



Dunottar News

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As this term comes to an end, I can hardly believe how much we have managed to pack into such a short space of

time. I am delighted with how our pupils have risen to the challenges they have faced in true Warrior Learner spirit, and how they have taken advantage of so many opportunities.

Cross-curricular learning was the order of the day in the last week of term. There was a buzz of creativity around school during these three days with Arts Week for Years 7 and 8, CCC week for Years 9 and 10 and UCAS preparation for our Year 12s.

On 24th and 25th June, 65 pupils took to the stage in the new Castle Theatre to put on an outstanding performance of *Sister Act*, the Musical. Until the final week, cast members had been rehearsing in separate year group bubbles, performing together for the first time only a few days before the show. Having watched their superb performances on both nights, I am certain that all those who took part should be exceptionally proud of what they achieved.

Pupils also enjoyed Sports Day at ORRFC yesterday, taking their opportunities to compete for their House, to enjoy being together in the sunshine and to go 'faster, higher, stronger'.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing summer break.

Best wishes

Mark Tottman, Headmaster

Sister Act—The Musical

On Thursday 24th and Friday 25th of June, we were lucky enough to perform our whole school musical, 'Sister Act'. The show was a big success, and we were extremely proud of the talent and commitment shown by all the cast.

When Miss Pettet and I originally auditioned and cast the musical in November 2020, we had no idea how challenging the process would be. A third lockdown meant that we postponed the performance to an, at that point, unknown date and started rehearsals online using Microsoft Teams. This presented a lot of challenges for singing and dancing especially as we couldn't do anything in unison due to different WiFi speeds! Then, when we returned to school, initially larger rehearsals and singing were not allowed and obviously face masks were a big hurdle to overcome. So it was with some trepidation that we approached the return to a full rehearsal timetable after the Easter holidays. At this point, the dates had been chosen and we had nine weeks to put the show together!

If only one thing has been reinforced for me during this rehearsal period, it is how amazing the pupils at Dunottar are. They have been extremely dedicated to rehearsals, attending up to eight or so a week. They have been amazingly adaptable to rehearsal 'bubbles', to social distancing in rehearsal and to wearing face masks and shields. Despite the many challenging aspects of the period, the pupils have gone above and beyond to create high quality performances. They have been an absolute delight to work with in a process that culminated in one of my favourite show weeks ever.



Performing Arts

The show week itself was a magical time for all the cast and crew and we must thank our Senior Leadership Team for allowing us to become one show 'bubble' for the week. From 10am on Sunday until 11pm on Friday, pupils spent most of their waking time together as one happy musical 'family'. It was truly heart-warming to see pupils from across the school, finally getting to work properly alongside each other. The bonds that were made in the week between years 7- 13 will be remembered for a long time; it was a real reminder of what makes the whole school musical a great experience for everyone involved.



I am extremely proud of what we have achieved in the new theatre, it was a real technical challenge to experiment with how we could best use our new space for a big musical. Thank you to Mr Fernandez and Accord Stage Works for helping us adapt our stage so successfully. Thank you also to Miss Pettet and her amazing band who provided such excellent accompaniment to the show– it sounded fantastic.



Finally, thank you to all the staff that helped out front of house or backstage and to all the parents, staff and Governors who watched the show in the theatre or streamed it online. It was amazing to finish this year on such a high with such a fabulous performance.

Congratulations to you all!

Mrs van D



Dunottar vs. Whitgift: County Cup Semi-Finals



London buzzed with anticipation and excitement as Dunottar entered the Whitgift fortress for the first time. The bright sky gave optimism to the players, hope and desire. Max being the expert he is with the tosses, calmly won and decided for us to field. Mr Myers, Max, Adi, Manny giving some very good motivation before the game to the players, with Mr Myers promising to buy us a McDonalds if we won.

The stage was set... Max's start couldn't have been better, he really has bowled so well this season, and outdid himself on the day getting two wickets early on getting Whitgift under the pump. Mark took a superb catch that went 50 feet high, and made it look so easy. The game was in our control. Adi also bowled very well but was unlucky not to get a wicket in his first spell. Will K came into the attack with Dunottar looking to squeeze the runs; he bowled with some pressure as two set batsman were in. Manny came into the line of fire just before the drinks break and started well as the pressure was building. Some fabulous fielding from Will E, Ed H, Ben W and Tom B helped in restricting Whitgift.



Ed had a good spell of a couple of overs picking up some wickets at the end. We finished the innings very well with Adi bowling good lengths and taking two wickets.

Adi and Manny opened the batting. With both of them steadying the ship and setting a brilliant foundation with a 71-run partnership, and a few beautiful shots from the pair. A small lapse in concentration and Adi nicked one into the keeper. Max looked bright, starting with a lovely pull shot to get off the mark. He had some very good intent and was unlucky to be caught with a good catch. Unfortunately, we lost a couple of wickets, but Manny and Ed built a partnership which was very strong. Ed was unlucky to get out, but Manny kept going and got a solid 68 bringing Dunottar ever so close to the finish. With 30 required off the last three overs on a small boundary the game was in the balance. A final flurry of wickets, saw Dunottar pull up 20 runs short of Whitgift's total.



It was a very good effort from the boys, and we were unlucky to lose.

Report by Advait B & Emmanuel J



Arts Week—Years 7 and 8

Years 7 and 8 have enjoyed three days off timetable this week developing their creative and team-working skills. Pupils were given the choice of workshop they would most like to immerse themselves in from a range of arts activities linked to Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' including:

- Creating pieces of art to decorate the outdoor classroom theatre space, ready for the performance of the play
- Awesome Animation: learning how to use software on their iPads to create stop-motion animation
- Language games: using French and Spanish to make and play board games about the play
- Throne design: designing and building their own full size wooden thrones
- Creating their own "Horrible Histories" sketch
- A Bloody Feast - using their planning and cooking skills to create a witches brew and a gruesome bloody feast
- Music —learning how to tune bottles to a specific pitch; using Garage Band to compose music for the play
- Captured in Images - The Darker side of Macbeth: using a combination of professional on-location lighting, smoke bombs, green screen, and special effects, to capture the dark story of this alluring play

The three days culminated in an exhibition of pupils' creative work and an abridged performance of "Macbeth" in the outdoor theatre.





Charity, Challenge and Climate Week— Years 9 and 10

Years 9 and 10 enjoyed three days off timetable this week, taking part in lots of different activities which revolve around charity, challenge and climate (CCC) and the central theme of environmental sustainability.

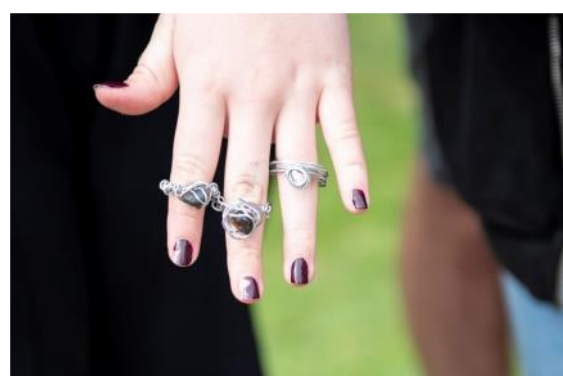
Activities included:

- A trip to Tulleys Farm to experience the challenge of four escape rooms
- An African Drumming and Dance workshop led by a company called *Kaira Kafo*
- Sustainability Day - pupils heard from a programme of speakers who will be supporting us in our aim as part of the United Learning Group to become carbon neutral by 2030. Pupils also considered their personal responsibility and how to make environmentally sound changes
- A wire sculpture workshop led by artist Darcy Turner, who helped pupils create their own masterpieces to be displayed in the school grounds
- Charity Triathlon Day - pupils completed a circuit of activities in a continuous movement rotation to challenge their stamina and endurance and raise money at the same time! Activities included an inflatable assault course, netball, waterpolo, gym fitness, yoga and basketball.





African Drumming



Wire Sculpting



Public Speaking Competitions

Years 7 and 8 have been taking part in public speaking competitions, run in their year group bubbles. They were challenged to write speeches about what they would put in Room 101, and the topics ranged from queue jumpers to the Frozen movies!

The finalists then presented their speeches to their peers in the outdoor classroom. In Year 7, congratulations to winner Jack and to runner up Erin. In Year 8, congratulations to winner Jude and to runner up Francis.

Everyone who took part in the finals won an Amazon gift voucher: well done!

Finally, thank you to Mrs Smith for organising the two events, and also to Mrs Hislop, who judged the Year 7 competition and to Mrs Jago, who judged the Year 8 event.



Warrior Linguists 2021-22



We would like to congratulate the following pupils for their successful applications—they will be our language ambassadors for 2021-22.

Year 7	Year 8
Elsie B	Carys E
Mia L	Dominic F
Toby C	Joe M
Maëla MG	Khyan P
Callum P	Samuel S
Alex W	
Tabitha C	

Gardening Club

Gardening club started in the summer term. It was a collaborative effort with Premises Manager John constructing the raised beds and repairing the greenhouse in readiness for our pupils to start planting. A call went out to the Dunottar community for pots and seeds and we were overwhelmed by the response. Planting started while the sun shone and the rain has helped the process as no watering was required. Congratulations should go to Holly and Paige in year 8 who have done much of the hard work. Hopefully we will have some produce to use as well as the flowers.

We should also like to thank the PTA for their generous levels of funding for this venture. We now have storage and tools which make the tasks easier. And we must thank Gillian Barnes for donating some boxes for solitary bees to make their homes while they pollinate our flowers.



Competitions

Art Workshop for “Funny Faces” Competition Winners

The art department hosted the winners of the ‘Funny Faces’ competition last Wednesday afternoon. Pupils enjoyed a workshop in the art studio with Mrs Horn and produced some fantastic work using wax and watercolour. This combined scientific knowledge as well as creative image making. It was good to see how well everyone managed the social distancing but were able to get to know each other through conversations and reviewing each other’s art work. A big thank you to Mary and her team for the delicious cookies too!



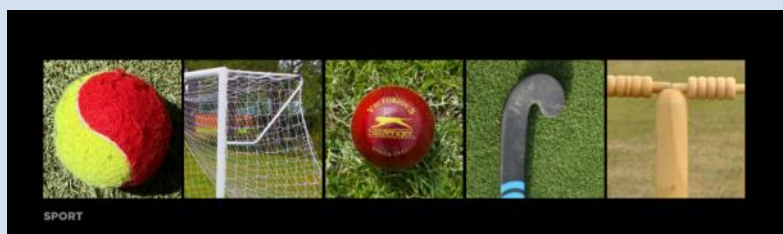
Photography Competition Winners Announced

Earlier this term, we invited Year 5 pupils in local primary and prep schools to take part in our photography competition. Pupils were asked to create a word from everyday objects and shapes. We received so many creative entries, but these three were the judges’ favourites.

1st place - Arthur Perelman “UNITY”



2nd place - Jakob Cronin “SPORT”



3rd place—Emma Lister “VIXEN”



Pelican eMagazine

Congratulations to Bella in Year 7 for her stunning picture, which will be a cheerful front cover to our bumper summer edition of the Pelican student magazine. Well done!



Academic Distinctions

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

Pupil	Year	Award	Subject	Teacher's Comment
Woody, A	9	Academic Distinction	RS	An excellent, high scoring extended learning opportunity. Well done for your hard work and diligence.
Izzy, G	9	Academic Distinction	RS	An excellent, high scoring extended learning opportunity. Well done for your hard work and diligence.
Harriet, G	9	Academic Distinction	RS	An excellent, high scoring extended learning opportunity. Well done for your hard work and diligence.
Georgina, H	9	Academic Distinction	History	Excellent independent research on the Home Front and Military Front WW2.
Manny, J	9	Academic Distinction	RS	An excellent, high scoring extended learning opportunity. Well done for your hard work and diligence.
Max, M	9	Academic Distinction	RS	An excellent, high scoring extended learning opportunity. Well done for your hard work and diligence.
Jack, M	9	Academic Distinction	History	A lovely sketch of the impact of the Blitz on the London skyline, it demonstrated real creativity.
Isabella, P	9	Academic Distinction	History	A beautiful version of the Sundowner ship that was sent to rescue soldiers at Dunkirk. It showed real creativity and tenacity.
Sofia, R	9	Academic Distinction	RS	An excellent, high scoring extended learning opportunity. Well done for your hard work and diligence.
Dhara, M	10	Academic Distinction	MFL	I am awarding Dhara an Academic Distinction for achieving full marks in her Speaking assessment 45/45. Dhara gave a virtually flawless response to all aspects of the speaking assessment and her overall performance is outstanding.



David's House Takes the Top Spot by Just One Point

Sports Day took place this year at ORRFC on Thursday 1st July. Pupils competed in their Houses in track and field events, with live updates posted on the Sports twitter account. Throughout the day, the different Houses jostled for the top position, with David's winning the day by just one point! Well done to all pupils who competed for their House throughout the day, showing superb House spirit!

A huge thank you to Mr Manning and the Sports department for organising the day, and to Mr Kerr for his entertaining commentary.

SPORTS DAY LEADERBOARD			
House		Points	
PATRICK'S-	♥	283	
GEORGE'S -	♥	286	
DAVID'S -	♥	298	
ANDREW'S-	♥	297	



School's Out for Summer!

2020/21: What a school year it's been in so many different ways. As a PTA we have remained busy.

- We have continued our community support through foodbank donations, gifts to NHS and other key workers and older people living in care homes.
- We have provided funding for equipment for different areas of the school – our latest contribution being picnic tables, benches (as requested by students) and an assortment of gardening items for Gardening club, all of which both pupils and staff are enjoying.
- We have hosted virtual events for parents and brought a bit of joy to the children with doughnuts and Easter eggs!
- We have also continued to run our Nearly New Sales despite challenging circumstances.
- We've been able to support the Year 11 Leavers Prom by providing a caricaturist for the evening – we can't wait to see the pictures (now delayed until August).

Thank you to Justine for supporting the PTA this year as Vice-Chair. Justine is stepping down from this role although remaining on the PTA. We are delighted to welcome Neil Robson, Year 8 parent and our virtual quiz master, who will be taking on the Vice-Chair role. We have a great group of people involved in the PTA but we are always looking for parents to join us, and contribute to our amazing school community. Send an email to info@dunottarschoolpta.co.uk – we're honestly a fun lot!

We wish you all very happy, healthy summer breaks and to all our 2021 school leavers, good luck with your new adventures.

Watch this space for the return of Quiz Night in the autumn and a Christmas Drinks evening. Dates to follow soon via our social media pages.

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Best wishes from Carol



House Cricket

On Saturday 26th June the annual Dunottar School House Cricket took place across four different venues. Each venue was littered with enjoyment and excitement as approximately 200 pupils were out in full force representing their respective Houses in the glorious sunshine at Westhumble CC, Old Reigatians RFC, Merstham Quality Street and Netherne Cricket Club.

In all events, House spirit was displayed and the commitment shown by all pupils, including those that had been involved in the school play for the two days leading into the event, was exceptional.

Across the various year groups we had a range of results which led to an exciting leader board. In Year 7 George's House took the overall win. In Year 8 Andrew's House took the overall win. In Year 9/10 George's House took the win.

This meant that overall George's House claimed the Dunottar School House Cricket Trophy. It was fantastic to see the level of skill involved across all venues.

Well done to everyone who attended and represented their House and we as a sports department wish everyone a well-earned rest over the summer period.



Year 7 2022 Admissions—Key Dates

For pupils looking to join Dunottar in September 2022, below are the key dates for Admissions:

Registration Deadline:

30th September 2021

Scholarship Application Deadline:

30th September 2021

Warrior Learner Assessment Day and Interviews:

9th October 2021

Academic Entrance Assessments:

13th November 2021

Scholarship Assessments:

w/c 15th November 2021