



Produced by the Environment Group

Firrhill News

April 2015

Ernest Levy Assemblies

On 3rd February the S2 assemblies featured Judy Russell, Second Generation Holocaust survivor, who spoke about the courageous life of her step father, Ernest Levy OBE.



The Ernest Levy exhibition was displayed in the school library and six candles represented the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust



Ernest, born in Bratislava in 1925, fled with his family to Budapest in 1938; during the war he was imprisoned in Auschwitz and moved to a number of concentration camps. Ernest took part in the Death Marches and was finally liberated from Belsen by the Soviet forces. After liberation he returned to Budapest and later moved to Israel and then to Scotland, where he settled, married and became a cantor.



Ernest Levy wrote two books "Just One More Dance" and "The Single Light", which describe his experiences during the Holocaust. They are both well worth reading

Judy Russell, speaker, Mrs Watson, teacher and the S3 Anne Frank Ambassadors wrote messages of hope for the future and hung them on the Holocaust Memorial Tree in the school foyer to remind us that it is 70 years since the liberation of Auschwitz – Birkenau





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Firrhill Drumming, Pipes & Chanter Clubs

The Firrhill High School has recently introduced a new snare drumming club with instructor Brian Alexander, who has introduced a series of taster sessions on Wednesday lunchtimes (in the drama classroom). These, along with the existing chanter & pipes club, run by Mike Pretsell (music room 3) on a Thursday lunchtime will enable the future creation of a Firrhill Youth Pipe Band. Also a new a cluster pipes/chanter and drumming club will start after the Easter Holidays. Recently Brian and Mike did a superb demo at an assembly in Longstone Primary School. Any Firrhill or P4-7 cluster pupil is welcome to take part in these new clubs, for more information email Carolyn.hargest@btconnect.com

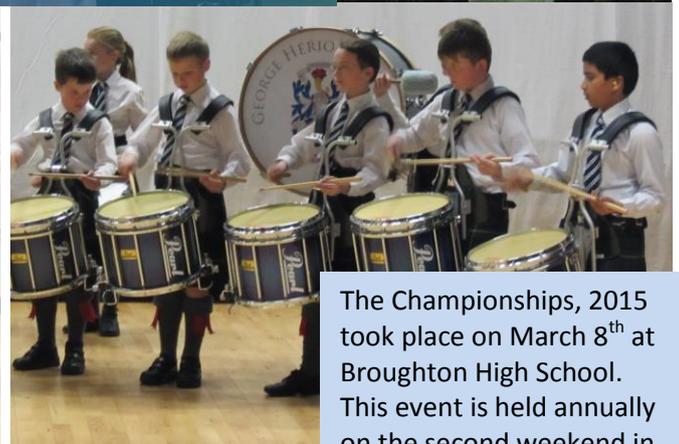


The Championships, 2015



EVERY SCHOOL NEEDS A PIPE BAND

#SCOTTISHCHAMPS2015



The Championships, 2015 took place on March 8th at Broughton High School. This event is held annually on the second weekend in March and showcases a large number of school pipe bands. It is well worth a visit: free entry, refreshments available and always something interesting to see! Remember to put the date in your diary for next year!





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Firrhill S2 Hockey Club

Since the Christmas break, a large number of hockey matches have been cancelled due to frosty weather. So to get some valuable practise before their Ross High match, the S2 team played an S3 team (one S3 team recently won the East Plate) in a friendly match at home. Despite wet and windy weather conditions the victory on this occasion went to our S2 team who fought hard for an impressive 2:1 result. Well done to all who took part - S2 team pictured below.

Thanks to the dedicated parents who run the Hockey Club and arrange matches

On Monday 3rd March a number of Firrhill pupils competed in the Schools Hockey Tournament at Peffermill. Some pupils also take part in the Meggetland Sunday League. The season has now ended, with the annual Hockey Club "fun day" and the AGM.



S2 team captain leads three cheers for the Firrhill S3 team





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The Anne Frank Garden with related YouTube video links

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z31VZwhXu_Y Firrhill High School Anne Frank Garden Roses and Mulch
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMPw0zViETU> Firrhill High School - Anne Frank's Tree
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAZ10DPI-VM> Firrhill High School's Anne Frank Garden
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PuR0q3wAGs> Firrhill High School Gravel



On December 17th pupils and parents worked in the Anne Frank Garden, weeding flower beds, dead-heading roses and planting the new roses, (a dusting of rooting compound and a shovel of compost before "healing in"). The roses will provide colour and fragrance. A generous layer of mulch will help to suppress weeds. Pupils helped with the gardening whilst other pupils photographed and did a video recording (now on YouTube!)



The existing bed of yellow "Sparkling Sunshine" roses are now nicely balanced with three orange coloured "Poetry in Motion" roses, which were kindly donated by Homebase and the compost and mulch were purchased using funds raised at the Christmas Market



Thanks to everyone who helped to make the garden both low maintenance and fabulous!





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The Debate Club

The Debate Club run by Ms Mound currently has around 20 members who regularly attend the after-school debates on a Wednesday. They took part in the Penicuik High Model United Nations debate in November. In March Firrhill took part in the George Watson's College MUN where they were debating from the perspective of Chad – quite a tricky country!

Delegates at an MUN Conference take on the role of representatives of UN member states in various committees; debating current global issues from their allotted country's viewpoint.

There are many MUN conferences worldwide. George Watson's MUN Conference has run for 8 years and is one of the largest MUN Conferences in the UK, so it is a great experience for all the delegates who participate.



Chad



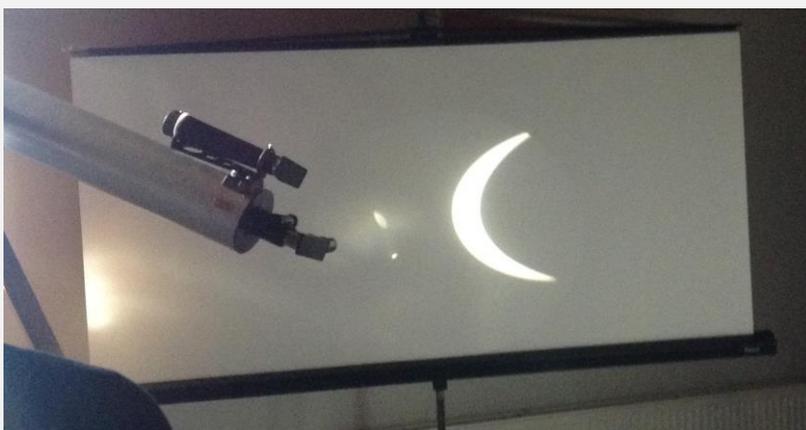
Penicuik High School

Environment issues debated included:

- Bright Lights Big Cities - How to build sustainable cities?
- Saving Nemo – Marine Welfare
- Should we encourage the Production of Genetically Modified Food?

The Solar Eclipse

On Friday 20th March, the faculty of science staff enabled pupils to view the solar eclipse by projection using a telescope and screen - very impressive!



“Firrhill High’s Debate Club enjoyed a successful weekend of debating, lobbying and networking at the George Watson’s Model United Nations. As well as participating in lively debate with pupils from schools all round Europe, delegates also had the opportunity to attend the Saturday night ceilidh/disco, as well as participate in Sunday’s emergency debate” says Ms Mound

The Firrhill delegates representing Chad were: Charlotte Darroch, Rachel Tennick, Ross Elliot, Michael Luff, Thomas Bailey, Amin Makda, Koren Moscovich, Ross Britain, Neil Mullin, Kang Lim, Amy Lickley, Andrew Kennedy, Katie Horsburgh, Katie McAdam, Hubert Dymarkowski - well done!

Our thanks to Ms Mound for running this very popular and successful extracurricular club



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Senior Football Team

<https://twitter.com/FirrhillPE>



The senior football team involves players from both S5/6 their captain is Murray McDermott. The team meet to play on a Friday afternoon they play teams from all over Midlothian, West Lothian and Edinburgh. Mr Macfarlane is team coach, alongside Mr Cruikshank. The team have enjoyed success in recent seasons. Last season they reached the last 16 of the Scottish Cup. Football not only is a healthy lifestyle choice but creates a great team ethos and excellent rapport between staff and peers. Also the team always produce an excellent performance at the Christmas assemblies!

S3 Netball News



FHS PE

Dept. @FirrhillPE

Mar 3

Congrats 2 S3 netballers beating Mearns Academy (Aberdeen) 41-19 in quarters of silver Scottish Cup

#bringonthesemis



S3 Hockey Win the Plate!



The Hills Seniors would like to thank the PTA for the recent investment in the new strips

Many thanks to the pupils for their dedication and also to staff and parents, without whom these extracurricular clubs would not be possible

FHS PE Dept. @FirrhillPE Feb 2

Congratulations S3 hockey team for a fantastic victory in the East Plate final beating Trinity 2-1 #amazingvictory

New Picnic Table



Thanks to the Parent Council for a new recycled plastic picnic table sited at the front of the school