



# The Royal High School

## Commemoration and Prizegiving Day

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

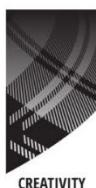
Vivas Schola Regia



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



CREATIVITY



COURAGE



RESILIENCE



INDIVIDUALITY



ACHIEVEMENT



INCLUSION



## COMMEMORATION AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Chairperson: Russell Ogg

### Prize-giving Order of Ceremony

Welcome: Pauline Walker, Headteacher

Music: Amelie Milne: Cello Suite no1, Prelude – Bach

Presentation of Prizes: Mrs Kate Fraser and Mr Iain Welsh

Former Pupil's Address: Louise Stevenson

Valedictory Address: Dux of School – Shalin Chowdhury

Closing Comments: Pauline Walker, Headteacher

School Song

Close

### Leavers Order of Ceremony

Chair's Address: Russell Ogg

Reading: Nothing Gold can Stay by Robert Frost, read by Captain Melissa Thomson

Music: Amelie Milne: Cello Suite no1, Prelude – Bach

Former Pupil's Address: Louise Stevenson

Valedictory Address: Dux of School – Shalin Chowdhury

Reply by Headteacher: Mrs Pauline Walker

Announcement: Winner of the Crichton Cup

School Song

Ceremony of Leave-taking through the Memorial Doors

Passing on of the School Captaincy

## PRIZES & SCHOLARSHIPS

### SESSION 2023-24

#### **FIRST YEAR**

Alex Aitken Prize for Scottish History	Aanmona Priyodorshini
French	Aanmona Priyodorshini
Drama	Ella Gunn
Maclean Prize for Dedication & Hard Work in STEM Subjects	Euan Fraser
The Royal High School PFG Junior Prize (S1-S3) for citizenship	Frieda Somerville
Mathematics	James Carter
PE	Kacy Lui
Lady Glenorchy Prize for Religious Education	Kayley Berry
Geography	Kayley Berry
The Royal High School PFG Junior Prize (S1-S3) for effective contribution	Kayley Berry
Science	Sophia Kassime
Maclean Prize for Dedication & Hard Work in STEM Subjects	Sophia Shand
Modern Studies	Sophia Sung
Home Economics	Tess Miller
Art & Design	Valentine Muhl
Jessie Young Prize for Meritorious Effort	Vincent MacLeod
John Murray Prize for Music	William Goh
Spanish	William Goh
English	Amelie Burnett
Robertson Bursary (Proxime to Dux)	Amelie Burnett
Tait Prize - Proxime to Dux	Amelie Burnett
Robertson Bursary (Dux form 1)	Euan Walls
Boyd Prize (1857) Dux of Form 1	Euan Walls

#### **SECOND YEAR**

Home Economics	Annika Daubney
John Murray Prize for Music	Calan Craig
Sir James Purves Stewart Prize – (I) Dux in French	Cara Dunlop
Geography	Cara Dunlop
PE	Cara Dunlop
English	Holly Abbott
Sir James Purves Stewart Prize – (II) Dux in Spanish	Jack Lister
RMPS	Jaden Mascarenhas
Alex Aitken Prize for Scottish History	Julia Milne
Spanish	Katy Roger
French	Lily Richards
Mathematics	Rebecca Abbey
Science	Rebecca Abbey
Modern Studies	Robbie Little
Art & Design	Zara Ross
Drama	Zoe Trevisan
Ritchie Prize (1824) - Dux of S2	Isabella Dove

**THIRD YEAR**

Sibbald Bursary Maths	Amber Redpath
Hartman Prize – (I) Dux in French	Annie Farrier
Donaldson Bursary - English	Callie Johnstone
Prize for CDT	Chloe Peace
The William Corlett Memorial Prizes for Art	Daisy Archbold
John Murray Prize for Music	Ella Maclennan
Hartman Prize – (II) Dux in German	Harry Muir
RHS S3 Prize for Spanish	Hugh Smart
Alex Skinner Prize for Computing	Jason Guthrie
Sibbald Bursary Maths	Johnny Darling
Prize for Home Economics	Lucas McSorley
Donaldson Bursary - English	Lucy Buskie
Morrison Bursary -Science	Maeve Archibald
PFG Prize for Meritorious Effort	Matthew Moody
Evelyn Small Prize for Drama	Onyx Mearns
Maclean Prize for Dedication & Hard Work in STEM Subjects	Roddy McMeeken
Morrison Bursary - Science	Zak Oussellam
Carmichael Club Prize (1878) Dux of Form 3	Laurence Ngai

**FOURTH YEAR**

Prize for CDT	Alexandra Policht
Noreen Richardson Memorial Prize for Home Economics	Brooke Pettersen
Maclean Prize for Dedication & Hard Work in STEM Subjects	Bryn Davies
The Royal High School PFG Senior Prize (S4-6) for citizenship	Connor McLeod
Mary Hunter Memorial prize for best fourth form leaver	Eilidh McDiarmid
RHS Prize for Fashion and Textiles	Isobel Walls
Chisholm Prize -Dux in Geography	Jessica Hicks
The Dr Scott Prize for Meritorious Effort in Science in 4 <sup>th</sup> Year	Kane Paton
Richard Green memorial prize for Art & Design	Leah Poseley
Ness Trophy for Craftmanship	Liam McKnight
John Marshall Prize (1910) Dux in Mathematics	Sanuka Ponnampерuma
NH Small Prize in Dux French	Sanuka Ponnampерuma
Alex F Hall Prize for Computing	Sara Robertson
S4 Dux in RMPS	Sia Macnamara
NH Small Prize in Dux in German	Skye Burns
Nicholson Prize for Music	Trixie Wallace
Carson Bursary, Dux of English	Zak Penman
MacKay Prize (1877) Dux of Form 4	Beth Anderson

## SENIOR PRIZES

RHS Prize for Photography	Amber Johnstone
Elizabeth Wemyss Prize for Music	Amelie Milne
Dux in Physics	Beth Simpson
Royal High School (London) Club Prize Dux in CDT	Blaire Shepherd
William Young Memorial Prize – Dux in RMPS	Connor McMahon
RHS FP President's Prize (II) Dux in Geography	Diya Kurian
Evelyn Small Prize for Drama	Emma Ford
The RHS(London) Club Prize Dux in Art	Erin Do Rego
James M Moore Memorial Prize – Dux in French	Eve Chalmers
William Young Memorial Prize – Dux in Classics	Freya Gotch Curry
RHS FP President's Prize (II) Dux in Modern Studies	Hannah McLaughlin
Heriot Watt Leadership Trophy	Hannah McLaughlin
Burgoyne Prize – Dux in German	Hollie Ure
The Royal High School PFG Senior Prize (S4-6) for effective contributor	Kate McGovern
The Dr Scott Prize for Meritorious Effort in Science in 6 <sup>th</sup> Year	Katie Wright
John Turner Prize – Dux in Mathematics	Kirsty Williams
RHS FP President's Prizes – (I) Dux in History	Niamh McGowan
Maclean Prize for Dedication & Hard Work in STEM Subjects	Orly Taylor
Carson Prize Dux of English	Siriol Gray
Dux in Home Economics	Sohera Kaur
Dux in Chemistry	Rebecca Chan
Muir Memorial Prize - Dux of Form 5	Rebecca Chan

## OPEN AWARDS

James H Scott Prize for Mathematics	Alex Dodds
Steven Armstrong Roy Memorial prize for Courage and Inspiration	Allan Buckner
Andrew Wilson Prize for Service and Leadership	Amy Young
Sir David Yule Scholarship	Aurora Trevarthen
Grant Memorial Cup – Dux in Music	Callum Durie
Nicoll Prize for Service	Cameron Allan
W J Melrose Prize for Art	Cerys Davies
Martin Pearce Family Prize Dux in Business Management	Connor McKie
MacMillan Club Prize (1865) – Dux in English	Cora Gibson
Ian Steadman and John P Mackintosh Prize for Politics	Daniel Davison
Sir John Greig Dunbar Prize for Citizenship	Daniel Davison
Noreen Richardson Memorial Prize for Courage and Determination	Demi McMillan
Philip Harris Prize Dux in Biology	Diya Kurian
The RHS Distinguished Award	Duncan Haynes
The Malkin Prize for Service in the Community	Erin Tocher
The Archie Davidson Prize for Engineering Technology	Evan Russell
Classical Studies Prize (Dux)	Ewan Brady
Steadman Prize for Philosophy	Ewan Kistruck
Dux in Computing	Ewan Raith
Neil McCurrach Award for Participation and Enthusiasm to the Full	Finlay Fraser
MacKelvie Trophy (1928) Award for Best Piper	Fraser Douglas
William Rutherford Bequest Award for Art	Georgia Dear
Malcolm Knox Prize for best creative writing	Georgina Cook
Grigor prize for Debating (Senior)	Hannah McLaughlin

The Royal High School (London) Club Prize for an English Poem	Hannah McLaughlin
The Crawford Taylor Prize for Drama and Music	Hayden Gray
Rectors Award for Resilience	Hollie Wilson
Robert Fergusson Prize for Scottish Poetry	Isis Enaholo
Rector's Award for service to the School	Kevin Webley
The Lewis Johnson Memorial Cup	Klara Lemvig-Allan
Nicoll Prize for Service	Klara Lemvig-Allan
Mabon Prize for biggest improvement of a pupil in S5	Leah Jopp
Sir Walter Scott Centenary Prize	Leo Taylor
Hector McIver Memorial prize for Literary Appreciation	Manaf Hussien
Nicoll Prize for Service	Markus Illingworth
RHS PFG Prize for Dux in Modern Studies	Melissa Khosravi-Oskouee
Dr Barclay's Memorial Prize for Service	Melissa Thomson
Carson Prize (1851) for an English Essay	Nancy Gilmour
Dr W King Gillies Prize for Scottish Literature	Naomi Dodds
Nicoll Prize for Service	Noa Kiss-Jakab
Grigor prize for Debating (Junior)	Oliver Wright
John Paterson Small Prize for Music	Orly Taylor
J G Cattanach Prize for Scottish Literature	Rebecca Chan
We Belong Here – The RHS Prize for outstanding contribution to the Wider Life of the School, ensuring that everyone belongs.	Ruairi Pittendreigh
James Scott Bursary (1970)	Santiago Porter Romero
N H Small Prize Dux in Spanish	Sofia Crowther
J W Loudon Prize for Public Speaking (Joint)	Robin White
Percy Malcolm Stewart Minor	Robin White
Percy Malcolm Stewart Median	Rose Crook
Bruce Prize – Dux in History	Katie Wright
James Montgomery Bell Memorial prize for the study of Scots Law	Katie Wright
Percy Malcolm Stewart (Major) Dux Proxime	Katie Wright
Sir Alexander Stevenson Prize Proxime to Dux	Katie Wright
Inches Prize Dux in Physics	Shalin Chowdhury
Tullis Prize – Dux in Mathematics	Shalin Chowdhury
RHS Exhibition -Dux of School	Shalin Chowdhury
RHS Club Prize - Dux of School	Shalin Chowdhury

## WIDER ACHIEVEMENT PRIZES 2023/4

<b>Wider Clubs &amp; Societies</b>	
The Richard Joy Trophy – Expedition Leadership	Harry Muir
Duke of Edinburgh – Volunteering Award	Fraser Boyne
Duke of Edinburgh – Physical Award through Football	Alice Whyte
Duke of Edinburgh – skills Award through Cooking/baking	Maja Jarczek
Warhammer 40k Club Outstanding Contribution	Alex Goldsmith
Chess	Oscar Ferguson
Modern Languages Club Outstanding Contribution	Freddie Blackman
Gender Equalities: S1-S3 Award	Niamh McCormack
Gender Equalities: S4-S6 Award	Rebecca Chan
LGBTQ+ Club Outstanding Contribution	Markus Illingworth
Library Volunteers	Fraser Boyne
Library Book group: S1-S2	Leo McDonald
UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools	Grace Meighan
Junior Debating (S1-S3) Outstanding Contribution	Orlaith Brogan
Senior Debating (S4-S6) Outstanding Contribution	Daniel Davison
Creative writing Club Outstanding Contribution	Sienna Bell
The Emily Goddard Award for Creative Writing	Hannah McLaughlin
Outstanding Contribution to the Scripture Union	Isla Groves and Erin Walker
John Muir Award – Forest Schools	Ben Pirie, Karter Lothian, Adam Cave and Ciara Baker
<b>Sport</b>	
Coaching – Bian Winning Memorial Cup for the Top Student Coach	Klara Lemvig-Allan
Swimming – RHS London Club Cup Senior Girls Swimming	Alex Coy
Swimming – Strang Trophy – Senior Swimming	Alex Coy
Rugby – Traditional Award – The Gilmour Trophy for Rugby	Euan Harrison
Sporting Achievement – William Rutherford Bequest Award for Sport	Aron Jack
Janine Whitecross Trophy for best Girl in PE	Iona Sinclair
Major Simpson Bell Memorial Trophy for Sporting Achievement	Sam Barrass
Certificate for achievements in Fencing	Sam Barrass
Outstanding commitment to the Swimming Club	Sophie Little
Outstanding Commitment to Weightlifting	Amy Allan
Certificate for achievements in Cricket	Hamish Sneddon
Certificate for achievements in Martial Arts	Chloe Brian, Emily Donald and Beth Campbell
Certificate for achievements in Ice-Skating	Mia Drummond
Certificate for achievements in Skiing	Lucy Gallacher
Active Schools Award for Volunteering in Sport	Balint Tamas
Outstanding Commitment to Water-polo club	Balint Tamas
Outstanding Commitment to Basketball club	Barney Farron
Basketball – Senior Player of the Year	Cameron Allan and Liyo Ngomti
Outstanding commitment to the Cheer Club	Ella MacLennan
Outstanding Commitment to Gymnastics	Ruby Hodgson
Dance Leadership Award	Eliza Farron
Junior Dancer of the Year	Alice Anderson
Senior Dancer of the Year	Charlotte Read
Outstanding Contribution to Netball Coaching and Development within the community	Lucy Crabbie and Poppy Kells
Netball – S1 Player of the Year	Georgie Gray

Netball – S2 Player of the Year	Rebecca Abbey
Netball – S3 Player of the Year	Grace manning and Jessica Broom
Netball – Senior Player of the Year	Elisa Valente
Rugby - Girls U14 Player of the Year	Cyrine Nasri
Rugby – Girls U16 Player of the Year	Charlotte Dill
Rugby – S1 Player of the Year	Fynn Shepherd
Rugby – S2 Player of the Year	Charlie McLaughlin-Hanna
Rugby – S3 Player of the Year	Charles Wawanda
Rugby – Douglas ford Prize for U16 Player of the Year	Finn Davidson
Rugby – U18 (1 <sup>st</sup> XV) Player of the Year	Oliver Deane
Outstanding commitment to Rugby Club	Caleb MacInnes
Student Coach (es) of the year	Ava Steel and Ella Fairbairn
Girls Football S1 Player of the Year	Georgie Scanlon and Nada Ali
Girls Football S2 Player of the Year	Hollie Tough and Anna Evans
Girls football S3 Player of the Year	Aylei Pickup
Football – S1 Player of the Year	Ivor Rahim
Football – S2 Player of the Year	Diaz Saleh
Football – S3 Player of the Year	Alexander Del Giacco
Football – S4 Player of the Year	Callen Robb
Team of the Year – Senior Boys Football Team	Calum Barlow, Sam Kothari, Daniel Marshall, Jake Morrison, Scott Mcann, Nicolas Del Giacco, Sam Meany, Rory Jack, Dillon Turley, Lewis Harrison, Innes Palmer, Matthew Gallacher, Thomas Bryce, Brodie McKay, Rory Sloane, Lochlan Brown, Aron Jack, Sam Ketley
Football – RHS Football Player of the Year	Sam Ketley

#### **Music and Drama Awards**

John Turner Prize for Drama	Finlay Fraser
Nick Randel Award for contribution to Scottish Traditional Music	Oliver Priestly
Outstanding Contribution to Extra Curricular Music and Drama	Hugh Smart
Contribution to Concert Band	Evan Russell, Matthew Jeffcoat, Fraser Halton, Stina Gibson, Abbie Patterson
Contribution to Choir	Isla Williams
Contribution to Cello Ensemble	Ewan Raith and Leah Posely
Contribution to Guitar Ensemble	Callum Durie
Contribution to Fiddle Group	Grace Manning
Contribution to String Ensemble	Diya Kurian
Contribution to singing	Orly Taylor
Contribution to School Shows	Harvey Williams and Charlie McLoughlin Hana
Contribution to Creative Academies	Harman Singh, Sophia Sung, Zoe Trevisan, Calan Craig, Adam Cave, Emily Brown, Julia Milne, Ellie Sneddon, Katie Stuart, Ethan Boodhoo, Amelie Burnett, Ava Milne, Leah Sim, Michael Taylor, Lewis Scott, Oliwier Kuczowski, Hugh Paterson, Adam Wood, Ethan Ogilive, Aaron Reid, Elliot Blatch
Contribution to S1/2 Drama Club	Daisy Archbold, Matthew Wood, Ella Gunn, Jack Lister, Emily McKellican
Contribution to S3/4 Youth Theatre	Hayden Gray, Jackson Rafferty, Onyx Mearns, Ailie Pitcairn, Zoe Anderson, Jessica Hicks, Anna Hedges, Callie Johnstone, Holly Chalmers, Daniel Hartley, Ben Drew, Katie Parker Stevens

<b>Art Awards</b>	
James Gray Prize for Art Appreciation	Elena McIntyre
Outstanding Photographer	Oliver Priestly
RHS Prize for Design S1-3	Tom Steele
RHS Prize for Design S4-6	Hazel Logan
RHS Prize for NPA Art	Miles Hartley
Juniors Craftsmanship, Sewing and Textiles	Jagoda Matack
Creative Academy Award	Hugh Smart, Naomi Miller, Amber Redpath, Emily Donald, Chloe Brian
Contribution to Art Club	Robyn Grant
Junior Art and design Work of the Year	Aanmona Priyaodorshini
Senior Art and Design Work of the Year	Orly Taylor
Outstanding Contribution to Art	Isla Borthwick, Tess Cameron, Grace Manning, Ermina Ali, Amira Sepiol, Rachel McCrae, Ellie Dishington

## MEMBERS OF STAFF – SESSION 2023/24

**Headteacher** – Pauline Walker, BSc Hons Computer Science (Heriot Watt), PGCE(Edinburgh)

### Depute Headteachers

Jen Menzies, Bed (MH), MEd (Stirling)

Kate Fraser, MA (Hons) History (Edinburgh), PGCE (Edinburgh), Masters in Education (OU)

Maxine Hughes, MA Scottish Historical Studies (Edinburgh), PGCE (Edinburgh)

Steven F. Raeburn, BEd (Hons) Physical Education (Edinburgh), MSc Leadership (Aberdeen), SQH (Aberdeen)

**Business Manager:** Kalina Haralampieva, BA Hons Business Management with marketing (Napier), CMI Leadership and Management

**Art & Design:** Sharon Black BA Hons (Edinburgh College of Art), PGCE (Edin), Caroline Ruth Ansell - BA Design: Textiles (Glasgow School of Art), Julie Howie BA Hons (Robert Gordon), PGCE, Emma Elizabeth Boyd BA (Hons) Art & Design (Edinburgh College of Art), PGDE (Edinburgh), Julie Abrahams BA (Hons) Illustration and Painting (Edinburgh College of Art), PGDE (Edinburgh), MA Design Practice & Management (Caledonian University), PGDE Secondary Education: Art & Design (Edinburgh University)

**Biology:** Gordon Rutter, MSc (Edin), BSc Hons (London), PGCE, Alison Coleman, BSc Hons (St Andrews), PGDE(Aberdeen), Nicki Hammond BSc Hons Biochemistry and Immunology (Strathclyde), PGDE (Strathclyde), Claire Ewart, BSc Hons Pharmacology (University of Dundee), PGDE(Strathclyde), Shannon Moffat, BSc Honours Biology (University of Stirling), PGDE (Strathclyde University), Mairi Gallagher, BSc hons Physiology (University of Glasgow) PGDE (University of Strathclyde), Jed Flint BSc medical Science, PFCE (Nottingham), MSc Psychology

**Business Education:** Lindsay Keighren MA Hons Business Management (Edinburgh), PGDE (Strathclyde)

**Chemistry:** Dr Avril Henney, BSc (Hons) (Edin), PhD (Lond), PGCE (Lond), Philip Wootton, BSc Hons, (Glasgow), PGDE (Edin), Katie Will BSc Hons (Edin), PGDE (Strathclyde)

**Classical Studies:** Georgios Pagonas, Ptychion (Athens), MSc (Edinburgh), Sebastian Sewell, MTh (St Andrews), PGCE

**Computing Science:** Holly Reed, BSc Computer Science (Stirling), Alex Crawford, BSc Dist. Computer Science (Napier), PGDE Computer Science (Strathclyde), G Wendy Reith, BSc Computer Science (Stirling)

**Craft, Design and Technology:** Liam Carragher, BEd (1st class Hons) Design and Technology, David Allan, DipTechEd, (Moray House), Emilia Tankard, Interior Design, BA Hons, (Edinburgh), PGDE (Edin), David Tulloch, BEd Hons Technologies (Edinburgh), Hannah Millard B.Arch Bachelor of Architectural Studies (Glasgow), M.Arch Master of Architecture (Sheffield), PGDE Secondary (Edinburgh), Chris Leslie, Bachelor of Technological Education (UoG)

**Drama:** Suzie Lundy BA Dramatic Studies (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland), PGCE (Goldsmiths), Chartered Teacher (GTCS accreditation),

**English:** Helen McLean, MA(Hons) English Language and Literature at Edinburgh, PGDE, Daniel Craig, MA Hons (Edin), PGCE, Bernice Ford, MA Hons (Glasgow), PGCE (J'hill), Martin Moonie, MA(Abd), PhD (Oxford), PGCE, Alistair Robertson, MA Hons, Kate Hendry, MA English (Glasgow), PhD English (St Andrews), PGDE (Edinburgh), Amy Hogg, MA Hons English Lit (Edinburgh), PGDE (Glasgow), Catherine Waterland MA Hons (Aberdeen) PGCE (Moray House), Andrew Rooney, MA Hons English Literature and History (Edinburgh University), PGDE (Edinburgh), Joanne Randall, BA Drama and Theatre Arts (Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh), PGCE English with Drama (Institute of Education, London), Alana White MA Hons English Literature and History (Edinburgh University), MScR English Literature (Edinburgh University), PGDE (Edinburgh University), Aimie bird, BA Hons English and film (Edinburgh Napier University) PGDE (Edinburgh University)

**Geography:** Simon Ferriman, MA Hons (Edinburgh), PGDE (Edinburgh), PGCE (Edinburgh), Alice Doran, MA Hons (Aberdeen), PGDE, Ashley Fulton, BSc Hons, (Stirling), Sarah Goudie BSc Hons (Glasgow), PGDE, Liane Mcdonald, BTech (Edin), PGCE (Nottingham)

**History:** Alison Gallagher, MA(Edin), PGCE, Alex Hagart, BA Hons History and Politics (Aberdeen), MLitt Modern History (Aberdeen), PGDE History (Edinburgh), Haldane Fraser, BA Hons History (Strathclyde), PGDE (Edinburgh), Amy Mcfarlane, BA (Hons) History, Strathclyde, PGDE (Aberdeen)

**Home Economics:** Kathryn Kelly, BSc Hons (Queen Margaret), PGDE (Strathclyde), Scott Ballantyne, BA Hons Performance (University of the West of Scotland) PGDE Secondary (Aberdeen), James Tomlin, Bsc Nutrition (Queen Margaret), PGDE Home Economics (Queen Margaret)

**Integrated Support Team:** Iain Welsh, BA Hons, PGCE, Scott Rodger BEd Hons (Edin), PGC (Aberd), Hannah Sim MA Hons (Glasgow), PGDE (Edin), Robert Watson BSc(Hons) Sports Science & Physiology (Glasgow), PGCE (Edinburgh), Nicola Casey, BA & Dip Ed (Stirling), Deborah Hislop, BEd Technology (Edin), Philip McCluskey BD Theology/ Religious Studies (Glasgow), PGDE (Strathclyde), Clare Lee, Ruari Nicolson, BEd Hons Physical Education (University of Edinburgh), Adam Reed: BSc (Hons), (Heriot-Watt), PGDE (Edin), Fiona J MacMillan, BEd(Edin), MSc(Edin), PGDE, Catharine Craig, MFA Hons, Fine Art (Edinburgh University), PGDE Art and Design (Edinburgh University)

**Transition Teacher:** Laura Paterson BSc Hons Social Work (Edinburgh), DipSw (Edinburgh), PGDE (Edinburgh)

**Pupil Support Officer (PSO):** Joanna Withers, Nicola McDonald, Miriam Shahzad, Kay Farquhar

**Youth Officer:** Natali Fraser

**Pupil Support Assistants**

**(SFL):** Jasmine Ryan, Karen Sloan, Jackie Brown, Amy McLaren, Lee Sneddon, Shahnaaz Mirza, Steven Havelin, Hilary Cross

**(Wellbeing):** Amal Alam, Lisa McLaughlin, **(ESB):** Tetiana Hrytsak, Claire Lee

**Mathematics:** Alison Underwood, MA Hons, (Aberdeen), PGCE (Open University), Richa Singh, BSc Hons Geology with Maths and Chemistry (India), MSc Environment Science and Policy (Manchester), PGCE (Manchester), Joanne Campbell, BSc, MSc (Aberdeen), PGDE, Ryan Docherty, BSc Hons Mathematics and its Applications (Stirling), PGDE (Strathclyde), Neil Millington, BSc

(Hons), PGDE, Andrew Curry B.sc Mathematics (hons) (Heriot- Watt), PGDE, Helen Crow, PhD, BEng Hons Civil & Environmental Engineering (Heriot Watt) , PGDE (Edin), Gary Laidlaw, BSc Hons Mathematics (Edinburgh), PGDE (Moray House), Steve MacColl BSc Hons Mathematics (St Andrews), PGDE (Glasgow), Lorna Watson BSc Hons Mathematics (Aberdeen), PGCE(Moray House), Merina Shrestha, Bede Hager-Suart, MSc Philosophy (Edinburgh), PGCE (Bath Spa), Mohammed Naseer Rashid, BEng Hons Automotive Technology (Coventry University) PGCE (London Metropolitan University)

**Modern Languages:** Caroline Welsh, MA Hons (Aberdeen), PgDip (Napier), PGCE(Edin), Clare Lansburgh, LL.B Hons, (Glas), PGCE, Franziska McKinlay, BA (Universitaet Bremen), PGDE (Strathclyde), Stephanie Mitchell BA Hons (Heriot Watt) PGCE PGC, Youssouf Kassime, MA Contemporary History and Sociology (University Paul Valery - Montpellier - France), PGCE - French with Spanish (Goldsmiths University - London), Sarah Donnelly MA (Hons) French/Hispanic Studies (Glasgow), PGDip Translating and Interpreting (Heriot-Watt), PDGE (Edinburgh), Rachel Eadie, MA Hons Hispanic Studies (Glasgow), PGCE (Strathclyde), Alison Bryce, MA Hons Languages (Glasgow) PGCE (Glasgow), Martial Le-Gall, Master's degree in American and English civilization and literature (faculté Victor Segalen Brest, France) PGCE (Edinburgh), Samuele Lupi MA (Joint Hons) French and International Relations - University of Aberdeen PGDE Secondary, French with Italian - University of Glasgow

**Modern Studies:** Lee MacLachlan, MA Hons Social Policy (Edinburgh) PGCE (Aberdeen), Kirstin Drummond MA Sociology (Aberdeen), PGDE (Aberdeen), Edward Hall, BA History (Hobart) MA Educational Leadership (Framingham State)

**Music:** Louise Holland, Bed (Hons) Music (Aberdeen), PGDE, Jennifer Lane, BEdMus (RSAMD), Fraser McKain, BA Creative Sound Production, PGDE Secondary Music Teaching

**Physical Education:** Hamish Townshend MA Physical Education, MSc Education Research (The University of Edinburgh), Mark Gair, BEd hons (Edin), Heather Clark, Bed Hons (Edin), Daniel Lane, Bed Hons (Edin), Holly MacKay, BEd (Hons) Physical Education (Edinburgh), Jamie Terris, BSc Hons Applied Sport & Exercise Science (Aberdeen), PGDE PE (Edinburgh), Shannon McCafferty, MA(Hons) Physical Education (Edinburgh University), Tristan Cumming, MA (hons) Physical Education (Edinburgh University), Stephanie Bain, BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science (Edinburgh Napier University) PGDE (Strathclyde University) Lifespan Nutrition and Food, Culture and Human Nutrition (Robert Gordon University), Alisha Arshad, MA (Hons) Physical Education (Edinburgh University) Andrew Kelly

**Sports Coordinator:** Matthew McLachlan

**Physics:** Stephen A Bakke, BSc(Lon), PGCE, Ricky Thorbjornsen BSc (Edinburgh), PGCE (Edinburgh), Callum Ferguson, BSc (Hons) Physics (St Andrews), PGDE (Edin), Kenneth Hodge BSc Science Studies (Strathclyde) PGDE (Strathclyde), Robert Herriott, BEng Hons Mechanical Engineering(Heriot Watt), PGDE(Edinburgh)

**Religious and Moral Education:** Hannah Downey, MA Hons Religious Studies (University of Edinburgh), PGDE (University of Glasgow), Kirsty Munro, MA Hons Religious Studies (University of Edinburgh), PGDE (University of Strathclyde)

**Careers Adviser:** Louise Winser, Silvia Antonacci, Aneta Cairney

**Librarian:** Stephen Shiels BSc (Hons) Geography (Glasgow), PGDip (Strathclyde), MCLIP

**Administrative Staff:** Amanda Heatherill CIMA, Amy Choi, Shirley Duncan BA(Accts) (Heriot Watt), (Edinburgh), Elizabeth Sneddon, Sara Belhawia, Marcus Tse

**School Support Assistants:** Lindsay Quinn, Alexandra Graure, Zuzana Miles, Claire Smith, Dawn Lamb

**CEC Instrumental Music Staff:** Guitar - Gordon Ferries - BA Music Studies (Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama) ALCM (Napier University) LLCM (Napier University), Brass – Gareth Ross, Woodwind – Simon Rennard, Piano and Keyboard – Suzanne Senior - ALCM (Piano performance diploma), LGSM (Piano teaching diploma), Percussion & Drumming –Vini Bonnar and David Jeans, Violin / Viola – June Nelson, Voice – Simone Sahyouni BA Hons (Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama), Cello – Justyna Jablonska, Double Bass – Carole Melrose - BA Musical Studies (Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama), Neil Cameron, double bass and bass guitar

**Community Police Officer:** PC Samera Ashraf

**Senior Service Support Officer:** Mark Gilchrist

**Service Support Officers:** Stevie Burns, Darren McKee, Billy Meldrum

**ICT Technician:** Lindsay Miller, Robaidh MacKinnon

**Laboratory Technicians:** Morven Butler, Joanne Farrell, Wei Qing, Ruth Hunter

**Workshop Technician:** Kevin McQueen

**Counsellors:** Rolain Bradbeer, Jo Jones

**Catering Supervisor:** Diamantino Da Silva



### **SCHOOL SONG**

Vivas, Schola Edinensis  
Schola Regia venerabilis:  
Sicut arx in colle sita -  
Sicut sol e nubibus densis -  
Splendes, splendeas in aeternum,  
Alma Mater atque amabilis.

Refrain: Vivas, Schola Regia!  
Vivas, Schola Regia!  
Vivas, Vivas, Schola Regia!

Liberi tui te laudamus  
Laeto omnium cum clamore  
Et cum multis posthac annis  
Tui, quam iuvenes amabamus,  
Senes rursus meminerimus,  
Vi clamabimus haud minore:

Refrain: Vivas, Schola Regia!  
Vivas, Schola Regia!  
Vivas, Vivas, Schola Regia!

# The Royal High School



## Annual Report

## Introduction

### Headteachers Annual Report, 2023/24 Session

As the 2023/24 session draws to a close it is a great pleasure to look back over our year and reflect on all that has taken place in The Royal High School. This year has been a really busy one and full of activities and events. I hope you are enjoying reading all about our year in our annual report.

In August we opened with our S1 ceremony. It was a delight to see our new S1 parade through our school grounds and in through our memorial door to start their journey as an RHS pupil. Captain Melissa Thomson ably led the parade, which was piped by previous school Captain Iain Dunlop. This was an especially historic event as the new S1 pupils in 2023 will be our leavers in June 2028, the year our school turns 900.

As we moved through the school year, we have taken part in many wider achievement events including sports, clubs, and competitions. Our extra-curricular program was back to full strength and over 40 clubs met across the week. These included a very wide range such as sports and arts to chess, Lego and Dungeons & Dragons. Truly something for everyone!

We also held a number of trips and excursions. As well as many local trips across Edinburgh and the Lothians we held outdoor education for S1 in Bridge 8 and S2 in Fordell Firs. Over 150 of our S3 pupils attended the Battlefields RESPECT trip in Belgium. We continue to build on our trips program in line with our educational and equity policy and we have a new and improved program planned for 2024/25. These are always fantastic events for our young people with many memories made.

We have a number of groups and committees which young people lead alongside staff. These include our equalities groups, sports ambassadors, Humanutopia heroes, Eco committee and more. All of these groups have added a great deal of value to our school community and led us forward on really important issues such as gender equalities, vaping, anti-bullying and violence prevention.

Our senior School Captain Team of Melissa Thomson, Markus Illingworth and Cameron Allan demonstrated strong leadership throughout the whole year ensuring young people were at the heart of all the decisions we made. They met with the Nation Council, organised events and rallied the Nations towards the Crichton Cup. Our Captains and Nation Captains also attended the Edinburgh and London FP Club dinners and amazed our former pupils with their stories of RHS 2024. They have represented themselves incredibly well and I look forward to hearing about their successful pathways post school.

Parents are key partners in the school, and we want to continue to involve them fully. We have a very active Parent Council who give us great support throughout the year in many ways including responding to local and national consultations. Our meetings are now hybrid both in our Boardroom and on TEAMS. This has worked well to accommodate all parents who wish to access the meetings and with some technology tweaks we are getting better at managing this successfully. Please see the Chairs report to see the issues our Parent Council have been working on this year. I am particularly pleased to see the results of over 10 years campaigning to improve the safety of the Queensferry Road entrance for young people. The works on this are now complete and this road will reduce to a 30MPH in the summer further increasing safety for our routes to school. Our Parent Council Chair, Chris Davison, leaves us this year. Chris has very ably led the Parent Council

for the last 5 years and has been a great support to the school ensuring that we took account of the parents views. I want to thank him for all his hard work and determination to make a difference for all young people.

The Royal High School Parent Fundraising Group have continued to successfully support the school with both on-line fundraising and their support at events. They had a successful fundraising year with money raised to support departmental bids and these will allow us to start some brand-new initiatives and projects in the school. Please read more about this later in our report.

We believe in keeping parents well informed and our email bulletin continues to be very popular with parents ensuring they receive regular updates on what's happening in the school. This has enabled us to conduct a number of parental surveys which ensures parent voice is very strong in everything we do. We make use of our website [www.royalhigh.edin.sch.uk](http://www.royalhigh.edin.sch.uk) and a Twitter/X feed @Royal\_High\_Sch both of which we use to share news and events. This is all consolidated in our parent app which keeps parents up to date with all our methods of communication.

Our school has strong links with our Former Pupils. Both the Edinburgh and London clubs work very closely with the school and support us in many ways including attending our events and services, providing work experience, giving inspirational talks and mentoring. Many of our FPs continue to work with us both in person on-line. This year the Edinburgh FP Club President continues to be Mr Russell Ogg who is a great support to the work of the school. School Historian, Alastair Allanach, continues to contribute to our rich history. This year Alastair has created a timeline of The Royal High School and interviewed our long-standing staff leavers.

Pre-Easter we once again said goodbye to our senior leavers. Breakfast in Form classes was followed by a silent disco, photo memories and the now infamous Science Band! As they were piped down the drive by Fraser Douglas there were more than a few tears as we waved goodbye to an amazing group of now RHS FPs who have inspired us all with their resilience and adaptability.

During 2023/4 we said goodbye to some long-standing members of staff.

Mr Davy Allan, Teacher of CDT (35 years) left us in May. Mr Allan has seen many changes to both the school and his subject during his time in The Royal High and has helped numerous pupils through vocational courses in CDT which have led them on to positive future careers. Mr Allan attended a number of successful residential trips to Laganlia. He was also an incredibly talented craftsman and has supported many school shows with backdrops and props made to order. We wish him all the very best in his retirement.

Mrs Kate Fraser, Depute Headteacher (25 years) leaves us at the summer to take up post as Headteacher of Boroughmuir High School. Mrs Fraser started the school as a teacher of History and her talent as a leader was quickly recognised as she was promoted to Curricular Leader and then Depute Headteacher in 2017. Mrs Fraser was an incredible teacher and school leader who is well known for ensuring success for young people at all levels. For many years she led the schools Battlefields/RESPECT trip to the WW1 battlefields in Belgium and France which has inspired numerous young people to consider how they can positively influence the world. Mrs Fraser led the

‘Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion’ area of the school for a number of years and was recognised nationally when this was graded as ‘Excellent’ in our HMIE Inspection in 2022. Mrs Fraser will be greatly missed and we wish her luck in her new school.

Mr Iain Welsh, Curricular Leader Support for Pupils (Angles) (16 years) joined the school in 2008 as a teacher of History before being promoted to Curricular Leader of Support for Pupils in 2009. As well as ably leading his Angles caseload, Mr Welsh was integral in reinstating the school’s rugby program and gaining support from the Scottish Rugby Union to fund a Head of Rugby and development officer in the school. He also led a very successful rugby tour to South Africa. Mr Welsh is passionate about getting it right for young people and established our positive referral system based on our motto of We Belong Here which inspires our pupils to do their best to be positive contributors in the school. Mr Welsh joins ESMS as The Head of Sixth Form and we wish him all the very best in his new role.

Ms Ashley Fulton, Teacher of Geography (12 years) left in September 2023 for a new role closer to home. Ms Fulton was a great advocate for supporting young people and as well as promoting Geography she regularly led our trips and excursions.

Shirley Duncan, Admin Officer (11 years) left us in April as she retired from her role. Mrs Duncan ably ran the school office and finances for 11 years and worked through many systems changes. She retires to spend more time with her family and we hope she is enjoying her well-deserved free time.

Ms Natali Fraser, Youth Worker (5 years) leaves us in the summer to help setup a new NHS youth work opportunity. Ms Fraser has supported numerous young people who needed a wee bit extra help and has helped them flourish.

We also had 4 probationer teachers complete their induction year with us this year. James Tomlin (HE), Alisha Arshad (PE), Aimiee Bird (English) and Samuel Luiji (French & Italian) all successfully passed their probation year and we wish them all the very best for their future careers.

A number of other staff moved on throughout the year. Ms Emilia Tankard, Teacher of CDT, Ms Joanna Withers, Pupil Support Officer, Mr David Tulloch, Teacher of CDT, Ms Shannon Moffat Teacher of Biology and Mr Neil Millington Teacher of Maths.

At the end of June we have other staff leaving - Georgia Grierson Teacher of PE, Steven Havelin (Pupil Support Assistant), Lisa McLaughlin (Pupil Support Assistant) and Allana White (English). We want to thank them for all their work during their time with us. Ms Nicola Hammond also starts her maternity leave and we wish her all the very best with her new arrival.

Mr Alastair Robertson (English) and Mr Dougie Arbuckle (CL English) remain on secondment at present. Mr Mark Gair who has been on secondment as Depute Headteacher in Craigmount is due to return to us in August and we want to thank Mr Hamish Townsend who has been acting up for him during 2023/4.

Ms Suzanne Senior, IMS Piano Instructor for 14 years and Ms Carole Melrose, IMS Double Bass Instructor of Instrumental Music Service for 37 years also left us this year. Both have ably supported numerous pupils over the years who have achieved music qualifications and taken part in shows and events.

We were very sorry to announce that Liz Brown our much-loved day cleaner died suddenly in March. She is greatly missed and our thoughts and prayers continue to be with all her friends and family.

As we approach the end of term, we have a chance to reflect on all that has happened over our year. Our end of year ceremonies during June are always very special to us and celebrate the wide and varied success of our young people. It is always incredibly humbling to hear about all the different award winners from right across our school community. Sharing this with friends and family makes it all the more special and we look forward to Wider Achievement, Prizegiving and our Leavers ceremony.

Our school is expanding and we now have a roll of over 1500. Our temporary huts will leave us over the summer as our new much anticipated Woodland Wing opens in August with a conference space, 6 new class rooms, offices and a metal workshop. Our History and modern Studies faculty will be based in this amazing new space.

As we approach our 900th anniversary, we are excited to introduce the **Royal High 900th Foundation**, a charity dedicated to creating connections and raising funds to ensure that The Royal High School continues to evolve and thrive in its mission to provide unparalleled educational opportunities for all. The goals are to:

- To create a network of former pupils internationally who have collectively travelled 900,000 miles.
- To gather a minimum of 900 former pupil profiles on 'My Journey from The Royal High School', to be used to inspire and motivate current pupils.
- Create opportunities to enhance and develop engagement and involvement with alumni, parents and friends of the school in both school activities and fundraising initiatives.
- To raise £900,000 to support our current school community.

We hope you will all get involved in ensuring the rich history of our school.

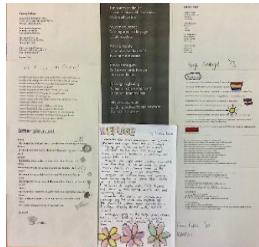
Across an incredible time span The Royal High School has always been at the forefront of educational development over its long and illustrious history and we continue to be recognised nationally. We embrace our traditions and histories as well as providing innovative learning for our young people. Our motto 'We Belong Here' matters, and it is important we provide the right support and opportunities for all our young people to learn and thrive. As we approach our 900<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2028 we strive to provide the very best for all our community. We firmly believe in 'We Belong Here' and are committed to living this every day.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff for their work, energy, and commitment and all our many partners, parents and carers who all make The Royal High School such a special place. I am so proud to be the Headteacher of such an outstanding school.

Viva Schola Regia!  
Mrs Pauline Walker  
Headteacher

## English and Media

It has been another busy and enjoyable year for the English and Media Faculty, with lots of successes and initiatives to share. In August, almost all of our S2 pupils attended events at the Edinburgh International Book Festival. The events were free, and pupils were also given a free book at each one with some even managing to get them signed by the author. We are looking forward to taking more pupils to this year's event in August.



In October, we celebrated National Poetry Day with a week of poetry writing for all BGE classes. S1 pupils wrote a memory poem, S2 wrote a love and hate poem, and S3 tackled haikus, all with the theme of refuge. Prizes were the school values – Creativity, Aspiration and Achievement. Next year, we are looking forward to celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of poet and RHS FP Robert Fergusson, as the timing of this coincides with poetry week.



In November the S3 media class received free tickets to see the movie "Polite Society" at the Cameo Cinema as part of the Into Film festival. A Bollywood inspired action comedy that was aimed at an 11+ audience, the movie was a big hit with the class. Pupils also really engaged with the issues around race, gender, and diversity that the movie addressed. Overall, the trip was a great success, and the pupils were a credit to the school. Also in November, Dr Moonie hosted a parental engagement event on RUAE, which is one of the most challenging aspects of Higher English. This was very well-received, and we hope to run similar sessions next year.

The faculty continues to run lots of clubs, including debating, comic book film club, gender equalities and creative writing. It has been another busy and successful year for our debaters. We had two senior pupils reach the semi-final of the Donald Dewar Memorial Debating Tournament, which involved participation in three heats. In September, a group of eight senior debaters travelled to Liverpool for the European Youth Parliament's Autumn Nationals Session and one was chosen to go on to an International Event. We also hosted the East of Scotland Regionals for EYP in March. A team of juniors also participated in the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service's Schools' Public Speaking Competition. We continue to enjoy weekly debates within the lunchtime clubs, and it is inspiring to witness the passion in our pupils about issues affecting the world. Dr Hendry often finds herself running out of chairs due to the popularity of her Wednesday afternoon Creative Writing Club. One of her writers, Sienna in S1, won the Scottish Book Trust's 50-word story competition.



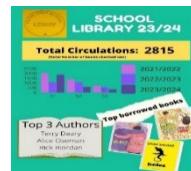
Gender Equalities continue to meet weekly to discuss any, and all issues related to gender. This year, the group have contributed to Edinburgh Council's #respecterspace campaign, created resources for classes, and have been grateful for input sessions from our wonderful community police link around rights, safety, and the law. We have also run a variety of campaigns throughout the school for International Men's Day, International Women's Day, and International Transgender Day of Visibility, focussing on role models, inclusion and respect.



## School Library

Mr Rooney and school librarian Mr Shiels have been working towards the Reading Schools Accreditation. This is a programme for schools that are committed to building a reading culture for their learners and communities. Research proves that reading for pleasure is central in supporting equity and wellbeing, positively impacting learners' attainment across the curriculum, critical thinking, creativity, empathy and resilience. The RHS has now submitted its application to be accredited as a Reading School with the Scottish Book Trust and is hopeful to be accepted soon. This would make the RHS one of the first schools in Edinburgh to be given the award!

We are looking forward to another busy and fulfilling academic year in 2024/2025.



Welcome to our school library report! We want to keep you informed about the exciting activities and developments happening in our library to support your child's reading and learning. Here's a summary of what we've been up to:

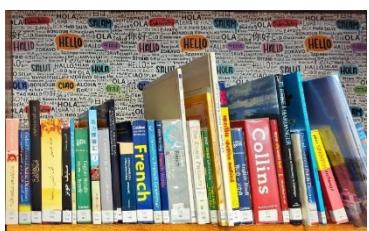
This year's library budget was £500, primarily spent on new fiction titles. A small portion addressed specific student requests and replaced damaged popular books. Rising book prices and unreturned books have limited our purchasing power. Could I appeal that school library book items are returned on time, and overdue emails/ group calls are acted upon.

Edinburgh school librarians secured funding from the Scottish Library Information Council (SLIC) for the **"This Library is for Everyone"** project. This initiative supports creating diverse and inclusive school libraries, involving stock reviews, identifying gaps, and filling them based on pupil role data. Some RHS pupils attended the project launch in March at Liberton H.S.



To further reflect our school community, we've collaborated with Mr Kassime's Racial Equalities group. S6 students reviewed and removed outdated non-fiction titles and secured Scottish government funding to enhance the diversity of our non-fiction. The group will select new books next year.

## EAL (English as an Additional Language) Library Collection



We have established an EAL Library Collection with books in Arabic, Hindi, Cantonese, and Polish. Despite challenges in sourcing suitable titles for 12-16-year-olds, we aim to expand this collection. Donations of books in Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese/Mandarin, Farsi/Iranian/Persian, Hindi/Kannada, Italian, Polish, Punjabi/Urdu, and Ukrainian are welcome.

Overall library borrowing has remained steady, with increased S1 reading offsetting a national trend decline. However, the S2 and S3 classes borrowing continues to decline. The library is open during breaks and most lunchtimes, serving as a safe space. However, the new stair maglock doors have restricted access, reducing opportunities for pupils to visit. "fewer than one in three children (28%) aged eight to 18 read daily for enjoyment. While this remains the same as for 2022, the

figure stood at 38% when the survey began in 2005, marking a 26% fall in those who read daily." - **Children and Young People's Reading in 2023, The National Literacy Trust**

### **Supporting English Classes:**

The library supports S1-S3 English classes by providing reading opportunities and encouraging reading at home. In August, myself and Mrs Waterland organised S2 trips to the Edinburgh International Book Festival, funded by the EIBF and with funding for coach travel for the morning events. Pupils attended the free events and received copies of the authors' latest books. The festival offers numerous benefits, such as:



- Inspiration and Motivation:** Meeting authors can inspire teens to read more or start writing.
- Exposure to Diverse Perspectives:** The festival features authors from various backgrounds, broadening teens' understanding.
- Improved Literacy Skills:** Listening to authors enhances comprehension and analytical skills.
- Enhanced Critical Thinking:** Q&A sessions encourage critical thinking and articulation.
- Cultural Enrichment:** The festival exposes teens to a mix of literature, art, and ideas.
- Encouragement to Pursue Creative Careers:** Teens learn about varied paths to success in creative fields.
- Access to New Books and Authors:** The festival helps teens discover new authors and genres.
- Engagement in Educational Activities:** Workshops and discussions provide dynamic learning experiences.

### **Book Week Scotland**

For Book Week Scotland, some S3 classes participated in a live-streamed event with Neil Gaiman, author of "Good Omens," "Sandman," "American Gods," and "Coraline," as part of the British Libraries' Fantasy: Realms of Imagination exhibition. This was a valuable opportunity to hear from a renowned fantasy author.

### **Library Events/Activities:**

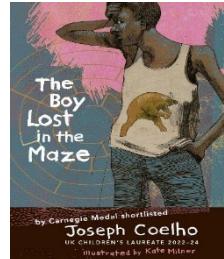
Throughout the year, we organised various events and activities to engage students and promote a love for reading. Here are some highlights:



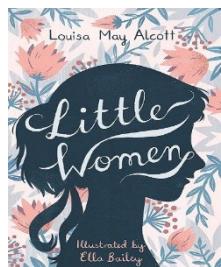
- Banned Books Week (September):** Display and PowerPoint presentation on banned or challenged books, reminding us of our freedom to access a wide range of books in the UK.
- Black History Month (October):** Display of books celebrating UK Black history and culture, including new diverse stock.
- Book Week Scotland (November):** Display and promotion encouraging student participation in Book Week Scotland.
- Dyslexia Awareness Day (November):** Showcase of Barrington Stoke titles to raise awareness and provide suitable reading materials for students with dyslexia.
- LGBT Month (February):** Display of new LGBTQ-themed books and an online author event with Juno Dawson.
- World Book Day (March):** Book tokens emailed to students.

- **International Women's Day & Women's History Month (March):** Display celebrating women's achievements and contributions.
- **Autism Awareness Week (March):** Library display to raise awareness about autism and provide myth-busting leaflets.

**P7 Enhanced Transition Groups (May):** ECR ambassadors held a Story Café session for P7 students, highlighting the benefits of reading in reducing stress and anxiety during the high school transition. P7 students have access to related fiction titles in the school library and Drumbrae Library Hub over the summer.



**Scottish Youth Parliament Elections:** The library supported candidates by recruiting, promoting, and facilitating the election process. RHS Abby Bissett was elected as MSYP for Edinburgh Western. <https://syp.org.uk/msyp/abby-bissett-msyp/>



**Reading Schools:** Assisting Mr Rooney in achieving Reading School status, with the submission for Core status currently awaiting outcome. Future goals include achieving Silver or Gold status. Reading Schools offers three accreditation levels designed to champion efforts to build and sustain a reading culture and is brought by Scottish Book Trust.

**BGE Book Group:** Fortnightly meetings on Wednesdays to read and discuss books. In August, they attended the book festival. Books the book group have been reading and discussing this year have been:

**Warhammer Club:** Meets Mondays and Tuesdays at lunchtime, and occasionally on Friday afternoons. School funding helped to buy the latest Leviathan boxset, which allows for pupils who can't afford to buy their own models the opportunity to build, paint and play. We signed up for the Warhammer Alliance, giving new S1 members their own models and introductory magazine.



**Library Volunteers:** Students assisted with library duties and wrote book reviews for Teen Titles magazine. Their exceptional help is greatly appreciated. For back copies of Teen Titles magazine and reviews by our volunteers, please visit this [link](#).

We hope this summary helps you understand our school library's activities and initiatives. We remain committed to promoting reading, inclusivity, and the joy of learning. If you have any questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Stephen Shiels  
Library Development Leader.

## Mathematics Department



The Mathematics Department is dedicated to providing a robust and comprehensive mathematics education. This year, we introduced new courses, including the National 5 (Nat 5) and Higher Applications of Mathematics, enhanced our curriculum, achieved notable success in various competitions, and strengthened our collaboration with local primary schools. The department has made considerable strides in curriculum development. We did a webinar with parents on new courses like National 5 and Higher application of Mathematics. The introduction of these courses has been well-received. These courses focus on the real-world applications of mathematical concepts in fields. It is designed to develop practical mathematical skills relevant to everyday life and various professions.

Our students also excelled in mathematics competitions; in the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Challenge, we saw an increase in participation this year with nearly 40 students from S1 and S2, with 4 students receiving Gold, 4 Silver, and 12 Bronze awards.

They recently attended award ceremonies at the Edinburgh Napier University. Congratulations to both!



In an effort to inspire and encourage female students to pursue careers in STEM fields, the department organised events where women working in male-dominated career areas shared their experiences. These professionals brought with them activities related to their fields for the S4 girls to try. This initiative was well-received and had a significant impact on the students, providing them with role models and hands-on experience in STEM activities.



The Mathematics Department has actively collaborated with local cluster primary schools to support early mathematics education and ensure a smooth transition for students advancing to secondary school. Mrs Watson has been leading on this initiative. We also worked very closely with Mrs Patterson to deliver enhanced transition sessions for P7s. Looking ahead, the department aims to continue refining the new courses and explore the introduction of more pathways for our young learners. We will look forward to strengthening partnerships with local universities and industries, which will provide students with real-world learning opportunities. For example, we have a group of young women who have been offered a fantastic opportunity to work with KPMG over two days where they will interact with inspirational speakers working in STEM industry. They will start their journey on their mentoring programme to help them succeed in the early stages of their career.

## Science



This session we have lost two members of staff to very exciting opportunities. Miss Moffatt decided to take a trip to see the world. She made it through Thailand and Malaysia and last we heard she was on her way to a teaching post in Australia. Good luck to her! Miss Masterson is still in school but has moved to a whole-school role of supporting those pupils at risk of not achieving. We were very lucky

to secure Jed Flint and Mairi Gallagher to replace them and they are fitting in very nicely. Welcome to the team. Mrs Hammond is expecting her first child in the summer. We wish her and her new family well. While she is on maternity leave, we welcome two new entrants to the profession in the shape of Mrs White and Mr Tew.

We are at a transition point in our development of a new S1/2 Integrated Science course. We have just completed a re-write of our course with a focus on the assessment of skills. We are only part of the way through the process of using these assessments to agree a level at which pupils are working and using a benchmark of P7 numeracy achievement to provide a bespoke progress level from that benchmark. Much work remains to be done.



The post-covid return to trips out of school has perhaps understandably given most opportunities to our senior pupils. Our Advanced Higher Biology group went to a conference by the Physiology Society and the Royal College of Surgeons Christmas Lecture with Mr Rutter. The Advanced Higher Biology class (with Mr Rutter and Miss Coleman) visited former pupil Professor David Patterson at St Andrews University. Whilst there they had a guided tour of the facilities, talks from researchers and a chance to try out a practical investigation looking at Biological monitoring and use of renewable fuels. Mr Ferguson took the Advanced Higher Physicists to Craigmount High School for a talk by Prof. Martin Hendry, Professor of Gravitational Astrophysics and Cosmology at the University of Glasgow, on “Exploring the Dark Side of the Universe”. Miss Ewart and Mrs Hammond took our Higher Biologists to The National Museum to experience and explore applications of the Polymerase Chain Reaction. And Mr Ferguson and Mr Thorbjornsen took several of our S3 girls studying Physics to Woodmill High School in Dunfermline to a Girls into Physics and Engineering event.

As always at this time of the year, our thoughts are with those taking up new adventures beyond school, and for those awaiting exam results in August. Good luck to them all.



## Business & Computing

The Business & Computing faculty had another busy year, with many staffing changes. Mrs Saunders left in the summer and jetted off on a world tour, while Ms Reith pulled off a 're-branding' stepping down from Curricular Leader but continues to be part of the team, teaching Computing part-time. With Ms Reith 're-branding' Mrs Reed was appointed Curricular Leader. S3 students had a blast at the Robotarium at Heriot Watt. Soaking in the wisdom from a robotics engineer and exploring the mind-bending Imagineering Suite. Plus, Digital Day rocked on as students teamed up with Leith to cook up a digital masterpiece for a business challenge.



## HWB Faculty

It has been another busy year for the HWB faculty. We welcomed some outstanding new staff members: Miss Arshad, Mr. Tomlin, Miss Grierson, Miss Bain, and Mr. Cumming. Within Home



Economics, there have been several additions and projects. We introduced a wide range of new courses, including our Nurture Baking groups, 'Bains Bakes', and incorporated the REHIS food hygiene award into the HE academies. Additionally, we have developed an Early Learning and Childcare course, set to launch next year.

In Physical Education, we have expanded our academies programme, including the introduction of our Aquadamy, where students achieved their Rookie Lifeguard awards, and the Minecraft Academy, where students explored eSports and team-building challenges. Furthermore, our certificated courses continued their outstanding work. Firstly, the National and Higher Dance courses performed at various school events this year and partnered with Craigmount High School to conduct dance workshops. Secondly, the NPA Sport & Fitness group visited Spartans Football Club to hear from their CEO about the club's journey. Thirdly, the NPA Sports Development group delivered sport intervention projects to target groups across the school. Lastly, our National and Higher PE groups rose to the challenge of returning to two performance assessments this year across a wide range of sports, with some students progressing next year onto the new Digital Consortia Advanced Higher PE course.

We are proud of the hard work and achievements of our faculty and students this year and look forward to continuing our growth and success in the coming year.

## Extra-Curricular Sport

It has been an excellent year for extracurricular sports, marked by outstanding successes, exciting new opportunities, and fantastic new volunteers who have greatly supported our students. This year, we introduced several new clubs, including a girls' swimming group, gymnastics club, junior basketball, and U14 girls' rugby.



Among many successes, the following were some of this year's highlights:

- Senior Boys' Football: Lothian Schools League Winners

- RHS Ski Race Team: Second place in the Boyd Anderson Ski Cup, with Lucy G winning fastest girl
- U16 Boys' Rugby: East of Scotland Schools League winners
- Senior Open A Netball: Scottish Cup quarter-finalists
- Senior Boys' Basketball: Scottish School Cup Semi-finalists
- S1 Girls' Cricket Team: Royal High Corstorphine Cricket Club U12 Softball Tournament winners
- Enhanced Support Provision: Participants in the Edinburgh Boccia Festival

Every club, competition, and event would have been impossible without our amazing volunteers. Thank you to all involved for their support. A special thank you goes to one of our former pupils, Euan Bryce, for his steadfast support of our football clubs for several years. This was his last season with us, and his impact over the years has been brilliant!

## Modern Languages



The Modern Languages Department continues to grow from strength to strength. In August we were delighted to welcome Mr Samuele Lupi into the department and were ably supported by our S6 Languages Ambassadors. This year we increased our languages offering with Miss Eadie introducing Arabic Academies to S2 pupils and Mr Lupi introducing S1 Italian Academies and working with Italian learners in the senior phase. Corresponding with pupils in other countries continues to play an important role developing pupils' language skills and cultural awareness.

S3 Spanish pupils started a pen-pal exchange with a school in Peru and Mr Le Gall's S4 French also class had the opportunity to write to French pupils at a school in Lille.

In September S4 Spanish pupils had a visit from Mr. Román Navarro, a teacher from Spain who led a Spanish conversation workshop and gave a presentation about school life in his home city of Málaga. Pupils had prepared questions in Spanish to ask Mr Navarro to find out about the differences between school in Málaga with that of Scotland.

A number of visits took place this year. November saw Higher Spanish pupils attending an event at Edinburgh University about Invisible Women in Spanish History. In December, students of Italian were involved in the Italian Network, learning about David Rizzio and his role in the Scottish Court. Higher Spanish also attended an event at the University of Edinburgh courtesy of the Edinburgh Spanish Film Festival where they enjoyed a typical Spanish breakfast of hot chocolate and churros. It was a good opportunity to meet other Spanish students from the authority and have a look around the amazing new School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at the University.

In February, senior pupils took part in the annual Immersion Afternoon at the University of Edinburgh.



To coincide with DYW Week and course choice in January, S2 and S3 Spanish and French pupils had a visit from Steve Eadon, a former employee of Arsenal Football Club. He came to talk about the diverse and varied careers options in professional sport that are available if you speak more than

one language. Smaller groups of S2 also took part in Spanish and French workshops where they learned some football phrases and wrote their own match report.



Experiencing authentic food and drink continues to play an important role in developing learners' appreciation of language and culture. In May, S2 French pupils were treated to the delicacies of a French breakfast, following on from learning about food and drink in France. S3 Spanish learned about the unique culture of Spanish tapas and enjoyed a tapas tasting of their own in class, trying *tortilla española* (Spanish omelette) and *jamón serrano* (Serrano ham). Prior to exam leave, the Higher Spanish pupils celebrated their great performance in the Talking Assessments by taking a trip to Café Andaluz in Stockbridge where they tried a selection of traditional Spanish tapas, with the more adventurous even ordering *morcilla* (blood pudding) and *pulpo* (octopus).

### Craft Design & Technology (CDT)

The Craft, Design, and Technology (CDT) department at The Royal High School, has experienced a year marked by significant changes and exciting developments. We are proud to share the progress and achievements from this academic year, highlighting our commitment to enhancing student learning and maintaining our tradition of excellence.



### New Team of Teachers and Curricular leader for the department

This year, we welcomed a new team of teachers to the CDT department, each bringing a wealth of industry experience and fresh insights. Their diverse backgrounds and expertise have already made a substantial impact on our pupils and your experiences.

**Mr. Chris Leslie** joins us with a background in as a motorbike mechanic, bringing his hands-on expertise in woodwork and metalwork. His practical skills and real-world experience are invaluable assets to our pupils.

**Ms. Hannah Millard** comes from a career in architecture. Her design acumen and architectural perspective have enriched our curriculum, inspiring students to approach projects with both creativity and precision.

**Ms. Katie Taylor**, with her background in product design, brings a strong focus on user-centred design and innovation. Her knowledge is helping students understand the importance of market needs and functionality in their projects.

**Mr Liam Carragher** completes his first year as the Curriculum leader. He is excited to see the impact the staff have on the pupils experiences, attainment and skills learned.

Together, this fresh and dynamic team has been pivotal in revitalising our department, fostering an environment where pupils can explore, challenge, create, and excel.



A highlight of this year has been the setting up our new multi-purpose wood and metal workshop. This state-of-the-art facility is a testament to the RHS's commitment to providing top-tier resources for our students. Features of the new workshop include advanced machinery, flexible workspaces and a focus on safety and sustainability.



Looking ahead, we are excited to introduce Practical Metalwork as a new qualification. This addition, made possible by the school's significant investment in equipment and resources, will offer students new opportunities to develop their skills and prepare for careers in various technical fields where there is vast demand and the introduction of Creative Thinking skills with a key focus on entrepreneurial skills and problem solving in a creative way.

This year, we also bid farewell to **Mr. Davy Allan**, who retired after 35 years of dedicated service to The Royal High School. Mr. Allan's contributions to the school and the CDT department have been profound and far-reaching including a stint as Curricular leader, leading school trips, rugby coaching and extensive knowledge in woodworking.

Mr. Allan's legacy of dedication, mentorship, and excellence will continue to inspire the CDT department for years to come.

The 2023-2024 academic year has been a transformative period for the CDT department. With a new team of industry-experienced teachers, the opening of a cutting-edge workshop, and the heartfelt farewell to a beloved staff member, we are well-positioned for continued success and innovation. We look forward to the upcoming year with enthusiasm, confident that the advancements made this year will lead to even greater achievements for our pupils.

Oh and let's not forget the winning Christmas door was awarded to CDT.



### History and Modern Studies



The History and Modern Studies Faculty are shown here supporting International Men's Day. The Gender Equalities Group led by Miss Drummond and Miss Hogg had asked us to choose a personality trait that is important in male role models. Ms Lee MacLachlan (Curriculum Leader) Mrs Alison Gallagher ( Teacher of History) Ms Kirstin Drummond, Mr Haldane Fraser and Miss Amy Mcfarlane (Teachers of History & Modern Studies)



We welcomed three new teachers this year. Mr Haldane Fraser was appointed permanent full-time teacher of History & Modern Studies. Not only has he continued to be fantastic in the classroom but he has also thrown himself into the wider life of the school by setting up and running the Breakfast club.

We also welcomed Miss Amy Mcfarlane who was appointed permanent full-time teacher of History & Modern Studies. She has proven very popular with our young people with her creativity, and she has successfully led the History & Modern Studies club. In Modern Studies, Mr Ted Hall joined us for the year. One of our History teachers, Mr Alex Hagart, was appointed temporary CL Pupil Support until January 2025.





The History and Modern Studies faculty continues to be very busy with a high student uptake across all levels and great success in results. Teaching and learning continues to be one of our key strengths. We have been busy working through the priorities on our Improvement Plan, we are moving to an integrated approach in Social Studies in S1 and S2 and we are adapting the courses and assessments this Session.



**Introducing Level 5 NPA Criminology** We are very excited to be expanding our pathways and offering Level 5 NPA Criminology for the first time this year. We have two senior Criminology classes, Miss Drummond and Miss Mcfarlane have been busy developing this popular and intriguing new course. This new course offers students an engaging alternative pathway while gaining a level 5 qualification. Throughout the year, students will be assessed across three core units:



- **Crime in the Community:** This unit will focus on crime within the context of Edinburgh and Scotland, allowing students to analyse local crime data and trends.
- **Crime Scenes:** Students will delve into the procedures and techniques used to secure, analyse, and process evidence at crime scenes.
- **Crime and the Law in Scotland:** This unit explores the role of the courts, the legal justice system as well as exploring the causes and consequences of crime.

Assessments will be conducted at the end of each unit and will be open book, encouraging students to demonstrate their understanding of the topics as well as their critical thinking skills.

Students will also have the opportunity to:

- **Visit a local police station** where they can gain an insight into the daily duties of police officers.
- **Participate in active learning.** Pupils will roleplay and practice crime scene protocol, including fingerprint dusting and following evidence handling procedures.
- **Engage in cross-curricular learning with science.** This collaborative effort will allow pupils to explore forensic science techniques like swabbing for evidence and fingerprint analysis.

The course fosters valuable skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and research which are highly valued across various industries. This can enhance a student's employability in areas such as social services or paralegal work. This qualification can also be a stepping stone to further education in criminal justice, forensics, psychology, or law. By offering a mix of theoretical knowledge, practical experiences, and transferable skills development, NPA Level 5 Criminology equips students for success in various career paths within the criminal justice system and beyond.

## Digital literacy in History and Modern Studies



In History and Modern Studies, we have been using the iPads in creative ways to engage our learners. One such project saw History students working in groups to build trenches in WWI. Working in teams, pupils were able to demonstrate their knowledge of trench features and apply this within the world of Minecraft. This not only allowed pupils to gain a deeper understanding of the topic but they were able to develop digital literacy skills such as problem solving, communication and collaboration. Additionally, pupils were able to critically think about the design of trench elements while making room for creativity. The use of Minecraft injects a fun and interactive element into learning about History which in turn, increased student engagement and motivation.

## History and Modern Studies Club



This year, Miss Mcfarlane led the History and Modern Studies pupil club which quickly gained a dedicated weekly group of followers. The History and Modern Studies Club takes place every Thursday lunchtime for social subjects' enthusiasts. During this time, students in S1-S6 explore the past and engage

with today's world through exciting and engaging presentations and rich discussions. This has allowed pupils to learn from one another while developing key skills for learning, life and work. Such skills include confidence, creativity, leadership, communication and digital literacy.

This student-led club allows pupils to:

- **Stay Informed:** Each week, the club president delivers an update on the most current and important news events.
- **Deepen Knowledge:** Students take it in turns to present on a historical or current topic of their choice. Past presentations have covered everything from US politics to women's suffrage movements, empires, historical figures, and even the history of transport. As pupils are given choice, they can explore topics they are passionate about. This self-directed learning leads to a deeper understanding and allows pupils to build confidence in public speaking and creating presentations. Additionally, it exposes the club to a variety of exciting topics, fostering a rich learning experience for all.
- **Discuss and debate:** a key element of the club is the supportive environment where pupils can present their findings, participate in open discussions, ask insightful questions and give constructive feedback to their peers. This valuable exchange encourages critical thinking and communication skills.

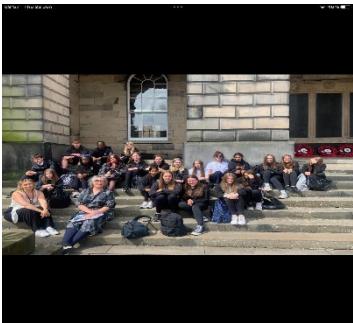
## The Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club continues to provide a positive start for more than 50 students every morning. With the help of the Parent Council, the Breakfast Club recently entered the Tesco Groundwork competition and was awarded the maximum funding having received the most votes in local Tesco stores. This will provide an additional £1500 to support the running of the club. Well done to Mr Fraser for creating this important club and for overseeing the daily management of it.



## Anti-racist Curriculum

As a faculty we are committed to having an anti-racist curriculum. We have introduced a joint Modern Studies-History Diversity competition in S2 where students research and present a group project on their chosen area of Diversity. This ties in with whole-school Culture week.



Mr Fraser also organised a trip for S4 History students, where they took part in a Black History Walking Tour. Led by Lisa Williams, head of the Edinburgh Caribbean Society and honorary scholar at the University of Edinburgh, the walking tour took place in

Edinburgh city centre and introduced our pupils to their city's deep links to the Atlantic Slave Trade. The experience also helped to add greater relevance to the Atlantic Slave Trade unit studied in class.



## Minitrials – Edinburgh Sheriff Court



The Modern Studies department took S4-S5 pupils to participate in the Minitrials at the Sheriff Court in Edinburgh. In the lead up to the event, pupils were supported by lawyers from the Crown Office and Criminal defence lawyers. On the day the two teams were up against stiff competition in their trial cases and argued very strong prosecution and defence cases. We have some exceptional aspiring lawyers at RHS!

## Visiting Speaker - PC Ashraf



We welcomed our school community police officer PC Ashraf to the Modern Studies department. PC Ashraf met with our S3 cohort, who are learning about crime and the law, and delivered a presentation on the role of the police in our society. She even handcuffed some of our troublesome S3's...

## Conferences



Students had the opportunity to take part in various conferences to deepen their knowledge and understanding. Higher Modern Studies pupils took part in the Politics and International Relations Conference at the Mary Erskine School. Senior pupils were able to engage with workshops and meet University representatives to explore Degree options.

Advanced Higher History students attended a conference on Japanese History run by George Watsons which featured a dissertation workshop and a lecture from a visiting Historian. The students got a lot out of mixing with young people from other schools and peer learning individual dissertation topics. The visiting historian gave a lecture on Meiji restoration and our students engaged very well with this, asking insightful questions. All in all this both conferences were excellent experiences and our young people show-cased the very best of the Royal High School in the process.

The Advanced Higher Modern Studies class attended George Watsons College for the annual AH Crime & Law Conference. This gave pupils an opportunity to attend



workshops focused on aiding the pupils' primary research for their dissertations. These seminars were run by a mix of professionals who work across the Law & Justice sector including, police officers, judges, procurator fiscals and charity workers, this allowed pupils a variety of choice in the workshop they attended and gave them the opportunity to ask insightful questions regarding their dissertation topic. The class were model pupils during the conference, as they have been all year in class, they will be sorely missed in the department – particularly for Thursday bake days!

## **Gender Equalities**

Outside of the classroom, the faculty continue to play a very important part in the wider life of the school through both leadership roles and extra-curricular activities. Across the Session Miss Drummond and Miss Hogg have continued to raise awareness around gender equality issues in school against the backdrop of the "Year of the Women." For staff, they arranged a visit by Alan Bisset, the author of "Lads", who delivered a whole staff CPD session, and set up a staff reading group to discuss the themes covered in the book. They have developed BGE gender equalities courses for Health & Wellbeing, Literacy and Social Education to ensure discussions on gender equalities were an integral part of their education. Furthermore, they met with faculties across the school to understand the ways gender equalities impacts subjects differently and developed support to navigate these issues. They continued to work with guidance and provide educational sessions to pupils. For pupils, they launched events around International Men's Day, International Women's Day and Trans Visibility Day, which was ran by our pupil groups.

## **Geography, Classical Studies and RMPS**

Geography - Mr Ferriman (CL), Miss Doran, Mrs Goudie, Mrs McDonald

Classical Studies – Mr Pagonas, Mr Sewell

RME/RMPS – Miss Downey, Miss Munro

It has been another successful year in Geography, Classical Studies and RMPS with an increase in students taking subjects in the faculty across all levels. We said goodbye to Mrs Fulton, a long-time and very popular member of the Geography department but welcomed in Mrs Goudie and Miss Doran who have fitted in seamlessly. The Classical Studies department has also expanded with Mr Pagonas joining us. As a faculty we are focused on ensuring there are curricular pathways to suit the needs of all learners and have added in National 5 Environmental Science and Advanced Higher Classical Studies to our course offerings for next session, and Classical Studies has also been added to the S2 curriculum.

## **Geography**

We have taken every opportunity for experiential learning, with all our S3s visiting Loch Lomond in the pouring rain (a proper Scottish National Park experience), Highers conducting river fieldwork on the Water of Leith to collect data for their Assignment, and Advanced Highers doing a variety of fieldwork from soil and slope analysis on Corstorphine Hill to land use mapping and environmental quality surveys in Edinburgh.



## Travel and Tourism



Travel and Tourism offers National 4 and National 5 qualifications without the pressure of an end-of-year exam, as work is collated in a portfolio throughout the year. Mrs McDonald has led a variety of trips making the most of Edinburgh as a tourist hub, including, the Royal Highland Show and students getting to experience working as cabin crew in a model plane at Edinburgh College.

## Classical Studies

Classical Studies continues to be very popular at The Royal High, and as a result the department has expanded to two full time teachers. The subject is also a sector leader in digital learning and students have produced some very creative work, including video guides to the underworld and 3D tours of Greek theatres made on Minecraft. The incredibly popular Dungeons and Dragons club has returned this year, and it has been great to see so many taking part and making new friends.



## RME/RMPS



RMPS has had another successful year, adding in a National class and very strong uptake at Higher. This year S3 pupils took part in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative where they raised awareness for a chosen charity and after a close final, the winning group got to donate £3000 to the Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity. Higher RMPS pupils also enjoyed a visit to the University of Edinburgh's Alwaleed Centre and the Central Mosque to learn more about Islamic studies to complement their Higher course.

## Duke of Edinburgh

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh was offered again as an Academy choice in S3. This year Ms Downey's class survived all sorts of weather on their practice expedition in the Pentlands and are currently gearing up for the final one.



Check out our faculty Twitter for regular updates - [@RHS\\_GeoClaRE](https://twitter.com/RHS_GeoClaRE)

## Art, Fashion & Textiles & Photography Department



**Art & Design:** Sharon Black BA (Hons) - Painting (ECA), PGCE (EDI), Ruth Ansell, BA (Hons) – Textile Design (GSA), MA – Design Practice & Management (GLA), PGDE (EDI), Julie Howie BA Hons (Robert Gordon), PGCE, Emma Elizabeth Boyd BA (Hons) Art & Design (ECA), PGDE (EDI), Julie Abrahams BA (Hons) Illustration and Painting (ECA), PGDE (EDI)

**Advanced Higher Art and Higher Photography exhibition** Students showcased their work from their Advanced Higher folio in an exhibition in the art department. It was amazing to see families, teachers and students enjoying walking around the exhibition. We asked visitors to leave feedback,

here are just a few of them. "A stunning folio of work, so original, never seen anything like it!".....  
"Beautiful costume design, what amazing sewing skills."....."I hope I can draw graphics like this when I'm in S6!"

### Creative Academies Success- Junk Kouture, London Finalists and World Final Finalists



CONGRATULATIONS-Miss Ansell & Mrs Boyd have two successful S3 Academy Junk Kouture groups who gained a place in the London final 2024. Hugh Smart & Naomi Miller- Steam Punk Desire, Amber Redpath, Emily Donald and Chloe Brian-Caught in a net. They beat designs from across Scotland, Wales and England to be selected as two of the top 50 in the uk. To add a cherry on top, Hugh and Naomi's design then went on to gain a place in the World Final! !! This is the second time that RHS Art department have gained a place in the World Final. The last one took place in Abu Dhabi. Still to find out where they will be jetting off to, to compete against Paris, Milan, Dublin, New York and Dubai. This will be a trip of a lifetime for these very talented and deserving students. Follow us on insta to watch the world finalist's journey!



### We raised Over £500 raised for Charity!

#### Event-Art Xmas Card Auction for Maggie's Centre



Students across S1-3 created Xmas cards, re-cycling old cards painting on top of them to create some amazing images. Parents and staff then had an opportunity to purchase these through making a donation. The money raised was over £300 donated to Maggie's Center. Thank you so much to those who bought their child's Xmas card. Maggie's centre were very grateful for the donation.

Winning Xmas card chosen by the Head Teacher to represent RHS was by Holly Gall 2G1.

### Cash For Kids

Mrs Black raised £250 for Cash for kids at Xmas time by doing 2-minute Pet Portraits for staff to buy.

### Competition Winner

Young Emerging Commercial Artist Competition of 2024.

Erin Do Rego in S6 was successful in entering the Young Emerging Artist Competition with a painting of a beetle. The gallery sent this message....."Your students creativity and talent made this event truly remarkable and we were astounded by the skill showcased by all our shortlisted entries. We had a wonderful time engaging with all the talented young artists and witnessing the creative potential each of them demonstrated. It was a pleasure to see such a high level of enthusiasm and dedication throughout the competition."



### Photography

We continue to teach NPA and Higher-level Photography. From our Higher Photography **Prize winner** Amber Johnston's stunning portrait for her Higher portfolio.

## Expressive Arts Music & Drama



### Curriculum, Learning & Teaching



Our staff and pupils have achieved success and made very good progress in attainment and achievement. Our Academies programme has been very exciting this year including Musical Theatre, Songwriting, Music Technology, Theatre Production Design and Performances of '*Mean Girls*' and '*Little Shop of Horrors*'

### Wider Achievement



Over 250 young people have participated in wider achievement opportunities within the faculty this session. They have contributed to the Christmas Concert, a wide range of bands and ensembles including three choirs, guitar ensemble, concert band, cello ensemble, string ensemble, fiddle group, as well as junior and senior Drama Clubs. We congratulate them.

### DYW

Our faculty partners from The Edinburgh International Festival and Strange Town Theatre Company have again brought superb experiences related to culture and Performing Arts industries through the EIF Opera in Schools project and Strange Town's visiting productions of *Storm Lantern* and *HER*.

### Support for Learning

#### Staffing Update

The 2023/24 session saw significant changes in the Pupil Support Team. We bid farewell to Miss Jacqui Brown and Ms Shahnaaz Mirza, who have moved on to new roles. We extend our best wishes to them in their new endeavours.

### Chambers Café



The Chambers Café has become an integral part of life for staff and S6 pupils at RHS. We continue to support senior pupils in gaining valuable experience in this field. This year, for the first time, nine S6 pupils achieved their N5 Barista Skills Award and will receive their certificates in August. BGE pupils continue to be referred to the project to help boost their confidence and are working towards the SQA Customer Service Award. Additionally, many of our ESB pupils have been given a slot, providing them with a wonderful opportunity to engage in the wider school community and collaborate with peers they might not typically interact with.

We also expanded our offerings to include the sale of small handmade crafts during the Christmas season, a venture we plan to further develop in the coming year.

## School Trips

Our school trips programme continues to expand. This year, our S3 pupils travelled to Belgium to visit and learn about the WWI battlefields. Our S2 pupils enjoyed a day at Fordell Firs, engaging in a range of outdoor activities, including the thrilling 3G swing.



## Christmas Concert



A highlight of the year was the Christmas Concert at the end of term, where one of our pupils bravely took the stage to perform Frank Sinatra's 'My Way.' His outstanding performance moved the audience, leaving not a dry eye in the house.

## Disability Awareness Group

Our Inclusion Ambassadors from the Disability Awareness Group have excelled in highlighting the various barriers faced by many of our pupils. It was particularly heartening to see staff participation in the World Down Syndrome Day 'Rock Your Socks' event, showcasing our commitment to inclusion and support.

## Enhanced Support Base (ESB)



This has been the first year where we have seen senior ESB attain their first set of Nationals. We have seen a range of qualifications gained from Nat 2 to some students having sat Nat 5 and Higher exams in S4. We have also started to deliver new set of awards including Personal Achievement and Tenancy award to recognise students' effort in the community and build on their life skills and independence. Our senior students took part in Outdoor Education programme which took them out across Edinburgh learning outdoor skills such as making food outside. Our BGE students took part in the school activities week which involved canoeing and rock



climbing. We also took part in the Boccia event with other ESBs held at Granton campus. Our team said goodbye to our PSA Bridget to pastures new, we wish her well. We hopefully will welcome a new PSA in our return in August.



## STEM



A focus for this session was to increase participation in STEM events and subjects by groups of pupils that are traditionally underrepresented. A number of events took place across the year to this aim, including participation in the "Future Females in Tech" conference and "Girls into

Physics" workshops. Those who attended these events responded positively to the experience and spoke highly of the activities and speakers. The Young STEM Leader award was introduced as an academy option to give pupils an opportunity to showcase their leadership skills and view STEM as an interdisciplinary approach rather than confined to specific subject areas. This has continued into this coming session where we would aim for students to plan more varied STEM engagement events for other pupils.

We are also pleased to note that we have 5 students successfully gain a place in the Civil Engineering Summer School at University of Edinburgh where they will have the opportunity to participate in workshops and meet with industry experts in the field of renewable energy.

### **Guidance**

The Support for Pupils team has enjoyed another hectic year but very positive year. This year there were 136 applicants to university, with almost 25% supported by LEAPs to apply. They continue to receive LEAPs support until they have accepted a place. Many senior pupils took advantage of courses run by Edinburgh College while other pupils participated in the JET programme and Career Ready with the opportunity to undertake work placements and internships. The Senior Team of sixth year School and Nation Captains developed and managed a huge number of initiatives and leadership roles, everything from litter picks to a mentoring program for younger pupils. They have seen real progress through their hard work, supported staff throughout the school, and enjoyed huge success throughout the year. We have been honoured to work with them and will miss their enthusiasm and creativity enormously.

Our team has changed lots throughout the year too. Hannah Sim is currently on maternity leave, and we were delighted to hear the news of the birth of her second daughter. This meant we welcomed Alexander Hagart to the team as PSL for the Scots nation. Alex has fully embraced the role; he has also volunteered to take the lead on MVP for the school. The Scots nation is in safe hands in Hannah's absence. We were also delighted to welcome Amy Hogg to the Gaels nation PSL, whilst Nicola Casey worked on a different role in school. Amy was also a great addition to the team and her enthusiasm and caring nature did not go unnoticed. Amy has now returned to her substantive post in English. Finally, we will be sorry to see Pupil Support stalwart, Iain Welsh, leave his post at the end of this session. He has been in Pupil Support for 10 years and is moving on to an exciting new challenge as Head of Sixth form at ESMS. He has made a significant and lasting impact on the whole school, none more so that during his recent BBC interview about tackling vaping in schools. 'You're having a laugh' but we are all going to miss him terribly. With Iain's departure, we welcome Claire Devlin from Dunbar Grammar school to the team from August.

### **Parent Fundraising Group**

This year, the Parent Fundraising Group (PFG) were delighted to have won the top spot in Tesco's Stronger Starts vote, securing £1500 funding for the breakfast club! Thank you to everyone who popped your blue tokens in the boxes at our local Tesco stores!

A huge thank you to all the parents/carers who donated their time and outstanding home baking to support the ever-popular Christmas Concert and Strictly event in the winter, and of course, thank you to all of you who put your hands in your pockets for some delicious treats and mulled wine! We raised around £500, aided by our new card machine and some stellar sales pitches from our volunteers!

As always, thank you for your generous donations throughout the year on ParentPay which allows the school to purchase items for your young people's education which fall out with the normal school budget.

<https://www.parentpay.com/>

Easy Fundraising is another excellent way to support these expenses, at no expense to you! To date, your shopping has raised £1,613. 83 for RHS. Download the app or add the extension to your browser and never miss out on a free donation again!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rhs/>

We're at that time of year again when we are getting ready to welcome our new first years and hopefully some new parents to our PFG - Jo Barcroft will be addressing new faces at the S1 parents' event. We look forward to holding some new events in the next session, getting our 200 Club up and running and of course, getting our wooden spoons out again at Christmas time!

And finally, we say a huge thank you and goodbye to our star of a PFG Chair, Jette Lemvig, who has spent the last 9 years at the helm. Jette steps down as her children have now come to the end of their RHS journey, as pupils anyway.

If you would like to know more about the PFG, volunteer to be part of the group or simply feel you can lend some time, baking, knowledge or wisdom, please email Jo Barcroft at [parentcouncil@royalhigh.edin.sch.uk](mailto:parentcouncil@royalhigh.edin.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful summer when it comes.

Royal High School Fundraising Group (PFG)

### **Parent Council – Chairperson's Report**

After 5 years of chairing the Parent Council, it is time for me to stand down and hand over the reins to new leadership. This year's AGM will be my last meeting in the chair and it has been a privilege to have done this role for so long. I am very grateful for all the support I have received over this period and would like to thank all the parent council members, staff, pupils and former pupil representatives that I have had the pleasure of working with throughout my time as chair. I would also like to thank the Headteacher, Pauline Walker, for her proactive and positive approach to parent and carer engagement, ensuring that all topics of concern are always fully discussed and the parent voice is always heard.

The Parent Council, the main voice for parents and carers within the Royal High School Community, met in hybrid format (combining in person and online participation) throughout the session. This format allowed both wider access to meetings and gave busy parents and carers the flexibility to join meetings they otherwise might not be able too. This year there were 7 scheduled meetings in total which were advertised across all available platforms and parents and carers continued to raise issues and questions via the Parent Council email inbox.

I now turn to some of the key issues that were dealt with during the year:

## The Royal High School Foundation SCIO

In 2023 it was proposed to the Parent Council, that a new charity be established to become the focus for fundraising in the run up to the school's 900th anniversary. Working with the school and the Former Pupils Club, The Royal High School Foundation SCIO has now been established and the final administrative workstreams are underway, with a hard launch of the Foundation anticipated in June 2024.

This exciting new venture will seek voluntary, regular and one-off donations from former pupils, parents and friends of the school to help fund the many school activities that currently do not get funding from the Scottish Government and Edinburgh City Council. The activities of the Parent Fundraising Group will fall under the Foundation and the Foundation will also provide volunteering opportunities within the school community.

Any parents or carers with fundraising experience or interest are encouraged to reach out to the Foundation Trustees, through the Head Teacher.

## Bullying

Bullying continues to be a blight across schools in Scotland and following the covid lockdowns there was a clear upturn in reported incidents. Violence in schools is now on the national agenda and we await a clear action plan from the Scottish Government on that. Bullying at RHS was discussed during the first term and the school highlighted that it continues to work with a range of partners to address bullying and has made a number of interventions to support those affected by it. The combination of interventions and education about the impact of bullying was welcomed by the Parent Council.

## Road Safety

Road Safety has been a key focus for the Parent Council throughout this academic year. At the start of the year the upgrade to the Clermiston junction crossing on Queensferry Road was complete, which has helped the flow of pupils at this busy junction. Lighting and improvements to the pathways through Davidson Mains Park and the route to Barnton have also been completed following many years of Parent Council lobbying.

Following the tragic death of a Cramond Primary pupil this year and an accident involving a Davidsons Mains Primary pupil the focus has now turned to wider pedestrian and active travel improvements in the RHS catchment. The Parent Council is actively engaged with the City Council and feeder primary schools on potential plans for improvements in Cramond, Barnton and Davidsons Mains and will work with community groups to help improve the road safety in the area.

## School Extension

The school's roll has been forecast to increase over the next decade and fortunately this academic year has seen work start on the new school extension, which will be operational from August 2024. This has been a great success for the Parent Council who worked with the school to lobby the City Council for this enhancement to the school estate.

## Vaping

Teenage vaping has been on the rise across Scotland and at RHS the Parent Council were very concerned about the impact vaping was having on health and antisocial behaviour at the school, particularly in the toilet areas. The school has been very proactive in dealing with vaping, with regular teacher patrols and the installation of new vape alarms, which made the national news. In addition, the school has also been educating pupils about the potential harms of vaping, which some recent studies have suggested is as bad or potentially worse than cigarettes for young people.

## Mobile Phone Policy

The school has always had a strict mobile phone policy. With the use of iPads in class rooms there is no educational need for phones and they do cause a distraction in class. This year, the Parent Council heard that the school was taking a stricter enforcement approach, which was broadly supported by parents and carers. Teachers have shared with the Parent Council that the enforcement policy has improved behaviours in class and helped ensure that more time is focused on teaching and learning.

## Parent Night Booking System

There were a number of issues with the parent night booking system, which is an outsourced system outside of the school's control. The Parent Council has ensured that issues regarding the system were raised with the City Council and efforts are being made to ensure that fewer issues arise in the next academic year.

## To Conclude

The Parent Council is a safe place for parents and carers to raise issues and concerns and the points summarised above are a significant but incomplete reflection of the issues that parents raised with the school during this academic year.

The Parent Council and the school have worked closely in partnership throughout my time as chair and that working relationship is in extremely good health and I wish my successor and the Parent Council well next year.

## 2023/24 LEAVERS

<b>S4 and S5 Leavers</b> Ava Katrina Mackay Megan Jane Whitehall Jenna Canfield Kyle Brian Cullen Kyle McInally Demi Sophia McMillan Rian Karl Gibson Bruce Pietras Joseph Patrick Franc Murphy Lucy Carolyn Purves Jacob John Aitken Ryan Glen McKenzie Courtney Gregg Kennedy Sienna Lothian Ben John Kerrell McHarg Nicole Monteith Jayden MacNeish David Gardiner Callum McLean Peace Ibrahim Ali Ellis Millar Nina Murphy Elaizah Douglas Klaudia Jadeszko Calum John Von Felda Neary Andrew Devon Lynas Richard Thomas Loughton Lilia Barison Caleb Breckenridge Caiden Harvie Rhys Muir Eva McNeil Dax Nelson Renia Smyth Lap Hang Akim Au Kenzie Ellie May Young <b>S6 Leavers</b> Hosum San-Chan Jake Morrison Tom McGlashan Alfie Cunningham Ruby Wilson Aniq Ahmed Robin White Jack Slaven Amy Allan Penny Haugh Mihir Mangalampalli Alistair McLuckie Maddison Spence Sophie Boyle Megan McVey	Adin Hamid Isla Groves Freya McAlpine Markus Illingworth Salem O'Rourke Kevin Webley Rhys Toshack Daniel Marshall Erin Walker Finlay Scott Amber Munro Marcus McDougall Ella Lindsay-Fautua Connor McMahon Lily Walsh Mhairi Venn Alisia Duncan Ella Blanowska Lucy McGovern Dillon Turley Grace Evans Oliver Priestley Ellie Tough Sam Meaney Erin Do Rego Dylan McGowan Bayan Alfazli Liam McLean Aron Jack Rory Jack Eve McCaskell Jemma Lindsay Honey Watson Aurora Trevarthen Blanca Binney Gahei Ho Lisa Maher-Rodgers Cara Hunter Kara Ramsay Blair Fraser Lewis Thores Finn Lamberton Charlotte Brady Hussain Yaqub Callum Durie Cerys Davies Amy Sinclair Lochlan Brown Sidrath Kabir Tobi Siewiera Ross McMurray Blaire Shepherd Katie Lindsay Callum Silver Melissa Thomson Rose Pengelly Georgia Dear	Callum Balloch Abrahim Alsheikh Soleiman Georgia Sim Finn Brady Rosie Robertson Satveer Kaur Lewis Mill Adam Davidson Summer Archibald Tanisha Ramesh Logan Pardoe Daniel Sneddon Aiesha Lewis Amber Johnstone Ross Macartney Finlay Fraser Francesca Taylor Charlotte Carey Emma Baillie Evan Fraser Daisy Williamson Moss Hutcheon Ruaridh Wild Jakub Jan Potrzuski Liyo Ngomti Finlay Valenti-Hughes Kaspjan Lis-Gorczewski Zoe Stewart Hope Hoyle Tasmin Jones Trassa Looby Aimee Vernon Cora Gibson Fraser Rourke Anna McAslan Innes Palmer Oscar Ferguson Sofia MacKenzie Maisie Crandles Keira Catherine Stewart Ewan Maxwell Cat McLachlan Alexa Antonia Fern Milne Shaw Russell Sienna Barron William Stirling Scott Hathaway Erin Tocher Hollie Wilson Christopher Egner Sam Ketley Alex Coy Aoife Byrne Sarah Ghenima Alex Severn	Katie Wright Ruairi Pittendreigh Euan Selves Claudia Slaine Fraser Halton Harris Palmer James Sweatman Jacob Harron Alex Dodds Eliza Farron Lucia Azam Cameron Allan Samantha Cairns Rose Crook Aimee Knight Lewis Harrison James Thomson Katie Stockton Santiago Porter Romero Cara Logan Klara Lemvig-Allan Ailish Young Umar Asmat Colton Lin Laila Garrick Leanne Mundwa Jude Flynn Hashib Haider Shalin Chowdhury Ujjwal Kharola Nicholas Del Giacco Amy Young Melica Khosravee Oskouee Abigail McKnight Calum Barlow Noa Kiss-Jakab Adnan Al Bawab Jacob Schafer Charlie Wilkinson Daniel Davison Ellie Dishington Zayne Constantino Kallirroi Ioannidou Charlie Chong Lena Lutostanska Afsha Khundoker Yi Nok Yeung Rostyk Osinin Atika Essa
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## The Royal High School

### Prizes and Bursaries - year of foundation, and descriptions of the awards

Year first awarded	Prize name	Prize Detail
1794	MacGregor Prize, Dux in Latin	Murray (Macgregor) Medal (1794): Endowed by Lt.-Col. Peter Murray. MacGregor was allegedly descendent of Rob Roy.
1800	The Lady Glenorchy Prize for Religious Education	Until 1787, Lady Glenorchy owned the estate on which the Barnton Campus now sits. She left money to provide scripture prizes in Edinburgh schools
1824	Ritchie Prize Dux of S2	Endowed by William Ritchie, a master in 1824, originally for Dux of form 4 in the Preparatory school, since 1973 for Dux of S2
1850	RHS Club Prize, Dux of School	Endowed by the RHS Club (former pupils)
1851	Carson Medal for an English Essay	Endowed by F.Ps. in honour of Dr Aglionby-Ross Carson, Rector from 1820 to 1845
1857	Boyd Prize Dux of S1	In honour of Dr James Boyd, Fourth form master for many years. Originally just for Dux of Latin in the first form
1865	Macmillan Club Prize, Dux in English	In honour of John Macmillan, Master. Endowed by his pupils.
1868	Tullis Prize, Dux in Mathematics	Originally the Tullis 'Medal', endowed by Bailie Tullis, FP., for Dux in Mathematics. Usually awarded as an Open prize.
1871	Sibbald Bursaries	Endowed by Dr J. R. Sibbald. Also referred to as 'Heriot' Bursaries in 1903. Formerly simply for two or three pupils, has since 2014 has been two awards in S3 for one boy and one girl.
1877	Mackay Prize, Dux of S4	Endowed by Benjamin Mackay, Master, for Dux of S4
1878	Carmichael Club prize, Dux of S3	In honour of John Carmichael, Master, for Dux of S3. Initially awarded as a medal. The Carmichael Club prize for knowledge of New Testament Greek was first awarded in 1872
1881	Robertson Bursaries	When first awarded, it was for boys from Edinburgh state schools – via an open competition paying six years of fees. Now awarded to two S1 pupils, Dux and proxime to Dux
1910	John Marshall Prize, Dux in Mathematics, S4	Originally the John Marshall Medal (1910): In honour of Dr John Marshall, Rector (1882-1909), for Dux in Maths in S4
1915	Crichton Cup	Formerly known as the Crichton Trophy. Gifted by J. D. Crichton, whose sons were at School, for Scholarship and Athletics. Now awarded to the best Nation, based on a whole year competition comprising academic, sporting and other metrics
1917	Inches Prizes. Duxes in Chemistry and Physics	Endowed by Sir Robert Inches, F.P., Co-founder of Hamilton and Inches jewellers, and Lord Provost from 1912 to 1916
1920	Donaldson Bursaries	Endowed in honour of Dr James Donaldson, master and rector (1865-1882) Said to have been first awarded in 1882, but not evident in our records until 1920. Formerly simply for two or three pupils, has since 2014 has been awarded to two pupils in S3.
1924	The RHS Club in London Prizes	First awarded for Dux in Drawing. Nowadays three awards are endowed by the Club, Dux in CDT, Dux in Art, and a prize for an English Poem
1925	Chisholm Prize, Dux in Geography	Endowed by Dr G. G. Chisholm, F.P., for Dux in Geography. Originally awarded in sixth form (S6), now in S4
1925	Bruce Prize, Dux in History	Endowed by Edward Bruce, F.P., Dean of Guild
1928	N H Small prizes, Duxes	Endowed by W. A. Small in memory of his son, Norman

	in Spanish and German	Howard Small, a private in the 9th Royal Scots, killed in action in WW1 on 23rd April 1915. Originally for Dux in French in S6
1928	The MacKelvie Trophy	Gifted by Lt.-Col. Maxwell MacKelvie, F.P., for Best Piper, usually the Pipe Major
1929	Muir memorial Prize, Dux of S5	Formerly the Muir Memorial Medal, in honour of T. S. Muir, master, for Dux of S5. He died while still a teacher
1929	Sir David Yule Scholarship	Endowed by David Yule's widow in his memory. Originally to assist entrance to university.
1932	Sir Walter Scott Centenary Prize	Until 1971, presented as a medal. Endowed by RHS Club at the Centenary of the death of Sir Walter Scott. There is a companion plaque on the school wall at the old entrance.
1932	Sir Alexander Stevenson Prize	Endowed by Sir Alexander Stevenson, L.P., for Proxime accessit (runner-up) to Dux of School
1934	Andrew Wilson Prize	Endowed by Andrew Wilson, Dean of Guild, for Service and Leadership
1935	John Turner Prize, Dux in Mathematics (S5)	In honour of John Turner, master and deputy rector (1926-1934)
1935	J. G. Cattanach Prize	Endowed by J. G. Cattanach, F.P., for Scottish History and Literature
1936	Royal High School Exhibition	Endowed by the RHS Club, initially for Entrance to University – now awarded to the Dux
1937	Morrison Bursaries	Endowed by John Paton Morrison. Two awards in S3, formerly simply for two pupils, since 2014 to one boy and one girl.
1938	Carson Bursary, Dux of English, S4	Endowed by RH.S. Club from surplus of the Carson Medal Fund for excellence in English in S4
1938	Carson Prize, Dux in English, S5	Endowed from a surplus of the Carson Medal (1851), for Dux in English in S5
1938	J. W. Loudon prize for Public Speaking	Endowed in memory of J. W. Loudon, F.P., for Public Speaking. For many years an Open award, now S3, S4, S5 or S6.
1939	Tait Prize, Dux Proxime	Formerly for Dux of the 4th form in the RHS Preparatory School. Since co-education started in 1973, awarded to 'Proxime' (runner-up) to the Dux of S1
1939	Grant memorial Cup, Dux in Music	Endowed in honour of J. A. Grant, master, for Dux in Music.
1942	W. King Gillies Prize for Scottish Literature	Endowed by his son, (a former pupil) in memory of his father who was Rector from 1919 to 1940
1948	Percy Malcolm Stewart bursaries	Endowed by Sir Percy Malcolm Stewart, a former pupil and latterly an industrialist and philanthropist in England. Originally intended to assist University Entrance. Three bursaries of descending value, Major, Median and Minor
1951	Nicoll Prize for Service	Nicoll Memorial Prize. Endowed by his mother in memory of son Alan killed in WW2 (1945 – Burma), for Service and Leadership. He was awarded the MC. Originally awarded to a Prep. school pupil, it reverted in 1979, (spelt wrongly), awarded to up to four senior pupils
1956	Nicholson Prize for Music	Endowed by Dr J. C. (Jim) Nicholson for Music, initially an Open prize, now S4. Jim retired in 2008 as Head of Music
1962	Burgoyne Prize, Dux in German	Edgar Burgoyne was Depute Rector from 1940 to 1959, having joined the staff in 1923. Endowed by Glasgow and West Scotland RHS. Club
1963	Sir John Greig Dunbar Prizes for Citizenship	Endowed by F.P. Sir J. G. Dunbar, Lord Provost 1960-1963, known as 'Mr Lemonade' as his company supplied that commodity to most of the Edinburgh area.

1963	W. J. Watson Prize for Original Research	Endowed by Sir Hugh Watson in memory of father, Rector from 1909 to 1914
1967	Hector McIver Memorial Prize	Endowed by his widow in his memory. For Literary Appreciation. Hector was a legendary English teacher from 1947 to 1966 (head of department from 1949) dying during his final session.
1969	RHS FP President's Prizes for S5 Dux in History and Geography	Prizes donated by (and sometimes presented by) the current RHS Club President. At its inception in 1969, that was A. B. Scrimgeour, F.F.A., F.I.A.
1970	James Scott Bursary	Endowed by his family in his memory, for Entrance to University
1972	RHS Parent Group prizes	The Parent's representative group has changed its name several times over the last fifty years. For many years, their prizes were presented to S3 and S5 pupils, for 'Meritorious Effort' and 'Modern Studies' respectively. Since 2013, two prize groups are shown, S1-S3, and S4-S6, now known as 'PFG' prizes, awarded for Citizenship and School Community Contribution
1972	Phillip Harris Prize, Dux in Biology	Endowed by Phillip Harris, F.P., President of the RHS Club in 1978
1974	John Murray Prizes for Music	John was an inspirational Music teacher from 1971-2003, initiating the first, then organising many further European music trips. Described simply as 'The Murray Prize for Music' when first awarded. Awarded in S1, S2 and S3. John sadly died in 2021
1984	Alex Aitken Prize for Scottish History	Alex 'Bobo' Aitken was an eccentric but much-loved History teacher in the Regent Road era, retiring in 1959
1976	William Rutherford Bequest Award for Art	Originally a single prize for Cricket, it is now split between Art and PE. Rutherford was at School between 1906 and 1911, and in 1910 won prizes for Geography and Art
1976	The James H Scott Prize for Mathematics	Scott, a former pupil, was a mechanical engineer, who spent his life in the flour-milling industry, writing many books on the subject. He was father-in-law to Ian Dingwall, head of Maths for many years until 1997. This S6 prize is for excellence in Mathematics
1976	The Sir James Purves Stewart prizes for Dux in French and Spanish in S2	Sir James Purves Stewart was known as a distinguished neurologist of international fame, with many honours and publications to his name. Born 1869, he attended the Royal High from 1880-1885 (Dux of Maths), became a Colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps in WW1. Knighted in 1918, he retired in 1931, and served in the Home Guard in WW2
1985	Alex F Hall prize for Computing	Alex Hall was Depute Rector between 1967 and 1977. Prior to that, the award was in the name of Alex Skinner
1987	The Janine Whitecross Trophy – all-round endeavour in P.E.	Janine Whitecross - died in 1986 aged 12, killed by a car on Telford Road. She is shown in the 1985-86 Annual Report as being class 1A2.
1994	Jessie P Young prize for meritorious effort	'Jessie P' was a famed Junior school teacher from 1941 until 1968. She formed a 'former pupils' club which met in her house in Warrender for many years
1997	Noreen Richardson prize for courage and determination	Noreen was the school's first female Principal Teacher, joining the Home Economics Dept. 1976. She fell ill, but still presented the prizes at the 1994 Prize Giving and died that year. The prize was first presented in 1997.
2000	John Paterson Small	'J.P.' Small was President of the RHS Club in 1979, and the

2000	prize for Music Crawford Taylor Memorial Prize for Music	prize was endowed in his memory Established and funded in memory of Crawford Taylor who was a schoolmate of Anne Finnegan (now Dame Anne Richards) and other school friends. Moved from main prize giving to WAC, then returned in 2018.
2009	The Neil McCurrach Award	Neil died in 2008 while still at school. The 2012 AR describes the award – “The Neil McCurrach Award-awarded to the student that best characterises the spirit, enthusiasm, and participative qualities exemplified by Neil”
2011	Dr Barclay's Memorial Prize for Service	J.B Barclay had a long and distinguished High School career, as pupil, master (Head of the Preparatory School, and historian, author of the 1974 School history. Several pupils and former pupils were at his 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday party.
2012	James Montgomery Bell Prize for Law studies	Endowed by his son Sheriff Andrew Bell in memory of his father. Andrew Bell was president of the RHS Club in 1982
2015	Maclean prizes for STEM subjects	Alastair Maclean (leaving year 1960), a frequent prize winner in his time, noticed the apparent lack of reward for improvement in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), and his five prizes (S1 to S5) hopefully remedy that
2017	Evelyn Small prize for Drama	Evelyn was the sister of a former RHS Club President and wanted to endow prizes for youngsters. One award in each of S3 and S5, currently for Drama
2019	Spanish Consulate prize for S3 and S5	The school asked the historian to find sponsor(s) for two prizes in Spanish, given the considerable increase in SQA exam entries. The Spanish Consul was approached and agreed.
2021	Archie Davidson prize for Engineering Technology	Archie joined the teaching staff in 1968, having worked in industry. He became Principal Physics teacher in 1971, retiring in 1996. Archie's name was added to the prize in 2021. He is credited by Anne Richards (Dame since 2021) with defining her career path.
2021	The Lewis Johnson Prize for Outstanding Commitment to a Team Sport	Prize created to ensure the life and spirit of Lewis Johnson, an RHS pupil who sadly passed away aged only 13, lives on within the school community. This prize celebrates commitment to a team sport, through encouragement and support of others, pushing all to achieve their potential.
2022	The Dr Scott Prize for Meritorious Effort in Science in 4th year & 6th year (2 prizes)	Dr Fiona Scott taught Chemistry at the Royal High School until her passing in 2022. She was passionate about supporting both the academic and everyday successes of her pupils, supporting them to achieve their potential. S4 - someone who has put effort and enthusiasm into their studies   S6 - outstanding achievement in science for an S6, in one or more sciences.
2024	The Robert Fergusson Prize for Scottish Poetry	2024 (October 16 <sup>th</sup> ) marks the 250 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Robert Fergusson at the age of just 24, a poet that is said to have been a major influence on Robert Burns