

# SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD: SELKIRK HIGH SCHOOL

...All the latest news straight from the classroom



Boccia player Shaun McIntosh



A charities fair was held at the school recently. Below: Pupils put their Values in Action

## S1 Oracy

ALL S1 students have a period of Oracy on their timetable to develop their talking and listening skills which are vital for success in all school subjects and later in life.

So far, they have played confidence-building games; practised giving and following clear verbal instructions; produced podcasts with sound effects and delivered individual presentations about themselves.

They are currently working on a unit to develop their group discussion skills, based around desert island survival.

It has been great to see their confidence and skills grow throughout the year.

## SQA

IT has been an intense period of time for N5, Higher and Advanced Higher students preparing for and performing in their Music and Modern Language Performances.

In German and Spanish, pupils have to speak for around a minute on a chosen topic in the foreign language, and then answer follow up questions, so that the performance lasts between six and eight minutes.

This is worth 25 per cent of their overall exam score, and is a real challenge reacting to questions as well as memorising the individual topic talk.

In music, the performance is worth 50 per cent of their exam score. Students perform on two instruments, including



voice, at Grade 3 and above for 8-12 minutes, with contrasting types of music on each instrument.

Students have had to work on their melodic accuracy/intonation, rhythmic accuracy, tempo and flow, mood and character, tone and dynamics. The added stress for music is that there is an external examiner.

All students have worked extremely hard to perform to the best of their ability. Well done to all.

## Boccia

THE school would like to say congratulations to Shaun McIntosh who attended the Scottish Schools Boccia recently in Glasgow.

Shaun won all his pool matches to progress to the semi-finals.

Sadly, he left empty handed after losing his bronze medal match.

Shaun had a fantastic

day and really enjoyed the experience.

## VIA Friday

THE school would like to say congratulations to the following students who were celebrated recently for putting their Values into Action by supporting others in our community and beyond.

Lexi Kennedy - Courage and Compassion: managing a last-minute change of plan and making a personal sacrifice so others could enjoy a great experience.

Emmy Fowle, Georgia Rae Paterson, Casey Pemberton, Olivia Pemberton, Charlie Tierney and Ashlee Purves - Compassion: raising over £100 for The Lavender Touch.

Jack Vause and Aaron Douglas - Compassion and Courage: Jack and Aaron gave a presentation to all S1 on neurodiversity, exploring life for those of us who think and feel a little differently from the

majority.

## Charities fair

ON Thursday, March 27, Selkirk High School held a charities fair in preparation for the S2 pupils completing the YPI project.

We welcomed six local charities including RDA, Stable Life, Borders Children's Charity, Lavender Touch, Harris Trust and Rape Crisis Borders.

Laura Gordon from The Wood Foundation also came along to give the pupils more insight into the community-based programme where pupils can potentially win £3,000 for their chosen local charity.

This project is run over six weeks in class time and a school final will be held on Thursday, May 15, where the overall winner will be chosen by a panel of independent judges. The pupils engaged well with all the charities,

asked meaningful questions and demonstrated their oracy skills well.

## Choices

SELKIRK High School is buzzing with excitement as S2 students prepare to make their subject choices for S3.

These decisions will play a crucial role in shaping their future career paths.

On Wednesday, S2 parents were invited to the school to learn how they can support their children through this important process.

Depute heads Mr Foggin and Miss Blair delivered an informative presentation, outlining the diverse range of subjects available.

From physics to photography, fashion and textiles to fly fishing, and team sports to digital skills, cyber security, and Esports, students have nearly 30 subjects to choose from for their nine S3 choices, which must include maths and English.

Parents and pupils also gained insights into how their future education and career paths might unfold in S4 and beyond, whether in college, university, or the workplace.

Selkirk High is proud to report that 98.8 per cent of last year's graduates are sustaining positive destinations in further or higher education or employment, surpassing local and national trends.

This achievement is a testament to the hard work of pupils and staff and the school's continually evolving curriculum designed to meet the needs of its learner.