



AM MÀRT 2023

MARCH 2023

# SkyeLines

Ard-sgoil Phort Rìgh  
Portree High School  
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Striving for Excellence

READY, RESPONSIBLE, RESPECTFUL, RESILIENT

We are almost at the end of term - a term that has felt quite disjointed thanks to the number of disruptions we've had this year so far! Despite the snow days and other factors this session, our pupils have had the opportunity to experience a wide range of extracurricular activities, taster sessions for industry, STEM activities, drama and musical opportunities which are highlighted here.

Our senior pupils are working hard, finishing off coursework and revision for their SQA Certificates, with examinations starting on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April and running until the end of May. Whilst we are on holiday over the next two weeks, I would ask our young people in S4-S6 to ensure that they have some time off to refresh and recharge their batteries and then get focussed on the key areas of work that they need to revise.

As we move forward and start to think about next session, our S3-S5 pupils will be starting to think about their options and our S2 pupils will be looking to personalise their S3 curriculum. This is an important time for our young people and relevant documents have been shared on our website. Pupil Support Staff will be available to speak with parents next term - please do contact them if you would like further information.

As a school, we continue to strive towards gaining our Silver Award for Rights Respecting School and we put particular emphasis on working with partners to ensure that our young people have opportunities to demonstrate how respectful they are.

We have had numerous fundraising opportunities including raising over £1,000 for the Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal, as well as for a wide range of charities highlighted in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative undertaken by the S3 students.

I wish all our parents, staff and young people a great Easter break!

Mr T Breen, Head Teacher

SKI TRIP 23



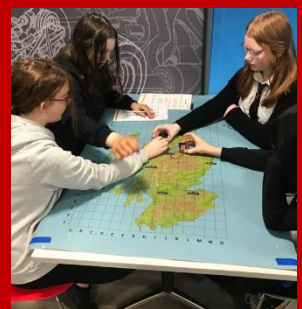
Film G Success



Music Concert



STEM



## HOUSE

## PUPIL SUPPORT

## E-MAIL ADDRESS

**Glamaig:**

Mr T Coles

[thomas.coles@highland.gov.uk](mailto:thomas.coles@highland.gov.uk)

**Marsco:**

Mrs L Lamont

[lisa.lamont@highland.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.lamont@highland.gov.uk)

**Tianavaig:**

Mrs D MacLeod

[dawn.macleod@highland.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.macleod@highland.gov.uk)

## Music Dept



We welcomed the award-winning 18-year-old musician Ethan Loch to the Music Department to meet some of our S3 students and perform a wide range of inspirational pieces for them. Ethan is a very talented young man; he was diagnosed completely blind since birth and as a toddler he was drawn to the piano and composing, exploring the keys for many hours before starting piano lessons formally at the age of four.

## Dynamic youth award

Congratulations to Ryan and Matthew who have both achieved a Dynamic Youth Award for completing work experience at the Growers Hub. Thanks to our partners Skye Youth Development and Broadford and Strath Community Company who supported this initiative.



## Auschwitz

Our two lessons from Auschwitz Ambassadors Emma and Sophie, taught S2 about prejudice and discrimination as part of their LFA (Lessons from Auschwitz) project.

They were outstanding in their delivery and presentation.

Student leadership is an important aspect of our Rights Respecting Schools agenda.



## YPI visit to Uig Pier

Eight of us from the school - Daniel, Wiki, Donnie, Isla, Seonaidh-Alex, Jack, Charlie and Alasdair, along with Mr. Burrows - visited the £42,000,000 Uig Pier Redevelopment. We first saw a presentation, where we were shown drone footage of the site and saw the controlled explosions to obtain hardcore using gunpowder at Kingsburgh quarry. The hardcore was

mainly being used on the western sheltered side of the pier - all 180,000 tonnes of it - to widen the pier by six metres and build extra parking on reclaimed land from the sea. The hardcore from Kingsburgh was crushed on site and then transported to Uig, thus helping to reduce the carbon footprint by doing this locally.

On the east side of the pier - which bore the brunt of the waves - they were building a concrete wave break. The whole redevelopment was using 1,000 cubic metres of concrete. Again, to reduce carbon emissions and reduce costs, an on-site batching plant measured out the required mix for the concrete and then it was poured into five cement-mixing lorries which distributed the concrete around the site. Different to the old pier, this wave break forces waves to the end of the pier, rather than under it like the old one. This means that it is easier to dock ferries in rough weather.





We learned that pier redevelopment is required because of the increased traffic between Skye and the Outer Isles. The ferries are to be run on electrically powered diesel - to reduce emissions - and they are also much bigger than previous ferries. Plus, the pier is being built to cope with two ferries at a time - one for Lochmaddy and one for Tarbert. Tanks for fuel are going to be built on the pier as well as a terminal for walk-on customers. A new ticket office is also due to be built on the reclaimed land.

On a very wet and windy tour of the site (several hard hats were blown off!) we were

shown around various points. There were three cranes on site, the biggest a 300 tonne crane used to drive 20 tonne pylons into the seabed; the other cranes were used to lift off sea-borne supplies and cargo.

There were also two tugboats, a remote-controlled concrete scraper (so that the concrete in the sea isn't too smooth!), a barge which opened up like a giant mouth (so that dredged up material can be ecologically deposited at sea), a weather station, space-age looking 'Daleks' positioned at the fuel tanks (so that the site could be monitored remotely for security purposes) and even ultrasound (so that they could monitor dolphin and whale activity and reduce noise levels if required). There were divers working to remove structures and concrete from the old pier and a safety boat positioned at all times.

All the employees wore lifejackets, hard hats and fully protective equipment.

The amazing thing was that the pier was still being used by local businesses - fish farm boats and local fishermen were using a temporary pontoon connected to the pier, so that their business wasn't affected by the pier being closed.

But the best thing, the very best, was when the tour and presentation was finished and our guides very kindly treated us to the finest bacon rolls you can imagine - from the cafe next to the garage. That certainly rounded off a great day out! Seonaidh-Alex even had a second bacon roll so even better for him!



## Storr restoration work

A HUGE thanks to Mr Purrett , Mr Whatson and our pupils - Jess, John, Heather, Darach, Andrew and Annie - who volunteered one Friday this term in awful weather to help in the restoration work at the Storr.



## New Shinty Equipment

This term, the school were fortunate to receive a new set of shinty strips, camans and helmets, thanks to money raised on behalf of Lochalsh & Skye Housing association. This was raised in memory of Donnie Martin, who was a stalwart of Skye Shinty, and had supported school shinty over many years. Two of Donnie's grandchildren are pupils in the school- Emma is our Depute Head Girl, and Archie is our Shinty Ambassador.

We are so grateful to the wider community for the fundraising which has gifted us this fantastic legacy in Donnie's memory and the housing association for making it happen.





## YPI

This term we held the final of the **YPI Scotland** event, where five short-listed teams explained why their chosen local charity should benefit from a £3,000 cheque to support local work.

**Congratulations** to the winning team representing **Alzheimer Scotland** for their well-presented, thoughtful and insightful presentation about their involvement and the work that the team do for residents of Skye. We look forward to engaging with the local team in deciding how the money will be used and further fundraising opportunities for our school team.

Our pupils demonstrated the 4Rs of PHS in the work they did with this project and we look forward to working with charity groups next session with our current S2 who were watching the finals.



By: Beatrice Abringe / Ronan Campbell / Alex Crainet / Caillean MacAskill / Taylor Morland / Jessica Rokahr / Milo Woodhouse

Our 14 teams were also able to do a number of fundraising activities to raise money for a number of local charities. From bake sales to sponge throwing, guess the number of sweets to raffles, our pupils raised over £800 for our local communities.

## *Farpais Sgrìobhaidh 'Urras an Eilein'* *Gaelic Writing Competition by The Skye Gaelic Trust*

Meal a naidheachd air Rory Turner (AS2) agus Eubha Chaimbeul (AS5) a shoirbhich ann am farpais sgrìobhaidh Urras an Eilein am-bliadhna. Tha sinn a' coimhead air adhart ris an fharpais a ruith a-rithist an ath-bhliadhna agus barrachd sgrìobhadairean òga fhaicinn a' cur a-steach air a shon.

*Congratulations to Rory Turner (S2) and Eubha Campbell (S5) who were both winners of the Urras an Eilein Gaelic writing competition. We look forward to running the competition again next year and to encouraging more of our pupils to enter.*



## Film G

Very proud! Meal do naidheachd Àrd-sgoil Phort Rìgh, agus mòran taing Lana agus Dòl Eoin airson an duais a thoirt seachad! Congratulations to Portree High School who won Best Production Design! 🏆🏆🏆



## Spòrs Gàidhlig



Bha sinn air ar dòigh gun tàinig Spòrs Gàidhlig a chèilidh oirnn dà latha air an teirm seo gus coinneachadh ri sgoilearan air AS1 agus AS2. Rinn iad gnìomhan ceangailte ris a' mhapa mhòr agus dh'ionnsaich iad tòrr mu ainmean àite agus cruth-tìre na h-Alba.

*It was great having Spòrs Gàidhlig visit us for two days this term. Pupils in S1 and S2 were treated to activities using the giant map and were learning a lot about Gaelic place names and landscapes of Scotland.*





## Ski Trip 2023

35 students and four staff went to Italy on the Snowsports course to learn boarding or skiing. Our beginners worked hard and made the most of a week of good weather by striving to gain new skills, proving that they were both Ready and Resilient. Our Intermediate and Advanced groups also made significant progress in their skills. All pupils were awarded a Certificate of Achievement at the end of the week, ranging from a Level 2 to Level 5 with Distinction Award. Our school was commended about their excellent responsible and respectful attitude by both Interski instructors and the hoteliers.





## Skye Youth Pipe Band

The Skye Youth Pipe Band were competing in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships in Kilmarnock earlier this month. Well done to all our pupils who were taking part.

Congratulations to tutors Iain Ruari Finlayson and Allan Craig and all the parents and volunteers involved with the band who work away behind the scenes.



## Drama



We have now completed our SQA assessments in PE and Drama. Our pupils worked hard to ensure that they were 'Ready' to give their very best performances in both subjects. It was a special week for Mrs Wright, as these were her final practical exams before she retires in August - her support and dedication to the drama students over the years has ensured that they have always done their very best. She and they have been a credit to the school.



Music Concert



Several of our pupils took part in the school concert at St. Columba's Church. Our young people performed a variety of pieces, both individually or as part of an ensemble. It's good to celebrate so many talented individuals in our community!





## Dynamic Earth

### Science visits

We have had a number of science experiences with our pupils this term. As part of the Science Skills Academy, our S1-3 pupils had a day at the Newton Room, learning about satellites and competing to build the fastest rocket. 🚀

Earlier this month, the S1-3, Enhanced Provision and National 5 Physics pupils were able to experience a planetarium as part of a Dynamic Earth experience in school this month. In addition to the visit from Dynamic Earth, we had a team from the University of Strathclyde running forensic workshops for our S3 Biology and Modern Studies students.





S'e dealbhachadh agus a' togail na rocaidean am pìos as fhèarr leam. Bha seo cho math air sgàth gun urrainn dhuinn a bhith cruthachail agus a bhith ag obair mar part de bhuidhinn. Chan eil tòrr ùine anns an sgoil, nuair a tha sinn air a dèanamh an rud a tha sinn ag iarraidh. Bha e dìofaraichte, agus spòrsail.

Dh'ionnsaich mi gun robh tòrr diofar seòrsa obraichean a tha a cuir a-steach gu obrachan ann am fànas. Chan eil dìreach speuradairean a th'ann. Tha tòrr cothroman ann an Alba airson obair ann am fànas neo mu dheidhinn fànas.

Bha e cho spòrsail. *Katie MacRae*

I enjoyed the Newton Room along with all the things I did with my friends while I was there. I got to detect warmth, program a robot to move around the orbit of the earth. I got to detect clouds with another mini robot and I also got to find hot spots using a metal detector.

I found out a lot of things there such different types of shape move a lot faster than others and although I didn't manage to build the fastest rocket there, it was still so fun.

I liked learning about the rockets blasting faster depending on the shape and the hammer and feather experiment as I found out that everything on the moon weighs the same when falling.

*Amber Ritson*





## Science club

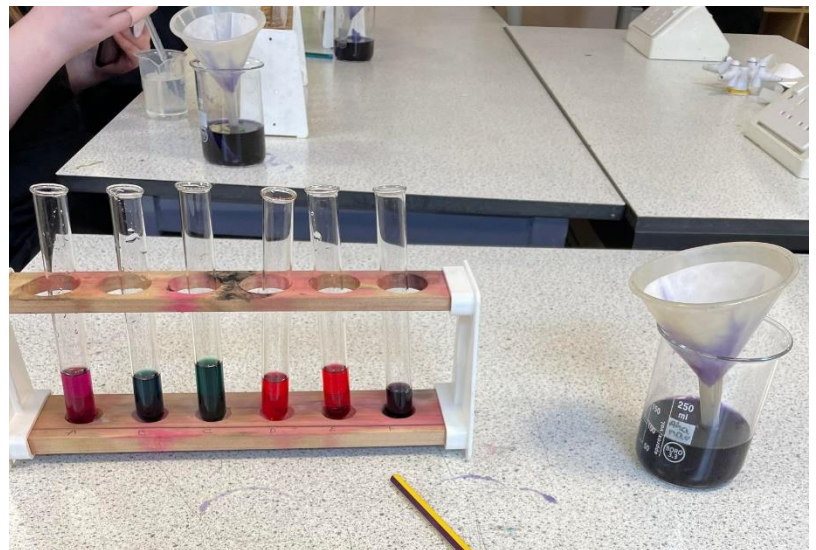
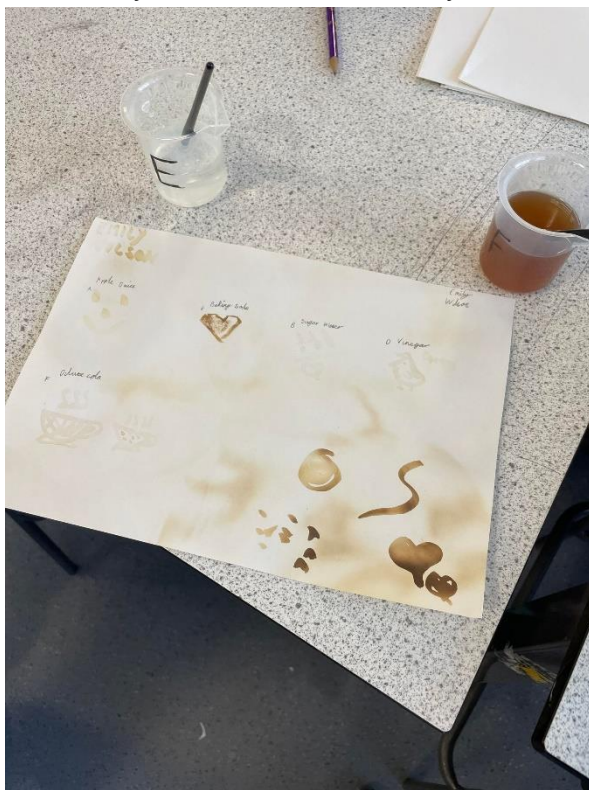
In science club we have done lots of cool experiments.

Each week we choose what science experiment we're going to do and we go there at lunch. The experiments we do are always fun and even more exciting and interesting.

Some of our experiments include invisible ink testing, paper gliders, foam volcanoes and rainbow skittles in water.

You can go there with your friends and enjoy doing different experiments with them. Science club is really fun and would recommend it to anyone who loves interesting and new things.

Written by: Mairi MacDonald, Ayla Bradshaw, Emily Wilson and Ahana Akter





## Healthy Homes for Skye & Lochalsh

**Is your home damp, draughty, hard to  
keep warm or expensive to heat?**

Join in our residents' survey about  
home insulation and heating in  
Skye, Raasay and Lochalsh.

This is your chance to have your say  
by taking the

## Healthy Homes Survey



Scan the QR code  
or go to

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

The survey is anonymous.

The more homes joining the survey,  
the stronger our campaign for government  
and businesses to act and help our area.



## Education Maintenance Allowance

*Financial Assistance*

If you are 16 to 19 years old, in a school or college, you may be eligible to receive financial assistance from an [Education Maintenance Allowance](#) (EMA). EMA is a weekly allowance of £30 per week payable during term time. To be eligible, your family household income must be less than:

- £24,421 - for households with 1 dependent child
- £26,884 - for households with 2 or more dependent children

See Mrs MacLeod for more details and apply online.

## Free school meals and assistance with clothing

Free school meals and assistance with school clothing can be claimed if you are receiving any one of a range of benefits.

If you believe you are eligible, please apply online. Students are credited with a daily allowance, automatically added to their canteen PIN number - no other pupils know who receives an allowance. [https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools\\_-\\_grants\\_and\\_benefits/10/free\\_school\\_meals\\_and\\_assistance\\_with\\_clothing](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools_-_grants_and_benefits/10/free_school_meals_and_assistance_with_clothing)

*PLEASE APPLY IF YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE - the number of pupils who qualify for FSMs has a direct correlation to the amount of PEF funding we receive, which is important for us to be able to provide extra literacy support for all pupils.*

## Pay your school meals online

*School Meals*

You will need your child's Scottish Candidate Number. Please contact the school if you need a reminder of your child's Scottish Candidate Number

Allow 24 hours for the payment to reach the pupil's account between 4.30pm Friday and 9am Monday will not appear until the Tuesday

[https://self.highland.gov.uk/service/School\\_meal\\_payments](https://self.highland.gov.uk/service/School_meal_payments)





The school office receives numerous enquiries about school holidays. The up-to-date calendar and holiday dates are outlined below and can also be viewed on the school website:

<http://www.portreehigh.highland.sch.uk>

The dates can also be accessed on the Highland Council website:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/learninghere/schools/schooltermdates/>



## HOLIDAY DATES – 2022-2023

Opens	Closes
	1:15pm, Friday 31 March 2023
Monday 17 April 2023	1:15pm, Thursday 29 June 2023

Note:

1. Additional Holidays: May Day - Monday (1st May 2023), King’s Coronation 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
In-Service Days: Monday 5th June 2023.

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/learninghere/schools/schooltermdates/>



SQA EXAMS- 24<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> June  
 Study leave- 24<sup>th</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> May.  
 S5 & 6 pupils return on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May.  
 PLEASE LOOK AT OUR WEBSITE for any further updates and information.

<http://www.portreehigh.highland.sch.uk>



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