



Menziesshill High School

Newsletter

June 2012

Head Teacher - Helen Gray

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Menziesshill Head Boy and Head Girl

Welcome to our new head boy and girl 2012/2013, Jon Vaughan and Rebekah Maxwell. Already they have displayed initiative and organised events for next session, and spoken to our new S1 parents. I wish them every success in the coming session and know they will be excellent role models for all in the school. Already they are keeping me on my toes with creative ideas and initiative.



My sincere gratitude goes to Jack Christie and Nicole Crosbie, Menziesshill High's first Head Boy and Girl 2011/2012, they have been my right hand man and women, representing the school as excellent ambassadors and responding to requests to support the school and staff without hesitation. They have demonstrated leadership in themselves, managing the prefects and events. I wish them both the best with their future careers in Music and Technology. They say true leaders make the job look easy, well both Jack and Nicole did that well giving us a tough task to select their replacements through competitive interviews of many candidates. A very positive sign our young people wishing to take up the challenge of leadership and being involved in taking the school forward.



Menziesshill High School A Message from the Head Teacher

This year has been no exception and like many has been very busy for all at Menziesshill High. I could not be more proud of the success we have achieved, the pupils' pride in themselves, the staff commitment, hard work and dedication to making the school a Learning Community.

We have continued to develop our Curriculum and the first students of the new Curriculum for Excellence are now starting their third year. Students are developing transferable skills for a world of work still evolving but these skills are evident in their confidence, relationships and raised expectations. Pupil's appearance, attitude and behaviour continue to improve and the bar of ambition is being set higher by each cohort. I am extremely proud to see this rise as our young people believe in themselves and want to achieve.

Many visitors to the school including two of Her Majesty's Inspectorate have commented favourably on the calm learning ethos and positive relations within the school.

One of our biggest highlights has been the Literacy course introduced in first year and led by Bev Brining and Elspeth Scott. This has received national recognition featuring in Education Scotland and the Times Education Supplement.

Our success in sport has also been a major feature this session as we are well placed in the Olympic leader board for Dundee Schools having taken part in nearly 60 sports events plus others outwith the competition.

In the coming session the P.E department are introducing P.E uniform to add to an already established pride in which our pupils show in their appearance. Information is included later in the Newsletter.

Work around the school building has continued with improvements in Music, the poolside and changing rooms. Other plans for the summer are underway and a refresh of computers will take place to ensure we keep up with 21st century technology.

The new session always brings about changes in staffing as people move on for promotion, retirement or personal reasons. This year we will wish Val Dillon, Maureen Cushnie and Marjory Phin a long, healthy and happy retirement after many years' of service to pupils in Menziesshill.

To other staff moving schools I know they will be a huge success in whatever new ventures in life come their way and I want to thank them for their support and commitment to our school.

I am pleased to welcome our new staff to Modern Languages, English, Home Economics and Physical Education. In addition we will be joined by Mr Andy Creamer as an Acting Depute Headteacher. I know all these staff will be welcomed into our community and be a great success in supporting pupils.

In my very first assembly when I joined the school I challenged each person to ask themselves "What have you done today to make yourself proud?". I can without a shadow of a doubt say with conviction each pupil and member of staff strives to ensure they succeed in answering that question. I know with your continued support we can go from strength to strength and I look forward to the challenges of the next session and working with you all.

Helen Gray



**Menziesshill High School
Dundee School Holidays 2012-13**

Autumn Term 2012

Wednesday 15 August 2012 to Friday 5 October 2012

Winter Term 2012

Monday 22 October 2012 to Friday 21 December 2012

Spring Term 2013

Monday 7 January 2013 to Thursday 28 March 2013, Good Friday 29 March 2013

Mid Term Holiday Friday 8 February 2013 and Monday 11 February 2013

Summer Term 2013

Monday 15 April 2013 to Friday 28 June 2013

May Day Monday 6 May 2013

Victoria Day Monday 27 May 2013

Further information on schools available from - <http://www.dundee.gov.uk>



**Menziesshill High School
Microsoft live@edu**

Dundee City Council is pleased to announce its adoption of Microsoft live@edu – an education-specific storage and collaboration service that will be available to every pupil. This is a free, safe, user-friendly and reliable service that will be used to support and enhance the current facilities available to Dundee schools.

Information and advice about the use of the service will be made available to all schools so that users can make best use of these facilities. These facilities are an extension to the existing Dundee schools' IT facilities and will be covered by the existing Acceptable Use Policy.

Please contact Niall Gibb, Dundee City Council IT Division if you have any queries:
niall.gibb@dundee.gov.uk or 01382-438035



Menzieshill High School



Top of the Class:

Senior pupils in S5-6 are required to wear a school blazer, senior school tie with a black or white school shirt.



Your Choice:

Pupils may also wear plain black or red sweatshirts/jumpers.
No hoodie style tops are allowed.
All pupils are encouraged to buy a black blazer.



Back to Basics:

The school uniform for all is a white shirt, school tie, black trousers or skirt of appropriate length and black shoes.
No leggings are allowed.

PE Kit:

Pupils are required to wear a plain black T-shirt with black shorts.
(personalised t-shirts available from PE Department)
No football colours/strips are allowed.





Menziesshill High School Business Studies Department



Visit to the Coca Cola Factory

A group of S4 Business Management pupils visited the Coca Cola factory in East Kilbride in January of this year. Pupils were given a tour of the factory where they could see bottles of Coca Cola passing through the production line and the small amount of workers which operated this machinery. This trip very closely supports the Business Management course and allows pupils to link theory with real life examples and experiences. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed this trip and our current S3 pupils are already excited for this trip in January!

ECDL

Pupils in Menziesshill have worked hard to pass ECDL this year. Over 40 pupils have achieved this internationally recognised ICT certificate. Well done!



Menziesshill High School Support for Learning

Pupils in S1-S4 celebrated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by having a "Street Party" in TA01. They designed and made invitations and decorations and also helped prepare a buffet for the event.





Menziesshill High School Computing Studies Department

Two teams of pupils studying Computing from Menziesshill High School, were short-listed as top 10 finalists in the Arnold Clark Schools' Challenge. The teams involved were made up of:

- Michael Doig
- James Mann
- Daniel Neave
- Keiron Banks
- Andrew Rae
- Curtis Menmuir
- Nicholas Leitch

The teams from Menziesshill High School were two of over 700 entries that were selected by Sir Arnold Clark's judging panel and Chunk Games who spent days whittling the entries down to just 10 final games.

Sir Arnold Clark, chairman and chief executive of Arnold Clark Automobiles Limited, commented, "We have been absolutely delighted with the overwhelming response to this year's Challenge. With over 700 entries from schools across the length and breadth of Scotland, this year's task to create an idea for a game app was difficult. However, the judging team has been surprised by the well thought-out, original ideas created by students at Menziesshill High School. What's more, two entries from this school made it into the top ten!"



Unfortunately neither of the Menziesshill teams won but 5 S2 classes received certificates of excellence for their contribution to the competition.

This is the 2nd year in succession that Menziesshill High School Computing Studies pupils have reached the final.



S1 – Social Subjects

As well as traditional discrete subject learning, the Geography, History and Modern Studies departments combined to give pupils a wider learning experience:

- a. Interdisciplinary Learning Experience – In January, pupils took part in a series of learning activities with a focus on Dundee: ‘Dundee’s environment’, ‘Dundee’s history’ and ‘life and employment in Dundee today’. Working in pairs over three weeks, the pupils produced a booklet of information. Pupils were then asked to make connections in their learning across the three Social Subjects.
- b. ‘Rich Task’ – In May, and with the support of the Ranger Service at Camperdown Park, pupils completed a number of activities in relation to the environment, history and work in the park. This was followed by an afternoon of health promoting activities.

S1/2 – Modern Studies

British Red Cross – Gill Moffat from the British Red Cross visited the department in April. Combining two of the four S1 classes, Gill led a series of active learning activities that involved pupils in a number of activities with human rights as the focus.

Quiz – Eight S1 pupils took part in the annual Dundee Modern Studies Quiz. Organised by Dundee MSA and with the support of the city council, this event has been running for a number of years.

S3

Harry McLevy Award – Congratulations to Molly Fowlie who was the school-based **and** Dundee City winner of the 2012 Harry McLevy Award. The annual research-based competition saw Molly investigate the debate surrounding the means-testing of Child Benefit. Molly collected a certificate and a cheque to the value of £70.

MSET S3 Ppt. Competition – Molly Fowlie (she’s having a good year) was one of six national award winners in a Powerpoint Competition. Based on the theme of the methods used by candidates to get elected, Molly’s presentation was judged to be ‘accurate, informative and well produced’. Molly collected a certificate and a cheque for £20.



Scottish Parliament – 28 S3 pupils visited the Scottish Parliament in March. After a tour of the building, the pupils then had the chance to meet and speak with local MSP Joe Fitzpatrick and regional MSP Mark McDonald. The visit finished with pupils sitting in the public gallery where Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon delivered a statement on health on behalf of the Scottish government. Thanks to Joe and Mark and their respective parliamentary assistants for their support and cooperation.

S4
Power Point Competition – Josh Bachelor and Ross Irvine represented Menzieshill HS in the annual Powerpoint Challenge which is hosted by Claverhouse Training and organised by Dundee MSA. The boys put on a great show and came a close second to the overall citywide winner. Thanks to Claverhouse Training and in particular Chief Executive Alistair Cameron.

S5/6
Higher Pupil Conference – For 2012, the annual Modern Studies Higher Pupil Conference was hosted by Menzieshill HS. Around 170 pupils studying Higher MS from across the city had the chance to take part in a number of activities that were aimed at raising attainment. Thanks to Dundee MSA for organising and Dundee City Council and Claverhouse Training for their support.

Jim McGovern MP visited the department in January. This was a follow-up to the Houses of Parliament visit by S5/6 in September. After a short introduction on his background and experience as an MP, Jim then went ‘open to question’ fielding questions on a number of issues raised by pupils including the independence debate, child benefit proposals and youth unemployment. Again, thanks to Jim and his office for their support.



Percussion Group

The percussion group were invited to play at the Dundee Cecilian Choir’s annual concert in the Marryat Hall in May. The group were very well received by the audience and received many compliments on their performance.

Arbroath Festival

Both the percussion group and the wind band competed in the Arbroath Festival in March where the percussion group achieved 1st place in their category and the wind band were 2nd. Ian Christie, Philip McLaren, Sam Walker, Murray McArtney, Kirsten Ferrier and Christopher Vannart also competed in the solo categories.

Rotary Young Musician

Jack Christie and Ian Christie represented the school in the Dundee Rotary Club’s Young Musician of the Year where Ian progress through to the final round. Both pupils were a great credit to the department and the school.

Primary Young Musician of the Year

The final of the primary schools Young Musician of the Year Competition took place in Menzieshill High School at the end of May with Miss O'Neill as adjudicator. The previous rounds had been adjudicated by Mrs Rosemary Wright. The standard was very high and we look forward to hearing the winner, Lauren Corbett, perform her piano piece at the Summer Concert.

Menzieshill High Young Musician of the Year

The Young Musician of the Year competition took place during May and June and once again, the standard of performances was extremely high. Mr Charlie Maynes adjudicated the junior competition and awarded third year pupil, Philip McLaren first place for an excellent performance on drum kit. Mr Paul Clancy adjudicated the senior competition and the winner was Andrew Battes of fourth year who gave a fantastic performance on viola. Both boys will showcase their winning performances at the Summer Concert. Mr Maynes and Mr Clancy both commented on the quality of performances they heard and expressed how much they enjoyed all of them.

Leng Medal

This year's winner of the Silver Leng Medal was Andrew Battes who gave a very convincing performance of 'The Dark Island'. The competition was judged by Mrs Michaela Taylor of Harris Academy.

Three pupils also entered the Gold Leng Medal this year and sang very well in the competition which was held at the music centre in Bell Street. The pupils were; Corben Bruce, Rachel Beattie and Amanda Leitch and we are very proud of them all.

Dundee Schools' Instrumentalist of the Year

Jack Christie gave an outstanding performance at Dundee Schools' Instrumentalist of the Year. Although he did not win Jack has always been a great ambassador for Menzieshill High School Music Department and we are all very proud of his achievements. We would like to wish him all the best with his chosen career.

Dundee Schools Music Theatre

Several Menzieshill pupils and former pupils will be performing in the three Dundee Schools Music Theatre Shows this year. Cats takes place in the Gardyne Theatre in the first week of the new term, Les Miserables in the Rep Theatre during the second week of the new term and Summer Holiday will take place in the Whitehall Theatre during the third week. All shows are sure to be fantastic and well worth seeing!



Personal Finance Award

In August 2011, Mathematics students within 4Ma5 became the first class within Menziesshill High School to prepare for the SQA Personal Finance Award. Students worked within class and online to achieve great success within the financial units; 'Principles of Money' and 'Money Management'. Every member of the class who attempted the exams passed the online 'Solar' e-assessments. Congratulations go to Claire Bannon, Kelsey Barclay, Blair Brady, Emma Fraser, Nikki Green, Josh Hardie, Arianne Ianetta, Tammy Stewart and Terri-Louise Weir.

Class teacher, Mr Rew, was particularly impressed by Terri-Louise Weir in 4TA1 who bravely volunteered to be the first student to try the online assessment and then went on to attain a mark of 100% in her 'Money Management' unit of work.



Money Week (Monday 5th to Friday 9th March)

A wide variety of topics related to 'Money' were taught throughout the school during the school's Money Week in March. Of these, the Music department investigated the amount of money lost to record companies as a consequence of 'pirate-downloads', replica bank-notes were created by students within the Art department and the more pressing matter of financial cut-backs within both national and local government were studied by students within the Modern Studies department.

S4 MoneySense Enterprise Event

The Mathematics department brought all S4 students together on the afternoon of Wednesday 30th May and asked them to simulate the organisation of a formal dinner for 100 top executives at a Royal Bank of Scotland event within Edinburgh. Students were split into groups of four and asked to take on the responsibilities of Project Manager, Catering Consultant, Finance Officer and Marketing Executive. A fantastic afternoon of cross-curricular activity then took place that required each team to work together closely to achieve their goal. Menus had to be researched, the total cost for the event had to be worked out, a company logo and business card had to be designed and a company letter had to be written to the client advising them that a tender was being placed for the contract. Many congratulations go to Amanda Leitch, Rachel Jackson, Maria Boath and Lauder Simpson within 'Team 9' for their winning entry.

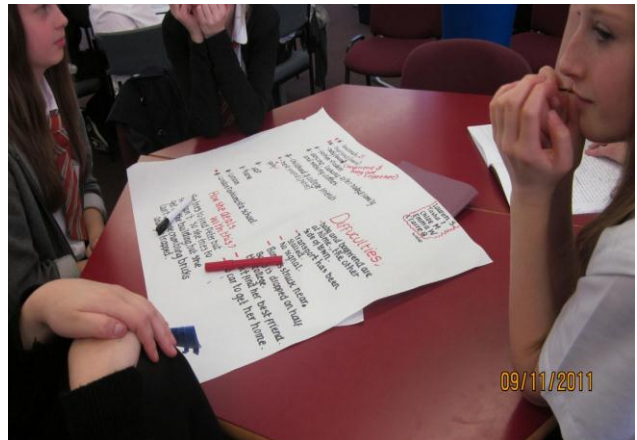




Menziesshill High School Learning Resource Centre

It has been a busy year in the library with regular visits from the Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Modern Studies, English and Modern Languages department among others. The LRC is also well used outside class time for a variety of purposes ranging from homework to reading to playing (educational) computer games.

Some of our keen readers have been involved in book testing for the Red House Book Award. This gives them the chance to read brand new books from publishers, comment on them and vote for their favourites in the only book award which is decided entirely by children. This year's overall winner was *A Monster Calls*, by Patrick Ness. Interestingly, this book has also just won not only this year's Carnegie medal for the best children's book, but also the Greenaway medal for the best illustrations.



We have been extremely lucky this session in having visits from three authors. In November, Sue Reid Sexton, the author of *Mavis's Shoe*, came for two sessions with the top two S2 English classes when she did creative writing workshops with them.

In January Dundee Public Library arranged for us to have a visit from Alex Scarrow, the author of the *Time Riders* series of books who did a high-octane session with the whole of S2 and caused a lot of interest in the concept of time-travel and changing the course of history.

Keith Gray has been a popular visitor to the school in the past, and we were lucky enough to have another visit from him in April when he spoke to the whole of S1 as part of their Literacy Across Learning course. He was funny and engaging as well as though provoking, and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed his visit – borrowing of his books went up significantly afterwards.





Menziesshill High School Geography Department

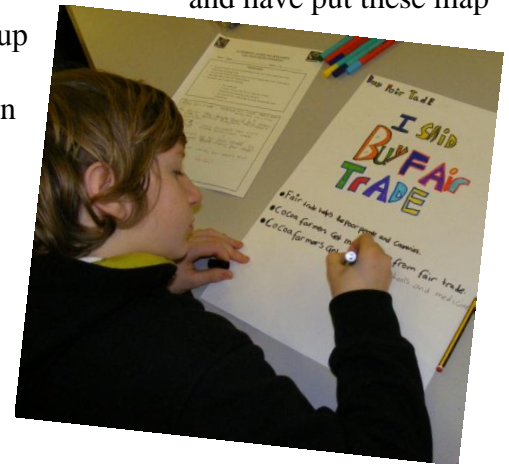
As part of the new Curriculum for Excellence Geography course all S1 pupils have been learning about Dundee and Development! In this topic pupils have been comparing levels of development between Dundee and contrasting places such as Bangladesh. They have also been learning about Fair Trade and how it helps to improve the lives of others in poorer communities across the world. Pupils participated in a peer assessment poster activity showing the benefits Fair Trade brings to such communities, some wonderful posters were produced! Earlier in the session S1 pupils were also involved in an interdisciplinary project which incorporated elements of all 3 Social Subjects. The project involved pupils working in pairs to produce a booklet called 'Discover Dundee', involving research into Dundee's history, living and working in Dundee and Dundee's Waterfront Project.



In S2 Geography, as part of the new Curriculum for Excellence course, pupils have been learning very useful map skills and have put these map skills into practice for the 'CSI MHS' group task. Pupils were presented the problem of a suspect escaping from prison and had to work in teams to identify, on a map, the route they thought the suspect took. They then had to present their findings in a police report – all in

a day's work in the Geography department at MHS!

In the latter part of the session S2 pupils were learning all about earthquakes and volcanoes with a particular focus on the 2011 Japan disaster. S2 pupils used their writing and presenting skills to produce a BBC news reports on Japan one year on from the disaster, some future news readers amongst us indeed!!





Menziesshill High School Fair Trade Group

The Fair Trade group at Menziesshill High School continue to work hard to promote Fair Trade and the benefits it brings, both within the school and the wider school community. The group continues to meet every Wednesday in the schools Learning Resource Centre and they run a stall every Friday selling products to students and staff. As well as running a stall once a week in school the Fair Trade group also have a stall present at parents nights and other events such as; the Menziesshill Festival, the Christmas Concert, Miss O'Neill's fundraising Zumbathon and the Summer Concert.

Also, to celebrate and promote Fair Trade Fortnight this session, the group organised two main activities to be carried out throughout the school. The first activity was planned so the whole school could be involved. The group put together packs of resources for teachers to use with their tutor groups during school tutor time. The resources included a Fair Trade quiz and footstep templates for pupils to complete to show that they are 'making a step' towards Fair trade. The other big activity that took place in school during Fair Trade Fortnight was a 'Big Brew' coffee morning in the LRC on Friday 2nd March. Staff and S6 pupils attended and the 'Big Brew' was a great success raising £101.49.

As well as promoting and supporting fair Trade the group were also responsible for organising a 'Rag Bag' collection in the school. Altogether the group collected 113 kg of materials from staff throughout the session and this raised £65 altogether. Therefore in total between the 'Rag Bag' collection and the 'Big Brew' coffee the group raised £169.49 which was donated to the 'Mighty Meals Project'. The group continue to work hard and work towards achieving the Fair Trade Schools Award with hope of achieving this in the near future.



Menziesshill High School Splat Visit the McManus Galleries

On Friday 30th September 2011 Menziesshill's SPLAT (Supporting Pupils Learning and Transition) groups, previously known as QC2 - visited the Cecil Beaton Exhibition as part of the pre-opening programme for the V & A at Dundee.










After a tour of the Exhibition the pupils enjoyed a visit to the Activity Room where they dressed up and had their photos taken in a Cecil Beaton Style and also got to meet Lorraine Kelly.





Menziesshill High School Physical Education Department

Well what a fantastic year it has been for the pupils and staff of Menziesshill PE department. This year we welcome Mrs J Dorward to the department who previously taught for many years in Primary Schools in Dundee. This year pupils from S1 – S6 have participated in 52 festivals in the Dundee City, Active Schools Secondary School Championship. This year the pupils were fantastic and the school came fifth in the medals table.

Place	School		Gold	Silver	Bronze	Participation Points	Cup/Plate Points	Total
1 st	Turkey (Grove)		11	6	4	77	6	176
2 nd	Germany (Baldragon)		6	5	6	62	4	134
3 rd	USA (Morgan)		4	4	2	70	6	118
4 th	France (Harris)		4	4	6	47	8	109
5 th	Uganda (Menziesshill)		1	0	5	52	4	76
6 th	India (St Paul's)		1	1	1	58	2	72
7 th	Russia (Craigie)		1	1	2	44	4	63
8 th	Australia (St John's)		0	2	1	38	0	49
9 th	Argentina (Braeview)		0	0	1	17	0	20

In each of the festivals the pupils were an asset to the school and were excellent role models. Shelley Booth Active schools manager wrote to the school to congratulate the staff and pupils of their achievements;

“Active Schools would like to extend special congratulations to Menziesshill High School for their involvement in the 2011/12 Competition Calendar. The School has finished in 5th place on the City wide Medal Table. Their involvement in this year’s activities has grown dramatically since previous years. We would particularly like to congratulate the school on the ethos that the staff and pupils have displayed whilst competing in these events. Active Schools promote participation and enjoyment as the main element of all competitions. Menziesshill High School staff has clearly embraced this ethos and we would like to formally thank them for their commitment.” **Shelley Booth Active Schools Manager**

Netball Update

S1/2 Girls competed in the Active Schools Netball League and successfully made it through to the Semi-Finals despite being a newly formed team. The girls were extremely talented, enthusiastic, and determined individuals that worked excellent as a team. Congratulations Girls. Netball Club train on a Monday Lunchtime and participation levels increased significantly since Christmas. Netball club will continue next year and there are hopes for a S1/2 & S3/4 team. Hope to see new additions and current pupils back next year.

Basketball News

S1/2 Basketball team were successful in the Dundee Schools Plate winning over Morgan, St Pauls and Craigie. Within the school Mrs J Dorward is developing Basketball in conjunction with Active schools and sports development. The basketball club will be running on Thursday lunchtime. Presently sports development is running a basketball club which has been very successful and the participation levels in this sport have increased. Mrs J Dorward, active schools and sports development are developing school links with the community club Madsons run by Robin Paterson.

Hockey

The hockey team continued to do well in the Dundee League as they were starting to draw some of their games in the Dundee Schools League. Next year Mr Brown is developing the hockey team and is making links with the community club Grove Menzieshill with Andrew Gillespie doing some training with the team

Badminton

The club has run most Tuesday lunchtimes with a large number of regular participants. All the pupils involved have had fun while improving their skills. Menzieshill had a Junior and Senior team competing in the Inter Schools Championship. The Seniors came third overall, and the Juniors valiantly competed against the other Schools (our low ceiling in the small gym means we are at a disadvantage when playing games in a large games hall). So, a good year and we look forward to continuing members and new first year pupils, Tuesday Lunchtime.

Dance

The school was recently invited to the funky feet dance festival in the Caird Hall on the 15th June 2012. The dance was taught to pupils ranging from S1-S6 by Mrs Waddell. The group have met at lunch times and after school to complete their dance to Lego House by Ed Sheerhan. It was a good choice to do a contemporary dance as it would be different from the other schools and would give the performance variety. They performed excellently and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance as did the pupils who were taking the part. The dancers taking part were, Jade Heron, Jenna Gaffney, Holly Keith, Emma Young, Kathryn and Amanda Leitch and Louise Fox.

Leisure and Culture Dundee Swimming Gala

S3 Pupils Robyn O'Brien and Jacqueline Jones competed in the Leisure and Culture Dundee swimming gala at Olympia Leisure Centre in April. This was the first swimming gala they had ever competed in and they swam exceptionally well. Robyn collected 1 gold medal and 3 bronze medals and Jacqueline collected a gold, silver and 2 bronze medals. Congratulations to the girls for their success.



Flames Festival @ Baxter Park Torch Relay

Flames Training – Six of our new S4 students (Braden Henderson, Jordan Spry, Vicky Mitchell, Katy Ruddy, Emma Coupar & Jess Alexander) delivered four after school Olympic themed sessions at Hillside PS, following training from Active Schools. The students were encouraging participation and fitness as well as promoting key messages to the children, derived from the Olympic and Paralympic Values.

The students and P6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed the training and the MHS students confidence levels soared dramatically following their coaching experiences. All of the pupils involved loved the festival and the ensuing evening of entertainment that followed.



^ Jess, Vicky, Jordan, Braden, Katie & Emma holding the Olympic Torch!!!

Waterpolo

The school water polo team meets weekly for pupils S1-6. Since the team has started we have seen a great improvement in many individuals and the team as a whole. The team has gone from strength to strength and some players have decided to join teams outwith school. The team has competed in the Active Schools Development tournament recently at Grove Academy where they achieved 3rd place. The team played excellently at this tournament with goals from Hannah Edwards, Kirsty Bell and Matthew Turnball. In the next month the team is competing in the Scottish Schools Tournament. The team is hoping to do well in this tournament and come away with a medal. Over the next year we hope to introduce keen first years into the sport that have an interest in swimming and team sports. To help improve our team we have encouraged our existing members to join the local water polo club Menzieshill Whitehall Swimming and Water Polo Club who train on a Monday and Tuesday night. Over the past year the team has been a success and will continue through to next term after the summer.

Menzieshill Swimming Gala

This year's gala was keenly contested, with Culdres narrowly edging out Weem for the Championship. In keeping with Menzieshill's strong tradition in swimming, there were a large number of pupils participating, with the standard of swimming being of a high standard. Therefore, the respective champions for each age group were worthy winners. A big thank you should also be given to the sixth years who volunteered their services to help time keep and record scores which contributed to making the gala such a success.

Winners

1st year boys
Matthew Turnbull



1st year girls
Amy Scott



2nd year boys
John Sinclair



2nd year girls
Hannah Edwards



3rd year boys
Braden Henderson



3rd year girls
Emma Cooper



Senior Boys
Jamie Bell



Senior Girls
Louise Fox



Menziesshill HS Inter House Sport

This year, MHS held a very successful inter house sports competition with the S1/2, S3 and S4-S6 in Football and Basketball. All teams were playing for house points but the senior pupils had the added incentive of playing for Olympic Games tickets!! Steven Ross and Curtis Menmuir won tickets for the Women's Football Games at Hampden on Wednesday 25th July.



Festivals





Mrs Dorward took the S2 Boys football team to the Active Schools festival and achieved **GOLD medals!!** Well done Mrs Dorward and the lads!! It's our first Gold medal of the year so the school is delighted!!

Mr Dailly & Mrs Dorward took four S3 pupils to the Tennis festival at Broughty Ferry Tennis Club and Menzieshill achieved **BRONZE Medals!!** Jerri Alexander, Hannah Edwards, John Sinclair & Sean Abbott were the participants involved.

Sports Day

Menzieshill Sports Day will now take place on Wednesday 20th June 2012. Due to the weather conditions the previous date had to be cancelled. However we are hoping the sun will be shining on this brilliant day. This is a whole school event and we hope to see you all there!

Menzieshill PE T Shirt

This year there is a PE uniform of a black t-shirt and black shorts. The t-shirts are being produced at the school in conjunction with the Design & Technology Department. The t-shirts will be on sale for £5. Pupils can have their t-shirt personalised with their name or a sport on the back.

Transition Day at Menzieshill Community Centre

This year's transition saw 86 new S1 pupils being entertained for their 'step up' days. The pupils chose 2 activities from the four, Parkour, Hockey, Korfbal and Zumba. The kids had red faces and were delighted to learn that many of these will be on offer in August when they step up to MHS full time.

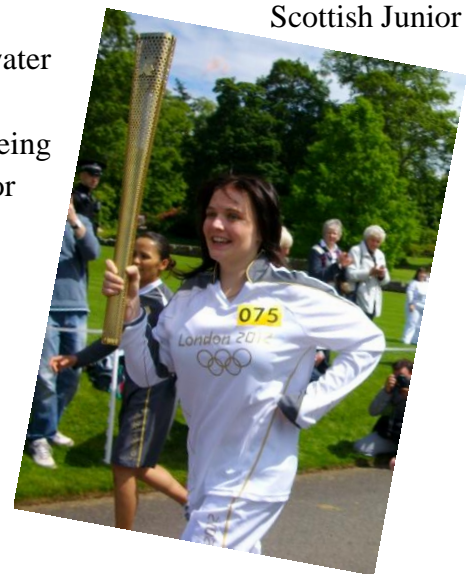
New Ambassadors to join Gold and Platinum Ambassadors

MHS has enrolled 17 new S4 sports ambassadors to continue this year's successful programme. This year, Louise Fox (MHS & Dundee chief sports ambassador) has shown what can be achieved through hard work, courage and determination. By combining the sports ambassadors role with her GB Water Polo team commitments, Louise won **the Active Schools and Sports Development Young Sports person of the year awards**. Louise was also selected to be the **Olympic Torch bearer** for the recent torch relay at Scone Palace.

Louise Fox, senior pupil, has had an outstanding year with many achievements. Last year in October Louise was selected for the Development Squad in the Great British Water Polo Team (she was the only Scottish individual selected) and has been training with them ever since. She hopes to be selected for the European Team which will be competing in Russia later this year. Last year she also took part in the tri - nation's tournament in Limerick, Ireland

where she captained the Team. Her success in water polo lead to many other achievements such as being made a gold ambassador for the school, a youth legacy ambassador for Dundee, winning the Frank Jordan Trophy

Scottish Junior



From left: Bev Smith, Amy Neave, Beth Fyffe, Louise Fox, Evie Brown, Caitlin Fowlie, Kathryn & Amanda Leitch and Hannah Edwards

with her swimming and water – polo club and achieving Dundee’s Young Sports Person of the Year. Earlier in the year Louise was nominated for the Dundee Active Schools Senior Pupil Volunteer of the Year Award. She won this award for her commitment in the P.E department and helping with the running of various clubs. On the 12th June 2012 Louise ran into Scone Palace with the Olympic flame. She was greeted by friends and teachers who came to support her and was also included in the STV news broadcast on the same night. Congratulations Louise!!!

The new S4 sports ambassadors will hopefully now be inspired by Louise and will want to follow in her footsteps.

Jerri Alexander displaying her Tennis skills during the S1-3 Active Schools festival



MHS P5 Mini Olympic Games Festival

This year, MHS utilised a group of 16 new S4’s (New Sports Ambassadors) to help run the MHS P5 Olympic Games transition festival in May. The festival was a huge success with 7 feeder primary schools involved (Hillside, Gowriehill, Lochee, Charleston, St. Clements, Longforgan & Inchtute). We had over 150 pupils involved and they all had a great time.



Mr Dailly explaining the rules!!





Menziesshill High School History Department

The History department has again enjoyed a busy and successful year. Mr McDonald presented a fantastic assembly to all pupils as part of Holocaust Memorial Week which always leads up to 27 of January, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp by Soviet troops. Pupils were encouraged to think about the issue of human rights and the abuses that took place during the Holocaust. The assembly also gave pupils the opportunity to think about how we as individuals and as a society can defend our human rights and speak out for those who have their rights ignored.

In support of their studies on the First World War, S4 took part in a presentation by the Black Watch museum during which they were able to dress up in officers' and regulars' uniforms and handle weaponry. The History department was delighted to be able to offer pupils a number of trips this year. S2 pupils, who have been studying the Wars of Independence, visited the Wallace Monument and Bannockburn giving them the opportunity to put their knowledge of one of Scotland's key historical events into context. It was an excellent day out enjoyed by all; the highlight was definitely Mr Bruce and Mr McDonald leading their second years into battle in our own re-enactment of events!

Finally, pupils from S4, S5 and S6 have recently returned from a Tour of the First World War Battlefields. They visited the scenes of carnage at Ypres and the Somme. Pupils were able to gain first-hand experience of trench life at Hill 60, one of the few areas in Belgium where trenches have been preserved. They were also able to visit monuments to the dead of both sides at Thiepval and Langemark. A highlight of the trip was the visit to Loos which is, of course, of particular significance to Dundonians. On September 25, 1915, the 8th and 9th Battalions of The Black Watch, together with men of the 4th and 5th Battalions, known as the Dundee Pals' Battalion, went into action shortly before dawn. Hundreds of Dundee's sons were sacrificed that day and our pupils felt extremely privileged to have had the opportunity to visit this important site and pay their respects to the fallen. The trip finished off at the Menin Gate in Ypres where pupils participated in the Last Post Ceremony which is held every day at 8pm by the local Fire Brigade; a simple but moving tribute to the courage and self-sacrifice of those who fell in defence of the town. The History department is extremely proud to be able to offer our pupils this thought provoking and enriching experience which we hope they will never forget.



Menziesshill High School Science Departments

At the beginning of last session, five of our senior pupils; Omar Asad, Callum Fowlie, Graeme Nicol, Keiran Cartmill and Craig Mays, made it through the first rounds of the Abertay

Eggheads Quiz, to face the Scientists. To end this session,

four of our S1 pupils; Jamie Savage, Holly Keith, Calum Blair and Jade Heron, took part in the

Salters Science festival at Dundee University,

placing 3rd in the challenge against competition from schools within Dundee,



Angus and Aberdeenshire.

Our younger learners have now experienced their second year of the new CfE curriculum and appear to be engaging well into all aspects. They involve themselves wholeheartedly into given tasks, allowing their imagination to express themselves, whether through 3D models of matter or renewable energy supplied islands, to building and firing their rockets at the end of the Universe topic, (on a very sunny day in March, known as our summer), or through colourful posters and PowerPoint presentations.

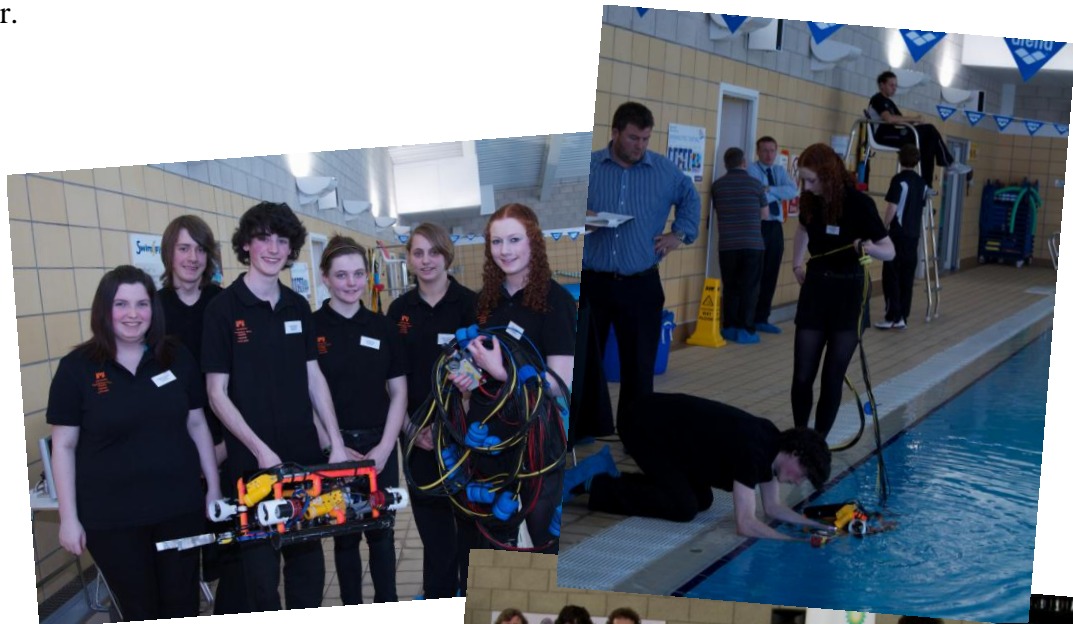
To extend their experience in Science pupils we were lucky to receive several visits over the year. The Scifun Roadshow in Feb allowed the 2nd years (and senior assistants), an opportunity to appreciate different branches of Science, on top of this we had visits from University of Abertay, looking at more body based Science and from Robert Gordons University in May to run an electronics workshop with S3 Physics.





Menziesshill High School Design and Technology Department

An on going group within the Design and Technology Department is the ROV group. Last year the ROV team made it to the international competition in the Neutral Buoyancy Lab in NASA, Houston, Texas. This year during the regional competition the group came 2nd overall. This is an excellent achievement and we are all very proud of our young members. The team is already thinking of new ideas for next year.



Also this year, the Design and Technology Department was

very lucky in getting funding for a Denford VLS Laser Cutter. The Laser Cutter will assist the department in progressing with CFE and already pupils have had the opportunity to use the Laser Cutter to make various projects. In the coming year we hope to have a group of young pupils trained fully in its use. This will allow them to create complex models and to teach other young pupils how to use it.



The Denford Laser Cutter can transform images or drawings on your computer screen into real items made from a wide variety of materials. These Lasers are ideal for cutting, deep engraving, precision scribing, decorative etching on wood, plastic, fabric, leather, paper, rubber and will also mark glass, ceramic, metal and stone.

The Design & Technology Department is continuing to bring in new equipment to help pupils gain vital skills for working life. We hope to help every pupil understand the importance of technology throughout life and how this will help them in the present and the future.



Menziesshill High School Literacy Across Learning

Our new S1 Literacy Across Learning course has continued to be very successful. In term three we were developing research skills using the DISCOVER model, and applying them to a Dundee project which linked with the work being done in Social Subjects. Each class worked on a different theme: 1LAL1 on Jam, with the Home Economics Department; 1LAL2 on Weather with Geography; 1LAL3 on Whales and whaling with History; 1LAL4 on Journalism; 1LAL5 on Jute with the Art department and 1LAL6 on Antarctica with the Science Department.

This course has created national interest. We have been featured in the Times Educational Supplement Scotland, had visitors from Education Scotland and other authorities and been asked to speak at conferences. You can find out more about what we did in Literacy Across Learning on our blog <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dd/LAL/>.
<http://glo.li/LaXyBS>



On Wednesday 20th June S1 pupils hosted an evening of celebration: families, friends and special guests were welcomed to the library and guided through a year of Literacy Across Learning. They watched a funky film and enjoyed a presentation by class reps. The Olympic project for term 4 culminated with an inspirational talk by Olympic torchbearer Ronald McIntosh who told his inspiring life story and then became part of the judging panel for an S1 debate. The motion was “This house believes that the 2012 London Olympics will be the best ever.” On this occasion the opposition won and both teams were praised for the high standard of lively debate. Thanks to all staff who have been involved with leading Literacy Across Learning this year.





Menziesshill High School Backing a Rising Star – Louise Fox

Louise Fox started playing water polo in primary 6 and since then has been committed to the sport. She is a member of Menziesshill/Whitehall swimming and water polo club and represents her sport at Scottish and GB level.

Louise is now entering S6 at Menziesshill High and in recognition of her achievements in sport she was selected to carry the Olympic torch in Perth on the 12th June.

As part of the on-going training Louise is required to attend training camps in Cardiff regularly.

A new Scottish programme called “Back a Rising Star” has been set up by the Scottish Swimming and Louise is the only athlete to be nominated for this. The programme aims at publicizing upcoming athletes and helps fund raise for them.

The school fully supports this programme and Louise asks during the year when she organises events that you and your child support her also.

Look out for upcoming events you could be involved in!

