



# Firrhill News

July 2017

Produced by the Parent Council

## Recycled Fashion Show

 Follow on Twitter @FirrhillArts

On 17 May Firrhill and Braidburn pupils took part in an eco fashion show using recycled materials to make their garments, with spring as their main inspiration. This year the fashion show included an exciting grand finale – a bridal gown section. The fashion show was filmed by students from the University of Strathclyde, keen to learn about the successful collaboration between Firrhill High School and Braidburn Special School, where staff and pupils worked together to make the recycled fashion show a successful evening and a valuable tool for collaborative learning.

*Special thanks to Mrs Barley, Lead Eco Teacher, Mrs Graham, CL Expressive Arts, and the Eco Committee for organising and funding this great eco fashion event.*



Photos by Stuart Stott.





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## Recycled Fashion Show

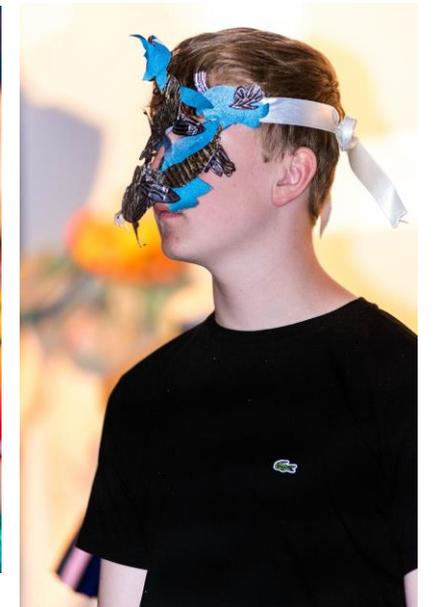


Follow on Twitter @FirrhillArts

Mrs Graham, Curriculum Leader, Expressive Arts, says "The fashion show and joint workshops have been really valuable in giving students opportunities to work together and build relationships between the two schools. We look forward to developing our partnership even further next year."



Thanks to the staff, pupils, family, friends and guests who supported this great event. Special thanks to the sound and lighting crew.



Photos by Stuart Stott.



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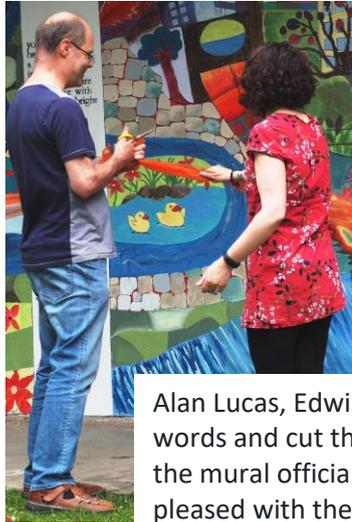
## Spylaw Park Mural

Follow on Twitter @FirrhillArts and @FirrhillMusic

Colinton Village Events  
**CVE** Group



On Saturday 27 May Firrhill's Soul Band and brass musicians performed at the dedication ceremony for the new mural in Spylaw Park. The artwork was inspired by the work of local artist Edward G Lucas (1911-1990). Lorraine O'Shea, Colinton Village Events Group Chair, thanked Firrhill High School for creating the new mural. Gayle Taylor, Minister of Colinton Parish Church, gave a short dedication which was followed by refreshments and the opportunity to look at the mural.



Alan Lucas, Edwin's son, said a few words and cut the ribbon to open the mural officially. He was very pleased with the pupils' artwork.





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## Spylaw Park Mural (cont'd)

The CVE Group also has a new "Colinton in Bloom" planter project: through successful grant applications they will soon be placing five lovely planters, which will brighten up Colinton village.

Colinton Village Events  
**CVE** Group

Thanks to the pupils and staff who created the new mural and to the Soul Band and brass musicians who performed.





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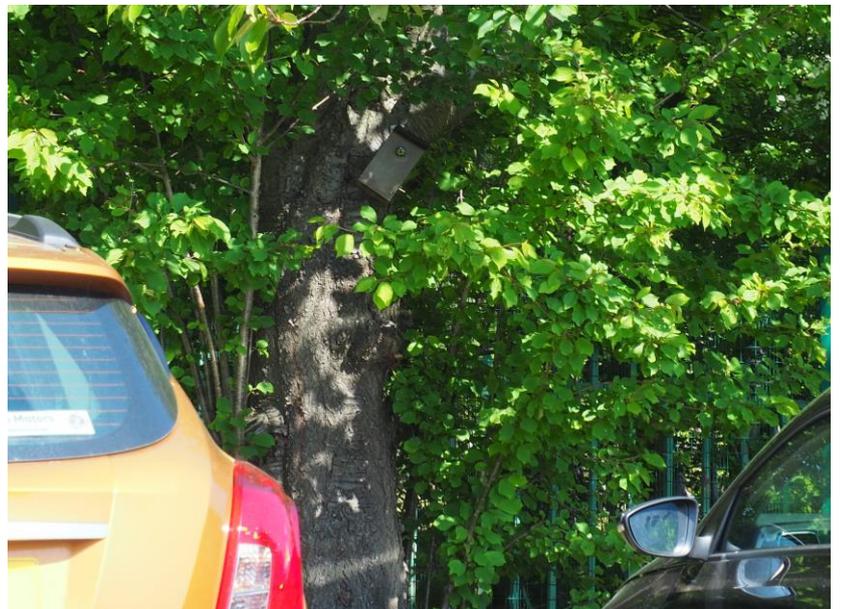
## Bird Nest Boxes

On Thursday 25 May RSPB Edinburgh Local Group members Mrs Chidwick, former Firrhill parent, and Mrs Hargest, Environment Group Leader, looked at the school's bird nest boxes.



The school has extensive grounds and has a meadow situated to the rear of the school. A wide number of species of birds can be seen in the grounds, including: blackbird, great tit, blue tit, robin, jackdaw, crow, herring gull, magpie, pheasant, swift, coal tit and house sparrow. Feeding the birds with fat balls will attract more species. The school pond is used by birds for bathing and drinking. It also attracts insects for the birds to eat. Birds may also roost or shelter in nest boxes, so it is good to clean them out in the autumn.

It is great to see some of the nest boxes are in use. Blue tits are nesting in the Pond Garden and also by the car park. Great tits were seen nesting in the retaining wall by the footpath.





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## Keanna's Swimming Success

 Follow Hearts Swim Club @swimHearts



As a result of her performances at the British Championships, Keanna has been selected to represent the UK at the World Junior Championships in Indianapolis in August.



Keanna MacInnes S5 is a member of Heart of Midlothian Swimming Club and a member of the Scottish Youth Squad. Her number-one stroke is butterfly. It has been a very busy and successful season for Keanna, so far.

**December:** at the Scottish National Short Course Championships in Edinburgh, Keanna won three national junior titles and a national senior title, setting a new British junior record in the 200m butterfly. She was also awarded the prize for the top junior female swimmer. Following this, she represented Scotland at the Ontario Junior International Meet in Canada, winning a silver medal in the 200m butterfly.

**January:** she represented Scotland Youths at the Geneva International Meet and won two gold medals, breaking the junior meet records for 100m and 200m butterfly.

**February:** she represented Great Britain at the Arena Pro Series in Indianapolis, USA, and won the B final of the 200m butterfly in a new Scottish junior record. She also set a Scottish junior record in the 100m butterfly.

**March:** she competed in the Scottish National Age Group Championships in Aberdeen and won four individual gold medals and a silver medal, setting another Scottish junior record in the 200m butterfly. She was also a member of her club's relay team which won three gold medals, breaking three national junior records in the process. She was awarded the prize for the top junior female.

**April:** she competed at the British Championships in Sheffield, winning the junior final of the 100m butterfly in a new Scottish junior record, just missing the senior record by 0.1 seconds. In the 200m butterfly, she qualified for her first British Senior final, finishing in an incredible 4<sup>th</sup> place!



Huge congratulations to Keanna for her outstanding swimming achievements – we wish her every success in the future.



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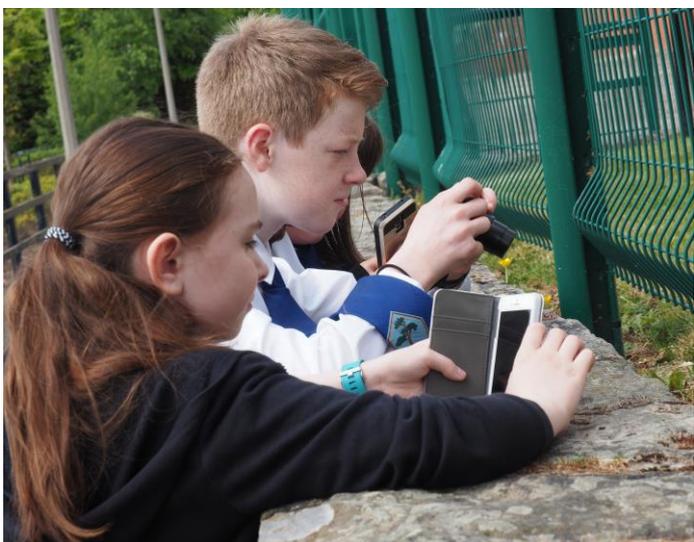
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## Urban Flora Project

On Wednesday 24 May three S2 pupils, Mrs Barley, Science teacher, and Mrs Hargest, parent, photographed and tried to identify wild flowers in the school grounds. The photographs, plus grid reference or street name will be compiled onto a CD and submitted to the Botanical Society of Scotland by the end of July. Pupils are encouraged to take as many photos as possible and to learn more about flowers.



The Urban Flora Project encourages school pupils to take an interest in wild flowers.





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## S1 Paris Trip

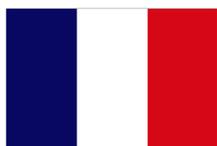
Follow on Twitter @Mf1Firrhill

From 8-12 May 2017 a group of Firrhill S1 pupils and five members of staff enjoyed a wonderful trip to Paris, visiting many famous tourist attractions, including: the Eiffel Tower; the Catacombs; Notre Dame; the Stade de France; Sacré-Cœur; the Hard Rock Café and Euro Disney. They also took a boat trip down the Seine. This action-packed trip provided an opportunity for pupils to have fun whilst experiencing French language, food and culture.



Thanks to the staff for arranging this successful trip.

"I have been on the Paris trip and had a great time."



"My favourite thing on the Paris trip was visiting the Catacombs."

"I got picked for the Paris trip and had a brilliant time."

*We are looking forward to hearing more about the Paris and Berlin trips, with reports by pupils and more great photos, too.*

