
Dollar Academy Newsletter November 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians

I hope this newsletter finds you well, and that the enclosed pupil achievements and dates for your diary are of interest. With a number of school events planned throughout November and the run up to the festive season, we have a busy end to 2019 in the offing, and I look forward to seeing many of you in person over the coming weeks.

The half-term break provided me with an opportunity to reflect upon all the busyness of the start of term and my first few months at the Academy. From the outset, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank everyone for welcoming Catherine and me so warmly into the fold. I am unsure whether it is part of the usual welcoming procedures for a new Rector or not, but receiving our World Champion pipers and drummers on Academy Place at the end of my first few weeks in post during the summer was an incredible experience. Readers will be pleased to learn that Darwin too has settled well. What with pupils and colleagues taking him on a number of walks each day, he has become a very busy little spaniel. I understand that he has now even found his way to the Form VI Centre! Quite simply, the three of us are delighted to have become part of the Academy, and we look forward to what lies ahead.

On a procedural note, please can I highlight that with the advent of the colder weather, we move from summer to winter uniform regulations, and I would ask for your ongoing support in ensuring our pupils maintain high standards of dress and appearance. I should also like to thank you for adhering to the new traffic arrangements on Saturday mornings. We feel strongly that reducing the volume of traffic on-site before 9am is in the continuing best interests of our pupils. In a similar vein, we would ask parents not to drive on to the campus before 5pm on weekdays to collect pupils from clubs and activities.

To close, I want to share that one of the joys of my new role has been opening letters from members of the public, and there have been a fair few, who have been helped across the road or with general errands by Dollar pupils. This embodiment of the '*be kind*' part of our ethos is really pleasing, and something we

Kindest regards
IHM



SQA Results 2019

Dollar Academy pupils secured some of the best SQA results in the country.



Season Opener 2019

This year's Season Opener took place on Saturday 31 August.



Upcoming documentary on the extraordinary life of South African Dollar FP

In September, American journalist Mr Jesse Lewis visited Dollar to film for a documentary exploring



Pupils celebrate DofE success at Holyrood Palace

In June, 28 pupils received their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award in the gardens of Holyrood



Come and Play

Pre-school children and their families are invited to come and play at Dollar; the ideal way to find out what our Prep School has to offer. Our next session takes place on 6 December.

Pupil Achievements

Academic

Gilleasbuig (Form VI) achieved the highest mark in this year's Higher Engineering Science exam. He has been awarded the Society's Bronze Medal, along with a £100 book token from the Royal Scottish Society of Arts. He is being presented the award at the 'Science and the Parliament' event in Edinburgh, on 20 November.

[Zuzana \(Form V\) was involved in a scientific academic publication](#), which was published by Masaryk University, based in the Czech Republic, on 29 August.

[Arwen \(Form III\) won the title of the Young Historian of the Year](#) for Key Stage 3,

Lauren (Form III) won the best local history prize for her work on the Clydebank Blitz, picking up a £100 book token.

Jennifer (Form IV) won the Robert Louis Stevenson Creative Writing prize. She attended Edinburgh Napier University on 13 September to view a collection of Stevenson's work.

Duncan (Form VI) won third place in the Dorian Fisher Memorial Prize for his economics essay. He was invited to attend a lunch in London at the office of the Institute of Economics Affairs in October.

CCF

[Dollar won the 51st Infantry Brigade Scottish Military Skills Competition in Barry Buddon](#). This took place on 27-29 September and is considered the biggest event in the CCF calendar. Dollar entered two teams into the competition and incredibly, they came joint first. The cadets also collected the Piper Laidlaw trophy, which is awarded to the Overall Best Team at the competition.

The following pupils were presented with the CCF Trophy:

Clara (Form VI)
Iona (Form VI)
Ruby (Form VI)
Callum (Form VI)
Andrew (Form V)
Virginia (Form V)
Maythu (Form IV)
Eva (Form IV)
Calum (Form IV)
Andrii (Form IV)

The following pupils were presented with the Pipe Laidlaw Trophy:

Ollie (Form VI)
Eleanor (Form V)
Murray (Form V)
Jack (Form V)
Manuela (Form IV)
Harrison (Form IV)
Finlay (Form IV)
Daniel (Form IV)

On 4-5 October, four of our cadets competed in the National First Aid competition at Swynnerton, in Staffordshire. On the Saturday, our cadets performed exceptionally well and won the CCF National Competition. The following day, they qualified to compete against the overall National Champions from the Army Cadets, Sea Cadets and also the St. John Ambulance. Once again, they were successful in winning the inter services competition and achieved a clean sweep of the First Aid trophies for the fourth year in a row. The cadets involved in this competition are as follows:

In the cadet Team

Clara (VI)
Ellie (V)
Eva (IV)
Symantha (IV)

Young Adult Team

Iona (VI)
Anisha (VI)

Reserves & Competition Casualties

Lucy (V)
Cecily (III)
Rebecca (III)
Sienna (III)

[On 27-28 October, our CCF competed in the Scottish Cadet Drill Competition in Glencorse Barracks, near Penicuik.](#) This was the first time Dollar had competed in this competition, and all the cadets performed exceptionally well – bringing home a win.

The pupils involved in this competition are as follows:

Iona (Form VI)
Callum (Form VI)
Maddie (Form III)
Cecily (Form III)
Freya F (Form III)
Jessica (Form III)
Freya L (Form III)

Querida (Form III)
Sarah (Form III)
Nina (Form III)
Rebecca (Form III)

Cricket

[Our 1st XI finished the season as Scottish Champions for the second year running.](#)

Dollar Academy was awarded The Forty Club Trophy 2019 (originally known as The Henry Grierson Trophy) by The Forty Club.

Jamie (Form V) has qualified to play in the Cricket U19 World Cup in South Africa alongside Scotland U19s. This will take place in January 2020.

Our Form III team achieved a very credible third place in the Scottish U15 T20 Cup competition. For the first time, they won the T10 annual tournament held at Stewarts Melville College – beating all other teams in a round robin competition.

Dance

Riona (Form VI) competed in the World Highland Dancing Competition at Cowal Gathering, Dunoon on 29-30 August.

Riona was also selected to compete in the Düsseldorf Military Tattoo alongside the Edinburgh Military Tattoo Dance Company on 18-20 September. She also travelled with the whole Edinburgh Military Tattoo to Sydney on 11-12 October.

Sophie (Form I) competed in the Grampian Stage Dance Festival, which took place on 21 September. She placed overall runner up in her section. She will also be performing in the Pavilion Theatre pantomime in Glasgow later this year.

Duke of Edinburgh

Over 100 Form IV pupils have completed their Bronze expedition this term. There are approximately 400 pupils with an active DofE Award. Parents are asked to have a look at their child's DofE account to see how they are getting on with their award.

Any queries about DofE should be directed to Mr Johns:

dofe@dollaracademy.org.uk.

Dates for next May and June are now available on our [website](#).

Environmental

present the award by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society because of his passion for protecting the environment.

Equestrian

Ferne (Form III) won the U14 Scottish Equestrian Vaulting Championships held on 21 September. She retained her title that she won last year and gained her highest freestyle score of 7.484.

Golf

Our golf team performed really well in the St Leonard's golf tournament at St Andrews on 2 October. The team won the nine-hole tournament, with Scott, Finlay and Will (all Form III) placing 1st-3rd respectively. Angus Wright (Form II) also placed 4th in the mid-handicap tournament.

Hockey

Dollar hockey has got off to a great start this season, with over 320 girls playing from Prep 4 – Form VI.

[International players: Lucy Smith \(Form VI\), Rhiannon Carr \(Form VI\) and Amy Salmon \(Form VI\)](#) had a busy summer with a number of test matches and training weekends for Scotland U18. Lucy and Rhiannon then represented Scotland U17 at the Futures Cup, which took place from 21-24 August, where they won bronze.

Brothers Alexander (Form VI) and Oliver (Form III) have continued to make great progress on the International stage, and both were selected for the Futures Cup. Alex played in the Scotland U17 squad and Ollie played in the U15 squad, along with rising star, Daniel (Form IV). Congratulations to both the U17 and U15 squads who won the gold medal.

The Inter District tournament took place on 15-16 September. Dollar performed well and the following selections were made.

Midland U18:

Susannah (Form IV)

Rebecca (Form V)

Rachel (Form V)

Kara (Form VI)

Midland U16:

Paige (Form III)

Daniel represented the East at U16 and Hayden Thomson (Form IV) was selected for the Midland U16 team.

As a result of their performance in the recent U16 Inter District tournament, Rosie (Form IV) and Hannah (Form IV) were invited to the Scotland U16 talent camp, which took place in October.

Our Form 3A squad retained the Midland District S3 Tournament Cup after winning the tournament, held at Glenalmond College on 10 September.

The 1st XI hockey squad won the Midland District 1st XI Tournament on 5 November.

Karate

Max was selected to join the JKS Karate Squad to compete internationally in the K1 Youth League, which took place from 24 September – 2 October. He also competed in the WKP British Championships on 21 - 22 September, and won gold in the team competition.

Pipe Band

[Our Juvenile Band retained the title of the Juvenile World Championships on 17 August.](#) Our Novice Juvenile A Band also took part in the competition and placed fourth in their category. Both Bands won the Champion of Champions accolade in their respective grades for the season.

Ruairidh (Form V) won the MacGregor Memorial in the 2019 Argyllshire Gathering.

[On Saturday 19 October, several Dollar pupils performed at the World Solo Drumming Championships in Glasgow.](#)

The pupils involved in this competition are as follows:

Oliver (Junior 2)

Zac (Form I)

George (Form I)

Anna (Junior I)

Ski Racing

Our Prep and Junior Team competed in the SSSA Autumn Dual Slalom finals at

The team is as follows:

Hamish (J2)

Harry (J1)

Nicholas (J2)

Craig (P5)

Pupils from our Senior School also performed well in their final on 30 October.

Our S1-3 A Team won gold and S1-3 B Team placed 3rd in their respective categories. Our Open Senior Team also raced and placed 3rd, narrowly missing out on the semi-final.

Pupils involved in this competition are as follows:

Open Senior team (Gold):

Emma (Form V)

Archie (Form IV)

Imogen (Form IV)

Archie (Form V)

S1-3 A team (Gold):

Christina (Form I)

Adam (Form I)

Lauren (Form III)

Ian (Form I)

S1-3 B team (Silver):

Ben (Form II)

Matthew (Form I)

Fin (Form I)

Nina (Form II)

Murdo (Form II)

Squash

Ollie Hunter (Form III) came 5th place in the U15 section of the Danish Junior Squash Open. He won four out of five matches. This was his highest finish in a European event to date.

Swimming

Harry (Form VI) was awarded the Scottish Swimming Junior Water Polo Player of the Year 2019 at the SS Awards ceremony in Glasgow during October. Harry is going on to a gap year in 2020-2021 playing professional water polo for

Tennis

Riley (Form II) qualified as the Scottish U14 representative for the national finals of the Tie Break Tens Tennis event which was held at the National Tennis Centre at Roehampton in London on 21 September.

Ultimate Frisbee

[Our Ultimate Frisbee Team won the Scottish University Beginners Tournament.](#)

This took place in Edinburgh on 28-29 September. All pupils in the team are in Form VI.

The winning team was as follows:

Abi

Ines

Orla

Seonaid

Lucy

Harry

Deni

Brodie

Alex

Douglas



Form I Activities Day

Former Pupil Achievements

Seonaid McIntosh (FP 2014) won silver in the 10m women's air rifle at the International Shooting Sport Federation World Cup in Rio. She also won gold in the European Shooting Championships, which took place on 24 September. On 3 October, she won Team Scotland Scottish Sportsperson of the Year.

Ellie Smithson (FP 2019) achieved 100% in the Advanced Higher Economics question paper. She was the only person in Scotland to do so.

Sandy Cameron (FP 2015) received a gold medal in the 2019 Argyllshire Gathering. His brother, Finlay Cameron (FP 2019), received a silver medal.

[Beth Logan \(FP 2019\) has been nominated for the St Andrew's First Aid Hero Award 2019](#) after assisting with an accident last year. Beth was last year's CCF First Aid Captain.

Please email news about your child's achievements to rector@dollaracademy.org.uk for mention at Assembly, in our newsletter or *Fortunas* magazine.



Christmas Concert 2019

We are delighted to be returning to Perth Concert Hall on 10-11 December for our annual Christmas concert.



Free Beginners' Language Classes

We are holding language classes for parents and members of the community in French, German, Italian, Spanish and Mandarin.



Christmas Dances 2019

Download the schedule for this year's Christmas Dances (Junior - Form VI).

Physics trip to Geneva



Tackling concussion with SportScotland

We have become one of the first schools in Scotland to support SportScotland's guidelines on preventing brain injuries by including the "If in doubt, sit them out" logo on the First XV rugby strips.

There are still a few spaces remaining on the Physics trip to Geneva, which takes place from 7-10 June 2020.

If you are interested, please visit Dr Fulton in D12 ASAP.



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