



Weekly News 8th March 2019



From the Head

I am delighted to report that sales of the tickets for the PTA Spring Afternoon Tea are going well. There are a few remaining tickets which can be bought from the school office. We will be running a 'beauty tombola' on the day and any donations of toiletries or beauty products will be gratefully received at the office before Thursday 15th March.

Please join us at the St Margaret's PTA

*Spring
Afternoon
Tea*

at The Park Café
Hazlehead Park

Sunday 17th March
1 – 4pm
Tickets £20
in advance by 7th March

Everyone is Welcome!

Gluten free Afternoon
Tea available on request

TICKETS are available to be purchased *in advance* by 7th March from the school office

Nursery - World Book Day

The nursery chose to celebrate World Book Day this year by dressing up as their favourite story characters. We had a wide array of characters ranging from Katie Morag to a pirate and a triceratops in a tutu! We also had a couple of matching outfits with three Goldilocks, two Mary Poppins, two Alice in Wonderlands and two Snow Whites.

The children brought a book in to accompany their costumes so that they could share it with their classmates. As it was a rainy morning, the children went to the GP room for 'Show and Tell'. They re-told their stories and shared their favourite parts. We were also visited by some of our class parents and grandparents who shared their stories with us. It was a busy day but the children had a super time celebrating the wonderful world of books.

Mrs L. Dredge





Rapunzel Escape Routes

The 1 Junior girls were asked by Rapunzel to help her escape from her tower. The girls had a choice of materials to use and each girl planned and then designed their tower and escape route. The girls created ladders, firefighter poles, zip wires, trampolines and parachutes to help Rapunzel. They showed their designs to their 4 Junior buddy class. Some of the feedback that they got was:

“They are so creative.”;

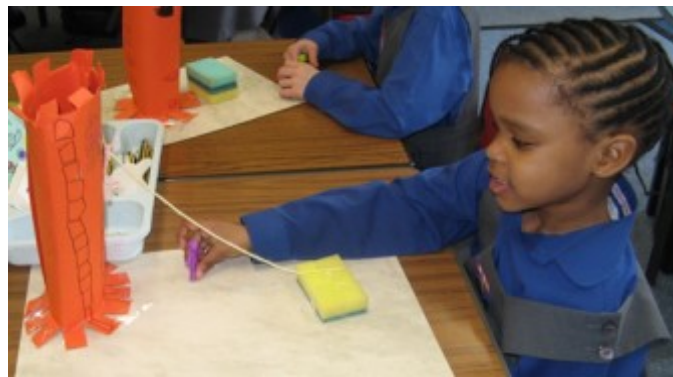
“They look so real.”;

“I don’t think I could do as well as them.”;

“Who needs to wait on a prince to come and save you when girls can do it ourselves?”.

The girls were very proud of their designs and worked hard to solve the design problem.

Mrs J. Garden



Outdoor Learning - 2 Junior

This week we went out on a walk around our local community so we could identify different buildings and their uses. We enjoyed time in the park and walked along Albert Terrace, investigating the different types of housing. We also enjoyed walking along Thistle street, to look at the different types of shops there are. It has to be said that the shop where the photo below was taken is probably our favourite type of shop!

Mrs N. Murray





Materials and Changes - 2 Junior

This week 2 Junior have been learning about irreversible changes that we can make to different materials. To illustrate this we made toast and also our own butter, made from shaking double cream until it became butter. We realised we could not change the toast back to bread or the butter back to cream but we did very much enjoy eating the finished products!

Mrs N. Murray



Planting Potatoes - 4 Junior

This term 4 Junior's social studies topic is farming. So far we have learnt about different types of farming, what is involved in a farmer's day, what happens during each season and the advantages and disadvantages of the job. On Tuesday, after chitting the potato seeds on the window sill for two weeks, we planted rocket potatoes and a regional variety called Athlete. Over the next few months we will monitor their growth and record what we see. On 11th June we will harvest the potatoes and weigh each variety. We have entered a competition with other schools to see who can produce the heaviest crop of each potato variety. We are looking forward to watching our crop grow.

Ms A. Dressel



Buddy Time - 4 Junior

In a story writing lesson last term 4 Junior were given the task, in pairs, of making a language game that they could play with 1 Junior. They had to plan, design and write instructions for the game. Finally, last week, the games were complete. After trialling them themselves it was time for them to be introduced to 1 Junior. We hope 1 Junior enjoyed playing our games because we had fun making them.

Ms A. Dressel





The Importance of 5 a day - 6 Junior

Having learnt about the importance of eating 5 portions of fruit or vegetables each day, 6 Junior created fruit plates in class. Their aim was to encourage younger members of the Junior school to choose fruit as a healthy snack. Some of their creations included the Loch Ness monster, lions, flowers and smiley faces – the simple message being ‘fruit is fun!’ On the same theme, as part of their homework, the girls were also asked to design a leaflet, poster or IMovie to promote the same message. The results were fabulous and many of the girls shared their work at the Junior assembly on Tuesday.

Mrs G. Wyatt



Last week a team of five girls from 7 Junior took part in the annual District Rotary Quiz. We were hugely impressed by their dedication and preparation for the event with all five girls spending their break times, lunch times and spare time at home, mainly during the holidays, brushing up on their general knowledge. It was very apparent how much the girls enjoyed the whole experience and how well they bonded they were as a team. The evening was a great success and the girls are to be congratulated for their efforts.

Mrs P. Twigg





Spring Concert



St Margaret's annual Spring Concert will be held on Thursday March 21st, at 7:00. in Holburn West Church, on the corner of Ashley Park Drive and the Great Western Road, and tickets (£6 and £4) are now available from the marketing office.

The concert will feature the following ensembles and choirs from the upper end of the Senior School: **The Concert**

Band; The Bach String Ensemble; The Wind Quartet; The Senior Choir; The Ceilidh Band; The Brass Ensemble; The Percussion Ensemble; The Vivaldi String Ensemble; The Chamber Choir; The Jazz Ensemble.

There will also be some solo items from our most experienced musicians in VIS, and the first performance of a piece for small orchestra, written especially for the concert by Amy Stewart in VIS, to be performed by the leavers, who is going to study composition at the RCS next year.

Early booking is strongly advised and we hope to see you there. The event should last approx. 90 minutes.

Tickets are priced at £6:00 and concessions at £4:00

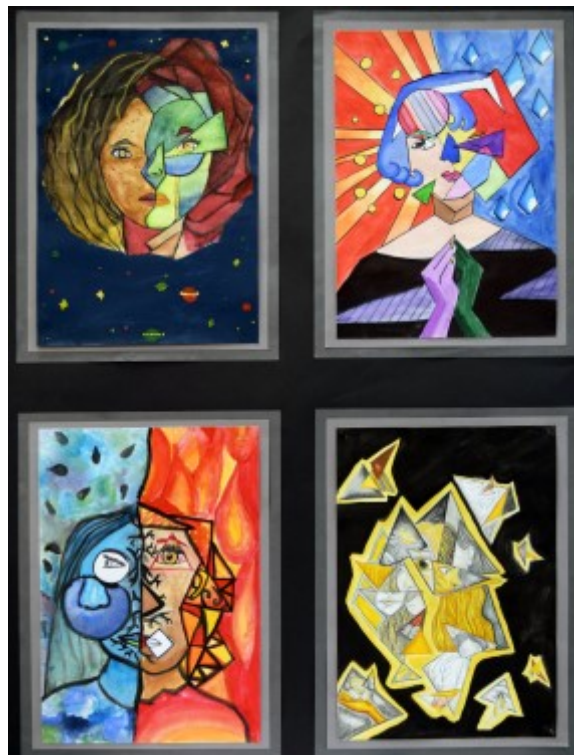
Mr P. Parfitt



Picture of the Month

March's Picture of the Month is by Madison Hart, Merrin Gallagher, Tessa MacArthur and Joanne Sharples in II Senior, titled 'Picasso Inspired Self Portrait.'

Mrs T. Scott
Head of Art and Design





Last week I was delighted that an old hockey friend was able to come and talk at assembly. Tracey Robb (now Menzies) shared with us how she loved to play hockey but was only chosen for the 5th XI. She decided that she had more chance of getting to play for the 1st XI if she played goalkeeper, so she asked her teacher who agreed that she could play for one of the teams in a match which actually took place on our very own grass pitches at Summerhill against St Margaret's! Tracey unfortunately let in seven goals but was not put off! She worked hard and persevered and was eventually chosen for the school team and eventually the North district team, then playing for the Scotland squad for many years. Tracey became a formidable goalkeeper that people struggled to score against. Tracey also shared with the girls about how hockey taught her many important life skills: being able to work with others, even though you may not be the best of friends; sharing a common goal; how to communicate effectively to ensure success and how good time management is absolutely necessary to achieve your goals. Tracey finished by saying that although she was not selected for the final GB team it was a valuable lesson in not being afraid to go for something you want because you are afraid to fail. Tracey's talk benefitted both staff and pupils alike, and one that we will remember for some time to come.





Talking about perseverance, the 1st XI and III Senior girls were disappointed to come third and fourth respectively in their school tournaments last Saturday. The 1st XI have pledged to work harder and look to win the Aspire cup next Friday 15th March in Glasgow where we have a group of younger pupils and parents coming to cheer us on!

Scottish Schools Equestrian Championships

Last Sunday, a group of eight girls, horses and parents set off early to compete in the above event held at Kilgraston. Congratulations go to the following girls for their impressive achievements against some stiff competition:

Romy Bryce, Marcy Bryce, Charley Hamilton (captain), Natasha Hamilton, Freya Hartley (vice-captain), Jessica Fox, Sarah Mackay and Emma Murray.

Romy Bryce: 4th in dressage, 2nd in show jumping
Prelim Dressage team – 4th team place, Emma Murray came 6th as an individual

Novice Dressage team – 3rd team place, Freya Hartley came 4th as an individual

Show Jumping 85cm – 2nd team place, Jessica Fox came 1st and Natasha Hamilton came 5th as individuals

Show Jumping 95cm – 7th team place, Charley Hamilton came 1st as an individual

Show Jumping 1.05m – 4th team place

I must thank Mrs Bryce, mum to Romy and Marcy, and Charley, for their invaluable help in organising the teams.

Charley was also delighted to hear this week that she has been invited to attend a performance squad trial in Glasgow on Monday 11th March. This is a fantastic opportunity for Charley and if successful could mean a show jumping career lies ahead.

Mrs K. Norval



Easter Holiday Club

The holiday club will operate within the school during the Easter holiday, from 8th April – 12th April 2019. The holiday club will be available for St Margaret's School children and their siblings who are aged between 3 and 12 years. The daily charge for the club is £40 and it will run from 8.00am until 5.30pm. The children should bring a morning snack and a packed lunch. We will provide a healthy snack in the afternoon.

There will be a wide range of activities and outings arranged and more details will be issued soon. The children will be asked what they would like to do, and this will reflect the content of the programme.

If you wish to reserve a place for your child, please complete a booking form and return it to the school office or e-mail it to me by 8th March 2019 to secure a place.

The dates for the next two clubs in 2019 are as follows:

Summer – week beginning 22nd July; 29th July; 5th August 2019

October – week beginning 21st October 2019

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch at s.thomson@st-margaret.aberdeen.sch.uk.

Miss S. Thomson



Spree Books

Spree book sales have gone very well and the deadline for purchasing one from school has now passed. Girls who have not returned their unwanted books should return them to the school office as soon as possible.

Ms K. Schmitz

This week we were delighted to have a careers talk from Mr Derek Ball from the University of Aberdeen, who talked about the interesting career of sports and exercise science. Those present learnt a lot about what university life is like for students getting a degree in sports science, and what is required of them. He told us about the three different disciplines of sport science and what they involve. He explained in depth what subjects you need to study at Higher to study sports science at university, and what possible careers you can have if you do a degree in sports science. People considering a career in sports science found this talk most helpful. We would like to thank Mr Ball a lot for coming to talk to us.

Oishani Dutta, IV Senior



Next week's talk is from **Aubrey Whitfield** who is a **Music Producer**. All girls in senior school are welcome. S3 at 1pm.

If you would like to volunteer to give a talk in school, please do get in touch with Ms Brown at s.brown@at-margaret.aberdeen.sch.uk

Upcoming talks

Date	Speaker	Occupation
Mon 11 th Mar	Aubrey Whitfield	Music Producer
Mon 18 th Mar	Janice Scott	Art & Design
Mon 25 th Mar	Sgt Clare Stoddart & Lt Ricahrd Stinson	RAF Lt & Pilot
Mon 29 th Apr	Mr Luca Corradi	Robotics and AI



In I Senior biology we have been learning about photosynthesis. In culmination of this topic, the girls in IM had to come up with a creative presentation to explain why plants are important and why we need to be interested in sustainability. The normal posters and PowerPoint were out of bounds! The standard was exceptional and the girls came up with some covers of chart hits such as the Backstreet Boys' "I Want It That Way"; Arianna Grande's "Thank You, Next" and Pitbull featuring Kesha's hit "Timber"! There was also an original song and video news report that the girls had filmed around the school, even roping in our very own Chef Mark as their guest star!

The girls have clearly put in a lot of very hard work to come up with some extremely creative and original performances and this has earned everybody some well-deserved house points.

Mrs L. Howitt



Just before the February break I launched, in assembly, a charity appeal on behalf of the charity Smalls for All®

Smalls for All® is a Scottish Charity which collects and distributes underwear to help women and children in Africa. They help those living in orphanages, slums, IDP camps and schools. In many cases these girls and ladies have no underwear at all.

A pack of pants costs less than 2 cups of coffee and is something that we all take for granted. As I showed the girls, even my son's giant teddy bear, Bernard, wears pants!

If you'd like to donate underwear, here's the brief

All you have to do is buy a packet of ladies' or children's pants. They must be **new** and while they collect all sizes, those needed the most are for **children aged 3-15** or **ladies size 8-14**. And while they collect all colours, the ladies' pants in greatest demand are black – in full brief, midi, mini or high leg (in the smaller sizes).

The underwear can be given to the class charity reps or to any of the senior school maths teachers. We are collecting up until the Easter break.

Many thanks to those of you who have already donated.



If you would like further information about the charity then please visit <https://www.smallsforall.org/>.

Thank you.

Mrs L. Tapper



PTA NEARLY NEW UNIFORM & SPORTS KIT SALE

Friday 22nd March 3 - 5pm

- In the School Dining Room -

The uniform sales are held once a term and give parents the opportunity to purchase good quality uniform and sports kit, help raise funds for the PTA, and provide an outlet to sell surplus uniform.

Donations of items to the PTA are welcomed!

Please note - *last day* for handing in sale items or donations is Thursday 21st March. Thank you

For any queries please contact Gillian Corry via email at - dwccorry@aol.com

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

MONDAY 29TH JULY -
WEDNESDAY 31ST JULY 2019



Girls aged 15-17 from schools across the UK are invited to apply for a fully funded place at this unique residential conference hosted by the University of Aberdeen

The conference is being run in partnership with St Margaret's School for Girls and generously sponsored by BP and supported by Skills Development Scotland. The conference will provide a wonderful opportunity to explore engineering both in a university setting and in the workplace.

Staying in halls of residence supervised by experienced teachers, successful applicants will benefit from a travel bursary and a highly interactive programme rich with hands-on activities and face to face contact with female engineers.

A visit to BP's headquarters in Aberdeen will also allow participants to interact with engineers working on and offshore.

The organisers of the conference have a long standing commitment to Widening Access to Higher Education and encourage students from all backgrounds to apply.

Application now open

- Only 45 places available
- Candidates selected on basis of application and school reference
- Apply before noon on Wednesday 13 March 2019

The detailed programme of events is to be confirmed but a draft of the general outline of the conference is as follows:

MONDAY 29TH JULY

AM Participants arrive and register at the University of Aberdeen

PM Ice breaker, engineering team challenge and choice of activities at Aberdeen Hillhead accommodation.

TUESDAY 30TH JULY

AM BP site visit including tour of facilities.

PM Engineering team challenge with academics from University of Aberdeen, keynote speech and formal dinner.

WEDNESDAY 31ST JULY

AM Engineering career talks from female engineers, postgraduate and undergraduate students and academics.

Some comments from delegates after attending last year's Women in Engineering Conference.

“ I have gained confidence in pursuing engineering in higher education and as a career choice and learnt more about different routes and opportunities studying engineering at University. ”

“ I have realised just how integrated all fields of engineering are with each other and with the wider working community. I've realised that this is absolutely a career which I want to pursue in the future. ”



UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN



bp



Supported by Skills Development Scotland



Visit www.abdn.ac.uk/engineering/events/14407 to apply

Fèis Obar Dheathain Aberdeen Fèis

Diluain 01 - Diciadain 03 Giblean 2019

Monday 01 - Wednesday 03 April 2019

Craigievar House, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 0GP

Traditional Music and Arts tuition for children of all ages

Fèis Bheag Bhìodach

9.30m - 11.30m

Music, Art and Fun for
children aged 3 - 5

(Children 0-2 accompanied by
a parent welcome to attend
from 9.30 - 10.30am)

Fèis Bheag

9.30m - 3.30f

Music, Art and Fun for
P1 - P3

New
Venue
for 2019

Fèis Mhòr

9.30m - 3.30f

Range of group tuition choices for P4 -S6

Seinn	Singing
Clàrsach	Clarsach
Fìdeag	Whistle
Dannsa-ceum	Step-Dancing
Meur-chlàr	Keyboard
Bogsa-ciùil	Accordion
Fìdheall	Fiddle
Feadan	Chanter
Spòrs	Sports
Drumaireachd	Drumming
Beòthachadh-dhealbhan	Animation

Cosgais I Cost

Fèis Bheag Bhìodach - £15 do gach pàiste I per child (0-2 £7 per child)

Fèis Bheag agus Fèis Mhòr - £45 do gach pàiste I per child

Fèis Obar Dheathain is open to all - you don't have to be a Gaelic speaker to take part.

Bursaries are available - come and talk to us.

Ceann-latha airson iarrtasan I Closing date for applications is 11/03/19

Fios & clàradh | Info & booking :

www.feisobardheathain.com ~ Facebook/FeisObarDheathain

