

SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD: SELKIRK HIGH SCHOOL

THE latest from behind the scenes at Selkirk High School...



Students attended three interactive workshops

Our National 5 Health Sector class visited Queen Margaret University to attend an 'Explore Healthcare Day'. Our students attended three interactive workshops – paramedic science, nutrition and health and nursing. This was followed by a student panel session in the lecture theatre. Our students demonstrated our 'Values in Action', they were polite, friendly and respectful, a real credit to our school. Our students commented 'the sessions were interesting and good' and 'I really enjoyed learning about the different jobs in healthcare and listening to what university life is like and what qualifications you need'. Our Senior pupils have been hard at work producing these wonderful drawings for their expressive portfolios. We are so proud of the hard work and dedication they have shown to their artwork. They have each chosen a unique theme and used different materials to show their personal style.

Art

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Skills in Action

Students in 1D and 2A have been busy demonstrating creativity, effective communication, and teamwork to create the best gourmet ice cream! After conducting market research, collating their results, and sizing up the competition, the process began. We are now halfway through the product development process, and today, they tasted their vanilla or chocolate base flavour and compared their creations to the leading big brands. The sensory analysis was unanimous, home-made versions were tastier than some of the big brands (this was confirmed by Mr Willan who snuck in for a few free taste tests!). They have finished their recipe adaptations, so next week we improve flavour, texture, and appearance to create bespoke gourmet flavours. Perfect for this lovely weather. Some exciting flavours coming up! With Mrs Orr, students have had a chance to develop their creative skills in craft design and technology by designing and creating customised wooden robots. There have been lots of clever ideas and fantastic use of the laser cutter to create very highly personalised characters, along more conventional tools. Focusing on communication, with more than a hint of creativity, students in 1B have been creating animations to tell a story about putting values or skills into action. The quality of the plasticine made models, and the attention to frame

by frame detail would impress even the makers of Wallace and Gromit. In a few weeks we hope to be posting some of these animations on the school Facebook page so we hope you look forward to that. Throughout the process students are learning about the growing opportunities in the animation industry and learning lots of behind the scenes tips and tricks. Beyond that they are developing a learning process that would not be possible without the iPads. 2C are focussing on problem solving and logical thinking with Mr Willan in a three-part dive into coding. Firstly they learned some basic coding features (issuing commands, creating functions, and how loops work) in Swift playgrounds. Most students mastered the basics using Swift programming language and some went beyond that learning the very first steps of app development. They then moved on to programming Sphero bots to meet a variety of challenges and in the final weeks will also use Makecode and Microbits to explore coding fundamentals further. Using a variety of different platforms and languages students have had to problem solve, learn a small amount of programming language and create specific instructions that even a robot can follow. With the increasing reliance on applications on our mobile devices an understanding of

programming and app development will benefit students in a range of future opportunities. This coincides with the relaunch of the coding club which will focus on app development in Swift – using iMacs to the most of their potential! Miss Parker's Skills in Action class have been working alongside the local food bank to raise awareness of the excellent work they do. The food bank is a vital service for many local people and together with the pupils in the class we are hoping to raise not only awareness of their great work, but also encourage all year groups to get involved in donating what they can to the food bank. The class came up with the idea of holding an RTL donation drive to help the food bank provide much-needed parcels to local people.

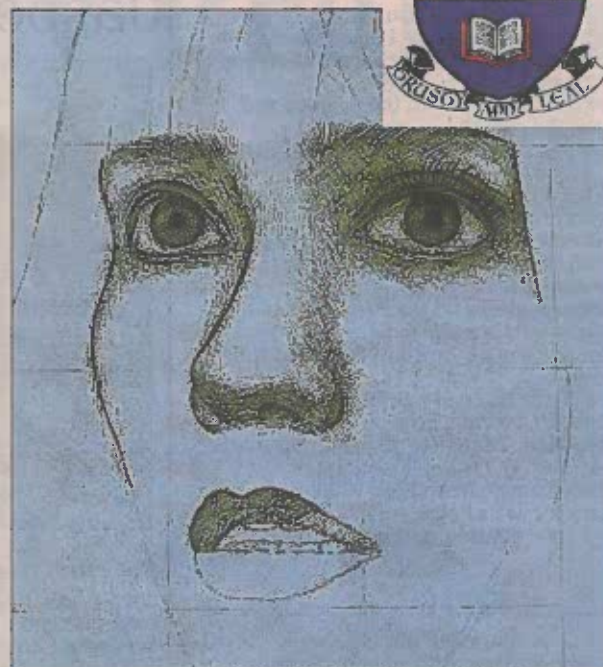
Esports

Students sitting the National Progression Award in Esports have been configuring machines to ensure they are ready for gaming and have started the early stages for planning their first esports tournament. As a part of the course they will gain a very intense experience of project management. They have many decisions to make and it is their job to set the standard for students in future cohorts. Esports has a huge potential for growth in Scotland, and the Borders in particular, as a multi-million pound industry with a multitude

of potential careers. Not only are these students learning about the industry from a business perspective, but they will be having some very real practical experiences. If any local businesses are interested in sponsorship of any kind please do not hesitate to contact the school and support this very progressive initiative. This could be in terms of prizes, expertise, venues or even equipment.

Greenpower Car

The school has also managed to acquire a Greenpower racing car. These electric powered cars are designed built and raced by students and are currently being raced by several schools in the Scottish Borders. This extra-curricular club will inspire students to excel in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). At this point we have the frame, batteries and the motor. Following some rewiring (auto-electricians advice happily received) and designing and building a body we hope to start entering races! The body can be made from a range of materials such as aluminium, wood, steel, glass reinforced plastic or carbon fibre, depending on resources, external support and material available. Once again – if you would like to contribute to the Greenpower car racing effort through expertise or sponsorship, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Senior pupils have been working on portfolio drawings



Miss Parker's Skills in Action class have been working alongside the local food bank



The students have finished their recipe adaptations



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