



THE COLUMNS

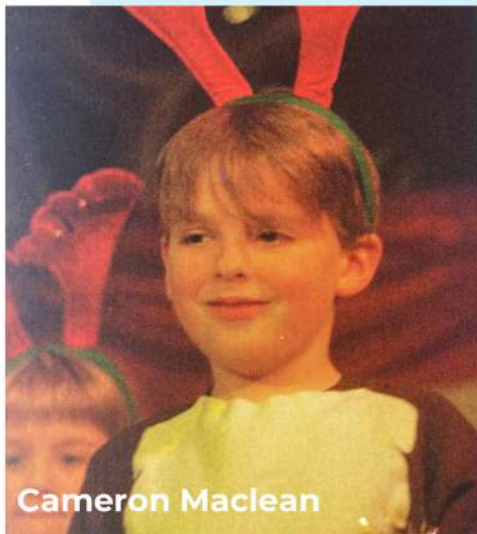
HSD's newsletter: Issue 84

by pupils; for pupils

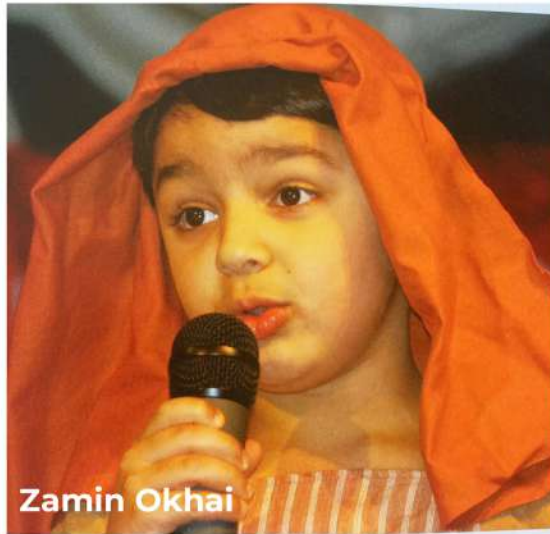
I have spent over a month trying to figure out the perfect thing to write in my final introduction as Editor of The Columns until I came to the realisation that nothing about the production of The Columns since its establishment, or indeed my six years at HSD, have been close to perfect. Last week I attended the Edinburgh Angus Club award ceremony at which the guest speaker was Olivia Giles (if you haven't heard of her and her charity 500 Miles, I would highly recommend taking a look!). Her twenty minute speech was unbelievably thought-provoking and forced me to reflect on my perspective of challenges and opportunities, and how I confront (and occasionally avoid) them. The Columns - originally Quarantimes - was born out of a global pandemic, an undoubtedly arduous inception; I need not reiterate the boredom of that period of our lives... Running a school publication 'by pupils; for pupils', albeit with the support of some fantastic members of staff, while studying for exams, and alongside the chaos of daily life, has undeniably proved challenging. But - and this is a big 'but' - it has been a challenge that has opened up an array of opportunities for myself and the wider school community. As representatives of the pupil body, we have been vocal about concerns - from uniform to discrimination and prejudice to economic instability. The Columns has also platformed Interact, raising awareness of charities and fundraisers, while Mrs Watson has had the chance to display her talent of producing spectacularly horrendous jokes! Most importantly, it has given the members of the HSD family, from current and former pupils to members of staff, the space and confidence to be themselves. Regardless of the stress of Thursday night editing, the frustrating grammatical errors Mrs Tevendale spots on a Friday morning (that I would never even think to pick up on!) and every IT problem imaginable, the opportunities that have arisen from the challenges faced are endless. The Columns has been a lifeline, a source of entertainment, a place to express people's interests, and although I have played only a small and brief role in this publication, which I am sure will continue to thrive and flourish for many, many more years, I am incredibly proud to have been a part of The Columns family, and the amazing things it has accomplished :)

Editor-in-Chief, Sahar Jafferbhoy

Class of 2023!



Cameron Maclean



Zamin Okhai



Kirsty Bett

L2 My Mummy

Mummy

Black hair and green eyes

Oval face and rosy cheeks

Lovely and short

My mummy is funny and good

Mummy

Mummy

Pretty and slim

Stylish and beautiful

Kind and crazy

My mummy is cuddly and brave

Mummy

by Lachlan Smith L2M



L2 Poetry Competition Finalists



Ollie Hall



Amy Paterson



Christmas Party



Angus Clarke



L4 Assembly



Maishah Mason



L5



Maishah Mason



L5



L5 Christmas



Nativity



Iona Kennedy & Hamish Will



L6 Rugby team



L6 Christmas Party



Zeussical



Jacob Shaw, David Cargill, Hamish Forrester
Maishah Mason



Eve Macallum, Martha Reeves, Rebecca Bonnyman, Iona Kennedy & Hamish Will



L7 London trip



L7 Book Festival



Cameron Houston

Angus Clarke

Helen Olver



Alistair Clark, Iona Kennedy & Ollie Hall



F2 Belfast trip



Cameron Maclean & Emma Gilchrist



Archie Macdonald

Art Competition

Lucy Clarke, Form 2 had her lino print of a swimmer awarded 2nd place in the Form 1-3 category of the Tesco Bank Schools Art Competition. This is an extremely prestigious competition and this year it attracted over 8000 entries from all over Scotland, so to be recognised in such a broad category in Form 1 is outstanding. The theme for the competition this year was 'Energy' and the class all produced figure drawings of each other in poses that encapsulated how they choose to spend their energy. The resulting images were simple and graphic, yet striking and eye-catching. Lucy's image was so strong that it was chosen for the cover of the Tesco Bank calendar and has been reproduced as a postcard, which is now on sale in the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh. Lucy was invited to attend a prize giving ceremony in Edinburgh. Her piece has been framed and was displayed in an exhibition at the Gallery from 28th May-16th September.



F2 netball team



F2 A&B hockey teams



Anna Campbell, Scott Smith & Cameron Houston



Switzerland 2019



Fox Lake



Esther Douglas



2Li



Alix Saddler



Milly Houstoun



William Ramsay



Jan Van Der Kuyl



F2A hockey team



Cadets



Jonah Phillipson-Massey



Andrew Loveday



Grace Berry, Rebecca Bonnyman, Hannah Marnie & Sarah Jafferbhoy



1stXI hockey team, 21-22



Jan Van Der Kuyl & Alistair Binnie



Kirsty Elgin, Jessica Chen & Naomi Sibson



Cassie Greig



Olivia Patrick



Robert Taylor



Hannah Mackland & Milly Houstoun



Rishabh Akula



Jan Van Der Kuyl & Lucy Clarke



Cadets, 2022-23

Deputy Rector's Message

Mrs Watson

It is my great pleasure to write this message to the High School community, and in particular, to our 2023 Leavers, whether you're in Form 6, or any other year group. We all wish you every success as you move on beyond the Pillars. Some of you joined the school in L1, others have joined at every stage since then.

You've worked hard together, been through tough times together and had fun together. In doing so, you've learned what it means to be part of the High School family.

For those of you in Form 6, your Senior Prefect team have led you exceptionally well, but I also know how hard many more of you have worked to arrange events and publications (like this one) across the year. It has been simply fantastic to see you organising house events, dances, charity fundraisers, and your own Leavers' events, to name but a few.

For all Leavers, I hope that you have enjoyed your time at HSD and are looking forward to the adventures that lie ahead.

Wherever you go, I you can take with you memories of all the wonderful editions of The Columns, including my terrible jokes!

As the current editorial team move on to their adventures beyond School, I wait to see whether the incoming team will stick with me, or whether my jokes are simply too much to endure! Regardless of the outcome, I look forward to many more engaging, thought-provoking and well-written editions in the future.

I hope you all have a restful and restorative Summer. With all best wishes, Mrs W

six years of subjects!

Deputy Editor, Zara Taylor

With six years of secondary education behind me (just about), over the years I have completed a grand total of 16 SQA courses and let's just say not all subjects are created equally. This is of course due to my personal preference and my own experience in each of these classes. I in no way mean to discredit the hard work of all the teachers who have painstakingly dealt with me over the years (Mr Rennet I'm so sorry about Nat 5 Mods) but despite this I thought I would share my personal ranking of the classes I've attended over the years to entertain and maybe even persuade some of you when it comes time for subject choice.

Top tier:

Higher Maths – This may be an unexpected choice for first place but the way in which this subject just made perfect sense to me has secured its top spot. I will probably never get over the frustration of losing out on an 100% thanks to a stupid circle question though but regardless this was a great subject.

Advanced Higher Economics – This class, despite the stress the dissertation caused me, has been so much fun this year and has made me really excited for university and the prospect of learning about the economy in more depth (the Geoff videos will be missed at university though </3)

Advanced Higher Maths – This definitely challenged me more than it's higher counterpart but it was still an enjoyable class (despite being accused of alpaca-cide). The revision resources and help of the maths department will be thoroughly missed at university.

National 5 English – National 5s being over 2 years lends itself particularly well to English. Having the time to write and be creative is something I really appreciate about this course. This was also when I was recruited to the Columns team which is an experience I have loved. (Hi Sahar editing :D)

Higher Chemistry – I've always loved chemistry, and if I had taken a 4th Advanced Higher, it would've probably been it. I have very fond memories of discussing Gilmore Girls, Red (Taylor's Version), and Zoe's adorable baby ducks in this class so maybe it was less about the chemistry and more about the vibes, regardless, I loved this class.

National 5 Modern Studies – the debates (arguments) that occurred in this class are too infamous not to be included in this tier although they have probably scarred me for life...

Middle of the pack:

Higher Biology – This class should probably be ranked higher but the sheer amount of memorisation which was required was definitely a lot and if I tried I could probably still recite parts of the summary notes.

National 5 Economics – I still use the rhymes we learnt in this class today and Mrs LP is nothing short of an icon!

Advanced Higher Statistics – I found this course very challenging but I think stats is a vital part of life and a very useful subject to take.

National 5 Maths, Biology, Chemistry, French – These classes certainly had their moments but for the sake of the length of this article and because of my patchy recollection, let's move on.

Not my cup of tea:

Higher Economics – I feel like I'm betraying my subject placing it here, I really did enjoy this course and the low ranking of this subject may be perplexing considering I'll be doing economics at university but let me explain. I loved the content of this course but the experience of the project was enough for me to place it so low. Firstly, due to Covid we skipped the project aspect of Nat 5, which meant I had little idea what it should look like come time to write the higher one. Furthermore, I think the topic I chose added unnecessary difficulties and I think I defined the bit off more than I could chew; couple that with the time pressure and the rules of the SQA and this is what I remember most about an otherwise great course.

Higher English – What National 5 supplied in time, the Higher course lacked. I also found the jump from National 5 to Higher quite extreme. Writing the folio is great fun though.

National 5 Physics – I simply could not understand circuits for the life of me, I haven't tried to understand them since but I'm sure they would still confuse me. Like all of the subjects I've discussed today there were good and bad aspects of each but I think Nat 5 Physics was just not for me.

Ultimately, a part of school and the education process is to discover what you enjoy and despite my whinging I am very grateful to have even been given the ability to have such a wide subject choice in the first place. Thank you to all the teachers along the way and thank you to Sahar, Mrs Tevendale and the rest of the Columns team for creating such an amazing space for creativity. I am very proud of the small role I've had in this process and I feel very confident in the new generation of editors, good luck Ruby, Izzy, Aoife & India! <3

A Year of Interact!



In September we held our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning. Pupils and staff baked up sweet treats for us to sell, raising hundreds of pounds for cancer research and support.



Following the disastrous flooding in Pakistan a series of events and fundraisers were organised to raise money for those afflicted by the crisis, including a tuck shop, a book sale, and dress down day, raising over £2000 in total.



During the festive period the JY and senior school took part in Social Bite's Festival of Kindness, donating gifts for those in the community.



F5&6 attended a Hollywood Ball last November - 'A Night in Hollywood' - to raise money for Maggies. An evening of dancing, an Oscars ceremony, and the collapse of the stage... raised over £1500!



The HSD community took part in the King's Coronation charity Big Help Out.



For Halloween the Junior and Senior school had a dress-up day to raise money for the charity Togs for Tots!

SPORTS AT HSD



It was a successful season for the Rugby teams, who for the second year have been crowned the winners of the Inspiresport `boys National Schools Conterence!



The girls 1XI team were the Scottish Plate Champions!!!



The boys 1XI hockey team won the Aspire Cup Competition with an impressive 6-2 success in the final!



Our HSD netball teams were undefeated all season!

House Events

The year started off with our annual House Choir competition... with a win for Airlie's rendition of *Love Story*



Wallace stole Christmas House Choir with a feature from Santa Clause!

F4-6 House Hockey was won by the Lindore's Lions





Wallace were the winners of F1 House hockey and the House Colours Competition!!



1st Place

A one goal lead in extra time saw Aystree crowned as this years F2-F3 House Tournament Champions!



Aystree were 1st place in both F2/3 and F4-6 House Netball!



1st Place

Aystree were crowned Senior House Tournament Champions after a 5-nil win in the final!

