



Enjoy the half term break!



Dunottar News

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As we break for half term, with another period of remote learning successfully completed, I am immensely proud of all we have managed to achieve during these last

six weeks. Whilst far from the norm that we all long to return to, we have continued to deliver a rounded education to all our pupils, alongside engaging co-curricular activities, virtual sporting events, music concerts, Meet the Pro sessions and even remote drama and music rehearsals.

To allow our pupils to have a proper break from their computer screens and to recharge their batteries, we will not be setting additional homework over the half term break. Please do ensure that your sons and daughters have plenty of rest, enjoy some time in the fresh air and spend time on their hobbies and interests.

We are still waiting for further guidance from the Government regarding the return to school for pupils. We hope to be able to update you following an announcement on 22nd February.

We are all looking forward to having our pupils back in school, when it is safe to do so.

I wish you all an enjoyable half term break.
Best wishes

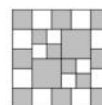
Mark Tottman
Headmaster

UK Maths Challenge

On Thursday 4th February, selected Year 9, 10 and 11 pupils took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. This is a national competition requiring astute problem solving skills. Points are deducted for guessing, with pupils encouraged to spend time answering fewer questions well. Below is an example of the sort of problem they were solving:

The diagram shows a large square divided into squares of three different sizes. What percentage of the large square is shaded?

A 61% B 59% C 57% D 55% E 53%



Scores are expected in March, with the most successful pupils being invited to progress to subsequent rounds. Well done to all the Dunottar pupils who took part!

The solution can be found on the back page for those of you who would like to check their answers.

Year 7 Charity Initiative

Our Year 7 pupils have been setting themselves individual challenges throughout the month of February in order to raise a minimum of £25 each for charity. All money raised will be split equally between their four chosen causes.

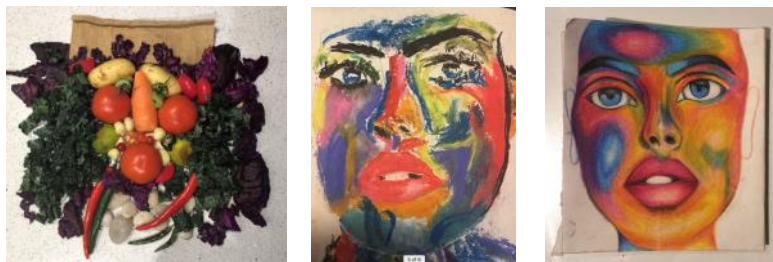


If you would like to support them, you can make a donation [here](#).

Remote Learning Snapshot

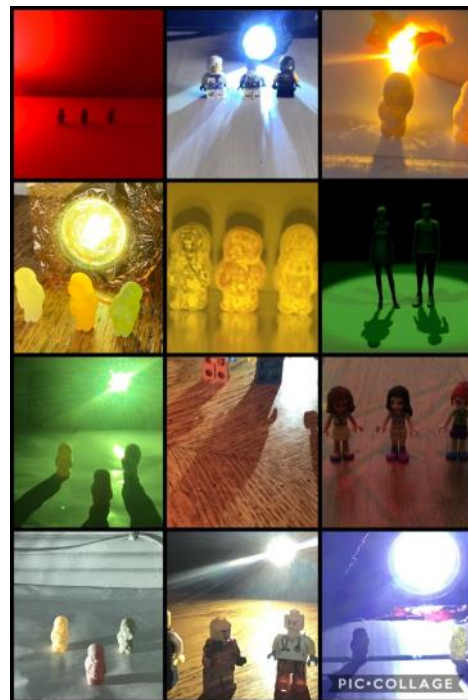
Here are just a few examples of some of the excellent learning that has taken place recently.

Year 9 Art: Different Approaches to Portraiture

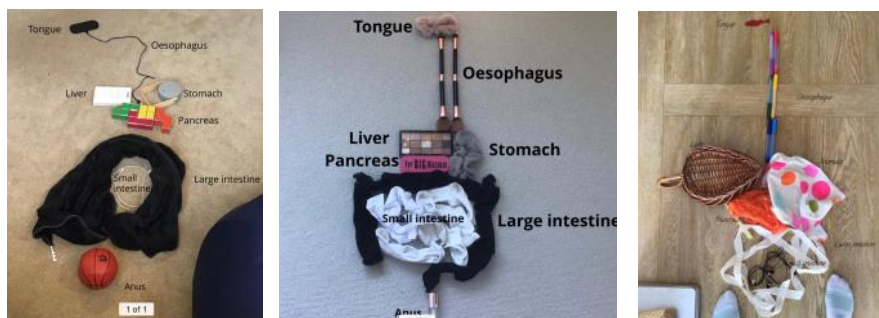


Year 7 Drama

Using quality street wrappers, jelly babies and Lego people to experiment with lighting for the three witches from Macbeth.

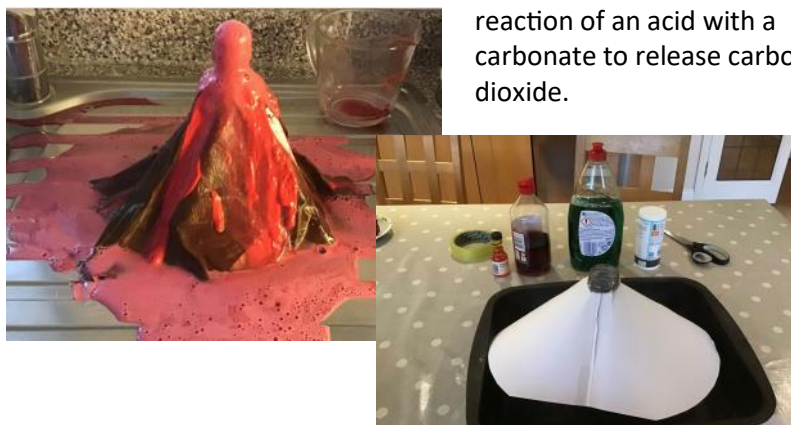


Year 9 Science: Revising the Digestive System



Year 8 Science: Volcanoes

Year 8 have been erupting volcanoes to demonstrate the reaction of an acid with a carbonate to release carbon dioxide.

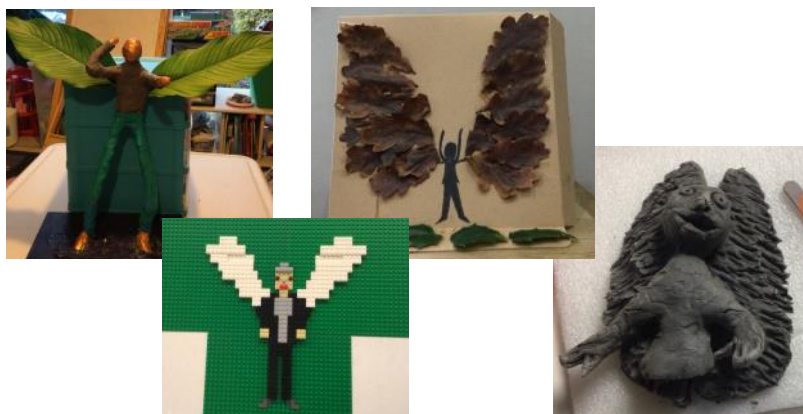


Year 10 Photography: "Dreaming About Getting Back to Reality"



Year 7 English

Year 7 pupils made models of the character Skellig from the novel of the same name.



Remote Learning Snapshot

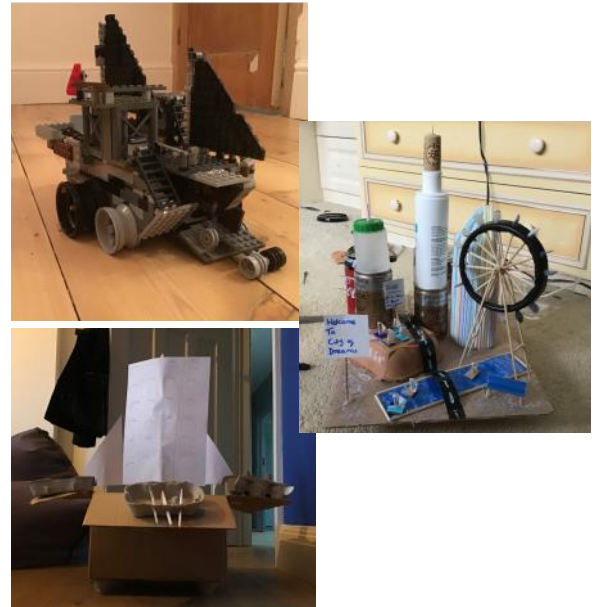
Year 7 Geography



Year 7 geographers displayed their understanding of Pangaea, the supercontinent. What a creative bunch - stop animation, jigsaws, drawings, models, time-lapse photography.

Year 8 English

Year 8 pupils made models of Ombaraka from the novel, 'The Wind Singer'.



Year 9 Geography

Some fantastic and thoughtful work about the Three Gorges Dam project in China from Year 9 geographers.

The Three Gorges Dam

Facts

The Three Gorges Dam is on the Yangtze River.

The Three Gorges Dam is 185 metres tall and 2,335 metres in length.

The Three Gorges Dam is the largest and most expensive costing around \$37 billion.

There was 26,000 workers working on the creation of the dam.

Around 1.3 million people were displaced because of the dam being built.

The power generated by the 34 generators is enormous as it is equivalent to burning 25 million tons of crude oil or 50 million tons of coal.

Government official	My opinion	Pros	Cons
I think that the dam has been really useful as we can now produce a lot of renewable energy more efficiently which will help China to become a safer place for people to live as there is less air pollution. Although there have been times where people have been displaced, the dam has much to offer as it prevents flooding which has been a problem in the past and shipping is now safer as the water is deeper. So surely this makes up for the displacement?	I think that the Three Gorges Dam shouldn't have been built as it has displaced over 1 million people. Also, many people are worried that the dam may cause landslides and the dam can create water pollution. Too many people's lives are at risk and maybe China should have used a different renewable energy source instead of a dam, for example, wind.	It's the world's largest hydroelectric dam. The dam controls flooding. China's greatest source of renewable energy. Shipping will become safer because of the deeper water.	Can cause landslides and water pollution. When the water levels get too high it means people have to evacuate for safety. As there is untreated waste and toxic material from over 400 factories going into the Yangtze River there is a regular build up of it in front of the concrete walls.

Year 9 History

Year 9 pupils have been learning about World War One and creating sense logs based on their understanding of life in the trenches.

Trench Conditions Worksheet

Describe the sounds of trench life.
Screaming voices of agony echoed the trenches, scaring the minds of many. The soldiers sang the night away with the cold bitter wind piercing their necks. The scratching sound of rats feet bounced around the lonely beds, digging endless pain into the minds of brave and strong men. You could not only hear the treacherous sounds of war but the footsteps of death.

Describe the taste of trench life.
The warm clammy air was forced into the mouths of many men. Although they had been fed they were still hungry. They could still taste the dry and stale bread that had taken days to reach them. Their allowance of alcohol urged them to beg for more as it was the only thing that gave them comfort in their mouth.

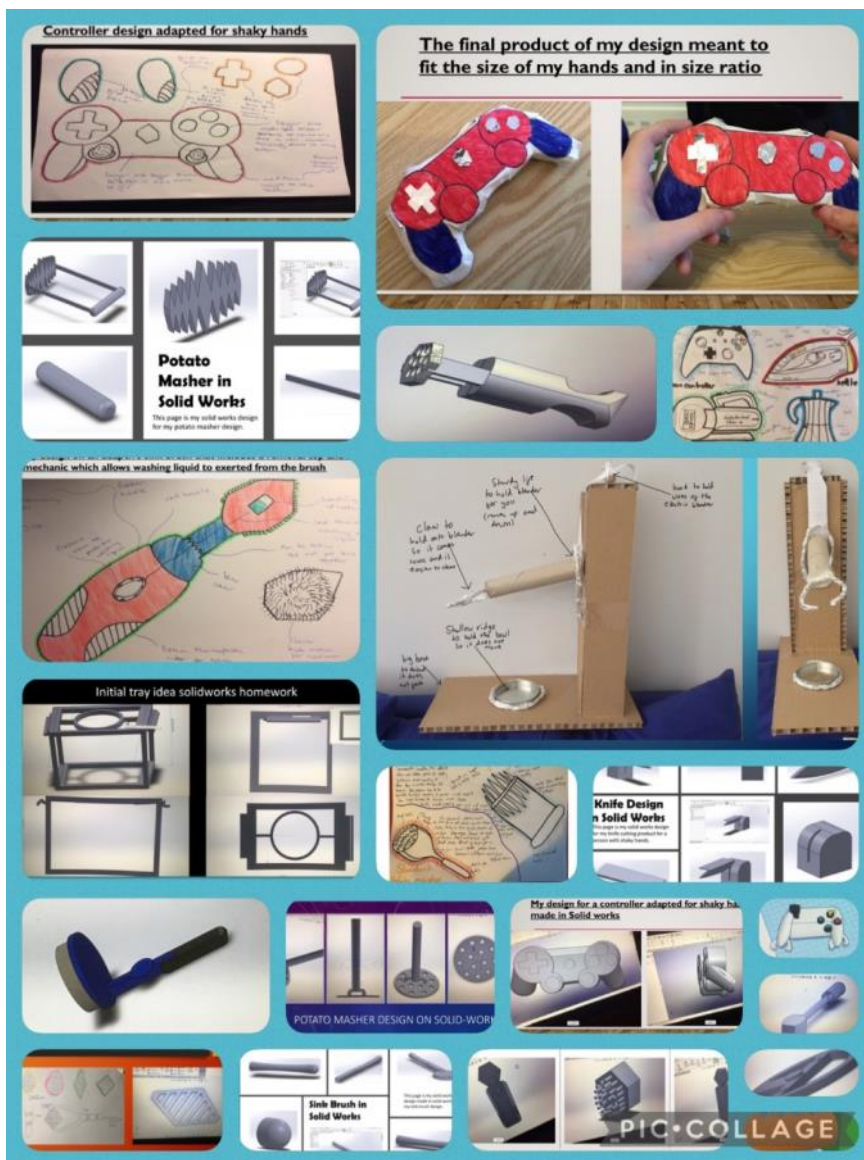
Describe the touch of trench life.
A walk done the blood stained trench would fulfil any man's nightmares. You could feel the nauseating mud mush between your feet as you sense the smoke crawl into your throat. The pain in your feet (trench foot) would make you drunk with fatigue and corrupt a man's mind in an instant.

Year 13 Spanish

Year 13 pupils enjoyed making Spanish Tortilla with Sra. Nye, from scratch, with all instructions given in Spanish. The results looked delicious and were eaten for dinner that evening!



Remote Learning Snapshot



Year 10 D&T

Year 10 GCSE D&T students have been analysing existing household products and looking at how to redesign them for specific user needs. They have used a range of designing techniques including sketching, modelling with found materials, and 3D CAD modelling using SolidWorks or TinkerCAD.

Year 8 Science

Year 8 pupils have been investigating acids in their chemistry lessons.



Co-curricular Corner

Cooking Club

Our young chefs have been busy in the kitchen again, cooking up some delicious looking caramel shortbread and a hearty spaghetti Bolognese.



Sister Act Rehearsals



The Drama department is constantly impressed by the commitment and hard work of our Performing Arts pupils. This week saw another fantastic remote rehearsal led by one of our year 9 pupils who has choreographed an amazing opening number for our show.



Competitions

Year 5 Funny Faces Competition Winners Announced

We are delighted to announce the winners of our Year 5 Funny Faces Art Competition. We received so many fantastic entries demonstrating such creativity and imagination. Well done and thank you to all the pupils who entered the competition, we really loved seeing all your artwork. The winners are:

1st Prize: Harry Ludlam

2nd Prize: Rafi Hassan and Lyla Shortall

3rd Prize: Ele Pizzi and Daniel Potts

2nd



2nd



1st



3rd



Design your own bee-friendly living space. Click [here](#) for more details on how to enter. Make sure you send us your entries by **Friday 5th March**.

Pelican eMagazine Cover Design Winner

Congratulations to Holly, who has won the competition to design the front cover of the next edition of the students' Pelican eMagazine!





MEET THE PREFECTS

Tilly - Year 7 and Mental Health

I wanted to be a prefect as I think it's very important to be more involved in the school community and to be able to talk to people I wouldn't usually chat to.

Freya - Year 7 and Mental Health

I wanted to become a prefect as it was an amazing opportunity to not only become a leader and inspire others, but to also take on a role of responsibility which will help me prepare for future jobs and learn from others in the process.

Ollie - Year 8 and Sport/Charity

I wanted to become a prefect as my aim for next year is to become Sports Captain and I feel that being a prefect will teach me the skills and responsibilities I need to do so. Also, I like to help people as much as I can and help the school.

Lottie - Year 8 and Mental Health

I wanted to take on the prefect role to help other students to become the best versions of themselves and to get the most out of what Dunottar has to offer.

Sitara - Year 9 and Diversity/Inclusivity

I wanted to become a prefect at Dunottar as I believe that the most effective way to make change is from the inside. I hope to create an even more accepting and diverse community for everyone at Dunottar.

Hope - Year 9 and PSHE

I wanted to become a prefect as I saw it as a great opportunity to try out a leadership role within the school. I liked the challenge it presented and felt I had some great ideas for the school that I wanted to share.

Cam - Year 11 and Sport/Charity

I decided to become a prefect as I wanted to help make a difference and give back to the school.

Joe - Year 10 and Mental Health

I chose to become prefect so I could help contribute to the schools's awareness of mental health and wellbeing, presenting ideas that personally would've helped me through the more stressful times of the year at school.

Sophie - Year 10 and Environment

I wanted the opportunity to be a prefect as I am determined to leave Dunottar having achieved more than just my A Levels. Being a prefect has given me the chance to gain more responsibility and have a bigger leadership role within the school, allowing me to use my enthusiasm to give back to the Dunottar community.

Scarlet - Year 11 and Diversity/Inclusivity

I became a prefect to improve my leadership skills and to help me prepare for larger roles at Dunottar in the future and in the world of work.

Academic Distinctions

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

Pupil	Year	Award	Subject	Teacher's Comment
Will, C	7	Academic Distinction	Spanish	Will achieved 22/24 in his recent Spanish CAT writing test and demonstrated an excellent response to both tasks set.
Martha, C	8	Academic Distinction	Maths	For a fantastic data handling project on pandemic viewing habits.
Dominic, F	8	Academic Distinction	D&T	For demonstrating excellent modelmaking skills when making a scaled model of the Houses of Parliament.
Dominic, F	8	Academic Distinction	Maths	For a fabulous data handling project comparing professional tennis players.
Ruaraidh, M	8	Academic Distinction	Maths	For a fantastic data handling project on how to expand a home baking business.
Lucy, P	8	Academic Distinction	MFL	Lucy has created an amazing fashion magazine complete with descriptions, prices, and reviews. Using adjectival agreements and sophisticated opinions.
Olivia, S	8	Academic Distinction	Maths	For a detailed and engaging data handling project on the most popular bars of chocolate.
Paige, S	8	Academic Distinction	D&T	For accurately drawing out the nets and assembling them to create a range of 3D geometric shapes, including the "challenge" ones.
Alphi, BW	9	Academic Distinction	D&T	For going above and beyond the lesson expectations, demonstrating excellent sketching and design skills.
Alphi, BW	9	Academic Distinction	Science	For receiving a silver in his Chemistry project.
Georgina, H	9	Academic Distinction	Geography	For a fantastic presentation about the Three Gorges Dam in China.
Natasha, H	9	Academic Distinction	D&T	For a fantastic and innovative range of sketch models for chairs and CD envelopes.
Raam, R	9	Academic Distinction	MFL	For the quality of his independent work today. I am very impressed by his manipulation of the structures taught and his use of modal verbs.
Sofia, R	9	Academic Distinction	MFL	For her independent work this term on French organiser. I am extremely impressed with her approach to learning. Sofia is a true Warrior Linguist.
Morgan, S	9	Academic Distinction	MFL	For the quality of her French organiser. She embedded movies too to recap on KS3 language and has added KS4 language from this year.
Tallulah, W	9	Academic Distinction	Drama	Tallulah went above and beyond in creating an amazing piece of documentary verbatim theatre about Feminism. It was very well acted and beautifully edited to create a piece that she can be very proud of.
Nina, L	10	Academic Distinction	Art	Excellent standard of coursework showing skilful use of a range of media.
Annie, L	10	Academic Distinction	RS	A fantastic, informative and well put together project. Her work surpassed what was expected of her.
Dhara, M	10	Academic Distinction	French	An excellent piece of writing for the 150 word task illustrating a very competent knowledge of French and use of sophisticated language to create a very fluent piece of writing.
Dhara, M	10	Academic Distinction	Spanish	Dhara achieved 40/43 in her recent Spanish CAT Reading and Translation. She continues to work diligently and demonstrates a strong grasp of grammar points.
Adam, P	10	Academic Distinction	MFL	An outstanding piece of writing for the 150 words that was awarded full marks and is of the standard expected in Year 11.
Milly, P	10	Academic Distinction	MFL	An excellent fluent piece of writing for 150 word task that was only one mark off full marks. An excellent achievement at this stage in Year 10.
Reuben, T	10	Academic Distinction	French	Reuben has written an absolutely brilliant 150 words that was awarded 100%. He has demonstrated a fantastic knowledge of French and has written using a great range of sophisticated language.



Meet the Pro Sessions

We are so pleased to have been able to host a series of virtual Q&As / training sessions with sporting professionals over recent weeks. The list so far comprises:

- Alec Stewart - England and Surrey Cricket legend
- Aylish Cranstone & Bryony Smith - two current female cricket professionals
- Dan Douthwaite - Current cricket professional for Glamorgan
- Laura Malcolm - International and Super League Netball player
- Will Hooley - Rugby professional for Saracens and USA
- Matt Little - Andy Murray's Strength & Conditioning Coach

More sessions will be taking place after half term so look out for further details.



Warrior Weekend Workout

It was fantastic to have our newly appointed Sports Prefects deliver a whole school initiative on Saturday 5th February with their #WarriorWeekendWorkout. Cameron and Ollie contacted the PE department wanting to help and contribute to a more healthy lockdown experience for pupils, staff and parents in the Dunottar community. They spent a number of weeks, around their lessons, devising a workout session that anyone could do from home, considering ways to make it harder or easier. On top of this, they wanted to speak to the Dunottar community expressing why they created the workout and the benefits it would bring.

Wellbeing

With lockdown measures still in place, we may all struggle with ideas of what to do during this half term holiday. Below is a list of ideas for you to do inside or outside, by yourself or with your family. We hope you find them useful.

- Take an [online photography course](#)
- Learn to [touch type](#)
- Build a [website or start a blog](#)
- Create an [anime](#)—if you are into graphic design, this is a great new skill to learn
- Try yoga—[Yoga with Adrienne](#) is engaging for teenage girls and relaxing for stressed out parents!
- Have a virtual film night with friends: [Netflix Party](#) allows them to watch a film with friends
- Play Come Dine with Me: everyone hosts a night, everyone gives a score, give a prize for the best meal
- Complete an online escape room
- Create bespoke art for your room. You can still buy spray paint and a giant canvas on Amazon, so get creative!

How Nature Can Benefit Our Mental Health

Research in a growing scientific field called ecotherapy has shown a strong connection between time spent in nature and reduced stress, anxiety and depression. The visual aspects of nature can also have a soothing effect, having something picturesque to focus on such as trees and greenery helps distract your mind from negative thinking, so your thoughts can become less filled with worry.

New Wellbeing Magazine Launch

Exciting news...Our Sixth Form Prefects for Mental Health, Lottie, Freya, Tilly and Joe have been busy over the past few weeks creating a new Wellbeing magazine 'Oasis' for our students and the Dunottar Community. We can't wait for the launch after the half term holiday so watch this space!



This term has seen an increase in the selection of virtual careers experiences for pupils, with a primary focus on apprenticeships and work experience. As you may have experienced, there was a high demand for spaces on some of the courses, so we will continue to make you aware of events, workshops and experiences as early as possible to help you secure places. In the meantime, you may be interested in the following:

Opportunities with QA

QA is a leader in the tech skill sector and has, over the last 10 years, jump-started over 30,000 careers through digital apprenticeships. As the UK's leading training provider, they have made it their mission to help young people get their careers started in a competitive job market, with apprenticeships in **IT Systems and Networking, Software Development, Cyber Security, Data Analysis, DevOp, Digital solutions and Digital Marketing.**



You can view the apprenticeship opportunities [here](#) or you can fill in this short [form](#) and QA will stay in touch with helpful resources, apprenticeship success stories and top tips.

If you would like to learn more about their apprenticeships, you can also request a free, virtual talk from one of the career advisors at QA. They will guide you through their options, the application process and the value of apprenticeships.

[Request a talk for your students on digital apprenticeships](#)

Imperial College London Year 12 Work Experience Programme July 2021

This non-residential programme aims to provide participants with an insight into the exciting world of study and research carried out at Imperial College London. ICL is awaiting confirmation as to whether this course will be run in person or online. Participants can apply to one of the following departments:

- [Bioengineering](#)
- [Earth Science and Engineering](#)
- [Materials](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [National Heart and Lung Institute](#)
- [Physics](#)

Key details at a glance:

- 12 - 16 July 2021
- Non-residential
- Year 12 students
- [Outreach programme eligibility 2020-2021](#)
- Applications are open and will close at 23.59 on 3rd March 2021
- To apply, follow this link: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/student-recruitment-and-outreach/schools-and-colleges/students/on-campus-activities/summer-schools/work-experience/>

InvestIN

Upcoming Programmes



InvestIN will have **2-day programmes for pupils aged 15-18** running every weekend until the end of April. If you're interested in registering, we would recommend you do so soon to avoid disappointment! You can view the flyer [here](#) with hyperlinks to the various industry pages on InvestIN's website.




Please note there is a fee for the events with InvestIN - subject to an exclusive Dunottar discount - simply use the code Dunottar10 at the check-out.

Apprenticeships assembly

On 22nd February our upper school pupils will have an assembly with ALPS (Association of Learning Providers in Surrey) to learn more about the modern-day apprenticeship. Parents will also be invited to attend this assembly, which will cover everything from live opportunities, how to apply and case study success stories.



PTA Quiz—Saturday 6th March

		
<p>Virtual Quiz Save the Date!</p>	<p>Get your zoom on for some family-friendly fun!</p>	<p>ELKBJNM S611</p>
<p>Saturday 6 March</p>	<p>Team registration and payment details to follow.....</p>	
<p>Dep: 7:30 PM Arr: 9:30 PM</p>		

The PTA Quiz is back - please save the date in your diaries for Saturday 6th March 2021.

Please note the date has been brought forward to try and bring some lockdown cheer.

Friday Music Sessions

Join us on Youtube at 5pm every Friday for our Friday Music Sessions. What better way to start the weekend! See the Dunottar Download or our social media channels for details on how to view the concert.



Year 7 Bookbuzz Books

Despite not being in school, we were still able to ensure that all our Year 7 pupils received their Bookbuzz books this term, by posting them out to their home addresses. Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading in 11 to 13-year-olds.



UK Maths Challenge Solution

- B** Let the squares on the border of the large square have side-length 1. Then the large square has side-length 5 and area 25. Note that 8 of the 16 squares on the border of the large square are shaded. The area of the central region of the large square is $25 - 16 = 9$. Three-quarters of this area is shaded.

Therefore, the fraction of the large square which is shaded is $\frac{8 + \frac{3}{4} \times 9}{25} = \frac{32 + 27}{100} = \frac{59}{100}$.
So 59% of the large square is shaded.

