

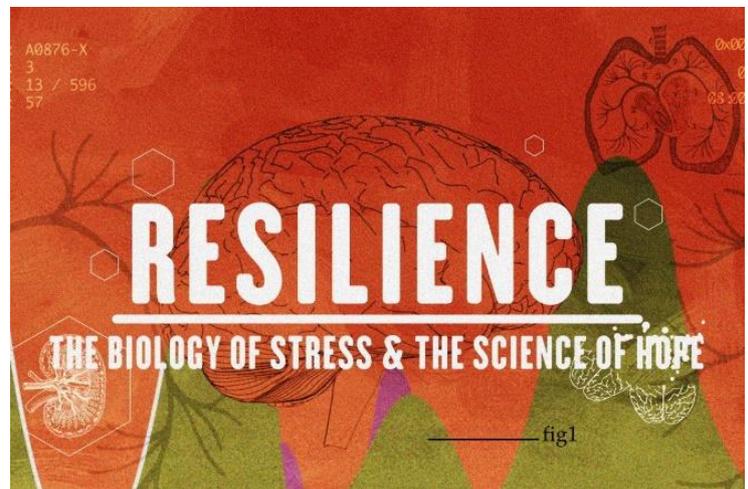
Weekly Update – 12th June 2020

Return to School

All parents should have received a text message to alert them to a letter from City of Edinburgh Council regarding the arrangements for returning to school in August – this can also be accessed on the Council's website at the following link: <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/14511/letter-to-mainstream-parents-and-carers> The detail of how these arrangements will operate in Portobello High School will be shared as soon as possible. We fully understand how keen all of our parents and young people will be to hear how this will look for them.

Resilience Documentary

All of us here at Portobello are very aware of the impact that trauma and adverse experience can have on children and young people. Our Achieving Together approach has been built upon our understanding of the importance of positive relationships as a protective factor for young people. One aspect of our professional learning around this has been viewing James Redford's ground-breaking documentary Resilience. It outlines the significant impact these experiences can have, allowing us to better understand the challenges faced by some young people. While some of the impacts are shocking and disturbing, importantly, the research highlighted offers a positive message about what all of us can do to protect and support young people. We are pleased to let you know about an opportunity to view this for free this weekend – tune at 8pm on Sunday 14 June on the following channels:



- Freeview 88
- Sky 170
- Virgin Media 269
- Freesat 164

SQA

We are pleased to confirm that all our subject teams have completed the processing of units for Nat 2 - Nat 4 qualifications. This has involved teachers in a great deal of detailed work reviewing all the available evidence and discussions in their teams. As with estimates, the judgements arrived at have been rigorously moderated. I am sure pupils and their parents carers are looking forward to receiving their results. The easiest way for young people to receive their National Qualifications results this summer is via MYSQA Service. Please sign into www.mysqa.org.uk before 5pm on Tuesday 14th July. To register you need your candidate number (SCN) and a valid email address. Finally, if you have moved, please let us know so we can update our systems ensuring exam results are sent to the correct address.

PORTOBELLO TOWN HALL – HAVE YOUR SAY

Portobello Town Hall has been the beating heart on Portobello High Street for over 100 years but was closed last year by the City of Edinburgh Council when they ran out of money for repairs. The Council has offered it for let and a group of volunteers, called Portobello Central, has got together to work out if we can get it running again. We know it will cost a lot of money and work to make this happen but none of this is possible without ideas for how to use the building.

We're planning 300 conversations over the next 30 days to find out what you would like to happen in Portobello Town Hall. Please be one of the 300. If you haven't visited, it's a huge hall with a stage and seating around the balcony. It also has individual rooms and another, smaller, hall upstairs.

Maybe you wish there were more live music events closer to home, a cinema, a gym - we're not sure what's possible yet so it's a great time to get ideas in.

Take part in the survey to give your ideas: <https://portytownhall.typeform.com/to/FKb9wu>



Modern Studies Department Update

Our Modern Studies students have been learning about the death of George Floyd and have been critically examining the subsequent protests in the US and reactions from President Trump, as well as others around the world. As part of the week's tasks, the S2 and S3 classes made fake social media posts and explored different attitudes. The response from our learners has been fantastic - we are confident the world is going to a much better place with them leading change in the years to come.

English

A lovely piece of writing from Rosie McIntosh.

Personal Writing – Music

For me, music is a daily necessity. It always helps to get me out of a slump and motivate me to be productive. My favourite times to listen to music are whilst I'm falling asleep, although that does require a specific genre, and when I'm doing schoolwork. In fact I'm currently listening to Kate Bush's album "Hounds of Love".

Typically I prefer listening to minimal music, where the noise is empty and uncluttered. I enjoy this because it feels as if each sound has more importance to it. Of course I don't religiously stick to this and I'm actually not picky at all when it comes to genres. I'll find something worth listening to in the most hideous racket of a song, which needless to say I still wouldn't choose above most other music. I don't normally find pleasure in artificial sounds, like synthesisers. I feel that music is better natural, after all that's how it's meant to be. Listen around. We hear it in the call of the birds, the whistles of the wind, the throb of the waves.

Obsessing over particular bands or singers, giving everything they come out with a listen isn't what I tend to do. Instead, certain songs stick out to me, even when I have no previous knowing of the artist. After, I compile a playlist of songs from a group of diverse artists and title it to suit a specific mood.

Generally music does a good job of altering my mood although -depending on the genre- not always for the better. Listening to music usually makes me feel calm and in control of myself, though I suppose it's the complete opposite. To really listen and absorb you have to allow your emotions to roam entirely vulnerable in your mind, waiting to be awoken by certain melodies or rhythms. If you try to force or block any feelings, then you won't receive the full cleansing benefit that can be had.

To feel that benefit, you have to do more than hear the music. Hearing alone is only enough for the notes to enter your head but fizzle out before they fully enter your mind. Often sound is described with adjectives that are mainly associated with other senses; this is because hearing is so versatile. It's not regular music. The music's sour. It's not a normal chord. The chord's spiky.

I find amusement in coming up with this sort of imagery whilst I play my instruments, to help me characterise each piece. I play the piano and the guitar at the moment, though am always keen to begin learning another instrument. It's pivotal for me to feel as if my music has some meaning behind it and isn't as rigid as set bars on a sheet of paper. So, often I'll create little stories within each piece of music and silently recite them as I play.

Being able to play a wind instrument, like the flute or the clarinet would be great. I adore the soft floaty sound they emit, as if they are imitating a bird swooping through the wind. Or perhaps a fallen leaf, swirling round and round, never quite reaching the ground. Whilst I'd love to be able to play a wind instrument, I'm very satisfied with my music ability at the moment and I will progress when I feel I'm ready.

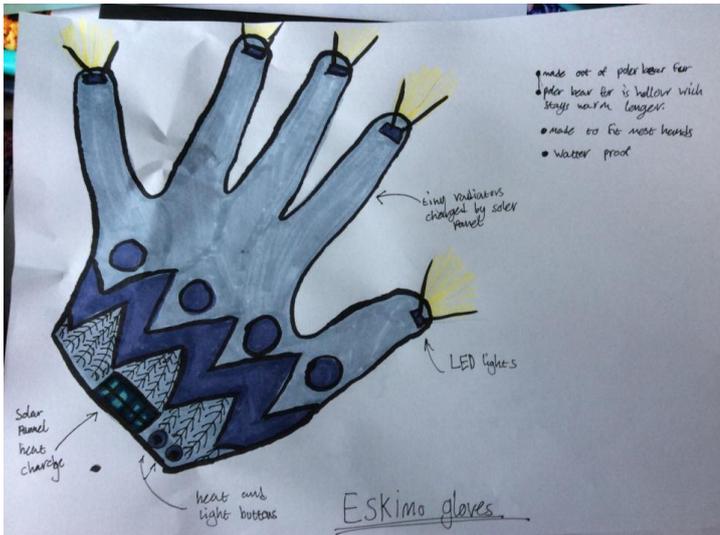
CDT

Design by Maisie Drybrough



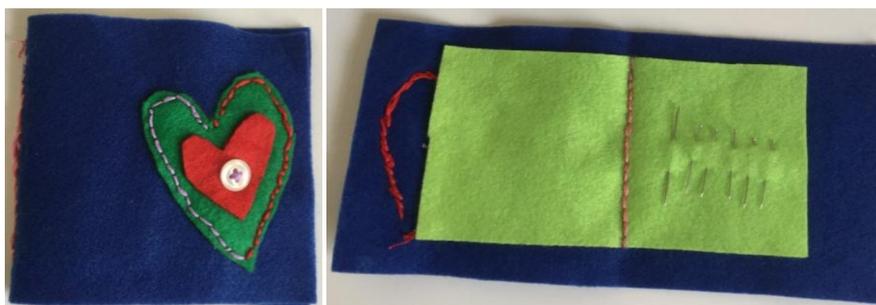
Jacket	Gloves
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Takes 5-6 hrs to charge.Has 3 pockets.Has a turn down brightness button and a turn up button.Has an fully bright button.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Takes 2-3hrs to chargeHas an on & off button.When ever you put your hand in front of you, it creates a black light.Waterproof.

Ruby Skilling



FTT

More examples of excellent work from FTT





Use of Bamboo in everyday Items

Bamboo has newly come into fashion as people are getting more and more worried about our planets health. The reason for this is that Bamboo is to be believed as very durable and reusable which overall cuts out waste and is very popular in the vegan and eco life.



There is quite a few pros and cons to the use of Bamboo in products. Bamboo is believed to be durable and reusable and is even stronger than most soft and hard woods and would make great toothbrushes and brushes. It is also believed to be dangerous to aquatic life as it contains sodium hydroxide but it's not a massive issue.

Bamboo is a very huge industry in China with most Bamboo import comes from China and also India. It's a huge industry as Bamboo is mostly grown in Chinese rainforests and that's how Pandas food is mainly Bamboo.

Bamboo is used in products like toothbrushes, hairbrushes, clothes and sunglasses, which are all easy to reuse. It's used in many more products and are very popular for people that follow by no waste in their life.



<https://www.ambientbp.com/blog/must-have-bamboo-items-sustainable-home> www.withlifeclotthing.com%2Fblogpage%2Fturkey-bamboo-clothing-manufacturer&psig
<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.675.9152&rep=rep1&type=pdf>
http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/life/2011-01/19/content_11882983.htm
<https://engineeringdiscoveries.com/2019/11/03/what-are-the-advantages-and-disadvantages-of-bamboo-in-construction/>

Science

Pupils were asked to make a model of an atom in any way they liked. Here are some amazing examples:

