

christmas 2011



Stranraer Academy Newsletter

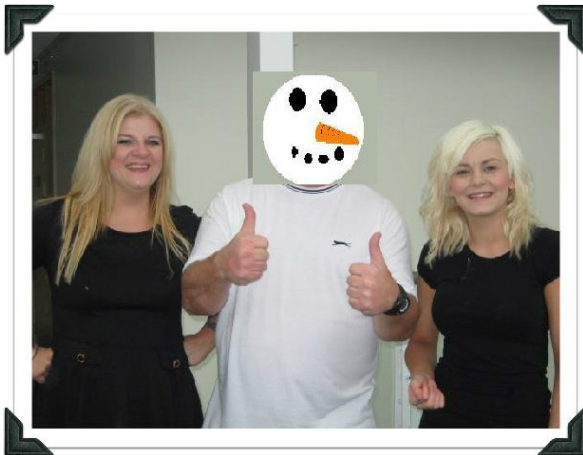
A very happy Christmas to all our readers.

By Katie Torrance (S1)



Pupils and staff visit the Christmas Fair –one of the many special events taking place in the school as Christmas approaches.

This colourful cake made by teacher Mrs S Siwo was raffled at the Fair.



Snowman by Aaron McEwan (S1)

Who is the Mystery Man and what is he so pleased about?

Find out on page 2!

New Parents' Night Date

The S5/6 Parents' Night, which had to be cancelled due to the weather, will now take place on Monday 23 January—weather permitting!



Children in need



OK, it wasn't all done in a single lunchtime, but this year's Children in Need fundraising total was achieved in just the morning interval and lunch breaks of 17-19 November.

The old favourite events proved as popular as ever: Girls v Staff and Boys v Staff football matches brought out the crowds, despite chilly conditions, and the Alternative Miss World competition, won this year by Grant Redmond as Miss England, thrilled an enthusiastic audience in the Queen's Hall. The coffee morning for staff and senior pupils also proved popular and successful.

Mr Baird of the PE Department—our front page mystery man—enjoyed the attentions of Kirsty McDowall and Jill Whorlow of 3D hair salon, and single-handedly raised £300 pounds through his sponsored hair-bleaching. Who's up for next year?



S6 students Louis Barron and Gillian Arthington have been chosen to participate in this years Lessons From Auschwitz Project. The project began in November with an orientation seminar in Glasgow where the students heard the experiences of Kitty Hart-Moxon, an Auschwitz survivor. (Kitty's story can be read at <http://www.het.org.uk/index.php/survivors-khm>)

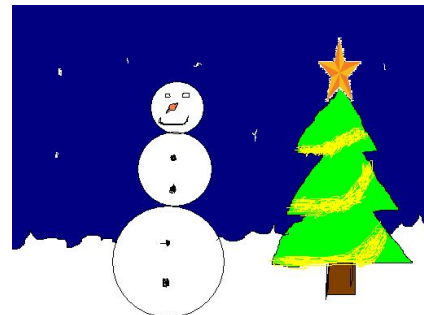
The following week the students visited the concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau for the day, with a follow-up seminar at the end of the month. In the new year they are due to begin their `next steps' project, which aims to bring the lessons they have learned back in to the local community.

More news of Gillian and Lewis's participation in the Lessons from Auschwitz project will appear in a later newsletter.

Academy Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair takes place this year on Monday 19 December. The Fair enables SVS students, Young Enterprise and other groups in the school to show off their talents and raise some cash. Each year group from S1 to S4 will have the opportunity to be brought to the Fair by their teacher at a particular period during the day.

The Fair will have a number of games, cake, craft and book stalls all to help the students get into the



Christmas Greetings from Euan Wilson (S1)

CONGRATULATIONS to Andrew Toal (S3), winner of a recent Photography and Artwork competition organised by Sandhaed Learning and Internet Centre. Andrew will receive his award from the Lord Lieutenant for Wigtownshire, Mrs M T Brewis, and his picture will appear in a local calendar.

An S3 SVS Class recently staged a `Mini-Snowball' for P7 pupils. Around 120 attended. The S3 pupils organised their event as part of their SVS course, including music, a tucksop and photos.



Nuffield Bursary Scheme Post-16 S5 Pupils STEM Science/Technology/Engineering/Maths



Nuffield Foundation Science Bursaries offer up to 1000 bursaries a year, for students to work alongside professional scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians. Projects take place during the summer holidays (4-6 weeks) giving students an insight into the world of scientific research and development. **Pupils of Stranraer can apply to do projects across Scotland not just within the local area.** All students of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) courses are eligible to apply for a bursary. **Successful applicants are given £80 per week to support them during their project.**

Check out : <http://www.techfestsetpoint.org.uk/activities/nuffield/> or see Mrs Trotter in Science Room 1035. Deadline for Applications for 2012 is 20th January 2012.

See this newsletter in colour at:
www.stranraeracademy.co.uk

INCH HOUSE - STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



	October		November
1FB	Connor Rennie	1FB	Kelsey McColm
1KB	Lauren Smith	1KB	Blair Haswell
2FB	Chloe McHarrie	2FB	Owen McClymont
2KB	Struan Wilson	2KB	Konrad Zdonowski
Z3FB	Alana Gurney	3FB	Kelsey McWhirter
3KB	Jamie Graham	3KB	Emma McCreddie
4FB	Caitlin McDowell	4FB	Charis McWhirter
4KB	Zach Hardie	4KB	Ryan Craig
5FB	Iona McFarlane	5FB	Craig Campbell
5KB	David Baxter	5KB	Andrew McColm
6FB/KB	Adelle Allison	6FB/KB	Ally Bullivant

Inch House have been awarding 'Student of the Month' certificates for the last 2 months. Each register teacher nominates a pupil for the award based on criteria such as attendance, merits, effort, contributions to school and contributions to the community in that particular month. Two 6th year pupils, Adelle Allison and Seona Corbett, have taken on the organisation and presentation of these certificates and give them out at the house assembly.

SWIMMERS ENJOY SUCCESSES IN DUMFRIES

A group of 10 swimmers (Kieran Lawson, Mary McIntosh, Michael McCrorie, Rebecca McDowell, Declan Grier, Blair Haswell, Lachlan Caulfield, Meghan Higgins, Carrick Laburn and Josh Mitchell) recently competed in the Scottish Schools Regional Qualifying event at DG One leisure centre in Dumfries.

They were swimming for a place in the National Finals in East Kilbride on the 28th January 2012. Although they have yet to be notified if they have set fast enough times to qualify for the Finals, all of our team performed superbly, winning a total of 13 medals. Many of them also achieved personal best times.

Our most successful competitors on the day were:

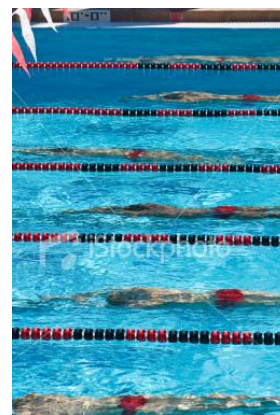
Josh Mitchell (S1) - Gold 100m Breaststroke, Gold 100m Butterfly, Gold 200m Individual Medley, Silver 200m Freestyle.

Meghan Higgins (S3) - Gold in the 200m Individual Medley.

Kieran Lawson (S5) - Gold 100m Breaststroke, Silver 200m Individual Medley, Silver 100m Backstroke, Bronze 100m Freestyle.

Carrick Laburn (S5) - Silver 100m Breaststroke, Bronze 100m Backstroke, Bronze 200m Individual Medley.

Thanks go to Stranraer Stingrays coaching staff for attending the event with the pupils and for their tireless work in helping them achieve such fantastic results. Let's hope that they can qualify for the National Finals.



Careers Advice

Our school Careers Advisor is Mrs Karen Skilling, who is in school every Tuesday and Wednesday. Anyone planning to leave in the summer should make an appointment with Karen if they have not already done so. Karen can also see any pupil in S1-S6 who wants to find out more about career options. Appointment cards are available from Mr Freeman in the School Library.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

Under-13 Regional League

Stranraer Academy	6	St. Joseph's College	0
Annan Academy	6	Stranraer Academy	5

Under-13 Scottish Shield

Stranraer Academy	11	Kilwinning Academy	2	Round 2
Carrick Academy		V Stranraer Academy		Round 3

Under-14 Regional League

Stranraer Academy	7	St. Joseph's College	3
Annan Academy	1	Stranraer Academy	12

Under-14 Scottish Shield

Calderhead High	3	Stranraer Academy	7	Round 2
Stranraer Academy	3	Caldervale High	2	Round 3

Under-16 Regional League

Stranraer Academy	4	St. Joseph's College	3
Annan Academy	0	Stranraer Academy	1
Stranraer Academy	2	Wallace Hall Academy	4

Under-16 Scottish Shield

Grange Academy	8	Stranraer Academy	3	Round 2
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Under-18 Scottish Shield

Holy Cross High	2	Stranraer Academy	1	Round 1
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Dean Agnew (top), Liam Binnie and Dean Fyfe have played for the Regional Under-18 team.

Dean Agnew and Liam were selected for the South West area trial.

.At Under-15 level, Johnathon Baxter, Stephen Hutton, James Hilton and Lyle Avci have all represented Dumfries & Galloway. The regional team has recently qualified from the group stage to move into the knockout stages of the national competition.

Under-18 players Dean Agnew, Dean Fyfe and Liam Binnie were selected for the regional team. Although Dumfries and Galloway's Under-18s have not progressed to the knockout stages, Dean Agnew and Liam Binnie were chosen for the South West area trial. Congratulations to Dean, who won through to the final trial for the Scottish Schoolboys squad for the Centenary Shield matches against Wales, England and Northern Ireland.



OTHER NEWS

Dux Boards The two dux boards from the old school buildings have been refurbished. We hope to be able to have them on display in the new school early in the new year.

Buttons An S1 class are taking part in a scheme to collect unwanted buttons to send to Malawi, where buttons are expensive for local people to buy. All buttons gratefully received. They can be handed in to the school office.



Stranraer's **Pantomime** "The Emperor's New Clothes", which has just completed a 6-day run at the Ryan Centre, starred pupils from S1 to S6.

The **Learning Centre** put on a Christmas Baking and Crafts Sale over break and lunchtime on 14th and 15th December. Over £120 was raised towards the purchase of educational games.

This Year's **Snowball** for S5 and S6 students takes place in the school hall on Tuesday 20 December.

Stranraer Academy :: Dates for Your Diary



JANUARY

Thursday 5 January	Start of Term
Thursday 12 January	Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday 17 January	S3 Parents' Night
Tuesday 17 January	S4 Reports
Monday 23 January	S5/6 Parents' Night
Monday 30 January	S5/6 Prelim Exams start

By Lana McClorey (S1)

FEBRUARY

Thursday 9 February	Parent Council Meeting
Friday 10 February	S5/6 prelims end
Mon 13—Wed 15 February	Pupil Holiday
Thursday 16 February	S2 Reports

MARCH

Monday 5 March	S2 Parents' Night
Thursday 8 March	Parent Council Meeting
Tuesday 13 March	S5/6 Reports

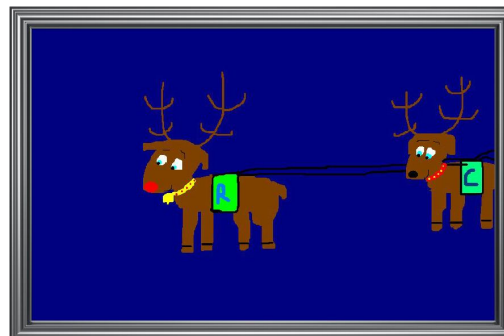
Stranraer Academy Newsletter—Published September, December, March, June
Comments and suggestions welcome—contact Mr. M. Warren (Depute Head Teacher)

Reports and Parents' Nights 2010-2011

	Full Report	Parents' Night
S1	Tuesday 15 May	<i>Took place in October</i>
S2	Thursday 16 February	Monday 5 March
S3	Tuesday 19 June	Tuesday 17 January
S4	Tuesday 17 January	<i>Took place in November</i>
S5/6	Tuesday 13 March	Monday 23 January



Guess the Teacher—A popular competition at the Christmas Fair.



Christmas Reindeer by Dayna Findleton (S2)



End of Term: Year group Christmas assemblies, conducted by the Chaplaincy Team, took place on Friday 16 December. The end of term on Wednesday 21 December will be celebrated with a series of carol concerts.

