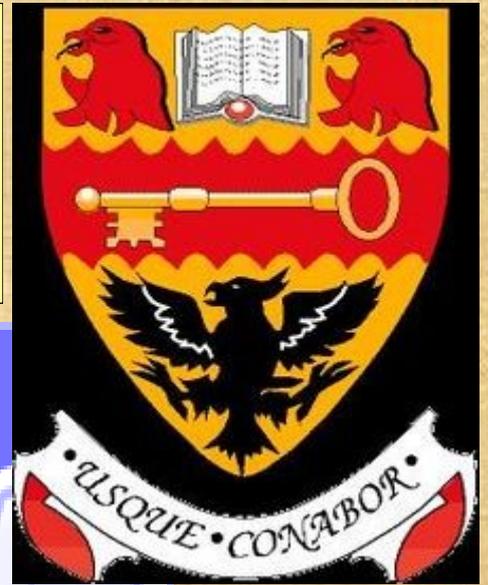
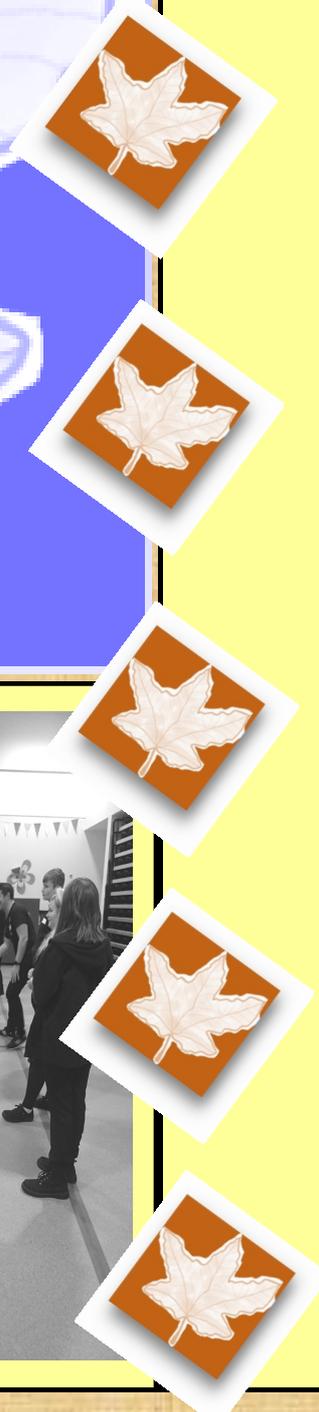


Lasswade High School Autumn Newsletter October 2018



LHS





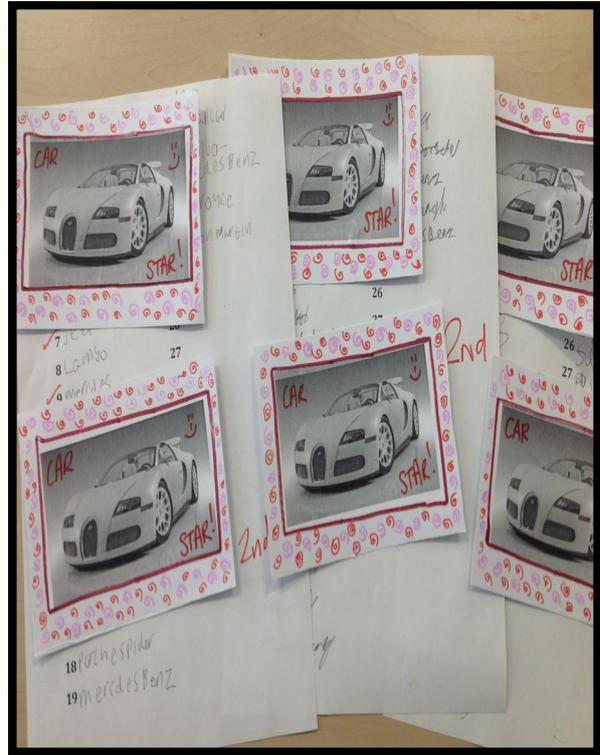
Car Club Quiz Recognises Pupils Extensive Knowledge

Pupils from Mr Stewart’s weekly Car Club participated in a tough thirty-question quiz challenging them to identify the makes and models of cars from across the globe.

The club, which meets every Tuesday, is going from strength-to-strength, with new members joining all the time.

Pictured are some of the entries to the quiz, and the small certificates awarded to the pupils for taking part.

Well done to everyone involved.

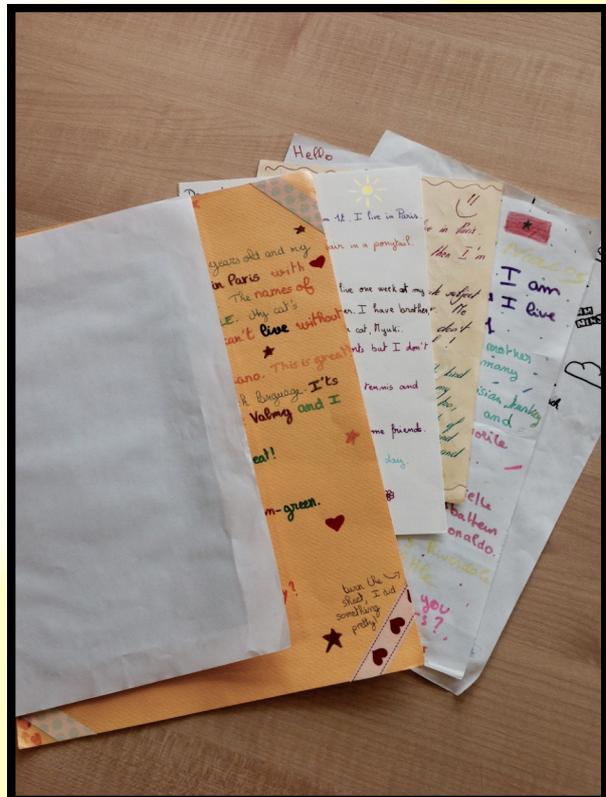


S2 PUPIL LETTERS REACH OUT TO FRANCE

Pupils from S2 were in communication with students from the College Valmy school in Paris, France in a fun project aimed at improving their French Writing skills.

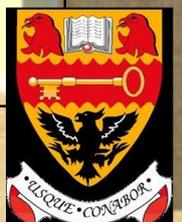
Writing in their best French, Miss Scott-Larsen’s lucky pupils received replies back in English from similar-aged pupils who spoke about their lives and interest from across the Channel.

The letters were beautifully decorated and very colourful and spoke of a variety of hobbies and interests.



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Putting People First

Human Utopia's work with Lasswade

Lasswade High School has recently been working closely with *Human Utopia*, a company that aims to increase young people's knowledge of how to make positive changes to their lives.

Working initially with groups of S4 and S6 students, the all-day sessions that have been taking place in the school encourage the participants to think about how they treat people and reflect on some of the challenges faced by young people.

The project also allows students to develop their leadership skills, with some S6 students being chosen as 'heroes,' and given the confidence to mentor younger students within the school. Similarly, students from the S4 contingent will have the opportunity to be positive mentors for S2.





S2's enjoy COLUMBA 1400 Values Day

A selection of pupils from S2 took part in a Columba 1400 Values Day, a programme aimed at developing self-confidence in young people.

The pupils participated in a series of team-building activities in the Assembly Hall, with a view to developing their group-work skills.

15 pupils from the school will be selected to participate in a residential stay with Columba on the Isle of Skye as well as undertaking a project to assist in the local community.



Geography Department First in Scotland

Lasswade's Geography Department is delighted to have been given the Secondary Geography Quality Mark (SGQM) in September. The department is the first in Scotland to receive this award.

The prestigious accolade recognises that the department has excelled in Curriculum Development and quality of Learning and Teaching.

The steps to achieving the award involved extensive moderation, and Lasswade was seen as being part of a trend in developing new, exciting approaches to presenting Geography as a subject.

Over 500 SGQM's have been awarded .and the scheme began in 2006.

Some of the extra activities taking place in the geography department this year for students include the RGS Young Geographer of the Year Competition, Physical Geography Photo Competition and the Independent Investigation Competition, both organised by the Geographical Association.





SENIOR PRIZE-GIVING

It was an opportunity for Lasswade's many talented Senior students to be recognised for their dedication to the DREAM Values.

During what was a well-attended and busy programme of entertainment and awards, former Depute Head Teacher of Lasswade Fiona Wightman spoke to those in attendance about her own career, and the importance of dreaming about the future.

She encouraged pupils to make the most of the opportunities afforded to them at the school and said it was important to have the right character and attitude. She also suggested that it was crucial to never stop learning.

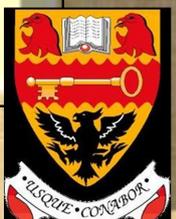
Students from S4 were recognised for their achievements across all subjects, with S4 Pupil, Chloe Lauder, receiving the Young Prize for Academic Excellence.

Charlotte Bowe and Mia-Hollins-Kirk received DREAM Awards in S5, and, in S6, a Senior Leadership Team of House Captains and School Captains were recognised by Head Teacher Campbell Hornell.

Entertainment was provided by S3-S6 Drama Students, Jack Whittaker on guitar and the Guitar Group. Special Prizes were awarded to Jamie McGlone for Senior Musician of the Year, and Olivia Harris was chosen for the Head Teacher's Award. The Marshall Memorial Medal was awarded to Anna Blair.

Congratulations to all of the outstanding young people mentioned on the night.

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MEDIA CLUB

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The school was delighted to welcome STV sports reporter and presenter Jamie Borthwick to visit a group of students on Monday 24th September.

It was a great opportunity for the students to get first-hand information about how their media skills can be applied on the job.

Jamie spoke of how his career had allowed him access to press conferences featuring sports stars such as Wayne Rooney, and also to the media centre of The Ryder Cup.

Jamie was able to offer great insights into interviewing techniques and what it takes to make it in a competitive industry.

Some of the questions the students asked included, "how did you get into sports journalism?" but Jamie also had lots of questions for the students, who informed him of their own aspirations.

He was able to offer constructive advice on how to conduct an interview and also his opinions on where journalism will go in the future.

All who attended the lunchtime event received helpful tips and also some inspiration to apply themselves to a future in media.



CAKE DECORATING CLUB

It was another exciting week at Lasswade High School's Cake Decoration Club.

On Tuesday, the pupils taking part undertook the challenge of baking and assembling Battenberg cakes.

This famous and attractive cake is made of light sponge pieces coated with jam and then wrapped in marzipan.

It is well-known for its unmistakable check pattern.

The origins of this cake can be traced back to the 1800's and the German town of Battenberg.

Everyone who participated in the class excelled at what was a difficult baking process.

Next week the group are looking forward to creating a 'Pigs in Mud,' cake.





Creative Writing Club

Lasswade's Creative Writing Club continues to encourage the next generation of writers, welcoming as many as 20 students from S1-S6 on Wednesday lunchtimes.

Last session, the group succeeded in being published in *The Poetry Games Anthology of Global Poets*, with their poem *The Mistakes in Our World*.



This term, the group are working with Mr Stewart on a number of different projects including their own novel chapters, and 500 word flash-fiction competitions. The subject of this month's competition is a Spooky House story.

UCAS Convention

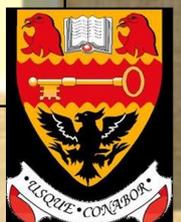
Over 80 of Lasswade High's Senior Pupils attended the Edinburgh UCAS Convention on Tuesday 4th of September in order to be better informed about their future career and study choices.

The event was staffed by hundreds of University representatives and employers who were able to give hints and new insights into courses and destinations for the future.

The pupils who attended appreciated the wealth of information and advice on offer, with one S6 pupil saying:

"I felt it was really useful regarding my future."

Pupils were able to talk to representatives and students from each University in order to have their individual questions answered as they make their mind up about their next steps.





DESIGN SMASH

Lasswade's team of Higher Geographers and Higher Designers did a fantastic job at the annual Heriot Watt Design Smash Challenge.

They worked really effectively as a group to fulfil the brief of designing a new student building for the centre's Malaysia campus.

Their in-depth research into the project as well as their detailed sketches grabbed the attention of the other competitors and university tutors.

They received high praise for their efforts and the originality of their idea, well done!

National 5 Drama

National 5 Drama students recently put on an excellent performance of their original scripts.

The show – supported by staff, fellow students and parents – covered a variety of subject matter, from witch-hunts, presidential campaigns and self-help groups.

Accompanied by a well-selected soundtrack of popular music and some stunning visuals, the show was a great example of the creativity and originality of the National 5 students.

The applause that they received at the end was a testament to their effort and how impressive their writing and acting skills are.

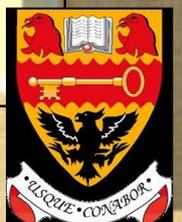
It was a fantastic evening and congratulations to everyone involved.

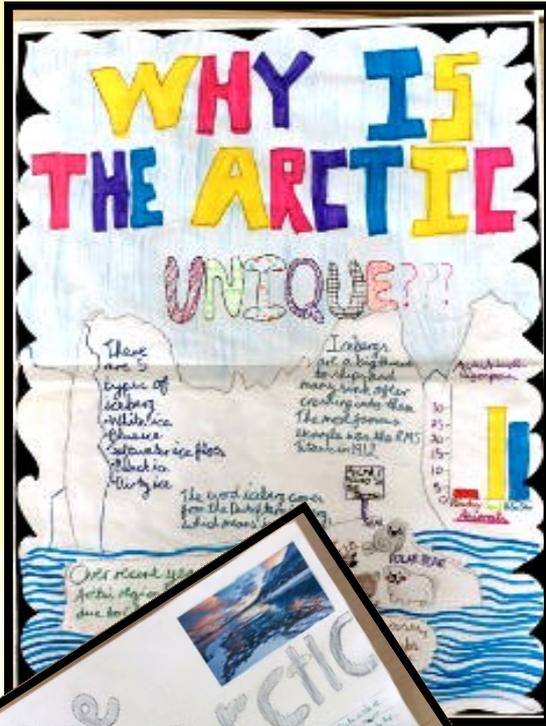


DESIGN



DRAMA





Young Geographer of the Year Competition.

Lasswade pupils have created some excellent posters as part of the annual RGS Young Geographer of the Year Competition.

The challenge - which requires pupils to research The Arctic in depth - asks for an eye-catching A3 poster that shows what makes this geographical environment unique.

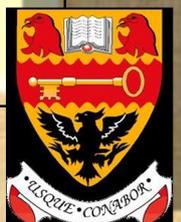
The Arctic is a part of the world undergoing real change, and pupils have been asked to consider how this will affect the geographical landscape of the region and also the rest of the world.

Winners of the competition will be invited to an Award Ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society in South Kensington, London.

Good luck to the pupils who entered, and well done!



Science Gala





DUKE OF EDINBURGH

This October saw the culmination of a year of hard work for 23 mainly S3 pupils.

The pupils had been working towards their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award and attended a presentation of their award certificates and all-important lapel badges with Mr Hornell.

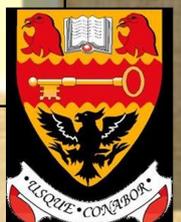
Pupils had been working hard on the various requirements of their award programme through the last academic year; a hugely varied programme of volunteering activities, physical activities and improving skills.

These have helped pupils not only meet the requirements of their award but have also taught them valuable transferrable life skills and values such as commitment, time-management, interpersonal skills, confidence and self-motivation.

Their activities have also allowed pupils to make valued contributions to the local community and many pupils have chosen to continue their volunteering activities beyond the requirements of their award.

Many of the pupils – now in S4 – are now keen to progress to the Silver Award and will join pupils from S5 in working towards this over the next 12 months.

October has also seen the launch of this year's extracurricular Bronze Award programme for S3 pupils with after-school training for the expedition component of their award taking place over the coming months.





PE DEPARTMENT GOLD AWARD

Some exceptional news for Lasswade's PE Department. Confirmation came through this week that the department has officially secured the Sport Scotland Gold Award.

The award recognises that the school has succeeded in placing sport at the centre of the school's planning and practice.

It is also testament to the exceptional sporting opportunities that the school offers to its pupils; through PE and also the packed programme of extra-curricular events.

So far, Lasswade is the only school in Midlothian to hold this award. The achievement has been made possible by the PE staff, Active Schools and our Sports Council.

The Sports Council have been working very hard alongside the PE Department's Daisy Forbes and Sarah McKay, plus Active Schools Coordinator Judith Clyne to gather and submit evidence all of last year.

Excellent news for the PE Department; well done!



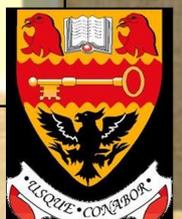
Lasswade Seniors v Heriot's - Football Match Report

4-2

"a hugely competitive game with some great football from both sides, and a real test for Lasswade who played well and were unlucky."

GOLD

SPORTS





S3's Fraser Gains Red Sparrow Award

Lasswade student Fraser Wright has been honoured with the cadets prestigious Red Sparrow award.

Fraser is a member of the 1739 Air Cadet Squadron in Newtongrange.

In July of this year, he was put forward by his Squadron to serve at the Royal International Air Tattoo in Fairford, near London.

This massive event involves almost one-thousand air cadets volunteering to ensure that activities run smoothly, and Fraser's hard work and dedication led him to be selected as a Red Sparrow.

The award, which recognises exceptional service, is only given to twelve people from the one-thousand taking part in the Tattoo from around the world.

As part of his award, Fraser was treated to a VIP Day that allowed him to meet pilots, get up-close to aeroplanes and visit the control tower. Furthermore, he was given a T-shirt and jacket made especially for the Red Sparrows.

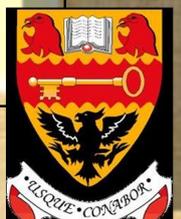
To add to his success, on the 31st of August, Fraser attended a RAF formal black-tie dinner and dance at the Royal Scott Hotel in Edinburgh where he received Air Cadet of Year for the East of Scotland wing.

Huge congratulations to Fraser for these awesome achievements.



WALK THE LINE

Parents, students and staff completed the 8 mile walk from Penicuik to Edinburgh College. The students were raising money to pay for their Visa for their trip to China this month.





Tianjin Visit

Head Teachers from Tianjin visited Lasswade High School and Hawthornden Primary last week. The Chinese visitors had spent the morning at Leith Academy (home of Edinburgh's Confucius classroom), before visiting both of Midlothian's classrooms. The visitors were:

Ms Li Cuisong Secretary of the Party Committee, Tianjin No.1 High School

Partner: Leith Academy Edinburgh

Ms Wang Hui Vice Chancellor Tianjin High School

Partner : Our Lady's High School, North Lanarkshire

Ms Li Yan Vice Chancellor Tianjin Experimental Primary School

Partner: Hawthornden Primary School, Midlothian

Ms Li has invited students from Lasswade to visit her school during their visit to China in October

Beijing Head teacher visit

The Confucius Institute of Scottish Schools were asked by the Scottish Government to host a group of 12 head teachers visiting Scotland from Beijing in September. During their stay in Scotland, CISS hosted a series of events for them including a seminar "**Beijing Head teacher visit – a conversation with Scotland**".

As part of the visit the 12 headteachers visited Confucius Classrooms around Scotland. Lasswade were delighted to welcome WANG Yingkun and XU Wei along with Doris Ma and TANG Jiahui from from the CISS office who both acted as interpreters.

After a tour of the school given by S6 students Emily and Amber, the headteachers visited an S4 Mandarin Lesson. Mr Hornell gave an informative presentation about Scottish Education and Lasswade's priorities.

