



FORTHCOMING FIXTURES/EVENTS

Monday 3rd September

Pupils chose their Thursday afternoon activity
Debating – lunchtime – starts next week

Tuesday 4th September

SMT meeting 8:30am
Senior Choir – lunchtime, starts next week

Wednesday 5th September

Orchestra 8am– starts next week

Wednesday 5th September (cont'd)

1st Rugby Festival at Merchiston (A) 2pm
U11A Rugby v Merchiston (A) 2pm

Thursday 6th September

Activities begin – Block 1, Week 1

Friday 7th September

Junior Choir – lunchtime, starts next week

Music lessons commence next week

NOTE FROM THE HEADMASTER

Forms 3, 4 and 5 all had a wonderful time at Spottiswoode camp during the penultimate week of term, aided by the fabulous summer weather. There is no question that staff and pupils have been energised by this welcome hot weather. Mrs Berni and her Kindergarten staff hosted their teddy bears' picnic. This year it was sited around the base of the sycamore tree, and it was a delight to see Kindergarten children, their parents, Form 7, and staff basking in the sun. The previous day, Form 7 had visited Torness Power Station as part of their geography and science curriculum <https://bit.ly/2Ksvpuk>.

We were visited by a young band 'Single By Sunday' who presented, through music, an online safety message. They performed in front of Forms 6, 7 and 8 in the Morrison Hall, and their informative guidance was well-received.

Fixtures took place both here and at Loretto, and match reports can be accessed on the website. On the penultimate Thursday, the term-long swimming programme reached a crescendo with our swimming gala at Galashiels Pool. There were many outstanding swims on the day, and congratulations go to: Blair - Pre Junior (School Cup), Kiki - Junior (Watt Cup), Emma SW – Senior (Rae Trophy) for winning their individual championships on the day <https://bit.ly/2unXgSm>

That afternoon, the summer concert was held in the Morrison Hall, with doors ajar and fans attempting to keep the performers and the audience cool. Pianists, flautists, soloists, and various choirs followed the opening piece by the school orchestra. With exceptional talent in Alexander F, Tegan and Dicken, Form 8 could not fail to steal the show, and they did so with a number of uplifting pieces.

The following morning, Pre-Prep headed to Harestanes and returned just in time to take part in the Friends of St. Mary's Summer Fair. There is no doubt that the sunshine played a key part in the success of the afternoon, but the various stalls organised and run by the Friends of St. Mary's provided excellent entertainment for the three hours of the event. Huge thanks go to Alan Mathieson and his team for such a superb afternoon.

After a much-needed rest over the weekend, pupils, staff, and parents reconvened on Monday with Fathers v Sons cricket and Mothers v Daughters rounders taking place in the afternoon. Perhaps for the first time in many years, two victories for the older generation were had, with the cricket success being largely down to two very talented mothers in Katie Francis and Jo Ballantyne. A 50 from Jamie

Macpherson also helped the parents' cause. A most enjoyable barbeque followed, and thanks go to Chef for his hospitality and hard work.

Pre-Prep Prizegiving took place the following day, and as ever it was a pleasure for Mrs Harvey and I to celebrate all the hard work and success of our Reception, Form 1, and Form 2 classes. The stars of the morning were not yet finished and put on a show that lasted $\frac{3}{4}$ of hour. Miss McRae sees a bright future for many of our young stars who performed so capably in their production of Dick Whittington.

Soon afterwards, for the first time in three years, Mrs Bell was able to run her Pre-Prep and Kindergarten Sports Day, and what a marvellous success it proved to be.

The following day, Pre-Prep concluded their academic year with a tidy-up and farewells, whilst the senior school prepared for the end of term festivities. This began with a superb Form 8 assembly during which several questionable impersonations of staff were attempted, as a talent show unfolded in front of a highly amused audience.



The tradition of paying tribute to everyone who has helped Form 8 then took place and as mums, dads, staff, and pupils, with hankies in hand, gave Form 8 a rousing round of applause. The unwrapping of a wonderful painting of the school followed. Head Boy Antony expressed gratitude on behalf of the

form as he presented this portrait. After this, it was a pleasure spending time with Form 8s and their parents for drinks on the lawn as the conclusion to a most successful year for Form 8s drew ever nearer (for more photographs see the following article <https://bit.ly/2L1hfAp>)

Prizegiving in the marquee that evening further emphasised what an outstanding form we have had at the top of the school, and Mr Geoffrey Aitken-Head provided wise and insightful guidance to all pupils on identifying what makes them curious and pursuing that interest. We are extremely grateful to Mr Aitken-Head for his amusing, informative, and thoughtful address. Mr Aitken-Head spent the remainder of the evening with staff, governors, and parents in the form of a buffet in the Headmaster's House, whilst the boarders spent their last evening of their school year enjoying marshmallows, movies, and some light-hearted hijinks.



Unsurprisingly, the sun continued to shine the following day as Sports Day took place, with Jessica and Jamie ending up as this year's champion athletes.



Thank you to all parents who attended the Leavers' Lunch in the marquee soon afterwards. This was a fitting way to draw a splendid academic year to its conclusion, and we wish all our leavers the very best of luck as they embark on the next leg of their educational journey. We hope their curiosity leads them down the right path of success and fulfilment. Have a very happy holiday.

HM

KELSO SHOW

Come and see us at Kelso Show 27th and 28th July

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

That while we encourage attendance at extracurricular activities eg; choir, cross country, debating. These are optional activities. Please contact the member of staff in charge – see handbooks

SECOND HAND UNIFORM – SCHOOL SHOP

The school shop will be open for a morning during mid August and an email will be sent to all parents with the date. Please email Mrs Imray on joanna_imray@hotmail.com to arrange to meet.

Please hand in any uniform to be sold to the school office.

Form 3 – 8 school coats, hoodies, and pre-prep satchels (“bookbags”) are available from <https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/st-marys-school-melrose.html>

All other uniform can be purchased from Aitken and Niven <http://www.aitken-niven.co.uk/category/my-school/st-mary-s-melrose/>

BOARDING HOUSE NEWS

Goodbye Leavers...



<https://bit.ly/2ND7Spe>

SYLLABUS EVENINGS NEXT TERM

Monday 10th September – Forms 6, 7 and 8 - 5:15pm

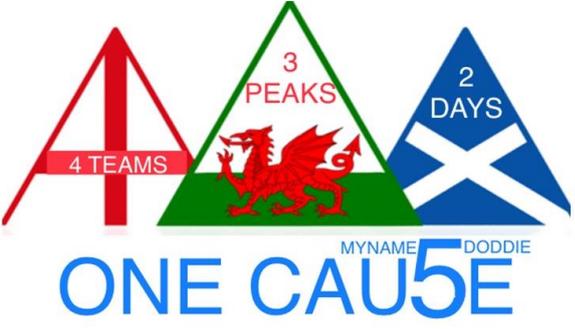
Tuesday 11th September – Forms 1 and 2 - 4:15pm

Monday 12th September – Forms 3, 4 and 5 - 4:15pm

MISSING

Rufus – tracksuit top and green shorts

The Headmaster would like to promote the following forthcoming fundraising event for <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/challenge-4321>



ONE CAU5E
MYNAME DODDIE

4 TEAMS
3 PEAKS
2 DAYS

52%
£2,648.21
raised of £5,000 target
by 50 supporters

Donate

Share on Facebook

MND54321 CHALLENGE
Fundraising for My Name'5 Doddie Foundation

MY NAME'S DODDIE foundation
My Name'5 Doddie Foundation
We Fund research and raise awareness of MND to help anyone touched by MND.

Team members: Team Weir : KATHY WEIR, ANNIE WEIR, ROSIE CULLY Team Lang : GINA LANG, GILLIAN MORRIS, KATE BLACK Team Dun : JANE DUN, ALISON HYSLOP, HELEN DICKSON Team Thompson : SARAH THOMPSON, ROSIE BELL

Event: CHALLENGE 4321, 15 Jul 2018 to 16 Jul 2018

Charity Registration No. S0047871