



### IT'S A HAT-TRICK!!

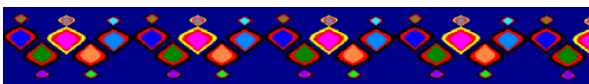
At the S5/6 Awards Ceremony, sisters Jenna (left) and Kelsey Binnie became the first ever members of the same family to be chosen as Students of the Year. Jenna shared the award for S6 and Kelsey was joint winner in S5. But that was not the end of this remarkable success story, as younger brother Liam, not to be outdone, took the S3 award two nights later.

There was another family success in the Sports where sisters Aileen (S4) and Erika McIntosh (S2) were Year Champions

**Congratulations** to Marilyn Barbour, a former Depute Head Teacher at Stranraer Academy, who was recently appointed Head Teacher at Sanquhar Academy. Marilyn's husband Chris is also a Head Teacher, at Dumfries High School.

### PARENT HANDBOOK

The Parent Handbook has recently been updated for August and is available for download as a PDF file on the school website. Paper copies are provided annually for parents/carers of the new S1, but for ecological and cost reasons we do not send paper copies to parents of pupils in other years. If it does not suit you to view the Handbook online, you can request a printed or CD copy by contacting the School Office.



Border design by Robbie Graham (S3)



### NEW SCHOOL TIE

The design for the new school tie was chosen by the Student Council. There is also a version in black for S5/6. Suitable for everyday wear or for more formal occasions, the School Office has already taken a large number of orders.

The tie has been added to the school uniform as an optional item. Full details of uniform options are available from the Office and are also published in the Parent Handbook, which is available online at the school website.

**Latest News!** As the newsletter was going to press the Students of the Year for S1 and S2 were announced. So congratulations to **Angus McGibney** and **Charis McWhirter**, who share the award in S1, and to **Michael Baxter** who is this year's S2 Student of the Year.

**BOOKS—A REMINDER** All students are asked to check if they have school textbooks at home and return them as soon as possible

### Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 5 August	SQA Exam results received
Wednesday 19 August	Term starts for pupils
Thursday 20 August	Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 10 September	Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 17 September	S3 Information night (provisional)
Thursday 24 September	UCAS Parents' Night (provisional)
Thursday 8 October	S1 Information Night (provisional)
Friday 9 October	Last day of Term 1

### Stranraer Academy

McMaster's Road  
Stranraer  
DG9 8BY



Tel: 01776 706484  
Fax: 01776 704748  
Email: [secretary@alt.dumgal.org.uk](mailto:secretary@alt.dumgal.org.uk)  
Website: [www.stranraeracademy.co.uk](http://www.stranraeracademy.co.uk)



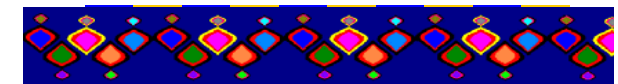
**PROGRESS UPDATE**—we expect to be in the new building by January with all work completed on the site by next summer.



Art rooms in the new building will have views over Loch Ryan.

## Newsletter June 2009

[www.stranraeracademy.co.uk](http://www.stranraeracademy.co.uk)



## Roll of Honour

### Stranraer Academy's Engineering Award

This year a group of 6 boys from 3<sup>rd</sup> year have been taking part in a venture to design, build and market their very own petrol, radio-controlled racing car, under the guidance of Mr Kaine and Mr Tait of the CDT Department. The highlight of the year was racing their car against over 80 other UK schools at Silverstone.

Leaving Stranraer on Monday 1st June, the team headed south and camped in beautiful weather at a site close to Silverstone. Although in their "rookie" year, the boys had shown great enthusiasm and hard work, and were delighted to be amongst the successful schools qualifying for the Silverstone event.

The next morning the team arrived at the Silverstone Circuit, set up their display with all the other teams in one of the Formula 1 pit garages, and nervously waited for the racing to start. Despite a smooth and skilful performance by driver Adam Barbour, the car suffered the effects of collisions in both heats. Mr Kaine led the team of mechanics in carrying out running repairs, and the reward for their efforts was to be the only rookie school to take part in all three final races.



Team members Adam Barbour 3, Ryan Colquhoun, Rory Dewar, Sean Hannah, David Packer and Joseph Penikis receiving the award at Silverstone.

The car was suffering in the heat, and by the end of the finals almost every component had been replaced due to crash damage. Despite this, the team showed tremendous spirit and finished in a very creditable 9th place overall. The icing on the cake was to be presented with the Award for "Best Rookie Engineers" by Dumfries-based Le Mans driver Alan McNish.

The team is very grateful for generous sponsorship from **Patton Construction, Promech Stranraer Recovery, Calgow Taxis, Graeme Young Electrical Services, Kenny Pearson Photography, Douglas Dairy, McLean's Taxis, F.C. Maxwell Mechanics, King Brothers, and GK Group.**

**ONE IN A ROW** Gemma Campbell in S6 is doing a sponsored event where she intends to row the length of Scotland by going back and forth across one of the lakes in the Lake District during the summer holidays. Gemma will be raising money for Cancer Research.



S4 Student of the Year  
Kelly Trussler



New S4 Girls' Sports Champion Aileen McIntosh (right) with Runner-up Ainsley Johnstone.

### STUDENTS OF THE YEAR 2008-2009

Student of the Year (S3)	Liam Binnie
Student of the Year (S4)	Kelly Trussler
Student of the Year (S5)	Kelsey Binnie & Natalie Henry
Student of the Year (S6)	Jenna Binnie & Tom McColm
University of the West of Scotland Award (Best Higher results in School in 2008)	Claire Small



### SPORTS CHAMPIONS 2009

	Boys	Girls
New S2	Jason Harvey (1st) Lewis McColm (2nd)	Erika McIntosh (1st) Mayghan Wilson (2nd)
New S3	Kieran Little (1st) Daniel Campbell (2nd)	Rebecca Smith (1st) Kelsey Brown (2nd)
New S4	Dean Fyfe (1st) Scott Gibson (2nd)	Aileen McIntosh (1st) Ainsley Johnstone (2nd)
Senior	Duncan Anderson (1st) David McColm (2nd)	Laura Paterson (1st) Amy Paxton (2nd)



Andrew Giusti (S3), William McQuillan (S2), Robyn Cochrane (S2) and Caitlin Fergus-Higgins (S2) recently represented the Academy at a consultation exercise organised by Dumfries and Galloway Fire Brigade. They were accompanied by Mr Flower.

### Gillian's Learning for Life Award



The Learning for Life Values Poster Programme is designed to help young people identify and examine the core values and qualities needed for a successful life, whilst completing their own poster. Over 19,000 students participated in the competition in 2009 and Gillian was selected as a national finalist out of 600 prize winning posters.

She was awarded two certificates at the Scottish parliament on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, one for the best poster in school and the other as a national runner up. Gillian has shown herself to be a very mature and compassionate young girl and she should be very proud of herself for achieving this award! Well done. Ms M Cairns

### SQA Results

S5 and S6 students will receive their exam results on Wednesday 5 August. For queries about the layout of the certificate the SQA's Advice Line on **0845 278 8080** can help. For queries about the results, please contact the school. For advice on University/College vacancies and next step career options, Careers Scotland provides a helpline from 8—25 August on **0808 100 8000**.