### Follow us



1 May 2020



"I wanted to pass on just how impressed we've been with the way Dunottar has reacted and responded to virtual learning. It has been truly phenomenal and you and the wider staff team should feel incredibly proud at achieving what you have. With two working parents in our household, Dunottar has managed to maintain continuity at a time when other schools have struggled to get going. I just wanted to extend a big thank you for all that you're doing and continue to do – it is tremendous and inspiring."





Congratulations to the pupils on another excellent week of learning from home.

I have received so many positive

comments about how purposefully they are completing their subject work and about the benefits of having a structure and rhythm to the day during these unsettling times.

I continue to be hugely impressed with the number of co-curricular clubs that proliferate, especially at lunchtimes.

Thank you to all our teachers who are enabling pupils to learn and also for providing individual and form-based pastoral support during the day.

We really value your feedback and would be grateful if you could take a few moments to complete the survey that has been sent out to all parents and pupils this week.

Have a good weekend and stay safe.

Mark Tottman Headmaster

# Dunottar News

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### Remote Learning: Week 3

We have been so impressed with how well our pupils have taken to this new way of teaching having completed their third week of remote learning. Here are just a few examples of the great work that has been produced by pupils at home.

#### Music

This half term, Year 7 and 8 have embarked on a 'World Music' carousel and are learning about traditional music from Africa, India, China, Indonesia and South America. Pupils have been listening to and evaluating, different musical examples by following QR Codes to relevant YouTube videos. They are presenting their work in Book Creator and have been sending us performances of the music they are learning as part of the project.



Continued overleaf...

#### Cricket Log Books—Various Year Groups



5 of 10

#### Year 8 Religious Studies



My art work represents that we might all believe different things but that does not mean we have to stand alone. Even though we all might believe in different gods this unites us. We still can be friends and have things in common. There is no reason to dislike someone because they believe something else. My artwork was themed by what religion inspires in me. I've shown that all religions, whatever the religion, inspire us to come together and believe in ourselves through a god. My main idea is that it teaches us that we are not alone in this world. All religions teach us that there is a god looking over you trying to teach you and guide you. My vision is that religion is a community that works together to live in harmony even with those that don't believe. I hope people will see my picture as a representation of this. The background represents the world and all the religions.

"I just wanted to say thank you for doing such a wonderful job with my daughter's home schooling. I think Dunottar have coped with this crisis AMAZINGLY. As a school you have outshone every other school from what I can gather talking to my friends and work associates. Everyone is doing a great job and I am confident that my daughter is still learning during this period of lockdown."

MS NATHAN, YEAR 11 PARENT



#### Art for Wellbeing

Research suggests that making art can have a positive effect on our wellbeing. This piece, by Amelie in Year 8, shows how creating a drawing using lines and patterns, such as dots, not only produces a wonderful piece of artwork, but can also improve concentration and is a form of mindfulness.

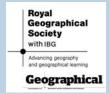
This piece is in the shape of a shell, but you can do this for any shape even random shapes. Just take a piece of paper and draw some lines to make shapes using a fineliner, pen or a biro. Keep dividing the shapes using lines until you have multiple spaces. Then you can fill all the spaces with different patterns such as dots, stripes, zigzags and circles. Keep going until you have filled every single space.



## **Competitions and Activities**

### Royal Geographical Society Competition 2020

The Dunottar Geography Department would love to receive entries to the Royal Geographical Society's 2020 competition. The competition is open to all year groups and requires pupils to create an A3 poster exploring the competition theme—"The World Beyond my Window".



#### Further details can be found here:

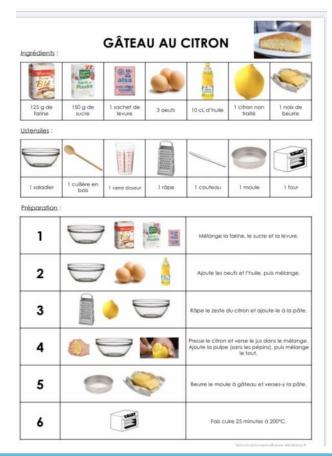
https://www.rgs.org/schools/ competitions/young-geographer-ofthe-year/

#### Entries should be sent to:

s.thorne@dunottarschool.com by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

### La Cuisine Française

Why not practise your cooking skills and language skills at the same time by trying out our French and Spanish recipes. Find more recipes and share images of your dishes on @DunottarLang.



### Great Dunottar Bake Off

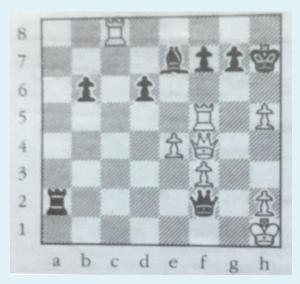
Mrs French's next challenge is "Celebration". Can you make a dessert for a birthday party? It should feed at least six people.

Entry photos should be emailed to Mrs French <u>a.french@dunottarschool.com</u> by 10th May.



### Headmaster's Quiz

This week's Headmaster's Quiz on social media was a chess challenge: White to move. Black's Queen threatens checkmate on g2 and f1. What move must White play now to win the game in two moves against any defence by Black?



#### Solution:

Qh6+ if G7xh6 f5xf7++ or if Kxh6, Rh8++

How did you get on?

Look out for next week's challenge on @DunottarHead



## Co-curricular

#### Comedy Club

After its opening 'night' (lunchtime), Comedy Club has seen a queue of emails pile up requesting involvement. We are yet to reach the capacity of the venue, so pupils can keep emailing, and they will be added. Pupils should come prepared with a joke or two, although they are also welcome to just be an ear (and a laugh please). Top three jokes from Week 2:

#### "What's the best thing about Switzerland?"

#### "I don't know, but the flag is a big plus."

#### MSF Missing Maps

A group of pupils began



working on the Missing Maps project in a school co-curricular club organised by Mr Taylor. The project aims to create physical maps for places in the world that do not have these available. Creating these maps enables medical and humanitarian teams to find their way around on the ground in countries that are in much need of help.

Dunottar pupils are being asked to create maps of areas by studying aerial photographs and tracing the outlines of buildings, roads and other features. People on the ground in those areas can then use our maps to add features such as place names, and confirm the features we have added. These are then turned into physical maps and are given to organisations such as Médicines Sans Frontières and the WHO.

There are a number of projects being run currently to map areas that are in need of medical and food support due to the Covid-19 pandemic and our plan is to help map some of those areas over the next few weeks.

Anyone who would like to get involved should email Mr Taylor for a 'Teams' invite, or check out the website at: <u>missingmaps.org</u> to get started. "I hate sitting in traffic...

...I always get run over."

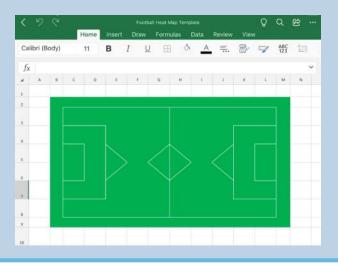
How did the cheese paint his wife? He 'Double Gloucester'

#### Sports Commentary Club

**Sports Commentary Club** met for the first time this week to look at a few videos of some iconic sporting moments that Mr Manning has put together using YouTube, screen recording function, Voice Memo (app) and iMovie (app). They are all shared on the DLS within the PE folder. Please take a look and why not try creating your own commentary on your favourite sporting moments. Alternatively, you could try commentating on seemingly mundane situations at home, like this <u>https://twitter.com/</u> <u>mrandrewcotter/status/1248313303270596610?</u> <u>s=21</u>

#### Sports Analytics Club

Our first week involved a bit of a discussion as we considered the different measurements and analysis the club could look into. Creating football pitch heat maps (see image) was discussed, as well as tracking and measuring pass and tackle success percentages.





## PTA News

### PTA Delivers Care Packs to East Surrey Hospital

On Monday morning, the PTA delivered 15 care packs, one for each ward, to East Surrey Hospital. The packs were filled with manuka honey, tea, coffee, toiletries, biscuits and orange squash, plus a bag of self-care treatments and soothers for those working on the front line.

We were delighted to receive a heartfelt email from the hospital thanking us for the donations:

"Thank you so much for the care bags that you provided for our wards, they were so appreciated and coincided very nicely with the afternoon tea breaks. Please do thank the parents for their amazing generosity, and a big thank you to the PTA for the time and care that you have put in to organising this."



#### PTA New Faces Needed



We <u>URGENTLY</u> need new active PTA members. The end of this term will see a number of key and long-standing PTA members leaving the PTA as their children move on to new pastures. It is important to all of us that our PTA continues to thrive and grow as our school does.

If you fancy a new challenge, whether a current parent or joining the school in September, please can you get in touch with us, sooner rather than later, at <u>info@dunottarschoolpta.co.uk</u> for a chat. We can tell you more about how we operate and give details of the positions we urgently need to fill.

#### FIFA Club

Due to increasing popularity, this week we went from one FIFA team to two, with 15 players in total across two teams. The teams are: Dunottar FC and FC Dunottar. Today we played each other 4 times, with Dunottar FC (managed by Mr Everett) winning 3 of the games and FC Dunottar (managed by Mr Myers) winning 1. The final game even went to a penalty shootout. The games were streamed live on our Dunottar Sport twitter page.

We hosted a competition on Twitter for people to vote for their goal of the day and the winner was Mr Everett!



We still have places available in this club so if anyone else with a PlayStation4, FIFA20 and a PlayStation Plus subscription wants to join the club then please email Mr Everett.



### Be Outstanding...

Well done to all our pupils who have shown curiosity, creativity and commitment across the curriculum. We are delighted to be able to recognise some of the most inspiring examples here.

Pupil	Year	Award	Subject	
Sofia R	8	Academic Distinction	Computing	Sofia has written an excellent essay about modern technology and the effect on our privacy. She has included both sides of the argument, brought in laws and what happens in China. It was an A Level essay question and she is only in Year 8; it was very well written! Well done Sofia!
Lexi G	8	Academic Distinction	RS	An amazing piece of art work created in response to NATRE's spirited arts task. A beautifully carried out piece of work, showing great conceptual understanding and a real commitment to the project. Fantastic effort.
Jack G	8	Academic Distinction	Art	Outstanding research and development for the project on Abstract Art. Jack has analysed different artists and their work. His visual responses to their work is really creative and he has used a range of less traditional media to produce his ideas.
Max H	8	Academic Distinction	RS	An amazing piece of art work in response to the NATRE spirited arts competition. The work shows a real insight to the theme chosen and expresses Max's views really clearly. His use of colour and imagery really brings the work to life. A really great effort. Well done.
Dhara M	9	Academic Distinction	MFL	Exceptional work in French: Dhara produced two outstanding recordings in which she manipulated the language effectively in two time frames. She extended throughout. I am very impressed!





### Great Dunottar Bake Off—Bread Week

Another set of mouth watering entries for this week's bread challenge. Well done on getting hold of some flour! Not an easy task at the moment.

Well done to everyone who baked this week!





Martha, Yr 7

Mrs French's comments: "Fantastic, light and fluffy bread rolls! Well done!"



Maela, Yr 6

Mrs French's comments: "Fantastic hedgehogs! The shaping and the clever use of knife/scissors skills is excellent."



Anya, Yr 7

Mrs French's comments : "Beautiful shaping and a lovely way to share bread."



Jack G, Yr 8

Mrs French's comments : "Cheesy bread roll creatures, so imaginative and well shaped."



## Other News

### Pupils Earn Bronze Awards in Tech Challenges

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have been working since September on completing badges towards the iDEA Bronze Award. The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award, known as iDEA, is an international programme that helps students develop digital, enterprise and employability skills. Through a series of online challenges, they win career-enhancing badges and gain industry-recognised awards to help them stand out from the crowd.

A number of our pupils have now successfully completed all the online badges and have achieved their Bronze iDEA Award! Many congratulations to all of them for their hard work and tenacity over a sustained period of time.

The pupils are:

Year 7	Ellen B	Michael L	Sadie M	Mya C	Dominic F
	Ahaan C	Emily I	Sophie D	Freya W	
Year 8	Isabella P	Sofia R	Ben W	Aoife M	Niamh G
	Emily K	Georgie H	Jack G	Keira P	Manny J

We are strongly encouraging students to sign up to Strava (it's free) to log and evidence their physical activity. Whether it's a run, a walk, or a ride, we want it shared. Once signed

up join the club 'Dunottar School Community'. Parents are welcome to join too!



**iDEA** 



Sports Pub Quiz

For some light-hearted entertainment, don't forget the Dunottar Sports Pub Quiz, Friday at 7pm. Follow <u>@DunottarSport</u> to join in.



### Remote Learning Resources

For a wealth of additional resources and activities for pupils and their families from sporting activities to wellbeing advice, book recommendations to recipe suggestions, take a look at our <u>Remote Learning Resources</u> page on our website.

Don't forget to check out the <u>#DunottarDailyChallenge</u> too!

## Wellbeing During Covid-19

For information and advice on how to look after your family's mental health

and wellbeing during the pandemic, visit our <u>Wellbeing page</u> on the school website.





## Duke of Edinburgh's Award

## Completing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Remotely

Many of our pupils enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme will find that they are unable to complete their original chosen DofE activities at the moment. While our expeditions have been postponed and will take place at a later date, pupils can change their activity and still complete their Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections from home. Why not aim to complete all three sections before your practice expedition?

To support completion, DofE have made the following temporary programme changes (these apply across Bronze, Silver and Gold):

- Participants can now **volunteer** for family members, for example by mentoring or coaching younger siblings
- Participants can now change section activities more than once. Time spent on previous activities will still count towards completion.

DofE staff members may be able to act as Volunteering, Physical and Skills section assessors (pupils can ask Miss Pettet or one of their teachers if they can assess them).

#### To read more information about these changes, click here.

Volunteering	Physical	Skill	
Amnesty International Club (on Wednesday Lunchtimes with Mrs O'Dwyer)	Complete the couch to 5k, or many of the other NHS fitness sessions	Join one of our many lunchtime clubs such as Cooking or Stop Motion Animation	
Missing Maps Project (on Thursday lunchtimes with Mr Taylor)	Do an hour's YouTube fitness video each week	Join the virtual youth orchestra if you already play an instrument	
St John Ambulance – 12 week fundraising plan	If you've got a garden, do some circuit training	Complete an online typing course with Spark 4 Kids, Type It or Qwerty Kids	
Virtual Volunteering	Complete different walks in your local area	Learn to build a website	
Prepare some meal parcels, go shopping or walk the dog for people who are affected by coronavirus	Sport skills (i.e. practising skills to develop in your favourite sport)	Sharpen your photography skills with Sharp Shots Photo Club's online course	
Skype talk / FaceTime / WhatsApp call to an elderly neighbour to keep them from being isolated	Fitness challenges (e.g. 100 press-up challenge, plank challenge, step challenge)	Learn to garden – set up a vegetable or herb plot at home	
Prepare some resources to be used by the younger members of your youth group to be sent home to parents online to help them during isolation	Get out on your bike in your local area – use an app to track your routes to upload as evidence on eDofE	Painting, drawing or model making	
		Meditation – Headspace app	

These activities are suggestions and not an exhaustive list. Pupils can think of their own ideas and check to see if they can count towards their award.

Pupils can still access their eDofE login area to submit their plans for their sections. We will continue to check this regularly, approve programme requests and sign off assessor reports. If pupils have any questions relating to their award or have problems logging in, they should contact Miss Pettet <u>e.pettet@dunottarschool.com</u>.

