

NE WS

December 20th, 2024

Message from SLT

Christmas is finally here! We are in the middle of our fantastic dances at the time of writing, gearing up for the Senior Dance. It helps me to reflect on the brilliant job that our staff make of engaging with our young people in so many ways.

As a school we are proud of all our learning activities, both in and out of classrooms. On our excursions system, we recorded 146 occasions where young people were involved in activities outwith our school building – with a huge range from horticulture trips, to museum visits, to excursions to the theatre. All these experiences build valuable experiences and skills as our young people experience what the world has to offer.

This period over Christmas is vital for some much needed rest and relaxation with family and friends....and some revision as well for our senior pupils before their prelims as we get back to school!

Did you know?

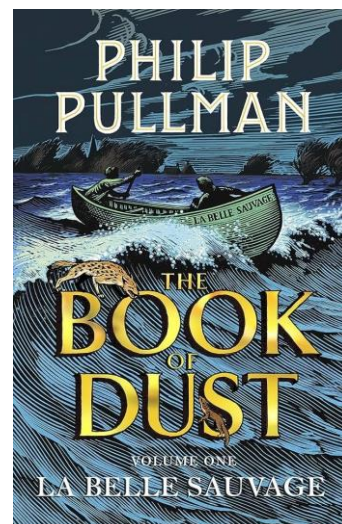
We all know the same few handfuls of Christmas songs play in shops and on the radio in a loop all season long. But one of them has been adapted more than others. "Silent Night" is actually the most recorded Christmas song in history. It's had more than 733 different versions copyrighted since 1978.

Message from assemblies

Our Christmas assemblies this week will focus on key aspects of the Christmas Story – and especially the need for peace this Christmas!

Looking for your next read?

The Book Of Dust - La Belle Sauvage by Phillip Pullman is a prequel to His Dark Materials, in this novel the heroine of His Dark Materials Lyra is only six months old. This brilliant story follows the story of 11-year-old Malcom and his dæmon Asta. Malcom and his parents live on the banks of the river Thames where his parents run an inn, and Malcom often likes to go canoeing in his beloved boat La Belle Sauvage. But as the rainy season begins there is suddenly a huge flood and Malcom, with help from his friend Alice, have to flee with baby Lyra in Malcom's small boat, where they embark on an incredible journey with the aim of returning baby Lyra to her father. The story explores themes of religious control, maturity, and the complexities of good and evil. It is an amazing novel with action, conflict, and clever plot twists, and is a fantastic read!



Recommended by Heidi.

S6 Workshop Round Up

Workshop is all about preparing for life as an adult and gaining an understanding of the world beyond our immediate experiences. This term we've welcomed several guest speakers: PC Luke Cameron who talked about the moral impact of the drugs trade, Monica Walker who, as a 'Boobette', represented the CoppaFeel breast cancer charity, Alastair Scott spoke on the importance of inclusive language, Sophie McNeil was back by popular demand to run a sleep therapy session and Chris Jay from Amnesty International brought some empowering world perspective.

We've also had chance to investigate the impact of vaping and alcohol on the body, the importance of consent and positive relationships, life hacks for organisation and research leadership skills to complete the first unit of the SQA Leadership Award.

It's been a very busy and informative term but now we'll turn towards study time during the Prelims. We resume normal activities with PC Luke Cameron visiting on 24th January.

Upcoming assessments

Subject	Level	Teacher	Assessment	Date
RMPS	Higher	Miss Smeaton	Morality and Justice End of Unit	07.01.25
RMPS	National 5	Miss Smeaton	Morality and Justice End of Unit	09.01.25
Physics	National 5	Ms Le Mar	Electricity	09.01.25
Physics	National 5	Dr Lymer	Electricity	10.01.25

DYW

Are you interested in a career within Journalism? The Telegraph Media Company have an exciting Media opportunity - Media Literacy Programme, which begins in March 2025. The online sessions will be with a range of journalists from departments across the business including news, sports, beauty, music, and social media, with students having the opportunity to learn skills such as headline writing, interviewing and travel writing, and win prizes. **Want to know more - see Emma Holdsworth (DYW) based in the school Library for more details!**

Former pupils return

This week we had a lovely visit from Shadrach, Eilidh and Barney who are just finishing their first semester at university studying Engineering, Astrophysics, and Materials Science respectively. They spoke to Ms Le-Mar's Higher and Advanced Higher Physics students about their experiences of university life and gave some excellent advice and insights into their courses so far, UCAS applications, accommodation, study skills, and life as a student! They also took the time to speak to a group of S3 students who have an interest in pursuing Engineering, Physics or Chemistry careers. Thanks so much for coming back to see us!



Hockey

Mrs Wright, Miss Young and Miss Murray would like to say a huge well done to everyone in both Junior and Senior Hockey teams for all your dedication, commitment, and high efforts during the first half of the season. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and enjoy your little break! We look forward to welcoming old and new faces to hockey training after the holidays!



Our Junior Hockey Squad looking very glam on Monday evening at the Junior Christmas Dance with their coaches; Miss Young & Miss Murray.

Rugby

Last Saturday morning all 3 Berwickshire Schools Teams faced off against their counterparts from Kelso High School, looking to finish 2024 with a bang! The S1 team fielded only 13 players, which is the lowest they have had available in weeks, but they didn't let that affect them. They ran in 10 tries and converted them all to Kelso High Schools 3 tries and 2 conversions. A brilliant result to see the year out, considering the same Kelso team defeated them at the beginning of the season!

The S2 team had a mountain to climb going into this fixture having been beaten by Kelso 50-5 in the previous fixture, but they didn't let that get to them. They played some brilliant rugby and competed with this strong opposition right until the end! They had looked to win the game with a try to take them into the lead, however the Referee rightly called play back for an indiscretion 1 phase before the score. This ultimately meant that they lost 33-35, but they will learn some valuable lessons from this game!

The U15 team managed to field a complete 15, with key players returning to the team to bolster the squad. After having games called off frequently in the past few weeks, the coaches weren't sure if there would be any dust to be shaken off, but the players quickly put that idea to bed and put in a performance that looked like they hadn't missed a beat. This was a complete team performance with tries coming from forwards and backs alike, running up a score of 50-17.



Finally, the combined Duns/Selkirk U16 team made the early journey to Strathmore to play in the Youth Bowl Final. In a tightly contested game, Strathmore scored in the dying seconds to snatch the win from our Borderers. A tough loss to take for this team but they can be immensely proud of their achievements and look forward what the 2nd half of the season has in store for them!

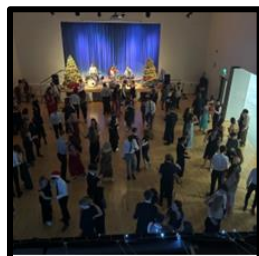
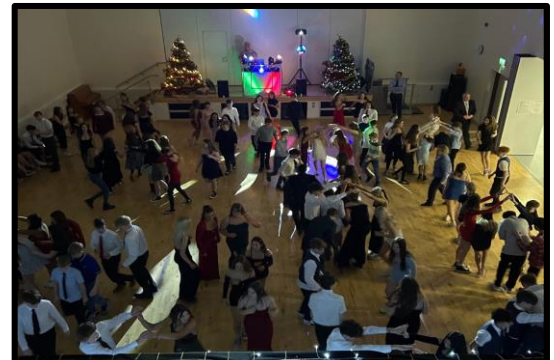
Have a very Merry Christmas everyone!



Christmas Dances

What a great couple of nights we've had to begin our Christmas Festivities with our Junior (Monday) & Senior (Wednesday) Christmas Dances. We hope you all thoroughly enjoyed yourselves, it was great to see everyone looking all dressed up and making the most out of your evenings where the dance floor was always packed!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the seamless running of both events, your help does not go unnoticed: The PE Department, S6 Dance Committee, S3 Helpers, The DJ & Band, and those members of staff who volunteered their time across both evenings.



Enrichment Pantomime

It was 'panto' time at Eyemouth High last Thursday - oh yes it was!! With a sell out show, we were delighted to welcome just over 160 parents, friends and students to watch the Enrichment Pantomime which was followed by a selection of musical performances.

The Enrichment students did a superb job, many of them performing on stage for the first time! We then had performances from our ceilidh band, woodwind band, newly formed student band and a range of really talented singers!

Thank you to our audience for their fantastic support and all the students who helped behind the scenes and front of house! We are very excited to announce that the Enrichment students' next challenge will be an adapted version of the classic musical 'Annie' which will be performed at the end of the spring term!

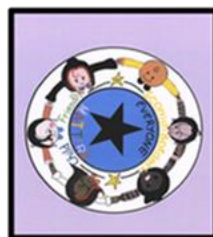
PSE news

All S1 pupils were challenged by SBC to design a logo which would highlight the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child on Children Right's Day.

SBC want to raise awareness of Children's Rights as per duty Articles 42 - 54 and to highlight article 12 - the right to be heard and taken seriously.

The winning logo will be used by multi-agencies to bring together, advertise and promote Children's Rights.

Here are our winning entries:



German exchange

We have longstanding links with our exchange School in Pfalzgrafenweiler in the Black Forest. We are hoping to welcome a group of pupils from Germany in September 2025. The plan is to then visit Germany ourselves the following year. The exchange typically runs for one week, with pupils spending time in school and on excursions. If any families are willing to host a young person for a week, please contact Mr B Watson for more information at eyhsbwatson@glow.sch.uk.

As we approach the holiday season, it is important to remember that some people may face struggles at this time of year. If you or someone you know needs help, there is support available.

There are things that you can do as a form of mental health “first aid”, and if you need further help, there are help lines and websites you can visit.



Staffing

We say goodbye to Mr Heron from the Pupil Support department as he takes up a post at North Berwick High. We wish him all the best in his new role.

Library news

We have won eight copies of Elle McNicholl's novel "Keedie" courtesy of the Scottish Book Trust. Mrs Renstead is going to read it as a part of her "Books and Banter" club.

We also want to say thank you to all of our volunteers, both in school and from the community, who come in and read with our young people. You really do make a difference!





It's been a busy old term DYW-wise. Lots of engaging activities and businesses in school. Here's a wee round up:



Emma Holdsworth-
DYW Coordinator

Career Speed Dating Activities

This term there have been a number of Career Speed dating events where students have had the opportunity to talk to a number of employers within one session. These allow students the chance to find out about an individuals job, and the wider opportunities.

These events are sector-themed and this term we have focussed on Tourism, Construction and Business. Over 20 businesses have been involved of the various events.

Various Author visits in collaboration with Berwick Literary Festival

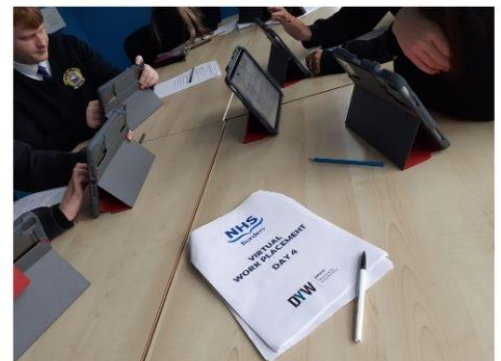
S1 & S2 have each had an author visit which has been arranged in collaboration with Berwick Literary Festival's School's Programme. S1's heard from Simon James Green, and S2'd heard from Jenny Valentine.

Prior to these events, one of Miss A-B's English classes completed book recommendations that were displayed in Berwick Library,



NHS Borders Virtual Work Experience

Well Done to all our pupils who completed the NHS Borders Virtual Work Experience Week. They gained an insight into the many different jobs within health & social care. We explored the NHS Borders values and discussed how we would demonstrate these in a future interview.



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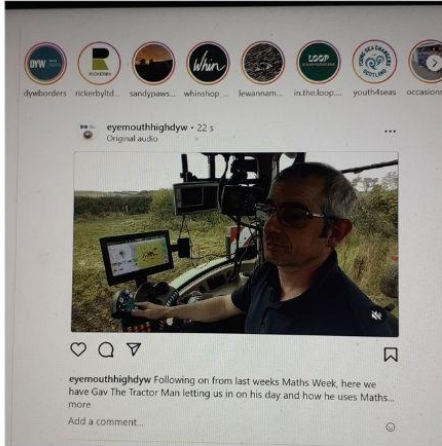
DYW

BORDERS
Developing the
Young Workforce

Newsletter December 2024



Maths Week 2024

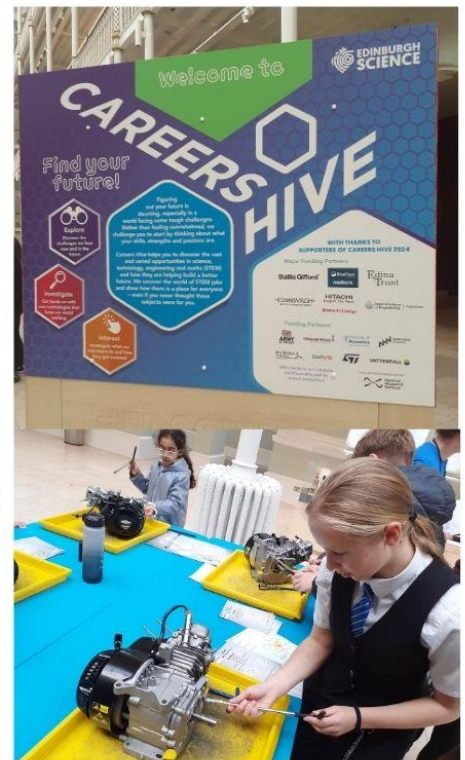


Thank you to our many local employers who supported us to create a video showcasing how maths is used in all jobs in some shape or form - looking at you Gav-The-Tractor-Man

Torness & Career Hive visits



These were the two stand out STEM events this term. DYW funded the transport to Career Hive, an immersive STEM event held at the National Museum in Edinburgh. The day was jam-packed with STEM stalls and talks.



GingrTech Challenge

5 Business S6's students took part in a recent virtual challenge. The aim of the activity was to run a business and be in profit by the whistle. Congratulations go to the team, as they won our region, and now go onto play against the winner from D&G, in order to be crowned overall winner.

Watch this space for the outcome of that event!



Wow! What a term! Now it's time to reflect on all the positive activities, and links with local employers which truly make a difference. Next term is shaping up to be as impressive, if not more so. If you are a student at EyHS and have been involved with any one of these activities, I really hope you got something out of it.



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