



“I just wanted to say that I think all the staff at Dunottar have done a great job in keeping school going for our children. Having online classes and the normal routine and structure of a school day is really beneficial for my daughter and a big help for us working parents. It gives us reassurance as well that she is not missing out on too much learning, especially as she is sitting GCSEs next year.”

Year 10 parent

Dunottar News



At the start of term, I set out our aspiration to teach every pupil, every lesson, every day. We believe strongly that the continued educational development of every child really matters, never more so than during the current period of disruption.

As we break for May half term, I want to thank staff, parents and pupils for the ways in which we have united to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. By responding in true Warrior Learner style - creatively, collaboratively and tenaciously - we have managed to ensure that Dunottar pupils have continued to learn whilst being at home.

There has been excellent school-wide attendance at daily lessons, strong engagement with academic work and homework and eager participation in the various co-curricular challenges, quizzes and activities. We have also managed to ensure that pupils feel cared for, connected and included, through tutor sessions, teacher support and various pastoral initiatives. Just absorbing the weekly newsletter and the daily Twitter feeds is enough to make me very proud of what the pupils and teachers are achieving in such adverse circumstances.

Social media's "Thank a Teacher Day" on 20th May, allowed us publicly to acknowledge all the hard work, creativity and support our teachers provide to Dunottar pupils. This week was also Mental Health Awareness Week, a topic which is particular pertinent at the moment. Mr Broughton's assembly on Monday provided some useful tips on how to look after our mental health and the importance of looking out for others especially during this challenging period.

I spent some time on the school site this week and am pleased to report that the Assembly Hall building is looking impressive.

I hope many of you were able to watch Ms Pettet's inspiring violin recital on Thursday evening. It is always refreshing to hear live music and I thoroughly enjoyed the performance!

Let's hope that the sun shines for our half term break!

Mark Tottman
Headmaster

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Raising Money With Odd Socks!

The penultimate Friday of every half term is normally a mufti day at Dunottar, but with every day being mufti at the moment, we wanted to do something different.

We teamed up with the [DSM foundation](http://www.dsmfoundation.org) to hold an odd sock day fundraising event. The DSM foundation is an organisation who visit schools to deliver talks on drugs education. Earlier this year, they visited us at Dunottar and gave two very inspiring and informative talks to pupils and parents.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all pupils, parents and staff who supported the event on Friday by wearing odd socks, donating money and sending in their pictures!

Remote Learning

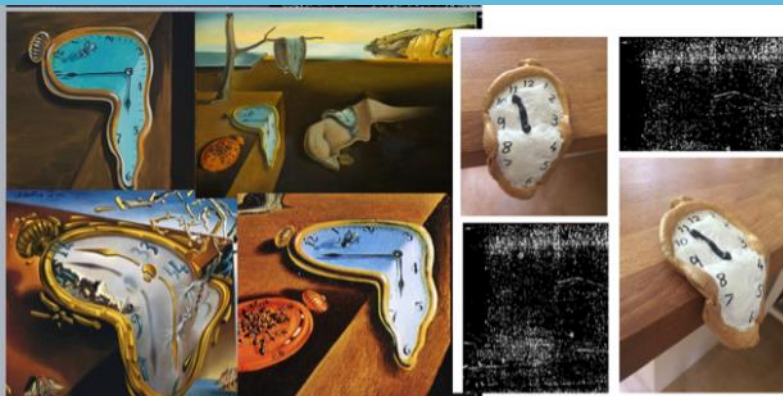
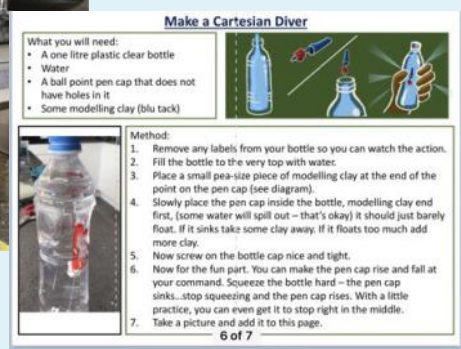


Spanish

With more time at home, Spanish students at Dunottar have been taking the opportunity to explore the cultural side of the subject. Some Year 9 pupils have been making tapas (Tortilla Española, Patatas Bravas and Pan Tomaca) with great results!

Year 8 Science

Our Year 8 physicists have been designing pulleys and levers and making Cartesian divers to demonstrate Pascal's principle, that pressure is transmitted to all parts of the container.



Year 11 have undertaken cultural projects on Spanish cuisine and artists such as Frida Kahlo and Salvador Dalí. One pupil even made her own impression of the melting clock From Dalí's 'La Persistencia de la Memoria' out of clay!

Year 8 French

Year 8 have extended their research on French speaking countries by designing Monopoly games about their chosen country. A very engaging way to deepen their knowledge of la Francophonie.



Year 7 Science

Year 7 have been revising chemical reactions at home with some particularly tasty results.

Year 10 French

Year 10 have been writing about disastrous holidays.



Competitions and Activities

Great Dunottar Fake-Away Challenge

With the Great Dunottar Bake-Off drawing to a close this weekend, Mrs French has come up with another exciting challenge to keep us in the kitchen!

To kick off this fast food inspired challenge, it's burger and fries week. Entrants need to make a burger and fries inspired by their favourite burger restaurant. Use your imagination! You can use any type of filling, any type of bun and your choice of fries. Don't forget to tell us which burger inspired you.

Email your entries to a.french@dunottarschool.com by 31st May.

Further details on the weekly challenges can be viewed [here](#).



Bake-Off Final



The final round of the Great Dunottar Bake-Off is upon us – are you up for the challenge?

Mrs French would like you to make two dishes that could be served at an afternoon tea. They must be different e.g. one cake, one pastry.

Entry photos should be emailed to Mrs French a.french@dunottarschool.com by 25th May.

Design a Front Cover for the Pelican Magazine

Thank you to Emily in Year 7 for designing the fantastic front cover for this half term's issue of the student magazine, the Pelican! Emily, you've won a £10 Amazon e-voucher!



If you're a student and would like a chance to win an Amazon voucher, please email your picture, which must include a Pelican, to Pelican@dunottarschool.com by Monday, 8th June.

Good luck!

Headmaster's Challenge

This week was Mental Health Awareness with the theme being kindness and looking out for each other. Although we are not at school, our pupils' wellbeing underpins everything we do - each child is known and is valued. This week's Headmaster's Quiz was to complete the 'Be Kind Bingo' challenge.

How many did you manage?

Be Kind Bingo!		
Call a friend that you haven't spoken to for a while	Tell a family member how much you love and appreciate them	Arrange to have a cup of tea and virtual catch up with someone you know
Tell someone you know that you are proud of them	Tell someone you know why you are thankful for them	Send a motivational text to a friend who is struggling
Send someone you know a picture of a cute animal	Send an interesting article to a friend	Send an inspirational story of kindness people around the world are doing for others to someone you know
Make a cup of tea for someone you live with	Help with a household chore at home	Spend time playing with your pet
Reach out to call a friend, family member or neighbour who is experiencing loneliness or self-isolation	Offer to send someone a takeaway or a meal	Offer to skill share with a friend via video call - you could teach guitar, dance etc.
Lend your ear - call a colleague and ask how they're finding the change in routine	Give praise to your colleague for something they've done well	Arrange to have a video lunch with a colleague
Attend comedy club on a Thursday afternoon	Lend your ear - call a colleague and ask how they're finding the change in routine	Donate to foodbanks/charity
Contact someone you haven't seen in a while and arrange a virtual catch up	Send someone you know a joke to cheer them up	Arrange to watch a film at the same time as a friend and video call



Co-curricular

Cooking Club

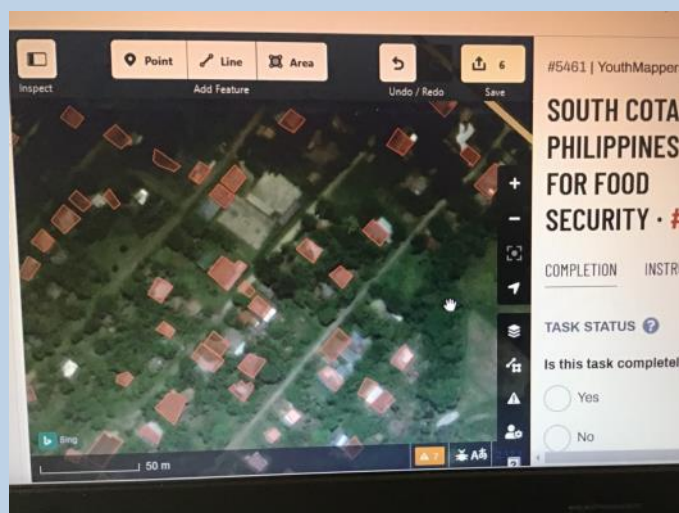
This week's culinary delights from Cooking Club were cheesy stuffed potato skins. They look delicious!



MSF Missing Maps

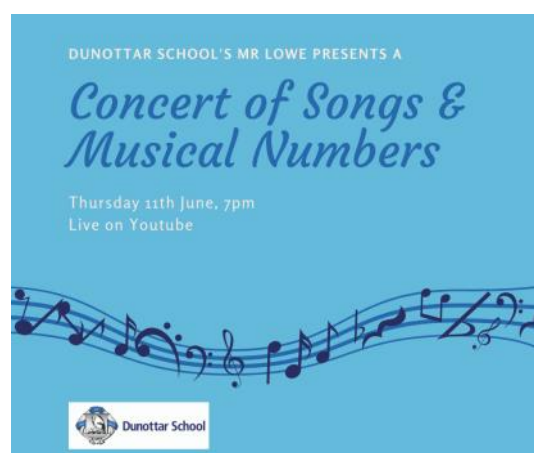
Pupils involved in the missing maps co-curricular club on a Thursday lunch time have been busy mapping out areas of the Philippines that currently have no physical maps. This work involved tracing over satellite images of the area and marking out buildings, rivers and roads. Pupils' work is now being verified and will then be used to produce paper maps for humanitarian aid workers to use as they try to get medicines, food and water to areas affect by COVID-19.

The image shows what their mapping looks like when it is first produced on the software. Pupils should email Mr Taylor at g.taylor@dunottarschool.com if they would like to get involved or visit the missingmaps.org website.



Music Concerts

If you missed Ms Pettet's violin recital on Thursday, the performance will remain on Youtube until Friday 29th May, for you to enjoy. [Click here to view.](#)



Don't miss Mr Lowe's "Concert of Songs & Musical Numbers" on Thursday 7th June at 7pm.



Doodle4Google Competition

Computing students in Year 7 were challenged to create designs centred around the VE Day 75th Anniversary celebrations. There were many beautiful and creative entries.

Congratulations to the following 6 winners with their imaginative designs:

- Cian D
- Chloe E
- Emily I
- Gabriel J
- Lucy P
- Olivia S



Inside Dunottar—Teachers' Blog

This week Ms Pettet, Director of Music at Dunottar, poses the question, “Will the arts ever be the same again?”

I know that this may seem to be a bold, emotive question. However, having reflected on the effects of the pandemic in recent weeks, it is a question that I feel is important to consider.

To set some context, the arts industry, whilst only one of many industries effected in recent weeks, employs 300,000 people in the UK and contributed £10.8bn to the economy in 2019¹.

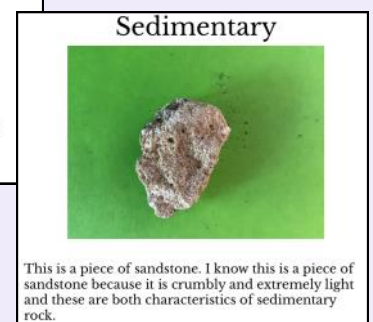
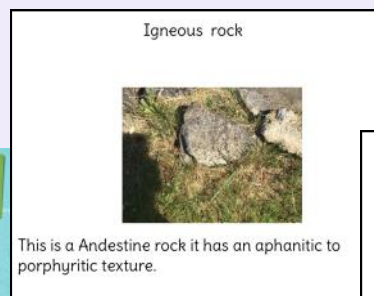
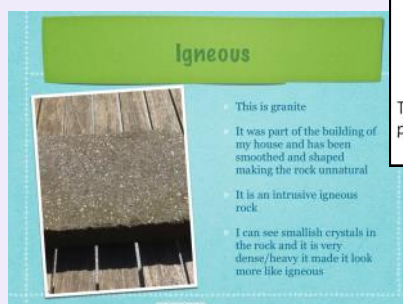
Living in the South East, we are blessed to have one of the world’s most important cultural centres on our doorstep; London is home to the West End, the Royal Opera House and many prestigious concert halls, all of which are currently empty every night. Many of my friends work as performers, composers, producers, and agents. With concerts, shows, weddings, and gigs cancelled for the foreseeable future, does the industry need to adapt to survive?

[Read more](#)



Year 7 Science

Our young scientists have been out in their gardens this week, looking for a variety of rocks and identifying the different types.



Be Outstanding...

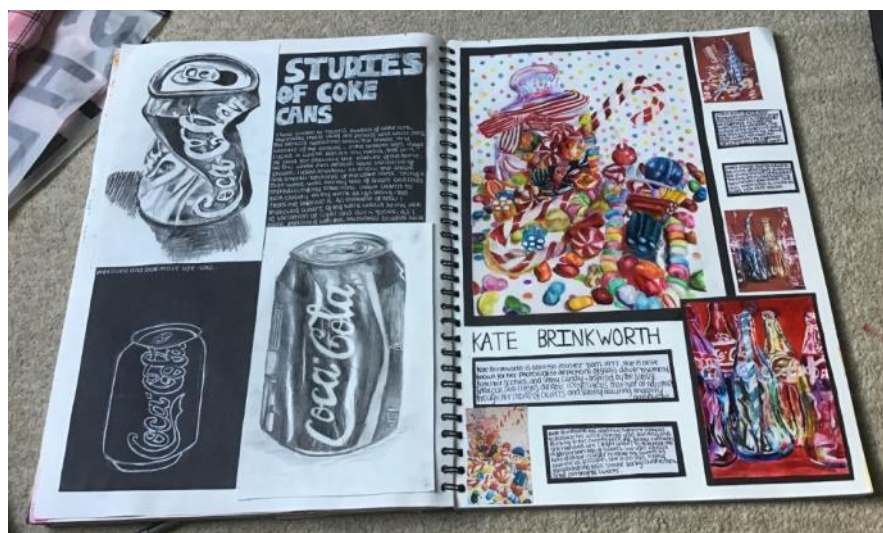
Well done to all our pupils who have been awarded Academic Distinctions this week.

We would like to give a special mention to Dhara M who has been awarded three academic distinctions this term—fantastic work Dhara!!

Pupil	Year	Award	Subject	Teacher's Comment
Lucy, P	7	Academic Distinction	MFL	Lucy has created the most amazing cafe scenes using French. She used BookCreator, PuppetPals and recordings to do so.
Maia, C	7	Academic Distinction	MFL	Maia applied her French phonics beautifully to the role play situation that she created. Super work.
Morgan, S	8	Academic Distinction	MFL	Morgan designed the most amazing Monopoly board game on Le Bénin/ La Francophone and the depth of her research was impressive.
Tallulah, W	8	Academic Distinction	MFL	Tallulah has made an outstanding and creative video to describe her house, and is not afraid to be in front of the camera speaking Spanish. Tallulah has also used complex phrases to describe where she would like to live in the future, showing her great potential as a linguist. A fantastic effort, well done!
Edward, W	8	Academic Distinction	Maths	Exemplary work ethic and focus in our online environment: excellent quality written communication and proactive questioning to secure knowledge and understanding.
Codey, H	9	Academic Distinction	MFL	Codey has been awarded an Academic Distinction for her super work in French. She used two time frames, superb descriptive structures and extended beautifully. I am very proud of her.
Dhara, M	9	Academic Distinction	Geography	Beautifully illustrated and highly informative storyboard explaining the geographical processes which have led to fossils of sea creatures in the mountains of the Himalayas.
Dhara, M	9	Academic Distinction	English	Dhara produced an outstanding CAT, achieving a GCSE grade 8 despite only being in Year 9. It really demonstrated how committed and determined she is to do well. She has taken on board her feedback and applied it to great success.
Sebastian, W	9	Academic Distinction	Geography	Excellent narrated video explaining the geographical processes resulting in why fossils of sea creatures are found in the Himalayas.
Sebastian, W	9	Academic Distinction	English	Sebastian produced an outstanding CAT, achieving a GCSE grade 9 despite only being in Year 9. It really demonstrated how committed and determined he is to do well. He has taken on board his feedback and applied it to great effect.
Annie, L	9	Academic Distinction	Maths	Independently reviewing and consolidating knowledge and understanding using Hegarty MemRi - over 280 questions correctly answered in 2 weeks.
Adam, P	9	Academic Distinction	English	Adam produced an outstanding CAT, achieving a GCSE grade 8 despite only being in Year 9. It really demonstrated how committed and determined he is to do well. He has taken on board his feedback and applied it to great success.
Isabelle, J	10	Academic Distinction	F&N	Izzy produced an outstanding dish as part of the work we have been doing for our Mock NEA. The dish she made was tempura feta, with lemon marmalade and caper meringue. This dish was perfectly executed and demonstrated a wide range of high level skills. It reflected the brief perfectly, it was contemporary and elegant. Her analysis of the dish was well written, Izzy made excellent use of sensory descriptors and was able to reflect on her own cooking. All this in a partially finished kitchen!



Pupil	Year	Award	Subject	Comment
Olivia, C	10	Academic Distinction	MFL	A truly fantastic piece of speaking about a virtual trip to Paris. Liv used a range of vocabulary and verbs in the past tense with complex structures and a beautiful accent.
Olivia, C	10	Academic Distinction	MFL	Fantastic work on writing answers to the general conversation questions. Excellent use of a range of tenses and complex structures as well as detailed answers.
Aine, J	10	Academic Distinction	MFL	For a fantastic piece of writing about a disastrous holiday. Great detail and sophistication.
Lila, B	10	Academic Distinction	Art	Continued excellence in art this half term. Quality of practical work has been consistently good and her colour studies of fruits and vegetables are excellent.
Lottie, B	10	Academic Distinction	Art	Excellent progress in art. High quality practical outcomes and beautiful presentation of work in the sketchbook.
Aylin, B	11	Academic Distinction	Maths	Aylin has been working on the Hegarty Live A level transition lessons during Maths. She has produced work of a high standard and the quality of her mathematical communication is excellent. Superb preparation for A level Maths.
Lilly, W	11	Academic Distinction	Maths	For fully engaging with the Hegarty Maths Live A level transition programme - producing notes and workings of the highest quality.



Continuing the theme of self-awareness and its importance in identifying potentially satisfying career paths that will reward you in the long term, we would like to recommend two TED talks.

Emilie Wapnick opens with the question “have you ever been asked what you want to be when you grow up?” That question causes a great deal of stress when you can’t answer it. She introduces the idea of a multipotentialite and describes the skills these people can offer.

https://www.ted.com/talks/emilie_wapnick_why_some_of_us_don_t_have_one_true_calling?language=en

Another good motivational talk is by Scott Dinsmore - How to find the work you love.

https://www.ted.com/talks/scott_dinsmore_how_to_find_work_you_love?language=en

Scott’s talk reinforces the importance of self-awareness and insight in finding a rewarding career path.

Multipotentialite or specialist:

Dare to be different

Ask for help

Find strength in setbacks

Stay curious

Feed your passions

