



Firrhill News

Produced by the Environment Group

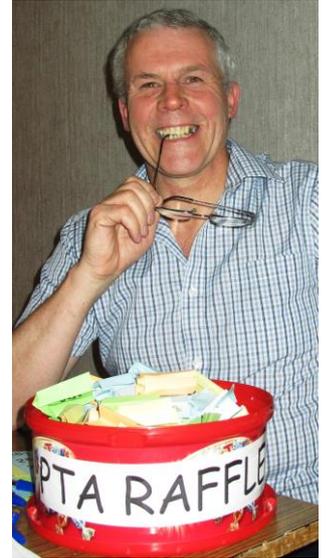
July 2014

PTA Quiz Night

On Friday 9th May 120 Firrhill staff, parents and friends enjoyed a light hearted pub quiz and baked potato supper at Colinton Bowling Club. Quiz Master Graham Walker, who runs a number of quiz nights for local schools and also the pub quiz at The Spylaw Tavern, posed lots of themed and entertaining questions and at the end of each round, in addition to providing the correct answers, he awarded chocolates for any incorrect but witty answers.



One Dimension – the winning team



PTA raffle



Rampant Rabbits – booby prize winners



Winners Trophy



Raffle prizes



Quiz Master Graham Walker

Team names included: Dream Team, Nelson's Columnists, Nabwats, What is Nat 5? Déjà vu Again, Stuck in the Middle, Quizzy Rascals and Innuendo Bingo. After each round there was the opportunity to learn the answers and discover lots of amazing trivia - for instance that the Red River is a tributary of the Mississippi and where you would find the Gulf of Aden... There were a couple of fund raising games, a raffle plus baked potato and chilli supper. As always the bar prices at the Colinton Bowling Club are very reasonable – ensuring a good night was had by all.



Baked potato and chilli supper provided by MacKenzies Restaurant

The winners, One Dimension scored 105 out of a possible 120. The Clangers came second with 99 and The Dafties in third place with 92.

Do consider joining the PTA Lottery to raise funds for the school and there is the chance of a monthly prize of £100 or £25 Why not come to the next PTA meeting? New members are always welcome.

Thanks to Ruth Gebbie and the PTA for their hard work and to all who supported the event and made the evening a tremendous success.



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S3 Business Placements

Each year the S3 pupils enjoy a wide variety of business placements and in small groups, go into places of work and tackle specific work related projects.

One S3 group went to Remploy, 22-24 Earl Grey Street, Edinburgh, and their task was based around mental health and raising awareness. The group learned about different sorts of mental health issues facing sufferers.



A week in which we help raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing issues.



Mental Health Awareness Week 12th -18th May 2014

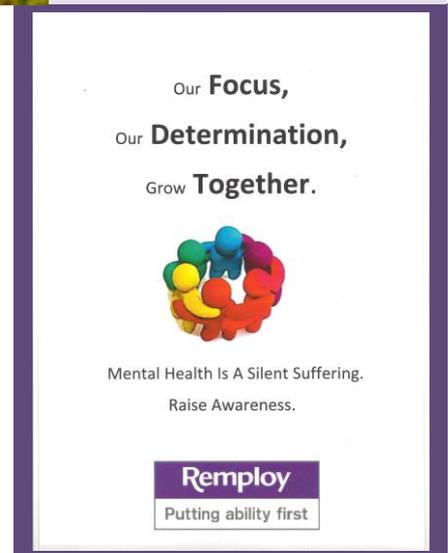
"It was really interesting and very worthwhile, everyone was friendly and I enjoyed it" said Kathleen S3

In 2012-13 Remploy found more than 17,500 jobs in mainstream employment for disabled people and those facing complex barriers to work.

The pupils enjoyed their 2 day placement and they created two posters to raise awareness about mental health issues. They also visited Standard Life. The group did a great presentation about their task and also showed a film about Remploy.



Other S3 business placements included: the Apex Hotels, Braidburn Primary School, Bonaly Primary School, Water of Leith Visitor Centre, Napier University, Cyrenians, Banks, Kelvingrove Museum and the National Museum of Scotland.



Poster created by the S3 team

The school is keen to have more business placements, so if you may be able to help please contact the school

Sponsored Walk

On Friday 2nd May Firrhill High School pupils and 40 staff members took part in a sponsored walk on a 10K route using the Water of Leith walkway and local roads. There were also prizes for the highest fund-raisers.

The aim of the walk was to:

- Raise money for extra-curricular activities
- Promote health and wellbeing
- Raise awareness of the local area as a leisure facility



Thanks to all who took part and all the generous sponsors who helped the school to raise a lot of money!



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London's National Portrait Gallery Trip

A group of S3 students who took part in a collaborative project "National Memory - Local Stories" spent a weekend in London visiting London's National Portrait Gallery and had the opportunity to meet other students involved in the project. In addition to visiting the National Portrait Gallery the S3 pupils also enjoyed sightseeing including: a boat trip down the Thames; touring London on foot; seeing many famous sights and some souvenir shopping - all part of a great weekend. Thanks to the National Portrait Gallery and Firrhil staff for accompanying the pupils and organising the trip.



Firrhil pupils in National Portrait Gallery Auditorium (Photograph: Marysa Dowling © National Portrait Gallery, London)



NATIONAL MEMORY Local Stories

National
Portrait
Gallery

pbf Paul Hamlyn
Foundation

media 19



www.npg.org.uk/nationalmemory



Trafalgar Square



China Town



The Thames Boat Trip



Tower Bridge



M&M World



Guard



Kings Cross and Platform 9 3/4



The National Gallery London

<http://www.npg.org.uk/whatson/national-memory-local-stories/participants-work/explore-the-participants-work-national-museums-scotland.php>
the above link shows Firrhil pupils' work from this creative participation project.

Photos (except group photos)
by Kathleen Hargest S4



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Firrhill Hockey Club Fun Day

The Firrhill High School Hockey Club ended the season with a Fun Day where the girls from all the year groups joined together in new mixed year group teams and competed in a friendly tournament followed by a "parents versus pupils" match which gave some of the parents and coaches an opportunity to show their skills at the game!



A big thank you to all the parent volunteers, who run the hockey club and to the girls who commit to training and turning up for matches - an excellent end to another great hockey season!



The new second year pupils continued to practise their hockey skills throughout the summer term showing real dedication to their sport.

There are many extra-curricular sports activities available for pupils to join and especially during the first term, pupils are encouraged to try as many clubs as they wish on a trial basis before deciding to join





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The Big Lunch



The Firrhill High School Jazz Group performed at the Big Lunch on June 1st at Oxfangs Neighbourhood Centre. The Big Lunch aims to show how the simple first step of sharing lunch together can start to change how people feel as part of their wider community.



Members of the Jazz Group also performed on 98.8 Castle FM





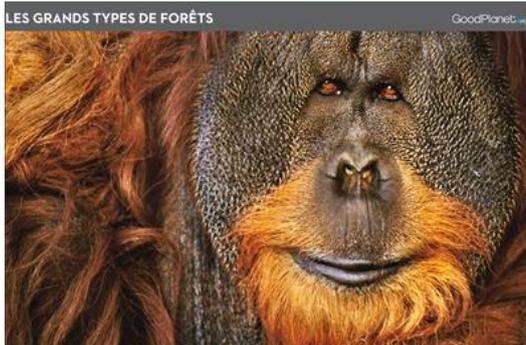
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French Institute Posters

The school was delighted to borrow The French Institute in Scotland's eco posters on the subject of the Forest, the posters have a lot of vocabulary about environmental issues and they also look beautiful!



S3 Pupils recently learnt lots of French vocabulary including phrases for deforestation, the Greenhouse effect and Climate change. They also learn how to talk about saving energy, recycling and not to drop litter.



Eco Tips from the Eco Committee

"Don't leave things charging overnight" says Katie McAdam S3

The eco posters were displayed in the library, the main concourse and beside the science labs.

Parent Council Sub Groups would like more members please consider joining a group.

Geography Issues Essays

Hydraulic Fracturing: Do the social and environmental risks outweigh the economic benefits to central Scotland?

The Advanced Higher Course in Geography requires pupils to write a 12 page essay on a topical issue of their choice, demonstrating the arguments for and against the subject and why the various parties have that point of view.



This is very relevant not only to the type of essays which will be done at university but also often to current eco issues particularly those relevant to Scotland - such as fracking.

Fracking is the process of drilling down into the earth before a high-pressure water mixture is directed at the rock to release the gas inside. Water, sand and chemicals are injected into the rock at high pressure which allows the gas to flow out to the head of the well. Fracking uses huge amounts of water that must be transported to the fracking site, at significant environmental cost. The second is the worry that potentially carcinogenic chemicals used may escape and contaminate groundwater around the fracking site. The industry suggests pollution incidents are the results of bad practice, rather than an inherently risky technique.