



## The visit of HRH Princess Anne

Barbara Braid & Erin Smith (F2)

On Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of September, 2009, much excitement ensued as the whole school gathered in a very wet playground for a visit from HRS The



Princess Royal to our school.

Princess Anne, arrived in her car at 2.45, escorted by her bodyguards to be greeted by the Lord Provost. She spoke to a few of the pupils as she made her way to the Pillars to be introduced to Dr Halliday, our Rector, who then introduced the Princess to the Directors, Senior

Management Team and invited Guests. The Princess then made her way through school to Trinity to view a whole school presentation.

Senior School presented many stands including cooking stand, the cadets stand and the debating stand. Those in Trinity said she was very friendly and talked to each individual pupil on every stand. Jessica Tinson was on the equestrian stand, and she had this to say: "She was very friendly. She took the time to talk to us and seemed very interested in our stand."

Princess Anne then exited Trinity and returned to the pillars to be greeted by a group of now dry pupils. The Rector gave a short speech and then invited the Princess to unveil a plaque to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Granting of the Royal Charter of the High School of Dundee. She then departed, being waved off by all pupils and staff.

Princess Anne's visit was a great honour for the school, and will be remembered for many years to come.

## Form 1 Residential Trip



*New Form 1 pupils get into the swim of things*

The Form 1 residential stay at Comrie Croft in lovely Perthshire proved to be a resounding success with both staff and pupils.

A mixture of curricular and co curricular activities combined to give over 120 pupils a non stop action packed two day stay.

Particular highlights were the canoeing, abseiling and nightline which were cold, wet muddy and absolutely fabulous!

Evening fun included some devious mental challenges and a rousing ceilidh/disco which was enjoyed as much by the staff as the pupils and sets everyone nicely for the Christmas parties!

Academically we did some relaxing art work in the style of Van Gogh, learned how to maximise our learning potential and found out about Comrie's interesting geography and history. We also completed an arduous 6 mile hike which actually wasn't nearly as hard as we thought it might be –though for group 1 a wetsuit might have been helpful.

We finished up at the atmospheric Cultybraggan ex Prisoner of war camp where we found out about its rather scary past!

Thanks to all the staff who helped plan and deliver this great experience.

# DoE Gold Expedition

## Rachael Spink (F6)

It all started with a capsized on the Training day.

Managing to fall in the water in our only dry clothes, damaging our phones, and struggling to breathe due to the extreme temperatures of the freezing

water, yet when I look back on Duke of Edinburgh Gold my memories are only good.

Starting with the practice

expedition at sunny Loch Awe near Oban at the start of our summer, we knew that our Gold Experience was going to be one we would never forget. The practice allowed everyone to be reminded of the physical ability to complete the 5 day expedition, and determination needed to successfully complete our final challenge – The Great Glen.

The Great Glen Way runs for 73 miles along the Great Glen from Fort William to Inverness. The expedition started on the 15<sup>th</sup> August paddling from the west to the east coast of Scotland, using short sections of the Caledonian Canal to link Lochs Lochy, Oich



and Ness, and ended on the 19<sup>th</sup> August. The Great Glen is ever changing, so within this five day trip we encountered mirror calm water to waves, natural lochs, and man-made canals.

Although the Great Glen was challenging, and meant on two of our 5 days we were on route for 6.30am, it was a hugely rewarding.

The group spirit, even at difficult times carrying canoes through locks, trying to cook in the rain, falling backwards over canoes, or covered in midge bites, was always exceptionally

high. Whether this was due to the fact we had the talented comedian Becky Chapple in our group, or the fact that every so often, Mr Ross would be waiting to cheer us on, or the fact that by encouraging each other and keeping paddling, it was personally rewarding, as we can now all say we have canoed the Great Glen, from the east to the west of Scotland.

And after all the expeditions, the new skills gained, the physical recreation and the service undertaken, in Bronze, Silver, and now hopefully Gold, all that's needed is a residential as our last hurdle. Good Luck!

# Sport Success!

## Mr G Rennet

School skiers had a very successful day at the Scottish Schools Dry Slope slalom Championship held in early October.

The Minor boys team of the Buchan brothers, Fraser and Scott, backed up by Christopher Guest finished in first place. Fraser and Scott also finished as first and second individuals; an excellent result.

The senior girls narrowly missed the medals finishing in fourth place, but ensuring qualification for the UK Championships. Charlie Guest finished as third individual.

Mrs Williams also deserves a medal for officiating from the top of a cold and wind-swept mountain!

Some of our competitors are pictured below.



# Chess Club

## Nassim Branine (F2)

Are you a beginner and really want to know how to play chess? Are you an intermediate player and want to just have some fun? Are you winning competitions and defeating other players or is it your hobby as an expert? If so, come along to the chess club on Thursday at lunchtime in Mr

Durrheim's room (RF16). Play the top players in the school and get news about other chess clubs in Dundee that are more challenging.

If you're new to chess other members will be happy to teach you the basic rules and some tips and tricks.

You can bring your lunch at one o'clock but if you have

your lunch elsewhere it's alright to come at 1.15.

It's also a chance to improve your concentration and tactics ability.

You can make new friends and if you're not a competitive player, have a good laugh and chat with your friends.

Open to F1 to F6!



# Berlin Music Trip

**Rachael Spink (F6)**

On the 16<sup>th</sup> June, 40 pupils in first to sixth year assembled at the playground gates carrying everything from passports to pipes, excited to showcase the High School's musical talent in Berlin. Although a long and restless trip to Newcastle, a slow boarding process on the ferry and a long drive through Amsterdam, we eventually arrived at the Generator Youth Hostel, Berlin, full of enthusiasm. To start our week, we were given a guided tour of Berlin back on the coach, and in the afternoon, a tour of Sachsenhausen Camp in Oranienburg. Although the detailed information we gained at the concentration camp was distressing, we gained a lot of



knowledge of what Germany was like during the Second World War. In the evening, we enjoyed a trip to the IMAX

and a tour of the Reichstag showed us the real beauty of Berlin. Concerts at the Berlin British School, with the Clara-Schumann-Kinder-und Jugenchor in the Katholische Kirche, and at Humboldt University were a great success, with Carnival of the Animals as the show stopper! To end the week we attended the Berlin Philharmonic concert in the Waldbuhne. This open air concert was a once in a lifetime experience, and was enjoyed by everyone, despite the rain!

After a week of performing and sightseeing in Berlin, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, we started the journey back to Dundee, with new experiences and memories we will never forget!

Thanks to Mrs Melville, Miss Simpson, Mrs Evans, Mr McAulay, and Dr Duncanson for organising such a great week!

theatre in the Sony Centre, and back to the youth hostel, excited for our first concert the next day. Over the next few days, our fond impression of Berlin grew and grew. A boat trip on the River Spree, a guided tour of the Musical Instrument Museum, a tour of the Philharmonic Concert Hall,

# World of Warcraft club

**Patrick Cartlidge (F4)**

If you are looking for something new to do on a Monday or Wednesday afternoon then come to the World of Warcraft club.

World of Warcraft is a massively multiplayer role playing video game where players create their own characters and then interact with other players online and complete quests in huge virtual continent with many places to explore. It is the most popular online game in the world. When you create your

characters, there are several races to choose from, such as dwarf, human or blood elf, as well as different classes for each race like the warrior or rogue classes. Each race has their advantages and disadvantages so you need to choose the race and class of your character wisely.

While the game can be played without interacting with other players online, World of Warcraft encourages teamwork and some quests in the games cannot be completed by one person. You also have to earn money enable to buy armour,

weapons and clothes and you can customise your characters in many ways.

If you already play World of Warcraft or are interested in playing then come along to the club after school on Monday and Wednesday in MB23b until 5pm.

To play World of Warcraft you need to own a copy of the game and pay a monthly subscription fee of £8.95. You can also create a free 10 day trial account to play the game before buying it.

# Junior School

## New teachers give us their views

### Taskeen Bailwal (L7)

As most of you know there are two new teachers who have joined the Junior School, Miss Reith and Miss Gallacher. Miss Reith used to teach in Fife and taught there for four years, after that she taught at The Mary Erskine and Stewarts Melville Junior School for seven years. Miss Reith is used to teaching infants so teaching L4 is a bit of a change for her. Miss Reith is getting used to swapping classes for things like history, maths

and geography.

Miss Reith told us: "I enjoy it here".

Miss Gallacher has been a PE teacher for two years, and a primary teacher for eight years at Seaview High. She said: "Everyone is so friendly here and is making me feel like part of the school team." She likes all the L5 classes.

Both these teachers like it here, and are now working hard at getting to know everyone.

## Royal Visit—a Junior School view

### Christopher Keatch & Maya Nurbhai(L7)

On Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, the High School of Dundee was honoured to have Princess Anne visit. This is because in 1859, Queen Victoria signed and gave our school a Royal Charter declaring Dundee Grammar School, The English School and Dundee Academy to be known as the High School of Dundee. This year we are celebrating 150 years since the Charter was signed. Princess Anne unveiled a plaque to celebrate the anniversary which can be seen in the Main Foyer. Two L1's gave Princess Anne a posy to thank her for coming. Inside Trinity Hall, there were lots of displays including a Rainforest project, a Home Economics and a Music Department stall. Elizabeth Lang (who was one of the L1s) said "It was very exciting and I would like to be a princess one day!"

It was a great experience for all even when it started to pour down as we were standing in the playground!

## Crannog Visit

### David Don Lindsay (L7)



In September the L4s set off to the Crannog at Loch Tay. Inside the Crannog there were lots of models of: tools, clothes, weapons, food and even animals they would have kept there. The L4s sat around a model fire and were told different things about the models in the Crannog they then got to ask questions on things that interest them which were in the Crannog. They then got to go outside into a courtyard with lots of replica tools and weapons are. A member of staff showed them how to make fire the Celtic and how to weave yarn. The children then got to feel the weapons and see how heavy they were. Everyone enjoyed the visit very much and said what an exiting day they had had.

## High School of Dundee support World Vision Campaign

### Miranda Cook (L7)

Junior School pupils recently gathered at the RSS Discovery to support World Vision's campaign "One Nation, one month, 1,000 children". The charity's logo, a giant number one, is taking a tour of Scotland to raise awareness of the importance of child sponsorship. The pupils were invited to support the Dundee launch of this campaign.

World Vision is a Christian charity and is one of the world's biggest relief and development agencies. It is currently helping more than 100 million people in nearly 100 countries to help them in their struggle through poverty, hunger and injustice, not being respected of their religious beliefs. World Vision has over 100,000 long term child sponsors, who are hoping to change a child's life by changing the world that he or she grows up in.

Money that they raise through sponsorship goes straight to the community, helping to fund development programmes and also to give children who live in poverty a better future.

