



Penicuik High School Parental E  
Newsletter Issue 10







scottish credit and  
qualifications framework



KINDNESS



INCLUSION



DETERMINATION



RESPECT

### *Our new school values*

As part of our work towards achieving our Gold Rights Respecting Schools award, we have been reviewing our school ethos. Earlier in the year we established our new vision statement for Penicuik High School. *“At Penicuik High School we aim to create a caring community where everyone is respected, included, treated with kindness, and feels safe. We believe in nurturing*

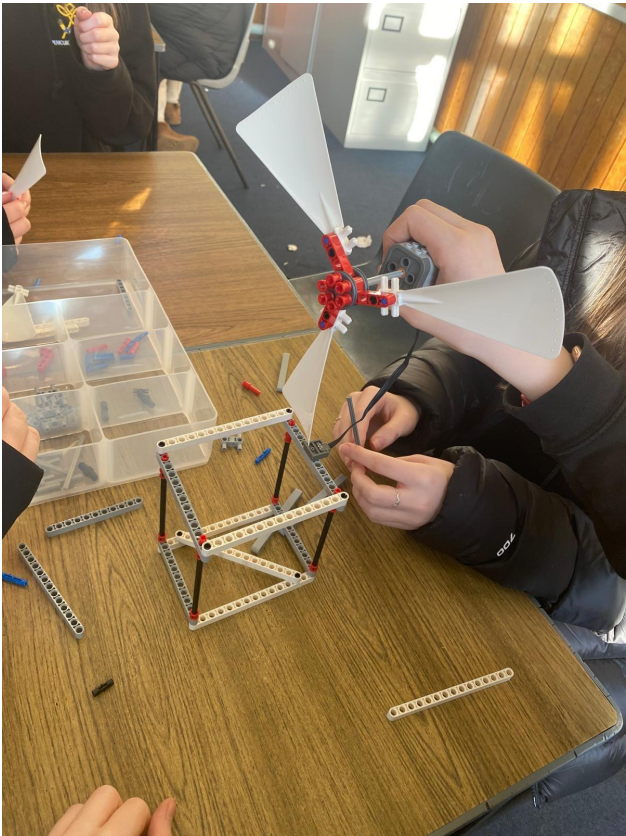
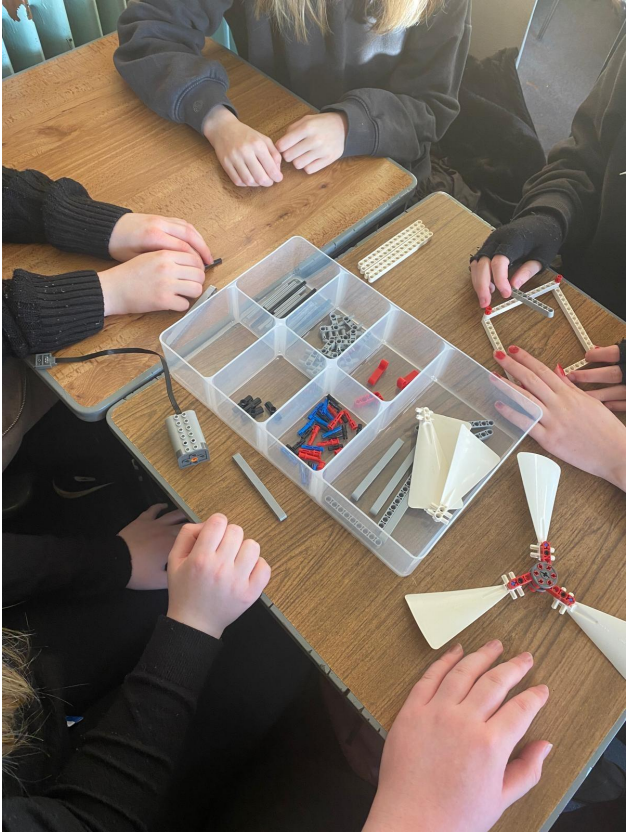
*a learning environment that strives for excellence, values diversity, promotes dignity and encourages personal growth, preparing students to succeed in a connected world.”* As part of this review, we have also revisited our school values. Our PRIDE values have served us well over the years, but it was felt that a refresh was needed. After consulting staff and student groups we believe that Kindness, Inclusion, Determination and Respect will help us achieve our vision for Penicuik High School and serve our community over the coming years. The next stage of the review is to take both the vision and values and incorporate them into our new relationships and behavior policy.

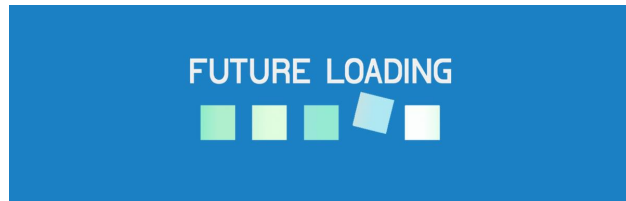
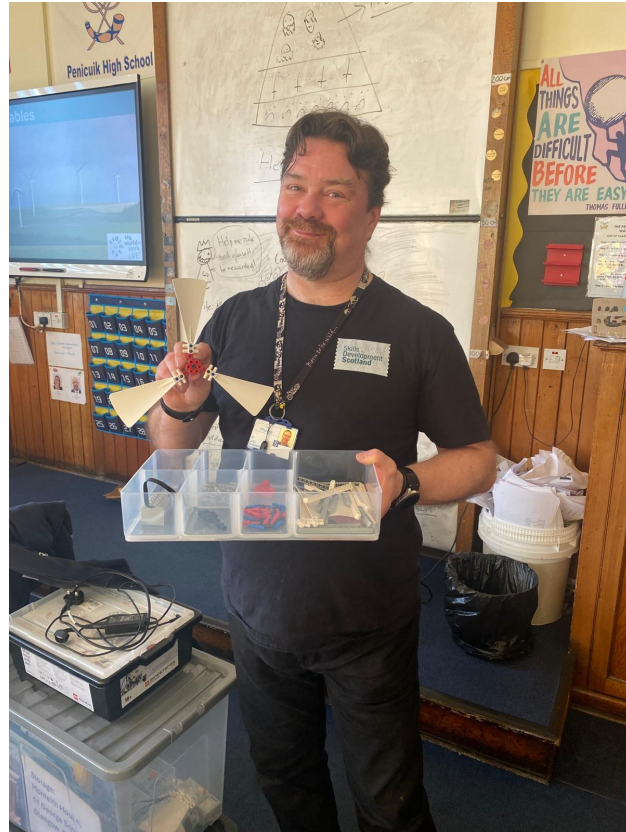


Welcome to the latest newsletter, I hope you find it an interesting and enjoyable read.



*Renewable Energy is one of the fastest growing sectors across Scotland, as the country pushes towards net zero there will be lots more job opportunities in this area. David Phillips from SDS Live came in to run a workshop with our S2s focusing on being an engineer in the energy sector. In small groups the students were tasked with building a wind turbine from Lego which, once completed, they tested to see if it produced energy. This was an incredibly fun morning allowing students to be creative and technical at the same time as well as introducing the students to some career ideas.*





### **Future Pathways Morning Thursday 6th February**

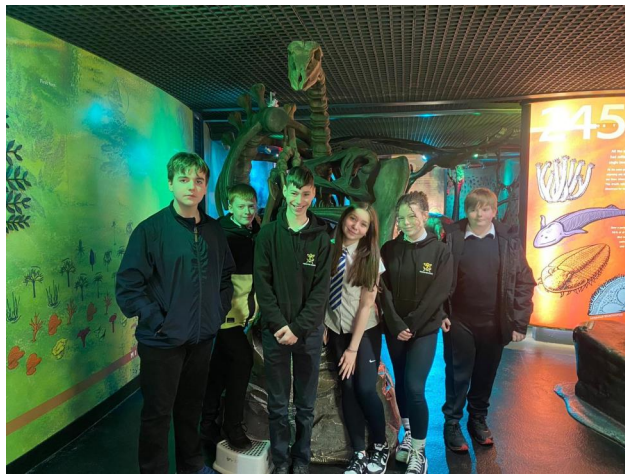
We are hosting an exciting and innovative event for our S3 students during the morning of 03/02/25. Our "Future Pathways Morning" will show the students the variety of options available in the world of work. We hope students will identify the links between the school curriculum and the various skills and qualities needed in the workplace. We also aim to highlight opportunities in different career areas, as well as interview techniques, and hope it students prepare for their future.

## S2 Dynamic Earth and Surgeons Hall Trip



'S2 Dynamic Earth and Surgeons Hall Trip' The whole of our S2 went on a school trip to Dynamic Earth and Surgeons Hall last week! They have been learning about Earth Forces in Geography and History of Medicine in History this year. This was a great opportunity to bring a lot of what we learnt in the classroom to life! Well done to the whole of S2 for firstly, showing excellent knowledge in the workshops they carried out. Secondly, the mature and respectful behaviour of all pupils across both days. You all upheld Penicuik High School values and were excellent representatives of our school! Well done!







This free, in-person recruitment event is a fantastic opportunity for school pupils, college leavers, and parents/carers to explore apprenticeship opportunities with some of our valued partner employers, including Balfour Beatty, Forrit Technology Ltd, BEAR Scotland, and EMA Architecture + Design Ltd.

- **Date:** Thursday, 27th February
- **Time:** 17:15 – 19:00
- **Location:** [Edinburgh Napier University Craiglockhart Campus](#)

At this event, you will have the chance to meet employers who are recruiting Graduate Apprentices in 2025 and explore the benefits of Modern and Graduate Apprenticeships. Exhibitors will include HR professionals, senior managers, and current and former Graduate Apprentices, offering valuable insights and advice about apprenticeships.

We're also thrilled to have Kelly Dawson and Bernie Critchley, our Careers Development Consultants, on hand to provide expert support. Whether you need guidance on CV writing, cover letters, interviews, or assessment centre preparation, they'll be available to help answer your questions.

This event is a valuable opportunity for pupils, parents, and carers alike. Whether you're actively considering apprenticeships as a career route or simply curious to learn more, there's something here for everyone.

To secure your place, please register your attendance by completing the registration form via the link below before 17th February 2025.

[Register Here](#)

# School Library

1 - New books!!





### **LGBTQ+ and Allies**

February is LGBT history month, and the last week of January is Allies week. In celebration of this and to show our support for the LGBTQ+ community, we will be hosting a flag signing throughout the month of February. Pupils and staff can go to the library at any break time to sign our pride flag and show their support. One of our school values is inclusion and we feel strongly that all pupils feel included at Penicuik High School.



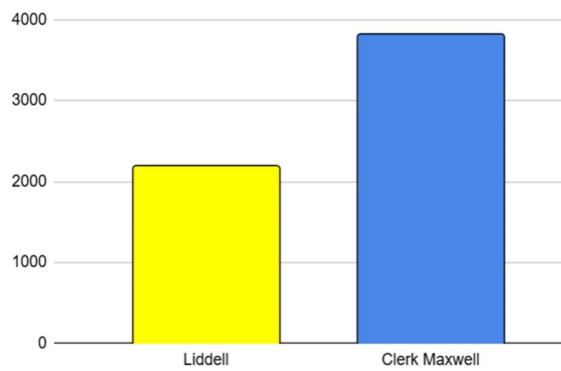
### 50/50 Club

Do you want to be in on a chance to win some cash... and help us raise funds for our Parent Partnership at the same time? Sign up to our 50/50 Club for £5 per month (multiple entries allowed) via this online form.

<https://forms.gle/uxkWKo4racL4Krym9>

We give out 50% of the entries to one monthly winner and keep 50% towards fundraising. This helps us support things like prize giving, uniform costs, hygiene products, and hopefully some families with the cost of trips.

## HOUSE POINTS



**Sutton Trust UK Summer Schools**

**For:** S5 students (eligibility criteria applies)

**Application Deadline:** 6th March 2025

**Overview:**

The Sutton Trust UK Summer Schools are for S5 students who would like the chance to experience what university life is really like. Spend a week in summer at one of 12 partner universities – attend lectures, explore academic taster sessions, receive university application support, enjoy social activities and more!

Summer Schools take place at various dates between June and August. See the Sutton Trust Summer School website for further details.

**More details:**

All Sutton Trust Summer Schools / Courses

<https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>

University of Edinburgh Sutton Trust Summer School

<https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/university-partners/university-of-edinburgh/>

(Note info evenings taking place in February – all are welcome to attend to find out more)

**How to apply:** <https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/how-to-apply/>



LEAPS Eligibility - calling all S5s who are thinking of applying for University or college in the future - you may be LEAPS eligible.

More info on what Leaps can offer and to check your eligibility - see here <https://www.leapsonline.org/>

Speak to Mr Milligen in Guidance if you need more info.



Next Wednesday afternoon (5/2/25) we have an exciting event, up and coming singer Joel Foster coming to the school to give a live performance to our S1-3 students. He will speak about some of the issues he had to face as a young person growing up and strategies he has used to cope with his difficulties.

This is similar to the performance given by The Merciens last year which our young people thoroughly enjoyed. There may be an opportunity to purchase merchandise but this has not been confirmed.

## Pupils of the block awards from PE



Congratulations to all pupils that have been given the Pupil of the block award:

Miss McShannon = Fraser Davidson, Leon Roy, Carla McGarry

Mr Witton = Aoife Wood, Ralph Baker, Struan MacGregor

Mr Hunter = Fern MacGregor, Joe Dove, Olly Bertram





Congratulations to Max Turnbull and Olivia Davies who both won medals at the 2025 Championship Finals on 24 January 2025 held in Aberdeen at the Sports Village. A great achievement.



#### **NEW CLUBS!**

**A lunchtime dart club is starting up any budding Luke Littler's please sign up with Mr Smith in the library.**

**New S2/3 Lunchtime Basketball**

**Club Starting Monday 20th January**

**Games Hall 1.15pm - 1.40pm**

#### **ALSO**

**Wednesday Badminton will now also include Pickleball as well**



- **Monday Lunchtime**

- S1-2 PHS Swifties (Mrs Sneddon, room 45)
- Debate club (Miss Astor) room 42
- Burnt Out Records (Music Dept The Hub)
- BGE Science Homework Help
- Basketball S2/3 (Games Hall)

**Monday After School**

- Spin (Miss McShannon)
- Senior Vocal Group (Mrs McIntosh room 4)
- Chemistry N5 and AH

**Tuesday Lunchtime**

- Eco Schools (Mr Johnston)
- S1-2 Maths homework (Mr Knox)
- S1-S2 Indoor Football(Mr Hogg)
- Creative Writing Group (Ms Henderson)
- Wind Band(Mr Walker)
- Percussion Group (Ms Waddell)
- Guitar Group (Mr Mcleod)

**Tuesday After School**

- S1-3 Netball (Miss McShannon)
- Modern Languages Homework Club Mrs McEvoy's Room

### **Wednesday Lunchtime**

- LGBTQ+ and Allies (Miss Graham)
- Young Carers (Mr Milligen - fortnightly)
- S1-S6 Badminton and Pickleball (Miss Gungui)
- Rights Respecting school (Mr Murphy)
- STEM club (Ms Forbes room 49)
- Jazz Band (Mrs MacRae)
- String Group (Miss Dance)

### **Wednesday After School**

- S4-6 Basketball (Mr Witton)
- Book & Biscuits (Ms Henderson Reading Room)
- Dyslexia homework Support group (Mrs Wood, room 5)

### **Thursday Lunchtime**

- S6 Indoor Football (Mr Hunter)
- Junior Vocal Group (Miss Hamilton rm 3)

### **Thursday After School**

- S1-S6 Songwriters club (Mr Murphy)



RRS definitions

### Best Interests

This means that ALL Duty Bearers should always act in your best interest.

<b>A</b> Rights are for ALL children. <b>UNIVERSAL</b>	<b>B</b> Rights are there at BIRTH. <b>INHERENT</b>	<b>C</b> Rights CANNOT be taken away. <b>INALIENABLE</b>	<b>D</b> Rights DO NOT have to be earned. <b>UNCONDITIONAL</b>	<b>E</b> All rights are EQUALLY important. <b>INDIVISIBLE</b>
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The ABCDE of Children's Rights show us the nature of your Rights. You have Rights and that they cannot be taken away from you.

The Scottish Government have written your Rights into Scottish Law. It is important that you can speak to an adult(duty bearer) if you feel that your Rights are not being met.