). Sustaining this level of performance will remain a key priority.

# DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE SUPPORTING POSITIVE DESTINATIONS

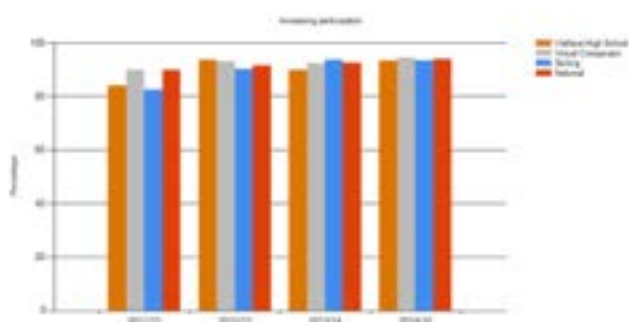
## S4



## S5



## S6



The graphs in this section capture participation in positive destinations (work, college, university) for S4-6 leavers who sat exams up to the 2014/15 session. Initial 2015/16 figures will be published in February. As with previous graphs, the past four years are clustered together in order, with Wallace in orange, our virtual comparator in grey, Stirling average in blue and the national figure in red. S5 and S6 leavers' figures show improvement on previous years and sit comfortably against our comparators and so we will focus on Skills Development Scotland targeting S4 leavers and S5 Christmas leavers imminently in the session ahead. Our target will be to improve the S4 figure by the on-going work that we do with SDS. The percentage of our pupils accessing university increased by 5% for the second successive session.

**“The section that follows captures the range of work we have completed to support the national Developing the Young Workforce agenda across the school. This is part of a national priority to ensure that pupils leave school and participate positively in the world of work, developing core employability skills throughout their education.”**

Building on established work to meet the present and future needs of all young people, Wallace High School has fully embraced the Developing the Young Workforce agenda. Staff are working in an active and collegiate manner, shaping and sharing best practice to increase long-term positive post-school destinations across three strands: extending employer engagement; extending work-based and work-linked learning; and extending vocational pathways and college links

### WHS Futures

In our drive to offer even more aspirational employability opportunities for our pupils we continue to expand our employability-focussed Twitter feed, WHS Futures. This offers insights into college, university, apprenticeship, volunteering, skills and careers, and also lists a range of suitable part-time jobs. We would ask that pupils, parents and carers follow **@WHS\_Futures** to keep up to date with important employability information relevant across S1 to S6.

### S4 Developing Essential Skills Programme

A large number of S4 pupils participated in our five-week Developing Essential Skills Programme during May. Visits to

Prudential, Marshall's Building Supplies and Enterprise Rent a Car were complimented with twenty experiences hosted by all subject areas in the wider school. Pupils learned to use new technology in Design and Engineering, and also hosted a French café in Modern Languages, amongst many examples. A selection of pupils represented their peers at the University of Stirling, where they shared their experiences with others. Leona Brown, one of the participants, said “It was interesting to see how different businesses work and to take part in varied tasks in school, it made me think about the many skills that I have and the ones that I want to strengthen”.

### S5 CV and Interview Skills Workshop

Our award-winning strategic employability partnership with Prudential has now entered its fifth year, and continues to play a crucial role in our endeavours. All S5 pupils undertook practical CV and interview training during the recent Senior Induction Programme, with professional materials created by Andy Galbraith from Prudential and Mr Smith from our Business Education department. Feedback on this initiative was very encouraging, with young people agreeing that the experience had made a positive impact to their understanding of the world of work.

## SCOTS Programme

Ten pupils have successfully graduated from the year-long School-College Opportunities to Succeed (SCOTS) Programme at Forth Valley College. In partnership with Wallace High School, pupils studied for the SCQF 4 Employability Award with Mr Smith whilst experiencing taster sessions in eight different college courses. Now in its third year, the SCOTS Programme aims to widen pupils' understanding of college life. The SCOTS Programme continues with a new group of pupils in August 2016, and the interview process is already well underway.

## Modern Apprenticeships

As part of our continued promotion of modern apprenticeships, Wallace High School hosted two well-attended workshops as part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week. Working in partnership with Skills Development Scotland, FES and Microcom Training were invited to share up to date knowledge of the apprenticeship process. As part of our regular canvass of intended post-school destinations, appropriate participants were identified for these opportunities in order to connect young people with their career preference.

## Work Experience

Wallace High School's successful work experience programme has continued to grow, with a record number of young people taking part this session. During May and June, S5 and S6 pupils studying both Enterprise and Employability and Personal Development courses have benefited from extended opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work.

## Careers and Apprenticeships Fair

On 11 November, Wallace High School hosted 28 employers, apprenticeship providers and training organisations at the 2015 Careers and Apprenticeships Fair. Mr Smith (Employability and Partnerships), Mr Kerr (Pupil Support) and Mrs Wilkes (Business Education) worked with Fiona Lafferty (Skills Development Scotland) to ensure that a wide range of both local and national employers were present. Following preparatory work completed in assemblies over 400 school pupils from S2 through to S6 year attended the event during the afternoon, with parents and carers visiting in the evening.

## Employability Focused S4 English Talk Assessments

S4 pupils undertaking their English talk assessments have delivered their work in the form of mock interviews. Working in partnership with our economic community, Business and English have devised a programme which meets both the formal SQA assessment criteria and also develops skills for learning, life and work.

**“A strong, shared focus on Developing the Young Workforce is paramount to our young people actively contributing to wider society and the economy beyond school.”**





# OCHIL HOUSE & PUPIL SUPPORT CELEBRATING SUCCESS

In **Ochil House** our youngsters have been involved in a rich array of activities throughout the year, including:

Senior pupils were presented for 17 different National 1 level courses in the subject areas of language and communication, numeracy, health and wellbeing, social subjects, science, music and art; S5 & S6 pupils in Ochil House attended the Green Routes gardening initiative, Aberfoyle, for one day per week as part of their transition to post-school placements; S5 & S6 pupils made regular visits to Riverbank as part of their transition programme; S5 & S6 pupils attended the college school link programme (FV College, Stirling Campus); S1 Ochil House students participated in a nine week Artlink music and drama programme with the P7 pupils moving up to OH as part of their transition to secondary education; Nordoff-Robbins held weekly music therapy sessions; all pupils participated in the Variety Club's Grand Day Out at M&Ds and the Rotary Club Kids' Out Day (Bridgehaugh Rugby Club); pupils attended Hydrotherapy (twice weekly at Castleview School); Singing and signing choir practiced throughout the session (Christmas and assemblies); a number of pupils participated in the Forth Valley Disability Sports Championships (Grangemouth Stadium); there was our annual Activity Day in Ochil House, with BBQ, bouncy castle, face painting and games; weekly interactive music sessions with the Tolbooth Players; Fundraising for additional therapeutic equipment for the department; fortnightly sessions with a pet therapist, who brings her Therapet dog into the department to help young people with anxieties relax; and, finally, participation in a number of whole school events, including our annual sponsored walk.

Our **Additional Support Needs** team have supported youngsters in enjoying many wider successes and achievements. Successes in the last year have included:

Reading groups: using the SRA Corrective Reading programme to improve phonic awareness, decoding, spelling, comprehension, vocabulary; ESOL: provision of intensive small group work; college - school link programme (FV College, Stirling Campus); extensive targeted support for pupils on staged intervention.

Our **Pupil Support** and specialist **Behaviour Support** team have worked in an integrated manner to support *all* pupils across the school through a series of initiatives, including: excellent partnership working with Youth Services to support with personalised provision; supporting youngsters through our Nurture and Seasons for Growth groups; accessing college for a more personalised curriculum, especially engaging with FVC's new SCOTS programme; helping youngsters access the Raploch Project; extensive support with transitions at all key stages; induction days for our new junior and senior pupils; careers support with Skills Development Scotland, including supporting work experience placements; core work on community awareness education with PC Brown; a rigorous focus on improved attendance with our Attendance Officer providing personal support and targets; mentoring programmes for S4 and S5 pupils aiming for exam success, including our Learn to Learn programme in Tutor Group time; rewards trips to celebrate success; and partnership working with the Scottish Fire Service on community safety.

“Personalised support remains a core priority at Wallace High and our youngsters in Ochil House and those supported by our Pupil Support team access a rich and varied curriculum that promotes success.”





“Success in being recognised with sportscotland’s Gold Award last session re-affirms the place of our School of Sport model as a national leader. Partnerships with Active Stirling; Basketball Scotland; the SFA; the SRU; and Scottish Swimming continue to support our delivery of specialised coaching in our ‘Famous Five’ sports. This is supplemented by hundreds of pupils every week being involved in sporting activity beyond our school day. Our senior Sports Leaders remain key role models in our community and deliver high-level coaching experiences for our primary partners, as well as contributing altruistic service.”



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SPORT CURRICULAR, TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Our **School of Sport** continues to go from strength-to-strength, with participation figures increasing annually and sustained facilities development. We have witnessed the following significant progression:

- Our five Schools of Sport are fully embedded through partnership agreements with Active Stirling; Basketball Scotland; SFA; SRU; and Scottish Swimming. We have sustained support from Cashback funding for our SRU and SFA partnerships. As noted above, our participation numbers across sports increased for another consecutive year.
- We achieved a sportscotland Gold School SportAward.
- We also continue to have significantly increased numbers for ‘extra-curricular’ sport and a strengthened suite of activities as part of our curriculum and facilities investment, including beach volleyball, mountain biking, climbing and hockey. We had **1432** individual delivered sessions last year.

- Yet again, we have an increased number of teams representing Wallace at ages and stages across sports.
- This is supported by excellent curricular attainment and uptake in coaching and support programmes, such as our Sports Leaders initiative and our Senior School Sports Academy.
- We held our first Sports awards to recognise commitment to teams and extra-curricular sport throughout the session.
- We hosted the re-launch of the national Champions in Scotland programme.
- Our Health and Wellbeing programme has evolved with a national partnership as a pilot SEEME school leading to a strong focus on Mental & Emotional HWB.

All of the above is only possible through the dedication of our young people; the support of parents and partners; and the commitment of our staff in PE and across the school who give so much of their time to lead teams and run clubs in a variety of disciplines that encourage a wide range of our pupils to participate in sport and physical activity.



## Individual and team sporting achievements include...

### **Basketball**

S1 Boys Stirling cup winners & Scottish Cup ¼ finalists  
S1 Girls Scottish Cup ¼ finalists  
U15 Boys Scottish Cup winners & Stirling Cup winners  
U15 girls Scottish Cup semi-finalists & Stirling Cup winners  
Senior Girls Scottish Cup ¼ Finalists

Scotland Basketball international call ups –

U12 boys - Callum McGlasson & Piper McGowan  
U13 boys - Ben Yarrow  
U15 boys - Lewis McGlasson  
U14 girls - Molly Waddell & Freya Walker  
U15 girls - Nina Wills  
U16 girls - Helen Walker  
U16 & U18 girls - Ruth Allison  
U18 girls - Emily Gray

### **Dance**

S3 Dance Team - 'Contamination' - choreographed and performed at FV schools competition and won Best Choreography award.

S1/2 School of Dance performed at Go Dance in Glasgow to audience of 500 people.

Dance team put on a Summer Showcase dance show which was a sell-out evening in the theatre at WHS.

### **Football**

S1 boys - FV League runners up // Scottish Cup ¼ Finalists // Soccer 7's National Finalists

U15 Boys - FV League runners up

Seniors - FV League Stirling section runners up // Scottish Cup ¼ Finalists

Lucas Williamson Pro Youth at FV Academy

Fraser Currid- Pro Youth Dundee Utd

Jake Davidson - Pro Youth Dundee Utd

Dean Ritchie - Pro Youth Heart of Midlothian

Lewis Turnbull signed pro contract with Cowdenbeath

Dean Ritchie, Fraser Currid and Layton Wardrobe represented FV schools at U15 level. Lewis Turnbull represented at U18 level.



“This page captures a survey of the full range of team and individual successes that are achieved by our young people across a range of sports: from dance to golf; from tennis to athletics...the list goes on. Our only anxiety here is keeping up with the many individual achievements. Where an individual is not recognised below, they will have been during daily tannoy; Twitter; assemblies; our website; Flourish...”

Girls - S1-3 Runners-up at Stirling Albion Cup

Senior - FV League runners up

### **Rugby**

S1/2 Boys' team played 14 games; won 10.

S3/4 Boys' team played 11 games; won 8

S5/6 Boys' team played 10 games; won 8. Rugby 7s remained undefeated.

Harry Henderson selected for U18 President's team.

U15 Girls played in 4 regional events

### **Swimming**

Central Schools Championships- Lewis Rands, Abbie Notman, Billy Milne all medalists

Abbie Norman - Scottish Schools National Finalist in 400m Freestyle

S3/4 Boys National finalists in Medley and Freestyle relay.

Shona Laverty and Abbie Notman- Scottish National Age Group Finalists.

Lewis Goldie - Selected for U20 Scotland Waterpolo squad

### **Golf**

Tom Bradburn and Gregor Johnston qualified to represent Stirling Schools in Ryder Cup against Falkirk.

Gregor Johnston 3<sup>rd</sup> in FV Schools Championships in team event.

### **Athletics**

Ciorstaidh Ainsworth - won Race for Life // Stirling Schools 800m champion // winner of Scottish League 800m // represented East of Scotland in cross-country.

### **Tennis**

Anna Gillespie - Scottish Open U16 winner // U16 East of Scotland winner // Played for U18 and women's North of Scotland team.

Abbie Woodward - U14 North of Scotland representative // Wimbledon qualifier finalist at U14.

### **Cricket**

Tom Bradburn- Selected for Stirling County Men's Team // Regional select team // Scotland age group international selection.

Jack Bradburn - Selected for Stirling County Men's Team // Regional select team // Scotland age group international selection

### **Table Tennis**

Easton Arthur - Winner of annual School Table Tennis Tournament.

### **Hockey**

Jessica Campbell, Jay Bryson, Toby Bryson, and assistant coach Garth Eklund got to the finals of Scottish National Festival with Stirling Wanderers U14 team.

Garth Eklund reached finals of Scottish National Festival.

**ACHIEVEMENTS IN FACULTIES ACROSS THE SCHOOL AND BEYOND... OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ACHIEVE WITHIN CLASSES AND IN A RICH HOST OF 'EXTRA-CURRICULAR' CONTEXTS ACROSS THE SCHOOL. MANY OF OUR SUCCESSES ARE CAPTURED BELOW...**

### **Faculty of Communication**

Pupils enjoyed a wide range of experiences to enrich their study of language and literature.

### **Paired Reading**

The English Department continue to work closely with our Learning Resource Manager, Mrs Waters, to deliver our very successful Paired Reading programme. This year 35 senior pupils supported a number of S1 pupils to improve their literacy skills through a programme of active reading.

### **BBC 500 Words Short Story competition**

In March pupils from S1-S3 participated in the BBC 500 Words Short Story competition. It was open to all pupils under the age of 13. The fantasy genre was very popular as well as short stories with a horror theme.

### **Shakespeare Schools Festival**

In this year's Shakespeare Schools Festival we performed *The Merchant of Venice* at Falkirk Theatre on 3rd November. It was a fabulous performance, well attended and supported by Wallace's pupils and staff. During our appraisal, we were commended for a "professional, thoughtful and focused production".

### **The MacRobert Pantomime**

A group of 40 pupils and staff enjoyed this year's panto at the MacRobert Theatre: "The Little Mermaid". A hilarious and entertaining evening was had by all, getting everyone well and truly into the Christmas spirit.

### **Arts Award**

Twelve of Wallace's pupils achieved their Bronze Arts Award for their hard work during the Shakespeare Schools Festival. We travelled to Edinburgh to be moderated, where all pupils passed with flying colour.



**“On every floor of our building, on a daily basis, we aim to ensure that young people enjoy a rich range of activities. This starts before, and goes well beyond the end of, the school day. This also, indeed, extends beyond our campus, with many excursions and sustained commitments, such as our students who work hard throughout the year on the Duke of Edinburgh Award; those who commit to our many clubs; our school show...”**

### **The Carnegie Medal**

In April an S2 class undertook the challenge of shadowing the Carnegie Medal awards. Pupils were given access to all eight shortlisted novels and two pupils, Jamie Winters and Niamh Law read and reviewed all eight novels in just six weeks. The class watched the live ceremony on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June and were delighted to learn that a class favourite, *One* by Sarah Crossan, won the top prize.

### **Jackie Kay Poetry Reading**

In June, 30 pupils attending a poetry reading by Scotland's new Makar, Jackie Kay. After the reading, pupils asked a number of questions which were very well received by Ms Kay and provided a real insight into the world of a poet.

### **S3 Short Story competition**

In May, all S3 pupils submitted entries for our inaugural short story competition. Pupils were presented with the challenging task of producing a captivating story in less than 50 words. Entries were of the highest standard and Mrs Waters and Mr Pennock performed the difficult task of judging the winners. Brogan McDaid also submitted a Gaidhlig entry which was read out and translated at our awards ceremony.

### **A. Higher Trip to Mitchell Library**

In December, our Advanced Higher pupils visited the Mitchell Library in

Glasgow as part of their dissertation preparations.

### **Shrek**

In October, S4 attended a performance of the stage version of 'Shrek' at the Edinburgh Playhouse.

### **Stirling University Partnership**

The faculty continues to build on our relationship with Stirling University and this year our S4 classes had the opportunity to be interviewed in a real life setting by Human Resources students and faculty staff at the university. Not only did this enable pupils to meet the requirements of their National 5 Talk Assessment, they also experienced a real sense of how challenging interview situations can be and what life at university entails.

### **BBC Intergenerational Project**

In May, a group of S4 pupils were given the opportunity to participate in the making of a BBC Radio programme as part of their 'Dementia Season'. Pupils learned many of the technical basics behind producing such a programme and were recorded sharing their memories of school with a small group of dementia sufferers and their carers.

### **Primary Transition**

Mrs Todd has been working with colleagues and pupils at Raploch Primary on a joint literacy project as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.





“Collaborative working on a host of creative projects is essential to providing our pupils with opportunities to see genuine, real outcomes for their work. This includes a focus on community initiatives and charity partnerships, including work with SAMH, the Anthony Nolan Trust and Start-up Stirling in the past session.”



### Faculty of Creative Industries

Our Creative Industries team (encompassing **Art, Design & Engineering and Music**) provide a rich range of experiences for pupils throughout the session. They are also a lynchpin of many of our most prominent whole school events.

In the past session, our team have contributed the following experiences:

Our young fashion team competed at the national **Future Textiles Event** at Dumfries House; our summer **School Show** was *Grease*, with our pupils and staff contributing to costume and set design, sound & lighting, photography, and music & performance; we held **Christmas and Spring concerts**; our **D&E Practical Woodwork** students made garden benches for Ochil House; **Senior Art Pupils** worked on screen printing at FVC; our **Junk Kouture** pupils were national finalists at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall and were invited to Young Reporters Scotland National Awards; Historic Scotland completed a **Virtual Reality Workshop** within D&E; Leith Art School provided a **Portfolio Talk** (Senior Art Pupils); we held our annual **Fashion Show**, which showcased pupil designs; National Galleries provided a **Mask Workshop** for their exhibition #TheUntitled; Frazer Grant achieved 3rd Place Violin at **Perthshire Music Festival**; Angela Donald provided a **Fashion Industry talk** as part of our DYW experiences; we hosted

the **BBC Ten Pieces Event 2016**; Tomoki Hayashi was part of the **National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland**; Molly Mack & Thomas Kane competed at the **NTUC Song Writing Competition** (Glasgow); we held our **DYW Creative Industries Showcase** (January); S4 pupils completed **Bike Maintenance** in partnership with Recycle-a-Bike; **S5 Practical Woodwork** students visited Brian Reid & Sons Coffin Factory; pupils completed a **Motorbike Maintenance Workshop** - RutsUK (Rural & Urban Training Scheme); seniors participated in an **Art Portfolio Weekend at Stirling University**; we hosted **Battle of the Bands** in October, with special guest judge and performer Tyler from Canadian supergroup Barenaked Ladies; and a range of clubs & groups, including **Orchestra, Guitar, Trad, Fashion, Photography** meet weekly to enhance the curriculum...



## Faculty of Numeracy and Technology

### S5 Maths Visit to Stirling University

Wallace High School pupils participated in the annual Maths workshop organised by Stirling University. The event was attended by 160 pupils invited from 17 schools from across the Central Scotland, and WHS was represented by 14 pupils from the new S5 Higher Maths class. The main themes included problem solving through puzzles, Lego challenge and maths quiz. WHS pupils enjoyed the experience, especially the opportunity to work with the university staff and meet pupils from other schools.

### Maths Challenges

On 4<sup>th</sup> Feb, 24 S3 and S4 pupils took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. They had to use their maths skills to solve problems and answer multiple choice questions. Four people received Bronze awards and five received Silver awards. Ruari Henderson (S4) received a Gold award in this challenge and met the threshold to attempt the next challenge, the Pink Kangaroo. On 21<sup>st</sup> March, a group of four S1 and S2 pupils attended the UKMT Team Maths Challenge Regional Final. They worked together to solve problems and had a really enjoyable day. They took part in the Group round and worked as a team of four before splitting into two teams for the Relay. The pupils gave it their all and were a great credit to the school.

### S6 Advanced Higher Mathematics – Visit to Hynman Robertson Actuarial Services

S6 Advanced Higher Mathematics pupils visited Hynman Robertson, an independent pension consultancy based in Glasgow. The visit was organised by maths teacher, Mrs McGonagle, and, followed an earlier visit to the school by Steven Law, fund actuary at Hynman Robertson to speak to S6 pupils about the career opportunities open to them.

## Pi Day

Following a series of assemblies to S1-3 pupils, the Maths department celebrated Pi Day by making Pi-Line skylines and having a Pi recital competition. The Pi-Lines that students created were excellent and the competition ran on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March with a number of students taking part. The overall winner was Faith I'Anson (S2) who memorised Pi to 170 decimal places. This smashed the previous school record of 87 that had been held since 2013.

### Primary Challenge

Pupils from our learning community have visited the Maths department to take part in a series of Maths challenges. During their visits pupils complete a number activity and then they take part in a fun Maths relay. Pupils have enjoyed their experience and our S1 helpers have enjoyed assisting P7s with the various challenges.

### Business Studies Department: Site Visits & Visiting Speakers

In Business Education, pupils enjoyed engagement with a range of partners as follows:

#### **S3**

Visiting speakers from the Public Services: Fire services & Police and charities.

#### **S4**

In support of the assignments for National 5, our 4<sup>th</sup> year pupils visited the Alexander Dennis factory in Falkirk. Pupils were shown round the factory by Mr Ronnie Forsyth and saw the production process from when the chassis are transported in to the testing of the final buses. The facilities were huge with six buses being produced at each stage and ten stages on each line. The group were surprised by how labour-intensive the process was and the visit gave pupils lots of materials for their final assignment.



## S5

Our Higher students were involved in a series of workshops with Chivas Brothers, the spirits whisky bottling plant in Dumbarton. Mr Ken Lindsay visited the school and looked at what marketing techniques the company uses to sell its brands. Pupils saw some high tech solutions including a glass that can be used to drink whisky in space. Mr Colin McKerron also visited the school to look at how the company manages quality. He took pupils through a problem solving exercise, to try and find the cause of why some closures would leak. Both workshops showed us how business works to solve problems and increase sales and was a valuable source for our assignments.

### **Employability**

As part of our continued promotion of modern apprenticeships, Wallace High School hosted two well-attended workshops as part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week. Working in partnership with Skills Development Scotland, FES and Microcom Training were invited to share up to date knowledge of the apprenticeship process. As part of our regular canvass of intended post-school destinations, appropriate participants were identified for these opportunities in order to connect young people with their career preference.

In the FES workshop, potential joiners, electricians and heating engineers discovered just what it takes to apply for and complete a rigorous apprenticeship. Young people who worked with Microcom Training learned about a range of careers linked to business, administration and IT, before taking part in interactive activities to practice their decision-making skills. Feedback from both workshops was incredibly positive, from both young people and employers alike.

This approach to offering personalised career insights is being piloted by Mr Smith in his remit of leading employability and partnership work, to support the Developing the Young Workforce initiative. Further opportunities, with an increased number of apprenticeship providers, will be considered in the near future.

### **Work Experience**

Wallace High School's successful work experience programme has continued to grow, with a record number of young people taking part this session. During May and June, S5 and S6 pupils studying both Enterprise and Employability and Personal Development courses have benefited from extended opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work. By matching the needs of participants with those of our school's economic partners, as part of our commitment to Developing the Young Workforce, Mr Smith has co-ordinated individualised placements within a variety of local businesses. A wide variety of partners support our programme, including MacRae and Dick (Ford), Garratt's International Health and Fitness Club, and Historic Scotland.

Finlay Gibson participated in work experience at Central FM, to build on his interest in sound engineering. "The best part has been finding out how audio equipment is used in a professional workplace. I have developed my problem solving

skills by learning new techniques to create different playlists", explains Finlay. "I have enjoyed the challenge of work experience immensely, and this is definitely a career that I want to explore in the future."

Chelsea Moore worked with Marks and Spencer in their busy Stirling store. "Work experience has definitely built up my confidence", commented Chelsea, "and I now feel very comfortable working with others. I have worked across the store, and have been given responsibility to create displays which I have particularly enjoyed." Chelsea is clear on the impact. "Work experience has changed the way I feel about getting a job, I now realise that my skills are valued by employers and that work can be very rewarding." Chelsea's supervisor, Jennifer Winning (Commercial Manager, Marks and Spencer) reflected "We thoroughly enjoyed having Chelsea in store and she did a fantastic job. We look forward to working with Wallace High School again and, if Chelsea is anything to go by, your pupils are a credit to your organisation."

### **Computing Department**

In addition to the above, our Computing team participated in the Apps for Good programme and also completed workshops with HSCB, as well as partnering Business education in delivering integrated BGE experiences for pupils that develop core technology skills essential to accessing the wider curriculum.



**"Our Numeracy and technology team have been at the heart of applying key concepts in practical working environments, forming excellent links with a number of partners and driving our Developing the Young Workforce agenda."**

## Faculty of Science

### Arichi

The Arichi project has been running at Wallace High School for over twenty years now. All S1 pupils are asked to complete a project in the format of their choice, which discusses how we will use energy in the future.

This year has seen the highest ever standard for the prize with an amazing 76 pupils shortlisted in the top categories. Such successful completion of the Arichi project has also led to the Science department nominating the top five students for a Bronze CREST award from the British Science Association.

The overall winner of the Arichi Prize in Science for 2016 was Natasha Logan, who completed an impressive working model and a series of short video documentaries to outline the energy crisis and what we can do to help solve the problem. The Science Faculty would like to congratulate all of the students who worked so hard to produce these excellent projects. The top 76 students were rewarded with a cinema voucher for Vue.

### CREST in the Curriculum

Every year our S2 students are given one period per week to plan, design and carry out a Science project of their choice. Our S2 pupils never fail to produce interesting and innovative projects. From investigating the effectiveness of skincare products, finding the best toothpaste on the market, or even providing a scientific report on the best football boots to improve your goal scoring skills.

Projects that meet the standards of the British Science Association are



nominated for a CREST award by the Science Faculty.

### Primary Science

The partnership between the Science Faculty and our associate Primary Schools continues on from last year. Supported by SSERC (Scottish Schools Education Resource Centre) every primary school in our cluster along with our own Science Faculty now has a Science Mentor who has been trained to support all primary staff in delivering engaging science lessons. There were two Inset days at Wallace devoted entirely to the training of primary staff in delivering science. Every primary specialist in the learning community was given the opportunity to attend three science

### Go4SET

The Go4SET initiative links pupils in S2 with a mentor company to complete a ten week Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Project. This year Wallace High's team of six pupils continued to build on the school's already impressive previous record by winning the award for Best Overall Project at the Edinburgh Regional Final and qualifying for the National Final in Glasgow in June. The pupils worked with Cadence Electronics to produce a report 'Stations for the Future' in which they researched, planned and designed improvements for Stirling Train Station. The team were commended on their professional and scientific report, their teamwork and their achievable and

**“Our Science Faculty continues to provide rich opportunities for our youngsters to engage in academic study of our three sciences and in applying their learning in real contexts, such as work with: Go4Set; our annual Arichi prizes; the Engineering Education Scheme; CREST awards; Salters Festival of Chemistry; SSERC practical work; Stirling University’s STAMP day; British Heart Foundation’s Heart Start programme...”**

workshops and utilise new technologies and methodologies.

### K’Nex Challenge

The fifth annual K’nex challenge has continued to enjoy great success, with Fallin, Cornton, Raploch, Bridge of Allan and Riverside P6s all taking part in the competition. This is another excellent way of building relationships with future Wallace students and it is always wonderful for the Science staff to have a glimpse of the youngsters who are working hard on the earlier Science CfE levels within our learning community. Congratulations to Raploch Primary who were this year’s winners.

realistic ideas. For their hard work the pupils all received a Silver CREST award and were also inducted into the Industrial Cadets programme.

### Mental Health and Welfare

To raise awareness of Mental and Emotional Health issues, as part of our whole school Health and Wellbeing SEEME partnership, lessons were developed and delivered in Biology during the school's Mental and Emotional Health Week, themed *It's All About Me*. This helped pupils appreciate much more fully the science behind emotional reactions and mental health problems.





### **Outdoor Science Laboratories at Wallace High School**

A group of our S1 and S3 pupils impressed judges at the University of Aberdeen recently with their designs for outdoor science experiments. The S1 team investigated various environmental factors that may influence the efficiency of our newly installed solar panels at Wallace High, while the S3 group analysed the impact of fertilisers on our environment and wider society. The teams worked extremely hard to present their work and were awarded the runners-up prize at the national poster competition run by the University of Aberdeen's Biodiversity Centre.

### **Space School**

Wiktor Jurek has become the second Wallace High student to be accepted into the Scottish Space School and he took part in the initiative at Strathclyde University during the early summer. Furthermore, he was also selected for the Learning Journey to NASA – one of only ten students from Scotland to do so. During the Space School week, staff and mentors assess the pupils on the basis of their performance on the allocated tasks and activities, their skills both as a team leader and a team player, and their general attitude, and 40 are then invited to attend a selection workshop. Following a rigorous assessment process 10 pupils are then chosen to go on a week-long Learning Journey in October to Houston, Texas, where the pupils are able to visit NASA's Johnson Space Centre. The Learning Journey is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the selected pupils. During their visit to NASA they are able to visit Rocket Park to see the Saturn V Rocket – the most powerful rocket ever built and operated. On the VIP tour pupils can often visit the Mission Control Centre.

### **Engineering Education Scheme**

Congratulations to Lucy Hayashi, Lana Crow, Lewis Metcalfe and Lewis McCulloch who have won the Engineering Education Scheme 2016.

The Engineering Education Scheme is a competition in which teams of senior STEM students are given a real life challenge by a mentor company and asked to find a solution. Calnex Solutions, who design and build equipment for the mobile telecoms industry, were partnered with Wallace this year. Our team were asked to find solutions to overheating issues when a mobile network testing device runs at

higher power ratings. The six month long project has given the team a real life experience of residential trips to university and industry as well as building their project management and STEM skills. The team have not only won this national competition run by the Engineering Development Trust but they have also collected a Gold CREST award and gained Gold Industrial Cadet status for this six month project.

This is an incredible achievement and they are the first team nationally to have achieved this.

### **Advanced Higher Physics**

Our S6 students attended labs at Herriot-Watt and Strathclyde University to complete their projects in the new Advanced Higher course. The standard of the projects was high and this year has seen a 100% pass rate in the course and 88% of our pupils gaining A or B grade.

### **Junior Biology**

In association with Heriot Watt University, our Junior Biologists took part in the Enlightenment Smartphone Microscope Project, sponsored by the Wellcome Trust, Olympus, Leica and ESPRC (Engineering and Physical Science Research Council). Our pupils used Smartphone Microscopy Kits to capture the amazing microscopic world around them. This activity was part of the International Year of Light and although none of our pupils captured that winning image, the opportunity enhanced the work they completed for their Cell Biology unit.

As part of Biology Week 2015, some of our senior pupils attended an evening event hosted by the University of Stirling at which pupils had the opportunity to experience a number of lectures in STEM subjects given by the University staff. The aim was to encourage students to study Science at Higher level and hear about current areas of research undertaken at our local university.

### **Rocket Science**

The Biology Department was selected to take part in a nationwide science experiment, Rocket Science, in association with the Royal Horticultural Society and the UK Space Agency. The aim of the experiment was to investigate the impact of micro-gravity and space travel on seed germination and growth. Our Space Biologists had the responsibility for growing seeds taken to the International Space Station by

astronaut Tim Peake and returned to earth in earlier this year. This generated great interest from both pupils and staff. Pupils took various growth measurements and entered their results into a national database to help form a clearer picture of the potential for astronauts to grow their own food on long term missions.

### **Science Live**

Our Higher Human Biology students travelled to Glasgow for a special Science Live event. This was a Whole day event at which they heard eminent biologists Lord Robert Winston and Professor Steve Jones describe their specialist fields of work. The pupils found this to be both informative and inspiring.

### **Biology Lab Skills**

Our Advanced Higher students also attended Forth Valley College over two days to enhance their laboratory techniques and complete advanced practical work.

### **Science Club**

Finally, our weekly Science Club continues to enjoy a strong membership with pupils engaging in enriching activities that promote a genuine interest in scientific enquiry.





**Faculty of Social Subjects**

In **Social Subjects**, across **Geography, History, Modern Studies** and **Politics**, pupils have enjoyed a range of wider opportunities, including:

- Our Wallace high Question Time event attracted an excellent panel to debate key issues, including Scottish Labour Party leader, Kezia Dugdale.
- Eco Schools Global Classroom conference at Edinburgh Zoo - excellent work throughout the year promoting ethical issues.
- Our Eco Schools Green Flag status was renewed.
- Eco Club completed the 'Here and Now' project and were the national winners of the Sustainable Christmas Competition.
- Eco Schools championed the 'Start up Stirling' campaign, delivering care packages to those in need at Christmas.
- S2 Historical Walking Tour around Stirling, an excellent opportunity to engage with local history.
- S4 Geography trip to Callander to complete a river study as part of our National courses.
- Higher Geography annual trip to the Lake District to complete a series of field studies.
- Senior Historians helped to prepare materials and lead assemblies to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.
- Advanced Higher History students utilised Stirling University resources in order to facilitate depth of research as part of their studies.
- Junior speakers participated in the Forth Valley Procurator Fiscal's Public Speaking Competition - excellent



engagement with other schools and debating key contemporary issues.

- S4 Youth Achievement class gained their John Muir award at Discovery level following much dedicated work with the faculty.
- Higher pupils participated in the annual Modern Studies Conference at Stirling University.
- S5/6 pupils participated in the Donald Dewar Debating Competition.
- Pupils competed in our annual Friends of Logie Debating competition - connecting with important modern and historical issues.
- Higher History and Modern Studies pupil, Cameron Archibald served as a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament.
- S5 pupils participated in Herriot Watt University's Design Smash urban planning event.
- Faculty DYW engagement through a number of visiting speakers, including: a hydrologist; Scottish Blood Transfusion Service; British Army; Police Scotland; and local MSP Steven Paterson, to name but a few visitors.

**“In an historic year for British politics our Social Subjects team worked hard, through our Brexit referendum and various visiting speakers, to raise awareness of the importance of democracy and engaging with political, social & environmental issues .”**

## Faculty of Citizenship

In **Modern Languages**, pupils enjoyed a range of activities, including:

- In September all year groups had special Assemblies to celebrate the **European Day of Languages** to embrace diversity and cultures.
- Our S3 pupils experienced our second **Languages Open Doors Event** to highlight the opportunities that languages can bring for life, learning and work opportunities. Our pupils attended work shops led by Hilton Hospitality, Project Trust, the Spanish Embassy, one of our own S2 pupils delivered a workshop in Russian and also the Scottish Centre for Language Learning.
- **S2 French Tourism Project** - S2 pupils in French were asked to produce a creative Tourism Project. The pupils showed their artistic talent and originality. They also enjoyed peer assessing each project.
- Senior students enjoyed a trip to southern Spain where they engaged in language lessons for three hours each morning and savoured the culture throughout the rest of the day. Highlights of the trip included the Benalmadena Cable Car & Exhibition and spending the day at Aqualand – Torremolinos. The students were a credit to their families and the staff praised them for being such great ambassadors for Wallace High wherever they went - enjoying the sights, or savouring some famous Spanish tapas in restaurants!

In **RMPS**, pupils participated in a range of activities that encouraged engagement with philosophical issues and promoted altruism across ages and stages, including:

### **Religion, Beliefs and Values Award**

As part of their RMPS course, several S3 pupils completed community projects, linking with the Religion, Beliefs and Values Award. They collected food parcels and money from pupils and staff around the school and then made a special delivery to Start-Up Stirling.

### **Samye Ling Buddhist Monastery**

Forty-one students from the Higher RMPS classes enjoyed a Tibetan experience on a recent trip to Samye Ling Buddhist Monastery in Dumfries. The visit allowed them to experience Buddhism in action as they continue their study of the beliefs, practices and traditions of this world religion.

The full day experience included a tour of the monastery and the grounds, allowing the pupils to eat with the nuns and monks and experience some meditation. They were allowed access to the shrines and a detailed guide of the prayer wheels, stupas and prayer hall.

Seeing such a different culture up close and having such a detailed guide of the monastery, really brought to life the concepts they had studied. The chants, the routines, the artwork and the atmosphere really captured the imagination. Pupils were fascinated to hear the prayers of a nun coming from inside her cell where she has dedicated years of her life to prayer and meditation.

Ms. Curwen, who participated in the trip, said “Not only was it a terrific experience because of the insight into a different

culture, but also because of the maturity and respect shown by our senior pupils as they engaged in the visit.”

### **Malala Excursion**

The RMPS department took a group of Higher students to see the premier of ‘*He Named Me Malala*’, an intimate portrait of 18-year-old Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai who was targeted by the Taliban and severely wounded by a gunshot when returning home on her school bus at the age of 15.

### **Prison Chaplain Visit**

Graham Bell visited S4 National 5 classes to develop the pupils’ understanding of crime and punishment in Scotland. He gave a very honest and insightful talk on the issues around prison as a form of punishment and encouraged the pupils to have a greater understanding of the many reasons behind why people commit crimes.

### **Fairtrade Cafe**

Staff from Home Economics, Modern Languages and RMPS supported a four-week Employability Programme for S4 students this term. They explored the philosophy and practice behind ‘Fairtrade’ and used their language and communication skills to develop a menu in French. The pupils invited a variety of staff and served them with Fairtrade food and drinks. Staff were seated and served by the students, who took the opportunity to speak with them in French – and challenged the staff to respond. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience, using their creativity to make and design the menus and developing their interpersonal skills as they served and waited on their guests.





# IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2015/16

IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR 2015/16 ARE NOTED BELOW ALONGSIDE A CONCISE EVALUATION OF PROGRESS IN EACH KEY AREA

OUR FULL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 16/17 IS PUBLISHED ON OUR WEBSITE

Curriculum	Evaluation
Assessment capture in BGE – track progress & support pace and challenge. System revised and implemented 15/16.	Progressed this session with internal use of 3/2/1 system. Improved next session with new, integrated BGE tracking system.
Further review S1-3 experience – focus on Significant Aspects of Learning, pace & challenge.	SAL work underway across all faculties with some strong practice in faculties. Continue to develop through Faculty Improvement plans.
Further develop S3 Profile & Learning Community transition from P7-S1 with digital profile.	Remains inconsistent. Profiling takes place across schools but system usage not consistent in Learning Community. Priority for 16/17.
Continue to review Senior Phase courses and implement CfE Advanced Highers.	Substantial quality work completed on this across subject areas. Continue to develop in 16/17 session and review following SQA results.
Further develop shared responsibility for Literacy, Numeracy & Health and Wellbeing across the curriculum.	TLCs; EMT meetings and targeted discourse have developed this further. Build on in 16/17 with further TLC and family learning work.
Strong focus on Developing the Young Workforce. BGE and Senior Phase plans implemented.	Significant in-school and partnership work has progressed here. Some key areas of strength in S4 programme and through targeted support.

Improvement Through Self-evaluation	Evaluation
Whole school Quality Assurance principles <b>in action – evidence consistency</b> in all faculties.	QA procedures progressed across faculties. Some areas of high quality here. Consistency and depth remain key targets.
QA calendar for class visits <b>in action</b> – focus on quality of learners’ experiences and discourse.	Class visits and sharing of feedback in progress. Continue to develop consistency & expand pupil voice capture.
Consistent, planned capture of pupil voice – learners’ experiences – led by Pupil Ambassadors.	Some good work here through EMT BGE samples. Re-structure based on this year for new session to further improve.
Continue to focus on revised QA of reporting standards – especially in the BGE linked to clear <b>progression</b> in S1-3.	Some good work here has led to greater consistent quality overall. Reflect further on BGE reports, especially, and impact of feedback. Review 16/17.
Improvement in performance focused on through QA and rigorous results analysis (Tony Conroy data & Insight analysis).	Detailed analysis and targeted focus continues. We have developed further use of Insight and will focus on, especially, Senior Phase targeted mentoring and Positive Destination figures in 16/17.
Mentoring groups related to pupil performance sustained – <b>targeted intervention</b> is key here.	Very effective work here with sustained Higher performance from S5 groups and strong S4 National 5 performance. Extend into targeted S6 mentoring in 16/17.



<b>Building Community/ Ethos</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
Consistent, planned capture of parental voice – review approaches and breadth of capture with PTN.	Some progress here but this requires focus in 16/17 <u>plan</u> . PTN improvement priorities to support this.
Review Awards Ceremonies and wider celebration of success – implement revisions in assemblies and ceremonies 15/16.	Some successful work here in terms of celebrating wider achievement and inclusive awards ceremonies. Further review of wider achievement capture in 16/17.
Eco schools re-cycling regeneration continued through Eco group and Science BGE – <b>sustainability</b> .	Some very good Eco work this session. Whole school (catering etc.) re-cycling explored. Continue Eco <u>team work</u> next session.
Focus on further strengthening relationships with all partners, with a specific focus on Developing the Young Workforce.	Some excellent work here. Many partners engaged for work placements and in-school delivery. Prudential agreement renewed.
Strong focus through working together, staff development and partner working on <b>high aspirations</b> and <b>positive language</b> .	Some strong work on this through staff sessions and faculty meetings. Develop further through excellence & equity focus – Scottish Attainment Challenge work in 16/17.
Partnership working with catering service on promoting healthy eating and good choices.	HWB team to continue to promote this in new session. New catering options available this year and pupil engagement.

<b>Other Key Areas of Specific Focus</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
Sustained commitment to further strengthening cluster partnership working through Learning Community action plan.	Significant work on community plans. Equity focus with Literacy project at <u>Raploch</u> & attendance work. Develop further 16/17 with SAC.
Homework procedures developed through working group engaging with pilot of online system in 15/16 for impact 16/17.	Significant work completed here. Policy launched. Show My Homework live from October 2016.
PRD processes and procedures further reviewed and implemented – move to online GTCS profile by end of 15/16 for all.	Effective work here. All staff PRDs completed and CPD opportunities targeted. Continue to review and develop 16/17.
Employability and positive destinations focus – skills for work and partnership with SDS.	On-going focus with significant work here. Initial increase in positive destinations and improved sustained figure by March 2016.
Learning Support re-design to focus on <u>maximising</u> impact of resources on individual pupils and the most effective model for in-class support.	Learning support systems reviewed alongside structure for best support. New practice implemented. Reviewed further for impact in 16/17.
Focus on extending strong work with Young <u>Carers</u> into an embedded <u>programme</u> .	Excellent <u>programme</u> developed. Significant awareness raised and OYT voyage completed.

# AND FINALLY... WIDER SCHOOL INITIATIVES THAT CONTINUE TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT...

## **Attendance & Engagement**

Our drive to continue to offer a rich and varied curriculum within and beyond the school day, and to set high expectations regarding attitude and shared values, has resulted in **sustained attendance over 91% for the past three sessions. Our attendance figure for 2015/16 = 91.09%**. This has also been marked by a sustained reduction in exclusions against historical figures with **24 episodes of exclusion** in the past session.

## **Duke of Edinburgh Award**

The Award has been offered in the school for a number of years but numbers are particularly high now, fully incorporating our Ochil House pupils, with continued interest annually.

The award consists of four sections: Skill, Physical/Sport, Volunteering and Expedition.

All pupils learn navigation as part of their Bronze expedition training, which most use as their skill, but music and drama are also very popular.

Many pupils participate in sporting activities in Wallace High as part of the various sport and dance teams within the school.

The volunteering section has developed a variety of skills and evidenced dedication from pupils in supporting others. Examples include: riding for the disabled; helping in Sunday School and youth groups; community gardening projects; and coaching.

The expedition section has allowed pupils to demonstrate planning, perseverance and teamwork.

Last session 40 pupils attempted the Bronze Award and 20 pupils were working on achieving the Silver Award.

## **School Show: Grease**

Our school show was, yet again, an excellent example of how collaboration results in a genuinely rich experience that involves pupils, staff, parents and partners. Months of preparation led to two vibrant nights in June that incorporated: drama; dance; music; stage and props design & construction; and sound and lighting support. This is not to mention parental support through PTN catering and partner support from our Music tutors. Congratulations to all involved!

In summary, pupils achieved wider, **national recognition** in a number of key areas:

➤ We were awarded a sportsotland Gold Award in recognition of our outstanding promotion of physical activity and sport.

➤ Our young BGE scientists reached the national final of Go4SET and our seniors won the national EES challenge.

➤ Our Ochil House seniors won a Gold Award for their outstanding gardening work at Green Routes.

➤ Our artists featured in national Junk Kouture and Future Textiles events.

➤ Twelve students achieved a Bronze Arts Award for their work in the national Schools Shakespeare Festival.

**“Our timetabled work with Young Carers continues to be a source of pride in Wallace High and this was extended into a partnership with the Ocean Youth Trust in 15/16. This partnership has been recognised by the Carers’ Service nationally and was cited in the European Parliament.”**



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