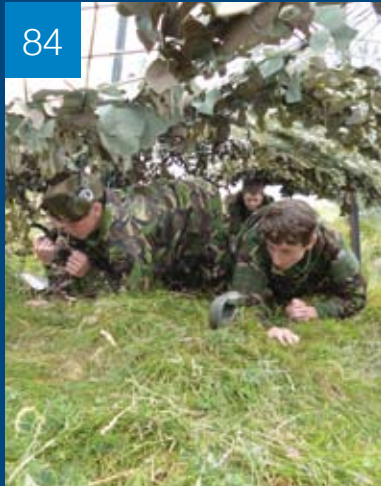
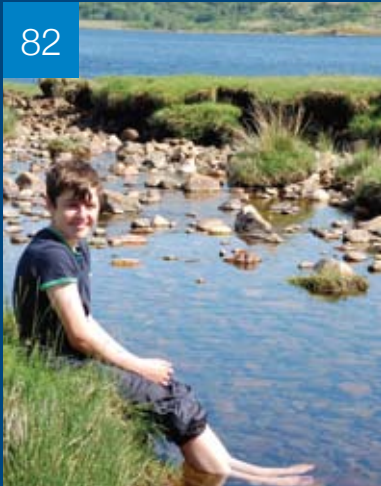
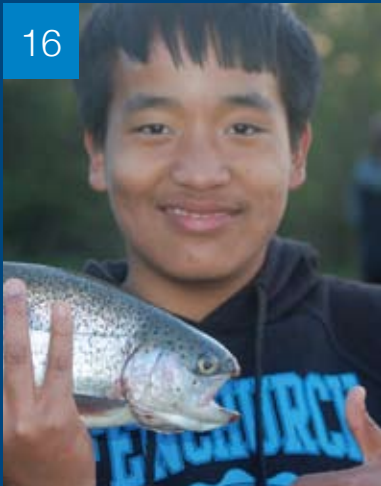




# The Victorian 2013

QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL





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# Vision Statement

## **Ethos**

Queen Victoria School embodies, demonstrates and promotes the following values:

- Integrity and honesty
- Respect and responsibility
- Justice and equality
- Compassion and empathy

## **Academic**

The School strives to help each pupil realise his or her individual academic potential to the full at each stage of his or her school life.

## **Non-Academic**

The School strives to provide a wide and diverse range of extra-curricular activities to develop the whole person.

## **Civic and Service Responsibility**

Queen Victoria School is an asset to the Ministry of Defence, and through it to the personnel of the Armed Forces. It provides a Service benefit by offering stability and continuity of valued Scottish education to the children of serving military personnel who are Scottish or who have served in Scotland.

## **Pastoral**

Queen Victoria School aims to ensure that at least one adult member of staff takes a continuous, proactive interest in the development of each pupil, meeting with him or her regularly and providing both structured and responsive discussion. Through its boarding house structures the School provides a valid and valuable alternative to the pupil's home environment during term times. Partnership with parents and carers is welcomed. The School encourages parents and carers to involve themselves actively in their children's learning and in the life of the School.



Colour Party.

## From the Head – Grand Day 2013

Lord Robertson, visitors, members – of all ages – of the QVS family – good morning, and thank you for being here for our prize-giving ceremony.

I've been thinking about mottos – or slogans – or straplines: depending upon your age and interests, you'll think of those pithy, motivational short expressions by different names. Whatever you call them, they try to encapsulate in a few words what it is that an organisation or product or service delivers – or aspires to deliver.

The motto of Queen Victoria School is IN DEFENS. I asked Mr Coates – of whom more later – what exactly he took this to mean. He wrote me almost one-and-a-half sides of A4 on what these two short words might mean. But the essence of it is that we – QVS – are part of the family of the Armed Forces of the United Kingdom. And – pleasingly – Mr Coates tells me that there is a suggestion – in the way the words are used – that this state of affairs is **perpetual**. Those of you who know that our Royal Warrant states that the War Office – now the Ministry of Defence – has undertaken to fund the **School IN PERPETUITY** will know how appropriate that shade of meaning is.

In our publicity material the slogan is RAISING TO DISTINCTION. That comes from a Prize Giving speech made by one of our Commissioners, Professor Bart McGettrick, when he was the guest here in 2006. RAISING TO DISTINCTION is something we do – as can be seen, for example, from the career paths of three of last year's S6 leavers: Hannah Ashcroft to Aberdeen to study Engineering; Luke Masters to St Andrews to study Physics and Maths; and Charlie Jones, to the Royal Air Force College at Cranwell, from which he graduated as an officer just a few months ago – a quite exceptional achievement nowadays for somebody straight out of School.

But thinking about what we've been up to this year, I have a – slightly tongue-in-cheek – suggestion for a third QVS strapline. It's **GET STUCK IN** – or, in words very familiar to all Service families – **JUST GET ON WITH IT**.

I first reflected on this **GET STUCK IN** motto when I was talking with Mr McLay about one of the two ski trips that went out to Italy this

spring. He was talking about what good company the pupils had been, and I was commenting on the way in which our pupils are very accepting of adults and how they adapt to situations well. Yes, he said, and told me about the disco dance-floor, where other schools' parties lingered around the walls – but the QVS students just ... **GOT STUCK IN** and **GOT ON WITH IT**. It's a great quality to have, and it was recognised and rewarded when one of our ski groups was declared "best group of the season" by the hotel at which they stayed, out of 19 groups who had been there. One of our skiers was nominated for a scholarship, too, as a result of his prowess and demeanour during the trip.

I was also reminded of **GET STUCK IN** when I saw the photos and read the diaries of those pupils (and staff) who had been on the trip to Paris in October, which was organised by Miss McKenny and Mrs Sheerin. No-one who has seen the photographs of Rhys Clark and Cameron Arnott "planking" in various sites throughout the French capital can doubt the ability of QVS pupils to "just get on with it". I gather some of the group were nearly arrested for busking, as well, so there's no doubt of their willingness to get on with things. Seriously, however, the benefits of the Paris Trip, and of the ski trips, were manifest both at the time and in how the pupils talked about their experiences when they returned, and it is great to know that we have the type of staff who are willing and able to organise such wonderful events for our pupils.

This time last year I urged you to look forward to the School's performances in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, and I hope you enjoyed them – either live, or *via* the BBC's broadcasts. There, surely, was a most outstanding example of **GETTING STUCK IN** – on the parts of the pipers, drummers and dancers, and also on the parts of the instructors, teachers and parents who enabled the performances to happen. Particular mention needs to be made of Mr Jim Clark, our Drum Major, who was not long in post at QVS before Mr Ross, the Pipe Major, had to go off for a knee operation, which – unavoidably – left Mr Clark with the bulk of the organisation to undertake. Mrs Drever, too, was very new in post at the time of the Tattoo, and yet calmly stepped into the role of Highland Dance Instructor and produced the high standards of performance for which the School is



*Cunningham House prefects.*



*Haig House prefects.*

so much admired. Miss Phipps organised the rota of supervising staff, commissioners and parents “back at base” and all in all it was yet another example of what QVS achieves through the willingness of so many to GET STUCK IN.

We saw a first-rate Christmas concert put on by the Pipes, Drums and Dancers, too, and I hope that that will be the first of many. The band has continued to play for passing-out parades at Tulliallan Police College throughout this year, earning much appreciation and some lovely TV coverage. Recently, some of our pupils fulfilled a band engagement at the Scottish Garden Festival – as usual at this time of year – and ended up performing with the Red Hot Chilli Pipers – a tremendous thrill for the pupils (and for the Red Hot Chilli Pipers, of course!) and another example of how our pupils, rather than being overcome with nerves or shyness, just got on with it.

We took part in the first ever Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships in March, and came second in our class. We’re off to Basel and Zurich just before Christmas this year to launch their winter Tattoo event; and of course the band and dancers have performed stalwartly at every School parade throughout the year – most of them, I’m sorry to say, in rather wet and cold weather.

Alas, some of you really did get stuck in, this time last year, when the monsoon-like conditions of Grand Day afternoon caused several vehicles to get bogged down in the mud on the playing fields where you were parked. That, added to the neglect of the pitches over several years, led to our having to stay off them for the first half of the long autumn/winter term, while serious repair work was done. At the same time, ironically, work became due on the artificial surface – which meant that we were seriously short of games facilities – especially when the Sports Hall flooded (again) in the first few weeks of the academic year. Of course, that caused immense challenges for the PE and Games department as they tried to continue with lessons, with training for matches, and with competitive events themselves. Greatly to their credit, they were inventive, committed and uncomplaining, making use of local facilities, greatly increasing the use of training runs as preparation for matches, and arranging to play away rather than home fixtures for the first half of the term. As always, the pupils JUST GOT ON WITH IT – and their successes in getting through to the Regional Plate final in rugby, and the Scottish Independent Schools Football Association Competition final, amongst others, are a great credit to them.

An area in which I’m delighted that we are once again GETTING STUCK IN is target shooting. Under the enthusiastic and experienced eye of Mr Scott Harrison, one of our Stores people, a team has been training hard and is off to Bisley in just a few days’ time.

This time last year I encouraged you to tune in to the BBC’s *Songs of Praise* programme on 2nd July, which came from Dunblane and featured QVS. If you’re familiar with tv production methods, you won’t be surprised to know that three-and-a-half days of on-site filming turned into just under three-and-a-half minutes of air time in the programme. It was all excellent quality stuff, however, and – as always – the pupils shone. They really are our best ambassadors. One of the letters I received afterwards included the following sentences: “Those mature and eloquent students who appeared on the programme are a great credit to you and the School. Each one of them having a parent in the Forces, often away and exposed to great danger, and yet they are so obviously gaining tremendous comfort from that shared experience in the remarkable family environment you and your staff have provided for them. I was most moved by it all and you are to be greatly congratulated.”

Even more moving, I think, is the DVD that has been produced by the Royal Caledonian Education Trust and features many of our children talking to camera about their experiences of their parents’ deployment. Called *Forces Kids – It’s our Life*, the DVD was launched at a “red-carpet” event in Edinburgh last November. It’s being used as a teaching aid throughout Scotland and is much in demand in the Services environment both here and elsewhere. The producer of the film wrote to me after he had produced the penultimate “cut” and said this: “At the time we recorded the interviews I was hugely impressed by the self possession of all eight [QVS] pupils. Having gone over the footage many times since, I have been increasingly moved by their ability to put into words emotional experiences most adults would struggle to deal with. It was a very humbling set of answers that they gave.” Although Mr Eastham did much to organise the shooting of the DVD footage, no-one prepped the pupils for their interviews. What they said so openly and so movingly to camera was another example of QVS pupils JUST GETTING ON WITH IT.

JUST GETTING ON WITH IT is, of course, one way of coping with deployment – but I’m delighted that we have started a Deployment Support Group as well this year, initiated by Mr Adams and being carried on by Miss Low and Mrs Hiddleston.

One of the greatest examples of GETTING STUCK IN this year has, undoubtedly, been the work of the so-called MAD Group. MAD stands for “Make A Difference” – and the group of Senior pupils, led by Mrs Adams and supported by the Rotary Club, has made significant differences in the lives of many people already; but I don’t think anyone who saw Tom King dressed as a duck playing the ukulele outside the Physics department recently could fail to consider the *implications* of the name “MAD”.

This is a young group in two senses of the word: it is composed of young people, and it has itself been in existence for less than a year. Even in that short time, however, it has been “chartered” by the Rotary Club; honoured by a visit from the President of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland; won a Stirling Young Volunteers of the Year Award; and earned Mrs Adams the Award of the Paul Harris fellowship – a “lifetime” award given as a prestigious mark of appreciation to those who have contributed outstandingly to the Rotary Foundation’s humanitarian and educational programmes. Equally importantly, the charitable work done by the group has been widespread and seriously effective. Whether it be practical help such as hosting the Senior Citizens’ Winter Treat; serving lunches at the Cathedral during Christian Aid Week; running coffee mornings; organising shoeboxes of presents for children in Eastern Europe; or raising money through events such as “Wear a Hat Day” in support of Brain Tumour Research – the group has done outstanding work, and also learned to organise itself as a formal association with pupil office-bearers, public meetings and publicity material. They really have exemplified our unofficial mottos of GET STUCK IN and JUST GET ON WITH IT.

Of course it’s not just the pupils who GET STUCK IN.

This time last year you may remember my talking about Mr Graham Carroll, who was retiring in the summer, and Mr Colin Philson who was retiring in October. Both of them were Deputy Heads at the School, and of long standing. Mr Steve Adams, who took over from Graham Carroll, and Mr Donald Shaw, who took over from Colin Philson, have made outstanding contributions already, in their short time in posts, and have had something of a baptism of fire, not least with the visit of the Care Inspectorate in February, the visit of our link HMI in December, and the work being done by Mr Shaw to raise academic achievement in the exam years. Miss Carole Phipps is the third, equally valuable, member of the Deputies’ team, and many of you will have cause to be grateful to her for the work that she has done with your children, mainly individually in the name of Pupil Support, but also within small groups and larger ones, for PSHE and Careers-related work.

The Housemasters and Housemistress GET STUCK IN tirelessly in support of their pupils. Mr Eastham and Mr Lear, having already coped with the refurbishments of last academic year, this time had to manage the re-furnishing of the boys’ rooms in Cunningham and Haig. Miss Appleyard has had an excellent first year in Wavell, and is already organising an expedition for pupils to Peru in 2015. Mr Bush has had an immensely busy first year in Trenchard, where his introduction of the House e-newsletter and all its wonderful photographs has been widely acclaimed. Behind the scenes in the Houses, we have powerful assistance from the House teams of tutors, matrons and housekeepers. We were delighted to welcome Carol Dunn as matron of Haig this year, and would like to place on record our thanks to Carmen O’Neill for filling that position so well in the interim period.

New members of the Science department have GOT STUCK IN most spectacularly, pushing back the frontiers of School science in the

Chemistry Department where Mr Bryce joined us in August, and Mrs Morna Leask arrived as science technician shortly afterwards.

Sadly, we bid farewell to Nele Templin, who returns to Germany after a year of selfless and cheerful hard work with us as German Language Assistant and member of staff in Trenchard, as well as playing her violin in concerts and becoming involved in many school activities. We wish her well.

We said goodbye both formally and informally to our front desk team of MGS staff in the spring. As part of the wider cuts throughout the service, we had to relinquish our four guards, some of whom had worked at the school for many, many years. Although they have been very well succeeded by contracted staff from VSG, part of the ESS group, we shall miss Paddy, Dickie, Geoff and Kevin, who got to know the pupils very well indeed, and were integral parts of the QVS family.

Old Victorians continue to GET STUCK IN when it comes to reunions, and despite quite literally getting stuck – in the mud outside the Sports Hall, when trying to offload the beer for their post-match social event! – they had a successful inter-generational football match here on March 16th. The weather was variable: it varied between unrelenting, cold, heavy rain and snow falling in the largest lumps I’ve ever seen in Scotland. The OV’s commitment to sport and to their old school is quite remarkable!

Sadly, we had cause to reflect further on the bond between an OV and his school with the funeral of Jamie Greenwood, a young Old Victorian killed in a motorcycle accident in Cyprus. Mr Ross played at the funeral here in Scotland, which was attended by staff and pupils, and Jamie’s parents have made several visits to the School since then, reflecting on what his time here meant to him and to them, and planning to put up a memorial bench to him in due course.

I always say to the leavers, each year, that “you may leave QVS, but it will never leave you.” Every time I see an Old Victorian I have cause to reflect on that. A QVS education is something that goes with you throughout life. And so it will be, I am sure, for this year’s leavers too.

In particular I want to thank the prefects and monitors; they have stepped into their roles this year with an outward sense of assurance which has led to a pleasingly respectful attitude towards them from the younger pupils – although I know it didn’t always seem like that to them! Will Lynch and Kelsey Swan have made an excellent Senior and Deputy Senior Monitor team, complementing one another’s strengths and always providing examples of excellent leadership. I am grateful to our prefects and monitors for being a very special group of young people, who take on – successfully – roles which in many other schools would be undertaken by paid adults. I wish them – and all our leavers – well.

Today we say goodbye, too, to Mr Jonathan Coates. Part-time teacher of Modern Studies, a Housemaster when he first came here, raconteur, writer of outstanding school reports, Assembly speaker, charity fund-raiser, source of knowledge, wit and wisdom – and, of course, *knowledge of Wisden*, given his devotion to cricket – Jonathan has given support and guidance to both staff and pupils, and earned the affection – I suspect – of everyone with whom he has come into contact here at QVS. His classroom door for many months bore a colourful, hand-made poster on which his pupils had written, “Mr Coates is too cool for School” – and perhaps Jonathan now feels that too, as he moves on to other things in his retirement, although we shall miss him and always be pleased to see him back amongst us.



Top to bottom: Trenchard House prefects; Wavell House prefects.

As I said earlier, it was Mr Coates with his extensive appreciation of Latin grammar who explained to me the various shades of meaning in our School motto – IN DEFENS. One group of QVS supporters which is more aware of the relevance of that motto than many others is the group of our Commissioners, sitting behind me here on the stage. An impressive bunch of people at the best of times, it is when the future of the School is most central that they really come into their own. Professor Bart McGettrick stood down as Chairman of Her Majesty's Commissioners in the autumn of last year, after more than four years of commitment and dedication to the best interests of QVS. During that time he worked effectively with the MoD and external agencies to ensure that the School's purpose, its values, and how much it means to its families, were repeatedly made clear to all stakeholders, and to others who might have an interest in the School. His good work is being carried on by our current Chairman, Mr Alan Plumtree,

and it was a reward for all Commissioners, as well as for the rest of the School, when we received a letter from the Adjutant General following his visit in January: "the school's position is secure, [he wrote,] and we must forge ahead with confidence on that basis". That is the firmest assurance that the school has received for some time, and the role of QVS at the centre of plans for the future is an exciting one.

It was another visitor who gave us what might easily become our new motto, however. We had two Care Inspectorate inspectors visit us in February, and in the oral feedback session they told us that they had agreed on their summary description of QVS: "Happy pupils, happy staff, happy parents." We were, of course, very ... happy ... to hear that. Thank you again for all that you contribute towards the life of the School, and I wish you all a very ... happy ... holiday.



Top to bottom: Monitors; Monitors – 6th year prefects.





Top to bottom: Alisha McCaig S6, Tulip Abstract; Red Onion.

# Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners for The Government of Queen Victoria School

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## Her Majesty's Commissioners

Queen Victoria School accepted its first pupils in 1908. However, the legal foundation for the school was created by a document known as the Royal Warrant signed by King Edward VII on 27 June 1905, which might be considered our first Grand Day!

Typical of its time the Warrant was an elegant concise document without flummery which not only brought into being the school but created the school's governing body which today is known as the Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners. The Warrant, (which runs only to some four pages in the original), has been amended on a number of occasions over the last hundred years, but was drafted in such a way that its essential purpose cannot be changed in perpetuity.

The Warrant requires that the Board consists of representatives from all three armed services, The Lord Justice Clerk, General Officer Commanding the Army in Scotland, five persons with experience in education, business, finance and the professions and up to four other persons co-opted by the Board because of their knowledge and experience. Additionally the Chief Executive of Service Children's Education and the Director of Directorate Children and Young People are invited to Board meetings as well of course as the Head and the School Business Manager.

Over the last three years there have been considerable changes in the make up of the Board and, as will be evident from the biographies below, today's Board has a broad range of relevant and specialist knowledge at its disposal. The full Board meets at least once each term. Additionally there are sub-committees appointed from amongst the Board members who meet on a more regular basis to deal with routine and on-going matters. The sub-committee with currently the greatest work load is the Group looking at the school's future and I hope I will be able to report interesting and exciting developments arising from their work in the course of next year.

*Alan J C Plumtree, Chairman, Board of Her Majesty's Commissioners*

## Alan J C Plumtree

Alan Plumtree retired as senior partner in a large Scottish Chartered Accountancy firm in October 2012. He was a board member of the firm's international association at both European and World levels and travelled widely in Europe as a result.

He was for twelve years a member of the Scottish Chartered Accountants exam board and a further ten years as Convenor of the Practitioner Certification Committee and the Regulation and Compliance Board.

He is currently a member of the Scottish Law Society Regulation and Compliance Board and a member of the Scottish Architects final Examination Board.



*Alan J C Plumtree.*

He has been a Commissioner at QVS for six years, Chairman of the General Purposes Committee for about four years and Chairman of Commissioners for about two months.

Alan and his wife have lived in Dunblane for 45 years. His principal interests are fishing and shooting, ham radio and looking after old Austin Healey sports cars.

#### **Professor Bart McGettrick Dean of Education**

Professor Bart McGettrick is Dean of Education at Liverpool Hope University. He is Emeritus Professor of Education and also Dean Emeritus, of the Faculty of Education at the University of Glasgow. He was originally a teacher of Geography, and became Principal of St Andrews College for teacher education in Scotland from 1985 to 1999, and first Dean of the Faculty of Education at Glasgow University in 1999.

He has been Professor of Education at Glasgow University since 1993, leaving the University in November 2005. He has widespread international experience and is Chairman of the Board of Regents of Bethlehem University, Palestine.

#### **Captain Paul Du Vivier, Royal Navy**

Paul Du Vivier was brought up in Belgium where his family had brewing and textile business interests. He was sent to school in England before entering Dartmouth Royal Naval College in 1964.

His naval career spanned 32 years. His early appointments were spent in minesweepers, frigates and destroyers in which he was deployed on a wide variety of campaigns ranging from two Cod Wars off Iceland, to the Borneo and Malay Peninsular Campaigns, the withdrawal of British forces from the then British Protectorate of Aden, UN-sanctioned blockading of the port of Beira in response to Ian Smith's Unilateral Declaration of Independence for Rhodesia, operations in and around Northern Ireland, the clearance of World War II minefields in the Baltic and Kattegat and the security of Belize against threats from Guatemala.

Over the years he spent many months deployed on operations in the North Atlantic and Norwegian Sea in support of NATO's Cold War deterrence strategy. His last appointment at sea was as the Commander of the aircraft carrier HMS ILLUSTRIOUS 1986-1988.

Appointments ashore included two in the MOD, several in operational training organisations and his final one as the Chief of Staff to the Flag Officer Scotland, Northern England



*Captain Paul Du Vivier.*

and Northern Ireland, headquartered in Dunfermline, Fife.

Paul Du Vivier took early retirement from the Royal Navy in 1995 to take up the post of Chief Executive of the Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency, an organisation charged with policing fishing activity in the Scottish Zone of the 200-mile British Fishery Limits.

Retired now since 2009, he is involved with a number of charity organisations including Leuchie House Respite Care, the Scottish Veterans Garden City Association, The Buckland Foundation and Gunsgreen House. He was appointed one of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Queen Victoria School in 2010.

Married with three grown up children, he enjoys both 'The Good Life' at home tending geese, chickens and a vegetable garden as well as golf and skiing.

#### **Colonel Clive Knightley**

Colonel Clive Knightley enlisted into the Royal Artillery in 1976 and was commissioned in 1978. During his first ten years as an officer he served in field artillery regiments (regular and territorial) and qualified as an Instructor in Gunnery. He attended the Royal Air Force Staff College in 1998, before deploying to the first Gulf War as a staff officer within the Joint Force Headquarters. He spent two years as a Battery Commander, including tours in South Armagh and North Belfast, before spending almost three years as Military Assistant to a NATO Commander-in-Chief. Thereafter he commanded 39th Regiment Royal Artillery based in Northumberland, but including short tours to Belfast and County Armagh.

After a brief return to the Joint Force Headquarters in 2001, including a short tour in Sierra Leone, he spent three years in the Army Personnel Centre in Glasgow responsible for the manning and career management within the Royal Artillery. Between 2004 and 2007 he commanded 1st Artillery Brigade, at a time of continuous deployments to Iraq and then Afghanistan, before appointment as Commandant of the Royal School of Artillery between 2007 and 2010. His final tour before retirement in 2012 was as Colonel of the Army Welfare Service. He returned to the Army as a full-time reservist shortly thereafter, in order to join the MOD's Directorate Children and Young People as Assistant Director.

An enthusiastic rifle-shot, skier and orienteerer in his younger years he now favours rather less active pursuits, and has recently discovered the delights of ocean cruising.



*Colonel Clive Knightley.*



David Shaw.



Colonel Andrew Campbell BD.



Mr Ian Ritchie.

### David Shaw CBE

David Shaw served in the British Army and concluded his service as General Officer Commanding 2nd Division and Governor of Edinburgh Castle. As a graduate of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, he returned to teach leadership and later on, went on to teach defence management and technology at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham.

He commanded 40 Regiment, Royal Artillery (The Lowland Gunners) and has experience of leading international, British military and civilian personnel both on and off operations. He has a significant background in public relations, including having been Director of Media and Communication at the height of operations in Afghanistan. He also has considerable experience in planning and delivering change programmes and has helped restructure major organisations such as the Territorial Army, the Defence fire services and major Army headquarters.

Since leaving the Army in early 2012, he has established a number of business ventures and other projects, including being a Director of Unicorn ARC Ltd and Armed Forces and Veterans Estates Ltd. He is also involved in marketing for Red Lion Foods, a company that gives all its post-tax profits to Service charities. He is a trustee of the Kohima Educational Trust and is one of Her Majesty's Commissioners at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. He has served on the board of governors of a Service school in Germany and has two sons who have only recently left boarding schools, for university.

He holds a Masters degree in Defence Administration, is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and a Visiting Professor at Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. He was appointed CBE in the New Year's Honours List 2012.

### Colonel Andrew Campbell BD

Andrew Campbell attended Edinburgh University, afterwards being commissioned into the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1978. His Regimental service encompassed Northern Ireland, Germany, Hong Kong, Cyprus and GB. He commanded the Army Training Regiment in Edinburgh from 1994-1996.

His non-regimental duties have included being a chief of staff at brigade and divisional level, weapons, operational and personnel management appointments.

He has served on operations in Northern Ireland, Hong Kong, Bosnia

Herzegovina and the Horn of Africa. His last appointment was Deputy Commander 52 Infantry Brigade based in Edinburgh Castle.

He was Representative Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders from 2007-2009 and was Chairman of the Argyll Trustees from 2007-2012. He retired from the Army in December 2008 and assumed the appointment of Secretary of the New Club the next month.

He is married and has three children. He is a Council member of the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland (Royal Company of Archers) where he is a keen shooting archer and a judge; President of the Edinburgh and the Lothians branch of SSAFA; one of Her Majesty's Commissioners at Queen Victoria School Dunblane and a Presbytery Elder in the Church of Scotland.

### Mr Ian Ritchie

Ian Ritchie is a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at Forth Valley Royal Hospital in Larbert. He has been in this post as Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon for the past 21 years. In addition to this occupation, he has been heavily involved with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh since 2000, and is currently the President of this College. His orthopaedic interests were in the generality of orthopaedic surgery and the management of trauma.

His activities in the College have principally related to education and training, particularly the generic aspects of how surgeons train other surgeons, and to this end, he has been involved with the College's 'Train the Trainers' Course. His current activities as President of the College include meetings at Scottish and UK National levels as well as international visits to support training for surgeons, particularly in South East Asia, India and China.

In addition to College activities, Ian is an elder at St Columba's Parish Church in Stirling and is the proud father of three daughters, one of whom has graduated in Medicine, the other two are students of Nursing and Occupational Therapy respectively. Ian's wife is an Associate Specialist in Accident and Emergency Medicine at Forth Valley Royal Hospital where she works part-time.

### The Revd Alison Britchfield MA BD

Alison is a native of Dundee and a graduate of Aberdeen and St Andrews Universities. On completion of her degree in Divinity she served as a probationer minister in Hamilton for two years during which she was ordained as a minister of the Church of Scotland. In 1987 she was inducted as minister at Culross and Torryburn in Fife,



*Clockwise from top left: The Revd Alison Britchfield MA BD; Major General N H Eeles; The Rt Hon Lord Carloway (Colin Sutherland); Group Captain Jim Leggat; Rear Admiral Roger Lockwood CB; John Cummings.*

where she spent five years. Very enthusiastic about ministering to young people, she was encouraged to consider becoming a naval chaplain, a challenge she accepted in 1992, when she became the first female minister of the Church of Scotland to enter the Armed Forces as a chaplain.

Over the next sixteen years, she served in a variety of appointments from spells on the staff of HMS RALEIGH and Britannia Royal Naval College, the two Royal Navy new entry training establishments, to staff appointments in recruitment and training; from duty as Director (Royal Navy) at the Armed Forces Chaplaincy Centre, with special responsibility for training in the Care of Trainees and Bereavement and Loss, to sea-going service as Chaplain to the First Frigate Squadron and later to HMS FEARLESS. She completed her service as Chaplaincy Team Leader at HMNB CLYDE in 2009 returning to parish ministry as the minister of Lecropt Kirk, Bridge of Allan in April that year.

Alison and her husband Mike live in Tillicoultry, with their two border collies. She is now minister of Tillicoultry Parish Church, having moved there in March 2013 and is also heavily involved in the life of the Presbytery of Stirling as Convener of Superintendence and Vice-Convener of the Business Committee.

In the rare spare time she has, she enjoys reading, music and crafts. She is a very keen singer who would love to find enough time to join

a choir and plays guitar and piano rather badly but enthusiastically. The move to a new house and the inheritance of a larger garden offers the chance to become a more skilful gardener; the impending arrival of six hens means she may even become adept at hen keeping.

### Major General N H Eeles

Major General Nick Eeles was commissioned into the Royal Artillery in 1982 after graduating from Bristol University. Following his Young Officers' Course he served with 3rd Regiment RHA in Paderborn and then as ADC to the Commander Artillery, Headquarters 1st (British) Corps in Bielefeld. In 1987 he was posted to 45th Field Regiment in Colchester as a Forward Observation Officer and undertook a tour of Northern Ireland as Operations Officer. He then commanded an FH70 Battery for a year before moving to 49th Field Regiment in Lippstadt as Adjutant.

From 1991-93 he attended Division II of the Army Command and Staff Course at Shrivenham and Camberley. He was then posted to Headquarters 7th Armoured Brigade as Deputy Chief of Staff and in 1994 he deployed on Operation GRAPPLE 4 as Chief Of Staff, Headquarters British Forces. He then commanded C Battery in 3rd Regiment RHA (supporting 19th Mechanised Brigade). During this tour he deployed the Battery to Northern Ireland as Commander 3rd Infantry Brigade's Operations Company One.



Linda Hepburn.



Kathryn Forsyth.



Colin Ross.

In May 1998 he took over the appointment of SO1 Army Programme in Army Plans (subsequently Army Resources and Plans) in the Ministry of Defence. From 2001 to 2003 he commanded 26th Regiment RA (supporting 20th Armoured Brigade) in Germany, Kosovo, Bosnia and he deployed the Regiment on Operation TELIC 1 to reinforce 3rd Regiment RHA. He completed 18 months as Colonel Manning (Army) before attending the Higher Command and Staff Course, and in April 2005 he assumed the appointment of Commander Royal Artillery 3rd (United Kingdom) Division. From June 2007 to November 2009 he worked for the Chief of the General Staff as Brigadier General Staff in the Ministry of Defence, and for the following two years he was the last holder of the appointment of Director Royal Artillery. He was appointed General Officer Commanding the 2nd Division and Governor of Edinburgh Castle on 4th January 2012. On disbandment of the 2nd Division on 2nd April 2012 General Eeles assumed the appointment of General Officer Commanding Scotland.

He is married to Wob, an interior designer, and they have three children (Jasper, Tash and Claudia). His interests include renovating a farmhouse in France, modern poetry, the military history of the First World War, and tennis.

### The Rt Hon Lord Carloway (Colin Sutherland)

Lord Carloway was appointed as Lord Justice Clerk in August 2012 having been appointed to the Second Division of the Inner House in August 2008. He has been a Judge since February 2000.

He is a graduate of Edinburgh University (LLB Hons) and was admitted to the Faculty of Advocates in 1977. He served as an Advocate Depute from 1986 to 1989 and was appointed Queen's Council in 1990. From 1994 until his appointment as a Judge he was Treasurer of the Faculty of Advocates.

He is an assistant editor of "Green's Litigation Styles" and contributed the chapters on "Court of Session Practice" to the Stair Memorial Encyclopaedia and "Expenses" in Court of Session Practice.

Lord Carloway was the joint editor of "Parliament House Portraits: the Art Collection of the Faculty of Advocates" and is a former president of the Scottish Arts Club.

More recently, he led a review of the law and practice in light of the United Kingdom Supreme Court's decision in the case of *Cadder v HM Advocate*. His report into criminal law and practice was published in November 2011.

### Group Captain Jim Leggat MA MBA CMgr FCSI FSyl MBCS RAFR Air Force Board HM Commissioner

From 1983 to 2012, Gp Capt Jim Leggat was in regular RAF service. As a junior officer and Sqd Ldr, he served in police and security appointments in Germany, the UK, Northern Ireland and the Falkland Islands. As a Wg Cdr and Gp Capt, he served in ICT, information security and Air Plans staff appointments. His latter roles included heading a specialist team which advised Chief of Materiel (Air) (Air Force Board member) on financial management and programming issues across his annual equipment support budget of £1.1 BN. In 2007, he became Regional Head of MOD Information Systems & Services where his responsibilities included project management, customer management and service assurance for all ICT services across 700 MOD sites in Scotland, Northern Ireland, North Wales and North West, Mid and East England.

Gp Capt Leggat has commanded at Flt, Sqd and independent unit level and operated in several joint appointments. From 1999 to 2000, he attended the Advanced Command and Staff Course during which time he obtained an MA in Defence Studies from King's College, University of London. He also has an MBA (with Distinction) from Edinburgh Napier University and is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute, a Fellow of the Security Institute, and a Member of the British Computer Society.

In September 2011, he was appointed the Air Force Board HM Commissioner. His hobbies (time permitting) include golf, military and aviation history, and Visiting Tutor to Edinburgh Napier University Business School. He is married to Penny, a former Captain in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, who has specialised in health, social welfare and skills development. He has two sons and lives in Fife.

In October 2012, Gp Capt Leggat left the regular RAF to assume the post of Regional Commandant of the Air Cadets in Scotland & Northern Ireland as a Full Time Reserve Service Officer. He commands some 3,000 ATC cadets and 1,000 adult volunteers that operate in 110 units. For Gp Capt Leggat, he has come 'full circle' and back to the organisation that helped shape him and instilled his passion in aviation and the RAF.

### Rear Admiral Roger Lockwood CB

After graduating from the University of Warwick in 1971 with a degree in Pure Mathematics, Roger Lockwood joined the Royal Navy as

a Direct Graduate entrant and served for 34 years. He served in a number of ships ranging from a minesweeper in Scottish waters to the aircraft carrier ARK ROYAL. A number of appointments in the Ministry of Defence included being ADC to the Chief of the Defence Staff (during the Falklands War) and Private Secretary to the First and Second Sea Lords. He commanded the Navy's New Entry Training Establishment, HMS RALEIGH, as a Commodore and, as a Rear Admiral, he was first Chief of Staff to the Second Sea Lord and then Senior Naval Member at the Royal College of Defence Studies. He was appointed CB in 2005.

Since 2006 he has been the Chief Executive of the Northern Lighthouse Board, responsible for the provision of maritime Aids to Navigation around the coasts of Scotland and the Isle of Man. He is a High Constable of the Port of Leith and the Convenor of the Forth Pilots' Disciplinary Committee.

Roger and his wife, Susie, have five children and live, with the three younger ones, in Dunblane, very close to the School.

### John Cummings

John Cummings taught at The Glasgow Academy, Tonbridge School, Melbourne Grammar School, Australia, and Wycliffe College. His last two posts were as Head of Keil School, Dumbarton, and as the first civilian Head of the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover.

Since returning to Scotland he is a Chair of the Education and Care Committee of The New School, Butterstone, Chair of the Crieff and Strathearn Drovers' Tryst Walking Festival, a committee member of FOIL (Friends of Innerpefferay Library) and of Crieff Drama Group. His interests include hillwalking, cycling, tennis, golf, writing and playing the saxophone (badly).

### Linda Hepburn

Linda Hepburn was a partner in a Glasgow city centre firm of solicitors specialising in Wills, Trusts and Executries. She was Staff Partner and a member of the Executive committee of her firm. Linda was also a Diploma Tutor in Wills Trusts and Executries at Glasgow University and then at the Glasgow Graduate School of Law from 1994 to 2006. She is also a former member of STEP (Society of Trust and Executry Practitioners). Linda retired in September 2009.

Linda has been a HM Commissioner for nearly three years, is Link Commissioner for Wavell House and is on the Trustees Management Committee. She is a volunteer with Ayrshire Hospice and has also been involved with fund raising for the Hospice from time to time.

Linda's late husband and her two grown up sons have a long association with sailing both on and off the water. Her younger son was a keen dinghy sailor competing both nationally and internationally which involved Linda and her husband travelling with him to various events, both home and abroad.

Retirement has given Linda the time and opportunity to undertake more travelling and to develop a range of interests such as long distance walking and singing. She also enjoys reading and music.

### Kathryn Forsyth

Kathryn Forsyth was appointed to Service Children's Education as a Senior Inspector Adviser in September 2000. After four years she was appointed as the Director of Education Services with responsibility for SCE Schools and Services worldwide.

Previously Kathryn was the Director of an Inspection Agency which

was part of the Education Development Unit (EDU) at St Martin's College in Ambleside, Cumbria. This role involved bidding for contracts for OfSTED Inspections, leading school inspections and managing the training and development of a team of 35 OfSTED Inspectors (primary and secondary).

Prior to this post, and for the period 1993-1997, she was an Educational Consultant in the EDU with responsibility for; leading and managing school improvement projects in Birmingham, Brent, Enfield, Manchester and North Tyneside; all leadership and management projects (LEA and college based); and international school support in Hong Kong and Dubai. She was also deployed as a Consultant Headteacher to schools which were judged by OfSTED to be failing. All of these schools were removed from the formal category within three terms.

During her time at the EDU she was a member of three educational research teams commissioned to look at the impact of the new technologies on teaching and learning. She has published a number of papers on the subject.

Before moving to the EDU Kathryn had experience of headships in Sunderland. One school was judged to be an outstanding school and the other was identified as a centre of excellence for pupil centred learning and assessment for learning.

Kathryn assumed the appointment of (Acting) Chief Executive Officer of Service Children's Education (a Ministry of Defence Agency) with effect 1 September 2012 until 31 August 2013. With effect 1 September 2013 Kathryn reverted to her role as SCE's Director of Education and relocated to Upavon office in the UK.

Kathryn is passionate about the role of education in improving the life chances for pupils and on a personal level her interests include walking, skiing and reading.

### Colin Ross

Colin Ross is an architect. After studying at Edinburgh University, he entered private practice, retiring as chairman of a leading Scottish practice in 2009. His architectural experience includes preparing published guidance on the design of accommodation for the Classroom Subjects, while on secondment to the Scottish Development Department, and the preparation and implementation of master plans for state and independent schools. His experience of working for MOD on the rehabilitation of Fort George, which is both a barracks and an Ancient Monument, has helped him appreciate the bureaucratic context at QVS. His career preoccupation has, however, been the performing arts where his projects include the Festival Theatre and the renewal of the Usher Hall in Edinburgh and the recently completed Beacon Arts Centre in Greenock.

For much of his working life, Colin has involved himself in architectural education, beginning as design tutor at Edinburgh University and continuing with lecturing on professional practice and involvement in the final examination for architects entering the profession, where he examined and was Convenor of the Examination Committee.

Colin now lives with his wife in north Perthshire from where the East Coast train service from Pitlochry transports him regularly to London to visit his three children and five grandchildren. Scottish weather permitting, he is an enthusiastic but moderately skilled gardener and golfer.



# The Norman MacLeod MacNeil Trust Fund

## Trust Fund Awards – 2012/2013

The NMMTF was set up by Jack Mainwaring MacNeil, in memory of his father **Norman MacLeod MacNeil** [1898 - 1952] who was boy drummer pupil at Queen Victoria School from December 1909 leaving in July 1912. Norman, the youngest son of Sergeant Major James MacNeil of the Cameron Highlanders, joined QVS as a pupil in 1909. Departing for Canada in 1912, at the age of 14, he worked in various logging mills before responding to the 1914 WWI call up joining the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, located in Vancouver. At the young age of 17 he was on the front lines seeing action at Vimy and the Somme. Norman's son Jack kept in regular touch with the School and was always keen to hear about activities which the Trust Fund had supported. Sadly, Jack himself passed away in November 2011.

The purpose of the Trust is to develop the qualities of leadership, self-confidence and self-esteem in selected pupils of the School by awarding grants to enable them to participate in physically demanding or cultural activities as decided by the Trustees. In 2012, the NMMTF provided grants totalling more than £2,000 to support the following activities:

### French Trip

Cameron Arnott	Demi Gallagher	Hannah Pill
Megan Wood	Charlotte Barron	Jenna Galloway
Stephanie Searby	Caitlin Yool	Rhys Clark
Shannon Hutchinson	Hannah Sloan	Devon Cox
Rebecca Johnson	Jennifer Sorbie	Robina Ferguson
Mairi Lawson	Leah Tytek	Eilidh Firth
Megan McColl	Caitlin Willis	

### Static Line Jump Course

C Carr	A MacFarlane	A Watson
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**Remember**, The NMMTF is there to be used – give it some thought and if you want to know more, speak to a member of your House Team or check out the QVS website ([www.qvs.org.uk](http://www.qvs.org.uk)).

When you are preparing your application please bear in mind that the Trustees pay particular attention to supporting details provided with applications. This significantly helps the decision making process and the more detail provided in support of the application, the better. The Trustees are also keen to ensure that any grants fit well within the overall purpose of the Fund, which is to support pupils who wish to

advance their **education, leadership, self-esteem, help broaden horizons and generally develop wider skills**. The Trustees are also very keen to keep up with activities that the Trust Fund helps to support and will ask you to submit a short written report of the activity, once you have completed it, outlining the benefits you have gained.

The annual deadline for submission of applications is the close of the calendar year and if you have a particularly ambitious project in mind, it is worth starting to plan early and seek advice.

*Susan J Rutledge, HRBP/Assistant Business Manager*

### Extract from Pupil's Report on the Paris Trip supported by a NMMTF Award

Fund raising activities included: car-washing, baking and selling our cakes at The Dunblane Centre, running a weekly 'French Fancies' Smoothie Bar, running a tuck shop at the Junior disco, selling croissants on European Languages Day, holding a raffle (with donations from our staff) and setting up a pampering massage salon, with the help of one of the 'Mums'.

*Everyone speaking French – silly, but true – it is very strange to hear!  
Market stalls!*

*Huge beautiful dogs on the Champs Elysées!*

*The Métro: scary people, no personal space, getting a coat stuck in the door, the escalators, watching people jump the barriers!*

*The eternal flame at the Arc de Triomphe – so poignant!*

*Having photos taken with the Old Soldiers!*

*The fountain at Concorde with its rose petals!*

*Watching a Japanese man reading his book backwards!*

*Trying new tastes: very sweet sponge cakes with salmon!*

*Graffiti on the walls*

*Taxis driven by cyclists!*

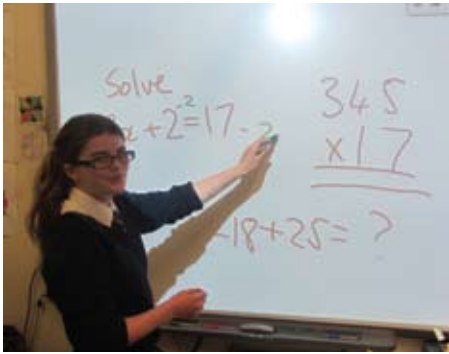
*'Brave' is 'Rebelle' in French!*

*The smells!*

*Some very polite well-mannered people and some very rude!*

Yes, even after just a few hours, we realised this was very different from home!





Interactive whiteboards are a great learning tool.



The library is used for a variety of learning experiences.



Senior students use collaborative learning to good effect.

## From the Senior Deputy Head

Here at Queen Victoria School we manage to achieve some of the best academic results in Scotland but are always looking for ways to improve. Notable achievements in the last academic year included Tamara Wilton gaining an A in Advanced Higher Maths in S5. Tamara was one of only a handful of students across the whole of Scotland to gain this award a year early. Alanna Macfarlane also gained an A in Advanced Higher music a year early, underlining her status as a top-class musician. The following students gained at least five Highers after S5: Veeransh Bohra, Oliver Mitchell, Cory McGown, Alanna Macfarlane, William Lynch, Emily Gurung, Scott Calder and Jordan Clark. For the first time in a few years, the boys outperformed the girls.

A number of initiatives have been started in the last year, all designed to drive up attainment levels and ensure that all students meet their potential and have a great start to life when they leave school.

S5 students have benefited from Assertive Mentoring, Study Support, Supervised Prep and Study Skills talks from in-house staff. S5 tutors took on the role of being Assertive Mentors, helping their tutees set targets and ensuring that they stuck to them. Feedback has been very positive from staff and students – here are some examples of the comments which were returned.

### Student comments:

"It is wonderful. I am feeling much more confident about my Highers thanks to it."

"I have a wider view on what I can achieve and I feel more confident about succeeding."

"It has helped me overcome issues in my classes"

### Staff comments:

"I'm benefiting from increased engagement with the students and taking active steps to improve their learning in all subjects."

"It has really improved my relationship with each of my tutees."

Lots of teaching staff also gave up their own time to provide a more formal timetable of study support for the students, running extra classes at lunchtimes, after school and during prep. On behalf of the

students, I'd like to say a big 'thank you' to all of the staff who provided those extra classes and I'm sure that it will have an impact on attainment levels.

When I announced that our S5 students were to be supervised during prep, you probably heard their moans and groans for miles around. However, I said to the students to try it for two weeks and then they could open a dialogue with me to try and find the best solution for them. After that two weeks were up, all but one of our S5 students had seen the benefit of being supervised and that both the quality and quantity of their prep had improved. As the year progressed, I made good on my promise to try to find solutions to suit individual needs and several students were able to return to their rooms to do prep there. However, around half of the group stuck with supervised prep and were very positive about its effect.

We've also managed to broaden the curriculum here at QVS. Students are now able to study a greater variety of subjects, including Piping and Drumming, which are now SQA subjects in their own right. We've also introduced Classical Studies, thanks to Mr Bush, and Photography, thanks to Mr Gilhooly. I also registered the school as an official centre for GCSEs so we can offer some qualifications for hobbies, such as Astronomy, run by Mr Davey. In the future, I'd like to offer the students qualifications for the things they already successfully complete here – Duke of Edinburgh, CCF and Volunteering. Alongside Piping and Drumming, students will also be able to gain an SQA award in Dancing. We are also able to offer many subjects at Advanced Higher level, including Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Product Design, History, Computing and German. We've forged strong links with the local high school too; some of our students are studying Advanced Highers in French, Biology and English at Dunblane High.

With Assertive Mentoring being extended to all S3-S5 students next year and an increased level of Tracking and Monitoring of performance taking place, I hope you can see that we take the academic development of our children very seriously. QVS students have a bright future ahead and you can be assured that they will be getting the best of starts whilst here in our care.

*Donald Shaw, Senior and Academic Deputy Head*



*Cunningham House.*

## Cunningham House

As a Housemaster I am privileged to experience a number of unique cycles in a boy's life. One of these cycles is now upon me with this years S6. Possibly frightening for me is that the boys who will be leaving this year were my first year group to complete their time at the school under my QVS Housemastership. As I said to them over five years ago when we met, this was the start of their journey and development of going from young boys to adult men. I also said to the parents that I would be looking for trends – hopefully upwards! and not just the ups and downs that all 'testosterone' boys will go through in their teenage years. To the boys I liken it to a snakes and ladders board where the aim is to move from the start at the bottom and try to reach the top. On the way the boys will experience both the 'ladders' – improved confidence, better self-esteem, academic achievement, self-worth, resilience, being picked for school teams, having a prefectship placed on their shoulders, the development of lifelong friendships and caring tutors to mention a few. These will speed their journey on upwards. On the flip side the 'snakes' will temporarily impede their journey; 'gnomegate', 'smurfgate', 'WDKgate' and 'partygate' to mention a few! These though are all experiences that make the journey not only exciting but necessary for the 'wisdom' and emotional intelligence to develop and for personalities to grow. To quote a Master

*"You cannot have Wisdom without Experience, and you cannot have Experience without making Mistakes"*

*Master Splinter – Mutant Ninja Turtles*

The pictures facing tell the success story and in only five years they have grown from young boys into confident, assured and proud young men – they have reached the top of the board.

I must put on record the guidance, help and wise encouragement from their tutor Mr Stacey. I am confident, possibly not now, but in the future, that the boys will realise that they may never ever again have a mentor, teacher or role model to guide them in how they should behave, think and empathise with the wider world. They must thank him when the time is due.

Parents, you should be proud of your sons. They have grown into mature, well balanced, resilient and assured young men who will add to the communities, worlds and organisations they visit.

Many thanks for the privilege boys.

### House 'News'

Last year the House was repainted and carpeted and this year we have had a total refurbishment of bedroom furniture. It is lighter, brighter and gives more space to the boys. The new internal wall in the large common room has created a homely senior lounge area with all the electronic mod cons you can wish for and the Junior common room has a new table football and dining area. The big excitement is the final switch to the wireless network and iPads in the House and school. Personally I feel this will improve communication between boys and parents through Facetime, Skype and Emails, help to instil in the boys more independent learning and as a House it will improve our efficiency as a team.

May I also take this opportunity to thank the House Team who bring balance, experience and help to all the boys in the House. I personally feel we have one of the strongest pastoral teams at the school and it shows in how the boys are encouraged, treated and in the way they develop. I always go through the social calendar and tutor outings that have taken place over the year and it always makes me exhausted reading it. However what it does is produce an atmosphere of achievement and opportunity that the boys can experience and allows them to progress in their personal growth.

Finally for all the boys new and old – strive to do your best in all you do, but also realise you need to experience all that is on offer so as you can gain the wisdom to succeed before you leave the House.

*Mike Eastham, Cunningham Housemaster*





*Haig House.*

## Haig House

It seems only yesterday that I was writing the report for the last Victorian. Haig house has seen a number of changes over the last year since those words were written. We have welcomed Ron Boyd as Assistant Housemaster and also Carol Dunn as our new Matron. Both have made a huge impact on the boys in the house already and I would like to thank them immensely for their hard work and positive attitudes. This is also a great time to thank the rest of the house team for their hard work throughout the year. Without them, the house would not be able to function. A special mention must go to Carmen O'Neill our housekeeper, who has also doubled as a tutor and as a stand in matron whilst we were waiting for Carol to start. It is that flexibility and versatility that makes her such a valuable part of Haig House.

Now to the pupils, which is the reason we are all at QVS. They are what make the house so special. Whilst they are not always perfectly behaved, I feel that we have a great bunch of boys in the house. I could mention the water fights, the fermentation project, the broken windows, the obsession with Stig, the sink, slender man in the woods and the pizza in the microwave incident however, that would detract from what a good year it has been. Our sixth years had big shoes to fill taking over from the last cohort however they have grown into their roles very well. They have developed into young adults and I am sure they will leave this school as confident young men. As a housemaster, there is an immense sense of pride seeing the seniors readying

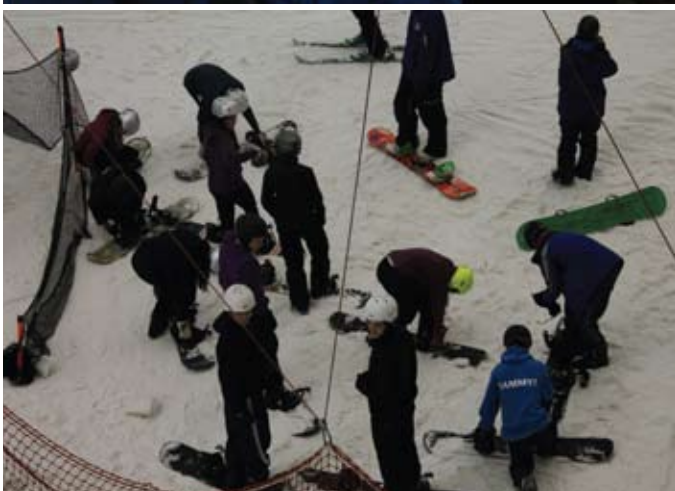
themselves for life outside of QVS. All of the staff in Haig wish you the very best for the next part of your journey.

Towards the tail end of last year, we were fortunate enough to have the house fully decorated. This year, following that up, we have had all of our furniture replaced so the boys now have brand new rooms. The aim has been to create a more homely environment for the pupils which has worked well. There has been the purchase of two new giant TVs for the office and common room, along with various soft furnishings including beanbags which have proved to be very popular. As a house, we are constantly trying to improve and this year has gone some way to bringing us up to the standard of other more modern boarding schools. From next year, Haig will have a specific programme of events in place, which will lead to each year group in the house having two social events each term. Along with this, we have a house trip planned for the Scotland v France six nations match amongst other things. The social calendar should be with you all over the summer.

As we look forward to Grand Day and the Haig House end of year BBQ, I would like to thank you all again. Have a restful summer, recharge the batteries and I look forward to seeing you in August.

*Niall Lear, Haig Housemaster*







*Trenchard House.*

## Trenchard House

Our first priority, as always, is to settle our new students into boarding school life. This includes showing them the route to Tesco's on the first weekend, including pictures by the golden post box. The first drill session is always an exciting lesson for the P7s. They all look very serious lined up outside Trenchard House. Chloe, Brooke, Evie Charlotte and Aimee look more relaxed on the first Sunday chapel in their red tunics, pictured opposite.

Fundraising has been an important part of Trenchard House this year. Several S1 girls organised a very successful MacMillan Coffee morning, seen here selling in Central Hall. As well as taking part in the school 'wear a hat' charity (Logan and Jason) the house held a Family Day raising more money for charity. Trenchard House have raised over £1000 for good causes this year.

Our house events included one for Halloween, with the P7s being shown the ghostly history of QVS by the senior pupils followed by a BBQ and traditional games, run by the S1 girls. Here Alex and Charlotte tuck into hot dogs, Craig and David prepare to charge and Niamh B blows up a storm in malteezer football.

We ended our first term with an inter dorm carol competition and Christmas raffle. Each of the seniors spent hours, well at least an hour, whipping their dorm into singing harmonious Christmas songs, as well as dressing them in appropriate outfits and teaching them accompanying dances. Everybody won a prize in the raffle. Some

prizes were more highly regarded than others. Niamh Cox wasn't too sure about her raffle prize and Henry just looked confused by the whole event!

The new year saw us heading into Glasgow for a visit to the Panto. Oh Yes We Did!

We had front row seats so that we were right on the action. However this did mean that we were in line for some of the gags and Matron and Miss Edwards were told off for talking.

There were, of course, lots of parades throughout the year, and lots of rain to go with them. The children carried on regardless, with the P7s watching until it was time for their rookie parade. Here we see the P7 rookies advancing and saluting before throwing their glengarries in the air at the end of the parade. A proud moment for parents and students.

I would like to extend my thanks to all the house staff who have tirelessly contributed to making Trenchard the happy, successful house that it has been this year and helping me to settle in to my new post. Good luck to all those who are moving on, whether it is to a senior house or the big outside world.

*Paul Bush, Trenchard Housemaster*







*Wavell House.*

## Wavell House

As I come to the end of my first full year at Wavell I can only reflect on what an absolute pleasure it has been taking over as Housemistress of our busy and bubbly boarding house.

This year started with a bang when our school was chosen to perform at the 2012 Edinburgh Tattoo. Day after day our students performed to an exceptionally high standard, returning back late to start another day. As soon as this finished our girls were plunged into a busy schedule of work, exams and a huge number of social activities. Trips were organised to a variety of venues, including the Glasgow Fort, Falkirk Laser Quest, Edinburgh Christmas markets, the show Chicago in Glasgow and some of our girls also went skiing and to Paris this year. There were tutor trip meals out to Nandos, Frankie and Benny's, the India Gate, the Filling Station, Jimmy Chungs and even to the homes of Mrs Morea and Mrs Adams!

Our girls enjoyed a variety of house and whole school social events, thanks to the hard work and dedication of an army of Wavell tutors and staff. Our Wavell Christmas party, organised by Miss Laird was an outstanding success and this was followed by the fabulous Wavell Talent Show and Winter formal, both organised by Miss Adams. The Spring Fling and Wavell Summer party came next and the year ended for the seniors with the 2013 Queen Victoria School Prom, an amazing and glamorous extravaganza!

This year we brought design chic to Wavell through the purchase of new furniture and furnishings, all chosen by our S6 girls. We also welcomed a Wavell house dog 'Bertie' into our Wavell family, full of enthusiasm and energy, although lacking a certain amount of training thus far!

As the year draws to a close it brings further change to Wavell. Our S6 girls, who have brought so much to the house over many years will be leaving us for university and college elsewhere. They will be greatly missed and I know that our senior team of Rachel Stewart (Head of House), Emily Gurung and Megan Vevers (Deputy Heads of

House) and Kelsey Swan (Deputy Senior Monitor) have set an extremely high standard for others to follow. The new S2 pupils joining Wavell next year have been given a superb induction evening by Miss Laird and Mrs Morea and we look forward very much to their joining us soon.

Our Deputy Housemistress, Miss McIlkenny will also be stepping down at the end of this year and will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike. During her time as Deputy Housemistress of Wavell Miss McIlkenny's kind and caring approach and her energy and bubbly nature have brought us all a huge amount of fun! Fortunately Miss McIlkenny will still remain part of the Wavell family and will stay on as a tutor within our house. Next year we welcome Mrs Hiddleston as the new Deputy Housemistress of Wavell. Mrs Hiddleston brings with her 12 years experience at Queen Victoria School. She knows parents and pupils extremely well and has already brought a huge amount to the house. We look forward very much to her joining us as Deputy Housemistress soon.

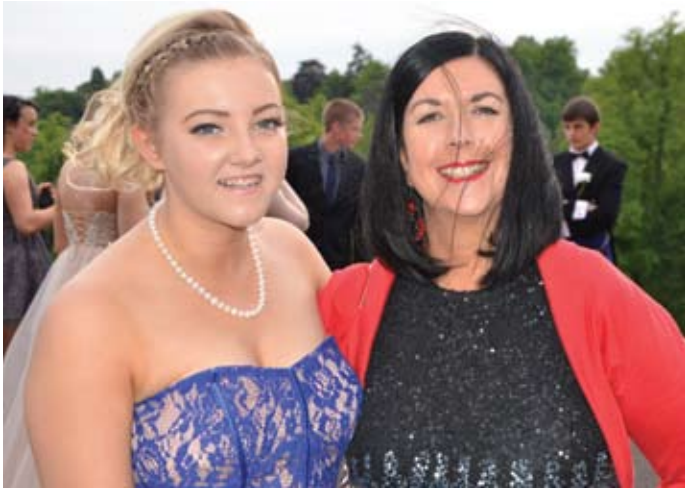
Finally, as the year draws to a close I would like to thank all of the staff and pupils of Wavell. You all contribute so much to our house and make it the wonderful, happy home we all love so much. I must also thank all of the Wavell parents who have supported us in our various events this year and have made the house so special.

It has been a truly wonderful, full and fun packed year!

*Rebecca Appleyard, Housemistress of Wavell*

This year in Wavell House has been fun-filled and exciting and on behalf of sixth years, we would like to thank all the staff for making our last year at school so worthwhile. Everyone was sad to see our Wavell House committed gap students, Hannah and Grace leave, but at the same time happy to welcome our new gap students, Harriet and Annie. However, two became one and before we knew it, it was







farewell Annie. Now Harriet has been left to handle 86 girls on her own!

Wavell is known for its crazy house parties and as usual, our winter term consisted of the Wavell House Christmas Party. With the great organisation from Miss Laird the party was a great success. Miss Laird's imaginative games brought plenty of amusement, watching everyone wave pieces of paper shaped like snowmen across the floor with newspaper was only the beginning. It also brought out the competitive sides within the house \*cough cough\* Miss Laird we know you really wanted to win Horses, Knights and Carriages. Within the winter term we also had the traditional Wavell Talent Show, this year filled with a wide variety of acts. This event always brings out Wavell's wild side, for those who don't see enough of it in the house. Some acts really stood out from the others for example Kirsten's humorous Fat Nanny comedy act and our wannabe Wavellite Cathan Clark with his first ever live performance of the ukulele!

Miss McIlkenny's efforts to arrange trips out have resulted in great enjoyment for example the 'Chicago' Trip. During the summer holidays a few pupils from the French class got the opportunity to relive their childhood at Disneyland Paris, overcome their fear of heights at the Eiffel Tower and experience the 'loving' French culture. Miss McIlkenny's French hobby was also a huge success this year, where they got chocolate wasted on crepes and pain au chocolat! The Les Mis fans got to watch the movie as soon as it came out, and some even got a bit teary!

Also during the summer, the Band, Dancers and Colour Party got one of the biggest experiences of a lifetime – the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. All the early rises for the band and the unlimited annoyance of not being able to stay in a straight line for the dancers paid off and we managed to put on a great show. Having to combine our set with an Australian school allowed us to make new friends and our school also managed to create a fan base for the Norwegians and the

'famous' Top Secret Drum Core, which led to getting freebies at the end!

All in all, we would like to thank our fantastic tutor Mrs Adams for making sixth year as exciting and interesting as possible. Thank you for welcoming us with open arms to your house, many times, and keeping us entertained with your humour! Also thanks for introducing us to the wonder which is of course Millionaire Matchmaker. Finally, we would like to thank Miss Appleyard for putting up with our craziness and creating such a lively atmosphere with her enthusiastic ways! You have been tremendous this year and have done an awesome job of taking over the role of Housemistress.

*Rachel Stewart, Head of House and Emily Gurung, Deputy Head of House*

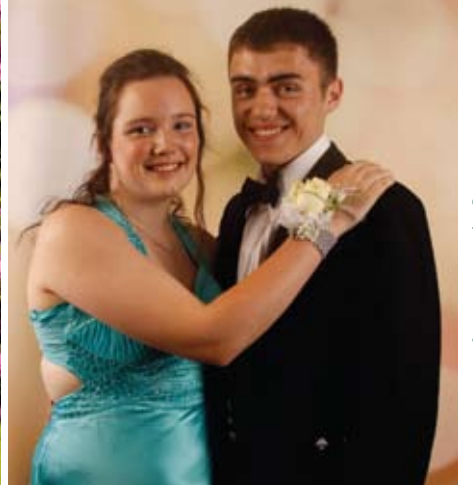
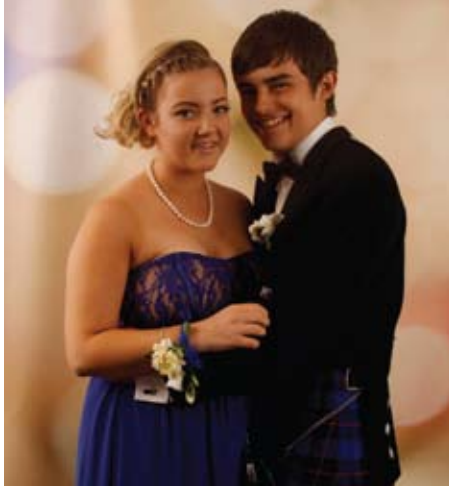
Edinburgh Tattoo. It only comes once every four years for people in the band and dancers at school. To be playing to thousands of people every night for a month is something you have to experience to believe. Also it is really hard to see yourself on television!

I think I can safely say we all had the best summer, yes some rehearsals were tough or boring, but all in all the tattoo was loads of fun. What can I say about our Aussie counterparts? In case you didn't know, we had an Aussie band, Scot's College, join us in our set and played with us in the massed bands as well. We all got on really well with them and had great banter (and a lot of attempts at Australian accents...) We were definitely sad to see them go.

I would like to wish everyone doing the next tattoos the best of luck. At Christmas the band are going to Basel and also returning to Basel the following summer!

*Kelsey Swan, Deputy Senior Monitor*

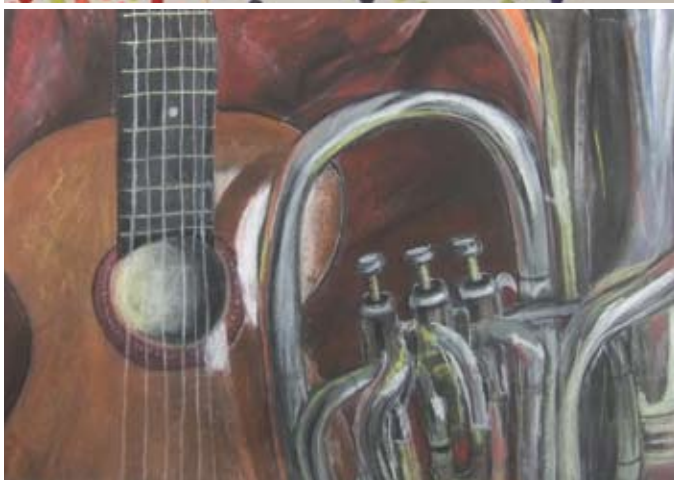
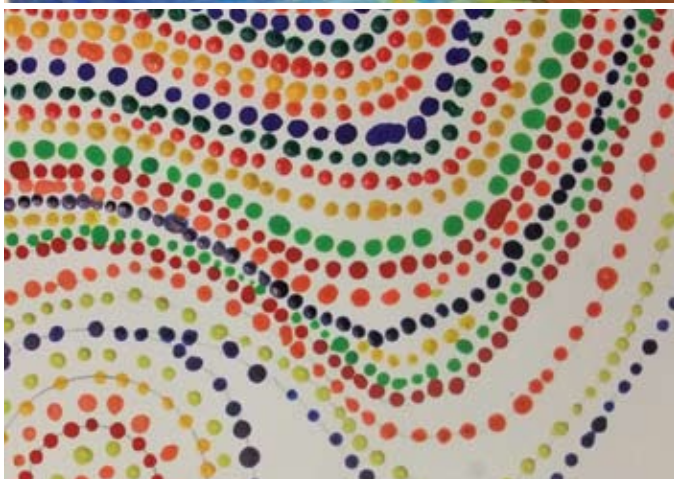
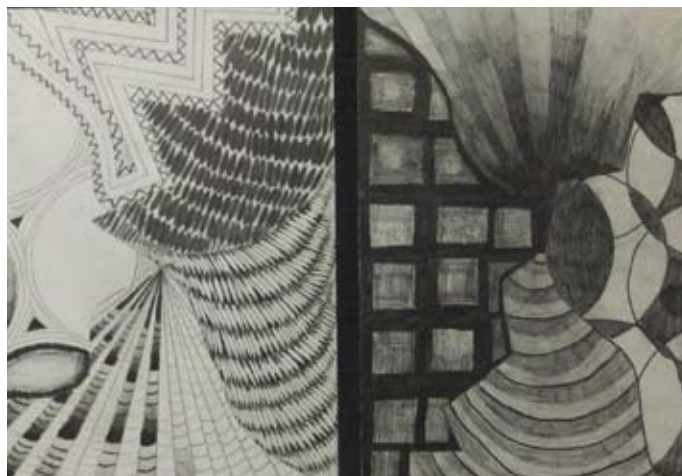






Photographs courtesy of White Box.





Clockwise from top left: Cameron Smith S2; Campbell Morrison S1; Demi Gallacher S5; Katie Searby S2; Shona McAuslane S6; Lora Marshall S2; Jasmine Worrall S5; Conor Willis S2.



1st XV Rugby.

# Rugby

## 1st XV Rugby

It was a more difficult start to this season as the school was committed to playing at the Edinburgh Tattoo and as a result we were unable to run pre-season. Pre-season is a particularly important aspect of the rugby year as the players are put through their paces and a lot of the fundamental skills are revised and reemphasised. It is also a time when the team spirit is built and players form the right attitude that is then taken on into the season. Without this time we always seemed to be on catch up and took a while to get into our stride. We were also forced to play all of our matches away between August and October as the drainage was being improved. However it was work that badly needed doing and the teams and coaches bit the bullet and prepared themselves for early starts and long journeys for several weeks ahead. The one thought of the QVS fried breakfast, better than most 5 star hotels, kept us all going!

Our first match was against Morrisons Academy and the team, although rusty, managed to squeeze a win of 17 points to 15 with Jordan Rae doing most of the damage with two tries scored on a hard hitting line from full back. We defended well in this game but often turned good quality ball (TQB) into missed chances due to pressure and lack of focus. However a win is a win and something that was going to elude us in the following weeks.

The next week we travelled down to Wellington, (coaches all replete from the aforementioned early morning feast) and we faced a formidable opposition. Wellington have always got streetwise players that know how to slow a game down when it suits them and also have usually got one or two hard hitting backs. It was no different this year and the team were on the back foot for the majority of the first half. However, after an inspiring, motivational half time talk from yours truly, the forwards knew that the game rested in their hands. We needed to secure our own ball at the break down and not hang

around to let the Wellie boys get their hands on the ball. We upped the tempo and we were soon back in the game. However it was too little too late and we lost 34-32 even though Mitchell and Marshall scored two well-deserved tries each and the 'Beast they call Bark' went over for his first 1st XV try, a memorable occasion indeed.

Next it was up to Strathallan and each year I speak to my good friend Mr Henderson to reiterate that it is a 2nd XV fixture for them. The team were confident and although a little quiet at the beginning of the game, managed to put Strath under pressure on numerous occasions. It was after half time, when we had had possession for a while and were looking threatening, when the touch judge stripped off his tracksuit and ran on to the pitch. At this point I thought our only hope was to find a small boy called David with a sling shot. It changed the nature of the game and although the players defended bravely, it all proved too much and we went down 34-26. Tries were scored by Farquhar, King, Mitchell and Rae, the latter of whom we needed to check to make sure he was on the return bus and hadn't been snaffled by Strath.

We were then off to Madras, having put on several more pounds after another fry up, although still much appreciated, to a very different set up at Madras. Madras has gone the way of several other schools and now play their rugby through the club set up. Although I fully understand the reasons why this has happened, it is a very different experience that we now have. However I was determined not to suffer the same fate as last year ... when I was locked in the referee's toilet for over half an hour while the bus waited. It is always enjoyable to play on the Madras pitches as they suit our style of rugby as it is a fast surface. We were up against a strong side and the forwards did a great job of allowing TQB for the backs. We ran good lines but often spilled the ball or kicked at the wrong time whilst under pressure and we never really looked like we were going to win the game and in fact





*1st Year Rugby.*

we didn't, we lost 29-17, the third game in a row that was in our grasp.

We knew our next game was going to be tough as we had to travel all the way down to Troon to face Marr. Now I'm not sure what they feed these boys but our own GAP students wouldn't look out of place playing alongside some of these players. I'll just say this was game that we'll put down to experience and move on. We lost 38-8.

At last our victory came from a game against Hutchesons Grammar School 2nd XV. The coaches were happy as not only had we had the fry up Hutchy always have scotch pies and Bovril. (Mr Lear has put in for a transfer). Playing on a huge pitch gave us the space to attack down the sides and the speed of Rae and McLoughlin, well Rae anyway, meant that they were unstoppable, both scoring well deserved tries. Calder was back from injury and ready for a catharsis. He dominated the break down which put the opposition under intense pressure and both Mitchell and Marshall made powerful breaks through the middle and around the sides. At last, a well deserved victory, the score being 17-10 at close of play.

Our next school match was after the Christmas break, with poor weather, frozen pitches and an outbreak of cellulitis to blame. We knew Kelvinside were strong and they proved us right. Their backs were formidable and due to our players not making first time tackles, they were able to score try after try, not a good start to the second half of the season. 56-5 was the end score. (Give or take a few) Unfortunately it was the first game the new GAPS had witnessed and only Muir was impressed!

Our last match of the season was against St Columbas and proved to be a real test of our determination and team spirit. We are always well matched and this year was no different. The weather conditions were atrocious and as the players got colder and colder more handling errors became evident. Bohora, Bedwell and Carr worked hard to pressurise the rucks and Calder once again turned up all over the pitch to tackle, hassle and generally intimidate the opposition. It came down to the dying minutes with only two points separating us.

However with resolve and determination to succeed, we managed to secure the win at the end.

In all it has, once again, been a thoroughly enjoyable season, despite losing many games to the conditions. We will lose many of the team and to, Veeransh, Jake, Scott, Garry, Cammy, Connor, Will, Calum, Fraser, Ollie, Darren and Finn, we wish you all the best in what you go on to be. Thank you to Ollie and Will for leading the team this year and also for keeping the school amused on a Monday morning with the tales from the weekend. Remember boys TQB!

Last but not least a huge thank you to all the staff involved in providing these worthwhile experiences for the pupils, the coaches, the catering staff, the supporters and of course Mr Stacey for organising the transport!

*Duncan McLay, Principal Teacher of PE*

After our years in the 1st XV, our time has finally come to an end. However, the standards in rugby at QV have been very high throughout our time. Not only as we have found ourselves coming up against much bigger, better-known rugby teams and managing to punch well above our weight on a regular basis and securing many wins. This is all we could have hoped for as the 2012-2013 captains.

This year through hard work and dedication we managed to make it to the National Regional Plate and faced Linlithgow. They were worthy opposition and played the muddy, wet conditions better than us. As a result they beat us fair and square and progressed onto the National Plate knock out competition. However in the Central Regional cup competition, it felt great winning 50-0 in our derby against Dunblane High, which just so happened to put us into the final.

We started off the season with great impact which was evident through our solid first term of rugby. This was made possible through the team's enthusiasms, which created a great team spirit and a want to win. Our tries often came from well worked team play – taking into

account evasion and Mr McLay's personal favourite motto 'TQB'. Our ability to attack effectively when on the ball was complimented by our defence off the ball.

The team worked hard throughout the season, and as a result we won many of our games.

Starting from the front three, Veeransh, Jay and Jake never let us down when it came to the scrums often facing (literally face to face) oversized creatures. The second row was varied between Garry, Darryn and Ben however they still put in a shift week in week out. To finish off the forward pack mentions must go to the back three Olly, Scott and Tom. Outstanding tackling and support was demonstrated by all three throughout the season – a great return from injury seen from Scott Calder. To the number nine, Finnian, he came on a tremendous amount - especially with his passing. Fly half was played by Fraser (with the almost perfect pass) who was the only one to play every minute of the season and also the only 100% kicking record (one from one). Inside centre was played by Will, with successful line breaks throughout the season and consistent tackling, not to mention the perfect kicks! Outside centre was played by Calum who had great runs throughout the whole season. Fullback was played by Connor Dickson - cracking scrum cap! The wingers were Cammy, Connor Farquhar and Charlie who all put in a great effort throughout this year. And finally to our utility man Owen who successfully played one third of the positions in a rugby team.

It wouldn't be right not to mention the last game of our season against St Columbus. At the beginning we couldn't have helped but to have noticed there were a few men in amongst their team – or maybe just extremely oversized sixth year. This made our victory over them a lot more rewarding, especially when taking into account the absolutely Baltic conditions. But, all jokes aside, it was the best effort from the team all season as we managed to take everything we had learned to secure the win.

To finish off we would like to thank our coaches Mr McLay and Mr Adams, who have been the main reason why we have had such a successful season.

*William Lynch and Fraser McLoughlin*

### Under 16's Rugby

This year it took the team a while to get us to gel together and work to the best of our ability. We won our first game against Madras but it was not the best we could have played as a team. There was a clear step up for the younger players moving up to the under 16's but they coped well with this and it did not seem to faze them.

The experienced players such as; Connor Kelly, Callum Hunter, Conor Young and Cameron Arnott were able to keep the team highly motivated throughout the season and we encouraged younger players to do the best they could. Our season consisted of losing by a few points or winning by a lot. Players got frustrated which led to team training days becoming a grudge training match. However towards the end of the season we started to really play well and dominate our matches and this was shown in our match against Dunblane High in the central schools cup where our team were constantly putting points on the board and defending our own try line.

Cameron Arnott's kicks were consistently accurate which led us to narrow victories, however these kicks would not have taken place if it was not for the tries scored and Conor Young scored the most tries

for the team throughout the season, with his fast footwork and his speed.

Thank you to Mr Gilhooly, Mr Lear, James and Nick the gap students for helping and preparing us for the season we have just played. They constantly kept our heads up through every match and were always helping our technique in every training session.

I wish the under 16's well for the upcoming season and hope they play as well, if not better than we played.

*Connor Kelly*

### S1 Rugby

We kick off the season against Madras. It was not a great start with us conceding two tries in the first half due to a lack of defensive structure. We started the second half determined to score tries, with great tackles being made we managed to steal the ball and score in the counter attack. It was a tiring game for both teams but the match was settled at a 2-1 tries defeat. The rest of the season had lots of up and downs due us not being able to take the skills we learned in training into the game. The winter season brought lot of cancelled games however the games we did play were well fought in the frosted conditions leading us to losses and a couple of wins in that season. But there were some players in the team that didn't let the defeats and harsh weather get to them, such as Jason Gurung, our star performer putting in more hits than Halfpenny himself. The season was also well fought by Lloyd Owen breaking through lines countless amounts of times. We all can't wait till the next season ahead and hopefully winning more games and hoping the weather is a bit better. Thank you to Mr Adams, gap students and S6s that have coached and helped us through the year.

*Lloyd Owen and Campbell Morrison*

### S2 Rugby

This year of rugby was a rollercoaster, sometimes we played amazingly and sometimes we got played off the park. Our top try scorer this year was Lewis Young who scored that many we don't remember how much. Roderick Watson was the kicker who scored most of the kicks he took.

We started off the season with an away game at Lomond. The year before we drew against them in a very tough game so we knew they would not be a walkover. In the previous match someone had to be airlifted to hospital so we therefore had to play on a pitch which was in a very bad condition so the ref decided that we would still play but only use half of the pitch. This was not to our advantage as we like to play fast wide running rugby because of our pace. They were a much bigger team and the game was all about forward crash-balls and making sure there was no missed tackles. Roderick Watson managed to find gaps in the Lomond defence twice to score two tries in a 4-2 defeat by Lomond.

This year in training we worked a lot on fitness as we were all lacking it and as we got on in the season we could definitely see improvement. Our highest scoring match was against Jordan Hill, the school our coach Mr Lear used to go to, this made us even more determined to beat them. As soon as the match kicked off we were up in their faces in defence and attack which led to many tries and there was more people on the team that scored than didn't score. We won convincingly 13 tries to 2.



*Clockwise from top left: 2nd Year Rugby; P7 Rugby; 3rd Year Rugby.*

Mr Lear and Mr Bryce also played a big part in our games as they were helping us improve every training session. The one thing that we were missing was desire and trying to keep our heads up and this became noticeable as the season went on even when it was freezing cold (Lennox) but besides that he has put in brilliant performances and he has the best step I have ever seen.

Our best game of the season was surprisingly our last game of the season. After the lack of desire and fitness everything seemed to come together against probably one of the hardest teams we played all year. This game was away at St. Columba's in Glasgow. At the start of the match we gave away two consecutive tries one from drop kicks. We changed our kicks to low grubber kicks along the ground as they were much taller than us. We then hit back with three typical Lewis Young tries, he always has to run the full pitch to score (greedy). We then added a fourth from Jack Cole but unluckily they brought on a player who scored three tries for them to win five to four. Even though all season we lacked desire this last match we gave everything into it. Everyone was doing the jobs forwards, getting into rucks, winning scrums and the backs were passing like pros. Jordan Oatley won the tackle count and there was tackle counts flying in from all the team all over the park. This rounded off a mediocre season, even though we got beat we ended it on a high. Thanks to Mr Lear, Mr Bryce and the gaps.

*Jordan Oatley and Roderick Watson*

### Primary 7 Rugby

At the start of the rugby term only two or three people knew about rugby so our first few games were disasters, literally one person even forgot which side we were trying to score and ran straight to our 22.

After intense up downs, push-ups, tackling drills, passing drills and one on one attacking drills we started getting better and then we were able to win our first match against Hutcheson's Grammar School with a 7-6 score after myself (Josh) Craig, Dylan, Drew and Harry managed to cross the line with outstanding tries.

Mr McLay was quite impressed with our rugby and our communication when passing the ball but I would say we all tried our best in the games which I thought was great, however we still have a lot to learn and I hope we continue to improve next season.

On behalf of the Primary 7 I would like to say thanks to Mr Bush, Mr McLay, Chris, and Muir for all their help, encouragement and teaching.

*Josh King*





1st XI Football.

# Football

## 1st 11 Football

The Football this year has been my best year so far as coach. They started the season brilliantly with a 7-3 victory against Dollar Academy, with every one of the boys shining with their performance. They carried that on with a good victory against St Leonards at home, where one of my up and coming stars James Work wrapped himself round a hockey goal post as he scored the winning goal. The boys then went on to win at Gordonstoun, previous winners of the tournament, drew at Strathallan, lost against Glenalmond on a very bad pitch. They topped the group and went on to play George Heriots in the quarter final losing 2-1 to some dubious decisions by the referee.

I have had five outstanding players this year, and I will be sorry to see them leave. Connor Dickson, Callum Marshall, Ash Price and my captain Ollie Mitchell. These four have played in my teams for three years and have grown into fantastic footballers, the fifth one Veeransh Bohora has been an exceptional squad member for the past three years never complaining and some great performances between the sticks.

There are one or two others who are leaving and I have not forgotten them, they have all played a big part in the football this year and I wish them all well for the future.

The players who are returning next term leave me feeling confident of another good season next year. I have a very good core range of players returning and am looking forward to next season...

*Paul Warner, 1st 11 Football*

This season, there was a new found passion for football. We were able to exploit where our strengths lay and successfully execute these in matches to overcome our opponents. There is some great talent coming through the school, and I hope that the team will keep getting stronger.

We have had a very successful season, winning four, drawing one and losing one. This meant that we finished top of our group with 13 points. We were then placed against George Heriots School from Edinburgh, and despite a great effort from everyone, a goal in the 118th minute led them to a 2-1 victory.

All in all it has been a great season and I would like to thank Mr Warner and Mr Johnston for their help.

*Ollie Mitchell, 1st XI captain 2012-2013*



1st XI Hockey.

## Hockey

### 1st XI Hockey

This season started off with a challenge with the loss of many 1st XI players. We welcomed new players but knew it was still going to be difficult to adapt to these changes. We were unfortunate to begin the season playing Fettes as we were all a bit unfit after the summer holidays and conceded five goals. However, through training and commitment we have seen some victories.

Against St Aloysius we had a good win despite the surface we played on. We started to pull together and play much more as a team, playing well to draw 2-2 draw against Trinity in Edinburgh. We also played a travelling team from Newcastle – The King’s School and were narrowly beaten in a very close game. However, due to bad weather, a lot of our fixtures were unfortunately cancelled.

We were sad to see the departure of both Beths. They were key players and an asset to our team. Beth Stacey was always committed and skilful in midfield and Beth Little was always able to ‘skin’ anyone up front – they made an effective tag team. However, Emily Gurung has managed to fill Beth Little’s role very well.

Last season we saw the arrival of Ray, who stayed with us and coached us for this season as well. I’d like to thank him and his Irish accent for providing more banter to our team – special mention goes to Rachel and Kelsey for their excellent renditions of his accent – “We’re going to play a little game now...”.

Despite our training sessions and matches our year boys were still able to achieve a victory over us due to their speed and golf swings – well done boys. A special mention goes to the S6 leavers – ‘T-Dawg’ (transformer), Megan, Kelsey, Shona, Rach, Abbie and Emily – for all our hard work and commitment over the past seven years. We have

progressed well since P7 but nothing will be as good as our third year team.

On behalf of the team I would like to thank Mrs Scott Laing profusely for her time and patience with us over the duration of our playing careers. A big thank you must go to Alfie, as it could be said that he is the reason behind the lack of ‘hardcore’ fitness and pyramids even if they are ‘character building’. Also, thank you to Miss Low for her time and effort during training to help our team develop over the course of the season.

Good luck to next year’s team.

*Eden Reid, 1st XI Captain*

### 2nd XI Hockey

This season – if you could call it that... Do five games count as a season? – has been eventful. With the many wins and thrashes I don’t know where to begin. The loss of the previous Captain Rachel Stewart and many star players such as Kelsey Swan and Devon Cox whom were removed from us and upgraded to the 1st XI has been hard, but we knew as a team we had to take control and step up our game. With the help of our amazing coach Stingray, Miss Lows half time advice and Mrs Scott Laings banter with Megan Wood which continuously lightened the mood our indoor hockey sessions paid off due to our 5x0 wins although we would prefer not to play 1XI Vs 2XI because to be honest it’s just a little embarrassing Ray. Thank you to all players and staff who took part in this seasons playing and training. Hopefully the weather will be kinder next year to allow the development squad to train into the first XI.

*Dion Robb*



*2nd XI Hockey.*

### S1 Hockey

As we moved into S1 we all found the training and matches much more challenging, intense and advanced. We had to step up a gear in training and set ourselves targets to achieve when doing pyramids; this helped our fitness levels improve throughout the season.

We started the season a little slowly, just finding our feet, but gradually became more confident playing together as a team. We played particularly well against Trinity and managed to soak up the pressure, drawing 0-0. Unfortunately we were unable to convert any of the chances we had. As the season progressed and the Scottish weather prevailed, many of our fixtures were cancelled, so more fitness sessions for us!

We are all looking forward to the start of next season as S2s and hope that we are a little more successful than last year.

We would all like to thank Mrs Scott Laing, Mrs Drever and Miss Low for their hard work coaching and supporting us throughout the season.

*Pabina Thapa*

### P7 Hockey

Before coming to QVS the majority of us had never played hockey before, therefore, it was quite daunting to be starting a new sport with the S1s and S2s who had played for at least a year. However, it didn't take us long to get into the swing of things and we picked up the basic skills pretty fast. The most difficult thing was the fitness required as it is a very demanding activity.

We had a few games in the first half of the season, but lots were cancelled due to the weather. One memorable game was against St Aloysius where we played really well as a team and managed to put up a good fight against the opposition. We started passing the ball much better and were able to hold our positions. It felt like things were clicking into place.

We are all really looking forward to next season as S1s where we will no longer be the "little ones". Hopefully the weather will be a bit

kinder during the winter, as I think some of us were starting to turn blue!

Thanks go to Mrs Drever, Mrs Scott Laing and Miss Low for all of their help and coaching throughout the year.

*P7 Hockey*

### S2 Hockey Report

This year's hockey season has had many ups and downs, with lots of cancellations due to the weather. Throughout the season, the team has improved greatly with many players growing in confidence and showing determination in training and during fixtures.

We got off to a shaky start in our matches losing 0-4 to Mary Erskine's early on in the season; however, this taught us a few valuable lessons and highlighted areas we needed to work on. The work we did was evident in our game against Trinity where we managed to get a 0-0 draw against tough opposition. As the season progressed we started playing much better as a team with our final match being against Morrison's on a freezing Saturday morning in March. A last minute change of goal-keeper was required and Aoife Dillon kindly stepped up, and what a game she had! She really kept us in the game and we even managed to score, giving us a great win and our best game of the season.

Shout outs go to: Joelle Campbell and Cameron Smith – Sweepers Sushmita Gurung, Kirsty-Jane Aimer, Georgia Clark and Emelia Moore – in defence, Anais Scott, Georgia Mowat, Lora Marshall, Freya Collie, Hollie Keenan, Katy Searby – in Midfield and Alicia Smith, Lauren Pedder and Caitlin Adams as Strikers. Aoife Dillon and Imogen Powell-Leonard in Goals and Francesca Cockburn, Kirstin Hughes and Yolande Page for playing wherever they were needed. Thanks go to Mrs Scott Laing for all of her time, effort and patience in coaching us this year.

Next season we hope to continue to improve and we wish the entire S2 hockey team the best of luck in the future.

*Anais Scott and Lora Marshall*



# Athletics

The athletics season has been one of the best we have had for some time. We managed to fulfil all of our fixtures and we also had very few indoor games sessions. As a result all of our pupils managed to work at improving personal bests in all other disciplines on offer. It was obvious how much they all appreciated getting another stab at improving their time at the 1500m. Our fixtures list was full and varied and it was great to see so many of the pupils showing determination and commitment throughout the term and so often winning or bettering their personal bests. We competed against Strathallan, Dollar, Glasgow Accies, Douglas Academy, Morrisons, Wellington and Hutchesons Grammar School, all schools of sizable rolls, and each time we produced full teams of both boys and girls who competed confidently and competently. Notable performances included

### Wellington/Lomond/OVS

#### Girls

1st	Hurdles	A Smith	15.43
1st	200m	L Marshall	31.27
2nd	800m	C Barron	3.06.05
2nd	High Jump	R Wilson	1.30
2nd	Long Jump	L Marshall	3.34
1st	Discus	P Thapa	14.81
2nd	Shot Putt	A Dillon	6.48
2nd	Javelin	J Campbell	16.74
2nd	Javelin	H Sloan	10.60

#### Boys

2nd	Hurdles	A Harvey	13.74
1st	100m	L Young	13.38
2nd	200m	J Dobson	30.24
1st	200m	L Young	26.96

1st	800m	J Oatley	2.43.50
2nd	800m	R Watson	2.50.50
2nd	800m	S Stockman	2.35.06
2nd	High Jump	C Morrison	1.25
2nd	Long Jump	L Owen	3.91
2nd	Long Jump	J Oatley	3.95
1st	Long Jump	K Rowe	5.02
2nd	Long Jump	T Harvey	4.76
1st	Discus	J Work	30.21
2nd	Shot Putt	L Boylan	9.19
2nd	Javelin	A Mathieson	23.03
1st	Javelin	J Work	31.05

### Hutchy/QVS/Glasgow Accies/Wellington/Douglas Academy

#### Girls

2nd	High Jump	E Collins	1.25
1st	Javelin	J Campbell	15.40

#### Boys

2nd	Triple Jump	J Oatley	8.74
2nd	1500m	S Stockman	5.15
2nd	Long Jump	K Rowe	5.26
2nd	Triple Jump	K Rowe	11.21
1st	Discus	J Work	24.94

### Morrisons/QVS/Dollar

#### Girls

2nd	Relay	S2 Girls	61.17
1st	Javelin	J Campbell	16.47
2nd	800m	C Barron	2.55.34



**Boys**

2nd	Long Jump	L Owen	4.44
2nd	Javelin	Beard	21.82
2nd	Shot Putt	Vuatalevu	7.20
2nd	High Jump	A Sweeney	1.45
2nd	Javelin	L Young	29.62
1st	Long Jump	K Rowe	5.43
1st	800m	T Barber	2.22.60
2nd	Relay	S3 Boys	49.26

One of our other main events of the term is the Forth Valley competition. This competition involves boys and girls teams of six from S1-S3 and we compete against 16 other schools from the region. Throughout the day all of the pupils who performed on the track got through to the finals with gaining medals. In the field, again there were many fine performances with the following medals being presented.

As is tradition, we finished the season off with Sports Day. Bannerman, Ormond and Liddell battle it out on the track and in the field to win the coveted shields. We were, once again, blessed with wonderful weather and the pupils excelled themselves in all areas. Not only did we witness some record-breaking performances throughout the afternoon, the teams also supported and encouraged each other along the way and demonstrated great team spirit. The results were as follows;

**Junior Competition**

1st	Bannerman	224
2nd	Liddell	179
3rd	Ormond	150

**Intermediate Competition**

1st	Ormond	198
2nd	Bannerman	191
3rd	Liddell	166

**Senior**

1st	Liddell	131
2nd	Bannerman	117
3rd	Ormond	114

**Sports Day Records**

Lloyd Owen	100m	13.30
Kyle Rowe	Long Jump	5.70
James Work	Javelin	31.80

At the end of the day Mr Coates presented the shields to the victorious captains and then shared some very poignant and relevant words regarding 'Doing the Right Thing'.

As you can see, we have had many successes over the term and the pupils have proved to be successful learners, confident individuals, effective learners and responsible citizens. Thank you to Mrs Scott Laing for all the work in organising, sorting and enthusing the girls, Mr Lear, Mr Laing, Mrs Drever, Mr Bryce and Mr Stacey for all their efforts and enthusiasm over the term and of course to the GAPS for those long hours raking the sandpit.



## Cross-Country

As in previous years the main focus for our cross-country runners was competing for the school in the local Stirling schools' championships. This was held at Stirling RFC and most age groups were well represented. The following runners all finished in the top twenty in their respective age group races.

S3/4 Girls – Chloe Farquhar

S5/6 Girls – Eden Reid and Emily Gurung

S1/2 Boys – Jordan Oatley and Lewis Young

S3/4 Boys – Sam Stockman, Anthony Barber, Kyle Rowe, Ryan McPhearson and Jasper Herbert

S5/6 Boys – Michael Bell, Scott Calder and Finn Bark.

The above pupils were then selected to compete for Stirling Schools at the regional Forth Valley Championships held in Bo'ness. In a

typical blustery March afternoon all runners gave a good account of themselves. Stand out results included Jordan Oatley who finished 8th, Sam Stockman 14th and Michael Bell 12th.

Sam, Anthony and Ryan also participated in the under 17 race at the Scottish Schools Championships which were held once again at Irvine. This is a much tougher race due to it being over a longer distance but all three competed well and gained good experience for the future.

Well done to all those who represented the school this season and thanks to Mr Lawrence for his help with the Monday lunchtime running group.

*Steve Laing, Principal Teacher Technical*

## Badminton

### Junior and Senior Badminton Tournaments

Summer 2013 saw the return of the annual Junior and Senior Badminton Tournaments.

This year's tournaments were again keenly contested and I was delighted with the commitment and enthusiasm shown by all the players that competed. Well done to all those who entered and played to their best.

The Junior Tournament was a knockout format and the prize winners were:

Winner:	John Deacons
Runner-up:	Robbie Hope
3rd Place:	Lewis Young

Well done to all three prize winners and especially to John on his first triumph.

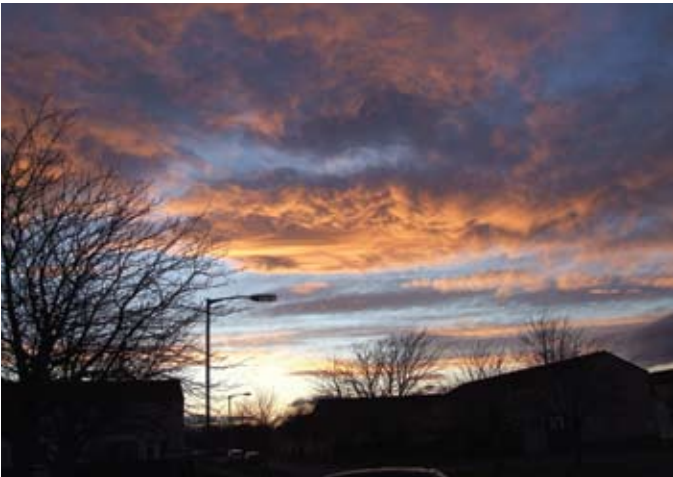
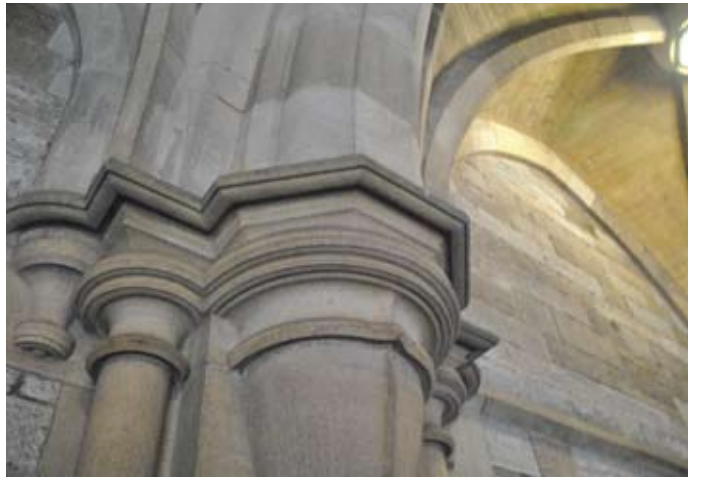
The Senior Tournament was a round robin and knockout format and the prize winners were:

Winner:	Jason Feeney
Runner-up:	Nischal Gurung
3rd Place:	Ryan McDougall

Well done to all three prize winners and especially to Jason on retaining his title!

The Badminton tournament continues to be a great success and I look forward to those of you who wish to enter next year's tournaments.

*Stuart Ronald, Acting Principal Teacher Maths*



Clockwise from top left: Alisha McCaig S6; Chelsea Harris S5, Arches 1-4; Macaulay McNally S6, Sky; Heather Stanfield S5, Rose Petals; Ben Curran S6, Soft Yellow Rose.



*Clockwise from top left: Charlotte, Mhari, Sam and Joe; Steven, Aimée, Freya and Richard; The team meets author Linda Strachan.*

## Kids' Lit Quiz 2012

QVS entered two teams made up of P7s and S1s for this year's Kids' Lit Quiz. This is an international competition for children from the UK, Australia, Canada, China, New Zealand and South Africa.

Teams of four students answer 100 questions on children's literature divided into ten categories, which vary each year, for example authors, titles, settings, characters. Between each round, Wayne Mills, the quizmaster, sets individual questions for the spectators and the contestants.

This year's Scottish heat was held at St Mungo's High School with teams from 25 schools. Our QVS team A comprised of three pupils

who had competed the year before: Mhari Sibeth, Charlotte Sowden and Joe Osborn with Joe's rookie Sam Irwin. Team B was Richard Dunbar, Aimée Lessels, Freya Powell-Leonard and Steven Rae. Team A did exceptionally well winning one of the rounds (books about cars) with full marks and they won a book prize each. Steven Rae won money by answering an individual question about Greek Mythology!

The authors at this event were Linda Strachan and Victoria Campbell, who had visited the S1s in QVS library last year, so our teams chatted to them and had their books signed. Both teams missed out on winning the prize (a trip to Durban) but they all enjoyed their day out and are looking forward to trying again next year!

## P7 Rotary Quiz 2013

This was a 'first' for QVS. We took part in the local Rotarians P7 quiz. After a series of very competitive heats in the library, the final four pupils were chosen to represent the school: Evie Clarke, Ethan Rowe, Charlotte Gothard-Oliver and Rachel Spence. The quiz, held in Bridge of Allan, consisted of ten rounds on a range of subjects including Current Affairs, Spelling, Science and the Environment. The pupils worked very well as a team and came third with a 'highly commended' certificate. Well done team!



*Ethan, Evie, Charlotte and Rachel with their Rotarian!*

## S1 Cartoon Art Studio

In September 2012, the S1 Art class was treated with a visit from Terry Anderson as part of our on-going collaboration with the Stirling Libraries' Off the Page book festival. The previous year we had a visit from Chris Mitchell who inspired our pupils with his cartoons and they asked if we could set up a cartoon drawing workshop. So Terry came along and showed the pupils how to do basic cartooning and they all made up a graphic storyboard. Our thanks, as ever, to Stirling Libraries, for sponsoring the event.



*Reproduced by kind permission of Stirling Libraries, 2012.*

For more information about the Scottish Cartoon Art Studio, please visit:

Web: [scottishcartoons.com](http://scottishcartoons.com)

Twitter: [twitter.com/ScottishCartoon](https://twitter.com/ScottishCartoon)



*Christingle.*



## MAD Group

QVS are very proud to be counted as Scotland's Newest Interact Club

Rotary district governor Cath Chorley presented the Interact club charter to club president Rebecca Johnson earlier this year on the occasion of their Charter evening. The event was attended by a number of guests, including members of the Bridge of Allan & Dunblane Rotary club, which is sponsoring the Interact club.

Congratulating the 40 members on becoming Scotland's newest Interact club (for 12 to 18 year olds), Mrs Chorley said that the name Interact is derived from international and action and that the four circles on the Interact logo mean: 'you are dependable, reliable, give more than you take and you are available'.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary last November, Interact now involves 200,000 young people in 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas.

Rebecca said that since the club's inception a few months ago, the members have already undertaken a number of projects. 'It started with a duck,' she said, 'when we were asked to help the Rotary club at their annual duck race. Since then we have baked for and hosted a Macmillan coffee morning; helped the Dunblane Development Trust by clearing and moving wheelbarrows of soil for the railway path clearance/refurbishment; and filled around 100 boxes for the Rotary ShoeBox appeal last Christmas.

'Charity events at school have also included an immensely popular Talent Show to raise funds for the So Precious special care baby unit

at the Forth Valley Royal Hospital, which raised £670. The money will buy a Vapotherm device that helps moisturise the nasal passages and lungs of babies who need oxygen.

"We refer to ourselves as 'MAD', which stands for Make A Difference, and that's what we aim to do. We know there are so many people who need help and we can offer drive, determination and creativity. We love to Make a Difference – and that's what Interact is all about '

Each Interact club has to complete one International and one Community project each year and the QVS Interactors have chosen Mary's Meals and Start-Up Stirling. They have already raised funds for both and hope also to offer hands-on assistance at the food bank and the local charity shop so that they can experience Charity in Action for themselves.

The MAD Group have already hosted the President of RIBI – the Rotary Clubs of Great Britain and Ireland– John Minhinnick to a very successful Youth Summit lunch and received a Presidential citation from the Worldwide President of Rotary International Sakuji Tanaka to praise them for their sterling efforts in their very first year as a Club.

The club members are already looking forwards to next term where they will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning. An event for Parkinsons UK AND A BIG Sponsored walk for Mary's Meals. As you can see, there's no stopping them!

*Jill Adams, S6 Co-ordinator and Director of Careers*





*Macaulay McInally S6, Sky & Water.*

## Photography

Photography is a new subject for QVS and was introduced as a step towards broadening the provision for our pupils.

Once the introduction of the course was agreed in June 2012 the race was on to source suitable equipment, develop the work, sign up the pupils and deliver the subject of photography in time for the new term.

A generous budget was agreed that allowed a number of equipment options to be explored and through extensive consultation with the pupils Nikon 7000 cameras were chosen with a selection of professional standard lenses to meet the identified requirements of the class.

The Business Support side of the school supported the introduction of the course by working tirelessly to put the finance in place, chase up the suppliers and source the necessary equipment in order that the pupils could start their practical work with as little delay as possible. Because the timescale was extremely tight the support of everyone in the Business Support side of the school was much appreciated by the Art Department and the pupils who were now keen to get their hands on the cameras and get started on this new opportunity.

Verification in time to start the course quickly became the next priority and a thorough examination of the equipment and the coursework by the SQA followed.

Mr Wright supported the successful completion of the verification process by offering to run a photography hobby in the evening and along with Mrs McLeod also offered to take on the responsibilities of course verifiers. The PT of Art & Design through his previous experience in the subject was also installed by the SQA as the Chief Assessor of Photography for QVS.

At this point I would also like to thank the parents of the pupils involved who provided further resources, expertise and moral support.

Even with all of the support and hard work from the school community the pupils were still faced with a tight timescale in order to present a portfolio of their work in June 2013. Their response was excellent with every single one of the class achieving creditable passes in what is a very demanding Higher course. It is planned that there will be an exhibition of their work in the school in order to celebrate their achievements in the subject.

All in all the risk of moving so quickly to provide an opportunity in photography proved to be a demanding but worthwhile and ultimately successful experience for everyone involved. Hopefully this will only be the start of their interest in the subject of photography, an interest and form of expression that will be with them for life.





Top to bottom: Chelsea Harris S5, Stairway to Heaven; Heather Stanfield S5, Lily close up.



## French Trip

This academic year has been exciting for French! The third annual European Day of Languages was lots of fun, and everyone appreciated the efforts of our singers (from a variety of year groups) who performed 'Vois sur ton Chemin' from the film 'The Chorus' in chapel. S1 were keen to watch the movie, so in March there was a French 'Cinema Night' in my classroom. During chapel, there was also a beautiful performance by Abbie McDougall and Megan Wood, who sang 'Hero' in Spanish. Madame Sheerin set up lots of activities in the library, and P7/S1 came along at lunchtime to discover more about Europe. A huge well done to everyone involved!

Following our fundraising efforts both within the school and in Dunblane, the first ever QVS Paris trip took place in October 2014 and was a great success! Parents, commissioners and guests were invited to a French lunch in the Library a few months later to speak to pupils about their trip, and see some photos! Merci à Madame Sheerin who laid out a spectacular feast of wine, cheese, baguettes and more!

S3 pupils gave up their lunchtime (bribed by cupcakes!) to take place in a nationwide quiz organised by the French institute. There were 56 other schools involved, and this year we were unfortunately not quick enough to secure a prize, but we did receive a lovely certificate, and

learned lots of random facts about France!

QVS French club was introduced this year, and was over-subscribed! It was decided that the slogan should be 'QVS French Club – it's cooler than it sounds'! This was open to pupils in S4 and above, and we have undertaken a good variety of activities, for example, Christmas crafts painting 'santons' (nativity figurines), crêpe making, games of pétanque and French food tasting (this seems to be a highlight for all those involved!) Hopefully the club will be as popular next year!

One of the highlights of 2013 so far was the French trip to the MacRobert cinema to see 'Les Misérables'. QVS pupils took over the entire cinema for our private screening, and the songs have become commonplace on ipods around the school. There were a few tears shed (even by Mr Stacey!) and it was an interesting way to learn more about French history.

There are a few events still to come this term including the Standard Grade French class Party and the Higher French Pre-exam breakfast, and I look forward to another French-filled year in 2013-14!

*Mademoiselle McIlkenny*



I'd like to tell you all about the 2012 October trip to Paris. It was the first ever to be held by Queen Victoria School and everyone who was included in this inspiring trip, I think, was truly excited. Pupils who had visited the city before couldn't wait to revisit the fascinating place and the other pupils that had never visited the city before (I would imagine going from my own experience) were apprehensive to see if Paris would live up to their own conceptions of it in their head. For me, definitely, it lived up to everything I expected it to.

On the run up to the trip, the pupils going put in a lot of time and effort into very effective (and fun) fund-raising schemes. Throughout the term leading up to the trip there was a French weekly bake-sale which raised an amazing sum of money helping towards the cost of the essential buses that would be taking us to and from the airport, both in the UK and France. Also while preparing every week for the bake-sale, there was also a lot of car washing going on, to add to the profit we had already made from the first week. The car washing took off straight away as it appeared teachers weren't too keen on cleaning their own cars and were pretty willing to let the pupils give their vehicles a quick make-over.

I think there was only one low-light to the whole trip and that was definitely having to get up at around half four in the morning to be ready to get the bus to the airport on our way out to Paris from Edinburgh. I think everyone else coped quite well, but as I am not a morning person I was inevitably the last person to get on the bus. We arrived at the airport and soon boarded the plane after a miniscule wait in departures. The flight hardly took any time at all and we were soon landing in Paris in very high spirits indeed.

On our arrival at the hotel Campanile – where we would be staying for the next four nights – we quickly dropped all our bags off in our rooms and soon made our way onto the Métro ready to get our first taste of what the trip was going to be like. The Métro was certainly different from British transport, to say the least. You had to be super quick with getting on and off or you would not be getting to your next destination! It is survival of the fittest for the underground Métro. We all arrived in one piece, at our first touristy destination of the trip, the Arc de Triomphe. It was spectacular to see in person as it is one of the most famous monuments in Paris, situated in the centre of the Avenue Charles de Gaulle. After that, it was already quite late and we decided to go back to the hotel and have a quick nap and get ready for dinner, as we were all looking a little worse for wear from the early rise and the day's travelling.

We went to a very French restaurant for tea. There wasn't much choice on the menu but it all looked so tasty it felt like there were 100 different options. I settled on a medium steak that was cooked to perfection. From where I was sitting it was clear that everyone had enjoyed their food as the majority of plates were squeaky clean. With full stomachs and the warm atmosphere in the restaurant it soon made a lot of the group sleepy and I think we were all ready for our

beds by that point as we had discovered the French like to eat their meals very late.

On the second day the weather was more than we could have asked for. There were hardly any clouds in the sky and the sun shone pretty much all day, keeping everyone's spirits in the groups well and truly sky high. Getting to know the Métro a bit better, we headed into central Paris and our first visit was a stop at a restaurant renowned for its delicious hot chocolate. If I remember correctly, I think it was so distinguished as it was the known as the best in the world. That was inevitably delicious but we swiftly moved on and went across a beautiful park, the Tuileries, to then go on to look at the Louvre. It is such a famous and monumental part of Paris and to be standing looking onto the Art Gallery was phenomenal knowing that such famous paintings such as the Mona Lisa were just inside.

On day three we were unfortunately not as lucky with the weather. It looked to be gloomy and drizzly the whole day, but yet again that did not set anyone's spirits down as we were heading to Disneyland Paris which I think we were all very excited about. We set off early and made it there just before twelve. As soon as we had passed through the gate, ticket in hand, excitement took over and we were all little children again. The rides were good, but a little tame for my liking. I think they suited some people perfectly, however I like something a little scarier to get the adrenaline going, but it was a super day none the less. There were lots of beautifully done restaurants to choose from and lots of gift shops to have a nosey in when you were having a slight break from the rides. The day most definitely finished on a high, with a spectacular show of fireworks.

On the fourth and final full day in Paris we went to the wall with 'I love you' written on it in a numerous amount of different languages. It was lovely to witness such a tranquil place. We finished the day with a visit to, of course, the Eiffel Tower. I hadn't realised how vast the whole thing would be, it was just so ginormous. We thankfully got the lift up to the second floor - but found ourselves taking the stairs back down - I don't think any of us were brave enough to go the top. That would take true bravery. After the initial novelty of being on the Eiffel Tower had worn slightly and we had taken enough photos to last us a life time, we decided to go and look round the little gift shop and the restaurant that were situated inside. It was nice to have somewhere warm to sit for a while as I was slightly naïve in thinking it wouldn't be 'that' cold.

The Paris trip was a great success and my knowledge and love for the city has most definitely grown since I have visited it in person. I was relieved it had lived up to everything I had hoped it would and I shall certainly be persuading my parents to take a little trip to Paris very soon. I would highly recommend going to anyone that asked if there is to be another trip held at school in the time I am here. I am so glad I got to be a part of the trip as it was a wonderful experience.



## Fairtrade Fortnight

Once again, this year's S4 Geography class decided to enhance their learning by organising some events in Fairtrade Fortnight which fell between the 25th February and 10th March 2013.

They kicked off the two weeks with a presentation which they wrote themselves, on what fairtrade is all about. The class then held a coffee morning for staff, with a variety of home-made fairtrade treats to entice staff to donate to their fundraising. Barry the banana also made a reappearance to help raise the profile of Fairtrade.

Later in the fortnight, the class held a Fairtrade chocolate café with the help of some other S4 volunteers. The café sold hot chocolate, cakes and chocolate bars and helped the CCF cadets warm up after

a busy afternoon. The Geographers also held a raffle for a Fairtrade mug with edible contents, which was announced in chapel the next day.

The fortnight was a success overall, raising an impressive £335. The class decided to donate the funds to the British Red Cross, having recently studied the work they do with refugees and survivors following natural disasters worldwide.

We give a big thank you to those who showed support during the fortnight as it not only helped with events in Queen Victoria School, but will help towards the efforts taking place in the local community to get Dunblane recognised as a Fairtrade Town.





## Geography Field Trip

### Higher and Intermediate Two Geography Field Trip Weekend

This year we decided upon something a little different and embarked upon a series of day trips to explore some of the Geography that was on offer closer to home (with one exception).

Our first trip was to Tentsmuir in Fife to investigate sand dune succession and coastal management at St. Andrew's. Feeling inspired by the 2012 Olympics, we even found time to recreate the opening scenes from Chariots of Fire on the beach where it was filmed.

The second day we ventured further afield and arranged a day caving in the Yorkshire Dales. This gave pupils opportunity to explore underground cave networks and limestone features which would have been otherwise hidden.

Our third day focused on the Human side of Geography, with an urban study to compare Glasgow city centre and Braehead out of

town shopping centre. We also made a stop at the Glasgow Science Centre to discuss and observe the redevelopment which has taken place in recent years.

Our fourth and final day took us in to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park where we were able to observe the local environment and take in some glaciated scenery. Our morning was led by the Park rangers who explored conflicts and solutions with the pupils, allowing them to interact with local and see for themselves what issues there are in the National Park. In the afternoon we took a walk around the David Marshall Lodge to view a honeypot site and indulge in some afternoon chips and Mountain Dew in Aberfoyle before the journey back to school.

It was a busy weekend overall, but it seemed to have been enjoyed by all and it will have contributed to a better understanding for all who attended.











# P7

## A collection of our Primary 7's opinions about their First Year at Queen Victoria School.

Dear Reader,

I am so pleased that this year's P7's, on the whole, have enjoyed both the academic and boarding activities that we have here at Queen Victoria School. It is clear that they feel the most important part of being here is the strong friendships they have made in such a short time together. The 'outings' come a close second!

They have included the 'good' and the 'not so good' but I will let you enjoy reading their views.

*Compiled by Ms Gail Edwards, Primary Teacher & DHoM*

At the first term it was really difficult because I have never been away from home for this long before.

The topic I liked the most was Christmas around the world I was writing about Christmas in India. All I wrote about was how people in India celebrate what they eat, what they get and what food they eat.

The lesson I am enjoying the most is PDD. I'm really good at drumming now. We have learned exercise beating, Scotland the brave, 3 4s, 4 4 s, 6 8 s and La boum.

Our P7 outdoor day's were very exciting as we went gorge walking, canoeing, hill walking (we walked for 6 hours) and we finally went to their water park. The water park was really fun as there were slides (not plastic slides), inflatable slides, an inflatable launch pillow (that was awesome) and a massive ice berg we had to climb to slide down to the bottom.

Our new S1 timetable was awesome as we will have science, CDT, German and ICT and I am looking forward to coming back next year.

*Henry Aldwinckle*

My first year at QVS was very exciting because we went on lots of trips. We went to the Glasgow Science Centre, Museum on the Mound and Edinburgh Castle. My favourite one was the science centre but all of them were good.

I got a bit homesick when I first started but I got over it with the help of my friends. I have met and made a lot of good friends now.

It is quite busy here as we have school from chapel at 9.35am until after Prep at 6pm. Then we can go to hobbies or out to play. It is ok and I enjoy most lessons.

Every term we have a disco and party which are ok.

There are some not so good things like having only an hour and a half free time and getting stuff confiscated.

We have the chance to do lots of other things here and I can't wait until I go on the school ski trip to Italy.

*Jacob Codd*

We started this year with tests to find our abilities. I was put in the top group with Miss Low. After a long couple of weeks we found out if we would be taking piping, drumming or dancing. At first I was hoping for piping but after our trials it looked more like drumming for me. It was a good choice and I really enjoy it. In our first week we started drill with Mr Stacey.

We went on loads of trips and outing with both the house and primary. In Maths and English we have done a lot of fun and challenging tasks so far and there are still more to come.

My original roommates were Adam Conway, Jacob Codd and Scott Burns but we moved rooms and I am now in a room with Henry Aldwinckle.

We went on the P7 activity day on the 30th of May and did gorge walking hill climbing and canoeing.

This year I still have Grand Day and six more years of school to look forward to.

*Cameron Crawford*

At QVS I have learned more and more about maths, language and many more subjects. I have also learned what it is like away from home and I still get a bit home sick now and again. The best part is that I have made new friends.

My Tutor is Mr King and he has taken us on great Tutor trips.

In the primary class we have gone on loads of school trips as part of our project work. For the Wallace and Bruce project we went to Stirling Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Dunfermline Abbey but it was too windy to go to the top of the Wallace Monument.

I have experienced good times and bad times but I am looking forward to next term and being an S1 with even more exciting lessons to learn about new things.

*David Burns*

My first year at QVS was really scary at first because I didn't really know anyone and I got lost. But then when I got to know my class and the teachers it really wasn't as scary as I'd thought it would be. At QVS as all the teachers say the friends you make here are likely to be friends for life.

There lots of great facilities and opportunities here and the only bad thing is probably homesickness. Everyone gets homesick (especially me), because everyone is bound to miss their family at some time.

I have made lots of great friends like Evie, Anji, Rachel, Niamh C, Olivia, Caitlin J, Caitlin R, Jana and lots more! Obviously there are always arguments but in the end somehow we always make up which is great.

It's always great fun especially when we go on Tutor trips or house trips. My favourite house trip is probably going to the cinema because you're with your friends and it's always fun.

When you first come here you get put into rooms by alphabetical order. After seven months we all moved rooms (I don't know why), so now I'm in a three man room with Anjipa Malla and Caitlin Richardson.

I can't wait for next year!!!

*Elisha Bura*

Learning to board is hard but after a term it gets much easier. The only bad thing is home sickness.

The good things are trips we go on, like going to Edinburgh Castle and we are allowed outside of school to go to Tesco at the weekend. We have fun lessons like game, PE, PDD, ES, and French.

It is fun to do PDD because you choose to do bagpipes, drums or highland dancing and I do highland dancing. The reason it is fun is because you can go to band jobs and also dance on Parade Sundays at school.

*Tiernan Bark*

My first year at QVS has been amazing! We have been on so many trips and done so many things other schools would have been able to do.

We have had trips out of school as well like in the boarding houses like going to the cinema, going ice-skating even going to Edinburgh Zoo!

It has been very exciting doing all the parades and becoming real Victorians!

Our academic year started well with the topic Wallace and Bruce, our class made a poster using the resources of the World Wide Web and an activity book that took us from the very start of that era (before Wallace and Bruce were both born) right to the very end. It included all the wars and all the kings!

Our second project was Space. In my class we made a PowerPoint and a newsletter/leaflet. We also saw lots of documentaries about space and we also saw Apollo 13. We heard all the different theories about the Big Bang. It was really fun and made me think I would want to be an astrophysicist. So now I want to be an astrophysicist.

The project we have just completed was, Our Environment where we learned about our school. We all made booklets in groups about the school.

I am so lucky to be in QVS and it could not have been a better year for me!

*Rachel Spence*

When I first arrived at the school in August I was quite nervous because it was new surrounding to me and I had never been away from my parents for a long period of time before. I was nervous about the people and teachers within the school and also nervous about rugby because I have never really liked contact sports before.

The first term was hard for us as there was a lot of homesickness, there are still some who get homesick but it is a lot better now. We were getting used to our lessons, surroundings and the people around us.

PE and sport was bad for me in the first term but after Christmas I found myself loving it.

In the second term the Primary Department put on a play called 'Five Gold Rings'. It is based on the song, Twelve Days of Christmas. I played one of the main roles in the play and it all went very well.

We started going on Environmental Study trips in this term for our Wallace and Bruce project that was fun. We went to Edinburgh and Stirling Castles. For our Space project we went to Dynamic Earth and the Glasgow Science Centre which I also enjoyed.

The last term, it has been said, is the most enjoyable one, even though we haven't finished the term yet. The weather is really nice and some nights we get an extension to play longer outside.

On June 28th (The last day of Term), we have Grand Day, which looks hard and we practice marching every day. I hope I don't faint because that will be embarrassing.

My first year at QVS has been really fun and I am looking forward to next term.

*Steven Rae*

When arrived at the school I was very nervous and scared because I thought I wouldn't fit in. However, after a little while I settled in and I have made lots of friends such as, Jana, Niamh B, Rebecca Niamh C, Elisha, Anji, Brooke, Rachel and many others.

I also thought at first that I would not like it and that I would get home sick but I wasn't at all, I was absolutely fine.

I do miss my whole family but I am fine now because I am getting used to it.

I really enjoy being here and have a lot more confidence in the things I do.

*Olivia Dunbar*

My first year at QVS was hard but I got through it. When I first got here I was quite shy. My rookie keeper helped a lot to get through the year. The hardest part would have to be having my diabetes.

My first day at school I had to do tests! The first ever class trip I did at QVS was to Edinburgh Castle. All the trips we did were: Glasgow Science Centre, Stirling Castle, Dunfermline Abbey and Dynamic Earth. We did these as part of our Environmental Studies projects.

All of the topics I did were a lot of fun. First we did Wallace and Bruce then we did Space and I enjoyed that a lot, and then last of all My

Environment, when we had to find out about QVS and make a booklet. I didn't really enjoy it but it was fine. Just now we are doing our own personal project. That is any project we wanted to do and I am enjoying doing this.

In games we have had hard, but fun, activities. First we did rugby then after that season of rugby we changed to athletics. In rugby we played school matches but we lost most of them although we tried our best but we won about 2 matches. Not many of us had played rugby before.

I have met loads of different teachers like Mr King, Ms Edwards and Miss Low.

Then in the last term of P7 we did a week of being an S1 and we had to follow our new timetable for the start of next term and it was so much fun.

*Oliver Tickner*

When I first came to QVS I did not know what to think but I got used to it in the first couple of weeks. I did not get home sick but some people did.

The teachers are good and everyone is helpful. The Primary Department is awesome because we go on so many school trips for our Environmental Studies that are so much fun.

The boarding side of the school is great fun. When you are in P7 you are in Trenchard House. The house master is Mr Bush and he is new to this school the old house master was Mr Adams but now he is Year Head of P7 and S1.

As I was talking about trips and Trenchard another great thing is that some weekends like a parade or just a random weekend we go on good trips to the cinema or bowling and sometimes we go ice skating.

My personal favourite subject has got to be games and PE because of the wide variety of sports we do. I like the athletics season more than the rugby season because I am really good at most of the athletic events.

*Harry Searle*

My first year at QVS has definitely been enjoyable with both the sport and academic aspects of life. I have learned many things in my first year in all the different subjects.

Learning how to play rugby in the first term of sport and we soon we got familiar on the rules of it. Even though we only won one game this year we played well as a team and enjoyed playing the sport.

When we first came to QVS we were split into two classes, A and B and we went literally everywhere in these classes except maths and language. In maths and language we were split into top, middle and bottom groups on the tests that we did at the start of the year. I'm in top group for both and I'm hoping to get the attainment award this year at Grand Day. I would like to thank all my teachers who have taught me this year and the house staff that have helped me through the year.

This is when we played Wellington school when we lost 10-6 when we were 6-4 up at half time.

*Ben Adam*

My first year at QVS has been really good. It has also been exciting and full of surprises. I have learned lots of new things and made great friends.

When I first came here I had no idea who was who and you wouldn't know what to do if someone was upset or if you or a friend was homesick, but in the end I got used to the ways here and got to know more people. I also made really close friends and we have great fun together. There have been bad days where you have arguments with your friends or roommates, but it always works out at the end.

I have had a lot of fun in the primary department, in the house, tutor trips, house trips, school trips or just simply hanging out with friends. I like doing PDD, hockey, Athletics and canoeing and gorge walking on the extended activity day.

The School is a great place, I have enjoyed using its facilities like the; library, Astroturf, Wavell Woods and much more.

*Anjipa Malla*

My first year at QVS was actually quite good. I got homesick most of the time but it has been ok and getting better.

I did four hobbies during the winter terms and they were piano lessons, singing lessons, knitting and arts and craft. I quit singing because I didn't like it that much but the other hobbies kept me busy and so did the lessons.

At night time was when I started getting homesick but my friends and the staff helped me.

We went to a lot of trips for our Environmental Studies and they were really good. I got travel sickness but I was ok as I wasn't actually sick, I just felt sick. The trips we went to were Stirling Castle, Edinburgh Castle and Dynamic Earth which was my favourite trip.

So that was my first year at QVS and I am looking forward to all my other years here.

*Louise Rankin*

I thought that my first year at Queen Victoria School was good and a little bit bad but I have had a really good time. I have made lots of friends, fallen out with them and then become friends with them again!

I have been on lots of primary department trips to different castles, museums and also on house trips to the cinema and all sorts.

The sports at the school are great and I have learned to play all types of sports and different techniques on how to do things. I have learned how to play hockey and how to do triple jump and long jump, I have also been to athletics and hockey fixtures to play for the school. I enjoy the majority of sports at the school but they are very tiring.

Since I have joined the school I have learnt how to march and I have enjoyed the Parade Sundays and the different things that we do for drill. I am learning how to do Highland Dancing and the other primary 7's have to play bagpipes and drums because we have a school Pipe Band as well as a Dance Team. I know loads of dances now and I can practice them with all of my friends.

There have been times when I have loved the school and hated the school but I wouldn't think about quitting.

*Jana Copland*

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*Jana Copland*

My first year at QVS has been great because I went on lots of trips with my class and Trenchard house.

We have longer holidays because we have to sleep at school and are known as boarders.

The teaching is very good and I am getting a good education. We have prep time for an hour every night which is like homework time.

Periods are the times of lessons i.e. for rugby we have two periods on Tuesdays and Thursdays. After the rugby season it changes to athletics and I am really happy about that because I like running and long jump.

I have to get up at 7 am and don't finish school and prep until 6 pm. We all go to tea then and afterwards we go out to play.

*Alexander McAllan*

My first year at QVS has been amazing. I have made lots of friends and we have had lots of banter together.

We have been on loads of school trips like to Stirling Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Dynamic Earth and Glasgow Science Centre. Recently we have been to Go Country which is an outdoor place.

I have been learning to play the drums for PDD but others do highland dance and the bagpipes.

The girls play hockey and the boys learn to play ruby at the start of the year. Now in the summer term we are doing athletics for PE.

I have some really good friends like Jana Rachel, Niamh C, Niamh B, Chloe and Olivia. We have had great fun this year.

It is great to have roommates because you are not alone. If you are upset and you want to talk to someone they are there for you.

I have had a great time during my first year at QVS.

*Alex Barron*

My first year was amazing. I made lots of friends. The first person I met was Alex Barron. My best friend is Niamh Cox and she is so cool.

When I first arrived I was in a high bed in a room with Alex Barron, Evie Clarke and Elisha Bura, we were a good room but then we changed rooms and now I am with Jana Copland, Olivia Dunbar and Rebecca Kane. I also like them as roommates.

I am in a Green Group for maths and language. Ms Edwards is a great help as she is such a good teacher.

We have went on a lot of trips for our project work including, Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Glasgow Science Centre and many more. My favourite was Edinburgh Castle because it was so much fun.

I wonder what next year will be like!

*Niamh Beaton*

My 1st year at QVS was on a Tuesday and the first person I met was Ben Adam because we were the boys who came a day early and everyone else came a day later.

One day at school we were getting told which group we were in for maths and language. I got told I was in the Green Group for both. I was surprised because I was in middle group for maths language in my old school.

This year in p7 we have been on lots of trips. We went to Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Science Centre and the Museum on the Mount. All the trips have been really fun.

*Jason Galloway*

# Miss Low's Red Group

Science Centre Trip,  
 Couldn't have had more fun,  
 Inside the planetarium,  
 Eye catching exhibits,  
 New dome looks amazing,  
 Came over to the gift shop,  
 Everything was very cool,

Came back from the trip,  
 Everything was very cool,  
 Nice bus on the way back,  
 Today was amazing,  
 Rotating globes everywhere  
 Everything was great! I had a good day!

*Adam Conway*

Stirling Castle was very interesting,  
 Taught us about Wallace and Bruce battles,  
 It told us how secure the castle was when under attack,  
 Re-telling us about what happened,  
 Learning the history of the castle,  
 Interesting facts were shown all around,  
 New facts and finding out more,  
 Gift shop with interesting things,

Castle was huge and pretty,  
 Acting it all out and how the battle happened,  
 Swords were shown to us,  
 They let us see and hold weapons that looked really cool,  
 Learnt new interesting facts,  
 Everything was fun and great!

*Anjipa Malla*

Meeting new people,  
 Yes we are going on a trip,

Fun filled lessons,  
 Interesting trips to different places,  
 Ready to learn,  
 Super fun PDD,  
 Trips everywhere,

Yet more prep,  
 Every week flies by,  
 Around the pitches for rugby,  
 Rolls and taps in drumming,

At the tattoo,  
 The rugby captain Ben Adam,

Queen Victoria school,  
 Very good year,  
 Still waiting for grand day!

*Cameron Crawford*

Money, money money! Museum on the Mound,  
 Overdrafts and bank accounts,  
 Notes, cards and coins,  
 Everywhere is where they come from,  
 Yens, rupees and dollars!

Weird types of money,  
 Even things like honey,  
 Every kind is different and some are,  
 Kind of funny!

*Caitlin Jones*

Some interesting facts,  
 Pluto isn't a planet,  
 All the brilliant trips,  
 Challenging projects were lots of fun,  
 Encyclopaedia helped us understand space,

Always learning new things,  
 Neptune is next to Uranus and Pluto,  
 Doing all of the activities,

Earth is one of the only planets with water,  
 Almost all of the planets,  
 Rockets come in different shapes and sizes,  
 The astronaut Neil Armstrong was the first man on the moon,  
 Having done this project we know more about space,

Planets were created after the Big Bang,  
 Rock is what planets are made of,  
 Orion's Belt is one of the constellations,  
 Jets could make it to the moon,  
 Everyone wonders if we are alone,  
 Collecting things from space could be worth millions,  
 There is no end to the universe.

*Caitlin Richardson*

Pen pals to Switzerland,  
 Eager to write,  
 New letters every day,  
 Prepared for flight,  
 Awesome pen friends that write a lot,  
 Love to tell us what they got,  
 Sharing stories from past and present,

Telling us all things nice and pleasant,  
 Outstanding cards we sent,

Smiling faces we lent,  
 Wondering what they'll write up next,  
 Interesting facts in bold text,  
 Talented drawings for the eye to see,  
 Zapping with excitement to go and ski,  
 Edging to tell us more and more,  
 Reading as we walk out the door,

Lots more letters,  
And just get better and better,  
Nice pictures sticking with blue tack,  
Dying to write back!

*Elisha Bura*

Museum about money,  
Used every day,  
So Britain doesn't get led away,  
Everyone uses money in the UK,  
Used as a bank a while ago,  
Much more to see now it's a museum,

On a big hill where the museum sits,  
Now we know more about how money is made,

The notes get printed on a big machine,  
He told us how it worked and what it did,  
Everyone in primary seven got given their own made coin,

Money used to be lots of different things,  
One of them was even cows,  
Universe wouldn't be the same without money,  
Now it's pounds and pence,  
Dividing the pound from the pence!

*Jana Copland*

Fun practices every day,  
Interesting storyline,  
Very good singing,  
Everyone participated in it,

Great acting all the time,  
Only at Christmas time,  
Lots of characters,  
Detailed costumes with feathers and sparkles,

Rings were all hidden,  
Inside the theatre,  
Never will we forget our lines,  
Grand opening of the play,  
Showing, two nights only.

*Rachel Spence*

Entering the gates,  
Developing facts,  
Inside the buildings,  
Now moving on,  
Building up stories,  
Under the canon,  
Running up to the front,  
Gun fire at one o'clock,  
Having lunch on the bus,

Counting the pupils,  
Applying the detail in our stories,  
Splitting up into groups,  
Talking to our friends,

Listening to staff,  
Ending the trip.

*Ben Adam*

Language is fun,  
At times in the year,  
Noisy children driving Miss Low mad,  
Games of heads down, thumbs up,  
Under pressure to finish prep,  
And not always on time but getting it complete,  
Great opportunities at our feet,  
Excellent trips here there and everywhere,

Acrostic poems we can do,  
Competitions are fun. Like....  
The BBC Radio Two, Five Hundred words,  
I enjoy having a pen pal in Switzerland.  
Very important that we have a book for Eric,  
Inky pages in our books,  
The school trip story (writer's craft),  
Inspired poems and work,  
Every day we learn something weird and wonderful,  
So that's what we do in Red Group LANGUAGE!!!

*Charlotte Gothard-Olver*

Mental maths,  
Add and divide for the mean,  
Trip to Museum on the Mound,  
Handling data leaflets,  
Special guest Sandra from the Royal Banks of Scotland,  
Always try to get personal bests,  
Counting our points for maths tests,  
Talking about our work,  
Investigating maths problems,  
Very hard questions,  
Interoperating data,  
Timing, adding, subtracting, dividing,  
Input and output in function machines,  
Effort put into our work,  
Sensible answers.

*Craig Duncan*

Making our world a better place,  
You and me on planet Earth,

Everybody busy outside,  
New exciting things to learn about,  
Very windy outside (most of the time),  
Inside we research about other places,  
Rustling leaves flying about,  
Outside were wildlife is,  
New nature and other things,  
Maps all around us to read,  
Everyone with their opinion,  
Not everyone agrees,  
Together we learn in our ENVIRONMENT!

*Chloe Dowdles*

Dynamic experience,  
Your own world in front of you,  
Never to miss,  
Adventurous exhibits,  
Machine of time going back,  
Icebergs melting,  
Creating rovers,

Education all around,  
Amazing videos for enjoyment,  
Ready to learn,  
Time to have fun,  
Here for excitement.

*Ethan Rowe*

Lots and lots of fun,  
In Primary Seven,  
Full of awesome trips,  
Every day we learn something new,

I Pads we will have soon,  
Never-ending experiences,

Parties at the end of term,  
Rockets were made too,  
In the classroom, busy working,

Money week was so much fun,  
An a hour of prep every night,  
Red group, blue group and green group,  
You're always so so busy!

Schoolbags sitting under the desks,  
Edinburgh Castle was the best,  
Verses of new songs we learn,  
English, Maths, ES and Art,  
Nine periods every day!!

*Evie Clarke*

Begin the poem competition,  
"Up in the mornings no for me",  
Read brilliantly and clear,  
No one was talking,  
Slurping Irn bru and eating tea cakes,

Proud to make it through too this round,  
On Auld Lang Syne  
Every teacher in the room was saying their favourites to  
each another,  
Myself and my classmates were waiting for the response,  
So who was the winner?

*Steven Rae*











### Outdoor Learning Week

Outside working,  
 Under the trees,  
 Time running out,  
 Designing our Dream Forrest and making pictures,  
 Only using sticks for the tasks,  
 Only working in groups of four and some got prizes,  
 Running around the woods collecting sticks for the 3D shapes,

Leaves in a Carroll diagram,  
 Enjoying the tasks,  
 Animal making task and adjective word pot,  
 Recipe book,  
 Number and muddled poems,  
 Intensive working,  
 Needing to work together on the skeleton and Come Dine  
 With Me project,  
 Going to see the other groups work,

Working in groups,  
 Every day the sun was out,  
 Everyone eager to carry on,  
 Keeping focused on our task.

*Ben Adam and Sam Irwin*



## S2 Activities Day

For Activities day this year S2 went to PGL's Dalguise Outdoor Centre in Perthshire. Here four teams of pupils and staff spend a superb day doing a variety of scary and very adventurous activities. They took part in mountain biking, went down a very long zip wire, some were strapped to a high swing and swung off several times and others climbed up to a great height and then jumped onto a trapeze! As you can see from our photos it was a fantastic day and all of our pupils were a credit to the school. The centre commented that they were one of the best behaved and skilled groups they had looked after and all of our pupils pushed personal boundaries, no matter how high or how scary.

Comments from pupils:-

"Seeing Mrs Rankin gong on the zip wire and hurting my ears a little from the pitch of her screams! We tried to get Mrs McDonnell on but she had a good excuse" *Joelle Campbell*

"I loved the mountain biking and was really keen to try out the new advanced course. It was challenging but really enjoyable!"

*Aoife Dillon*

"I found the trapeze amazing and couldn't wait to launch myself off it. I also loved Mr Wright's singing while he was up the trapeze!"

*Hollie Keenan*

Up for special commendation on the day was Srijan Gurung for persevering with his mountain biking and honing his skills! Also special congratulations to Aiden Imrie, Imogen Powell-Leonard and Yolande Page who overcame a fear of heights to launch themselves off the trapeze. Aoife Dillon and Sam King led the way in their group, trying out the advanced mountain biking course for the first time and finding as many ways as possible to experiment with the giant swing.

All in all a scary but fabulous day!

*Rebecca Appleyard, Housemistress of Wavell House*





*Will Lynch, Senior Monitor.*



*Kelsey Swan, Deputy Senior Monitor.*

## Prize Giving

### 2013 Prize List – P7, S1 & S2

1	Attainment	P7	Evie Clarke
2	Progress	P7	Niamh Cox
3	Fowler Art Prize	P7	Elisha Bura
4	Music	P7	Ben Adam
5	Paul Mcshannon Quaich	P7	Tiernan Bark

	<b>First Year</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Second Year</b>	<b>Progress</b>
	<b>Attainment</b>		<b>Attainment</b>	
1	English	Pabina Thapa	Anais Scott	Jack Gemmell
2	French	Pabina Thapa	William Adam	Arras Mathieson
3	German	Charlotte Sowden	Anais Scott	Straun Campbell
4	Mathematics	Pabina Thapa	Emelia Moore	Yolande Page
5	Science	Menaka (Jasmin) Gurung	Alicia Smith	Lauren Pedder
6	Computer Studies	Richard Dunbar	Conor Willis	Freya Collie
7	Technical Studies	Pabina Thapa	Freya Collie	Straun Campbell
8	Geography	Madison Robb	Alicia Smith	Robert Hope
9	History	Rachel Macpherson	Sushmita Gurung	Robert Hope
10	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Waisea Vuataleva	Lauren Pedder	
11	Business	Olivia Williams		Freya Collie
12	Fowler Art	Richard Dunbar	Lora Marshall	Sushmita Gurung
13	Music	Carys Dodd	William Adam	
14	Religious, Moral & Philisophical Studies	Pabina Thapa	Anais Scott	Robert Hope
15	Physical Education	Charlotte Sowden & Lloyd Owen	Lora Marshall & Lewis Young	

### Prize List – Third Year - 2013

	<b>Attainment</b>	<b>Attainment</b>
1	English	Prateeksha Khawas
2	French	Rachel Graham
3	German	Rebecca Leslie
4	Mathematics	Jared Leckie
5	Biology	Jared Leckie
6	Chemistry	Rachel Graham
7	Physics	Prateeksha Khawas
8	Computer Studies	Stuart Millman
9	Design & Manufacture	James Work
10	Graphic Comm	Jack Miller
11	History	Jade Mccartney
12	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Callum Gilbert
13	Geography	Kyle Rowe
14	Fowler Art Prize	Eilidh Firth
15	Modern Studies	Rebecca Leslie
16	Music	Rachel Graham
17	Physical Education	Kyle Rowe
18	Business Management	Prateeksha Khawas



Veeransh Bohora, S6.



Garry Carr, S6.



Anais Scot, S2.



### Grand Day Trophies & Awards 2013

1	Cameronian Shield For Piping (For The Best Piper)	Rhys Clark	8	The Ben Philip Senior Memorial Bowl	Cameron Carr
2	Senior Drum Majors Shield (For The Senior Drum Major)	Kelsey Swan	9	The Ben Philip Junior Memorial Bowl	Charlotte Gothard-Olver
3	Highland Dancing (Highland Dancing Society Of London Cup)	Emily Gurung	10	Annual Challenge Cup (For Outstanding Contribution To Wavell)	Rachel Stewart
4	Combined Cadet Force (For The Best CCF Recruit)	Bradley Wood	11	The Dr Lindsay Memorial Salver (For Leadership 'On' And 'Off' The Games Field)	Oliver Mitchell
5	The Silcox Trophy For Shooting	Ashley Watson	12	The Prince Philip Medal (For Outstanding Contribution, Participation and Achievement during their time at Queen Victoria School)	William Lynch
6	Sir Charles Grant Memorial Trophy (For Outdoor Pursuits)	No Award This Year			
7	Victor Ludorum Trophy (For Best Sports Person)	Eden Reid			

### 2013 Prize List – S4, S5 & S6

	Form IV	Forms V & VI		Form IV	Forms V & VI
1	English	Elle Gemmell	14	Modern Studies	Cameron Arnott
2	Eric Drew Memorial Prize – French	Cameron Arnott	15	Music	Elle Gemmell
3	Accounting		16	Physical Education	Rhys Clark
4	German	Sarah Sweeney	17	Art	Hannah Sloan
5	Mathematics	Jenna Galloway	18	Photography	
6	Biology	Lucy Mcnair	19	Guildry Of Stirling History Prize	Stuart Baird
7	Chemistry	Navino Gurung	20	Business Management	Sian Griffiths
8	Physics	Cameron Arnott	21	Information Systems	
9	Computer Studies	Lisa Graham	22	Product Design	
10	Craft & Design	Rhys Clark	23	Woodworking	
11	Graphic Communication	Stuart Baird	24	Williamson Salver For Girls	
12	Geography	Lucy Mcnair	25	HMC Centenary Quaich	
13	History	Lisa Graham	26	Dux Medal	









## QVS at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2012

Many of you will remember the School performing at the Tattoo in our Centenary Year, 2008. With only a four-year gap, there were some pupils in the 2012 party who had also performed as particularly talented youngsters back in 2008. They were able to enthuse the others beforehand with their memories of what it had been like, and guide them through the actual period with advice based on experience.

The QVS group was given the task of conveying the theme of TWEED (the cloth, not the river) to the thousands of Tattoo spectators. Putting together an intricate and intriguing dance, our group imitated both some of the pattern and some of the weaving methods associated with this very traditional Scottish product.

Both the band and the dancers worked extremely hard and performed to the highest standards, night after night. It was a long stint and demanded that they give up a large part of their summer

holiday for the task. Staff, parents and Commissioners also gave up part of their summer to look after the pupils, both at the Tattoo and back at base in QVS.

All in all it was a wonderful experience: great memories and discipline for the performers; fantastic publicity for the School; and a chance once more to demonstrate our lively and close connection with the Armed Forces in Scotland. Special mention must however be made of Mr Ross, our Pipe Major; Mr Clark, our Drum Major; Mrs Drever, our Highland Dance Instructor, and Mrs Macdonald who trained the dancers before her retirement earlier in the academic year. Their combined talents, professionalism and hard work made this an outstanding achievement by QVS and a great advertisement for the School.

*Wendy Bellars, Head*





*Pipe Band.*

## Pipe Band 2012-13

The pipe band started off on a high after a very prestigious performance at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, the band had prepared well and all of the hard work paid off. Later on in the year, the band travelled to Edinburgh to take part in the annual Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championship, finishing second in the debut section. The band also made numerous appearances at the Scottish police college in Tulliallan, notably the last performance where the police college was Scottish, before it became national. Most recently the band played at the Edinburgh garden shows, which is a yearly event which is most enjoyed by those participating. However this

year we played with the Red Hot Chilli pipers on stage, with their own, outstanding version of chasing cars from their most recent album, 'music for the kilted generation', a very marvellous title indeed.

It has been a great year for the band, and we are sure that the high standard will be maintained and built on. Thank you Pipey and Drummy for everything.

*Kelsey Swan and Oliver Mitchell*



*Red Hot Chilli Pipers.*



*The band and dancers performing at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2012.*



*Ice cream after the ABRSM exams.*

## Music

Here we go again!

For those who have seen previous instalments, a brief summary! To quote Virgil 'Tempus Fugit'. Fun, tears, exhaustion, exhilaration, great job, great colleagues, hate job, what colleagues? Am I sane working here? Introduction complete! Here is the rest.

During the year we have seen the excellent results of our P7 pupils broadcast on Songs of Praise. For this group this was a chance to be performer and audience experiencing the other adult performers and the reality of television recording.

This same year group attended a special schools performance of the BBCSSO in Glasgow where they learned a great deal about the history of the orchestra.

Later in the year a mixed group of older pupils travelled to Dunfermline to hear a Scottish Opera performance of Verdi's La Traviata. This was a great night and opened many pupils eyes to this art form. I now have constant requests to find another opportunity to go to the opera!

Our final music coach outing was once again to the City Halls in Glasgow to hear the BBCSSO performing a concert to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Stravinsky's 'Rite of Spring'. Unlike the original Paris audience we stayed in our seats and did not riot.

August brings delight and disaster to all in secondary education with the posting of the SQA examination results. The 'how did I / they manage that' is shared by pupils, staff and parents around the country. This year we have 100% credit S grade passes, all H grade Advance Higher candidates achieving A or B passes. Although this years SQA moderation of the second instrument performing and compositions at least meant that I had some idea of what the grades might be. For the rest of the results fingers crossed until the last few weeks. Very good grades with a B Advanced Higher for Ash Price and A passes at Higher for Lewis Cox and Tamara Wilton. The visiting

examiners once again praised our youngsters and commented on the wide variety of instruments and styles of music on display. Last year's results were once again amazing with 100% credit pass success including all the pupils who added music as an extra subject.

This year we will lose some of the most talented and hard working young musicians I have ever worked with. As was witnessed by all at the summer concert we are saying goodbye to some excellent players but also to young adults who have volunteered hundreds of hours to help in music. Supporting and teaching younger pupils, sorting equipment and materials, moving the music stores as well as fitting the new computer IT suite. Garry Carr has not only created magical electronic compositions but has virtually single handed created the music technology facility that will be used by all classes. Tamara Wilton has spent hours sorting and organising the thousands of sheets that make up the wind band library, this amounting to four file cabinets! Alanna Macfarlane has worked with the P7 pupils in both music and dance and has spent many hours sorting materials and instruments in the new music store. All three of these pupils also have extraordinary musical talents. Gary can create multi layered compositions on computer, Tamara has taught herself clarinet to grade V level in a few months to add to her ability of cornet and 'cello. Alanna Macfarlane is an outstanding musician with grade VI and above ability on piano, trumpet, clarinet and is performing at national level on Bassoon in the National Youth Orchestra. Alanna won a place at the Scottish Conservatoire Junior Department making rapid progress to join their first orchestra. She has since performed with numerous groups and after leaving QVS will go to The Royal Academy of Music in London to continue full time study towards a career as an orchestral bassoonist. I owe an enormous thanks to these young people for their selfless help in the QVS music department.

Over the course of the year, Aoife Dillon, Kirsten Hughes, Lauren and Tamara Wilton, Georgia Clark, Alicia Smith, Kelsey Swan, Caitlin Yool, Kieran Smith, Prateeksha Khawas, Carys Dodd, Imogen Powell-Leonard, Francesca Cockburn and Ben and William Adam have taken



part in Associate Board of the Royal Schools of music external exams, both theory and practical. This year we continue our 100% pass rate with Georgia sitting both piano and trumpet and Francesca sitting clarinet and piano on the same day. Along with our healthy collection of merit certificates Kieran, Georgia and Aoife gained distinction awards.

You have five days to move a ton and a half of music equipment into storage as music room 19 has been condemned! Not quite the truth but it is what we had to do, followed by the inevitable, you have a few days to get the new, ex navy IT building, ready for the start of term. With help from pupils and our wonderful estates 'boys' we just about made it.

The music department was stored in the 'can room' and the shelving that reached the roof has, excluding some pianos made its way back to the new room 19 music complex. My new home included, two training rooms, two rest ? rooms, a store, an office, a kitchen, now home to the school tropical fish hobby, and its own toilet suite. These are now almost complete as an electronic piano and keyboard suite, a music computer / IT room, the guitar room, the drum room and we hope, soon, some sound proof practice rooms. Thanks again for the support and help of the school business staff who have saved my sanity numerous times during this stressful time.

Just to complicate this move a little further, we have been lucky enough to receive large numbers of instruments from the Rheindahlan Music Centre which is being closed down as part of the MOD reductions in Germany. The new brass instruments have already been used by our P7 classes and the double basses, tympani and other instruments will almost complete our range of orchestral instruments available to our students.

Finished just in time for the start of term a Japanese courtyard garden, to enhance the music department buildings, will give the pupils and staff a place for quiet reflection in our busy lives.

As usual we had our annual round of concerts with P7 minstrels aided by some of our seniors receiving glowing praise wherever they performed. Some of our current P7 also performed for the local Rotarians Burns Supper and received unqualified praise for their music, turn out and behaviour.

The Christmas concert was very exciting with all the normal traditional carols as well as some new ones including the first appearance of the school's ukeleles. Caitlin Clark is now sharing his talent with ten other pupils on ukelele. As usual for Christmas we had a large percentage of QV performing with amazing energy and some excellent skills. Surely few other schools can have this amount of energy, commitment and enthusiasm left at the end of the winter term. As Mrs Bellars said on Grand Day. 'Perhaps one school motto should be, Get Stuck In'. This attitude is displayed by our youngsters every year.

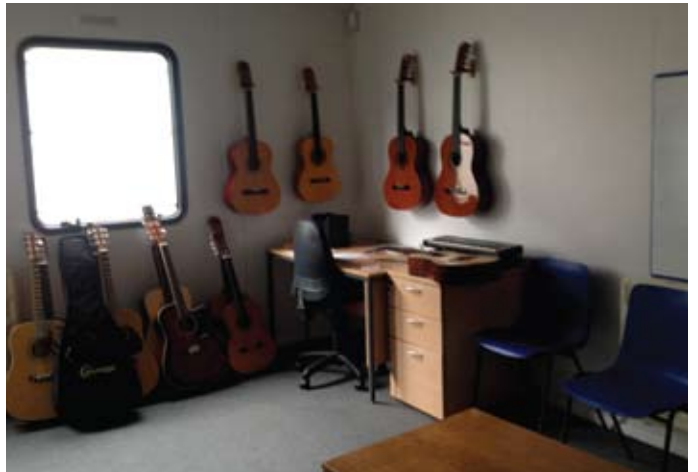
The summer concert was both exhilarating and just a little sad as some of the outstanding contributors to QVS music performed for the last time before going on to exciting futures beyond school. We had some fantastic solos with Ben and William Adam showing a level of musical skill that delighted the audience on piano. Our school leavers Megan, Frances. Ollie, Alanna, Tamara and Kelsey managed to hold back the tears long enough to entertain us all. The material performed ranged from the Baroque via Jazz to contemporary chart songs, don't forget the ukelele! The wind band of nearly thirty players included pupils from all years including P7. We had two sibling duets with Hannah and Daniel Sloan on xylophone and Tamara and Lauren Wilton on brass. Before heading off to her professional training in London Alanna treated us to a performance of J C Bach's famous badinnerie from the suite in B minor for flute and orchestra. This piece was performed at a BBC concert some pupils attended and Alanna and I decided that arranged for bassoon and piano it would be a fun final solo to end her time at QV.

Thanks again to all my young performers and to the music tutors and parents who make all this possible.

With major changes in both the SQA examinations and the new thirty period school timetable it is going to be an interesting time for music. We are trying to fit some more instrumental tutor time near the end of the school day and to make full use of the new instruments available. We also have a new option of tympani for the certificate students and string double bass available to help in the wind band.

Thanks again to all who commit so much time and energy to music.

*David Breingan, PT Music*



Top to bottom: Wind Band; New music rooms; Japanese Garden.



## Junior Ski Trip

This year's S1 and S2 Ski Trip in March was a brilliant opportunity and great success. After a long bus journey, we got our ski equipment so that the next day we could hit the slopes. When we started to ski, not only was the skiing amazing but also the weather was awesome as fresh powder snow was all over the resort.

There were four different ski groups and two snowboarding groups, each day Mr McLay filmed the groups with his Go Pro camera and throughout the whole trip he took photos of us.

Once the Skiing day was up there was always evening activities. The activities included; a pizza night, karaoke, bum boarding and ice skating. On Friday there was a presentation and everyone that came on the Ski Trip got graded from one to five (one being the lowest grade and five being the highest grade) and got given a badge and a certificate.

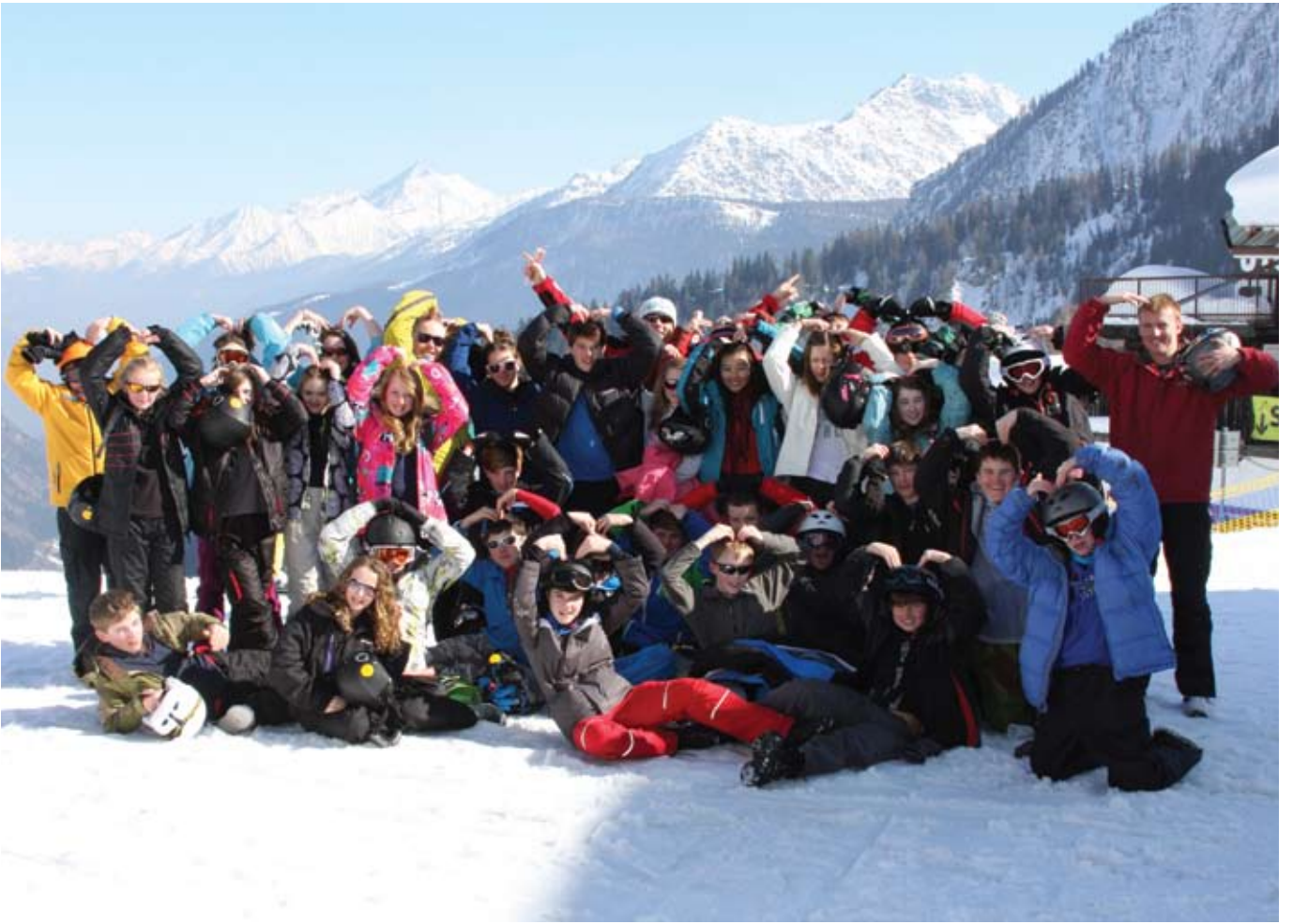
On the final day of the Ski Trip we got up to the resort an hour early so we could get a full day of skiing. Once that day was up, we went back to the hotel, got our bags and got on to the bus to leave.

Overall I really love skiing in Italy and Italy in general and being with my friends made it more enjoyable and so much better.

I would like to say on behalf of all the S1's and S2's that went on the Ski Trip a big thank you to Mr Adams, Miss Low and Mr Bryce for helping out and a massive thank you to Mr McLay for organising the whole Ski Trip.

*Aoife Dillon*







## Senior Ski Trip

In the February holidays we organised a ski trip to the resort of Courmayeur. There was a good mix of people attending with some surprisingly odd quotes and jokes being chucked around. We had to endure a 26 hour bus journey of which Mr Lear decided his choice of movies would be suitable for a 'U' rating. During this bus journey we also made a match made in heaven with Connor Kelly finding the love of his life from another school. This may have slightly deluded him with his aim for the trip to be able to complete a full front flip on skis. Ambitious.

Once we arrived at the ski resort we were welcomed to an overly enthusiastic rep(robate) where we were introduced to our first taste of Italian food. Then it was off to our first class resort, where the 'lads' which included Ben, Fraser, Mr Lear, Mr Scott, JC and myself. It proved to be where the entire atmosphere was at and where the famously known tuck shop was located.

Our first day of actual skiing consisted of the notorious 'hat' being passed around from one bad joke to another, and Fraser and myself watching Mr Lear struggle to get a grip of getting onto his skis. There were a total of three groups, with the overly confident advanced group, the Intermediate group and the beginner group, and John who didn't know where he was for most of the time.

Each day we had a different activity after our tea, and on the Tuesday we had a Karaoke night. As the confident individual I am, I did a solo, followed by the up and coming band. Everyone got involved and the whole night was a good blast, finding out the three male members of staff could not, and won't ever be able to sing. We also had a pizza night where it was supposedly all you can eat, but some certain person decided he wouldn't let anyone eat anything.

Over the course of the week there were many falls, tumbles yet no matter how many times Danny fell he always decided he would find a new to trip over thin air, and where Ben had his overly brightly coloured outfit, only to be beaten to the prize by a very nicely coloured onesie worn by Callum.

Overall it was a very eventful week and the majority of people really enjoyed their stay in the alps and in the snow. I hope that next year's skiing group have as much fun as we did and wish them all the best.

*Owen Campbell and Lauchie Bark*



In 2010 the planning got underway to organise a school ski trip. I completely underestimated the demand for such a trip as over 60 pupils expressed an interest. This proved to be a problem as I'd only provisionally booked 30 places and it looked like there were going to be some disappointed individuals. I then went home and managed to convince my wife that spending two weeks of the holidays skiing was for the good of the children and in fact altruistic and not self indulgent. Luckily the numbers worked out perfectly and we were able to run a senior trip in February and a junior trip in March. As the payments came in over the months, I was glad I'd stuck in at arithmetic, as at one point we had over £40,000 in the account, worrying when you consider that it's a PE teacher in charge of it! Both trips were a great success and all the pupils were a real credit to the school. At no point did we have to cajole or force anybody to join in with the apres-ski activities, in fact it was difficult to get the microphone off Owen and Aiden at the Karaoke, much to the annoyance of Mr Lear and Mr Adams! The ski instruction is first rate and normally by the second day every pupil is in a class that will challenge them. Some of the pupils were in classes that included other schools and again it was our group that initiated conversations and formed friendships. At one point we walked into a disco that had already started and shy, embarrassed teenagers sat around the room

looking awkwardly at each other, not our lot, Megan, Finn, Fraser, Owen, Ben, Caitlin led the way and were busting the moves that got the rest of the schools on their feet and joining in. Very rarely did we have to remind pupils how to behave and to that end, the senior group was awarded the 'Best Group' of the Season by our hotelier for their manners and extremely good behaviour. I have a friend that has been using the company for over 20 years and he can't believe that in our first year we swept in and claimed the award! (In fact as a result I'm not sure whether he is my friend anymore). Successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens are the capacities we strive for through the Curriculum for Excellence, all of which were evident in abundance throughout the two weeks. It's wonderful to see our pupils in such an environment, cope with the challenges set for them and do so with such enthusiasm and energy. I'd like to finish by thanking all the parents who helped me out on the accounts side by timely and prompt payments (most nerve wracking part of the trip) to Mr Lear, Mr Scott, Mr Adams, Mr Bryce, Mrs McLay and Miss Low for giving up their time and playing an integral part to the success of the trips and last but not least to the pupils who made the trips a real pleasure to run.

*Duncan McLay, PT PE*



*Clockwise from top left: Bronze Girls Assessed Camp; Bronze Girls Practice; Bronze Boys Assessed Camp.*

## Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition

As the expedition season grew closer I was becoming more and more concerned the weather was going to cause a delay. The week before the pupils returned to school at Easter the snow was up to a foot deep in Glen Artney. However just in the nick of time most of the snow cleared and the first expedition was able to go ahead as scheduled.

### Bronze

First the boys bronze practice expedition made up of; Tony Barber, Daniel Beard, Andrew Burns, Callum Gilbert, Antony Harvey, Ryan MacPherson, Jack Miller, Sam Stockman and Connor Watson was able to go ahead. Mr Wright and Mr Gilhooly had to wear extra

thermals and waterproofs as they instructed the group in camp craft skills and honed the boy's navigational abilities. The weather was cold and wet, however there were some sunny spells.

The following weekend it was the bronze girls turn; Rebecca Leslie, Rachel Graham, Nisha Gurung, Shannon Hutchinson, Prateeksha Khawas, Eilidh Firth, Caitlin Yool, Hannah Davies, Chloe Farquar, Emily Ferguson and Sophie Tytek. Although there was no snow the temperature was cold enough and the rain was relentless. Miss Low deserves a medal for keeping the girls motivated and keeping their spirits high, a lot of chocolate was eaten!



*Clockwise from top left: Silver boys in snow; Ryan Hutcheon soothing the blisters in the cool waters of Loch Etive; Silver girls; Assessor training.*

Thank goodness the weather took a turn for the better on the bronze assessed expeditions in the Ochil Hills. The boys groups started in Dollar, the weather was hot and sunny on the Friday. However on Saturday the weather did slowly deteriorate. It was fortunate the assessed expedition took place on Friday/Saturday and not Saturday/Sunday as normal.

The girls groups started in a different part of the Ochil Hills near Glensherup. The weather was hot and sunny. The girls were so happy and the weather was so good they jumped for joy.

### Silver

The James Bond film Skyfall was the inspiration behind the choice of location for the Boys silver training expedition. Glen Etive was one of the locations used in the film. The group was made up of Ryan Hutcheon, Michael Bell and Christopher Bell. The weather was hot and sunny but midges were bad the first night. The views from the top of Ben Starav were stunning we could see to the north west the Isle of Rum, to the west the island of Mull and Lismore, to the south west the Isles of Colonsay, Islay and Jura and to the south the Island of Arran.

The girls silver group was made up of; Caitlin Willis, Bishnumaya Dura, Rhona Wilson and Lisa Graham. On Saturday 15th June we

found the only place in Britain which was dry and even had sun, Glenfeshie in the southern Cairngorms. The group enjoyed their training and are looking forward to their assessed expedition.

In early September the silver groups are planning their assessed expedition on the Island of Lismore on the West Coast just north of Oban.

### Staff Training

In May we ran a Duke of Edinburgh Award Accredited Assessor Training Course. This was a joint venture between the school and Stirling District Council youth services department. Teaching staff from Queen Victoria School, Beaconsburn School and Dunblane High School as well as parents from the local community attended the course. As more accredited assessors are created in our area it will allow more collaboration between the local schools and create a more independent assessment structure.

Thank you to all staff who help support our pupils with the Award not only in expeditions but all areas; skills, sport and volunteering.

*Tom Shannon, PT Outdoor Pursuits*

# CCF Contingent Commanders Report

This session has seen a number of staff changes here in the contingent and in our support staff from the three services. Although we have had to say farewell to a number of key personnel I am very pleased to report that as well as replacement staff we have also acquired extra staff bringing the contingent up to full strength for the first time in many years.

I am as ever indebted to our SSI Mr David Stacey whose stalwart support and sage advice has helped maintain continuity and stability throughout all the changes in personnel.

The Contingent is looking forward to our biennial inspection on the 25th September. Our inspecting Officer will be Lt Commander Andy Drodge RN. Andy was selected for Command of HMS Gannet in October 2011; he took up the post in June 2012.

## Royal Navy Section

Lt Paul Bush has done a sterling job running the naval section during Sub Lt Caroline McBlain's maternity leave. Sub Lt Duncan Davey has been a valuable assistant to Paul and successfully completed his Officer initial training course at Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth last November. We all look forward to Caroline's return to the section in October.

After the position of Area Chief Petty Officer being gapped for over a year a replacement is now in place. I welcomed CPO PT Stephen O'Neil to the school last term and already the Section is reaping the benefits of his help and support.

Our affiliated ship HMS Montrose has a new Commanding Officer; Commander J M B Parkin who kindly invited six cadets to spend a day at sea, unfortunately it was during the summer holidays so we were unable to take up the offer. I am sure another opportunity will come along soon. I would like to thank Cdr Parkin and wish him well in his new command.

The Section had a super field day visit to HM Naval Base Clyde where the cadets had a busy schedule including visiting a Trident submarine in the ship lift, on patrol in an MOD police patrol boat and a tour and demonstration from the bomb disposal team. A big thank you must go to Lt Cdr Gordon King our Parent Establishment liaison Officer for arranging the visit and looking after the cadets during the day.

## Army Section

After six years as OC of the Army Section, Capt. Paddy Hiddleston retired from the CCF in April this year. Paddy's professionalism, dedication and commitment to the Contingent was exemplary. He organised and ran numerous central camps as well as helping with adventure training camps. We will all miss him and wish him all the best in his new job.

I welcome Capt Mike Eastham as the new OC Army section.

After many years of cadet force service at 51 Brigade HQ Capt. Mike Wimberly retired in January. Mike had been a great supporter of Queen Victoria School and was always eager to offer advice and support when needed.

I am particularly pleased to welcome Mike's successor Ms Karen

Buchanan as Karen is also one of our parents.

In March the section had a weapons handling weekend which included a blank firing exercise for the first time in many years.



*Blank Firing.*

I was delighted to help support 71 Engineer Regiment (Volunteers) on their recent 500 mile charity cycle across Scotland. We provided accommodation, dining and Mr Stacey with his medical supplies. The team led by Lieutenant Colonel N D Mifsud Royal Engineers raised in excess of £3000 for the charity Combat Stress.

A group of our pipers, drummers and dancers performed at Armed Forces Day in Stirling in June. After the performance they went on to enjoy the stands and stalls especially the hotdog stall.

Summer camp this year was at Barry Buddon. The cadets were Ryan MacPherson, Struan Campbell, Cameron Houston, Alexander Johnstone, Arras Mathieson, Ewan Searle, Lewis Shaw, Joshua Smith, Ryan Thompson and Roderick Watson. A brief summary of this year's Summer Camp;

Sunday – QVS recruits completed 'Weapon Handling Tests' on the LSW and 'Minor Tactics'.

Monday – QVS recruits participated in a variety of activities including: 'Archery', 'Survival Stands' and 'Air Rifle Shooting'.

Tuesday – QVS recruits participated in a variety of 'Range Exercises' and a 'Navigation Exercise' (Struan Campbell hurt his hand during the navigation exercise and I took him to the local hospital. As he had fractured a finger, his parents were informed and they collected him from Camp on Wednesday morning).

Wednesday/Thursday – The QVS recruits were taken through a variety of activities in 'slow time'. They were then much more confident when participating in the final exercise on Thursday morning which they all enjoyed.

Friday – Fettes recruits joined with QVS recruits to participate in a 'round robin' of military tasks where they held their own.



*Summer camp.*

### Bisley

The cadets represented the school well and gave a good account of themselves in the shooting competitions. In fact, 5 of the 8 cadets finished in the Bisley top 100. Given that 530 cadets from all over the world were competing, I think this is an outstanding achievement for the individual cadets and the school.

Leon Boylan	Ranked 34
MacAulay McNally	Ranked 50
Ryan MacPherson	Ranked 53
Ashley Watson	Ranked 55
Connor Watson	Ranked 64

Cameron Carr shot outstandingly well throughout the entire competition but a bad batch of ammunition meant that his overall score did not reflect how well he had done. Joshua Conroy was a late entrant to the shooting team but held his own. The gazebo went down well as it attracted five Old Victorians who came to speak to us.

I would like to thank the Army support staff who come along each Wednesday to help and support the cadets with their training; WO1 Jim Martin, Staff Sgt Fiona White, Sgt Frank Simpson and Sgt James Galloway. Staff and cadets appreciate the dedication, knowledge and help they bring.

### Royal Air Force Section

The Section has formed a close link with a remote control plane club who have donated a working model to the section. Cadets are being trained to fly the plane, which is a fantastic way of seeing the flying theory they are taught in the classroom in action in the air.

Air experience flying was enjoyed by 36 cadets over the year, flying from RAF Leuchars in Fife.

The Section had an informal visit from Wing Cdr Neville Clayton who is OC BSW Station HQ RAF Leuchars. Neville was keen to support the section with stores and help with any clothing problems. Neville also returned to the school on Grand Day which he also enjoyed very much.

The Section had a successful field day visit to the national museum of flight which helped to extend the cadets aviation knowledge. I would like to thank all my CCF Officers and Staff for their hard work, dedication and support they give our cadets. I also thank my cadets for being great ambassadors for the CCF and Queen Victoria School.

*CCF Cdr Tom Shannon RD RNR, Contingent Commander*



*Bisley.*



## Cadet Summer Camp – 2013

This year's Summer Camp was held during the first week of the summer holidays at Barry Buddon training area near Dundee.

During the first day at camp cadets participated in Exercise Shakeout which gave them an opportunity to practise weapon handling, cooking in the field, patrolling and section attacks in preparation for the week ahead. By the end of this exercise the camaraderie between the cadets was already evident.

A round robin of events was provided on Monday. The cadets took part in a variety of activities including archery, survival techniques (poor rabbits!), air rifle shooting and rope work. As if this was not enough for one day, a navigation exercise and mobile obstacle course also had to be endured that evening. All survived, but only just!

Tuesday saw us off to the ranges where the cadets fired the GPA2 rifle. They demonstrated good weapon handling and high marksmanship skills, with Sgt Ryan MacPherson achieving 'best shot'. Sgt MacPherson also gave a highly competent demonstration on the LSW (Light Support Weapon) to the assembled schools.

We got down to business on Wednesday and Thursday with Exercise Striking Lion, living in the field under 'bashers'. Using blank

ammunition and pyrotechnics, the cadets teamed up with other sections and took part in a 'night-time' ambush on the enemy! They thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience and returned to their 'bashers' exhausted. The next morning we were up at the crack of dawn and QVS section were tasked with destroying the enemy in a section attack. This was executed with great enthusiasm and we finished the exercise on a high.

We joined Fettes College on Friday for the final round robin of military performance events. Cadets took part in drill, weapon handling, first-aid and map/compass activities. There was an opportunity to relax (at last) on the Friday evening with a disco which was enjoyed by all.

The cadets had a fantastic week and learned many new skills. Cdt Lewis Shaw achieved 'Best QVS Recruit' and Sgt Ryan MacPherson achieved 'Best QVS Cadet'. All cadets displayed enthusiasm and keenness and were a credit to Queen Victoria School. I know that they would all like to say a big thank you to Cpl Allan for giving up his time to help with summer camp.

*2Lt Harrison, QVS Army Section*







## QVS Shooting Team – Bisley 2013

This year a team of eight cadets attended the School's Imperial Meeting at Bisley between the 7th July and 12th July. The team was captained by Ssgt Ashley Watson, along with Ssgt Cameron Carr, Sgt Ryan MacPherson, Sgt MacAulay McNally, Lcpl Tony Barber, Lcpl Connor Watson, Cdt Leon Boylan and Cdt Joshua Conroy. We started the week, this year, by entering the Cadet GPA2 rifle matches. These consisted of deliberate, rapid and snap target shooting. We also entered 2 four man teams into the Cadet Falling Plates (some fun before the serious business of the main competitions). The target rifle competitions took place on Tuesday and Wednesday with the Wellington (300 yards), the Iveagh (500 yards) and the Victoria Tankard (600 yards). The week concluded with the final competition, the Ashburton, on Thursday. This prestigious competition required the cadets to take on the roles carried out by adults in the previous competitions. This included taking responsibility for administration, coaching and scoring.

During a rare British heat wave, the cadets sheltered beneath the new school gazebo, keeping us cool under pressure. So cool in fact that seven cadets managed to secure a place in the top 100 of the Cadet Champion at Arms (top 51 to be exact). The gazebo also drew the attention of five Old Victorians who wished us well. The cadets displayed commitment and professionalism throughout the event and particular recognition needs to be given to Sgt Ryan MacPherson and Lcpl Connor Watson who respectively took responsibility for coaching and administration during the Ashburton.

While we attended Bisley, we were accommodated at Brunswick training camp where we were able to socialise after a hard day on the

range. We also managed to make time for a bit of recreational shooting with cadets having a go at gallery rifle and clay pigeon shooting, both of which resulted in lots of laughter. We took the opportunity to make new friends with cadets from around the world and also to catch up with our Irish friends from this year's Cadet Summer Camp.

I know that the team would want to say a big thank you to Mr Mike Barton who provided us with invaluable coaching assistance throughout the week. It was a privilege to take the QVS Shooting Team to Bisley this year and their enthusiasm and commitment has resulted in the following achievements.

NRA Victoria Tankard Silver Spoon  
NRA Marksman Skill Shot Badge  
NRA Target Rifleman Certificate  
Cadets Champion at Arms

Sgt M. McNally  
Ssgt C. Carr  
Cdt L. Boylan  
Cdt L. Boylan  
Sgt M. McNally  
Ssgt A. Watson  
Sgt R. MacPherson  
Ssgt C. Carr  
Lcpl C. Watson  
Cdt J. Conroy

I look forward to Bisley 2014!

*2Lt Harrison, QVS Shooting Officer*



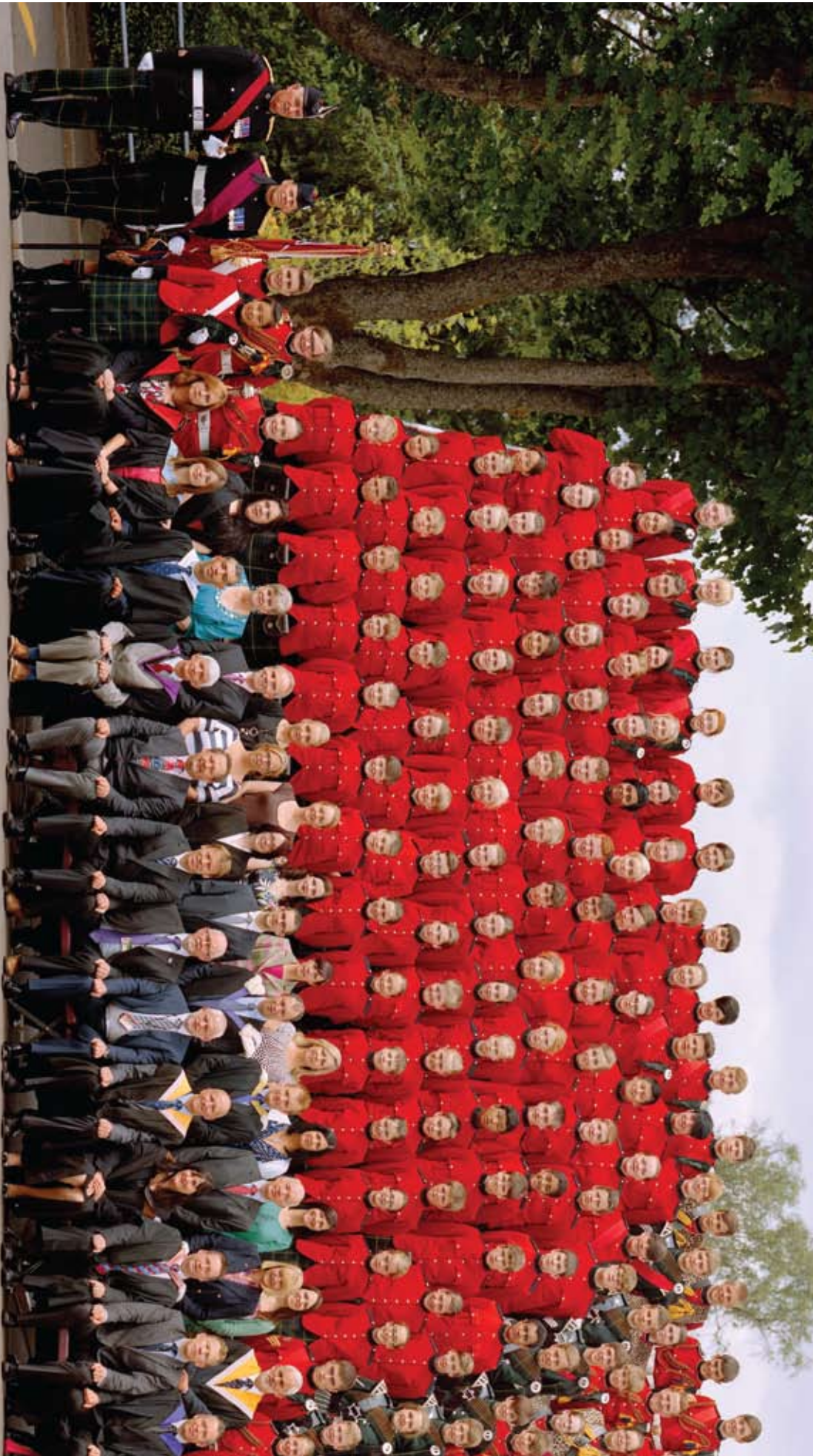
Navy.



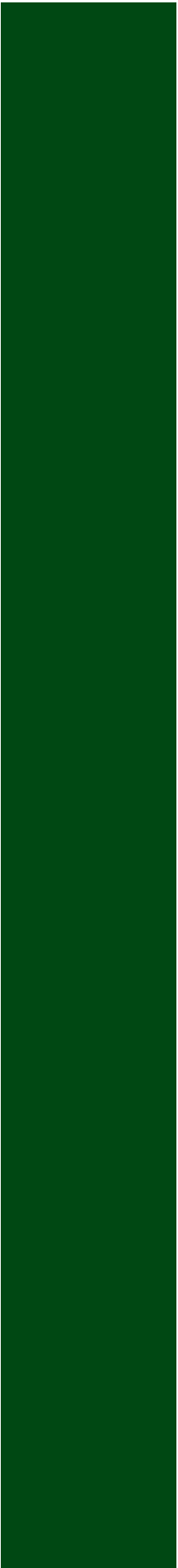
RAF.



THOMAS PHOTOGRAPHY



QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL - 2013







# Retired Staff

## 41 Years at the Chalk Face

I began my life in teaching in September 1972, at a small prep school in Hertfordshire. The Headmaster's advice consisted in pearls of wisdom beyond price. First, he told me to start off by being strict in the classroom, because then you made the rules. Second, I was to apply those rules fairly and treat all my pupils consistently, so that every child would know where he stood with me. Third, I had to be myself and was not to pretend otherwise. 'Children's radar is usually accurate,' he said, 'and they can tell when you are trying to be something you are not.' Fourth, if I did not know the answer, then I was to admit it, go away and find it out. Finally, in response to my anxious question 'But what do I teach them?' he airily replied 'Oh, just talk.' I fear I probably took that too much to heart, for I have been talking ever since!

It really was 'the chalk face' 41 years ago; the dust created seemed to infiltrate everywhere. When the overhead projector made its appearance it was at the cutting edge of technology. If you had one you did not lightly lend it out. Change took place - of course it did - but it was slow compared to what has occurred in just these last few years, and even now yet another technological revolution (involving ipads, for all love!) is under way. The Luddite in me would have been very apprehensive: I have only just recently come to terms with the phenomenon that is the filofax. What I would have done with an ipad only the Dear knows. It must have been via a kind of serendipity that I had already come to the conclusion that it would be right to retire from teaching on Grand Day 2013, by which date I had been a small part of Queen Victoria School for precisely nine years, three months and two days.

All told, I have worked in six schools these last 41 years - in England, Scotland and the Far East. Perhaps the closest I came to mixing with celebrity was when I was attempting to teach History at Denis Law's old school in Aberdeen... but he had left several years before I arrived. However, I did rub shoulders with royalty: one of the sisters of the Sultan of Brunei wanted to take 'A' Level History (as a mature student) and I was delegated by the Principal of the Sixth Form Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan to be the princess's tutor. At another place, one of my pupils had the boundless optimism - and the wisdom and the humility - to carve into all his notebooks and folders the inscription 'Remember: failure is but one step on the road to success.'

I think that those who enjoy their jobs are lucky. Well, at the risk of sinking to what my Jewish grandmother would have condemned as schmaltz, I have enjoyed my job. No - more than that: I have loved being a teacher. To be sure, not every day has been unadulterated gold, but there have been moments - such moments. To see the understanding dawn in pupils' eyes when the opaque becomes clear; to solve problems, no matter how serious or trivial (to the young, problems can assume an immensity grown-ups do not see); to help children do the right thing ('...the road less travelled'); to observe as stropky argumentative creatures grow into helpful kind sensitive rounded confident people of whom their parents, teachers and schools can be proud - those examples and more have produced the 'moments' mentioned above. They have sprung from all those pupils I have had the pain and the torment(!) the pleasure and the privilege of teaching. If I harbour one regret as I depart Queen Victoria School it would be that I have not had the success I could wish in persuading

Victorians that cricket really is the world's greatest game...

Best wishes to you all,

JC

## Graham Carroll

For more than 36 years Graham Carroll devoted his working life to looking after the children of UK Armed Forces personnel here at QVS. Joining in February 1976, Graham was first of all a class teacher and House Tutor, then an Assistant Housemaster, a Deputy Housemaster, a Housemaster (for nine years) and in charge of the Primary department for 11 years. Finally, he was Deputy Head (Pastoral and Guidance) from 2005 until his retirement in June 2012. Graham held a Commission within the CCF and was in charge of the Army Section from 1988 until 1994. Although Graham coached in swimming, soccer, cricket and basketball, it will be on the rugby field that his Games commitment is best remembered: "Skip" Carroll coached and refereed for nearly 37 years. Graham's family connection with QVS goes back even further than that, however, with both his father and his uncle, as well as his older brother, having been at the School.

Never one to do only the bare minimum, Graham always made sure that the children with whom his work - particularly in the pastoral roles - brought him into contact were aware that they could share their problems with him at any hour of the day or night. With his wisdom, kindness, understanding and gentle sense of humour Graham comforted, guided and reassured generations of pupils, and indeed their parents.

Graham has gently but firmly resisted any attempt to thank him publicly for his devotion and good sense, his warmth and professionalism, the hours spent with members of the QVS community and those in which he carefully cultivated good relationships with key organisations and bodies outside the School, to its undoubted benefit. We shall miss him, and wish him many happy and healthy years of retirement with Maureen and - when they manage to get out to Australia - their children and grandchildren.

*Wendy Bellars, Head*

## Colin Philson

It was in 1997 that Colin Philson joined QVS, from Invergordon Academy where he had been Assistant Rector. Taking up the post of Deputy Head, Colin was at that point the only Deputy to the then Head, Brian Raine. Until his retirement in October 2012, Colin worked tirelessly in support of the School, particularly in the areas of timetable, examinations and reports. A History teacher by qualification, Colin taught at times to cover for absent colleagues, coached and refereed in rugby and was known to be an aficionado of traditional Scottish music - as his occasional performances at Burns Suppers, and his selfless support of the QVS Pipes and Drums, testified.

In all of this, for Colin it was about much more than just "doing the job": his deep-rooted belief in the purpose of Queen Victoria School



and the care which it affords to its military families influenced all that he did, and that conviction had a profound effect on those with whom he worked – colleagues, pupils and parents alike.

Despite his best attempts to leave QVS without any acknowledgement of his efforts on our behalf, Colin's input did not go unnoticed and was appreciated by many. He will be missed, and we

hope that he will enjoy many happy, healthy years of retirement in the Highlands with Trish, doing all the interesting and rewarding things which fascinated him and had to be “put on hold” whilst he was living and working the “24/7” existence which is term-time at QVS.

*Wendy Bellars, Head*



*QVS employees awarded the Imperial Service Medal in recognition of 25 years service to the Ministry of Defence. Pictured left to right: Margaret Roy and Sandy Stockman; Helen Heslop.*

### Lt Col Ken Evans

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the sudden death of my father, Lt Col Ken Evans, at the age of 88 on Friday 28 September 2012. He was the last serving RAEC officer to be Head of Queen Victoria School, from 1970 to 1973.

He thoroughly enjoyed his time at QVS, and recently told me that it was probably his favourite posting. That was against some serious opposition given that he was on the staff at Sandhurst, a Housemaster at the Duke of Yorks School, and served in Africa, India, Korea, Singapore and in the UK. He threw himself into the life of QVS not only during term, but also visiting CCF camps and other activities during the school holidays. A keen sportsman, he was an avid supporter of school teams. I remember our family attending the annual Wavell House camp at Rothiemurchus Lodge in the

Cairngorms, which was then a large log cabin – our labrador Sam was particularly popular, even if he did hog the open fire!

He enjoyed working with young people, and was proud of the ethos and achievements of the school. Recently he watched the Edinburgh Tattoo, and also the Songs of Praise programme from Dunblane Cathedral – he commented on the confident and capable interviews given by staff and pupils. I sense that he knew QVS remains in good hands.

He left the Army in 1975 and settled in Yorkshire, working until final retirement in 1987 as an investigator for the Local Government Ombudsman, which took him all over the north of England.

*David Evans*



# Staff List

## Senior Management Team:

**Head** W A Bellars MA(Hons) DipEd MA(Ed Man) PGCE  
**Senior Deputy Head** D J Shaw BSc(Hons) PGCE  
**Deputy Head (P & G)** S J Adams BSc(Hons) PGCE  
**Deputy Head (P S)** C A Phipps BA(Hons) PGCE PGCG  
**School Business Manager** S B Dougan

## Housemasters & Housemistresses:

**Cunningham** M J Eastham BA(Hons) PGCE  
**Haig** N Lear BSc(Hons) MSc PGCE  
**Trenchard** P N Bush BA(Hons) PGCE  
**Wavell** R L Appleyard BA(Hons) PGCE

## Principal Teachers:

G J Beattie MA MEd PGCE PGC in SFL PGD in SFL  
D V Breingan DR SAM DipEd  
G T Buchanan MA(Hons) ALCM  
D Gilhooly BA(Hons) SQH PGDSL M DipEd  
T King BEd(Hons) PGCE PGCG ATQ Primary DR SAM PGRNCM  
A M Kirk MA(Hons) DipEdTech PGCE  
J S Laing DipTechEdn  
J S Lawrence BSc(Hons) MSc PGCE  
D McLay BEd(Hons)  
A Thomson MA PGCE  
R C Wright BA PGCE

## Teaching Staff

J Adams MA(Hons) PGCE  
R M H Boyd BD(Hons) DipTh (School Chaplain)  
A Bryce BSc(Hons) MSc PGDE  
J E Coates BA(Hons) MLitt DipEd PGCE  
D J Davey BSc(Hons) PGCE (Acting PT Science)  
A M Downey BA(Hons) PGDE  
M J Eastham BA(Hons) PGCE  
L G Edwards CertEd Cert PP in BE  
S C B Johns DipEd  
N Lear BSc(Hons) MSc PGCE  
V M B Low BEd(Hons)  
L MacLeod BA(Hons) PGDE  
C McBlain BSc DipEd  
A V McDonnell BSc(Hons) PGDE  
L A McKenny BA(Hons) PGDE  
J A Porter MA(Hons) MSc PGCE  
S K Ronald BSc PGCE (Acting PT Mathematics)  
J F Scott Laing BEd(Hons)  
T McP Shannon RD HNDMechEng DipTechEdn  
C-A Taylor BSc(Hons) PGCE Cert PP in BE PGC in SFL

## Uniformed Staff:

**School Sergeant** Major D D H Stacey MBE (late Black Watch)  
**Pipe Major** G R Ross Diploma in Piping (late Gordon Highlanders)  
**Drum Major** J G Clark (late The Highlanders)  
**Highland Dancing Instructor** M H Drever BSc(Hons) PGDE MUKA HNC

## School Librarian:

C Sheerin BA(Hons) DipLib MCLIP

## Visiting Music Teachers:

G Baillie J Leavey  
J Bamforth A Lynch  
M Bryans H McIntosh  
J Greer G Spowart  
I Hood

## House Matrons:

**Cunningham** S M Eastham  
**Haig** C Dunn  
**Trenchard** H A Devlin  
**Wavell** M C Sword

## Housekeepers:

H L Galletly K McVey  
A MacDonald M del C O'Neill

## Medical Centre Staff:

**Sister** M A Skeith RGN  
**Nurse** A Brennan BA RGN HV  
**Auxiliary** V J Hiddleston

## Foreign Language Assistant:

N Templin

## Overseas House Assistants ('GAP' Students):

H Boyle M Lindsay  
M Davis J MacAlpine  
J Gordon N McKenzie  
C Henderson A Rowell

## Business Support Staff:

**HR Business Partner & Assistant Business Manager** S J Rutledge  
Chartered MCIPD  
**Estates Manager** A McGregor  
**Finance & Administration Manager** K Lawrie BA(Hons)  
**Deputy Estates Manager (Acting)** M A Stephen  
**Deputy Finance & Administration Manager** I M Mair MAAT  
**ICT Manager** N A Penrose  
**Head's Personal Assistant** C P Rankin  
**Senior Deputy Head's Personal Assistant** A Morea  
**Deputy Heads' Personal Assistant** L M Craig  
**School Business Manager's Personal Assistant** A MacFarlane  
**Business Support Officer** A B Gauld BA(Hons)  
**Accounts & Administration Officer** M Symon  
**Purchasing & Administration Officer** A E M M Kerr  
**Estates Administrative Support Officer** T Laird  
**Administrative Support & Reprographics Assistant** A Paddon  
**Laboratory Technician (3)** M Leask BSc  
**Storekeeper (Clothing)** M-A Fleming  
**Storekeeper (Accommodation Stores)** G Marnock  
**Storekeeper (Equipment)** S Harrison  
**Storekeeper (PE Dept)** P A Warner  
**Leading Hand** R G MacDougall  
**General Hand** G R McConnell  
**Civilian Security Officer (4)** R Hiddleston (until 31st March 2013)  
**Civilian Security Officer (5)** R Davies (until 31st March 2013)  
**Civilian Security Officer (5)** G P McGuire (until 31st March 2013)  
**Civilian Security Officer (5)** K C Covus (until 31st March 2013)



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