

Spring 2015
Issue no. 17



Flourish

Keeping you in the Know

www.wallacehigh.org.uk



@wallacehighsch

Key Dates and Staff Changes—Page 2

Ski Trip—Page 3

Art Showcase—Page 4

Football and Rugby Cup Winners—Page 10

Forth Valley Debating Winners—Page 11



Football : U14 Cup
Winners

Rugby : Central Cup
Winners, Senior Squad





Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the Spring 2015 edition of *Flourish*!

As I write this introduction we are in the midst of what is always a very challenging term for all of our pupils preparing for SQA exams (and that is not to mention our dedicated staff and anxious parents!). This is always a term that moves with remarkable speed and busyness as the volume of folio and internal assessment work reaches its climax. It is all the more remarkable, indeed, that in the midst of this academic focus, our pupils, staff, parents and partners combine to produce a range of activities and achievements that enrich our pupils' experiences.



The articles within celebrate these group and personal achievements in the full range of curricular areas across the school, including examples of sporting success, local and foreign trip experiences, cultural and scientific successes and some excellent examples of youngsters fully engaging with the national Developing the Young Workforce agenda.

As ever in school, we are reflecting on the successes of the term whilst also eagerly anticipating the months ahead. As I write, we are very much looking forward to our Spring Concert and well into planning the natural evolution of our school year: events that will mark a farewell to our S6 leavers and our Primary Induction experiences that welcome our new S1 group. We have two basketball sides in consecutive Scottish Cup finals on the same day in the week ahead and we are very excited by the snippets we have overheard thus far from the team who are preparing for our School Show, *Little Shop of Horrors*, in June.

Thanks to all parents and partners for their support this session. I hope that you and your families enjoy a very pleasant Easter break – with very welcome lighter (and hopefully warmer) days ahead. I wish all of our seniors every success in their upcoming exams and urge them to remember that with real effort and focus they *can* and *will* achieve their potential.

Enjoy this issue of *Flourish* - I look forward, yet again, to celebrating even more achievements in our Summer edition!

Scott Pennock, Head Teacher

Staff News

Sadly, during this last term Wallace High said farewell to members of the team: Mr Iaian Kirkpatrick has been successful in being appointed to the post of Principal Teacher at Lornshill Academy; Miss Kirstin Armstrong, Teacher of Physical Education, has left the world of education to set-up in business; Mr Graeme McIntee and Mr Peter Yates for their support to the school over the last few months. Wallace High wish these staff every success and enjoyment for their future.

New Appointments

Mr Pierangelo Palombo has been appointed as acting Principal Teacher of Communication to cover for Mrs Tracey Henderson who is undertaking a period of secondment with the Scottish College for Educational Leadership

Mr Jason Blyth has been appointed to the permanent post of Teacher of Music.

Maternity Leave

Mrs Asha Eaglesfield, Teacher of Gaelic, commenced her maternity leave of absence in February.

We welcome back Mrs Arlene Orr after her period of maternity leave.

Dates for your diary for 2015:

S6 Graduation—23rd April 2015 at 4pm

SQA Exam Leave begins—24th April 2015

SQA Examinations—commence 28th April 2015

P6/7 Parents' Information Evening—Tuesday 19th May from 7pm

S1-S3 Junior Concert—Wednesday 20th May 2015 from 7pm

Junior Awards Ceremony—18th June 2015 at 7pm

School Show (*Little Shop of Horrors*)—Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June 2015

School Holidays

Friday 3rd April to Friday 17th April 2015

Monday 4th May 2015

Junior Ski Trip—Bormio, Italy



Wallace High School pupils enjoyed a week skiing in Italy at the end of January. A group of twenty-four S1-S3 pupils, together with Mrs Ritchie, Mr Burke and Mrs Waters travelled to Bormio.

There was a wide range of skiing abilities among the group. Many pupils were beginners who had just completed a six-week block of lessons at Fir Park Ski Centre, and so they were excited at having the opportunity to ski on snow, whilst the more experienced skiers were keen to bank more ski miles and improve their technique.



On the first day's skiing pupils were met by ski instructors and divided into two groups depending on ability. Ski lessons ran daily from 10 am – 12 pm and 1 pm – 3 pm. Pupils were allowed to ski with Mrs Ritchie, Mr Burke and Mrs Waters from 9:30 am – 10:00 am and after lessons between 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm. All of the pupils took advantage of these extra sessions, and for many of the experienced skiers, this gave them the opportunity to ski faster over longer distances. The pupils who were new to skiing used these sessions to consolidate what they had learned in ski school.

We stayed at the Hotel Villaggio Girasole, which was ideally placed at the top of the gondola, and at the foot of the main chair lift. This meant that there wasn't far to travel each morning

before the start of ski school and not far to carry the skis at the end of the day!

The group were well looked after by the team at the Girasole; the food was great and rooms were comfortable. A number of evening activities were planned to ensure that pupils enjoyed the warmth of indoors after a challenging day on the slopes: film night, quiz night, charades and a karaoke session. On Thursday evening the gondola ran into the evening so the group were able to visit the pretty medieval town of Bormio.

The pupils and staff all had a wonderful time; the weather was great and the snow fantastic.

CREST Awards

Many of our S2 pupils at Wallace High School are now nearing completion of their CREST Science projects. This is a very exciting time for the faculty and our students as the possibility of our young people being recommended for CREST awards becomes more apparent.



A British Science Association programme

Working towards a CREST project is a superb way for our learners to develop their own independent and innovative approaches towards learning. They are given the widest possible range to study and learn about Science in their own chosen context.

From the Science of the cosmetic industry to the Physics of mountain biking, from finding the best football kit to studying flight, our S2 pupils have created, designed and explored their way to what will, hopefully, result in a nationally recognised achievement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

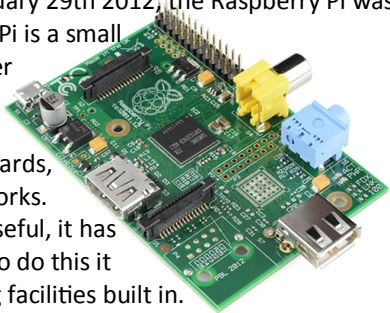
Inspiring Young Women Event: Scottish Parliament



On 23 March 2015 Lara Turner, Alex Mortimer, Courtney Laird, Lauren McKenzie (S5) and Mrs Horsburgh attended the 'Inspiring Young Women' Event at the Scottish Parliament. Our young women listened to inspirational speeches including the Presiding Officer, female MSPs, from all parties, and other women who had been very successful in their fields. It was a very inspirational day and the students were a credit to Wallace High School. Well done.

The Raspberry Pi Club

Three years ago, on February 29th 2012, the Raspberry Pi was launched. The Raspberry Pi is a small credit card sized computer motherboard that can be connected to standard equipment such as keyboards, mice, monitors and networks. In order to make the Pi useful, it has to be programmed, and to do this it comes with programming facilities built in.



In Wallace High School, the Raspberry Pi Club has been meeting once a week since January. Pupils have now built two complete Raspberry Pi systems and are now eagerly learning to program using languages like Scratch and Python, which come pre-installed in the Pi.



The Raspberry Pi club is open to pupils from all year groups who have an interest in programming computers.

Modern Languages Update Spring 2015

Spanish Tapas

One of the Spanish S3 classes experienced a Tapas tasting lesson in February with Miss Gallagher. The pupils learnt vocabulary and tried many Spanish specialities. ¡Qué suerte!



Annual Francophonie Quiz

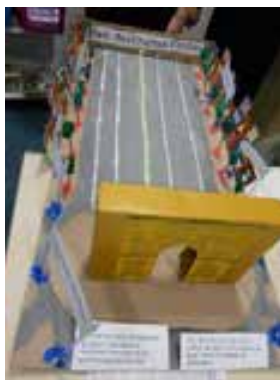


INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS
ÉCOSSE

In March S3 pupils took part in the online Quiz organised by the Institut Français to celebrate the French language and La Francophonie. This was a good opportunity to learn and have fun while developing key skills such as working in a team, researching using ICT, and enhancing their knowledge of French cultures.

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.



SCOTS College Course

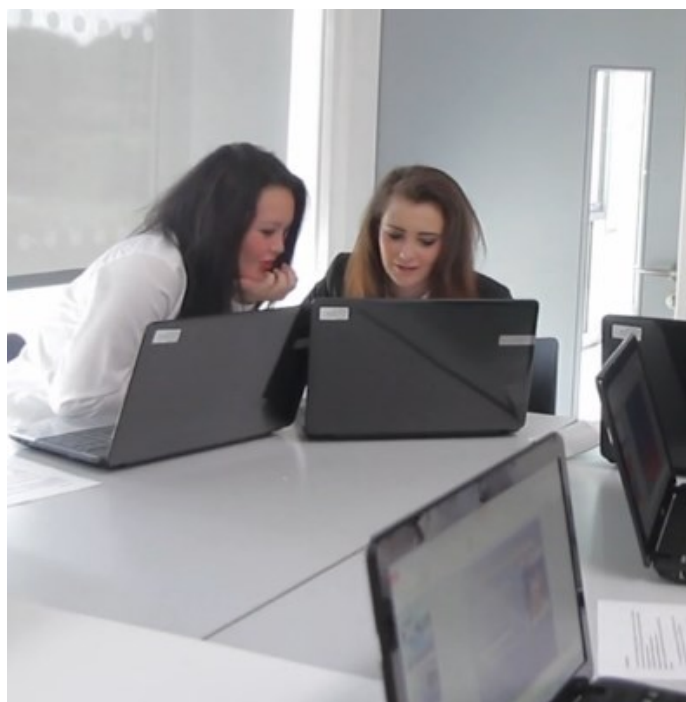
Since August 2014, sixteen young people in S4 have been participating in the ground-breaking SCOTS programme at Forth Valley College.



In partnership with Wallace High School, pupils study for the SCQF Level 4 Employability Award with Mr Smith whilst experiencing taster sessions in eight different college courses: Construction Crafts, Construction Technology, Healthcare, Early Education and Childcare, Travel and Tourism, Hospitality, Salon Services and Radio Broadcasting. At the end of the taster period, each pupil is encouraged to select their preferred subject to study for an in-depth six-week period. During this period they will also be encouraged to apply for a college place in this subject for the following academic year.



Jamie White has particularly enjoyed his experiences within Construction Crafts. Talking about his experiences, he feels that he has benefited from taking part in team-based



construction projects that simply couldn't be undertaken in school: "I was made to feel welcome, and SCOTS has given me a taste for life after school", he said.

Natalie Macleod has enjoyed the variety of courses on offer: "I started out thinking that I wanted to work with young children but after taking part in Healthcare classes I realised that this is something that definitely appeals to me", she explained. Natalie, who hadn't previously considered going to college, is already planning her application.



Summing up the experience overall, Mr Smith feels that all of the participants have become more confident and better placed to talk about their future goals: "Trying new courses could seem scary, but by working with Forth Valley College our young people realise it is actually very exciting".

Little Shop of Horrors

The cast has been picked for the upcoming school show, 'Little Shop of Horrors'. Over 40 students auditioned for the show, with lead parts going to a quarter of these pupils. There is always something for everyone to do with a school show, however, and a further 20 students have offered to assist in the whole-school production, which already has students buzzing with excitement for the June show.



Perform in Perth Success

Lewis Sinclair and Frazer Grant became the first Wallace High students to participate in the Perform in Perth music festival. Both performed extremely well against very tough competition in their respective classes. Fraser was commended for his efforts in the Violin class, which included around 30 competitors. Lewis won the much-coveted Open Oboe Solo, seeing off competition from Glenalmond College. Lewis was one point away from reaching the Premier Class, which, for his age, is an extraordinary achievement. The success of Wallace High students at this prestigious event has encouraged more musicians to make enquiries into next year's competition. Information will be available to parents in December this year on how to enter.

Go4set Team make 2nd Place in Regional Final



The Go4set competition links teams of S2 pupils from schools across Scotland with companies and universities, where they compete in a ten-week STEM project. The theme of this year's even was: "The Business of Recycling in Your School".



The team recently took part at the regional Celebration and Assessment Day (CAD) at Heriot-Watt University, where the teams were put through their paces in front of a panel of judges.

The panel were judging the teams on their teamwork, overall ideas, report and a presentation at the CAD. Sara Roberts, Olivia Bryjak, Lewis Rands, Torin Gibbons, Garth Eklund, and Morag Campbell gave an excellent presentation of their project, gaining very positive feedback on their teamwork during the project.

Although Boroughmuir HS won overall, Wallace High was a close second, reflecting the continual hard work of the pupils throughout the project. It was confirmed that the team will receive a Silver Crest Award, a significant reward for their efforts and achievement. Well Done!

S3 boys put their values into action!

As part of their RMPS course, several groups of S3 boys completed some community projects, linking with the Religion, Beliefs and Values Award. Bruce Currie put together a food parcel and with Robert Gardner and



Cole Harron, visited the local Salvation Army Centre, meeting with staff and finding out how the centre worked. The boys were given a guided tour of the facilities and were impressed by how much help and support was on offer. On returning to school, they delivered a talk to the rest of their class on what they had seen and heard, and explained why they were so impressed.

Trip to the Ecosystems Global Classroom Conference

A group of our S1 and S2 pupils enjoyed a fantastic day out this term at the Ecosystems Global Classroom Conference at Edinburgh Zoo. Accompanied by our Eco schools leader, Miss Lester, the group experienced a range of interactive activities around the zoo and investigated the vulnerability and importance of ecosystems. A fun and informative day was had by



Operation Wallacea



Pupils continue to prepare for their upcoming expedition to South Africa, arranged through the company Operation Wallacea.

In order to gain more SCUBA diving time in their second week, some pupils from Wallace High School, and also from Dunblane High School, are undertaking their PADI Open Water Referral Course with Aquatron Dive Centre in Glasgow. These pupils will begin their training in Scotland, completing the exam element as well as pool training sessions. All pupils successfully passed their exam element and are working currently progressing through their pool training sessions.

With only three months until the group depart, all participants involved, both pupils and staff, are starting to feel the excitement.

Green Routes

This photo depicts the young people in Ochil House who go to Green Routes, with the planter they recently made. It was designed by the pupils to allow wheelchair access. As ever, we are very proud of their commitment and creativity throughout this project.



An Update from Catering Manager Nicola Young

The catering team would like to introduce two new members of staff, Michelle Smith and Lorna Currie. Michelle has taken over from Christine Bone, who sadly left us in December to start a new life with her family in Saudi Arabia.



I would like to thank all pupils and staff who enjoyed their Christmas lunch with us this session. The catering team enjoy seeing everyone tucking into the food we are providing and it was especially nice to have the 6th years come and sit down to a three course Christmas lunch.

We held our annual Burns Supper in January and I would like to personally thank Thomas Hiyashi for piping in the haggis.

We held a Mexican day on the 5th of March to coincide with National School Meals Day, which was very successful.

Unfortunately, due to the demand for sizzling Chicken Fajitas we sold out before everybody got to try one. Due to this the team will be putting Sizzling Chicken Fajitas on the menu again, please keep checking the TV in the social space for dates. Pupils should make sure they pre-order to avoid disappointment.

I would just like to remind staff and pupils that our pre-order service is available every morning break. All items on that day's menu are available to pre-order, including hot foods.

We have a few more theme days to hold before we break up for the summer holidays, including our Big Summer Blow Out Beach Party, which we are going to make an annual event and hold on the last week before the summer holidays.



Solar Eclipse: Friday 20th March

Many pupils from across the school turned out, viewers in hand, to witness the historic solar eclipse at around 09.30 on Friday 20th March. Our senior Scientists congregated on the balcony to witness the stunning sight of the eclipse occurring just to the right of the silhouette of the Wallace Monument. It was great to see our youngsters appreciating both the natural beauty and science of this landmark occurrence.



Design a Flavoured Water Project

As part of looking at product life cycle and marketing, three S2 classes were involved in a project to design a flavoured water. The pupils spent five weeks researching the market and then designed the look of their product. This included a label and a poster for advertising. Some pupils put together a story-board for a TV advert to support their promotion campaign. The highlight of the project was inviting Steve Hoyles, technical centre manager for Chivas Brothers in Dumbarton, to the school. He brought lots of flavourings, colourings, sweeteners and enhancers with him. The pupils had great fun experimenting with the different flavours and in coming up with the best flavour to suit their design concept. The judging team of Mr Pennock, Mr MacLeod, Mr Smith and Mrs Wilkes had the unenviable task of sampling all of the pupils' creations and coming up with the winners.

The pupils showed amazing creativity, problem solving and teamwork and the results were impressive. Most commented to say that producing a flavoured water was a lot more difficult than they first thought. They were also surprised by the volume of sweeteners and other chemicals that were required to produce the flavours they wanted. The pupils looked at labels of commercial drinks and found the same chemicals within their ingredients - an interesting health and wellbeing lesson to come from this rich project.

Art Successes

At what is a busy time of year in the Art and Design department, it is always nice to see the work of our pupils, the product of many months dedication and refinement, nearing completion. Our National 3, 4 and 5 pupils, along with the New Higher and Advanced Higher candidates, are spending their last few weeks putting the finishing touches to their Expressive and Design folios. Lauren Roberts, S4 comments: "It has been really busy, but I can see now how the work I've made looks as a mounted folio. I have also enjoyed the opportunity to work in both the drawing and painting side, and the design folio too."

As always, the pupils have tackled a wide range of subjects, from Expressive Still Life, Portraiture and three-dimensional work, to Lighting, Fashion and Masks in the Design area. The following is a selection of some of the work that pupils have worked so hard on.



Clockwise from top: Lauren Roberts working; Loughlan Buchanan's finished lamp design; Kirsten Kennedy's Advanced Higher project; Lucy Sanchez—'Still Life in Progress'; Loughlan's lamp with design notes.

Work Experience

Wallace High School's individualised work experience programme has continued to grow, with a record number of young people taking part this session. S4, S5 and S6 pupils studying both Employability and Personal Development courses have benefited from tailored opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work. By matching the needs of participants with those of our school's economic partners, Mr Smith has coordinated many successful placements within a variety of local businesses, including FES Ltd, MacRae and Dick (Ford), Garratt's International Health and Fitness Club and the MacRobert Arts Centre.

Brogan Keane has participated in work experience at Allan's Primary School: "The best part has been working with the children in P3/P4 to share their stories, which are often entirely from their own imaginations", explains Brogan. "Helping them to write these down correctly has given all of us a real sense of satisfaction."

Katie Richardson has been working with WH Smith in their busy Stirling store: "Work experience has definitely built up my confidence", says Katie, "because although I was a little nervous at the start I now feel very comfortable working with the other staff. I get to try many different things, and enjoy helping the customers who have been very positive too."

Mr Smith would like to thank all of our work experience partners for the valuable workplace insights that they offer to so many of our young people. He would also be keen to hear from other businesses in our neighbourhood who would be willing to support our work experience programme in session 2015-16, including any support that can be offered by parental partners.



Engineering Education Scheme



Rory, Louise, Samira, Jed, Sean and Ali continue to impress the Science Faculty and our external partners with their efforts in the Engineering Education Scheme. Their design brief of

improving the efficiency and energy consumption of Livingston Football Club's Almondvale Stadium is making superb progress. They have been analysing data from partner company Energy Assets to provide feedback and advice on monitoring consumption. Having visited and studied the infrastructure of the stadium, they are now learning about System Design Engineering and will propose a new improved heating system for the building. The team would like to thank Andy Crawford, Senior Design Engineer of Greenpower Technology, and The Westerton Arms in Bridge of Allan for sharing their energy consumption methods.

K'Nex Challenge

The K'Nex challenge 2015 continues at Wallace High School. The P6 pupils of Fallin and Riverside have both attended since our last edition of Flourish. Heat winners from both schools are:

All of the teams have impressed us hugely with their teamwork, time management and, of course, designing and building skills. The Science Faculty would like to thank all of our associated



Fallin	Kyle	Thomas	Emily	Zoe
Riverside	Lorelei	Gracie	Reid	Andrew
	Abbey	Olivia	Cameron	Samuel

Primary Schools for their continued support and participation in this incredibly successful event and we look forward to seeing you back for the final in June.

U14 Footballers League Title Win



On Monday 2nd March at Ochilview Stadium in Stenhousemuir our Under 14 football team won their first Forth Valley League Championship. In a very tight and competitive tie with Stirling High, Wallace were victorious thanks to a single Dean Ritchie goal. We are very proud of all our pupils' efforts and the tactical insight of first team coach, Mr Laird.

Athletics Success

In what is traditionally a quieter time of year for athletics, there have been a number of young athletes from Wallace High School in action this term. Despite the wintry conditions, Wallace had over 30 representatives from S1-S6 braving elements at the Stirling Schools Cross Country Championships in February.



All the competitors performed well with notable performances from the S2 boys team (Logan MacLean, Leighton Wardrop and Gregor Johnston) who took the bronze medal position and Ciorstaidh Ainsworth of S1 who ran a determined race to take the top spot on the podium.



Photo: Logan MacLean and Gregor Johnston proudly wearing Wallace's team colours

Wallace was also ably represented at the Scottish Schools Cross Country in Irvine on 8th March by Logan MacLean and Thomas Hanson of S2, Ruari Henderson of S3 and Eleanor Hanson of S4.

Following their success at the Stirling Schools event, several pupils qualified for the Forth Valley Cross Country Championships in March which saw their speed and stamina tested once more over a revised course at the Queen Victoria School in Dunblane. Making the podium this time as part of the winning S3/4 Stirling boys team was Ruari Henderson of S3. * (see photo)



Weather and mud weren't a factor for the indoor events taking place this term with Ciorstaidh Ainsworth of S1 and Fraser Gallagher of S4 both making the cut in their respective events to compete at the Indoor Track and Field Championships in February. Ciorstaidh followed this up by taking what will no doubt be the first of many national titles at the Scottish National Indoor Championships where she was the runaway winner in the U13 girls 800m race in a time of 2.28.10.

Also indoors, thankfully, was the Central Regional Giant Heptathlon Final. On Thursday 5th of March a team of 14 young athletes travelled to Grangemouth Stadium to compete in this event, organised by Scottish Athletics in partnership with Active Stirling and local clubs. The teams were a mixture of S1 and S2 pupils with the girls comprising: Freya Walker, Danielle McCallum, Erin Wood, Megan Rennie, Abbie Woodward, Isla Fraser and Becky Dunlop and the boys: Logan Maclean, Thomas Hanson, Jamie Winters, Gregor Johnston, Fraser Currid, Leighton Wardrop and Jack Hencher. The pupils were encouraged and supported throughout by S6 Sports Leaders Luke Glencross and Lucy Sanchez with Ms Curry as Team Manager. This was a multi discipline competition and a real test of the athletes' speed, strength and stamina with challenges such as the Overhead Shot and 60m hurdles. With all pupils channelling their "Inner Olympian", there was a tremendous team spirit and some impressive individual performances with Wallace narrowly missing out on the medals in this, our first time as entrants in the competition.

Winners—Forth Valley Crown and Procurator Fiscal Service Public Speaking Competition

Congratulations to Finn Fuller and Torin Gibbons (S2) for winning the final of the Forth Valley Crown and Procurator Fiscal Service Public Speaking Competition on 24 March, held at Stirling Sheriff Court. Finn and Torin presented very convincing speeches on the topic '*There would be no hate crime in Scotland if*' This is a fantastic achievement and the boys will now progress to the East Federation Cup Final with winners from the Edinburgh and Fife competitions.



U18 Central Schools Cup Winners



Wallace High's U18 Rugby team has rounded off a fantastic season by winning the Central Schools Cup. The players, who have played together for the past two years, have been rewarded for all of their hard work and effort which culminated in this win. On their road to the final, the team had to encounter some very strong opposition, however, Wallace's physical power at the set piece and dynamic play with the ball in hand has allowed them to record the victories. The final was held at Ochilview Stadium where Wallace defeated Balfron High School 19 points to zero.

Scottish Cup Basketball Champions 2015 S1 Girls and Girls Under-15

Just as we are rushing to print we have received confirmation that both our girls S1 and U15 basketball stars have been crowned Scottish champions following an excellent 50-22 victory over Dunbar Grammar and 70-44 against St. Thomas Aquinas, Edinburgh. They were outstanding and exciting matches. S1 girls' Captain Freya Walker was glowing with pride as she picked up the cup on behalf of all the girls! Full match reports will be posted on the school website and updates will be displayed through the school's Twitter feed. Well done to all the girls and the coaching staff for your outstanding achievement.





Wallace High School
Airthrey Road
Stirling
FK9 5HW
01786 462166
Web: www.wallacehigh.org.uk
 @wallacehighsch

