



Firrhill News

Produced by the Environment Group

December 2014

Diversity Day

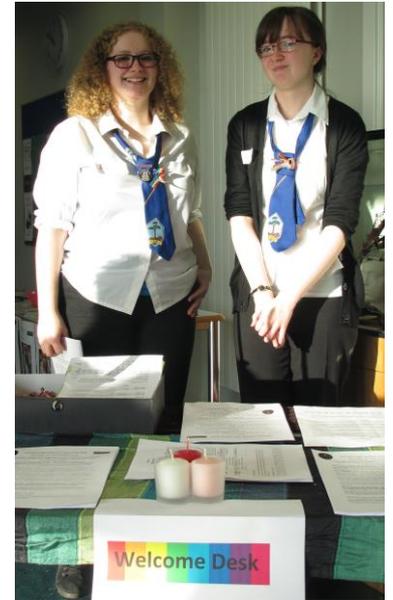
On November 18th the school celebrated Diversity Day - an event following directly from the "Lessons from Auschwitz" visit to Poland by Calum and Iona, S6 pupils and Mrs Watson, Firrhill teacher, who was the architect and event manager of Diversity Day. S3 pupils attended special workshops and Harry Bibring, Holocaust survivor shared his moving and inspirational story. Pupils helped by welcoming and looking after our visitors, baking delicious cakes, giving musical performances and creating 70 willow lanterns with messages of hope for the future - 70 lanterns were made to symbolise that it has been 70 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.



Harry Bibring



S3 Anne Frank Ambassadors - who worked together to lead a workshop for their S3 peer group.



Diversity Day was amazing – Harry was a brilliant speaker and the whole school learned "lessons from Auschwitz" in particular about tolerance and inclusivity.



"Seeing Auschwitz-Birkenau with your own eyes is something else. It's completely different from talking about it in the classroom" Calum S6

"By taking part in the Lessons from Auschwitz project I can be part of a generation that makes sure the Holocaust and the people who perished are never forgotten" Iona S6

"I stood on the ground where thousands of prisoners had stood whilst they were being separated from their families and I imagined that I was in that position, the feeling choked me" Mrs Watson, Firrhill teacher



An interesting exhibition about Ernest Levy, Holocaust survivor was displayed in the school library - his daughter Judy Russell (above left) was among our special guests; along with Stephan Brent, who earlier in the year helped to plant the Anne Frank Tree.



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The day was both educational and enjoyable: S3 pupils attended workshops by: Show Racism the Red Card with Mickey Weir; TRUE Colours (Tackling Racism, Uniting Everyone); Waverly Care; See Me; Holocaust Educational Trust – Bill Clark; Scottish Autism; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Youth Scotland; Jim Moser – whose close relatives suffered at the hands of the Nazis; Anne Frank’s story was presented by our S3 Anne Frank Ambassadors and a presentation on Lessons from Auschwitz by Ambassadors Iona and Calum S6.

A Diversity Day film by Ian Cowie, former Firrhill parent will provide a valuable record of the day to enable more Firrhill pupils to learn Lessons from Auschwitz and celebrate diversity.



“It’s been a really good programme” said Iain Stewart

70 illuminated willow lanterns, funded by the Parent Council glowed with messages of hope



Caiystane Court residents and local Councillors



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Firrhill Christmas Market

The Firrhill Christmas Market took place on November 13th it was a wonderful event enjoyed by all. The many stalls included an Environment/Eco Group stall selling plants, fingerless gloves and handmade cards.



Firrhill Christmas Market
 Thursday 13th November 7:15-9:15pm
 Incredible crafts, Gifts, Cards, jewellery, Cakes, decorations and much, much, more....
 Enjoy seasonal refreshments as you browse the fabulous stalls!

Firrhill High School,
 9 Oxgangs Road North
 EH14 1DP.
 Entrance £2

www.firrhillhighschool.org.uk



Thanks to all who supported the event which was a tremendous success – raising £940 for school funds. Thanks to the PTA for organising this amazing fundraiser, and especially to Ruth Gebbie for all her hard work and also to the S5 and S6 pupils who helped and did a fantastic job. The evening also featured excellent performances by the Junior Choir and a marvellous display of giant remembrance poppies, made by pupils in aid of the Erskine Veterans charity.



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French Institute Posters

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS



ÉCOSSE

We are grateful to the French Institute for once again lending us their beautiful eco posters on the theme of water.



La mer au centre du cycle de l'eau



La fonction des glaciers



The eco vocabulary is useful for language students and the beautiful photography is inspirational.



Remembrance Day Assemblies

On November 7th at the school's Armistice Assemblies the Faculty of Expressive Arts decorated the hall with giant poppies, made by S1 & S2 pupils. The poppies were sold in aid of the Erskine Veterans charity.





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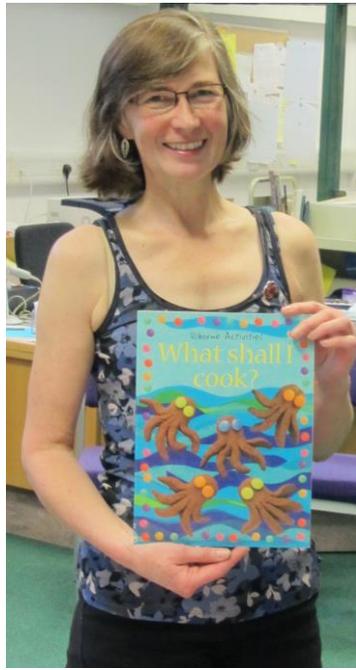
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Book Week Scotland



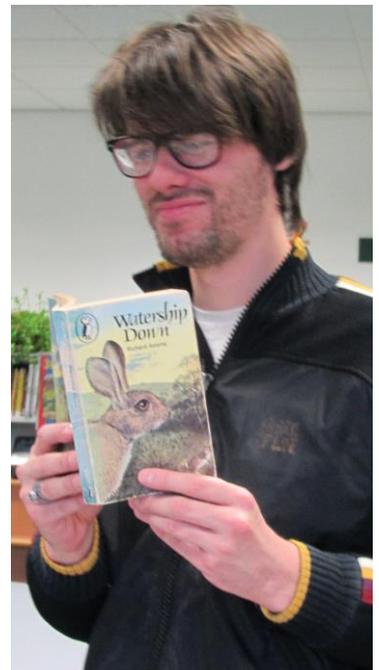
Firrhill High School held a Book Swop event to celebrate Book Week Scotland which is a week-long celebration of books and reading that takes place every November.

We are grateful to Mr Hughes, temporary school librarian, and Mrs Hargest, Firrhill parent, for running this event and to all who swapped books



“What is the POINT of reading?”

The school is currently running a competition in which both pupils and staff receive house points for any piece of literature they read. It could be a novel, a script, poem, graphic novel, fan-fiction, audio books, comics... Pupils need to share the title of the text with their English teacher, who then asks a couple of questions about the chosen text, they can also earn 10 bonus house points for writing a 100 word review; staff need to email a member of the English department. The winning house will be announced at the Christmas assembly.





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Gardening



Mrs Watson, art teacher took her S1 Enhanced Curriculum class for a special lesson in the school gardens. Some older pupils, some with gardening experience, also joined in. The pupils learned how to plant bulbs and shrubs. Narcissi bulbs were planted in the Anne Frank Garden (which is situated to the front of the school) and Hebes in the Celebration Garden. The group did some general weeding and tidying. Later there was a break for some well - earned hot chocolate. Everyone enjoyed working together and giving the school gardens some TLC!

"I thoroughly enjoyed the gardening" said Zoe Henessy



Thanks to Tesco for donating such lovely plants and bulbs, and also to Mrs Hargest, Firrhill parent, for helping and Mrs Watson, art teacher, for having the vision to introduce gardening skills to her S1 Enhanced Curriculum group.

"I especially enjoyed the digging. It was really fun" said Kieran Mackie

"I liked helping it was fun" said Cameron Shiells

"We really enjoyed planting the shrubs" said Sean Wallace

