



CHIEF EXECUTIVE:
Kathryn Lindsay

22nd March 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Sarah Simpson and Annabella Reid qualified for the final of the Angus Schools Young Musician of the Year competition, which took place in the Reid Hall, Forfar, on Wednesday evening. Angus Schools' Youth Orchestra also performed on the evening and though you won't be able to see from the photo, a large number of pupils on the stage are Montrose Academy pupils. Well done to all pupils who performed, and to Sarah Simpson, who was named Angus Schools Young Musician of the Year. Thanks also to our music instructors Julie Smith (who compered the evening) and to Beth Wyllie who accompanied many of the participants.



A number of pupils took part in the Angus Schools Cross Country event on Tuesday. All pupils did well in their races. Stand-out individual performances include Eddie Baxter who finished 2nd in the s3 boys' event and Finn Graham who finished 2nd overall in the senior boys' event. The S3 boys' team of Eddie Baxter, Heath Duncan, Charlie Kerr and Kyle Jessiman also finished 2nd overall. Mr Hely and Mr McLachlan, who accompanied the group, said the pupils' behaviour throughout the whole event was 'amazing' and that they represented the school fantastically.



Last weekend, Tyler West took part in the Scottish Archery National Championship. Many congratulations to Tyler who performed brilliantly to win the Under 16s national title. Tyler was introduced to the sport by Mrs Dallas who is also national champion for her age-group!

Our House system is becoming more embedded across the school, thanks largely to the work of Mrs Taylor, Ms Fraser, our PTs Pupil Care and Support and our house captains. Our current House points tally has Burnes on top, followed by Esk, Lunan and then Dun. However, there is still time and plentiful opportunities for all young people to gain House points, and for the above order to change. All young people are encouraged to get involved when they can.

Mrs Stewart has begun working with Montrose Befriending Service. On Wednesday, representatives of the Befriending group came into school to talk to S5 pupils about the service and to discuss opportunities for our pupils to become involved.

Angus training group is now advertising for its Engineering Modern Apprenticeship 2024 Intake. Please note the closing date for applications is Wednesday 17 April 2024. You can apply via their website www.atgltd.co.uk or an application form can be e-mailed out to you if you email enquiries@atgltd.co.uk.

Parents and carers have been given information about Achieve, an online resource we subscribe to, and to which all pupils in S4-S6 have access. As part of subscription, pupils can

Malcolm Smart, Head Teacher, Montrose Academy | Montrose | Angus | DD10 8HU |
T:(01674) 907500 | E: MontroseAcademy@angusschools.org.uk

also now access Succeed. I will attach information about Succeed to the assessment calendar which will be sent out later today.

From the pupil bulletin:

- Medic Insight Dundee is a student-led society at the University of Dundee that provides school pupils with an insight into a career in medicine. Week-long work placements offer pupils experience within a number of areas of medicine. Placements will be during weeks beginning the 3rd and 10th of June, and will take place mainly at Ninewells Hospital. Please note, this event is only open to current S5 pupils. Applications are now open via QR code from the pupil bulletin.
- For the attention of S3 pupils. Acclaimed Scots writer and poet Matthew Fitt is looking for a braw wee loon or quine to read a poem from the wonderful House of Dun poet Violet Jacob. The lucky pupil will record their reading of Violet's work and this will be set to drone footage of the coast and surrounding countryside. If local fame isn't enough, there is a £50 book token which can be spent at the likes of Waterstones and independent shops such as Ink & Quill right here in Montrose! The recording is verbal only, no images will be used. The winner will have support from the English department to help polish their performance. See any member of the department for further info. Deadline will be Thursday the 28th of March.
- The closing date for applications for S3 pupils who would like to be Junior Prefects is Monday 25th March.
- Pupils from S3-S6 have been invited to find out more about Active Schools Sports Leadership Academy, Information about this can be found on the year group's Library Team or can be accessed through this QR code.
- Wider Achievement. A reminder that we are looking for information about activities pupils are involved in outside school. Please use this link if you would like to share information on your child's behalf: <https://forms.office.com/e/USadUXaXXc>

On a much less positive note, we continue to experience vandalism and misuse of the toilets. The following is now posted in pupil bulletin:

Toilets

Due to vandalism and serious misuse of the boys' toilets, we are only able to open them for certain periods of time. They will always be open and supervised at break and lunch so you use them then. Pupils should not need to ask out to the toilet after break and lunch unless you absolutely have to.

The girls' toilet is also being monitored frequently by staff and are often visited by girls not really needing the toilet but who see it as a place to gather. The litter and general mess are unacceptable.

A toilet will always be available – First Aid, office or a member of SLT can help.

Please be aware that pupils who are found to be damaging school property will have their access restricted. This is far from ideal when it comes to needing to use the toilet, but they need to recognise the impact this has on others when toilets need to be closed for repairs or to be cleaned as a result of their behaviour.

Regards

Mr M Smart

Head Teacher