

Ellon Academy

Promoting Education, Excellence and Equity

Excellence and **E**quity in **L**ifelong **L**earning, **O**pportunities and **N**urture



E L E V A T E

Lifted Leadership, Transformational Teaching, Limitless Learning, Aspirational Achievement, Excellence and Equity, Promoting Partnerships

June 2017

Edition 2



Somewhere Under the Rainbow

Picture taken by Mr Rob Merson former Ellon District Councillor

Introduction from Mrs Pauline Buchan, Rector



Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends,

Welcome to the second edition of ELEVATE, our Ellon Academy magazine which has been published to celebrate many of the successes and achievements of our pupils. Since the last edition of Elevate in March 2017, I am delighted to formally announce that after a competitive recruitment and interview process, I have been successfully appointed as the permanent Head Teacher at Ellon Academy and I can assure you of my continued commitment to our young people, in that I have their safety, well-being and success centred at the heart of all I aim to achieve.

Ellon Academy Core Values

After extensive consultation we have agreed on 7 Core Values for Ellon Academy and last week I delivered pupil assemblies to explain each one. These will now form the basis of all our work in the future and I am extremely pleased at the positive response from pupils, parents, carers and staff, so we have adopted these core values, which we now wish to demonstrate and promote in our school:



Ellon Academy School Uniform

Before you know it, you will be thinking about buying new school clothes over the summer and I would like to take the opportunity to thank parents and carers for ensuring that most of our learners are adhering to our school uniform and dress code. However a small number of learners are not fully complying with the code, so here is a reminder of our expectations regarding appropriate dress for school:

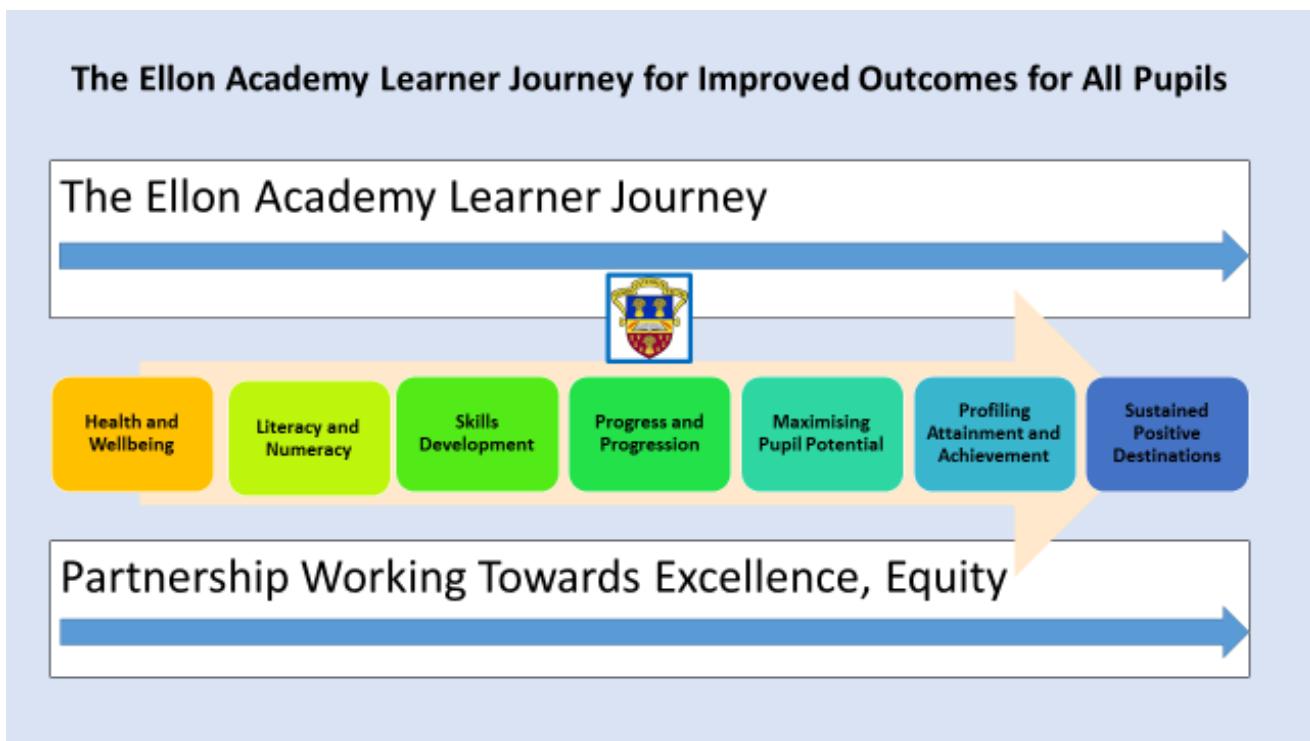
- White shirt and school tie
- Plain black jumper, cardigan or school logo jumper (large fashion logos are not acceptable)
- Black skirt/dress trousers
- Black shoes/trainers
- Coloured outerwear/hoodies should always be removed in class

Items of clothing which are not acceptable:

- Denim of any kind, including black denim that fades to gray
- Trousers/jeans with fashion holes/open slashes
- Leggings unless they are worn like tights under a skirt
- Coloured hoodies – black only please (coloured hoodies will be treated as ‘outdoor wear’ and pupils will be asked to remove these in assemblies and in classes)
- Tops/jumpers/cardigans/hoodies with large fashion logos
- Hats and hoods should not be worn in school

My Vision for the Ellon Academy Learner Journey

My diagram below simply but clearly demonstrates my vision for our learner journey at Ellon Academy, which has a sustained and positive destination at its end point. I believe that it is an entitlement for all learners to be supported on this journey by school staff, parents and carers and our wider community partners in ensuring that all outcomes for our young people are fair, equitable and that they develop skills and experience quality learning in school.



I hope that you will enjoy reading about our values and aspirations for the school and in particular, the many and varied achievements of our learners and I hope that you, our pupils and our staff have a restful and enjoyable summer holiday.

Yours in partnership,

Pauline Buchan Rector (Twitter - @AcademyEllon)

Limitless Learning - Outdoor Learning

The Eager Bunch!

The Ellon Academy garden continues to grow and progress made over the spring and into early summer has been phenomenal. Pupils and staff led by Miss Swallow, have worked so hard to make the garden grow and staff had a wonderful opportunity to attend a lunchtime BBQ and were amazed at the progress made since March. More photos and information can be viewed on the blog: eagerbunch.blogspot.com



See how our garden grows!

Aspirational Achievement

Bethany leads the way as a Commissioner for Young Scot and the Scottish Government

Article written by Bethany Wilson S4



My name is Bethany Wilson and I have just moved into my fifth year at Ellon Academy. Earlier this year, I travelled to Glasgow to represent 'Young Scot' as Chair of a judging panel for the Young Scot Awards. At the awards ceremony I had to make a presentation and I started by thanking everyone for coming to celebrate the amazing finalists. Here is what I said:

"From everyone at Young Scot, can I say that all of them are an inspiration and we hope you have a fantastic time tonight. As Scotland's national youth information and citizenship charity, Young Scot is all about providing opportunities for young people. I am delighted to have an opportunity to speak to you tonight. For all of you who know Louise Macdonald, the Chief Executive of Young Scot, you will know she can be a bit shy! I'd be happy to help Louise conquer her fears by showing her just how to rock a speech! The Young Scot Awards started 12 years ago to recognise and champion the incredible achievements of young scots, right across our country. This is so important both for young people and for Scotland. By empowering young people and showing them that they can achieve great things, we can give other young people the confidence to help change the world. You will have read about all our finalists in the Sunday Mail and we are grateful to them for continuing to believe in young scots and share their stories. Being Chair of the judging panel was an amazing experience. I was humbled to read about and discuss the great things young people are achieving. I'd like to thank Vice Chair Kyle Scott and also Jenny Cook and Jamie McIntosh for representing young people. They did an amazing job and helped us to make some incredibly difficult decisions. I hope you are moved by tonight's nominees."



"Bethany's speech is heartfelt, passionate and inspiring."

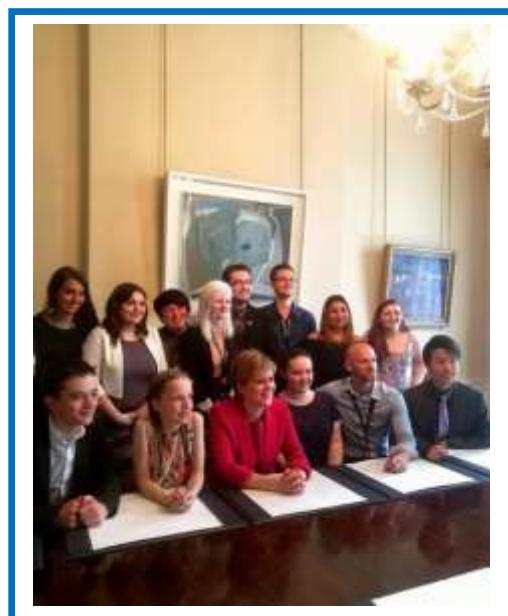
Mrs Buchan, Rector

Aspirational Achievement

Bethany leads the way as a Commissioner for Young Scot and the Scottish Government

I've been involved with Young Scot for a couple of years now, in a brilliant project called 5Rights. Together with the other members of the 5Rights Youth Commission, we have been looking at young people's rights online. The media normally says that the online world is a dangerous place. Like the Young Scot Challenge, the perception of young people is that we also need to challenge the idea that the online world is something to be scared of. We need to empower young people to be fearless in the online world. We need them to know their rights, and to be able to gain from all the benefits of being part of a global community. We will be presenting our findings and recommendations to the Scottish Government shortly, but I am pleased to say we have already made an impact. Our work has already influenced the new Scottish Government's Digital Learning Strategy and we look forward to working with them in the future to make Scotland the best place in the world to grow up online.

Bethany at Bute House with Nicola Sturgeon, the First Minister for Scotland. June '17



We can start to make the online world a better place this evening. Take out your phone and share the stories you hear tonight. Share your pictures on Facebook and look out for tonight's snapchat filter. Tell everyone who can't be here about your experiences and use social media to make a connection with the people you meet. Whether you use Twitter or Instagram, just remember to use the hashtag #YS AWARDS when you share. Let us get the hashtag trending EVERYWHERE tonight!

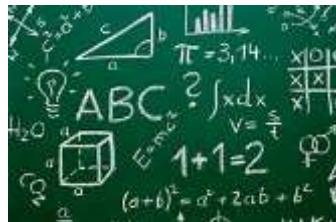
Awards would be nothing without you, our guests and you all look stunning! It's down to you that we receive all the wonderful nominations. Thank you for coming along to celebrate our finalists and all of the young Scots who make our country great. Let's take all the energy, the passion and the belief in Scotland's young people from tonight and push this across Scotland in the months to come. Let's be inspired by tonight's nominees and use tonight to make next year, the Year of Young People 2018 the greatest celebration of young people the world has ever seen."

Bethany also won the 'Tim McKay' cup donated by the Parent Council for Outstanding Leadership at our Prizegiving last week, nominated by Mrs Buchan, Rector.

Maths Challenge Success

The Ellon Academy Enterprising Maths team have won the Aberdeen City/ Aberdeenshire regional heat. They will head to Glasgow for the Scottish Final later in the year. The team led by Mr Lees consists of Andrew Arthur S4, Mairi McKeown S4, Donald Pirie S3 and Georgia Badland-Shaw S3.

A superb achievement. Well done!



KMT Maths Challenge

The UK Mathematics Trust is a charity whose aim is to advance the mathematical education of 11-18 year olds and organises competitions and enrichment activities to enhance their problem solving skills.

Ellon Academy achieve great award successes for the session 2016/17 as follows:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Senior (S5/6)	6	12	
Intermediate (S3/4)	1	4	14
Junior (S1/2)	6	17	27

Of particular mention in the follow up rounds were:

Eilidh Pirie 4S1 (Certificate of participation in Pink Kangaroo)

Noah Cuthbert 2M2 (Qualified for Junior Kangaroo - results to follow)

Damon Holloway 1C1 (Qualified for Junior Kangaroo - results to follow)

Donald Pirie 2S2 (Qualified for Junior Olympiad - results to follow)

SMC Mathematical Challenge

The Scottish Mathematical Council organise Mathematical Challenges for individual pupils from P7 to S6 and consist of two rounds of problem solving questions. The aim is to promote mathematics as a source of interest and pleasurable achievement. The following pupils gained awards for their efforts during the 2016/17 session:

Junior (S1/S2)

Bronze Awards - Amy Petrie 2C1, Connor Grugeon 2C1, Georgia Badland-Shaw 2F1, Sally Hughes 2F1, Logan Vavangas 2K1

Silver Awards - Euan Currie 2K1 and Amy McDuff 2F1

Congratulations to all pupils who participated in the competition.

Aspirational Achievement

Sailing for Success

The Ellon Academy sailing team successfully defended their title in the Aberdeen City & Shire Schools Regatta, bringing the Blue Toon Trophy back to Ellon.

Oscar, James, Ailsa and Magnus were over the moon to win.

All four sail with Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust through the Active Schools programme and have enjoyed growing their sailing and racing skills over the years. They are all either volunteering or instructing, so that others will be able to enjoy this amazing sport too. They now hope to get an Ellon Academy team together to represent the school at the Brown Cup, the Scottish Schools Regatta next year. Good luck!



Developing the Young Workforce



As part of the council's internal *Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Strategy*, teams from HR&OD and Ellon Academy are together pioneering a first for the area.

Developing the Young Workforce is the Scottish Government's youth employment strategy, which aims to significantly reduce youth unemployment in Scotland by 2021. One of the main themes of DYW is that employers and schools should enter into long term partnerships which focus on preparing young people for employment.

The council and Ellon Academy have established the first of these connections, the council in its capacity as an employer and the school as the pupil focus, and are encouraging other businesses to follow suit.

Through the partnership, the council intends to provide support to the academy in a number of ways. These include: assisting in curriculum delivery, by inviting employees to give specialist talks, supporting the academy with events, such as the annual 'Business Challenge', and providing, visits, training, placements and internships

Limitless Learning

Caledonia Awards



The S4/S5 Caledonian Award class went to Aberdeen for their residential trip in May.

They had several fundraising activities and planned it all themselves. Visits included the Gordon Highlander Museum, Johnstone Gardens, Zoological Museum, Aberdeen Beach and Codonas.



Aspirational Achievement

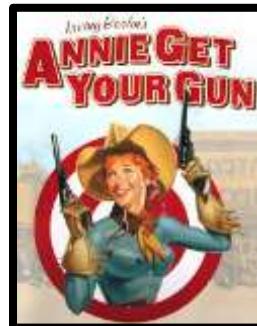
S1 Camp John Muir Awards

Our S1 campers have all achieved their Discovery John Muir Award, having spent their 3 day WAP experience in the great outdoors, exploring wild places around Bennachie and Maryculter. As part of the award, they had to discover and explore different areas and show what the outdoors means to them; this involved building mini National Parks, dancing the Highland fling to keep warm, learning about campcraft and how to look after nature, as well as adventurous activities including crate climbing and orienteering. Our pupils did brilliantly and all went above and beyond! This is the first time Ellon Academy has entered pupils for this award, so for them all to pass is certainly an achievement worth celebrating!



Ellon Academy School Show

Annie Get Your Gun



Ellon Academy Drama Club presented the Broadway musical "Annie Get Your Gun" on the evenings of Monday 12 June to Thursday 15 June. The four performances were all superb and were played to sell-out audiences. The Cast, around 60 performers, were backed up by a team of backstage helpers working on set design, props, costumes, sound, lights and Front of House. The principals included senior pupils who have been fully involved in our shows over the last few years. Euan Pirie, Rachel Birse, Niamh Martin, Ross Greig, Gregor Lumsden and Rebekah Clark played their parts to perfection and they were ably supported by our younger principals who included Ethan Lumsden, Adam Stewart, Toby Maddams, Abigail Jonker, Rachel Urquhart, Alex McDermott, Nikita Connell, Eleanor Harper and Hew Cresswell. However, it was not just the principals who excelled but the whole cast including the chorus who played a variety of roles from the Troupe, the Townsfolk, Dancers and Show Crowd. Well done also the orchestra and all the staff, pupils and parents who made these excellent performances happen.

Thank you to everyone who supported our show and of course, to the audiences during the 4 performances.

Till next year!



Ellon Academy School Show

Annie Get Your Gun



Ellon Academy School Show

Annie Get Your Gun



Transformational Teaching

Primary 7 Induction Days

Our P7 pupils came to Ellon Academy for their visit week from Monday 19th – Friday 23rd June and were able to experience their timetables, meet staff and see the school. On Friday afternoon they participated in a session with 'Jammin' Andy' working on the Seven Secrets of Successful Transition. We are looking forward to meeting them again in August on their first day as S1 pupils in our school.



P7 Induction Visit Week



Promoting Partnerships

Ellon Community Safety Event

Invitation to Parents & Carers

COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENT

Ellon Academy Community Campus

Presentations: learn more about current community safety issues relevant to your family.

Healthy Relationships & Minds

Online Safety & Media Awareness

Alcohol & Drugs

 Tuesday 20th June

SESSIONS START AT 4PM & 7PM

 Market Place: Information and advice available from a range of services and organisations

This was a great event attended by all pupils.

A small group of parents attended the evening sessions and found them to be very informative indeed.



Promoting Partnerships

Ellon Community Safety Event



Equality and Integrity

Anne Frank Awards



**For the first time, Ellon Academy has achieved an Anne Frank Award
at the recent Grampian Regional Equality Council (GREC) Awards
Ceremony for our work on Fairtrade and Promoting Diversity and Equality.**

Chloe Jaffrey, Georgia Badland Shaw, Hannah Davies Shuck, Millie, Hannah Freitag, Charlotte Daniels, and Ailsa Dixon represented the school at the presentations at Cine World Union Square earlier this month.

Well done everyone!



Attainment and Achievement

Ellon Academy Prize Giving 2017

Well done to all pupils who received awards at our recent prize giving on

Friday 23rd June.



Aspirational Achievement

EXPEDITION



VOLUNTEERING



PHYSICAL



SKILL



New S4 pupils have the opportunity to sign up for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award which will be led by Ms Seifert, Ms Jackson, Alan Forrest and Jim Wood from DofE

Skill

Volunteering

Physical

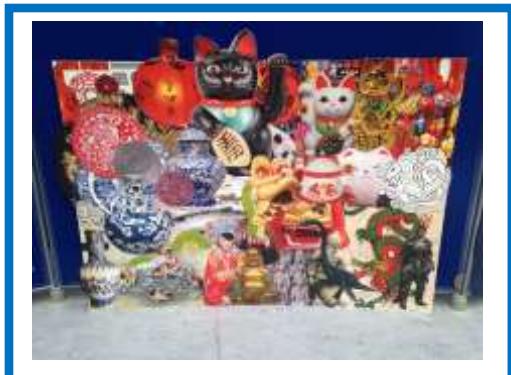
Expedition



Lifted Learning

Interdisciplinary Project

Scotland and China



Transformational Teaching

Tapestry 'Improving Pedagogy' Professional Recognition for Ellon Academy Staff

During session 2016/17 seven members of staff from Ellon Academy took part in a professional journey to improve their teaching practice, led by the Tapestry Organisation. Karin Leslie, Shona Thompson, Colin Bain, Lucy Green, Jeny MacPhee, Harriet Wright and Lyndsey Donald attended master classes with learning and teaching guru 'Dylan Wiliam' and have set up 'Teaching and Learning Communities' within Ellon Academy.

The aim of the programme is to improve learning and teaching in classrooms by looking at Assessment is for Learning techniques including feedback, questioning, the use of learning intentions, success criteria and co-operative learning. Staff have been encouraged to complete a personal learning log documenting professional reading and engage in learning conversations with their colleagues.

As a result, our staff leaders documented their journeys as an academic poster and have been awarded professional recognition for their efforts by the General Teaching Council. TLCs will continue to run within Ellon Academy in the next academic year, focus will be on AifL and active learning strategies. Staff are welcomed to come along and take part in what has definitely been a career enhancing experience for all involved.



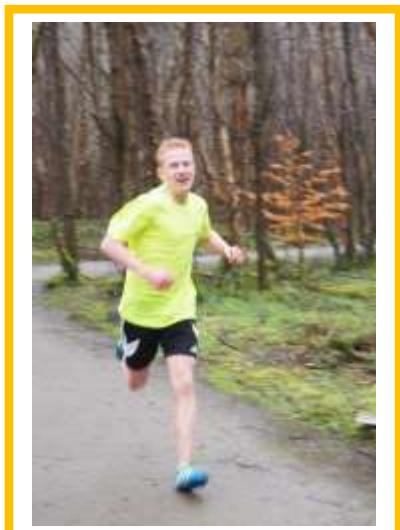
Ellon Academy World of Sport

Active Schools Cross Country Series 2017



Active Schools annually hold a cross country series of five runs for pupils from P4-S6 to compete in.

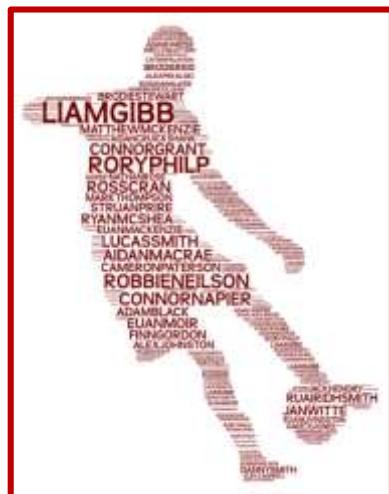
This year the first event was held in Fraserbrugh on the 5th of November 2016 and finished at Aden Country Park on the 11th of March 2017. Academy pupils had to run 3 laps – 3000 metres in total through mud, sleet, rain uphill and across forest trails and fantastically, thanks to the amazing pupils at Ellon Academy, we won the Academy shield! A huge achievement and therefore congratulations to Callum McWilliam, Cameron Moir, James McIntosh, Mhairi Cruickshank, Isla Burns, Ashling Moir and Lauren Astley. Well done!



Ellon Academy World of Sport

Football at Ellon Academy

This year will feature in Ellon Academy football history, in that we haven't won a league title since current records began in 1992. This year we have won 2 titles with both the U13's and the U14's winning their respective leagues! Furthermore, to add to this historic success, the junior teams also won the North of Scotland Cups in their respective age groups, in thrilling matches at Dingwall against The Nicholson Institute from Stornoway. Our 1st year team were also cup finalists in the Aberdeenshire Cup, being narrowly beaten by Kemnay Academy, and winning both local, and regional heats in the Cashback 7 a side competition to make the National finals in Glasgow.



Ellon Academy World of Sport

Under 14s Winning Team



Well done the Boys in Maroon!

Ellon Academy World of Sport

Cheerleading

Cheerleading is going from strength to strength at Ellon Academy and here are some pictures of our amazing teams and staff



Ellon Academy World of Sport

Scottish Taekwon-Do Championships 2017



2017 ITF Taekwon-Do World Championships

Rico Campins (5S2) is one of only three junior Taekwon-Do Black Belts in Scotland to be selected as part of the National Squad, to compete in the under 68kg sparring division for the upcoming ITF Taekwon-Do World Championships. The event takes place in Dublin in October. Rico has worked extremely hard to be part of the Scotland Squad, and has a lot of hard training ahead of him over the next few months.

We wish Rico all the best and I'm sure he'll do us proud!



Ellon Academy World of Sport

Racing Success for Ross

Ross Lawrence learnt to drive in only one month aged 11 years old and started racing at Crimond Raceway between Peterhead and Fraserburgh in the Juniorstox class.

After a few bumps & crashes he finished 3rd in the championship and in 2016 he came 2nd in the Scottish championships!

It became very clear that he wanted more challenges so his parents bought him a Mini for his 13th birthday. The racing season started back in April this year, he is driving in two classes: the Mini and Juniorstox and to date, is sitting 3rd in the national points for Mini's and 1st in the Juniorstox but all this can change as the season progresses!

Ross races every other Sunday at Crimond but hopefully will be racing at Lochgelly and Cowdenbeath later in the season, which see him racing every weekend. His favourite class is the Mini's as there are normally about 15 plus cars on the track so it makes it more exciting and his poor mum & dad very nervous! His parents say that they are running out of space to display all of his trophies and he should make himself a trophy cabinet in woodwork! Well done Ross!



Ellon Academy World of Sport



Interhouse Competitions

Following a very busy year of Interhouse competition Keith House won the McIntosh Memorial Trophy. This was gratefully received by Emily Anderson and Amber O' Brien the outgoing Sports Captains. Well done Keith!

Athletics

Unfortunately the Annual Sports had to be adapted due to the weather, however the track events took place at the Deer Park. Forbes House were overall winners and will collect the Gray Trophy for Athletics. Well done Forbes!

Silver Success in Swimming

Rhys Gill's swimming career continues to go from strength to strength. At the weekend Rhys competed in the National Junior Para-Swimming Championships. He achieved 3 out of 4 personal bests and won a Silver medal for his 100m backstroke. Well Done Rhys!

NASSA

Ellon Academy were winners of the Kyle Cup for Golf, this took place at Newburgh Golf Club. The team were Andrew Yule, Ross Connon and Finlay Smith, a really successful day.

Scottish Schools Athletics June 2017

Three pupils travelled to Grangemouth to compete in Annual Event, James McIntosh, Eve Learmonth and Kate MacKay. Kate Mackay won the Combined Event and all pupils have shown great commitment to their sport and we wish them well after a busy summer of athletics.

Dates for Your Diary



End of term	Friday 30 th June (2.50pm)
In-service day for staff	Monday 21 st August
Start of summer term	Tuesday 22 nd August (8.25am)

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**Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our
school magazine:**

E L E V A T E

Look out for Edition 3 In December 2017

