



# Easter Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

March 2017

## Rector's Message

One of the main activities across the school has been the involvement of our S1 and S3 pupils making their option choices for next session. As well as this our S4 and S5 pupils have been heavily engaged in their choices for next session. To support all of this the school has delivered on subject course information, subject reports, parent evenings and Skills Development Scotland input. Our Guidance and subject teachers have been available and have helped everyone involved in making their informed choices.

Since Christmas a significant amount of work has been directed towards our senior phase pupils, encouraging them to work hard on prelim revision, internal assessment/folio work and of course getting into the correct frame of mind, with the preparation they require to do before the final run up to their SQA exams.

In the Scottish Schools' Survey of Attainment, published in the National Newspapers in March, Madras College was placed (for the second consecutive year) in the top 50 schools in Scotland - the only Fife school to be accredited with this achievement. While we recognise that attainment is only one aspect of the measure of a school, we are of course delighted that the efforts of our pupils, staff and parents/carers has delivered such a positive report. One which is particularly well noted since our mean (SIM) decile is 7.8 (in a range of 1 to 10) and not, as many believe, to be 9 or 10 and that Madras' best category of "attainment in Advanced Higher" was not included in the reported list.

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## Holocaust Memorial Day

January 2017

The S2 elective class heard a live webcast from a holocaust survivor. The event was broadcast to schools across the UK on Holocaust Memorial Day.

The following is an account from two of our pupils from the class.

### HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR ARTICLE REVIEW

On 27th January 2017 Mala Tribich gave a personal review of what happened during the Holocaust which made us realise how important the legacy of the terrible event is. It is impossible to imagine how traumatic her experiences were especially at the age of 12.



At the age of 12 Mala and her family were forced by the Nazi party to live in the Ghettos. During this time the ghettos became so overcrowded that the Nazis decided to deport everyone, except those with working permits, to death camps. At this time it was decided that Mala and her cousin would go to a couple and pass as visiting Christian children, attempting to escape the deportations. They were terrified that they were going to be captured if anyone looked at them for more than one second. Mala's cousin was so scared and homesick that she was sent back to the Ghetto where she was to stay with a person who was looking after their possessions. When Mala arrived back after the deportations her father and her uncle were there. Her uncle asked her where her cousin was. Nobody knew. It is still a mystery to this day.

Mala returned to the Ghetto and lived for a while with a complete family. Then Mala's mother and little sister were taken to the local ghetto and held captive there. Later they were executed.

Around this time Mala's 5-year-old cousin Ann came to live with them. Mala looked after her. Then the second round of deportations began. Mala and Ann were in it. Mala got the idea to ask the officer if she could go back into the ghetto to be with her father and brother. She was allowed. Then she argued and managed to allow Ann back into the ghetto too.

In 1944 Mala and Ann were taken to Bergen-Belsen camp where she heard about a children's area. She managed to find it and she and Ann were accepted. She stayed in the awful conditions until Britain liberated the camp. Then she was sent to Sweden and eventually to England and her brother.

Ailsa O'Riordan  
Erin Forrester

Continued from page 1

Last year the 199 pupils in S4 achieved 860 passes in National 5 subjects across the curriculum (at grades A-C). Of these 476 were at grade A. This is a very mentionable 55.3% at grade A. The school is very aware that attainment grades are becoming more important for our young people and the school works very hard to support them in their endeavours to achieve the best.

Of course the term has also brought with it some really rewarding events and activities such as the very successful Burns Supper; our visitors from across the “pond” in Ohio USA; the Madras involvement in the Scottish Schools’ Pipe Band Competition and of course the end of term Great Assembly for S3 - S6 pupils in the Holy Trinity Church.

We also introduced a one day per week regular participation in Form Time for all S1 - S3 pupils of “Ninja” Maths to support our major drive on improving numeracy skills for all pupils.

Our mid-session review of the current Improvement Plan concludes that we have almost overtaken the vast majority of our targets and have allowed us to identify the areas for improvement focus for next session. We would welcome your thoughts or comments regarding this, which you can give by email to the school office, or contact with the Parent Council through the chair, Mrs Susan Simpson. The areas for focus will come within:

**Curriculum** - changes to our BGE, changes due to the removal of mandatory internal assessment for National 5 (next session) and Higher (the session after next). Continued exploration of S.P. courses to support pupil choice.

**National Improvement Framework** - continued focus on numeracy skills, assessment of numeracy, literacy and health across the BGE, focus on employability skills and of course a strategy for “Closing the Gap”.

**GIRFEC** - looking at how we can implement and manage Fife’s pilot of “named person”.

**Learning and Teaching** - continue to support improvements to pedagogy.

**School Ethos** - review of our core values (to support our review of Madras’ Rationale of the curriculum). Continued focus on Rigour, Good Order, Responsibility, Attainment and Image.

As ever I would ask you to support our expectation that pupils wear school uniform while in school. The image of the school in this sense is crucial for our campus security and for how we present to the community. Both are important and the school will support any pupil who requests uniform support.

Next term I will be writing to some parents to ask that they consider registering for meal entitlement (and clothing grant) as this now carries a significant benefit for the school in the form of the Scottish government Equity Fund.

And finally this term has been quite challenging due to staff vacancies and I would like to thank all staff, pupils and parents/carers for their continued support and in some cases outstanding efforts to ensure that our young people continue to be prepared, to do well in their studies and in their progression to positive destinations (a record 96.4% last session).

*David P. McClure.*



## St Andrews Fashion Festival

Rosa Guild, Nicole Herd and Meg MacLeod, pupils who study both Fashion and Textiles Technology and Art entered the first **Staff** Competition. The competition theme was “Alba with Edge”. Over three months their research into Scottish textiles and fashion designers led them to develop two outfits using recycled clothing.



At the inaugural Runway Show the outfits were modelled. The development sketch book and the outfits were awarded first prize by the panel of industry experts: an engraved trophy and cash.

Six pupils took part in a Fashion Academy which gave an insight into some of the work of the fashion sector. Presentations were given by a retail fashion shop owner, a young award winning textile designer who was about to show at London Fashion Week, and fashion bloggers. In the afternoon there was a hands on experience of styling for a fashion photo shoot.



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# Musical Notes

## Fife Festival of Music

In February over 100 Madras pupils took part in competitive and non-competitive solo and group classes at the Fife Music Festival. The pupils all performed extremely well and had a very enjoyable experience.



### COMPETITIVE GROUP CLASSES

- The Junior, Senior and Mixed Choir all performed in the competitive choral classes and received Platinum Awards.
- The Wind Band performed in the Wind Band class and received a Silver Award.
- The Senior String Orchestra performed in the Orchestra class and received a Gold Award.

### NON-COMPETITIVE GROUP CLASSES

- The Junior String Orchestra, Clarsach Group and S2 Ensemble Group all performed in the non-competitive Secondary School Class.
- The Staff Choir performed in the non-competitive Community Choral class.

### SOLO CLASS WINNERS

- Fin McGhie S2 won the Advanced Piano Class and received an Outstanding award.
- Maisie Dury won the Under 13 Vocal Class and received an Outstanding award.

Many other Madras pupils performed in solo classes and should be congratulated for their performances.

Congratulations and well done to all the pupils who performed.

## Madras Pipe Band

The Pipe Band has had another busy term with numerous events and performances. A big thank you to Jack and Eric Hao who performed at the Holy Trinity Church Burns Supper and Ellie Clayton S5 who played at the Balnacarron Care Home Burns Supper.

In January the Pipe Band kicked off the Primary 7 Information Evening in great style entertaining the pupils and parents. See more on Page 4.

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## Madras Musicians In Fife Music Activities

Once again, the busy concert period for Saturday morning and Tuesday evening Fife Music Activities has come and gone. Pupils have been busy at weekly rehearsals over the autumn and winter months and the results were evident over the last few weeks, when the groups performed to enthusiastic and hugely appreciate audiences.

Mrs Taylor, Music Co-ordinator, is delighted to be welcoming so many Madras pupils to the forthcoming Fife Concert Band and Fife Sinfonia residential course. Pupils will be picked up from schools on Friday 31st March, returning Monday 3rd April 2017. The Concert Band and Sinfonia concert will take place at the Lochgelly Centre on Wednesday 19th April. Mrs Miller is organising a bus so if any pupils are interested in attending the concert please collect a letter from the music department.

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## Performing At the Byre Theatre

Former pupil, Finn Anderson has been in school working with some of the Senior pupils on one of his own compositions. The pupils will be supporting him during his show at the Byre Theatre on 25th April where Isobel and Katie Grieve (S4) and Arin Beaver (S6) will perform one of their own compositions.

# Fife Burns Competition



The annual Fife Burns Competition took place on Saturday 18th March at Auchmuty High School. The Madras team did extremely well and all the pupils involved gave excellent performances. The 1st and 2nd winners will represent Fife in the Robert Burns World Federation National Schools' Festival 2017. This will be held on 22nd April at St Athanasius Primary School, Carluke.

## S1/2 Instrumental

1st place – Zoe Mitcham  
2nd place – Holly Bartlett

## S1/2 Singing

3rd place – Maisie Dury

## S1/2 Recitation

3rd place - Luke Connah

## S3/4 Instrumental

1st place – Katie Grieve  
2nd place – Isobel Grieve

## S3/4 Singing

3rd place – Natalie Rengger

## S5/6 Singing

2nd place – Eilidh McGhee

# Pipe Band



Madras College Pipe Band made an impact in Church Square welcoming pupils to the Great Assembly on 28th March. The Band opened the event marching into the church playing Scottish traditional pipe tunes Rustic Bridge and Roman Tree with the pipes and drums echoing round the huge building to great effect and setting the scene.



# Music Exam Success

*Well done to all pupils who sat instrumental exams this term*

Results awarded so far:

- S5 Joanna Burns: pass for her Grade 4 violin exam.
- S3 Joseph Mackie: distinction for his Grade 7 Piano exam.  
Euan West: pass for his Grade 4 Trombone exam.
- S2 Mary Kennedy: merit for her Grade 3 violin exam.  
Dugald Macfarlane: merit for his Grade 2 violin exam.  
Maisie Russell: distinction for her Grade 1 Cello exam.  
Catherine Simpson: pass for her Grade 1 Cello exam.
- S1 Maisie Dury: distinction for her Grade 3 Cello and a pass for her Grade 3 Piano exam.  
Tara Earley: merit for her Grade 4 French Horn exam.  
Eric Hao: merit for his Grade 2 Cello exam.  
Estella Irving: pass for her Grade 1 Piano exam.  
Riognach Macfarlane: pass for her Grade 5 piano exam.  
Luisa Miller: merit for her Grade 3 Piano exam.  
William Walker: pass for his Grade 1 violin exam.

## Scottish Schools' Pipe Band Championships

The Pipe Band were proud to participate in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships at James Gillespie's School in Edinburgh on 12th March. This is the fifth time the Band has played at the competition. They played an excellent set A Man's a Man for a' That and the Barren Rocks of Aden. Over 60 Pipe Bands performed to crammed auditoriums and a great day was had by all.

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# Social Subjects

- **BUILDING GEOGRAPHICAL TIES WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS**



On 15th March over 150 higher geographers from 10 Fife schools attended the inaugural geography mini-conference at the University of St Andrews. The aim was to build stronger links with the department of Geography and Sustainability and give Higher pupils a flavour of geographical themed lectures at university. Topics linked directly to the curriculum were sampled including: glaciation, climate change, malaria and population studies. We hope this connection will grow in the coming years and provide another opportunity for Madras College pupils to access support for their geography studies. One of our geographers, Vincent Clark (S6), can just be seen on the back row, to the right!

- **FREE SPEECH RIGHTS** (*Ewan Redpath*)

On 8th March a group of senior Madras pupils attended an afternoon of talks organised by the local Rotary Club on the theme of free speech. The first two speakers, who were both PhD students from the University of St Andrews' International Relations Department, gave a detailed overview of the changing nature of free speech rights in Turkey and a powerful discussion of the importance of speaking out in the face of oppression. The pupils then had the opportunity of questioning the speakers before being divided into three groups to discuss the issues raised with each other and fellow pupils from St Leonards. There were some intense disagreements and lively discussions, but everyone found the conversations on this relevant and important subject very stimulating. Finally, they were treated to a whirlwind tour of the history and function of free speech by one of the department's lecturers.

- **MP VISITS HIGHER POLITICS CLASS**

Stephen Gethins MP visited the Higher Politics class to talk about his work as the MP for North East Fife. Pupils from the class asked questions for over an hour on a whole range of issues from Brexit to Donald Trump. It was a very successful visit which helped the pupils gain an insight into the work of an MP. Mr Gethins talked extensively about his work on the foreign affairs committee and was able to provide pupils with a good range of quotes for their upcoming assignment. The school would like to thank Stephen for giving up his time.

# Physics Department

- Recently Madras College Physics Department, in conjunction with the University of St Andrews, ran a Science roadshow. There were three different classrooms and each one had two or three students doing demonstrations. Zoe Kennovin reports:

To start with, we went to a room all about waves. There was a plate that vibrated really fast and had salt on it. The salt was to show the standing waves that the plate was creating. If you turned up the frequency that the plate was vibrating at, then there were different patterns. There was also a plasma ball. It was really cool because, if you touched it, you could see the energy going towards you. What was actually happening was that the energy was flowing through you and into the ground.

The second room was my favourite. It had one area demonstrating how pressure affects things, which was really interesting. Balloons got bigger or smaller depending what the pressure was. One was showing how magnets work. There was also some experiments involving liquid nitrogen – such a mysterious thing!

The third station had lots of demonstrations and was really interesting. It was all about the universe and our planets. There was a bit about how the Milky Way and another galaxy will eventually collide which I had never heard of before. Some people got to sit in a chair that could spin which mysteriously would rotate faster if we brought our arms in closer to our bodies. Also, if we were sitting still in the chair, and held and tilted a spinning wheel, the chair would start to spin.

Overall I thought this was a great event. I love science!

- Congratulations to Chloe Smith (S5) who has been selected to attend the Scottish Space School at Strathclyde University in June. Thousands applied, but Chloe was chosen as one of 60 to spend a week meeting astronauts, building rockets, planning space missions etc. Fingers crossed she gets through to the next round; she could win a place on a trip to NASA's Houston Space Centre.
- Congratulations also to Ms R Cornwell (Physics teacher) who won the Spring quiz in 'Physics World' magazine. She is enjoying reading the book that was her prize.

- **DEFENCE LAWYER VISIT**

The Advanced Higher Modern Studies pupils had the opportunity to hear all about the criminal justice system from one of our parents.

Pupils took part in a workshop and asked a full range of questions relating to their dissertations. This kind of visit is invaluable for the pupils, I would like to thank Katrina for giving up her time and supporting the Department.

# English Department

## Literature Quiz

A team of avid readers ventured to Beath High School this term to pit their wits against neighbouring Fife Schools. Organised by the English Department at Beath, pupils were asked a variety of questions on famous authors, novel beginnings and Classic literature. The two teams won a number of spot prizes, with Luca Venditozzi, in particular, showing a remarkable knowledge of literature both past and present. There was also a book swap event, where pupils brought a favourite novel to swap. A really fun day with an armful of books to take home!

## Visiting Speakers

This term in English we have been lucky enough to draw on the expert knowledge of a variety of outside speakers for both our Senior and Junior classes. In Kilrymont, Glasgow Poet Laureate, Jim Carruth, took the Literature Elective Class in which he read and discussed a number of his poems with the pupils.

In South Street, Ann Bridges, who previously worked at Madras for a number of years, and who has written several books as well as worked for the SQA for many years, delivered lessons on Textual Analysis to the Advanced Higher Class in order to help further prepare them for their exam.

We were also lucky enough to have two visiting lecturers from the University of St Andrews English Department; Phillip Mallet who delivered a lecture on "Great Expectations" to the Advanced Higher Class and Chris Jones who did a session on the poetry of E.E. Cummings and Carol Ann Duffy.

There was also a writers workshop run by Marjorie Gill of StAnza. She looked at the theme of "Belonging" and encouraged the pupils to think about what they might take with them if they had to leave.

## World Book Day Fun

World Book Day took place in March. During their usual Library Period, pupils from S1 and S3 were invited for an hour of quizzes, games and activities all about books. Run by Mrs Higgins, the School Librarian, pupils enjoyed the event enormously. They were also given a voucher to enable them to buy one of the World Book Day special editions which include famous authors such as Jacqueline Wilson and David Walliams.

## Rotary Quiz

This year's Quiz took place on Wednesday 8th March at Auchmuty High School. With some quite testing rounds on History, Science, Literature and Sport, the team: Baran Talajooy, Maisie Payne, Zoe Mitcham and Ewan Redpath, fared well in the quiz and enjoyed the new format. No dates ties this year though!

## Comic relief



On Friday 24th March, S1-3 pupils participated in a series of sporting events to raise money for Comic Relief. These events were organised and run by our recently appointed Mini Ambassadors and included the following: 'Row the Amazon', 'Cycle the Tour de France', 'Run the London Marathon', 'Climb Mount Kilimanjaro' and 'Just Danceathon'. In each of the events, pupils had to use their numeracy and geographical skills to contribute to their teams goal of trying to complete each event. Pupils worked extremely well and were rewarded by a Malteser Bake Sale put on by the Home Economics department. A total of £948.00 was raised; a magnificent achievement, only bettered by the pupils' enthusiasm and effort. Well done to all!

## PHASE 1

### *A Unique Collaboration*

*The School of Psychology and Neuroscience, University of St Andrews  
and*

*The Psychology Division, Madras College*

Last summer, Maneesh Kuruvilla (Research Postgraduate) won the St Andrews final of Three Minute Thesis and was awarded £500 to run a public engagement with research project. He came up with the idea of PHASE 1, a Platform for Honing and Accelerating Scientific Excellence. PHASE 1 is aimed at introducing his passion for research to students at Madras College in conjunction with Ms Catherine O'Donnell (Psychology Teacher) and Mr Kenneth Wishart (Depute S5/6).

At the Byre Theatre on 29th March, five students about to undertake Psychology at university - Arin Beaver, Jack Laird, Till Sprengelmeyer, Ross Lavin and Aeonie Ramsay - will present two 8-minute talks on the research projects that they have been working on as part of the Higher syllabus. The event will also feature guest talks by Professor Dave Perrett, Dr Jamie Ainge and Dr Maggie Ellis from the School of Psychology and Neuroscience. Students will be awarded certificates signed by Mr McClure and co-signed by Professor Keith Sillar and Mhairi Stewart (Public Engagement Officer, University of St Andrews).

This is an exciting opportunity for these bright students; an experience they will never forget and, furthermore, it serves to illustrate some of the wonderful benefits of working in collaboration with the University of St Andrews.

# Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of the Kiel Exchange

Preparations are now well underway to mark this significant milestone in the history of the Kiel Exchange which we understand is the oldest, unbroken exchange between schools in Germany and the United Kingdom.

We are looking forward to welcoming 31 pupils from the Kieler Gelehrtenschule. Herr Schoeneich, the head teacher, will be making his second visit to St Andrews. The pupils and exchange Alumni will be engaged in a Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Project, funded by the UK-German Connection, a bi-lateral government initiative based in London and in Berlin. The first 'community learning' event linked to this project takes place on Tuesday 21 March 2017. Lawrence Brown (S4) and Baran Talajooy (S5) will address the Kilrymont Rotary Club, outlining the history of our prestigious exchange.



Alumni from as far afield as Canada and Australia have been in touch and we look forward to welcoming a number of former exchange participants to our Anniversary Ceilidh on Saturday, 24 June 2017. More information about this event will appear on the school website over the next couple of months.

Thank you to all members of the school community who have supported our bake sales. Our next fundraising activity takes place at the end of April when we will be bag packing at Marks and Spencer's Food Hall in St Andrews. We look forward to receiving your support.

## Berlin Seminar

The UK-German Connection has invited pupils from Madras and the Kieler Gelehrtenschule to take part in a weekend seminar in Berlin at the end of March. The topic for discussion is: 'Europe after the UK Referendum'. Prior to the event, Lawrence Brown (S4) and Baran Talajooy (S5) will conduct a short survey amongst their peers and they will then present their findings at the seminar.

## MARDI GRAS

A few weeks ago, around the time we celebrated Pancake Day or Shrove Tuesday, French classes in the junior school were learning all about Mardi Gras in France and the 'Carnaval de Nice'. Pupils have been creating masks and posters based on what they have learned. Here are some photos of 1Y2's creations.



## EUROSCOLA



Ewan Redpath, currently studying Advanced Higher French, was selected to participate in Euroscola. Here is his account of his recent trip to Strasbourg:

This February I had the privilege of participating in Euroscola: a trip to Strasbourg and the European Parliament, sponsored by the Rotary Club. It was a wonderful opportunity to use and improve my French as twenty-four other S6 pupils from Scotland and I navigated this beautiful and historic city, and took part in language-based activities such as performing short sketches in French and carrying out a survey involving the local people and tourists on the city centre streets. We also walked across the Pont de L'Europe (Europe Bridge) into Germany, where we spent a morning. Hardly speaking any German, however, my language skills unfortunately didn't extend to ordering lunch!

The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the Euroscola day in the European Parliament, which saw over 500 young people, from almost every EU country, gathered in the "Hémicycle": the Parliament's debating chamber. Along with another student on the trip, I had the honour of presenting our Scottish delegation with a short presentation in French. In the afternoon I was elected to co-chair a committee on the future of Europe, and then present our report to a plenary session of all the other young people.

The poignancy of this experience wasn't lost on me, not just because this may have been the last year Scotland was able to send a delegation on a Euroscola trip, but also because I was able to see and debate within an institution of which the UK will soon no longer be part.

# Scottish Disability Sports

## CROSS COUNTRY



Madras had a large representation in the SDS Cross Country Championships this year. The 1 and 2 km cross country races took place at Beveridge Park, Kirkcaldy. All runners did themselves proud, completing their races and bringing back multiple medals.

## 7- A-SIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE



This year Madras entered teams in both the junior and senior section of the competition. Both teams represented Madras in all three rounds of fixtures at Kirkcaldy High School in the 7-a-side football league for ASN pupils. Madras competed well in all fixtures, playing against schools such as Balwearie and Lochgelly. The junior team did especially well, finishing runners up. Callum Nicoll also came runner up in the top goal scorer competition.

## SWIMMING GALA

Madras took a strong team of 16 swimmers to compete in the SDS Swimming Gala at Michael Woods Leisure Centre, Glenrothes.

All pupils represented their school fantastically well and the team brought back over thirty medals!

# Ohio Exchange



schools, which never would have happened if not for this experience.

This trip has gone by so fast I can't get my head around how we could already be packed and ready to go. As we have been here it has begun to feel so much more like home, like somewhere I could spend the rest of my life, surrounded by a beautiful country and a strong sense of community. I have even been playing with the idea of applying to the university here in hopes of furthering my cultural education. But that's in a year or so for me. I'm about to finish my junior year of high school, so I have a little time.

Huge thanks extended to your country and school in specific for welcoming our motley crew for an extended period of time. I hope you had the chance to meet us and spend a little time chatting with us, whether in school or out. I know I had a great time, but truthfully after this insanely packed schedule I can't wait to get home and take a nice relaxing bath.

See you on the flipside Madras,

*Maggie Morris, Upper Arlington High School Junior*



Special mention must go to both the girl's and boy's 4 x 25 metre relay teams. Both teams won gold in their events - with very confident team performances.

So here we are, the last day of our much anticipated Scottish Exchange. We have gone through flight delays and cancellations, spent eight plus hours in Newark airport, and have had numerous Americans and Scots fall ill yet I can confidently say that these short ten days have been some of the best of our lives. We have forged such strong friendships, both overseas and within our own

Following on from Maggie's words, the Ohio Exchange has been an absolute life changing experience for me. I couldn't have asked for a better partner in Maggie and the amount of friends I have made, both in and out of the exchange group is absolutely phenomenal. To get the opportunity to see how Americans live and to share our life with them was something that Madras should be proud of, and this week and the week I spent in October with them have been some of the best of my life.

Until we meet again, Ohians!!

*Micah Scott, Sixth Year, Partner of Maggie Morris*

## S3 Football



After winning away at Arbroath, Madras earned themselves a home tie against Blairgowrie High School in the next round of the Scottish Cup (U15). Madras came back from a goal deficit to comfortably defeat Blairgowrie 4-1 on the day. Inverurie Academy met Madras in the fourth round and Inverurie Academy came out on top, beating Madras at Kilrymont Road.

The U15 team also reached the quarter final stage of the Fife Cup, but were drawn away to Woodmill High School and beaten by a very strong side.

# Sports News

## BASKETBALL



The Senior Basketball team entered the annual Fife Tournament held at the Michael Woods Centre in Glenrothes on Wednesday 1st March and they acquitted themselves well in a competition against 11 other teams who compete regularly in leagues and cup ties. The Squad consisted of captain and veteran William Davidson and many soon to be departing S6 players, but other year groups were represented too with a confident debut made by Finn MacCallum from S1. Both matches in the Group Qualifiers went against the Madras boys so they were consigned to the Basement Battle League. A winning start against Kirkcaldy High School 'B' team was an encourager but subsequent games against Levenmouth and Glenrothes were hard fought but lost.

Thanks once again to Ti Ti Sweeney who has coached the boys this year and kept the game going at Madras.

## ST.LEONARDS

Two days after the Tournament, the Senior Boys were again in action against St Leonard's at Kilrymont Road. The teams had met last season where the visitors had produced a dominant win but on this occasion the result went in favour of the home side. Early organisational deficiencies were soon sorted out and the team came back from trailing all game to outscore in the final 5 minutes and win 35-32.

## NETBALL

The S2 girls travelled to Glenrothes for the Fife Netball Tournament and started the competition sprightly, qualifying for the knock out stages of the Elite Competition. Sadly they were drawn against the eventual winners Beath High School in the first

round thus ending their involvement. Many thanks to coaches Vikki and Megan and to Ms Smith for taking the girls there.



The Senior Girls were in action on Wednesday 1st March with a friendly replay match against local friends, Waid Academy. The match was well-contested and the team had a few new faces in unfamiliar positions but they still competed well in the 16-9 loss. They now look forward to the final match at home to Beath High School in the Fife League competition on 16th March.

## DANCE



The Active Schools Fife 6/7/8 Dance Festival took place at Lochgelly Centre on Friday 3rd March and a cheerful gang of S1 girls travelled to show-case their dance amongst the 200 other performers. Without being biased it was generally agreed that the Madras girls were one of the best groups on the stage and they nailed a flawless dance which was entirely choreographed by themselves. Credit must also be given to Miss Band and Miss Dawson who assisted and contributed much to their success.

## SCOTTISH SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY: 4TH MARCH 2017

There may have been Yellow Weather Warning signs flashing on the way through to Livingston in the wind and rain but it was Green light for go for the 17 athletes from Madras College.

On a most miserable day of cloud and mud all competitors acquitted themselves well in these tough conditions with an outstanding individual performance from Anna Hedley (S1) taking first overall amongst 147 'Group D' Girl runners. Anna led from the start and pushed on to finish 20 seconds ahead of her nearest rival to secure first place in Scotland! Her supporting team-mates from S1 also ran tremendous races and when their individual places were totted up they had secured Bronze Medal position in the Team Competition, just two places away from Silver; a great performance from all the girls.



Other notable performances came from Chloe Ritchie who was first girl home in the Group C Girls in 62nd position and Robert Sparks (Group B) who finished 11th despite a fall in the final lap.

## SPEEDWAY



The Madras Cycle Speedway team hosted the first round of the Fife Cup on Thursday 9th March. This was by far one of the closest matches with all three competing teams having winning riders. The home side managed to secure the best results to amass 62 points in the evening – 32 from Lewis Alsop and Vas Hill who won all 4 of their heats. There were great performances from the other riders and with the 'B' Squad finishing just one point behind Glenrothes in fourth position. The next event is at the High School of Glenrothes with the final deciding round on 24th April.

# Sports News

## FOOTBALL

A Senior development team travelled to Beath High School on 2nd March and came away with a creditable 2-2 Draw in an open and exciting match. Coach (driver) Mr Munn came out of retirement to take the boys to Cowdenbeath but in a departure from his normal protocol, he eschewed the pull of the Golden Arches and got the boys home early.

On the same night in Dunfermline, the S2 boys were battling in a really exciting fixture against Queen Anne High School for a place in the Fife Cup semi-final. Coach Mr Beaver brought his boys back from behind to finish the pulsating game at 5-5. A Penalty Shoot-Out would decide this in the cruellest of fashions and unfortunately the boys were beaten 4-3. All of the S2 Squad can hold their heads up proudly for their commitment and conduct throughout the season and the team can confidently build on this next year.

The S2 had to repeat the journey 2 weeks later for a Fife League semi-final match where a strong wind spoiled any quality football and the visitors left with a 5-1 defeat which was scarcely deserved for the effort they put in.

The Girls' Football team took the long drive with Mr Beaver behind the wheel to Broxburn Academy to play in the Scottish Cup 3rd Round on Friday 24th February. The girls encountered a really impressive and well-drilled side who managed to score quite a few goals to none for the visitors.

## S1 HOCKEY FESTIVAL



Miss Dawson took her merry band of Hockey players on the short walk to St Leonard's playing fields to participate in the Fife S1 Festival on Friday 10th March. Madras sent a Blue and a White team to compete against the 8 other teams in this 8-a-side celebration of sport. The Blue team were undefeated in their league scoring 13 goals without conceding whilst the Whites were washed in two matches but drew one. No final

between the two groups but a fantastic day out for all the girls with great team spirit and conduct from them all.

## SPORTS LEADERS



The 12 Senior Pupils from the Sports Leaders Course took on a real challenge to coach and inspire 100 plus Primary Pupils from the catchment area in Badminton on Friday, 10th March. After a four week learning experience from Tayside Badminton Coach, Jane Russell, the enthusiastic team set about training and developing the lively groups of youngsters in the Kilrymont Road Games Hall for two hours. It was generally agreed that the primary school pupils had a brilliant time, but Jane was so impressed by our leaders that she concluded that they were the best group of school coaches that she had ever had the pleasure to work with. Well-deserved praise indeed for our willing, cheerful and efficient team of Mr Hepburn's finest leaders.

## Dates for Your Diary

### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

*(all dates inclusive)*

Monday 3rd April  
to Friday 14 April 2017

Monday 1 May 2017

Monday 5 June 2017

Friday 30 June  
to Friday 11 August 2017

### INSERVICE

Thursday 4 May 2017

## Contact Us

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