

Weekly Update 31st January 2020

Jobs of the Future Conference



On Thursday evening we welcomed over 100 pupils, parents, employers and teachers to the school to discuss Jobs of the Future. This was part of a Scotland wide 'Scotland's Biggest Parent Night' event. We decided to focus on the pathways open to our young people and the skills they would need to be successful in their next steps after school.

More than thirty employers came along to talk to us and tell us about their routes into employment and the opportunities available in the various job sectors. The format of the evening meant that there was plenty of opportunity for informal conversations. Hearing directly from employers and other partners had a great impact and has inspired some of our

young people to think differently about the options open to them.

The panel discussion was enlightening in terms of hearing how some people had had a very varied journey to where they are now. The message that came across was that you shouldn't be afraid of change and should be prepared to embrace an opportunity. The panel members were talking about how the skills they learned in one area proved to be very useful in a completely different areas when they changed jobs. Success wasn't all about qualifications (though they are important), skills and flexibility are important too.

The feedback has been very positive, and we expect this will become a regular feature of our school calendar. We'd like to thank the DYW team for their support in pulling everything together and also all the employers and partners who gave up their time to support our young people and parents.



Staff Update

We bid farewell today to Mr Darren Smith from our PE department who has secured a promoted post in Fife – congratulations to him and thanks from all in Portobello High School for all he has done for our young people during his time here. We also said goodbye to Hollie Marshall from our school office, who has been with us on a temporary basis – we wish her all the best as she leaves us to teach English in China.

Prelims

Our prelims are now complete and we would like to say a big well done to all our young people who have engaged so well with this process. Thanks also to staff for running Exam Boosters for N5 - these sessions

really do help to ensure that our young people go into their assessment feeling calm and focused and are particularly appreciated by S4 as they face their first formal assessments.

Careers Convention – Tuesday 4th February

All S2-S6 will have the opportunity to visit the careers convention in the assembly hall in the afternoon of Tuesday 4th February. We have exhibitors coming from universities, Edinburgh College, local employers and employers offering apprenticeships. Pupils will also have a chance to come in between 5.30pm and 6.30pm with their parents/carers to discuss opportunities with any of the exhibitors and discuss future pathways.

S2 Events Management

The S2 Events Management Enrichment class raised a brilliant £111.40 for Teenage Cancer Trust through the staff coffee morning on Friday 24th January. Well done to Mrs Hand who won the raffle prize and Ms Burnett who won the game of Backwards Bingo.



S3 Hospitality

S3 Hospitality have been making Pork Saltimbocca with lemon and garlic kale using Pork tenderloin provided by Quality Meat.

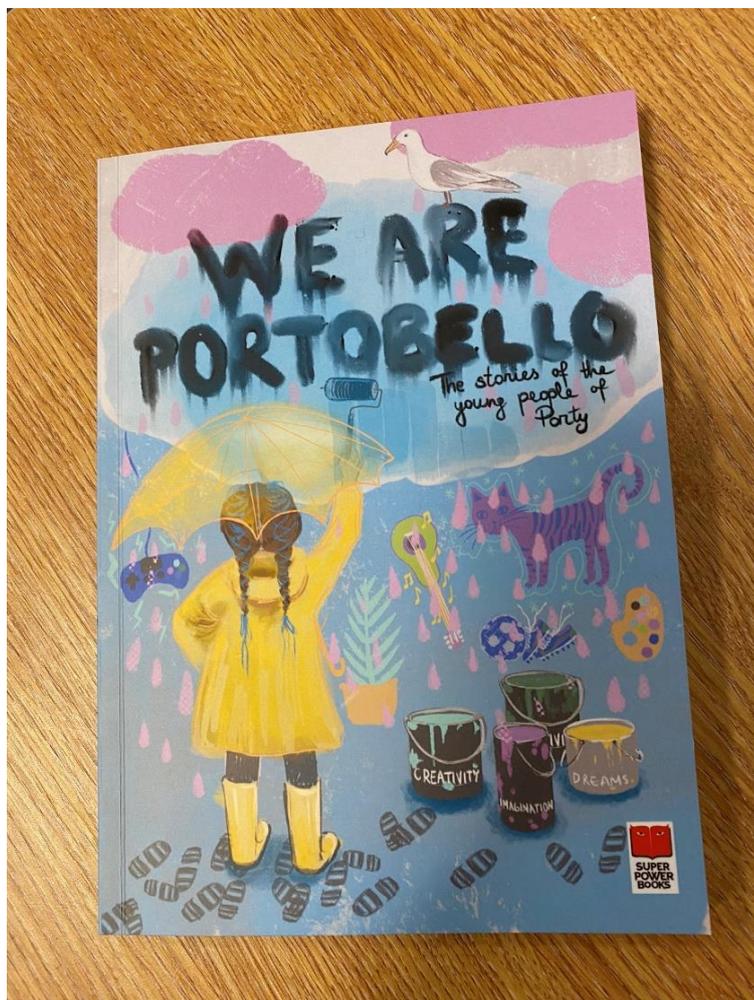


Dumpling Wrapping Club with Ms Crawford to celebrate Chinese New Year



We Are Portobello

There was great excitement on Wednesday afternoon as a group of young people in S2 and S3 saw their work go into print with the publication of 'We are Portobello'. This project ran in collaboration with the charity Superpower Agency and was coordinated in school by Mrs Mary Hand of our Maths department. Look out for a full report in next week's update! Meantime, you can get your copy in the Portobello Bookshop.



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PE News

Basketball – Congratulations to the Girls Basketball teams, Portobello HS have a team competing in all of the Age Groups associated with the Basketball Scottish Cup Semi – Final games. This is an outstanding achievement and a real recognition of the hard work and commitment of the coaching team and players.

Basketballscotland have confirmed that the Semi-Finals are scheduled as follows, tip off times and opposition are still to be confirmed.

Girls School Cup Competition – Semi Finals – Wednesday 11 March 2020, Dundee Regional Performance Centre

Boys School Cup Competition – Semi Finals - Thursday 12 March 2020, Dundee Regional Performance Centre

Girls Quarter Final Scores as follows:

Open Girls – Wallace HS 37 Portobello HS 46

U15 Girls – Falkirk HS 24 Portobello HS 29

S1 Girls – St Matthew’s Academy 38 Portobello HS 43

Congratulations also to our **S1 Boys** and **U15 Boys Basketball** Teams, they have reached the quarter final and the last 16 stages of the Boys Schools Cup Competition respectively. Their fixtures are as follows:

S1 Boys – Portobello HS v Perth Grammar – TBC

U15 Boys – Portobello HS v Inverkeithing HS, Friday 31st January 2.00pm tip off at Portobello HS

Twirling – Good luck to Nicole Neill S1 who is travelling to Florida next month with her twirling team, what a fantastic opportunity and experience.

Karate - Congratulation to **Daniel Lyons S3** and **Niamh McGregor S3** who were competing in the Austrian Open Champions Cup, a competition which was essential preparation prior to the European Championships next month in Budapest.

Daniel won a Bronze medal which was an amazing result for him in a very tough group and a big boost to his confidence leading into the European Championships, a couple of pictures of Daniel competing are included. The opportunity was also valuable experience for Niamh too.





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For more info contact Kirsty McArthur -

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