

Weekly Update 1 July 2022

End of Session

School closes today at 12 noon for the summer holidays and will re-open to young people on 17 August 2022, when we really look forward to welcoming our new S1 cohort.

The school office will be staffed through the holidays and can be contacted on admin@portobello.edin.sch.uk Please note it may not be possible to answer all enquiries while staff are on holiday.



We look forward to working with our young people and families next year and wish all our families a happy and relaxing summer break – hopefully the sun will reappear very soon!

S6 School Captains

Congratulations to the following young people, who have been appointed to S6 leadership roles today!

School Captains – Jack Gardner and Mhairi Klein (centre)

Depute School Captains – Muhammad Atif, Erinn McNally, Tommy Hurrell, Isaac Munro (L-R)



SQA Exam Results

We wish all those who are awaiting results from SQA the very best. While we hope everyone will get the results they are looking for, we know that there may be some young people who will want to make changes to their courses for next year after the results arrive. PSLs will be available on Teams by appointment on Thursday 11 August and Friday 12 August to assist young people with this and a letter detailing how to make an appointment will be sent home nearer the time.

Information for learners on the appeals service has been published on the SQA website, please see the link below. A hard copy of this information will be sent directly to learners at the end of July.

[SQA Appeals 2022 - what you need to know for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher](#)

Staff Update

Following a recruitment exercise this week, we are pleased to announce that Mrs Mary Hand will take up the role of Acting Pupil Support Leader for Abercorn House from August and Mr David McCreath will continue as our Acting Curriculum Leader for Social Subjects.

Well Done Greta!

Huge congratulations to Greta McMillan, S6, who won the 'Changes for a Better World Award' at the Into Film Awards held at Leicester Square Odeon Deluxe in London. This event saw Greta and her parents travel to London for a real red carpet event - and Greta got to do the media line up with Jack Lowden and Eddie Redmayne!

Greta's film is about her journey to school where she realises we need to Change Direction. The film is about climate change and moral responsibility and can be viewed at the link below.

https://www.intofilm.org/news-and-views/articles/into-film-awards-2022-winners?fbclid=IwAR29JJKtqV5IBl4dom_B087lfhLyg4ZFGI_EJbnkz3RilvoZ2VMMRDleLi4



Star Linguists

The Modern Languages Department are continuing to recognise and celebrate outstanding effort and achievement in languages among S1-S3 pupils through our Star Linguist awards. Here are our 'Star Linguist' winners from June- the first from our new 2022/23 classes - all of whom have impressed their new class teacher through working extremely hard in French or Spanish. Well done to you all! *Bonnes vacances!*
¡Felices vacaciones!

Star Linguists

June 2022

Jack McDougall 2CD6 (French)

"Jack, I am so impressed with your work so far in S2 French! You participate in every lesson and always try your best when completing activities we do in class. You have also made a fantastic poster using vocabulary we have been learning over the last two weeks. What a great start to the languages S2 course! Keep up the hard work! Bravo!"
- Ms Jouve

Khadija Atif 2CD2 (French)

"Khadija has had a fantastic start to S2 French! She has been putting 100% effort into all tasks in class and asks really intelligent questions. It has also been lovely to see her helping those around her if they need it. Well done Khadija! Have a wonderful summer when it comes, *bonnes vacances!*"
- Mrs Purkiss

Matthew Murray-Smith 3CD1 (French)

"I have been impressed with Matthew's work since the start of S3 in June. He has very quickly grasped the key vocabulary and grammar points for the first topic, he always applies himself very well in class and it is clear that he is a very strong linguist. *Bon travail, Matthew et bonnes vacances!*"
- Mr McCulloch

Catherine Rayner 3CD5 (Spanish)

"What a brilliant start you have made to S3 beginner Spanish Catherine! You seem really ready to learn and take in as much as you can. Looking forward to seeing what you achieve this year!"
- Ms Taylor

Joseph Smith 2CD1 (French)

"Well done Joe! You have made an amazing start to 2nd year French! From the start of the lesson to the end, you are working hard, putting in your best effort and participating in class discussion! You should be very proud of yourself. I'm sure you'll have no trouble keeping this up as you move forward after the summer!"
- Miss Brown

Saul Possee 2AB4 (French)

"Saul, you have made a fantastic start to S2. I have been really impressed with your focus and engagement in every lesson. You always try your best and contribute so many excellent answers - well done! I am so looking forward to our classes together this year. Enjoy your holidays!"
- Miss Davies

Lewis Watkins 2CD5 (French)

"What a start! And what a Star! Lewis, you have already really impressed me with your knowledge of French and your ever-positive attitude. Your hand is always up, you are always trying your very best and your classwork is impeccable. I'm really looking forward to continuing working with you after the Summer. *Toutes mes félicitations et bonnes vacances!*"
- Mr Lecomte

Pia Schaefer 2CD3 (French)

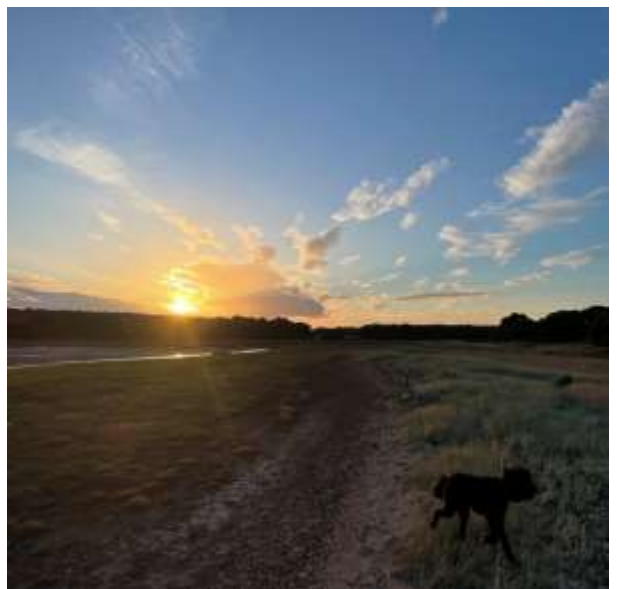
"Pia I have been so impressed with your effort and enthusiasm so far in S2. Your class work is excellent and you participate really well. You are always willing to read aloud in French and your pronunciation is fantastic!
Keep up the good work Pia!"
- Miss Howie

Well done to all our superstars!

Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award

This week 2 groups of our new S6 students successfully completed their qualifying expedition in East Lothian. They were met with mixed weather from glorious sunshine to heavy downpours but nothing dampened their spirits. They were an absolute delight to have out on exped: full of energy, enthusiasm and too many home-baked treats to count. Some even enjoyed a 4am sunrise at tynninghame beach :)

Big congrats to: Nathan Faulds, Sam Webster, Erinn McNally, Elsie Poole, Rhona Wilson, Faisal Mohammad, Zain Muhammad, Ben Heron, Jo Robinson and James Boyack.



FTT

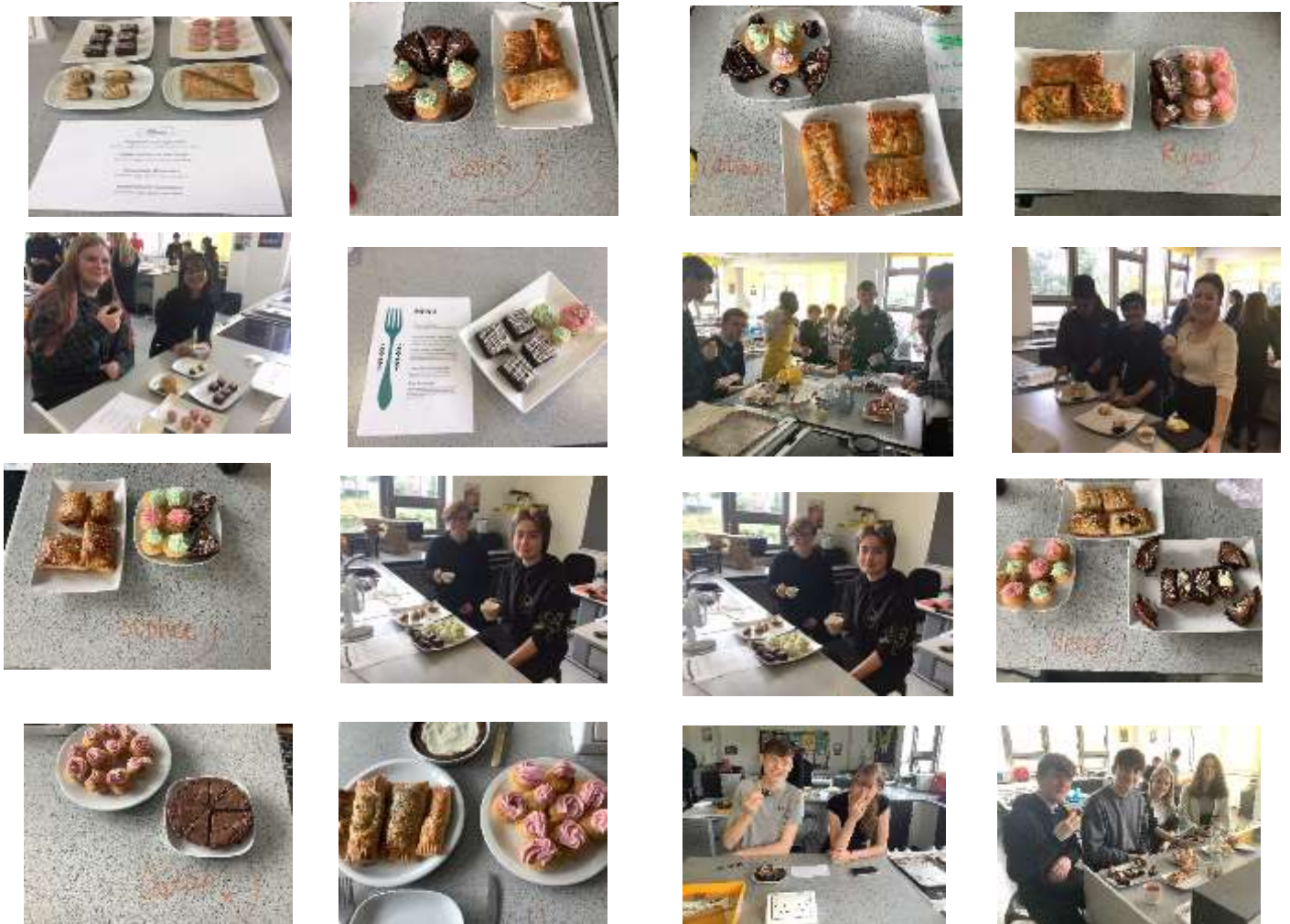
The Senior cake and bake classes have been working on a design task over the past few weeks and even though they have only been in the class since timetable change, their results are fantastic! They have been trying their hands at working with sugar paste to create cakes on a selected theme. The department has been a hive of activity and creativity with our biggest cohort of students ever producing some fantastic pieces that have us very excited about what they will achieve in the year to come!



A pizza to celebrate Pride Month made by S2 Ava Ellis.



A new class of Practical Cookery students have begun their course with a canapé party for some lucky invited guests. 50 students prepared and presented four different canapés and invited friends and members of staff to come and enjoy them with a cup of tea.







Created by **Ostrero**



On Tuesday our Eco Committee took part in an Ostrero workshop designed to get students thinking creatively about the circular economy and how schools can design out waste.

Students worked with repurposed materials to produce items based on circular economy design principles of disassembly and maximising the life and use of materials.





Deliberate Firesetting

Parents & Carers

You can help to reduce deliberate fires

Make sure that children and young people are aware of the risks of playing with fire and the consequences of deliberately setting a fire. Things like setting fire to grass or rubbish can have a serious impact.

If possible, be aware of where children or young people are – and what they're doing.

Deliberate fires take firefighters away from other incidents and could put lives at risk.

Are you concerned the children or young people you look after could be involved in setting deliberate fires?

Is there a smell of smoke on clothes or in the home? Talk to them about the dangers of 'playing with fire'.

We can help. Contact your local fire station. Your local Community Action Team can offer advice or even a visit via the Firesetters Intervention and Re-education Scheme (FIREs).

Facts

In 2019-20 the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended **11,649** deliberate outdoor fires. Many of these involve young people.

Deliberate fires can spread quickly, threatening wildlife, property & people.

Don't accept it, report it

Contact Police Scotland via the non-emergency number **101** to share information on anyone who deliberately sets fires. Alternatively, give the information anonymously by calling Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**.

**LET'S WORK
TOGETHER TO PREVENT
DELIBERATE FIRES**

