



Summer Newsletter

Madras College Newsletter

July 2017

Rector's Message

Dear Parent/Carer

The 4th term of the session is almost over and everyone is looking forward to the summer break.

During the Easter holidays the school stayed open to pupils for Easter School and received in excess of 100 pupils each day. This has become a popular event and one which the pupils use comprehensively. Following Easter School we went almost immediately into study leave for the senior school pupils, a time which again was well used by many to come into school to support their studies throughout the SQA exam diet.

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Kiel Exchange Diamond Jubilee

60 Years of Partnership and Friendship



Madras College Pipe Band play on a sunny Saturday evening to welcome guests to the German Kiel Exchange 60th Anniversary Ceilidh

What an achievement! We believe that our German exchange with the Kieler Gelehrtschule in Kiel, Schleswig-Holstein is the oldest unbroken school-to-school exchange between the two countries. To celebrate this amazing milestone in the history of the exchange, a number of special activities took place during the 60th exchange visit.

Thirty-one German pupils, accompanied by Herr Schoeneich, the headteacher of the KGS, Frau Sendler-Steer, the German exchange leader and Herr Krause, enjoyed the warm hospitality of their Scottish host families for 10 days. The weather was kind, blue sky and sunshine for most of the visit, which allowed the German group to see Scotland at its best. The German group enjoyed visits

to St Andrews Castle and St Andrews Cathedral as well as day trips to Stirling (the Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle) and Edinburgh (Edinburgh Castle and the National Museum of Scotland). There was also time for a visit to the Golf Driving Range in St Andrews and the Fisheries Museum in Anstruther.

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While all this was going on our S1 - S3 pupils continued to work on their studies and engage in the rewards and trips which were on offer. During this time the new timetable was built and was successfully implemented in June (with a few minor tweaks for some individual pupils).

The changes we will face in the new session are linked to (yet more) changes in the SQA exam arrangements at National 5 (with National 4, Higher and Advanced Higher changes waiting in the wings for future sessions). As well as this there will be a new set of Scottish National Standardised Assessments for our S3 pupils next year, the detail of which we will find out after August. These Assessments are for Government statistics and to inform school baseline internal information. They do not form any accreditation portfolio for the pupils.

Our main priorities next session will be linked to changes in the curriculum, health and wellbeing, the school image (Attainment, Uniform, Behaviour, Respect), self-evaluation and of course working towards the proposed Madras New Build. In regard to the new build, there has now been some consultation with groups of teaching staff and we look forward to further and wider consultation on this very important project.

Our drive on uniform and pride in our school remains a top priority and I would remind all parents/carers and pupils of our standards of dress and presentation. It is the same for all pupils S1 - S6 and is: school blazer, white (or pale blue) shirt/blouse, school tie, black trousers/skirt, dark shoes and school jumper (or black/dark blue jumper/cardigan). Designer labels, denim or other such garments are not acceptable.

I would finally like to say thank you to all staff and parents/carers for all your support in this current session. As ever, it has been a challenging but very successful session.

Thank you

D. McClure.

Musical Notes



Play Day

In May the Music Department hosted another Play Day. Sixty primary instrumentalists came along to Madras and spent the day playing in the Wind Band, the Junior String Orchestra and Chanter Group along with some of the Kilrymont pupils. Every pupil also participated in a percussion workshop taken by George Gibson from *Infectious Grooves*. The day was rounded off by a final performance from each group to an appreciative audience of staff, parents/carers and pupils.

Music Exam Success

Well done to all pupils who sat instrumental exams this term. Trinity Results so far:

- S1 • Riognach MacFarlane was awarded a Distinction for her Grade 1 Clarsach exam
- S2 • Fin McGhie was awarded a Distinction for his Grade 5 Piano exam
 - Michael Snodgrass was awarded a Distinction for his Grade 1 Guitar exam
- S3 • Joseph Mackie was awarded a Distinction for his Grade 6 Clarinet exam

Thanks to Miss Russell, Mrs Gibson, Mr Higgins and Mr Milton for all their hard work.

Summer Concert

Congratulations to all the pupils who performed at the concert on Tuesday 20th June. The audience was entertained with a variety of group and solo items - the school Wind Band, Junior and Senior String Orchestra, Junior Choir, Mixed Choir, Senior Girls' Choir, Staff choir, Folk Group, Pipe Band and Clarsach Group. Soloists included Eugene Ritchie S4 on Piano, Shona Zhang S6 on Clarsach and Micah Scott S6 on Tuba. Canongate Primary School Glee Choir also performed two songs and a special thank you to the pupils, parents/carers and staff who came along. Well done to all the talented pupils who took part and gave us all such an enjoyable evening.

Lunchtime Recital

The music department was delighted to welcome back Hannah Craib, a former Madras pupil on Tuesday 27th June. Hannah and her performing partner Vyara Mladenova from Sophia in Bulgaria are founder members of "Glas Duo" and have performed in Scotland, Bulgaria and regularly in and around Bremen in Germany where both are based. The pupils were thrilled to hear the recital and they were impressed with the different styles of music the duo played on the Violin and Viola.

Drama News

The Drama Department have had a very busy two terms.

- In the run up to the Easter Holidays all the National classes sat their practical exams and the Advanced Higher class also sat theirs. This was especially positive as the Advanced Higher class had been used by SQA to set the National Standard for the practical aspect of the exam. This meant that on 14th February, at The Byre Theatre, more than twenty SQA examiners from all over Scotland came to watch our pupils perform! I am pleased to say that those involved did themselves proud presenting a variety of interactive pieces including extracts from *'When We Dead Awaken'* by Henrik Ibsen, *'Waiting For Godot'* by Samuel Beckett and *'Mrs Warren's Profession'* by George Bernard Shaw. The pupils also had to prepare a monologue to present – again the range was exciting and diverse.
- The pupils were provided with feedback from this day and hopefully they took this on board before performing again for their actual exam on 8th March. We wish them well as they leave us and prepare for their next step in life.
- The Higher classes were taken to see the Olivier Award Winning production of *'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime'* at The Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. This was a fantastic stage adaptation of the book of the same name and should have provided our Higher pupils with plenty to write about in their exam.
- **STAFFING**
We give a huge thank you to the services of Mrs Esler and Mr Simpson over the past session and we look forward to welcoming Ms McGrath back to the Department in August after her

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'Alumni' from both the German and Scottish sides of the exchange joined the 60th exchange group on a number of occasions during the week. Two members of the Madras 1957 exchange group, Irene Bennett and Anne Morris, and former Madras exchange leader, Donald Macgregor, joined pupils of the current exchange for a 'Question Time' session. Fife Council held a Civic Reception in the South Street Assembly Hall in recognition of the durability and longevity of our unique partnership. Madras pupils and their Kiel partners attended assemblies in both buildings, giving a presentation about the history of the exchange. Pupils from both schools also visited two of our local primary schools while other partners visited the Rotary Club of St Andrews to highlight within the local community the role which the Kiel Exchange has played over the past six decades.



The highlight for many of the participants was the Anniversary Ceilidh (KIELidh). The Germans have been captivated by the Madras College Pipe Band. The band played on the lawn in front of the South Street building to welcome many former exchange participants to the ceilidh as we handed out flyers (about the history of the exchange) to passers-by and tourists. 'The Diamond' was unveiled at the ceilidh. For many months the Kiel pupils had been working on creating a 'Diamond' mobile, its sides depicting milestones in the history of the exchange. It arrived safely in St Andrews 'flat-packed' (transported by Easyjet) and was constructed by the pupils in the course of the week. An identical 'Diamond' remains in Kiel. The constant motion of the mobile represents the exchange moving forward.



Special thanks go to the head teachers of both schools for their enthusiasm and support of the exchange. Thanks also to everybody who has supported our fundraising in the course of the year and to those who have contributed to the anniversary programme. We are also very grateful to the UK-German Connection for funding the Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Project. The support of local businesses and organisations – Fisher and Donaldson's, Morrisons, Marks and Spencers and the Kilrymont Rotary Club is much appreciated.

The durability and longevity of the Madras-Kiel Exchange has surely exceeded the expectations of its creators, Dr John Thompson, former Rector of Madras College and Professor Karl Dietrich Erdmann of Kiel University.



Here's to the next
60 years!

Paris Trip 2016

By Jake Mikulin



“Paris is always a good idea” - in the words of Audrey Hepburn. I second that. In fact I'm pretty sure all of us who went to Paris can agree.

Even though it started off slowly, everything picked up when we got to Hull, where we joined in a disco party on the boat; it was a blast. The next day everyone was tired, but that was just the start.

When we arrived on the streets of Paris each and every person was buzzing. We saw the landmarks, the different culture and the crazy driving around the Arc de Triomphe. Speaking of the Arc, it gave us our first proper insight into the beautiful city that is Paris and hinted to us an excitement of what was to come. Next we struck a pose in front of the Eiffel Tower on the Trocadero and found waving and cheering at the people sitting on the edge of the River Seine more fun and interesting than looking at the sights. Even Mr Martin got involved.

Day 3 in Paris: after a sleepy breakfast we arrived underneath the most famous structure in Paris, the

Eiffel Tower. Some were afraid of the height, but ended up loving it like the rest of us. After a shopping spree on the Champs Elysees and an eventful wander around the Louvre, we were all worn out, but that didn't phase us over the next few days.

On Day 4 the group went to the magical place that is Disneyland. It needs no explanation because it was amazing. And on our last morning we had a somewhat peaceful visit to the Sacre-Coeur. Just being there, relaxing and enjoying each other's company was wonderful.

All in all, through the long periods spent on the coach, close calls and everything else, I just want to show appreciation for and thank, on behalf of everyone that went on this amazing trip, Mr Maskell, Mr Martin, Ms Smith, Miss Dawson and Miss McKeon, for everything they did for us. And finally to Ken our legendary coach driver, we thank you as well.

Lastly, I greatly recommend this trip to everyone and anyone that gets the opportunity to go on it in the future.

The Youth and Philanthropy Initiative ypi

Madras College held their third final of the YPI initiative which is a national initiative to encourage awareness of the Philanthropy, the work of charities and social issues. This year's final heard presentations from S1 pupils on a range of charities including Alzheimer Scotland, Maggie's Centre, CHAS, the Girl Guides, and Clued Up. The presentations were all of a very high standard but in the end the £3000 grant was awarded to Clued Up.



Clued Up is a local Fife-based charity which aims to provide a comprehensive, youth-friendly substance use support and information service for young people under 25 in Fife. The project provides education, prevention, early intervention and diversion for young people affected by their own or someone else's substance use.

The judges were impressed by the amount of work first year pupils Maia Olusanya and Maeve Cameron had put into their presentation and their understanding of the challenges faced by young people who may have drug and alcohol issues. Mr Robertson would like to thank all the pupils who took part in the project and also Mr Ballantyne for giving up his own time over the year to make it such a success.

Cathedral Trip

In May the S1 travelled on their "Pilgrimage" from Kilrymont Road to St Andrews Cathedral. The visit was part of a wider project where the pupils were learning about local history. They were given the opportunity to climb St Rule's Tower and learn about St Andrews in the Middle Ages. As a follow-up the university of St Andrews Computing Department and representatives from the History Department visited the school and let the pupils experience first-hand what the Cathedral would have looked like using virtual technology.

The department would like to thank Dr Alan Miller and his team from the University as well as Forth Pilgrims and Historic Scotland for their continued support with the project.



Transition Programme

Last week saw the end of the Transition Programme, where P7s from all the cluster Primary Schools attended a variety of events in order to ease the move from Primary to Secondary. Praised highly in the recent school inspection by HMIe, the Transition began way back in November when the S1/S2 Year Head, Olav Darge and his team of Guidance staff visited Primary schools. These evenings also included a pupil's perspective where S1 pupils visited their former Primary schools to give a flavour of what S1 is really like. Other events in the programme included a P7 Ceilidh, which allowed the new P7s to meet (and dance with!) some of their new classmates before the official Transition days and an Open Evening where parents met with their child's Guidance teacher and the year team.



This month all P7s had the opportunity to attend an Enterprise Day, taking part in team building activities before following their new timetable for the remainder of the week. Both pupils and parents commented very favourably on the Programme and staff and pupils alike look forward to welcoming the new intake after the Summer Holidays.

REHIS Food Hygiene Success

For S3 Home Economics Pupils

All S3 Home Economics students have completed the Elementary Food Hygiene Course with most students going on to achieve a pass certificate. The hygiene course, which fits in with Curriculum for Excellence, is awarded by The Royal Environmental Health Institute for Scotland. It is a nationally recognised qualification valued, and usually required, by food industry employers. This gives Madras pupils added value when applying for work in this industry, both when it is their chosen pathway into long term employment and for those seeking part time, short term jobs. This ties in with the National Framework aim of "Developing the Young Workforce" encouraging transferrable Employability Skills for the work place.



Working towards the certificate has been an excellent motivating factor with the students all feeling a sense of pride and achievement when the certificates were awarded during a recent S3 assembly. Such has been the success of this initiative the Home Economics Department will be delivering the course to S3 next session.

P7 Enterprise Day Senior Pupil Helpers



Computing Science

SHE++

She++ is an initiative run by the University of Stanford in California. Their Ambassador, Sjoukje Ijlstra, a third year Maths student at the University of St Andrews, has worked with our senior Computing Science girls as part of the She ++ initiative since January. The aim of the programme is to encourage girls to consider Computing Science as a career. The girls met mentors (inspirational females involved in Computing Science) and visited the university to attend workshops.

ST ANDREWS STUDENT LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2016/17

Sjoukje was recognised for the impact of her leadership across various 'women in tech' initiatives by winning St Andrews Student Leader of the Year Award for 2016/17. Sjoukje was the lead organiser of the first Code-First: Girls Northern Conference and is the lead Python coding instructor for Code-First: Girls at St Andrews. She has also acted as an Ambassador for She++, which has taken her into Madras College to help

inspire more girls to engage in technology and computer science. The award panel felt that the leadership Sjoukje demonstrated as a role-model and mentor to other girls was notable. Many congratulations to Sjoukje as the winner of the St Andrews Student Leader of the Year Award 2017. Sjoukje is now in the process of organising a She++ committee within Madras to think of new ways to get more girls involved and excited about computer science.



Mathematical Challenges

This year we have had over 240 pupils competing in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Challenges. In total pupils were awarded 3 Gold awards (Joseph Mackie, Tim Edwards and Jacek Michalowicz), 31 Silver awards and 56 Bronze awards. A special mention goes to Joseph Mackie who qualified for the Junior Olympiad Hamilton Paper. Only 500 pupils from the UK are invited to sit this paper each year. Tim Edwards also receives a special mention as he qualified for the Pink Kangaroo Paper which only three thousand pupils a year in the UK are invited to sit.

Twenty-three pupils completed the Scottish Mathematical Challenge with 15 of them receiving a medal. There were 5 Gold medallists: Felix Mallinder, Leonardo Sani, Mandy Jackson, Gregory Dritschel and Eric Hao. Pupils also received 7 Silver awards and 3 Bronze awards.

Kiel Exchange 60th Anniversary Poster Competition



One of the winning posters, designed by S4 pupil Tsen Day-Beaver, to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Kiel Exchange.

Employability Day

This month, as part of the S3 transition to South Street, all pupils in the new S4 were given the opportunity to take part in an "Employability Morning" workshop run by local businesses such as Westport Print, Janetta's Gelateria, Physioworks and Roseangle Nursery. After a short presentation by Mr Darge, Depute Rector, pupils were divided into small groups, led by a member of a local business. In the groups, pupils were given information about the business itself and then encouraged to ask questions and discuss the types of skills which will prepare them for the world of work. In addition, they participated in a range of group tasks, designed to develop their



interpersonal skills. The pupils said that the day had a very positive impact and that they were looking forward to beginning their time at South Street. The Employers commented very favourably upon the Madras pupils. Liza Scott, owner of Physioworks and ex Head girl of Madras said "I was really impressed with the Madras pupils in the way that they engaged with the local businesses. It was refreshing to be involved at such an early stage in their journey." Madras College looks forward to continued links with local partners and to the continued development of the pupils' employability skills.

Emma Ramsay



Sophie Ovardi



Art Department

S6 Folio Success

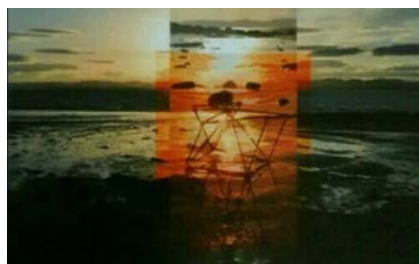
The art department would like to congratulate Coral Aston on her successful application to study Art and Design at Dundee and Angus College. Sophie Ovardi, Emma Ramsay and Chi Vo on their successful applications to Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art.

Congratulations also to Arin Beaver, who is off to study Psychology.

Chi Vo



Arin Beaver



Coral Aston



Dates for Your Diary

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

(all dates inclusive)

Friday 30 June
to Friday 11 August 2017

Monday 9 October
to Friday 20 October 2017

Monday 25 December 2017
to Friday 5 January 2018

INSERVICE

Monday and Tuesday
14 and 15 August 2017

Friday 17 November 2017

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Design and Technology

During their Design and Technology periods pupils from the DAS department continued to build upon their success and skills developed in this department.

- The junior class made the chess boards shown above, as you can see the results are impressive and it was something they very much enjoyed.
- The senior class produced the clocks shown; to produce these results required a high level of detailed craftwork and dedication, well done to them all.
- Holly-Jane Gray (S6) produced the mirror shown - securing a pass at National 5 Practical Woodworking. This was an outstanding achievement of which she has every right to be extremely proud.
- All the pupils, both seniors and juniors, worked in a good-humoured and safe way while supporting each other to achieve the best possible results. A very successful year for all concerned and as always we are extremely grateful for the patience, expertise and support of the various PSAs involved over the course of the year.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme



The award group are continuing to struggle with staff, but are powering on. From last year's 2 small groups 1 Silver pupil has completed and 2 of the Golds will be at the garden party next month a good result from such small numbers. Other participants from last year are reminded that they can still finish – so get an award for all the effort they have put in.

This year we've managed to run both Bronze and Gold. The Bronzes have met weekly at Kilrymont Road and

they successfully completed their expeditions at the start of June. The Golds braved first high winds and frost on their practice, then persistent rain to complete their qualifier just a couple of weeks ago. All participants need to make sure they complete their eDofE so that their achievements and efforts are rewarded with an award.

A huge thanks must go to the staff who have helped out. A large amount of 'behind the scenes' work goes in to each weekly training session and especially into the actual expeditions. Without the help of Mr Graham and

Mr Ballantyne the Bronze group this year wouldn't have run. Ms McKeon, Dr Woods, and Mr Kerrigan were a great help with supervision on the actual expeditions and ensured they went ahead.

Looking forward to next year the group hopes to offer all 3 levels. Anyone (staff, parent or carer) who is interested in helping to train/supervise/drive minibuses is asked to get in touch as its only with the help of volunteers that we can continue to offer this fantastic experience to our pupils.

Sports News

Fife Schools' Multi-Event Championship 2017



Sixteen enthusiastic and talented Madras College athletes travelled to Pitreavie Athletics stadium on Wednesday, 24th May to compete in the Annual Fife Schools' Multi-Event Championships (Pentathlon).

With the senior pupils immersed in exams it was up to the junior athletes to represent the school and compete amongst Fife's best – and how well they did!

The squad returned with 2 Golds, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze Medals and a whole raft of other strong performances and personal bests.

In S1 Jack Shiveley secured the top spot with storming performances in the Hurdles and 800 m helping him to Gold. Kyle Straith displayed a clean pair of heels in the 100 m and an impressive Putt in the Shot to give him Overall 3rd. All-rounder, Luca Venditozzi, brought home the Bronze in the S2 Boys competition and Nicole Reynolds, at her first athletics meet, won Silver in the S3 Girls.

The final medal was once again Gold and this time it went to Dylan Ross, S3 who surprised himself after standing on the lowest podium spot only to find he was on the top! A huge long jump over 5 m 40 cm and massive Shot Putt complimented his excellent track speed to produce one of the outstanding performances of the day.

Girls' Fitness Muddy Assault Course



The girls' fitness group attended an afternoon at Scottish Assault Courses Dundee in May. Their fitness and team work skills were put to the test as they tackled the challenging, muddy obstacles. The girls performed with 100% effort and thoroughly enjoyed the experience – well done girls!

Race for Life: Pretty Muddy



Some of the S2 fitness girls signed up and took part in the Race for Life – Pretty Muddy 5K on Saturday, 24th June at Beveridge Park, Kirkcaldy. They had to test their fitness and tackle the many muddy obstacles set out all around the course. They performed extremely well and contributed greatly to the fight against cancer. Well done girls!



S1 Girls' Netball David Garland Tournament Winners



In April the David Garland Tournament was held at Glenrothes High School with the S1 Football team and Netball team competing against many schools in Fife. The footballers played well in their group and were unlucky not to progress beyond the quarter-finals but the girls excelled themselves and won all matches, including the Final, to return to St Andrews with the magnificent trophy.

Sports Day P7 Relay Winners



Lawhead Primary School's P7 A Team were the relay winners at Sports Day on Thursday 22nd June.

Sports News

Fife Schools' Champions Cycle Speedway



The Summer term saw the conclusion of the Fife Championships at Queen Anne High School in Dunfermline where the boys secured the overall win from the 3-Leg Championships to become Fife Champions for the 4th year running. A return to Dunfermline on 2nd June for the Scottish Championships proved less fruitful with the 4-man team succumbing to the on-form hosts in the tightest of finals in recent years. Vasillii Hill, brother Victor, Jamie Penny and Lewis Alsop tried exceptionally hard and were unlucky in some races, but overall Queen Anne deserve to have their name on the trophy this season. New targets are now being set for next session!

Sports Day

Individual Champions 2017

BOYS		GIRLS	
S1	Kyle Straith	S1	Amaris Cuthbert
S2	Scott Christie	S2	Aiofe Dow
S3	Alistair Dow	S3	Nicole Reynolds
Seniors	Struan Christie	Seniors	Katrina Tough

Adam Scott High Jump Cup – Maurice Batiuluna

Sports Cup - Blackfriars



Fife Schools' Track and Field Championships

Tuesday 6th June saw Madras athletes head off to Pitreavie Athletics Club to compete in the Fife Schools' Track and Field Championships. The rain was persistent, but it did not dampen the spirit of the Madras pupils as they fought to get onto the podium. The high jumpers were the lucky ones being blessed with dry indoor facilities. As for the staff, they were outside in the rain, running the long and triple jump competitions. Madras were triumphant and brought home a haul of medals.

S1 Girls		
Alex Tully	Silver	Long Jump
Millie Nicolson	Bronze	Shot Putt
Lara Manning	Silver	200 m
	Silver	800 m
Isla Manning	Gold	200 m
Grace Holden	Bronze	75 m Hurdles
	Bronze	High Jump
Anna Hedley	Gold	800 m
Amaris Cuthbert	Bronze	Long jump
S1 Boys		
Kyle Straith	Gold	100 m, 200 m
	Gold	Long Jump

Group C Girls (13-15year olds)		
Chloe Ritchie	Gold	1500 m
Group C Boys (13-15 Year olds)		
Scott Christie	Bronze	200 m, 100 m
Luca Venditozzi	Bronze	Discus
Kieran Taylor	Gold	Discus
Group B Girls (15-17 year olds)		
Maggie Milne	Silver	200 m
Group B Boys (15-17 year olds)		
Robert Sparks	Gold	1500 m