

Rector's



Newsletter

Dear Pupils, Parents, Guardians and Friends

This has been something of a landmark month for Dollar sport. In 2015, Scottish Hockey began running an S3 National Cup competition alongside the U18 event and in 2017 Dollar won the S3 Cup for the third year in succession. This season's S3 team beat The Mary Erskine School 2-1 in the final, ensuring that Dollar remain the *only* team to have won this event. This outstanding achievement reflects the tremendous work put in by our hockey coaches and players under the leadership of Ms Allan. There can be no question that the school runs one of the best hockey programmes in Scotland.

The same could be said of our rugby. Over 60 teams take part each year in the Rosslyn Park Sevens Cup competition, with another 100 or so in the lower tier Vase. Despite all four of our U18 internationalists having to miss the event, our senior Sevens team had an impressive run in the Cup competition last Thursday, beating some excellent English teams before losing narrowly to eventual semi-finalists Bedford. The school was also proud that Euan McLaren captained Scotland U18 against England U18 on the same day that FP John Barclay captained the senior Scottish team against England at Murrayfield.

Not to be outdone, our footballers reached the semi-final of the SISFA Cup and our gymnasts, swimmers and athletes have all recently achieved significant success in national competitions. Additionally, as if to prove that sport is for everyone, Dollar's annual cross-country event attracted the largest field of runners in recent memory.

Of course, sport is only one facet of life at Dollar, as those who attended the two excellent Spring Concerts last week will know. Shortly before the

concerts, four Dollar ensembles were entered for the huge Perform at Perth festival and all four won their classes. As it happens, I remember performing at this event myself many years ago, singing *Charlie is my Darling* with the Dunblane Primary School choir. I do not remember winning any prizes, but I did at least marginally extend my understanding of Jacobite history. With that in mind, I should congratulate our General Knowledge team who won the national Schools Quiz final a few weeks ago.

Despite all these wonderful co-curricular achievements, it has not been hard to remember that the core business of the school is learning and teaching. Over the last few weeks, every quiet space in the school seems to have been occupied by a senior pupil poring over an assignment, dissertation or piece of coursework. As with most areas of school life, hard work can bring substantial reward.

Kindest regards



David Knapman
Rector



McNabb Building Opens in Uganda

In 2015, Dollar's Sponsored Walk helped raise funds for a new classroom block at the Uphill Trust Junior School.



Scottish Hockey Champions

The Form 3A girls' hockey team have won the Scottish Cup Final for the third consecutive year.



March Concerts

Dollar's young musicians entertained audiences across two evenings with a range of spectacular performances.



Cross Country

Over 550 pupils took part in two of Dollar's annual sporting highlights: the [Senior](#) and [Junior](#) Cross Country Championships.

School Calendar Card

You can download the Calendar Card for Term 3 [here](#).

British Airgun Championships

Congratulations to former Dollar pupils Jen McIntosh (FP 2009), Seonaid McIntosh (FP 2014) and Victoria Walls (FP 2016) who won The Home Counties Women's International match at the British Airgun Championships, the first Scottish team to do so in the history of the match. [Read more](#).

Football

The 1st XI football team are through to the semi-final of the Scottish Independent Schools' Football Association Cup after beating George Heriot's School 2-0 in the quarter-final round. [Read more](#).

Inter-schools' Challenge Quiz

Dollar has won the Scottish Championships for the first time since 2010 after competing against 12 other teams in the final. Congratulations to Jonty Haywood, Charlie Worsley (both FVI), Zach Lonberg (FIV) and Dominic McGinley (FIII). [Read more](#).

Young Musician of the Year

In Dollar's first Young Musician of the Year Competition, Alistair Williams

(FI) won the Foundation level and Runa Jarjour (FIV) the Intermediate level. Martina Sillence (FV) won the Advanced level and was awarded The McGonigle Trophy. [Read more.](#)

Dollar Sports Desk

Access the recently launched [Sports Desk](#) for news, fixtures and results. To get started, you may find these [user instructions](#) helpful.



Junior School Science Fair

The Assembly Hall was transformed as Junior 2 pupils took to their stands and presented their scientific investigations to judges and parents. [Read more.](#)

Pupil Achievements

Army Officer Scholarship Scheme

Congratulations to Darwin Douglas (FVI) on his Army Officer Scholarship, the most prestigious junior award the army offers young people in the UK. Darwin is the only current holder of this award in Scotland.

Cross Country

Catrin Maclean, Akira West, Isla Booth and Anya Penderis (all FI) competed in the U14 category in the Scottish Senior Schools' Cross Country Championships, earning 10th place overall. [Read more.](#)

Dance

Millie Wright (FII) will represent Scotland at the Dance World Cup this summer and will also be Scottish Team Captain and Flag bearer for the event.

Gymnastics

Dollar's Secondary Level 1 gymnastics team - Catrin Maclean, Ellen Wight, Elli Johnston (all FI) and Katy Hynd (J2) won gold medals and retained the shield for Dollar at the Secondary Gymnastics Floor and Vault Championships. The Secondary Level 2 team - Sophie Wilson, Lara Boyle, Symantha Scott (all FI) and Lily Wilton (FII) took bronze. Lucy Macrae (FIII) won gold in the Level 3 floor routine. [Read more.](#)

Hockey

Three Dollar 1st XI team players - Erin Stevens, Georgia Smith and Jenny Walls (all FV) - have been selected for the Scotland U18 Hockey Squad and will compete in international tests this summer. Amy Salmon, Lucy Smith, Kara Shiels (all FIII) and Eve Pearson (FIV) have all been named in the Scotland U16 Hockey Squad. [Read more.](#)

Judo

Hamish Gardiner (FI) won a bronze medal at the Scottish Ultimate Open 2017 Judo Grand Prix and sister Màili Gardiner (FIV) took silver at the Scottish Ultimate Open Championships. [Read more.](#)

Music

Lily Wilton (FII) successfully auditioned for the NYCoS National Girls Training Choir 2017.

Chloe Burbury (FI) won top prize - the Glen More Trophy - at the Fife Period A Festival of Music. Isabella Schmidt-Cornelius (also FI) won the Hugh Ferguson Trophy in the Open String Class. [Read more.](#)

At the Perform in Perth Festival, five chamber music ensembles won their respective class:

Junior String Ensemble

Andy Jarjour, Caitlin Fyfe (both FII), Sunday Atkinson, Hayden Thomson, Alexandra Huckle, Maythu Pettigrew and Sorcha Williams (all FI).

Junior String Quartet

Freya Ferguson, Rebecca Watson, Hebe Weavers (all FII) and Harriet Johns (FI).

Wind Quartet

Aidan Humphrey, Aoife Fitzpatrick (both FIV), Sophie Ferguson and Emma Macrae (both FV).

Senior String Quartet

Nikita Safanov (FIV), Martina Sillence, Rebecca Middleton (both FV) and Catriona Ferguson (FVI).

Piano Quartet

Martina Sillence, Rebecca Middleton, Catriona Ferguson and Christina Callion (FVI). [Read more.](#)

Pipe Band

Well done to the three [Pipe Bands](#) who took part in the Scottish School Championships in Edinburgh. Both the Juvenile and Novice A bands finished in second place.

Rugby

Euan McLaren (FVI) captained the Scotland U18 team in their match against England earlier this month. Gus Warr (FV), Callum Cruickshank and Grant Hughes (both FVI) were also in the squad of 23 players.

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

Trips



Geography Trip to Morocco

Pupils spent one week exploring environmental issues and immersing themselves in the landscapes and culture of Morocco.



Cayman Island Visitors

In February, the St Ignatius School Concert Band enjoyed a week of cultural and musical trips, and a taste of daily life at Dollar.



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