

# TYNECASTLE NEWS



## Head Teacher's Update



What a busy couple of months we have had, with a huge number of opportunities for our students as you can see. We are now looking forward to a well-earned Easter holiday, although our seniors will be continuing to prepare for assessments and examinations on our return. Thank you for all your support over this term and I look forward to seeing you at our various celebrations and events next term. *Hazel Kinnear*

## Upcoming Dates

March 31	End of Term
April 3-13	<a href="#">Easter School Programme</a>
April 18	All Resume
April 25	Parent Council 6.30pm
May 1	School Closed - May Day
May 2	<a href="#">SQA Exams Begin</a>
May 4	Staff Only - In Service

## English Faculty News

We've had a brilliant season of theatre trips in the English faculty. We had a ball at the hilarious 'Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime' and seniors recently enjoyed Shakespeare's 'The Winter's Tale'.



On Tuesday 21st March S2 enjoyed a visit from award winning author Keith Gray. Keith has written dozens of books for young people and was a very entertaining speaker.



## Design Faculty News - RSA Competition Success



A massive well done to Mariam Abdul-Haque in S3 for her Highly Commended portrait painting entry in the [RSA Schools Awards 2017](#). Her work will be displayed in the members section of the [RSA Gallery](#) on the Mound, with the opening on Saturday 1 April.

## Visit to the New Queensferry Crossing

S2 students attended The Forth Bridges Contact and Education Centre where they successfully completed a bridge building engineer challenge. Students were given a presentation on the construction of the new



Queensferry crossing in the purpose-built facility, where they were also able to view the exhibition area with detailed bridge models & exhibition panels. After finishing the challenge, pupils enjoyed a walk along the existing Forth Road Bridge taking in the views of all three bridges!

## Social Subjects Faculty News - ZEST Success

Congratulations to Mubin Haque, Greg Thomson and Jack Farrell for successfully completing the [ZEST](#) work experience course at Edinburgh Zoo. Special mention to Greg for being awarded 'Best Zest' student overall and to Mubin for coming a close runner up!



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## FP Success

Ryan Fox and Kaylum O'Neill, S6 students last session, came into school to talk to current students about their apprenticeships with Aberdeen Asset Management. We were delighted to see the boys again, and to know they are doing so well in the world of work.



## Parent Council

We have an active Parent Council who meet every month. The next meeting is on the 25th of April at 6.30pm. You can find out more about the work of the [Parent Council on our website](#). You can also contact our Parent Council directly at [tyneastlepc@gmail.com](mailto:tyneastlepc@gmail.com)

## Fresh on the website

Check our website for the latest news [www.tynecastle.edin.sch.uk](http://www.tynecastle.edin.sch.uk)

## Contact Details

Please let the school office know straight away if you change your details. You can contact us by 'phone, email or in person at the school office.

Telephone: 0131 337 3488

Absence Line: 0131 337 0336

Email: [admin@tynecastle.edin.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tynecastle.edin.sch.uk)

## Science Faculty News - Science for Life and Work

In an innovative new 4 week topic called 'A Wee Taste of Spirit', S1 Science students have been learning about the science that happens in real life at North British Distillers (NBD), an industry visible from some of the windows at Tynecastle High School. The topic was jointly written by the science faculty and Jennifer Graham, a Chemist at NBD. The culmination of this was the students responding to a proposal by the board of NBD to change their production from maize as its raw material to wheat. Employability skills in action!



## Indicator Species Study in Biology



The National 5 Biology students in Ms Davis' class have been lucky enough to work with Alison Ryan, who is in her fourth year of studying Biological Sciences at Napier University. As part of Alison's dissertation, she designed a practical lesson to compare the water quality in two different areas. Alison collected water samples from the Water of Leith and from the canal at Slateford. The students were able to examine the water samples themselves to see the presence or absence of indicator species and thus determine the quality of the water.

## Performance Faculty News - Sports Awards 2017

Congratulations to all the students involved in the 2017 Sports Awards. Huge thank you to our special guests & ex-students John Browne (Blaze Basketball) & Paul Hanlon (Hibernian FC) who made the night very special. Also a massive thank you to the photographer (and teacher!), John Williamson for the amazing photos of all the students and teams.



*Tynecastle High School Sports Personality of the Year 2017 Pol Pedraza Martin, with John Browne and Paul Hanlon*

## S2 Outdoor Adventure



Our S2s have been enjoying outdoor adventure activities - running round Braidburn Valley Park to find 21 tricky orienteering checkpoints and others enjoying the challenges of mountain biking at Glentress. They all agreed that it was hard work cycling up the hills but worth it for the amazing downhills. Climbing and abseiling are another two activities we're looking forward to!