

Science Fair a Great Success

Deans Community High School recently held a Science Fair, organised by our current S6 Science Ambassadors. The Science Fair included a showcase of projects completed over a period of six weeks by a group of nineteen S1-S3 students, each group being mentored by a Science Ambassador throughout the project.

The event, a first for Deans, was very successful and well attended by staff, parents and the wider community. The projects were judged by Roddy McKenzie and Richard Thorpe from Catalent Pharma Solutions, alongside Pauline Allison, Head teacher. All three judges were extremely complimentary of all the students involved and expressed how impressive and professional their projects and presentations were.



In the end, the winners were judged to be Erin Duncan and Ben Ritchie, both S1 students. The Fair was a resounding success and the Science department are very proud of all the students involved. We hope that the Science Fair will continue to grow and develop each year as it is a fantastic way to celebrate the scientific abilities of young people in our school.



Head Lines

Once again we have had a very busy and successful session. Last week we were delighted to recognise and celebrate some of these achievements of our students at our Junior and Senior Awards Ceremonies, where we were also fortunate to hear the British Champion Athlete Keith Cook speak about his inspirational personal journey to success. This newsletter will hopefully give you a flavour of the wide range of activities that our students take part in, both within and out with school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. I was delighted to receive so many responses from our recent whole school survey and can report that the following areas will be included in next session's improvement plan as a consequence of this:

- Teachers' knowledge of individual students
- Support of Students' emotional wellbeing
- Support for students in making subject/career choices at points of transition
- Bullying

Also following the questionnaire, we will be offering parent workshops and information session on assessment and learning at home.

Pauline Allison, Head Teacher

Causing a Stir at Simply Food Project

A group of students and their parents and carers took part in a new cookery class this term, as part of an initiative to promote family engagement.

Skilfully lead by Mrs. McGhie in the Home Economics Department, the group created lots of dishes, learning about cost, nutrition and tasty ingredients along the way.

Students responded extremely well to the novelty of working alongside their parents and carers, achieving lots in the time shared - making 3-4 dishes per class.



Supported by school staff, the cooking activities also provided the opportunity to develop skills in communication, following instructions, teamwork, literacy and numeracy.

The group was made possible through Student Equity Funding and we hope to build on the success of this parent-school partnership with more groups like this.

Thanks to Fiona Hendry, Community Champion and Morrisons for providing ingredients and continued support. Also a big thanks to the parents/carers/family members who came along and supported us.

Staffing News

At the summer we will be saying a fond farewell to Mr Dyson and Miss Garrish who are both retiring, as well as Mr Howat who is relocating to Aberdeen.

We would like to thank them for all they have done for the students at Deans and wish them well in the future.

Meanwhile, I am delighted to let you know that Miss Thomson has been appointed as Principal Teacher of Support on a permanent basis.

Dates for your Diary

Activity Days	27-28	June
Term Ends	29	June
Staff Resume	20	Aug
Students Resume	21	Aug





Developing the Young Workforce



Enterprise Day

This year the “Developing the Young Workforce” Enterprise Day had a World Cup theme. Each group had to complete a series of tasks where they were allocated a country as their project.



A group of 12 students attended the “Cool Down Crew” which is organised and run by the Fire Service.

The group worked on various activities and then demonstrated to staff and their parents and carers what they had learned from their weeks training.

Yet again we had an exceptional input from our Business Partners with 34 “Business Managers” working with a group of 6 students.

The creativity and enterprising attitude shown by students was wonderful to see and our managers complemented many of the students on their excellent work ethic.

We would like to thank all of our Business Partners for the support they have provided throughout the year in allowing us to provide so many Employability type experiences for our students.

The display was very impressive and again developed many of the skills our young people will require when they move in to the world of work.





Developing the Young Workforce



The Larder



Twenty six of our students have attended the Larder Cook School this year where they have worked on producing various different dishes, using a number of cooking techniques and also baking bread and making cakes.

All students who attended have thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have been involved in preparing and serving a three course meal to family members and school staff.

The students have also been working towards National 3 Unit qualifications. This is something which we hope to continue next year.

The Larder
Cook School

The Larder
Cook School



Nail Technician Course

A group of eight Deans Community High School students have been attending a vocational training course held in the school.

They have been learning many of the techniques they will need if they hope to progress into a career in the beauty industry.

The course runs for 5 weeks and provides them with a recognised industry qualification. As you can see from the pictures the students are enjoying the course.





School Awarded LGBT Silver Charter Mark

In May this year LGBT Scotland were delighted to congratulate Deans and the DNA group on successful completion of their Silver LGBT Charter Mark. LGBT Scotland will be visiting on 22 June to present the group and school with the award.

The group who meet every Wednesday lunchtime have been working towards this achievement over the last few years and were delighted to hear they had been awarded Silver. The LGBT Charter of Rights is a list of rights based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) that some LGBT people feel that they are denied due to their sexual orientation or gender identity.

The DNA group have also represented the school throughout the year at various events and held different fund raising and awareness activities including:

- The LGBTYS Every Day Heroes Event at Trinity Academy, Edinburgh.
- Talks from Time for Inclusive Education Campaign.
- Fundraising for Purple Friday.
- Raising awareness during LGBT History Month.
- Attending International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia.

Congratulations to all involved!





P7 Math's Challenge

Congratulations to Knightsridge Primary School who finished in first and second place in this year's P7 Maths Challenge. Pictured are the winning team Knightsridge B who won by 7 points over their classmates.

Thanks to Mr Krausen and Mrs McNaughton for organising and running the event and to the P7s from Knightsridge, Meldrum, Seafield, Deans and Carmondean Primaries.

A big well done to all the students that attended the P7 Maths Challenge!

Community Giving at Deans Community High School

This year so far, S4 students at Deans have raised almost £1280 for a wide range of charities from Jak's Den to Dog's Trust. As part of Personal Development and Religion, Belief and Values courses, students have worked together to raise money through bake sales, a car wash, dress down day and organising a Macmillan Coffee Morning for staff.

In S5, students have worked on the Self and Community unit for PD through working with the whole school and wider community of Deans. Over 30 students volunteer, organise and run the successful Friday Night Project – which regularly attracts over 100 students across the community on a fortnightly basis. Over 25 students worked to organise the whole school karaoke and Staff Christmas video, from ticket design to persuading a wide range of students and staff to sing and to join in.

Another large group organised collecting donations and creating Christmas Boxes for local pensioners – and then spent time visiting the recipients at Pentland View Court and having a chat. Some students organised a community coffee morning and invited guests from Livingston Station Senior Citizens Club to come in for a morning of entertainment at Christmas.



The S6 Charity Committee have recently organised the collection of food, basic essentials and money for West Lothian Foodbank. We collected more than 233kg of food (providing 555 meals) and raised £340 through the Christmas dress-down day. The Committee raised £1000 for Children in Need, £160 for the Terence Higgins Trust through raising awareness of World Aids Day and delivered Candy Canes to raise money for Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity. They are currently planning events for Sports Relief.

Through organising these events, students develop a wide range of skills that prepare them for life beyond school. Many students have commented that through working with others to organise these events they have developed self-confidence, communication and interpersonal skills. Students have also had the opportunity to reflect upon their personal values and the difference that giving - through volunteering time, raising awareness of issues in our community or through raising money to help others – can make.

Pump it Up Challenge

Mitsubishi and the Chamber of Commerce have organised the "Pump it Up" challenge for the last five years.

Second year students compete to represent the school with their own unique application of a heat pump in a commercial context. This is a great example of different groups working together towards a common vision to link up education and workplaces.

Students worked in teams to really help develop their skills through this challenge and judges from within the school and industry aided in selecting the Deans CHS finalists team.

Last night Lucy, Katie, Elize and Neve from S2 did a wonderful job of representing the school and presenting their idea to the audience at Howden Park Centre which included representatives from Mitsubishi, the government, the Chamber of Commerce, the Japanese consulate and West Lothian Council.

For their achievements they even picked up some kindly donated prizes. Mr Steele from DCHS was very appreciative of the opportunity to work with industry in this way and especially enjoyed the visit to the factory which was very impressive.



British Pipe Band Championships

West Lothian School's Pipe Band placed 4th in the Juvenile Grade at the British Pipe Band Championships on Saturday 19th of May.

This is a fantastic achievement and congratulations to Mr Canning our Bagpipe Tutor, Mr Ross our Snare Drum Tutor and to all the students involved. Well done!



Sporting Success at Deans Community High School



Rugby Finals

Well done to all who competed in the West Lothian Rugby Finals. All players representing Deans competed very well and showed true sportsmanship throughout the event!

Congratulations to the boys team who finished in a very respectable 4th place against some very tough opposition!

The girls brought home gold after coming first place across West Lothian! Congratulations on such a great achievement!!!

Well done to everyone involved in the Rugby Finals!

Well Done Kieran

What a year for Kieran Allan! Firstly, his team, Falkirk Fury, were crowned U18's Men's Scottish Cup Champions.

Secondly, Kieran was selected to play for the New England Colonials this summer in Boston!

Kieran was selected for their 10 person squad from a large number of applicants. Another amazing achievement for Kieran!

Good luck in Boston over the summer!



Swimming Success

A huge congratulations to former student, Craig McLean, who competed at the Commonwealth Games 2018. Craig clocked an incredible PB in the 200m freestyle, a Scottish National record in the 4 x 100m and of course secured a Bronze Medal. Well done, Craig!



Martial Arts

Congratulations to Cameron Woodward who won his recent martial arts fight in an event held in Bellshill recently. Cameron won on points 40-12 in only his second competitive fight.

Scottish Cup Winner

Congratulations to S1 student Tyrone Core who helped Hutchison Vale U13's win the Scottish Cup! Tyrone scored in the final and was also awarded the Man of the Match award. Well done!



Table Tennis Title for Holly

Congratulations to Holly Stephen who competed at the Under 14's Scottish Schools Table Tennis Championships and won the girls' event! What an excellent achievement!



West Lothian Handball Finals

The S3/4 handball team finished in 2nd place at the West Lothian finals held at Deans CHS.

After a tough qualifying round, in which Deans beat Linlithgow, Broxburn and Bathgate, they were up against St Margaret's in the 1st v 2nd place final. Having lost to St Margaret's by one goal earlier in the event, the final match was always going to be close.

In the end, the team lost 5-3 after a very competitive game which was played in great spirits. Well done to everyone involved! We're looking forward to seeing how this team progresses over the next few years.



National Handball Finals

Well done to the S5/6 handball team who competed at the National finals at Ravenscraig. The boys finished overall 2nd after narrowly losing the final game. A great achievement, well done to everyone involved!



Netball Competition

Some of the Senior netball girls played in their final competition for Deans Community High School. The girls played the final game with 6 players due to injury and still managed to place 2nd overall. Well done girls, thanks for all your hard work!



British Handball Final

Matthew Estevens, Sean Byron and Gaku Hirooka were involved in the British Handball final at the Oriam. Unfortunately, having been in a winning position at half time, their team went on to narrowly lose the game 31-26 to Glasgow.

This is a huge achievement to be involved in a British final at such a young age - congratulations to all three boys!





Badminton Championships

Students from Deans Community High School were involved in the West Lothian Schools Badminton Championships.

The competition was fantastic and all students involved were excellent.

Huge congratulations to the following people, who managed to win their individual events-

Under 14s

Aaron Forbes (B final winner),

Under 16s Fatimah Khan (A final winner), Linsey Esplin and Emily Stewart (A final doubles winners)

Travis Woodhead and Mati Krysinski (B final doubles winners).

Under 19s

Gabrielle McClymont (B final winner)

Gabrielle McClymont and Jemma Gilbertson (A final doubles winners)

Ben Stewart and Jack Forbes (A final doubles winner).



Gymnastics Event

A huge well done to all the girls who competed at the West Lothian School's Gymnastics event! The students worked exceptionally hard and were a credit to the school.

Congratulations to the following students who won medals on the day - Level 2 Zoe Dunn (Individual silver and team gold), Jodie Troup (Individual gold and team gold), Emily Roberts (Team gold), Sophie Auld (Team gold). Level 4 Laura Jane Core (Individual silver and team silver), Caitlin Higginson (Team silver), Nicole Sivess (Team silver), Kayla Montague (Team silver).



Giant Heptathlon

Congratulations to the group of students from Deans Community High School who competed at the East Regional Giant Heptathlon final.

The team finished in 2nd place overall after competing against a variety of schools who had also qualified for the event.

Another great achievement - well done to all the students involved!



Our website - www.deanscommunityhighschool.com - contains a wealth of information and updates on what's taking place in Deans. I would encourage you to take a few minutes to have a look at what's going on. We also like to celebrate wider achievement in Deans and welcome contact regarding student achievement out with school. **Please email: wdeans-chs@westlothian.org.uk**

