

Outstanding Achievements

Education, Children & Adult Services Committee: 17 March 2016

Dingwall Academy

Dingwall Academy and Highland Deaf Education Service have been successful in The Scottish Sensory Awards.

The School was awarded runner up for the certificated staff sign classes, in the “Personnel and Workforce” category.

In the category, “Engaging people with a sensory loss and information sharing across all our communities”, the School was awarded first place for the P7/S1 DVD which was made by the pupils, and was the runner up for the S1 IDL Deaf Studies course, which involves all S1 pupils learning basic BSL and about about issues relating to deafness.

Melissa Robertson

11 year old Cradlehall pupil Melissa Robertson held a coffee morning to raise funds for Motor Neurone Disease Scotland, after a family member was diagnosed with the condition.

Melissa expected to raise around £200, but raised more than £3300, and she says she now intends to run a marathon to keep the fund raising going.

Ruraidh Stewart

Ruraidh Stewart of Plockton High School is the Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament for Skye, Lochaber & Badenoch, and has been elected Deputy Convenor of the Youth Parliament’s Transport Environment and Rural Affairs (TERA) Committee.

Ruraidh is on the Highland Youth Parliament executive committee and is also a Saltire Awards Ambassador. He recently met Prince Charles as one of 50 young people being honoured as ambassadors for the national *#iwill* campaign, which aims to make social action a part of everyday life.

He is a member of the Scottish Government’s Junior Climate Challenge Fund (JCCF) Youth Panel, that is giving young people funds and support to tackle

climate change. He also volunteers with Plockton Small Boats Sailing Club as an assistant instructor.

Jonathan Tevendale, Mallaig High School

Jonathan Tevendale of Mallaig High School, has won the Scottish Review's award of Scottish Schools' Young Writer of the Year 2016. Scottish Review state that Jonathan's "command of language – its confidence with metaphor, its descriptive power, its sheer panache – is exceptional."

Also commended in the Scottish Review awards were:

- Sam Appleby, Kingussie High School
- Thomas Harley, Portree High School
- Jasmine Humphrey, Mallaig High School

Wick High School

Pupils at Wick High School in have created another award-winning app, designed to engage young people in politics. The One Click Politics app has won the information category at the national Apps for Good Awards. The students and their teachers attended the awards ceremony at The Barbican in London on Thursday.

Dr Alasdair Allan, Minister for Learning and Science, welcomed the award, saying: "Taking part in a competition like this is an excellent way to show the real practical application of what is being learned in the classroom. I congratulate the pupils and staff of Wick High School for winning through and wish them all the best for the launch of their app."

Pipe Bands

Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band won the Novice Juvenile B section of the Schools Pipe Band Competition, held in Edinburgh. There were 13 bands in that section.

Last year Lochalsh Junior Pipe Band won the debut competition, which was won this year by the Portree High School Band. Gairloch, Ullapool and Inverness schools also competed in the various levels of competition.