



April 2015

# The Knox Newsletter



## From the Head Teacher

Dear Friends,

I recently spoke at assemblies about the “good news” stories that abound at Knox and make no apologies for passing them on to you as well:

Over 93% of pupils from Knox Academy go on to a “positive destination” after school (employment, training, further/higher education or volunteering). Over 94% of pupils leave Knox with 5 or more qualifications at Level 3. 91% of pupils take part in some sort of extra-curricular activity.

We have young people competing at local, national and international level in rugby, football, hockey, badminton, judo, climbing, swimming, athletics, and equestrianism. Pupils turn out at weekends to represent their school, county and country, and hold their heads high in victory and defeat.

Music at Knox is particularly well supported with choirs, bands, and ensembles meeting regularly and performing at events. In September, a large number of our pupils took part in the intense training session for the East Lothian Youth Orchestra (working during the week, after school and at the weekend) that culminated in a performance for friends and family. The Knox Academy Pipe Band goes from strength to strength, and pupils continue to form their own bands and perform.

More pupils are getting involved in volunteering than ever before. We have pupils giving up their time to help out at Sue Ryder and Oxfam, assisting in our associated primary schools, giving time to East Coast FM, and helping out at the East Lothian Special Needs Playscheme. As well as giving their time, pupils very generously give their money. They have raised over £3000 this year, supporting Children In Need, Red Nose Day, and our partner school in Rwanda, to name but a few.

Equally, as a community we support each other. We have seen pupils handing in large sums of money that they have found both in the school and in Haddington. We have young people getting each other through their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, and meeting up to study together. We have staff giving up their time to put on revision classes, to supervise at dances and be willing to be “pied” for charity.

All in all we have a school to be proud of, full of people, of whom I am personally proud. In this day and age, it would seem that it’s easier to report bad news than it is good. I don’t want us to become smug or complacent, but once in a while it’s nice to let you know the good stuff.

Yours,

Head Teacher

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## Dates for the Diary

Monday 20th April	All Resume	Monday 25th May	Activities' Week begins
Monday 27th April	Exam Leave begins for S4-S6	Monday 1st June	New Timetable begins for new S2, S3, S5 and S6
Monday 4th May	Holiday	Monday 15th June	New S4 go on work experience for one week.
Tuesday 5th May	All Resume	Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th June	P7 Parents' Information Evening (6.30pm)
Monday 18th May	In-Service Day	Wednesday 24th June	P7 Visit Days
Tuesday 19th May	All Resume	Thursday 2nd July	Sports' Day
Wednesday 20th May	PSP Meeting (6.15pm)	Friday 3rd July	Awards' Ceremony (7pm)
			All Break

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