



Penicuik High School Pupil E Newsletter Issue 13







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 behaviour policy.

We hope you enjoy the latest edition of our newsletter..



A message to all students/parents/carers.

We are always interested to hear of any achievements by our pupils. If you have anything to share with us please email penicuik_hs@midlothian.gov.uk with the heading "Newsletter". Thank you.

Life at Work

DYW | Developing the
Young Workforce

Are there any S4,S5 or S6 students interested in hearing from an ex student who is now a Graduate Quantity Surveyor working for Gleeds? Adam is coming in on Tuesday 25th March, period one, 8.40am - 9.30am. Room 36.

Gleeds are a global property and construction company who have all kinds of employment opportunities linked to the built environment.

As a Quantity Surveyor Adams role is to be financial linchpin of any construction job, becoming an expert at precisely costing buildings from conception through completion while ensuring each project meets all legal and quality requirements.

Please come along and hear from an ex student about his pathway to being a Quantity Surveyor, how he gained experience from jobs he had previously and the opportunities Glads may have for future students.



YPI FINAL

On Thursday 13/3/25, we hosted a final event for the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI). Seven teams from S3 made it through to the final and presented their pitch to our S2 audience and judges. Teams had to choose a social issue that they are passionate about, and find a local charity to work with that helps deal with that particular issue. They then create a pitch to present to the judging panel, and the judges have the difficult decision of awarding the £3000 grant to just one team's charity. I am delighted to announce that Bright Sparks were the winning charity this year, with £3000 going towards renovating their outdoor space. Congratulations to Maya Walker and Nicole Lithgow for an excellent presentation, and well done to our other finalists who represented their charities well.

For further information on the Bright Sparks charity too - <https://brightsparkspg.org/>



S3 Construction



S3 Construction help out the Eco Schools group.

The Eco Group are needing to transfer the fruit trees out of the old quad as this area is going to be used as part of the school refurbishment. The trees will grow in large planters until somewhere permanent can be found.



The Eco Group were struggling to find the time to build the new planters so one of our S3 Construction classes volunteered.



The learners used the skills they learnt through the Joinery and Carpentry unit. Working in pairs to construct the sides for the planters.

The Construction Skills class is very popular as learners get an introduction to different trades and skills including Joinery and Carpentry, Bricklaying, concrete forming, slab laying and electrical.

Learners can then access other courses at Edinburgh College or other subjects in the department i.e. Practical Woodworking.

A new level 6 NPA is being delivered in Midlothian in partnership with Heriot Watt University next year called Global Infrastructure and the Built Environment.



Some were really excited to be using the cordless tools and to be given a bit more freedom and responsibility.



It was a real team effort with everyone getting stuck in to complete the sides.



Once the sides were completed the teams started to assemble them into planters. A base was added and a liner stapled in to stop the compost being in contact with the wood.



Once assembled the teams carried the planters to the site.

The planters were placed on pallets which the learners had moved the site earlier.

Hopefully the planters can get moved by forklift once the school is refurbished.



The site with the planters set out. Just one to go.



The team then got stuck in to move four bulk bags of compost to fill the planters.



The team did extremely well especially as the wheelbarrows have seen better days but they were determined to get it finished.

Well done S3 Construction!



Forest & Outdoor Leadership Awards



Our FOLA group are currently completing their outdoor learning award. Each week they do a litter pick of the Penicuik area and recently they asked the public what areas of Penicuik needed cleaning up and the response they received was amazing. They started with Bellman's Hill leading up to Cuiken Primary and managed to fill 2 bags full of litter!

Well done to our FOLA group.

Easter Hot Chocolate



**NEXT 3 MONDAYS LUNCHTIMES
WHERE: GUIDANCE MEETING ROOM
FROM 1:05PM TO 1.35PM
£1.50 PER CUP (CASH ONLY)**

Cloud 9 coffee bar, our very own PHS Barista class, has been eggsperimenting with chocolate and the result is a delicious, hot chocolate with whipped cream, marshmallows and a mini Easter egg.

They will be selling them to students for the next 3 Mondays at lunch time until about 1.30pm

Where - in the guidance corridor (meeting room) - follow the delicious smell

How much - £1.50 cash only



Hold Fast Challenge - <https://www.holdfastchallenge.com/> Some S2-S3 students will get the opportunity to take part in this challenge in May. In order to be considered for a place we need to see a high level of participation and effort from you during PE lessons and you need to be exemplifying our school values in all subjects. A reminder these are; Kindness, Inclusion, Determination and Respect!



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.

Student leader Instagram QR code

Scan the code to see and keep up to date on what our senior pupils have been doing around PHS



If anyone has an old dart board they no longer want/use and are willing to donate it our dart club would love a second board!

The school has another Rag Bag collection this coming Tuesday, 11th March. If you have any unwanted clothing items you wish to go to a good cause please send them into school on Monday.

We greatly appreciate all your donations.

Many thanks,

Eco Schools team



- **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 S1/2/3 (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)

- Scripture Union (Rm 13)
- 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)
- Darts Club Old Gym Hall

Thursday After School

- S1-S6 Songwriters club (Mr Murphy)



A reminder to DofE Students to be updating their eDofE accounts with evidence for their Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections.

A mystery from CDT



The Sign of Someone



Recently found on one of the woodwork benches in CDT. I wonder if anyone knows this former pupil?

