

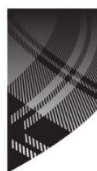


The Royal High School

Annual Report

Prizegiving & Commemoration

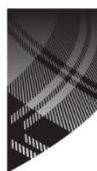
Vivas Schola Regia



ASPIRATION



RESPECT



CREATIVITY



COURAGE



RESILIENCE



INDIVIDUALITY



ACHIEVEMENT



INCLUSION



COMMEMORATION AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY

Friday 26th June 2026

Chairperson: Pauline Walker

Prize-giving Order of Ceremony

Welcome: Pauline Walker, Headteacher

Music: Your Song

The RHS Musical Theatre Academy

Presentation of Prizes:

Mr Steve Bakke, Mrs Pat McDaid, Mr Gordon Rutter,

Mr Phil Wootton, Mrs Sephanie Mitchell

Former Pupil's Address: Sebastian Wanless

Valedictory Address: Dux of School – Aleksander Przybycien

Closing Comments: Pauline Walker, Headteacher

School Song

Close

Leavers Order of Ceremony

Chair's Address: Pauline Walker

Reading: Ythan Hunter

Music: Your Song

The RHS Musical Theatre Academy

Former Pupil's Address: Sebastian Wanless

Valedictory Address: Dux of School – Aleksander Przybycien

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 2025-26

FIRST YEAR

Merit Prize in Home Economics	Anjum Khundoker
Merit Prize in Geography	Antonia Lukaszczyk
Merit Award in English	Elliot Wood
John Murray Prize for Music	Ewan Ramage
Evelyn Small Prize for Drama	Hannah Headspeath
Merit Award in Modern Studies	Hannah Headspeath
Merit Award in Science	Isla Story
Merit Award in Spanish	Lovisa Gibson
Merit Award in PE	Lucy McDonald
Alex Aitken Prize for Scottish History	Oscar Sutherland
Merit Award in French	Oscar Wypych-Klaczynski
Maclean Prize for dedication and hard work in STEM subjects	Oscar Wypych-Klaczynski
Merit in Art & Design	Sam Bishop
Tait Prize – Proxime to Dux of Form 1	Sam Bishop
Merit Prize in Mathematics	Saanvi Sharma
Merit Award in History	Satthik Das
Janine Whitecross Trophy for best in PE	Sienna Lloyd
Merit Prize in RMPS	Wadad Ahmad
Robertson Bursary Dux of form 1	Hayden Bordes
Boyd Prize (1857) - Dux of Form 1	Hayden Bordes

SECOND YEAR

Merit Award in Modern Studies	Callum Hutchison
Maclean Prize for dedication and hard work in STEM subjects	Callum Hutchison
Merit Award in PE	Ciara McLauchlan
Merit Prize in RMPS	Eithne Lawson
Merit Prize in Home Economics	Emilia Slawczyk
Merit Award in Spanish	Ethan Croan
Merit Award in English	Finn Redpath
Jessie Young Prize for Meritorious Effort	Georgie Armstrong
Merit Prize in CDT - Design	Hollie Headspeath
Merit Award in French	Izzy Urquhart
Merit Award in History	Katherine Robertson
Sir James Purves Stewart Prize – (I) Dux in French	Kiveli Pagonidou
Merit Prize in Geography	Latika Shivakumar
Alex Aitken Prize for Scottish History	Louise Wang
Merit Prize in Mathematics	Louise Wang
Merit Award in Science	Malin Marr
John Murray Prize for Music	Mauli Mittal
Evelyn Small Prize for Drama	Nina Seddon

The Royal High School PFG Prize (S1-S3) for demonstrating responsible citizenship within the school community consistently throughout the school year	Rebecca Cowe
Merit in Art & Design	Skye Millard
Merit Prize in CDT - Practical	Helena Sims
Ritchie Prize (1824) - Dux of Form 2	Helena Sims

THIRD YEAR

The William Corlett Memorial Prize for Art	Aanmona Priyodorshini
Evelyn Small Prize for Drama	Amelie Burnett
Morrison Bursary for Science (girl)	Frieda Somerville
Alex Skinner Prize for Computing	Gavin Henzing
John Murray Prize for Music	Iggy Just
PFG Prize for Meritorious Effort	Kieran Hay
Hartman Prize – (I) Dux in French	Leo MacDonald
Donaldson Bursary for English	Leo McDonald
The Royal High School PFG Junior Prize (S1-S3) for being an effective contributor to the school community throughout the school year	Orlaith Brogan
Prize for CDT	Reilly McLoughlin
Sibbald Bursary for Maths	Skye Cathcart-Mudd
Maclean Prize for dedication and hard work in STEM subjects	Sonakshi Bhama
Donaldson Bursary for English	Sophia Kassime
S3 Prize for Spanish	Valentine Muhl
Merit Award in Business	Valentine Muhl
Sibbald Bursary for Maths	William Goh
Morrison Bursary for Science (boy)	William Goh
Prize for Home Economics	Finlay Anderson
S3 Prize for PE	Jess Hemsley
Carmichael Club Prize (1878) - Dux of Form 3	Euan Walls

FOURTH YEAR

Alex F Hall Prize for Computing	Adam Wood
Richard Green memorial prize for Art & Design	Charlie Gardner
Chisholm Prize – Dux in Geography	Daniel McGuire
Merit Award in Business	Emma McClean
Prize for Home Economics	Joseph Garioch
N H Small Prize Dux in French	Julia Milne
Ness Trophy for Craftmanship	Kayla Sim
Mary Hunter Memorial prize for best fourth form leaver	Kyran Wales
NH Small Prize Dux in Spanish	Panna Viranyi
Carson Bursary, Dux of English	Rebecca Abbey
The Dr Scott Prize for Meritorious Effort in Science in 4th year	Rebecca Abbey
Prize for CDT	Rosie Tait
Nicolson Prize for Music	Tanish Kattambothodyil
Maclean Prize for dedication and hard work in STEM subjects	Yusuf Gajam
John Marshall Prize (1910) Dux in Mathematics	Yusuf Gajam

S4 Prize for PE	Anaya Nadeem
Macgregor Prize (1794) Dux in Latin	Stina Gibson
S4 Prize for Drama	Izzy Duncan
Mackay Prize (1877) - Dux of Form 4	Izzy Duncan

SENIOR PRIZES

The Royal High School PFG Senior (S4-S6) for being an effective contributor to the school community throughout the school year	Abigail Closier
James M Moore Memorial Prize – Dux in French	Ailie Pitcairn
Royal High School (London) Club Prize – Dux in CDT	Annabel Rowling
William Young Memorial Prize - Dux in Classics	Audrey Cordelia Slevin
Dux in Physics	Faye Morgan
RHS FP President's Prize (II) Dux in Geography	Faye Morgan
Lady Glenorchy Prize for Religious Education	Freddie Blackman
Carson Prize Dux of English	Hugh Smart
Dux in Home Economics	Lucas McSorley
Elizabeth Wemyss Prize for Music	Nina Watt
Dux in Chemistry	Savya Chatterjee
Maclean Prize for dedication and hard work in STEM subjects	Savya Chatterjee
S5 Prize for Drama	Skye Wytrazek
RHS FT President's Prizes – (I) Dux in History	Casper Kassime
RHS FP Prize (II) Dux in Modern Studies	Sia Macnamara
The Royal High School PFG Senior Prize (S4-S6) for demonstrating responsible citizenship within the school community consistently throughout the school year	Aaron Snitjer
William Young Memorial Prize - Dux in RMPS	Alice Ketley
The Dr Scott Prize for Meritorious Effort in Science in 6th year	Anna Trimmer
Award for Excellence in Classical Studies	Henry Hutcheson
Inches prize Dux in Chemistry	Preethi Anbarasan
John Turner Prize – Dux in Mathematics	Deepak Krisna Kumaar
Muir Memorial prize - Dux of Form 5	Deepak Krisna Kumaar

OPEN PRIZES

The Crichton Cup	TO BE ANNOUNCED
Noreen Richardson Memorial Prize for Courage and Determination	Robbie Williamson
Grigor prize for Debating (Junior)	Wadad Ahmad
The Royal High School (London) Club Prize for an English Poem	Skye Millard
Rectors Award for Resilience	Murray Skinner
Malcolm Knox Prize for best creative writing	Alice Duffy
Mabon Prize for biggest improvement of a pupil in S5	Amira Gordon
RHS prize for Fashion and Textiles	Ellie Sneddon
Dr W King Gillies Prize for Scottish Literature	Emma Reid
Carson Prize (1851) for an English Essay	Evie McGovern
Classical Studies Prize (Dux)	Holly Abbott
Charles Burrows Prize for Leadership in Athletics	Isla Arnott
Steven Armstrong Roy Memorial Prize for Courage & Determination	Alex Willis

Sir Walter Scott Centenary Prize	Amber Redpath
J G Cattanach Prize for Scottish Literature	Annie Farrier
RHS PFG Prize for Modern Studies	Annie Farrier
The Lewis Johnson Prize for Outstanding Commitment to a Team Sport	Chloe Brian
Philip Harris Prize Dux in Biology	Deepak Krisna Kumaar
The Malkin Prize for Service in the community	Deepak Krisna Kumaar
The RHS Distinguished Award	Deepak Krisna Kumaar
Hector McIver Memorial prize for Literary Appreciation	Faye Morgan
The Malkin Prize for Service in the Community	Jason Chan
The Malkin Prize for Service in the Community	Jason Guthrie
The Malkin Prize for Service in the Community	Laurence Ngai
The Malkin Prize for Service in the Community	Marco Mackenzie
William Rutherford Bequest Award for Art	Sadie Lister
James H Scott Prize for Mathematics	Savya Chatterjee
Prize for Engineering Technology	Simon Slawczyk
The Malkin Prize for Service in the Community	Simon Slawczyk
Dux in Spanish	Stella Shaw
James Montgomery Bell Memorial prize for the study of Scots Law	Aaron Caefa Ola
The RHS (London) Club prize - Dux in Art	Ailsa Lindsay
Sir John Greig Dunbar Prize for Citizenship	Ailsa Lindsay
Nicol Prize for Service	Angus Dunn
The Alexander Graham Bell Trophy for Perseverance	Anna Trimmer
Martin Pearce Family Prize Dux in Business Management	Ben Lewis
RHS prize for Photography	Bruce Pietras
J W Loudon Prize for Public Speaking	Charlotte Dill
J G Cattanach Prize for Scottish History	Charlotte Dill
Nicol Prize for Service	Charlotte Dill
Dr Barclay's Memorial Prize for Service	Elizabeth Auld
Ian Steadman & John P Mackintosh Prize for Politics	Eva Lints
Percy Malcolm Stewart Median	Humza Javed
Dux in Computing	Humza Javed
Tullis Prize – Dux in Mathematics	Humza Javed
Bruce Prize – Dux in History	Isobel Blair
Grant Memorial Cup – Dux in Music	Jamie Downes
Sir David Yule Scholarship	Kavi Danish
W J Melrose Prize for Art	Leah Poseley
Nicol Prize for Service	Lexi Clark
Nicol Prize for Service	Lucy Crabbie
Andrew Wilson Prize for Service and Leadership	Melissa Khosravi-Oskouee
Dux in Drama	Mya Richardson
Percy Malcolm Stewart Major -Proxime to Dux	Preethi Anbarasan
Sir Alexander Stevenson Prize - Proxime to Dux	Preethi Anbarasan
Percy Malcolm Stewart Minor	Sara Robertson
Grigor Prize for Debating (Senior)	Sean Clay
Neil McCurrach Award for Participation and Enthusiasm to the Full	Sean Clay

MacMillan Club Prize (1865) – Dux in English	Skye Burns
Steadman Prize for Philosophy	Tabby Jones
Rector's Award for Service to the School	Ythan Hunter
William Rutherford Bequest Awards for PE	Lexi Clark

DUX OF SCHOOL 2026

RHS Exhibition - Dux	Aleksander Przybycien
The Royal High School Club prize - Dux of School	Aleksander Przybycien

WIDER ACHIEVEMENT PRIZES 2025/26

Wider Clubs & Societies	
Creative Writing Club Outstanding Contribution	Alice Duffy
Outstanding Contribution to Duke of Edinburgh Volunteering	Ariya Kaur
Outstanding Contribution to Duke of Edinburgh Physical	Aolaith Devlin
Outstanding Contribution to Duke of Edinburgh Skill	Sienna Bell
The Richard Joy Trophy - Expedition Leadership	Conal Ritchie
Outstanding Contribution to Leadership on Racial Equalities	Jana Amhan
Junior Debating (S1-S3) Outstanding Contribution	Lewis Bowden
Lego Club Outstanding Contribution	Isla Story
LGBTQ+ Club Outstanding Contribution	Fin McCune
LGBTQ+ Club Outstanding Contribution	Eithne Lawson
Senior Debating (S4-S6) Outstanding Contribution	Oliver Wright
The Emily Goddard Award for Creative Writing	Alice Duffy
Outstanding Contribution to Chess	Griff Jones
Gender Equalities: S1-S3	Celeste Rougvie
Gender Equalities: S1-S3	Tess Miller
Gender Equalities: S4-S6	Annie Arthur
Outstanding Contribution to Rights Respecting Schools	Mauli Mittal
Outstanding Contribution to Peer Mentoring	Abi Closier
Outstanding Contribution to STEM Leadership (S3)	Rebecca Cowe
Outstanding Contribution to STEM Leadership (S1)	Wadad Ahmad
Wider Clubs Team of The Year (RHS STEM Racing Team)	Deepak Krisna Kumaar
Wider Clubs Team of The Year (RHS STEM Racing Team)	Simon Slawczyk
Wider Clubs Team of The Year (RHS STEM Racing Team)	Jason Chan
Wider Clubs Team of The Year (RHS STEM Racing Team)	Jason Guthrie
Wider Clubs Team of The Year (RHS STEM Racing Team)	Laurence Ngai
Wider Clubs Team of The Year (RHS STEM Racing Team)	Marco MacKenzie
Outstanding Contribution to Stem Leadership	Reilly McLoughlin
Outstanding Contribution to Stem Leadership	Euan Fraser
Outstanding Contribution to Stem Leadership	Laird Brown
Outstanding Contribution to Stem Leadership	Dylan Fletcher
Outstanding Contribution to Stem Leadership	Hayden Coffey
Sport	
William Rutherford Bequest	Lexi Morrison Clark
Major Macintosh Achievement	Rory Campbell
Junior Sports Personality of the Year	Freya Shepherd

Senior Sports Personality of the Year	Hannah Low
The Janine Whitecross Award	Sienna Lloyd
Sports Team of the Year	S2 Netball Team
Active Schools Volunteer of the Year	Lexi Morrison-Clark
Sports Coach of the Year	Phaimie Black
Sports Coach of the Year	Lucy Crabbie
Badminton Junior Player of the Year	Isaac Voang
Badminton Senior Player of the Year	Lewis Chen
Table Tennis Junior Player of the Year	Anne Chan
Table Tennis Senior Player of the Year	Euan Lytle
Volleyball Junior Player of the Year	Oliwier Kuczkowski
Volleyball Senior (Male) Player of the Year	Aiden Teale
Volleyball Senior (Female) Player of the Year	Rose McIntosh
BGE Football (Female) Player of the Year	Scarlett Sackett
Senior Football (Female) Player of the Year	Anaya Nadeem
Junior Dancer of the Year	Iona Sinclair
Senior Dancer of the Year	Ava Mackenzie
Gymnast of the Year	Ruby Hodgson
Basketball Player of the Year	Barney Farron
The Gilmour Trophy for Rugby	Fynn Shepherd
Rugby - Girls U14 Player of the Year	Kaia Oleszczyk
Rugby - Girls U16 Player of the Year	Isabella Dove
Rugby S1 Player of the Year	Gus Bowers
Rugby S2 Player of the Year	Ted McLeish
Rugby S3 Player of the Year	Will Groves
Rugby U16 Player of the Year	Matthew McKnight
Rugby U18 (1st XV) Player of the Year	Cameron McLachlan
Outstanding Commitment to Rugby	Lexi Morrison Clark
Douglas Ford Prize for U16 Rugby	Euan Lytle
Power Lifting Male Performer of the Year	Alex Scott
Power Lifting Female Performer of the Year	Maisie Telford
Power Lifting Female Performer of the Year	Rhiannon Grainger
Netball S1 Player of the Year	Emily Mitchell
Netball S2 Player of the Year	Rachel Mack
Netball S3 Player of the Year	Asal Emadi
Netball S4 Player of the Year	Abbie Crawford
Netball S5 Player of the Year	Aimee Fagan
Netball S6 Player of the Year	Poppy Kells
Netball Achievement Award	Ciara McLauchlan
Netball Achievement Award	Emma Torrance
S1 Male Football Player of the Year	Felix Whelan
S2 Male Football Player of the Year	Henry Walker-Lyon
S3 Male Football Player of the Year	Joseph Bishop
S4 Male Football Player of the Year	Elliot Taylor
S5/6 Male Football Player of the Year	Harry Marshall
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lucy Gallacher

Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Cameron Hunter
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Maya Halcrow
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Alban Tubio Garcia
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Bryn MacArthur
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Rory Campbell
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lucy Gallacher
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Cameron Hunter
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Charlie McLoughlin-Hanna
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Rory Thomson
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Maya Halcrow
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Dylan Irvine
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Cecily Hutcheson
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Joel Rutherford
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Laird Brown
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Olivia Paterson
Full Colours for Sporting Excellence	Freya Hamilton-Nicoll
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Jack Balchin
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Freya Shepherd
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Jaden Mascarenhas
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Fynn Shepherd
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lucas Serrels
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Ross Duncan
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Charlotte Trimmer
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Aylei Pickup
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Kasper Mearns
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Iona Mearns
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Chloe Brian
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Charlie Valente
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Alefiyah Karimbhai
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Sofia Serrels
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Sofia Weeks
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Anthony Alexander
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Ella MacLennan
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Rosie MacLennan
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Sakina Karimbhai
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Oliver Juchniewicz
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Kayla Sim
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Alice Whyte
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Abbie Crawford
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Finlay Graham
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Isaac Voang
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Calum McDonald
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Flora Smith
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lea da Silva
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Isabella Dove
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Yusuf Mejerissi

Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Fergus McFadzean
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Isla Arnett
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Rachel McCrae
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Riccardo Socea
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Skye Cathcart-Mudd
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lucy Fairbairn
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Anaya Nadeem
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Selasi Hatse
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Jamie Dawes
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Adam Taylor
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lewis Scott
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Millie Sloan
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Daniel Dewar
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Millie Payne
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Jay Middlemass
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	William Goh
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Matthew Wild
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Zack Szadurski
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Callum Hutchison
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Archie Miers
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Will Groves
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Beth Campbell
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Esme Duffin
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Phoebe Clarkson
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Charlie Duffin
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Will Campbell
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Lewis W Robb
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Anne Chan
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Caity Thomson
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Eliza Draycott
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Logan Munro
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Callie Houston
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Leah Sim
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Emma McQuarrie
Half Colours for Sporting Excellence	Millie Murray
Music and Drama Awards	
John Turner Prize for Drama	Ella Gunn
Crawford Taylor Memorial Prize Music & Drama	Jagoda Matecka
Nick Randel Award for Music	Grace Manning
Outstanding Contribution to Extra Curricular Music & Drama	Muir Tait
Contribution to Academies	Arian Rahman
Contribution to Whole School Events	Jamie Downes
Contribution to Musical Theatre	Emily McKellican
Contribution to Musical Theatre	Jess Hemsley
Contribution to Musical Theatre	Keira Bonaria

Contribution to Musical Theatre	Matthew Wood
Contribution to Musical Theatre	Amelie Burnett
Contribution to Percussion	Danny Groves
Contribution to Percussion	Marco Mackenzie
Contribution to Woodwind	Elliot Wood
Contribution to Bass	Chloe Tsang
Contribution to Bass	Calan Craig
Contribution to Cello Ensemble	Luke Hardie
Contribution to Guitar Ensemble	Maeve Archibald
Contribution to Guitar Ensemble	Lucy Buskie
Contribution to Fiddle Group	Hugh Smart
Contribution to String Ensemble	Lewis Lim
Contribution to Piano	Natalia Herrera
Contribution to Singing	Ellis Weckner Bradley
Contribution to Instrument Repair	Anthony Liniewski
Contribution to Drama & Musical Theatre Showcase	Joshua Brown
Contribution to Show Sound and Lighting	Zack Szadurski
Contribution to Guitar Club	Sam Bishop
Art Awards	
James Grey Art Appreciation	Hermia Law
S4 Outstanding Photographer	Lucas McSorley
S5 Outstanding Photographer	Zach Forster
RHS S1 Artists of the Year	Grace Dyer
RHS S1 Artists of the Year	Theresa Archibald
RHS S1 Artists of the Year	Daman Singhal
RHS S1 Artists of the Year	Helena Ross
RHS S1 Artists of the Year	Sophia Hutton
RHS S1 Artists of the Year	Lucy Fairbairn
RHS S2 Artists of the Year	Mauli Mittal
RHS S2 Artists of the Year	Sylvia Mrazova
RHS S2 Artists of the Year	Livia Ngai
RHS S2 Artists of the Year	Katniss To
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Georgie Scanlon
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Arianna Caira
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Ayla Razzouk
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Torin Marshall-Orr
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Valentine Muhl
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Islay Martin
RHS S3 Artists of the Year	Amelie Burnett
RHS S3 Fashion & Costume	Emily McIntosh
RHS National level Artists of the Year	Hannah Dill
RHS National level Artists of the Year	Onyx Mearns
RHS National level Artists of the Year	Flora Parker
RHS National level Artists of the Year	Priscila Lee
S4 NPA Animation	Jamie Noble-Cockburn

S4 NPA Art & Design	Robin Grant
S5 Artist of the Year	Hannah Dill
Junk Kouture	Hugh Smart
Junk Kouture	Faye Morgan
Junk Kouture	Sadie Lister
Junk Kouture	Georgie Armstrong
Junk Kouture	Latika Shivakumar
Junk Kouture	Lourdes Do Rego
Junk Kouture	Sylvia Mrazova
Junk Kouture	Kiveli Pagonidou

MEMBERS OF STAFF – SESSION 2025/26

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

Depute Headteachers

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

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

Lewis Whale, MA Geography, PDGE Geography Teaching

Nicola Casey, BA & Dip Ed (Stirling)

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), Kelsi Strang, PGDE (Edinburgh), MSc TESOL (Stirling), BA Hons Art and Design (Stirling).

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), Mairi Hunter, BSc hons Physiology (University of Glasgow) PGDE (University of Strathclyde), Heather White, BSc Hons Biological Sciences (Warwick), PGDE (Edinburgh), Laura Scott, BSc Hons Molecular Biology (Edinburgh), PGDE (Strathclyde), Greig Walkup, BSc Biology with Professional Education (University of Stirling).

Business Education: Lindsay Keighren, MA Hons Business Management (Edinburgh), PGDE (Strathclyde), Cara Thomson, BA Hons Business Management (Edinburgh Napier), PGDE Business Education (Strathclyde), Kirsten Saunders, BA Business Management (Abertay University), PGDE (Strathclyde).

Chemistry: Philip Wootton, BSc Hons, (Glasgow), PGDE (Edin), Katie Will, BSc Hons (Edin), PGDE (Strathclyde), Finlay Dunn BSc Hons Materials Chemistry (University of St. Andrews), PGDE (Aberdeen), Catherine Ross, BSc Biochemistry with Professional Education [Dip. Ed.] (Stirling) and PG Cert Critical Enquiry (UHI).

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), Wendy Reith, BSc Computer Science (Stirling).

Craft, Design and Technology: Liam Carragher, BEd (1st class Hons) Design and Technology, 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), Katie Taylor, BSc Product Design and Innovation (1st Class) (Strathclyde) PGDE Secondary (Edinburgh).

Drama: Scott Ballantyne BA (Hons) Performance (University of the West of Scotland), Rebecca Clark, BA Hons Acting (Northumbria), PGCE (Edinburgh).

English: Helen McLean, MA(Hons) English Language and Literature at Edinburgh, PGDE (Edinburgh), 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), Laura Timlin, BA(Hons) English (Stirling), MLitt Creative Writing (Stirling), PGDE (Strathclyde), Jess Cheadle, BA(Hons) English Literature (Durham), PGDE (Edinburgh), James Devoy BA English and Film (Napier) PGDE (Napier), Emily-Jane Laidlaw, MA Hons English (Dundee), PGDE (Dundee).

Geography: Sarah Goudie, BSc Hons (Glasgow), PGDE, Liane Mcdonald, BTech (Edin), PGCE (Nottingham), Torcail Stewart M.Phil Management, Economics, & International Relations (St Andrews) MA Hons Geography/Management Studies Cambridge), PGDE (Edinburgh).

History: Alison Gallagher, MA Hons History (Edin), PGCE (Edinburgh), Haldane Fraser, BA Hons History (Strathclyde), PGDE (Edinburgh), Amy McFarlane, BA (Hons) History, Strathclyde, PGDE (Aberdeen), Samantha Foggo BA Hons History and Professional Education (Secondary) (University of Stirling).

Home Economics: Kathryn Kelly, BSc Hons (Queen Margaret), PGDE (Strathclyde), Emily Chalmers BA Business (Edinburgh), PGDE Home Economics (Edinburgh)

Integrated Support Team: Scott Rodger BEd Hons (Edin), PGC (Aberd), Hannah Sim MA Hons (Glasgow), PGDE (Edin), Robert Watson BSc(Hons) Sports Science & Physiology (Glasgow), PGCE (Edinburgh), Claire Devlin BEd Hons (Edinburgh), Amy Hogg (Acting PSL) MA Hons (Edinburgh), PGDE (Glasgow), Alex Hagart (Acting PSL) MA Hons, (Aberdeen), MLitt Modern History (Aberdeen), PGDE History (Edinburgh), Kerry Jannetta BSc Hons Psychology and Sociology (Queen Margaret), PGDE (Strathclyde), Shauna McCallion, BSc Sports Studies (University of Ulster), PGCE (University of Sunderland), Deborah Hislop, BEd Technology (Edin), Philip McCluskey BD Theology/ Religious Studies (Glasgow), PGDE (Strathclyde), 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).

Inclusion Teacher: Robert Hammersley, EAL Hunter BA(hons) University of Teesside: PGCE Strathclyde University Olga Hunter, B.Ed (Hons) Age Range 3-9 (Exeter University)

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

Pupil Support Assistants

(SFL): Jasmine Ryan, Karen Sloan, Lee Sneddon, Janice Chau, Hilary Cross, Eunice Wong, Kate Shanahan, Alex Thomas

Pupil Support Officers: Amy McLaren, Poppy Clark, BA Hons Archaeology (Liverpool), MA Hons Archaeology (University College London)

(Wellbeing): Amal Alam, Rebecca Hodge (ESB): Claire Lee, Kay Farquhar, Zoe Turner

Mathematics: Kamran Sikander, BSc Mathematics, PGDE, M.Ed. (Glasgow), 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), Andrew Curry B.sc Hons Mathematics (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, BSC with Physics, Maths and Meteorology (Nepal), MBS with Finance (Nepal), PGDE (Strathclyde), Bede Hager-Suart, MSc Philosophy (Edinburgh), PGCE (Bath Spa), Mohammed Naseer Rashid, BEng Hons Automotive Technology (Coventry University), PGCE (London Metropolitan University), Mike Wynne-Roberts MEng Civil Engineering (Newcastle University), PGDE (Edinburgh Napier).

Modern Languages: Caroline Welsh, MA Hons (Aberdeen), PgDip (Napier), PGCE(Edin), Clare Landsburgh, LL.B (Hons) Scots Law and French Language (Glas), Diplôme des Etudes Universitaires Françaises (Universite Lyon III) (Glas), PGCE (Glas), Stephanie Mitchell BA Hons (Heriot Watt) PGCE PGCG, Youssef 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), PGDE (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), Callan Valentine BA Hons French, Spanish and Secondary Education (Stirling), Raquel Marcos-Alarcon, PGDE Secondary Education: Modern Languages (University of Aberdeen), MA Training of Teachers of Spanish as a Foreign Language (University of Barcelona & Pompeu Fabra), BA Hons Spanish Philology (University of Murcia).

Modern Studies: Lee MacLachlan, MA Hons Social Policy (Edinburgh) PGCE (Aberdeen), Megan Little BA (Hons) History, The University of Stirling, PGDE, Aberdeen University, Joseph Cornfield BA Hons Politics (Stirling), PGDE (Strathclyde).

Music: Louise Holland, Bed (Hons) Music (Aberdeen), PGDE, Jennifer Lane, BEdMus (RSAMD), Fraser McKain, BA Creative Sound Production, PGDE Secondary Music Teaching Rob Stewardson, MusM Musicology (University of Manchester), PGCE (University of the Witswatersrand).

Physical Education: Physical Education: Paddy Cuthbertson, BEd hons (Edin), Hamish Townshend MA Physical Education, MSc Education Research (The University of Edinburgh), Heather Clark, Bed Hons (Edin), Daniel Lane, Bed Hons (Edin), Holly MacKay, BEd (Hons) Physical Education (Edinburgh), 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), Ellie Wood, MA (hons) Physical Education, Elinor Geddes, MA Physical Education (Edinburgh), Calum Murray MA Hons Physical Education (Edinburgh University), Caitlyn Wilson, MAPE Hons Physical Education (Edinburgh), Calum Archibald, Jillian Leiper, Andrew Kelly (SRU Rugby Development Officer).

Sports Coordinator: Heather Brownlee.

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 Dewhurst, 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 Winsler.

DYW Coordinator: Kathryn Jenner.

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

Administrative Staff: Amy Choi BA (Hons) Hotel and Catering Management (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Elizabeth Sneddon, Sara Belhawla, Marcus Tse, Claire Smith, Nicola McPhail.

School Support Assistants: Lindsay Quinn, Alexandra Graure BA (Hons) Classical Studies (OU, Edinburgh), Zuzana Miles, Dawn Lamb, Alison Powell, Katie Dellal, Claire Paterson

CEC Instrumental Music Staff: Percussion & Drumming – Vini Bonnar - BA (Hons) Popular Music – Napier University, Piano - Kat Taxidou MMus Musicology (University of Edinburgh) BMus Classic Music and Performance (Napier University), Woodwind – Simon Rennard M.Mus, B.Mus(Hons) - The University of Edinburgh, LTCL - Trinity College of Music, Postgraduate Certificate in Performance - Conservatoire van Amsterdam, Guitar - Gordon Ferries - BA Music Studies (Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama) ALCM (Napier University) LLCM (Napier University), Voice – Simone Sahyouni BA Hons (Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama), Violin / Viola – June Nelson, B. Mus (Hons), F. Mus TCL, FLCM and LRSM, David Jeans NC, HNC and HND In Jazz and Latin Music, Perth College, BA Popular Music, Perth UHI/ Riverside. Gareth Ross, Neil Cameron, Tim Cais.

Community Police Officer: PC Samera Ashraf.

Senior Service Support Officer: Mark Gilchrist.

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

ICT Technician: Robaidh MacKinnon BSc Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science (Edinburgh), BSc Computer Science (Napier).

Laboratory Technicians: Alasdair Bradford, MChem (Hons) PhD (St Andrews); Wei Qing Medicine, BSc, Master's in Public Health (medicine); Childhood Education, HNC.

Workshop Technician: Kevin McQueen.

Counsellors: Rolain Williams, Katrina Holbrook, 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 June 2026

Introduction

Headteachers Annual Report, 2025/6 Session

As the 2025/6 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 enjoy reading all about our year in our annual report.

In August we opened with over 1500 pupils, a new nation – The Celts – and 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 Ythan Hunter ably led the parade as friends and family of our new S1 watched on. We are incredibly proud of our new S1 who settled very well into the school and demonstrated superb skills and qualities across their subjects.

As we moved through the school year, we have taken part in many wider achievement events including sports, clubs, and competitions many with great success! These are detailed in our faculty reports. Our extra-curricular program is incredibly popular with over 40 clubs on offer both at lunch and after school. 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. Our S3 pupils experienced a fantastic range of opportunities — from activities across Edinburgh, London, Paris, outdoor education in Ullswater to exploring the battlefields of Belgium and standing at the top of a volcano in Naples. We continue to build on our trips program in line with our education and equity policy and we have a new and improved program planned for 2026/7. 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, mobile phones in schools, vaping, anti-bullying and violence prevention.

School Captain Ythan Hunter and Vice Captains Elizabeth Auld & Melissa Khosravi-Oskouee 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 impressed our former pupils with their stories of RHS 2026. 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 hybrid both in our Boardroom and on TEAMS. This has worked well to accommodate all parents who wish to access the

meetings. Please see the Chairs report from current Chair Phillipa Gray to see the issues our Parent Council have been working on this year. I want to thank all members of the council for all their hard work and determination to make a difference for all young people.

I also want to recognise the incredible work of the Royal High School Parent Fundraising Group who have continued to successfully support the school with both fundraising and their help at events including tea, coffee, home baking and more! They had a very successful fundraising year with money raised to fund departmental bids and these will allow us to support 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 and our Parent App, both of which we use to share news and events.

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 includes answering queries from former pupils and their families, developing a timeline of The Royal High School and interviewing 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, shirt signing and the now infamous Science Band! As they were piped down the drive by Mr Stewart 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.

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 1600. Our temporary huts continue to support our expanding numbers as well as our Woodland Wing which opened in August 2024 which is an amazing space with classrooms, workshops, offices and a conference room. We will continue to have additional improvements across the school in the next session to ensure our young people can learn in a modern and appropriate space.

As we fast approach our 900th anniversary in 2027/8 we are very excited to be moving into the final planning stages for events across the school community. Our Royal High Foundation supports the 900th anniversary and is 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. We hope you will all get involved in celebrating the amazing 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 All 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 900th anniversary in 2028 we strive to provide the very best for all our community. We firmly believe in 'We All 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 incredibly proud to be the Headteacher of such an outstanding school.

Viva Schola Regia!

Mrs Pauline Walker

Headteacher

Staffing Report

At the end of the 2026 session, we will be saying to goodbye to a number of staff, some of whom have been with us for over 20 years.

Mr Steve Bakke who is Curricular Leader of Science retires from RHS after 24 years in the school. Mr Bakke arrived in the Royal High as Principal Teacher of Physics appointed by the then Rector George Smuga. Mr Bakke was part of the citywide management restructuring exercise where he was then appointed as Curricular Leader of Science encompassing all science subjects. Mr Bakke has led many changes in the school including the introduction of Curriculum of Excellence and Higher Still. He is passionate about science for all and not only leaves behind the legacy of a highly successful faculty of 17 staff, all of whom he has appointed, but he also leaves a highly inclusive faculty where science is truly promoted for every pupil. Perhaps his most infamous role with the pupils is as the guitarist in our Science Band. As he will be continuing 2 days a week with us in his subject of Physics, we hope he will continue to guest star! We wish him all the very best in his well-deserved retirement.

Ms Pat McDaid who has been a Dinner Lady in RHS for 24 years retires this summer. Pat has served thousands of Royal High pupils in the 'grubby' and is a firm favourite with pupils always serving with a smile. She has seen many adaptations in the school over the years from Rectors and staff to major building changes. The school menu offerings have also changed significantly, and many FPs miss the old-style dinners including pink custard! Nothing is ever too much trouble for Pat, and she will be sorely missed by us all. We wish her a very long and happy retirement.

Mr Gordon Rutter is our Teacher of Biology and RHS retiree 2026 after 17 years. Mr Rutter has been a firm favourite since he joined the school. He not only provides his students with an excellent education in Biology, but he has also gone above and beyond using his huge range of passions to provide something a bit special! This has included searching for fungi species in the school grounds, providing photography for all our events, organising the S3 Edinburgh days and searching for paranormal in the school –he found something interesting on all counts! Mr Rutter is dedicated to education both in an out of the classroom and helped plan and develop our outside classroom spaces opening them quite literally with some fire breathing. Mr Rutter will be returning to be part of the 900th project planning where we are sure he will bring his very special flair and incredible knowledge of Edinburgh to our plans. We wish him all the very best in his well-deserved retirement.

Mr Phil Wooton, Teacher of Chemistry retires from The Royal High after 14 years in the school. Mr Wooton joined us early in his teaching career after a very successful career in industry. This has brought an extra dimension to his teaching practice, and his classes have definitely benefitted. Mr Wooton approaches every day with a positive attitude and a smile and has inspired many to take that extra step to be successful even when the going got tough. The Science band will never be the same again as he hangs up his mic as our lead singer with his final gig on Friday at our S6 prom. 'Don't Stop Believing' will not be the same again! Mr Wooton

continues to inspire new teachers to join the profession taking part in sessions with Edinburgh University to promote teaching. As he loves his job and struggles to find a negative, we know he will have encouraged more than a few to take that step and join one of the best professions in the world. We wish Mr Wooton the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Mrs Stephanie Mitchell, Teacher of Modern Languages retires from The Royal High School after 10 years in the school. Mrs Mitchell started her career in a variety of languages roles both home and abroad before settling in Scotland as a teacher of French and German. Mrs Mitchell will be remembered fondly by her pupils as nurturing and lots of fun! She joined many foreign language trips and loved seeing pupils using their language skills while abroad and seeing their confidence grow. We wish Mrs Mitchell a very long and happy retirement.

We also had 5 probationer teachers complete their induction year with us this year. Mr Mike Wynne-Roberts (Maths), Mr Torcail Stewart (Geography), Mr Calum Murray (PE), Mr Finlay Dunn (Chemistry) and Mr James Devoy (English) all successfully passed their probation year and we wish them all the very best for their future careers.

At the end of June we have a number of other staff leaving. We want to thank them for all their work during their time with us. Mr Pdraig Cuthbertson Curricular Leader of Health and Wellbeing, Ms Kerry Jannetta Curricular Leader of Support for Pupils, Ms Jessica Cheadle Teacher of English, Ms Samatha Fogg Teacher History & Modern Studies, Mr Joe Cornfield Teacher of History & Modern Studies, Mr Alex Thomas Pupil Support Assistant, Mr Robert Stewardson Teacher of Music, Ms Elizabeth Bernstein Educational Psychologist, Ms Amy McLaren Pupil Support Officer Inclusion and Ms Hannah Millard Teacher of CDT.

Ms Holly McKay Teacher of ASN & PE will be on secondment for a year starting in August and Ms Kirsten Saunders Teacher of Business Education will be on career break for a year.

We wish all our staff leavers the very best as they become part of our school history.

We Always Belong Here.

Pauline Walker
Headteacher

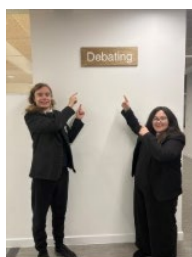
English and Media

It has been another busy and successful year in the English and Media faculty. In September, Dr Moonie held a coffee and chat session for Senior National 5 parents to help them understand the course content and expectations, and how best to support their child to be successful.

In September, Mr Shiels and Mrs Laidlaw accompanied three S3 pupils to represent RHS at a Teen Titles workshop hosted by Drummond High School. The group had the fantastic opportunity to meet author and illustrator Sarah Lippett, co-writer of the young adult graphic novel *Everything Amplified*. During the workshop, pupils enjoyed an interactive session on how graphic novels are composed. Our pupils' engaging review and interview with Sarah can now be read in the current Teen Titles Publication!



In October, we held our annual Poetry week in honour of National Poetry Day. This year's theme was 'play' and Dr Hendry created really engaging resources for all pupils from S1 to S3 to use in lessons. As usual, there were prizes in each year group based on the school values. In November, two groups of pupils took part in cinema trips as part of the Into Film Festival. S3 Media pupils attended a screening of 'Wicked' and Higher Media pupils watched '28 Years Later'.



We had another busy year in debating clubs, with the junior club being especially busy with lots of new S1 pupils. In February, we had a team participate in the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service's Schools' Public Speaking Competition. We also had two S6 pupils, Sean and Charlotte, compete in the Law Society of Scotland's Donald Dewar Memorial Debating Tournament. Sean and Charlotte made it to the second round and represented the school brilliantly. RHS pupils also ran a series of very successful debating workshops at Cramond and Blackhall primary schools.

Pupils in Creative Writing Club have had a busy year, writing stories, poems and plays. They've submitted their writing to lots of competitions, including the Japan Society Haiku Competition, The George Orwell Competition and the Green Pencil Award in which two of our young writers were finalists. We celebrated their achievements in our first Creative Writing Showcase event in the library, in May, in which pupils read their work to an invited audience of parents, carers, staff and pupils. Miss Hogg has welcomed new members to the Gender Equalities Club this year, including Miss Foggo. They have celebrated International Men's Day and International Women's Day, with campaigns throughout the school in November and March, as well as a return of Gender in the News from some of our S3 pupils. Mr Craig has continued to run the popular Comic Book Film Club, and some S1 pupils have started a new Star Wars film club.



In March we celebrated World Book Day with Mrs Timlin taking the lead in organising an eco-book fair in the library, as well as a quizzes and activities for BGE pupils to engage in during class time. The book fair was really well attended, and we are grateful for all the donations received. Continuing on the theme of books, we are going to be finishing up this academic year with pupils engaging in a consultation with Edinburgh Council and Blackhall Library to consider what the new permanent library should look like and what would make young people want to visit the library and spend time there.

Finally, a group of 30 S3 pupils visited London in May, with highlights including a trip to Shakespeare's Globe, Wembley Stadium, The London Eye and the West End show 'The Lion King'. Planning for next year's trip is already underway.

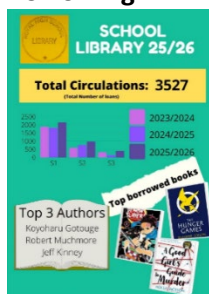
School Library

Welcome to our school library report! We're excited to share the activities, achievements, and developments that have been taking place to support your child's reading, creativity, and learning. Here's what we've been up to:

Library Budget

This year's library budget was £500, which we used primarily to purchase new fiction titles. A smaller portion supported specific student requests and replaced well-loved books that had seen better days.

Borrowing



Borrowing has continued to rise this year, with the total number of loans increasing again in 2025/26. We issued 2,963 loans last year, and this year's figure is even higher — a really encouraging trend, especially given that the national picture shows a decline in reading among young people.

You can read more about the national context in the latest report from the **National Literacy Trust**.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/research-services/research-reports/children-and-young-peoples-reading-in-2025/>

Library Donation

A huge thank-you to a group of **S1 pupils** who put on a community show last year and chose to donate **£240** of their fundraising to the RHS Library. Their generosity allowed us to purchase a fantastic selection of **dyslexia-friendly books**, including teen fiction, popular classics such as *Animal Farm* and *Romeo & Juliet*, and football biographies featuring QR codes so pupils can read and listen at the same time.



Library Events & Activities



Throughout the year, we organised a wide range of events to spark curiosity and celebrate reading. Highlights include:

- **Maths Week:** Spotlighting non-fiction titles showing how maths shapes the real world.
- **Banned Books Week:** A display and presentation exploring challenged books and celebrating our freedom to read.
- **Black History Month:** Showcasing books celebrating UK Black history, culture, and new diverse voices.
- **Book Week Scotland:** Displays, promotions, and activities encouraging school-wide participation. A



school wide competition was run with our Literacy Coordinator Mrs Lee, in SFL. Pupils had to guess the teacher from their favourite books as a Child, Teen and Adult.

- **Dyslexia Awareness Day:** Featuring Barrington Stoke titles and guidance for dyslexia-friendly reading.
- **LGBTQ+ Month:** A display of new LGBTQ+ titles and an online author event with Juno Dawson.
- **World Book Day:** Digital book tokens for pupils and support for the Eco Bookfair through sourcing pre-loved books. A Book Swap event took place in the library in coordination with the English Department.
- **International Women's Day:** Celebrating women's achievements through literature.
- **Autism Awareness Week:** A display with myth-busting leaflets and supportive resources.

BGE Book Group



Our BGE Book Group meets fortnightly on Wednesdays to read, chat, and share recommendations. This enthusiastic group has explored a wide range of titles this year and continues to grow in confidence. The group represented The Royal High in the Senior National Reading Quiz, organised by the National Literacy Trust and ALCS (Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society). They competed against 21 other schools from across North and Southeast Scotland.

The quiz proved far more challenging than expected, but the team rose to the occasion with real determination. They did themselves proud and they secured a joint 7th place, alongside ESMS and Holyrood High School.



Racial Equalities Group



Mr Kassime's Racial Equalities Group has some funding (£130) to expand our collection of diverse books. Pupils visited Waterstones to select titles themselves and created a brilliant display featuring their choices alongside books selected by previous equality groups.

North Bridge Donation

The library received donated copies of *North Bridge: Where We Travelled* from Balfour Beatty, the company leading the renovation of Edinburgh's historic North Bridge. Representative Eliza Butter presented the books to our Creative Writing Club and spoke about the engineering work, the bridge's heritage, and the inspiration behind the project.

The anthology, created by Jeda Pearl, features poetry, stories, memoirs, scripts, and even a game — all celebrating the identity and history of North Bridge.



Teen Titles: Author Event



Mr Shiels and Mrs Laidlaw accompanied three S3 pupils to a Teen Titles workshop at Drummond High School. Pupils met **Sarah Lippett**, co-author of the graphic novel *Everything Amplified*, and took part in a hands-on workshop exploring how graphic novels are created. They designed characters, created short comic sequences, and later submitted interview questions for Sarah Lippett, which appeared in the next issue of **Teen Titles**.



SLA Information Book Award

Dr Hendry's S1 nurture class took part in the School Library Association Information Book Award. Over six weeks, pupils explored the shortlisted non-fiction titles and developed their critical reading skills. They investigated how book awards are judged, the criteria used, book design, the organisation of information, the use of language, and how to evaluate whether information is accurate and trustworthy. All of this was done through a fun mix of discussion and creative craft tasks, helping pupils build confidence as informed, thoughtful readers.



Warhammer Club



Our Warhammer Club meets every Monday lunchtime (and sometimes Fridays). Through the Warhammer Alliance, new S1 members received their own models and an introductory magazine to help them get started with building, painting, and gameplay.

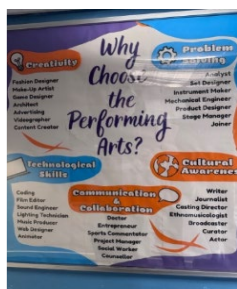
Library Volunteers

Our student volunteers have been invaluable this year. As part of their DofE, they supported day-to-day library tasks and wrote book reviews for Teen Titles. Their enthusiasm and commitment make a real difference.

If you'd like to explore past issues of Teen Titles or read reviews written by our volunteers, you can find them here: **Teen Titles Magazine**. <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/download/12837/teen-titles-back-issues>

Drama & Music 25/26

This year, our Drama and Music departments have continued to provide a range of opportunities for young people to develop and showcase their expressive talents



Our showcases this year included the annual Christmas Concert, an opportunity for our musicians to take centre stage, displaying their work in both class and extra-curricular clubs. We also had a Drama & Musical theatre showcase this year, a new event in our calendar showing the growing contributions pupils are making through Drama Club and Musical Theatre Academies with a night full of performance. We've also had a hand in a range of events; S6 Ceilidh, Wider Achievement Ceremony, Prizegiving, Musical Theatre Evening, and many others with our pupils playing a central role in the life of our school.

We have also enhanced our trips offering this year with more opportunities with pupils to engage with pathways than before. Drama attended the theatre multiple times, seeing *HER*, *So Young*, *Shawshank Redemption* and *Faustus in Africa*. Music students have taken part in multiple City of Edinburgh's Instrumental Music Service concerts at Usher Hall as well as Opera workshops in Royal High. We are incredibly proud of how our pupils represented themselves and the school in these events.



This year we also engaged in professional writing opportunities with pupils able to take part in both *Class Act* through Traverse Theatre and *New Views* with The National Theatre. Both allowed pupils to work alongside professional playwrights to develop stories, enhance literacy skills and have their voices heard. For pupils involved in *Class Act*, this also involved a showcase of their work performed by professional actors and becoming published playwrights with their work printed and published by the Traverse Theatre! We couldn't be prouder of these pupils.

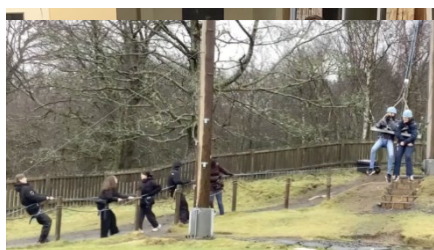
Finally, alongside these experiences, within our classroom settings pupils have worked fantastically to develop meta skills, build relationships and enhance their confidence not only in Drama and Music but in themselves through transferable skills. We are passionate about the impact our subjects can make beyond the classroom, and it has been brilliant to see the progress of pupils this year.

Our Drama and Music departments continue to grow, with more uptake next term, more performance opportunities across the school and continuing our desire to provide excellent learning and teaching experiences for pupils in all years. We look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department has enjoyed another busy and rewarding year, continuing to challenge and inspire our young people while broadening their experiences through study camps, national competitions, international visitors and nationwide initiatives.

Mrs Crow, with support from Mrs Campbell, once again led organising our hugely popular **Maths**



Camp with 10 teachers in total from the Maths department joining over the course of the weekend. Thirty National 5 Maths and Apps of Maths pupils spent three days at Lendrick Muir, combining intensive small-group revision with outdoor activities such as archery, climbing and the King Swing. The camp, generously supported by the Worshipful Company of Actuaries, targets pupils at risk of underachieving, and feedback was overwhelmingly

positive: pupils' confidence rose markedly across the weekend and 18 of the 22 surveyed said they would recommend it. One parent wrote to thank staff for providing "an enjoyable yet educational weekend."

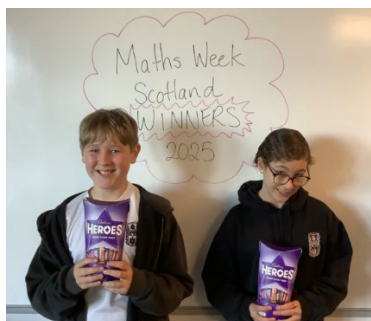
Danish students visit In September we were delighted to welcome **23 students from Nærum Gymnasium in Denmark**, who joined us for a day of classroom visits, lunch with our pupils, and an afternoon of mathematics in the Hall led by Mr Hager, exploring intriguing problems such as the Monty Hall problem.



Scottish Actuarial Innovators Challenge

For the first time, five of our teams entered the **Scottish Actuarial Innovators Challenge**, run by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, tackling a real-world actuarial problem on the future of space tourism. While no team reached the grand final at Heriot-Watt University, all attended the ceremony and gained invaluable insight to build on next year.

Maths Week Scotland



Mrs Campbell led our participation in **Maths Week Scotland**, themed "Wild Maths", bringing nature and numbers together through a week of activities celebrating mathematics across the school.

Scottish Mathematical Challenge

Mr Docherty supported our entrants in the **Scottish Mathematical Challenge** (Scottish Mathematical Council). Our Junior pupils earned 3 Silver and 1 Bronze, and our Middle pupils an excellent 2 Gold and 1 Silver, with winners attending the awards ceremony in May.

UK Maths Trust Challenges

Mr Hager led our entries to the **UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Challenges**, where pupils achieved outstanding results. Skye Cathcart-Mudd was among the top scorers nationally, gaining Gold in the Intermediate Challenge and progressing to the prestigious Pink Kangaroo round, where she achieved Bronze. Five of our Junior Gold winners progressed to the Junior Kangaroo follow-on round, with Louise Wang (S2) our highest junior achiever.



UKMT Challenge	Gold	Silver	Bronze / Other
Junior (S1 & S2)	8	13	16 Bronze
Intermediate (S3 & S4)	1	5	6 Bronze
Mathematical Competition for Girls (S5)	–	–	3 Merits

Enterprising Maths

In October, a team of our S3 pupils – Skye Cathcart-Mudd, William Goh, Rebecca Cowe and Leo Gordon Young – represented the school at the Edinburgh-wide qualifying round of the Enterprising Maths Competition at Forrester High School. Competing against 18 other teams, they placed an excellent 6th narrowly missing qualification for the National Championship – despite being the only side made up entirely of S3 pupils.

Wellbeing Hub



Our purpose is to support young people who find school challenging by helping them reconnect with learning, build confidence and thrive within the Royal High School community. Through daily 1:1 support, small-group sessions and targeted classwork, we work alongside pupils to strengthen wellbeing, widen achievement and open new pathways during key transitions.

Although we work with a relatively small number of learners, the impact is significant. Each year we continue to grow, adapt and seek new opportunities to support our young people. This report provides a snapshot of our progress over the past year.



Attainment and Positive Destinations



Our PSO and PSA deliver high-quality sessions focused on emotional regulation, positive decision-making and coping strategies to help S1–3 pupils progress in classroom environments. The Wellbeing Hub continues to strengthen our ability to support senior phase attainment, wider achievement and positive destinations with a strong focus on equity. We have supported a targeted group of disengaged learners to complete SQA awards from National 3 to Higher including

qualifications in Mental Health and Wellbeing, Health Sector, Employability, Barbering and Hair & Beauty. Through 1:1 and small-group tutoring, a further 137 pupils achieved qualifications within their timetabled curriculum. Our mentoring programme supported 25 pupils into positive destinations including further education and employment.

Partnership Working

Our partners play a vital role in providing rich, meaningful experiences for our young people.

- **Positive Starts** – Seventeen P7 pupils took part in a transition programme with MYDG, enjoying bushcraft, hillwalking and canoeing to build resilience and belonging.
- **JET Programme** – 6 pupils regular workshops developing skills for work and completed extended work placements. All participants have secured job offers or further-education opportunities.
- **Scran Academy** – Continued to offer powerful individual support, helping pupils overcome barriers and access new opportunities. They event hosted First Minister John Swinney!
- **Outdoor Learning** – Our new OL teacher has already made a strong impact. During Meaningful May, pupils achieved awards including National Navigation Bronze, Paddlestart Canoeing and NICAS Level 1.
- **RUTS Motolearn** – Eight pupils learned basic motorcycle mechanics and took part in an off-road riding experience. Always an incredible experience for our young mechanics.
- **CDT Collaboration** – With the help of our CDT department, we transformed our courtyard into a usable space using only upcycled old furniture. We now have space for 1:1 and small-group work, activities and games as well as planters to grow our own vegetables.

Reflection and Next Steps

We are incredibly proud of the young people we work with and inspired by their resilience, growth and achievements. We are equally grateful to our dedicated staff and partners who consistently go above and beyond.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to expanding opportunities, strengthening partnerships and ensuring every young person has the best chance to succeed at The Royal High School. We can't wait for another impactful year.

Science

The Science faculty focus heavily on the continued updating of our broad general education offering in S1 and S2 to ensure this course continues to meet the needs of all young people at RHS. This has included a bespoke set of skills-focused lessons to equip all learners with the tools necessary to succeed as they progress through the school. Pupil engagement and satisfaction have continued to grow, with increased uptake of Science subjects across the board being particularly pleasing.



The Royal High School Young STEM Leader programme has continued to grow this year with pupils given the opportunity to attain the Level 3 Non-Formal qualification in first year and the Level 5 Formal qualification in third year. Those who seized these exciting opportunities had fun creating collages celebrating famous leaders, devising their own experiments and even taking a trip to the STEM showcase at Our Dynamic Earth to learn about promoting STEM careers. Their work culminated in an ‘Explore-A-Science’ day where they ably led sixty first year pupils in a

series of workshops to provide an insight into the science subjects available at Royal High. Mrs Hunter and Miss Will are tremendously proud of their achievements and await news of the outcome of their award submission.

We have continued to take advantage of high-quality extra-curricular opportunities to enrich the experience of learners within the faculty. S1 pupils took part in Skills Development Scotland’s “Circular Economy Challenge” to develop and pitch a circular economy product or service. Pupils developed key meta-skills through this challenge, culminating in pitching their product at a national event. S3 pupils competed in the “NXP Drone Challenge” held at University of Edinburgh, gaining insight into engineering careers and the importance of transferable skills such as programming.

We enter the 2026/27 session as a new era as Mr Bakke is stepping down from his role as CL Science. Mr Rutter and Mr Wootton will also be sadly missed having both given many years of service to the faculty, both having decided to retire at the end of this session. We will wave farewell to Mr Dunn who has completed his NQT year. We welcomed Mr Walkup who joined in February to cover for Mrs Hammond who is on maternity leave. The faculty are excited to meet the challenges arriving in session 2026/27.

Business and Computing

It has been another busy, successful, and exciting year within the Business and Computing Faculty. Throughout the year, we have continued to grow from strength to strength, with increasing uptake across all our subject areas reflecting the enthusiasm and engagement of our young people. We were also delighted to welcome Mrs Keighren back from maternity leave at Easter and are very pleased to have her rejoin the faculty team.

A key focus for the faculty this year was to engage in a variety of real-world experiences, including workshops, competitions, and technology events. Students have developed important skills for learning, life, and work. These opportunities have helped build confidence, creativity, teamwork, and a greater understanding of future career pathways.

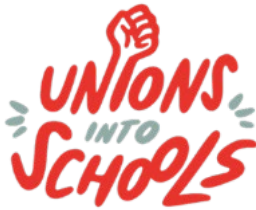


Business Live!

At the beginning of the year, we ran a trip to Edinburgh Napier University - Craiglockhart Campus for Business Management Live! The day was filled with lectures and workshops to provide further insight into Higher Business Management

Future Asset Investment Competition

We are delighted that student groups successfully completed the Growing Future Asset Investment Competition, where pupils researched companies, created investment pitches, and worked with industry mentors. The programme helped develop financial literacy, teamwork, and confidence while encouraging more young women to explore careers in finance and business. We are incredibly proud of the dedication and achievements shown by all participants.



STUCS – Unions into Schools

In October, representatives from STUCS Unions into Schools visited the school to deliver an interactive workshop for Higher Business Management pupils. The experience provided valuable real-world insight and helped bring learning from the Human Resource Management unit to life.

Female Future in Tech Event

Senior female pupils attended the inspiring Female Future in Tech event at Gogarburn Business School, where they took part in workshops and heard from women working across the technology industry. Pupils developed teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving skills through collaborative challenges, with two teams receiving awards for Courage and Ambition in recognition of their enthusiasm and positive attitude.



As a faculty, we are incredibly proud of the achievements, resilience, and commitment shown by our young people this year. We look forward to continuing to build on these successes next session and to providing further opportunities which inspire, challenge, and support all learners within Business and Computing.

Health and Wellbeing

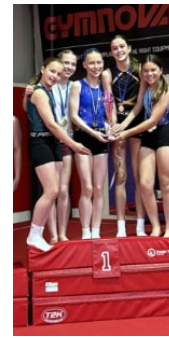


Physical Education enjoyed another highly successful year, with pupils engaging in a wide range of curricular, extracurricular and leadership opportunities. Learners developed physical fitness, teamwork, resilience and confidence through a diverse program of activities, while senior pupils benefited from Level 6 qualifications in Exercise and Fitness Leadership and Sports Coaching.

Participation in extracurricular sport remained exceptionally strong across rugby, football, netball, volleyball, badminton, basketball, dance, gymnastics, table tennis and powerlifting. The Wider Achievement Ceremony celebrated outstanding performances, with over 70 pupils receiving Sports Colours. The relaunch of the School Sports Council and expansion of Sports Leadership opportunities further strengthened pupil voice and leadership throughout the school.



Our Sports Coaching pupils have continued to make a positive impact beyond The Royal High School by delivering coaching sessions within our cluster primary schools. Alongside this, the school's annual Dance Showcase was a tremendous success, highlighting the creative talent and dedications of our dancers. The event attracted excellent participation and audience support, providing pupils with a platform to perform, celebrate their achievements and contribute to the vibrant sporting and cultural life of the school.



Home Economics continued to thrive, providing pupils with practical life skills in food preparation, nutrition and healthy living. This year saw the highest ever number of examination candidates in the department, reflecting the growing popularity of the subject and the commitment of learners. Pupils

developed confidence, independence and valuable lifelong skills through a wide range of practical experiences.

Modern Languages

It's been a very busy year in the Modern language Department with lots of opportunities for learning out with the classroom. Here are a few of the events our students have been involved in:

S3 Film

S3 Spanish enjoyed watching a live streaming of the Spanish film 'Los Futbolísimos' as part of the Spanish Film Festival in October.

Higher Languages in Careers Event



On Thursday 23rd October, 25 Higher Modern Languages pupils attended a Languages in Careers Event at George Heriot's School. The afternoon consisted of 5 different presentations from Languages Specialists at the Universities of Glasgow, Strathclyde, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and St Andrews. These presentations highlighted the value of studying a Language alongside another subject and the wide range of career opportunities which this can lead to.

Our students then participated in a variety of interactive workshops and had the opportunity to speak with university staff and some undergraduate / postgraduate Languages students from the University of Strathclyde.

Advanced Higher and Higher Immersion Event

On Friday 27th February, 24 Languages pupils attended an immersion event at the Languages Faculty at the University of Edinburgh. Our Higher and Advanced Higher students took part in various workshops during the afternoon and had the opportunity to meet other students from 9 different Schools from across the city of Edinburgh. Our Higher students played various board games and had to converse in Spanish or French for the entire 2 hours. The Advanced Higher French students started with some ice-

breaker games and discussed the topics of pollution and the environment and shared their opinions on social media. Super preparation for their speaking exams!

S1 Languages Beyond University

S1 French classes had input from Josie Scott, University of Edinburgh, as part of the Languages Beyond University programme. Josie worked with three S1 classes to look at French onomatopoeia and the use of games in teaching. Pupils loved working with Josie and particularly enjoyed learning the time through playing the classic game: 'Quelle heure est-il Monsieur Loup?'



Higher and Advanced Higher French trips to Chez Jules

Both the Higher and Advanced Higher French classes enjoyed a trip to Chez Jules where they were able to taste some authentic French cuisine – lots of people opted for the steak-frites!

S3 trip to IBIS hotel

The Languages for Life and Work Spanish and French classes took part in work experience at the IBIS hotel, Hunter Square. They worked at the reception desk, with the janitorial team and the cleaning crew. They all enjoyed the experience and had a generously free breakfast offered too.



S1 letters to penfriends in New Caledonia

Some of our S1 had the great excitement of sending a letter they wrote in French to penfriends in Nouméa, New Caledonia.

Other news

And finally, Miss Eadie welcomed beautiful baby Innes back in February and is now enjoying her maternity leave.

Craft, Design and Technology (CDT)

The 2025–26 session has been another highly successful year for the CDT department, with continued improvements in attainment, increased uptake across our courses, and a growing range of opportunities for pupils to develop creativity, technical skills, and confidence. These achievements reflect the hard work and dedication of the CDT team, while pupil feedback continues to highlight high levels of enjoyment, challenge, and pride in learning.



One of the highlights of the year was the success of our STEM Racing (formerly Formula 1 in Schools) teams. Our senior team earned a place at the UK National Finals in Sheffield, competing against some of the strongest schools in the country, while participating pupils achieved the Young STEM Leader Award at SCQF Level 6 (Higher equivalent). Alongside this, our S3 team achieved the fastest car in their category at the regional finals.

The department has continued to expand its curriculum offer through the introduction of Practical Metalwork and Jewellery, giving pupils experience in a wide range of modern and traditional manufacturing techniques, including MIG welding, forging, fabrication, and jewellery production.



Funding from the Former Pupils' Foundation enabled us to introduce a suite of 3D printers, supporting innovative learning across the department and wider school. Pupils have designed and manufactured a range of practical products, including teaching aids, charging stations, and equipment for other departments.

A major focus this year has been the continued development of the wellbeing courtyard, creating an attractive outdoor learning space for pupils and staff. We also introduced a cycle maintenance programme working alongside the Wellbeing Hub, providing practical skills and supporting pupil wellbeing through hands-on learning.



Looking ahead, we are delighted to be expanding the CDT department through the appointment of an additional member of staff. This reflects the growing popularity of our subjects and will allow us to further enhance pupil experiences, broaden our curriculum offer, and continue to raise attainment and achievement.

History and Modern Studies

History & Modern Studies Club Visit to the Scottish Parliament



In September, Pupils from the History & Modern Studies Club had the exciting opportunity to visit the Scottish Parliament where they had a guided tour of the building and watched First Minister's Questions live. They also had the chance to have a Q&A with our local MSP, who shared his journey into politics.

S3 Forgotten Armies of WW1

S3 Pupils engaged with the Western Front Association's Autumn Competition: Forgotten Armies. This national competition links closely with our commitment to decolonising the curriculum and Black History Month by highlighting the vital contributions of non-European soldiers and communities during the First World War. Several S3 pupils were delighted to be commended for their thoughtful submissions.

Scottish Elections - Youth Husting at St Giles Cathedral

Our S5 Higher Modern Studies pupils attended a Husting at St Giles Cathedral to hear candidates discuss key issues in partnership with the John Smith Centre, the Scottish Youth Parliament and University of Glasgow. Topics debated on the evening included climate change, gender-based violence, education and the housing crisis all of which are very important issues our young people are facing. This is ahead of the Scottish elections on Thursday 7th May.



Youth Vote 2026

The Modern Studies Department led an exciting campaign aimed at improving the youth franchise in 2026. In the upcoming Scottish Government Elections on May 7th, we ensured those eligible are registered and informed of their voting rights, how to vote and some of the wider knowledge and understanding around elections such as disinformation. Materials created by the Modern Studies teachers were shared to schools around Edinburgh and Edinburgh Learns. This was also presented to our S4-S6 pupils during their PSE blocks.

Holocaust Talk

In February 2026 we hosted Gloria Silver who spoke to S2 students about the experiences of her father, Tony Chuwen who was a Holocaust survivor. Students were fascinated and moved by Tony's incredible story of survival and resilience in the face of unimaginable horror and asked many interesting and insightful questions. This aligned with our S2 theme of 'Rights', along with Holocaust Memorial Day and was an invaluable experience for all students involved.



S3 Trips – London and Battlefields

The S3 London trip, organized by Ms Maclachlan and Mrs McLean, allowed pupils to explore some of the city's most famous landmarks, including the London Eye, Shakespeare's Globe, the Science Museum, and Parliament. They also attended a West End show, ensuring the trip was both educational and inspiring. The Battlefields trip, led by Mr Fraser and Mr Hagart gave pupils the opportunity to visit memorial sites in the Ypres and Somme salients of the Western Front. This included a tour of Tynecott Cemetery where students and staff paid their respects to former RHS pupil Philip Bent (VC).

Advanced Higher conferences

Advanced Higher Modern Studies pupils attended George Watson's College for the Crime and Justice Conference, they engaged in workshops and heard from guest speakers, which provided invaluable support for their dissertation research. The Advanced Higher History class attended the Japan Conference at George Watson's College, where historian and senior lecturer Christopher Harding led a seminar that supported dissertation research and students participated in workshops with other students from across Edinburgh

Geography, Classical Studies and RMPS



Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies (RMPS): RMPS has continued to grow this year, with a full S3 elective, National 5, and Higher class. Our Higher pupils enjoyed an engaging visit to Edinburgh University's Islamic Studies Centre, the Central Mosque, and the Mosque Kitchen, helping bring their Higher Islam unit to life. S3 pupils also took part in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative, with one group winning £3000 for the charity Get2gether. We look forward to welcoming an even larger cohort next year.

Geography and Travel and Tourism: Geography have had another exciting year of trips and fieldwork. S3 pupils explored Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park, learning about conservation, tourism and land management. Higher pupils completed river fieldwork at two sites on the



Water of Leith, gathering Hydrosphere data before studying flood-management measures at Murrayfield. Advanced Higher Geographers joined the MES consortia for slope and soil analysis on Corstorphine Hill. Pupils took part in Edinburgh College's Cabin Crew Experience Day, working inside a model aircraft to



practise real aviation procedures and customer-service skills. We strengthened our Developing the Young Workforce links through a new partnership with the Ibis hotel, creating valuable pathways for future work-experience opportunities.

Classical Studies: The Classics department continues to offer one of the widest ranges of courses nationally, from the S3 elective through to Advanced Higher. This year included several memorable trips, including a visit to Naples and Pompeii. We also introduced a successful Mythology and Latin Academy. The Mythology group enjoyed an immersive visit to the local Japanese Gardens, where pupils listened to Japanese music and read selected myths in the setting, enriching their understanding of the topic.



Outdoor Learning - Duke of Edinburgh Award: Again, our DofE Award has expanded this year, with the addition of an S5 Silver Academy alongside our established S3 Bronze Academy. Their qualifying expedition now moves beyond the Pentland Hills to the coastal route in East Lothian, offering a new level of challenge and experience.

We've also strengthened our local volunteering partnerships with charity shops and Scout groups, creating meaningful and accessible opportunities for our young people.

Eco Enterprise Club: Our S1–2 Eco-Enterprisers have had a packed year, from upcycling projects (garment design and an animated video) to exploring Rewilding in Europe, the SDGs, and running an Eco-Fair that raised £150 towards their August trip to Whitelee Windfarm. Mr Stewart thanks the whole team for their enthusiasm, creativity, and, most importantly, the excellent cakes that powered the fair!

Art & Design, Fashion & Photography

Celebrating Success



This year has been another exciting and successful one for the Art & Design, Fashion & Photography Faculty, with students achieving recognition at local, national and international levels.

In December, S2 student **Malin Marr** was selected as one of the winners of the Edinburgh Winter Windows Competition. Her design was displayed in a bus shelter on Princes Street as part of the city's Christmas celebrations, showcasing her creativity to thousands of visitors and residents.

Congratulations also to **Oliver Wright (S4)**, who achieved **2nd place in the 15–18 age category** of the **Young Reporters for the Environment Photography Competition** with his stunning photograph *Ripples*, taken at Cramond Beach. The competition celebrates young people who use their creativity to raise awareness of environmental issues, and Oliver's success is a wonderful visual example of this.



Advanced Higher Art, Fashion & Photography Exhibition



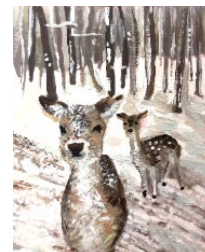
Our annual **Art, Fashion & Photography Exhibition** showcased outstanding work from our National Progression Award (NPA) courses, including **Animation, Visual Communication, Art & Design, Photography and Costume Design**. Our Advanced Higher Art students and Higher Photography students also exhibited their portfolios, providing inspiration for younger pupils and highlighting the exceptional talent within the faculty. We would like to thank all the families and staff members who attended and supported the event. (image on left, by **Leah Poseley** Adv Higher Prize Winner).

Celebrating Former Students

Congratulations to all our former students who graduated from art and design degree courses this year. Miss Howie visited the Art graduates' degree show in Dundee and was incredibly impressed by the quality and professionalism of their work. We are proud to see our former pupils continuing to achieve success in the creative industries.

Christmas Card Fundraising

The Art Department would like to thank all families who supported our annual Christmas Card project by purchasing their child's design. Thanks to your generosity, we raised **£469.39** for **Maggies Centre WGH** this year. The standard of artwork produced by our students was amazing, and special congratulations go to **Arianna Caira**, S3 whose design was selected as the RHS Head Teacher's Christmas Card.



Junk Kouture Success



Congratulations to **Hugh Smart, Sadie Lister and Faye Morgan**, who became **UK Finalists** in the prestigious **Junk Kouture Global Competition**. Their achievement continues to inspire other RHS students to participate in this exciting sustainability-focused fashion competition. Since RHS first entered Junk Kouture 5 years ago, our students have reached the **UK Finals on four occasions and the World Finals twice**, an outstanding accomplishment.

Progression Pathways Event

The RHS Expressive Arts Faculty continues to attract interest from schools across Scotland that are keen to learn more about the innovative progression pathways available to our students.

In May, we hosted a **Progression Pathways Event** to share good practice and showcase the five National Progression Award (NPA) courses delivered across the faculty. Visitors had the opportunity to see examples of student work and learn more about the pathways available in Art, Design, Fashion and Photography.

Support for Learning

Staffing

This year we strengthened our team with the addition of Jane Coats, Eunice Wong, Alex Thomas, Kate Shanahan and Fiona McLean, each bringing valuable experience and enthusiasm to our work with pupils and staff. Their contributions have already had a positive impact on the support we are able to offer across the school.

We also said goodbye to Kirsten Waugh, Lee Sneddon and Hilary Cross, and we wish them well as they move on to new opportunities. Later this term, we will also be saying goodbye to Alex Thomas, who leaves us to begin teacher training. We are delighted for him and grateful for the commitment he has shown during his time with us.

Numeracy Support

Thanks to targeted funding, we were able to run a morning numeracy intervention this year. This programme focused on strengthening pupils' core numeracy skills, building confidence and fluency through short, consistent daily sessions. The impact has been clear in pupils' readiness to learn across subjects, and we hope to continue and further develop this intervention in the coming year.



S3 SFL Class

Our S3 SFL class has had a productive and purposeful year. Pupils have worked on consolidating numeracy, literacy and health and wellbeing, with a strong focus on building confidence and independence in learning. Several pupils have now returned successfully to mainstream classes with improved self-belief and stronger foundational skills. The remaining pupils continue to work with us as they progress toward achieving the NPA Hospitality Award, delivered through their practical experience in the school café. This has provided a meaningful, skills-based pathway that supports engagement, employability and personal development.



Enhanced Support Base

Reflecting on a Year of Growth, Achievement and Adventure

The 2025–26 academic year has been one of exceptional progress, memorable experiences and proud achievements for our young people. As a department, we have continued to support, challenge and celebrate every learner, and this year's successes highlight the hard work and dedication shown across all levels.

Academic Success and Course Achievements

Our young people finished the academic year on a strong note, with **all students successfully passing their course assessments**. Several of our young people have also been presented wider achievement awards. This is a testament to their commitment, resilience and willingness to push themselves throughout the year.

One of the standout achievements was an **A pass in Coaching and Development**, a result that reflects both the student's determination and the high-quality learning environment fostered within the department.

We are incredibly proud of every learner and the progress they have made. Their achievements set a strong foundation for future pathways, whether in further education, training or employment.

Farewells and New Beginnings

This year, we say goodbye to two of our students as they move on to new opportunities beyond RHS. Their contributions to the department have been valued, and we hope they carry forward fond memories of their time here. We wish them every success in the next steps of their journeys.

We also said farewell to **Tetiana**, one of our ESP PSAs, who has moved on to pursue her teaching career. Tetiana has been a dedicated and supportive member of the team, and her presence will be greatly missed within the department. We are excited to see her continue to grow professionally and know she will make a positive impact wherever she goes.

Extra-Curricular Highlights

S3 Ullswater Residential Experience

One of the most memorable events of the year was the **week-long S3 excursion to Ullswater**, where students immersed themselves in outdoor learning and personal development. The trip offered a wide range of activities designed to build confidence, teamwork and resilience.



Students took part in:

- Camping and outdoor living

- Boat jumping
- Hillwalking and navigation
- Team challenges and problem-solving tasks

The week provided opportunities for young people to step outside their comfort zones, develop new skills and strengthen relationships with peers and staff.

Green Shoots Outdoor Initiative

Another highlight came from one of our S3 students who participated in the **Green Shoots outdoor learning programme**. Over several weeks, they explored nature, developed practical outdoor skills and built confidence through hands-on experiences.

Activities included:

- Learning about local plants and wildlife
- Constructing hammocks
- Creating natural drinks using local flowers
- Developing outdoor safety and survival skills



This initiative offered a unique opportunity for personal growth and connection with the natural environment, and the student engaged with enthusiasm and curiosity throughout.

Guidance

The Pupil Support Team has enjoyed another eventful year, with change, challenges, and success in equal measure.

As we close the academic year, we reflect on a time of transition, achievement, and growth. The most notable development has been the integration of our sixth Nation—the Celts—joining us for the 2025–2026 session under the leadership of Mr Alex Hagart. With this historic change to the school structure came several staffing updates. We welcomed Ms Shauna McCallion as Pupil Support Leader of the Gaels Nation for her first full year at the school. Another addition was Miss Hogg, who joined as part-time Pupil Support Leader of the Scots. Mrs Kerry Jannetta also joined as Pupil Support Leader two days per week for the Angles Nation, supporting Mrs Devlin’s part-time return from maternity leave. We will miss Mrs Jannetta greatly, as will the pupils, when she leaves us in the summer. We are also delighted that Mrs Devlin (Angles) will return full time for the next academic session. The six Nations of The Royal High School are now in full swing.

It has been a strong year for our UCAS applicants, with 165 students submitting applications, 26% of whom were supported by LEAPS. These numbers reflect the continued hard work of staff and students alike, and we are proud of all who took this important step toward their future. Our positive destinations (college, employment, university) remain among the highest in the local authority at 96% (+). Partnership work with our careers team and partner agencies continues to bring significant benefits to the young people leaving our school.

Mr Watson and Mr Hagart led the training of over 40 senior pupils, culminating in them becoming Mentors in the MVP (Mentors in Violence Prevention) initiative. The mentors deliver hugely important sessions to S1 pupils about gender-based violence. This highly successful initiative will continue for years to come and strengthens the school’s commitment to challenging misogyny and gender-based violence in our society. Congratulations to every pupil who dedicated their time and effort to be part of this initiative.

A heartfelt thank you must also go to our outstanding School and Nation Captains, who have provided exemplary leadership, enthusiasm, and support throughout the year.

Overall, it has been a year of change, resilience, and remarkable achievement—one that leaves us well prepared and optimistic for the exciting journey ahead as we embark on the 2026–27 academic year.

Parent Fundraising Group

The PFG kicked off the year in person with their annual support of the school’s Christmas Concert and Strictly performances. Through the sale of refreshments, including generous donations of your home baking and mince pies from Tesco, we raised almost £500, so thank you to all for your support.

We then launched our spectacularly successful all school Christmas raffle which raised an incredible £3000! A huge thank you to our local community and businesses who donated such fantastic prizes and thank you to all families and friends of the school who purchased raffle tickets. The PFG had a thoroughly enjoyable festive morning drawing the raffle with the House Captains and would also like to thank one of our S3s for capturing the fun on camera!

Your online shopping continues to raise cash for the school through Easy Fundraising, so thank you to all who have enabled donations when they shop. 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/>

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 joannabarcroft@rhsfoundation.co.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

It has been a privilege to continue in the role of Chair of the Royal High School Parent Council during the 2025/2026 session. This year has been marked by strong collaboration, open communication and a shared commitment to supporting the school community. I am grateful to all Parent Council members, RHS staff, pupils and former pupils who have contributed their time, insight and energy throughout the year.

I would like to express particular thanks to the Senior Leadership Team. During the period when Pauline Walker (Head Teacher) was absent, it was a pleasure to work closely with the acting leadership team, who ensured continuity and stability. We were delighted to welcome Pauline back to the school, and her return has been warmly felt across the community.

Topics of discussion throughout 2025/26

Across the year, the Parent Council held meetings designed to be accessible, informative and inclusive. We continued to focus on issues raised by parents and carers. Key areas of discussion included:

- **Mobile Phone Policy** - The Parent Council revisited a discussion on the school’s mobile phone policy, including discussion of the mobile phone pouches currently being trialled in other Edinburgh schools. We shared parent and carer perspectives and will continue to monitor developments as the city reviews its approach.
- **School Lunches** - A number of Parent Council members were invited to have lunch at ‘The Grubby’. We were pleased to provide positive feedback on the quality, variety and nutritional value of the meals offered. The catering team’s efforts to provide a welcoming and healthy dining experience were warmly acknowledged.

- Roadworks and Road Safety - Concerns were raised regarding existing and forthcoming roadworks around the school. The Parent Council wrote to Edinburgh Council to highlight the potential impact on pupils, particularly those travelling during exam periods. We continue to engage with the Council and local community groups to ensure pupil safety remains a priority.
- Uniform Sourcing - Uniform sourcing and quality were again discussed, with parents sharing feedback on durability and availability. This remains an ongoing area of interest.

Guest Speakers

We were delighted to welcome several guests to Parent Council meetings this school year, each offering valuable insight into their areas of expertise:

- **Misogyny Project** - Maxine Hughes, DHT, provided an update on her recent misogyny project. Her presentation offered powerful insights into the challenges young people face and the proactive steps being taken to address harmful attitudes and behaviours. The Parent Council welcomed this work and fully supports the school's ongoing efforts in this area.
- **Extra-Curricular Activities** - Hamish Townsend (Assistant CL, Health and Wellbeing) shared an overview of the vast and varied extra-curricular opportunities available to pupils. The breadth of activities — from sports to music, STEM clubs to creative arts — reflects the school's commitment to developing well-rounded young people and fostering a strong sense of belonging.
- Paddy Cuthbertson (**Health & Wellbeing**) – provided an overview of the school's wellbeing strategy and support structures.
- Kamran Sikander (CL – **Maths & Numeracy**) – shared an update on curriculum delivery and departmental priorities.
- Kathryn Jenner (Developing the Young Workforce) & Louise Winsler (Skills Development Scotland) – discussed the school's approach to **career counselling, pathways** and post-school planning.
- Lewis Whale (DHT) – gave a helpful overview of **Class Charts** and how it supports communication and behaviour tracking.
- Iona Scanlon and Dalisay Hutchison from **Light Up Learning** – introduced their mentoring programme, which supports young people through personalised, interest-led learning experiences designed to build confidence, motivation and future pathways.

These contributions enriched our understanding of school life and strengthened the partnership between parents and staff.

Recruitment

Parent Council representatives were involved in the recruitment processes for the Curriculum Leader for Science and the Curriculum Leader for Health & Wellbeing. We appreciated the opportunity to contribute to these important appointments.

Former Pupils' Evening

I was delighted to attend the annual Royal High School Former Pupils' Evening alongside staff and S6 pupils. Welcomed by talented pupil musicians, it was inspiring to hear the stories, achievements and memories of those who proudly attended RHS. The event was a reminder of the school's long-standing legacy and the strong community that surrounds it.

Summary

The Parent Council continues to be a forum where parent and carer voices are heard, respected and acted upon. Our partnership with the school remains positive, constructive and focused on ensuring the best possible experience for all pupils. We look forward to continuing this work during the 2026/2027 session.

Philippa Gray

Chair, Royal High School Parent Council

2025/26 LEAVERS

<p><u>S4 Leavers</u> Lewis Marchbank 4A1 Karter Lothian 4A2 Eva Clegg 4B1 Jaid Balloch 4B2 Ben Pirie 4B2 Milly Wilson 4B2 Chloe Gibson 4G2 Freddie Grafton 4G2 Kyran Wales 4P1 Alex Kennedy 4S2 Kira Walker 4S2</p> <p><u>S5 Leavers</u> Yusuf Mejerissi 5A1 Lewis Robb 5A1 Cruz Marshall 5A2 Alina McLeod 5B2 Matthew Moody 5B2 Scarlett Savage 5B2 Sophia Davidson 5C2 Cameron Morrice 5G1 Logan Riddoch 5G1 Cameron Silver 5P2</p> <p><u>S6 Leavers</u> Sondos Abdrabou 6A1 Owais Ahmed 6A1 Emily Allan 6A1 Tayla Cameron 6A1 Eve Cassie 6A1 Max Cleland 6A1 Georgina Cook 6A1 Corina Cotman 6A1 Hayden Gray 6A1 Danny Grica 6A1 Muhammad Janjua 6A1 Daniel Kiisk 6A1 Patrycja Kornaus 6A1 Jay Middlemass 6A1 Helene Muhl 6A1 Kane Paton 6A1 Calum Pentony 6A1 Sanuka Ponnampereuma 6A1 Sharmin Pushpa 6A1 DQ Quillao 6A1 Oliver Rippinger 6A1 Lucia Rivera Herrera 6A1 Callen Robb 6A1 Aila Scheib 6A1 Hannah Watson 6A1 Preethi Anbarasan 6B1 Caoimhe Byrne 6B1 Oliver Campbell 6B1 Michael Cheyne 6B1 Emma Coy 6B1 Ava Ewing 6B1 Euan Harrison 6B1 Daniel Hartley 6B1 Casper Kassime 6B1 Manchu Lai 6B1 Phoebe Lavin 6B1 Milosz Lis-Gorczewski 6B1 Trini Ma 6B1 Sofia Mariani 6B1 Ahmed Mhira 6B1 Gabriel Nugraha 6B1 Denzel Nyamutswa 6B1 Isla Pauls 6B1 Brooke Petterson 6B1 Noah Ramage 6B1 Olivia Scanlon 6B1</p>	Sam Skivington 6B1 Spencer Squair 6B1 Maisie Telford 6B1 Yeva Triasoruk 6B1 Mason White 6B1 Gemma Abbey 6B2 Claudia Allan 6B2 Hla Bakir 6B2 Riya Bedi 6B2 Laura Buchanan 6B2 Rhys Cooper 6B2 Hamish Crosbie-White 6B2 Jamie Downes 6B2 Fraser Duffy 6B2 Omar Jallow 6B2 Alice Ketley 6B2 Ethan Lawrence 6B2 Hazel Logan 6B2 Olivia Mackenzie 6B2 Joseph McBride 6B2 Jamie McCann 6B2 Olivia Murray 6B2 Leah Poseley 6B2 James Ramage 6B2 Sara Robertson 6B2 Frederick Van Schagen 6B2 Trixie Wallace 6B2 Isobel Walls 6B2 Alfie Wilson 6B2 Joel Adam 6C1 Beth Anderson 6C1 Ayaan Asif 6C1 Alexander Bain 6C1 Sam Hugh Balderstone 6C1 Ewan Brady 6C1 Josh Breckenridge 6C1 Skye Burns 6C1 Jamie Dawes 6C1 Bruno Do Rego 6C1 Spencer Forbes 6C1 Niamh Glencross 6C1 Finlay Graham 6C1 Rhiannon Grainger 6C1 Erin Hall 6C1 Patrick Horan 6C1 Jessica Jenkins 6C1 Eva Johnson 6C1 Lewis Lim 6C1 Martha MacFadyen 6C1 Sia Macnamara 6C1 Daniel Muirhead 6C1 Matthew Roy 6C1 Eoin Montgomery Rust 6C1 Finlay Sinclair 6C1 Sam Singh 6C1 Aaron Snitjer 6C1 Aiden Teale 6C1 Elizabeth Wemyss 6C1 Elias Anderson Fryer 6C2 Kamila Azhar 6C2 Connor Campbell 6C2 Lucy Crabbie 6C2 Angus Dunn 6C2 Enrico Gray 6C2 Rory Harrison 6C2 Michael Kiddie 6C2 Ailsa Lindsay 6C2 Lauren Mack 6C2 Alexander Macnair 6C2 Georgia Maxwell 6C2	Rachel McCrae 6C2 Maya McKenzie 6C2 Madeline McMullan 6C2 Anna Morrison 6C2 Zak Penman 6C2 Bruce Pietras 6C2 Ava Shkira 6C2 Emily Catherine Smith 6C2 Kate Wemyss 6C2 Jamie Wilson 6C2 Hannah Ahmed 6G1 Sam Baillie 6G1 Rory Campbell 6G1 Layla Clark 6G1 Charles Evans 6G1 Fiza Fiaz 6G1 Aaron Fraser 6G1 Catrina Hawksey 6G1 Costin Hinks 6G1 Konstantinos Ioannidis 6G1 Tabby Jones 6G1 Jamie Leung 6G1 Andrew Lin 6G1 Cameron McLachlan 6G1 Connor McLeod 6G1 Skye Millar 6G1 Hayley Mundwa 6G1 Alexandra Policht 6G1 James Rawlinson-Watkins 6G1 Rebecca Rodden 6G1 Yusuf Sarwar 6G1 Alexander Scott 6G1 Rachael Smyth 6G1 Rebecca Thomas 6G1 Jackie Tomova 6G1 Shiloh Amoah 6G2 Phaimie Black 6G2 Niamh Brogan 6G2 Aaron Caefa Ola 6G2 Holly Chalmers 6G2 Hayes Chan 6G2 Lexi Clark 6G2 Kavi Danish 6G2 Charlotte Dill 6G2 Sarah Garvie 6G2 Myla Gillies 6G2 Mohammad Ibrahim 6G2 Poppy Kells 6G2 Ryan Lee 6G2 Abby Lints 6G2 Eva Lints 6G2 Alexandra Lukasik 6G2 Brandon McGoohan 6G2 Devin Melbourne 6G2 Arran Pardoe 6G2 Amelia Potter 6G2 Jack Rae 6G2 Al Roger 6G2 Patryk Skierka 6G2 Lachie Steen 6G2 DJ Taylor 6G2 Anna Trimmer 6G2 Mya Turton 6G2 Matthew Wild 6G2 Grace Archbold 6P1 Christine Arere 6P1 Jack Balchin 6P1 Fraser Campbell 6P1 Sean Clay 6P1 Lauren Clunie 6P1	Bryn Davies 6P1 Ruiraidh Devlin 6P1 Luke Hesson 6P1 Ythan Hunter 6P1 Griff Jones 6P1 Aishah Khan 6P1 Priscila Lee 6P1 Ben Lewis 6P1 Harry Marshall 6P1 Fergus McFadzean 6P1 Liam McKnight 6P1 Harry Millar 6P1 Aleksander Przybycien 6P1 Finlay Richards 6P1 Darshan Sharma 6P1 Edgar Slevin 6P1 Hema Tank 6P1 Elizabeth Auld 6P2 Kenan Bassalat 6P2 Jakub Chomanski 6P2 Finn Cole-Hamilton 6P2 Isis Judith Uyi Enaholo 6P2 Selasi Hatse 6P2 Jessica Hicks 6P2 Cameron Hunter 6P2 Henry Hutcheson 6P2 Fatima Kamblawi 6P2 Melissa Khosravi-Oskouee 6P2 Lewis Lynch 6P2 Calum Lytle 6P2 Ruby Martin 6P2 Hollie Munro 6P2 Milly Murdiffe 6P2 Jackson Rafferty 6P2 Charlotte Read 6P2 Callum Richardson 6P2 Kyle Ruxton 6P2 Aiden Sutherland 6P2 Dash Taneus-Miller 6P2 Maariya Ahmed 6S1 Isobel Blair 6S1 Ashton Burnett 6S1 Eva Campbell 6S1 Robyn Coulter 6S1 Ava Deane 6S1 Naomi Dodds 6S1 Phoebe Egan 6S1 Mohammed El Nageh 6S1 Aya Gajam 6S1 Andrea Gazzini 6S1 Humza Javed 6S1 Hermia Law 6S1 Hannah Low 6S1 Kaden Mestiri 6S1 Rosa Morrison 6S1 Roddie Perrott 6S1 Mya Richardson 6S1 Adam Salvesen 6S1 Fedir Semenenko 6S1 Daniel Smith 6S1 Emily Wong 6S1 Ethan Young 6S1
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The Royal High School Prizes and Bursaries

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, F.P., 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 in Spanish and German	Endowed by W. A. Small in memory of his son, Norman 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 R.H.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 prize for Music	'J.P.' Small was President of the RHS Club in 1979, and the prize was endowed in his memory
2000	Crawford Taylor Memorial Prize for Music	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 th 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 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 th) marks the 250 th 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
2026	The Alexander Graham Bell Cup Contributed by A M Kerr and Family Awarded for Perseverance	The pupil who teachers feel has shown tenacity and determination to excel with their studies no matter the barriers.

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