



## Newbattle News

Return to school Monday 7th January 2008

### HOSPITALITY PROMOTES PARTNERSHIP

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As part of the school's ongoing commitment to developing vocational courses, a new Home Economics Department and Hospitality Suite was opened at the school on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November by local business man, entrepreneur and master chef Gerry Goldwyre. Mr Goldwyre owns the Water Tower restaurant in Dalkeith.

Launching the suite Mr Goldwyre said "I am absolutely amazed by this outstanding facility and the fantastic opportunities it provides for the pupils." Mr Goldwyre also praised the pupils for the confidence and professionalism they displayed while carrying out their duties as guides around the school and in serving the food. In conclusion he not only endorsed the vocational programme running in Newbattle Community High School

but also actively encouraged businesses at present outwith the programme to become involved.

Headteacher Colin Taylor commented that, "The school has made tremendous progress in designing and delivering courses which are very relevant to the world of work today. Hospitality is part of the Skills for Work programme in which vocational education has been actively promoted both within our school and the local area. Pupils in third and fourth year are now able to study dedicated vocational courses such as contact centre skills, sound engineering and recording, sport and leisure as well as construction trades and hospitality. The launch not only acknowledges this wonderful new facility which includes a magnificent café bar, it also provides the school with an opportunity to thank the business partners who have supported the vocational programme over the last few years."

This vibrant event was well supported by representatives from Midlothian Council, local councillors and businesses as well as staff and pupils from the school. Indeed the



Hospitality pupils and senior prefects played an integral part in the organisation and administration of this extremely successful event.

As one of Scotland's first "Schools of Ambition", Newbattle has been working hard to transform the learning opportunities for our young people. The evening proved to be an excellent opportunity to strengthen partnership working between the school and the business world.



## IT'S "Lift Off" FOR CONNOR



Connor Cessford has been making some of our fifth year students very jealous recently. That's because Connor has won a place at the Scottish Space School summer camp. Connor completed six NASA modules to win a place at the University of Strathclyde in June 2008.

The Careers Scotland Space School is a partnership initiative with NASA to

inspire and motivate young people of all ages to study science and consider careers in science and technology. 50 pupils are selected to attend Space Camp at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston and 120 pupils attend a Summer School at the University of Strathclyde.

The week-long summer school is supported by NASA astronauts and scientists, and has two themes, electronics and life sciences. Camp begins with an outward-bound weekend aimed at developing team building skills.

The summer school programme is a

mix of lectures, workshops and assignments on the two key themes. It is led by university staff, with additional input from some of NASA's leading scientists and engineers. There is also a full programme of organised social activities on campus in the evenings, and the whole summer school experience gives students a full flavour of university life.

Congratulations Connor, we hope you have a brilliant time.



## SPORT & LEISURE

### NEWBATTLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL CENTRE FOR SPORT AND LEISURE



- Games hall and viewing gallery
- Gymnasium
- Swimming pool
- Multi purpose area
- Floodlit synthetic turf football/hockey pitch
- Grass football and rugby pitch

Why not book our centre for sport and leisure for birthday parties; indoor football, swimming, music and party area?

Now available for bookings seven days a week.

Contact 0131 663 4191

### Parent Council Up and Running!

Newbattle parents recently elected a parent council for session 2007—2008. Chairperson Tony Igoe and Vice Chairperson Lynn Ross have taken up these key posts.

Watch out for further details - next meeting Wednesday 9th January 2008.



Book now for all your sporting activities

Check out our website on [www.newbattle.org.uk](http://www.newbattle.org.uk)

## THEATRE TRIP

**Who?** S4 English Class

**Where?** Edinburgh's Festival Theatre

**When?** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October

**What?** Willy Russell's "Blood Brothers"

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October, Miss Wozniak of the English department, together with Mrs. Hoffman and Mr. Gardela, took a

party of 26 pupils to Edinburgh's Festival Theatre, to see a performance of Willy Russell's "Blood Brothers". The class studied the text in S3 and enjoyed the play immensely. Consequently, the pupils were delighted to be offered the opportunity to visit the theatre and see the live performance. I am pleased to report that the afternoon was a resounding success, with Newbattle pupils demonstrating exemplary behaviour during the visit.

We anticipate future visits, when suitable opportunities emerge.



**Forthcoming theatre trips:**

- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- Wizard of Oz
- Cinderella

## LOCAL HISTORY RESOURCE

In 1983, pupils at Newbattle High School worked with staff and the community to publish a Local History magazine called [Neubottill - Newbattle](#) that involved detailed research into the history of the parish of Newbattle and the surrounding area. The magazine has now been scanned in and is available in full on our website.

Log on to view [www.newbattle.org](http://www.newbattle.org)

## OVER £600 RAISED

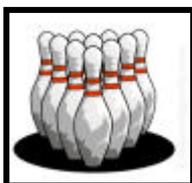
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October was designated as **Wear It Pink** day to raise money for Breast Cancer Care. Pupils and staff were asked to Wear It Pink and to donate at least £1 towards the campaign. The final total raised was **£436**.

On the same day, the PE and Home Economics departments raised **£189** for **Marie Curie Cancer Care** through a Teachers' Coffee & Cake Morning. With a raffle and the entrance fee, the staff raised £189 for this excellent charity. Well done to all those who took part in both events.



## 100 FIRST YEAR PUPILS

100 first year pupils and 20 staff had a really enjoyable evening at the *Megabowl* recently, with lots of strikes and spares from both staff and pupils.



The next first-year outing is to see *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* on December 13<sup>th</sup>, and a trip to the *Time Capsule* in Coatbridge will follow in the New Year.

Mr Clark (Principal Teacher of Chemistry) has been organising three first-year outings each year for over thirty years.

Staff and pupils would like to say a huge THANK YOU to him, and give him our very best wishes when he retires next year.



Check out our website on [www.newbattle.org.uk](http://www.newbattle.org.uk)

## FOOTBALL NEWS

For the third year in a row July saw Newbattle return to Hjørring in Denmark to take part in the Dana Cup which attracted some 900 teams from 45 countries for its 26th year. Travelling as East & Midlothian Under 15 holders, this again proved a fantastic experience for the 17 strong party who in seven matches acquitted themselves admirably losing out only to Cruz Guadalajara (Mexico) and Futsampa (Brazil). The Under 15 side will be returning to Denmark in summer 2008.

On a domestic front four teams

are participating in local leagues from Under 13 to Under 16 age groups with the Under 14 side, complete with a new kit sponsored by Vauxhall, currently sitting top of the Under 14 table.

Five Newbattle players have won representative honours with Stuart Duncanson, David Liddle, Conar Ramsay and Kyle Zelent part of the East & Midlothian U15 squad which has won through to the quarter-finals of the National Trophy for an amazing 10th year in a row, while Graeme Aitken was part of the Lothian Senior

squad which has also made the National Trophies semi-finals.

Two sides survive into the 4th round of the Scottish Cup competitions. The Under 16 side who defeated West Lothian Champions, St. Kentigern's in round 3 now face a difficult trip to either St. Aidan's of Wishaw or Bellshill Academy for a place in the last sixteen. The Under 14s are also in Round 4 having defeated last seasons Scottish Plate winners Portobello in the last round. Their reward is a home tie against local rivals Musselburgh.

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

In this issue, we are introducing a new regular feature where we celebrate the successes of our pupils both within and outside of school. If you have any interesting stories that you think we should know about, contact **Mr Watkins** at the school using the contact information on the back page

**Marc Halliday** 1EP has won a trophy outside school for musical achievements; and overcame his nerves to perform on the P7 open night

**Maxine Kidd** 1KL has been highly commended by her music teacher for her enthusiasm for music and for a great start to learning violin

**Callum Gilzean** 2DM plays football for his county, and has been picked for the squad of 16 for Scottish schools

**Nicole Currie** 2EP completed a series of Maths Master Classes and workshops on Saturdays with the University of Edinburgh

**Stacie Burgess** 3BM, **Danielle Chisholm** 3BM, **Lisa Bingham** 3LL and **Louise Falls** 3BM won S3 Enterprising Maths competition

**Johnie Livingstone** 3BM became boxing champion of Scotland last year

**Daniel Jack** 3LL achieved an outstanding S3 exam result in music.

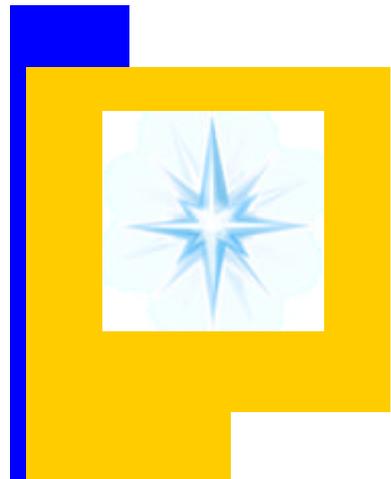
**Rebecca Cunningham** 4IL has just been selected for the Edinburgh Schools' swimming team

**John Murphy** 4AL and **Elizabeth Simpson** 5AL have been highly commended by the Librarians for giving up their time to help as "library helpers".

### Recent Leavers and Former Pupils

We would also like to celebrate the success of former Newbattle pupils who have gone on to achieve success in the wider world. If you know anyone that we could feature in a future issue, please contact **Mr Watkins** at the school using the contact information on the back page

**Laura Gibson** (from 6P last year) got the highest mark in Scotland for one of her Higher Philosophy papers (M2) and is currently studying Religious Education at Stirling University



**Christine McKimmie** (formerly Higginson) is now a Science Teacher at Dalkeith High School

**Sandra Benn**, who was the President of the Association of Scottish Businesswomen last year

**Heather Fleming** (formerly Higginson) is now Senior Community Education Officer with East Lothian Council

**John Blair** former pupil is now Director, Commercial Services, Midlothian Council.

A former pupil, **David Inkster**, has set up his own hairdressing salon in Dalkeith which is sponsoring the newsletter competition

## LIBRARY NEWS

From August to November, Newbattle's lunchtime book group 'The Bookies', which meets in the Library every Monday at 1.20pm, took part in the Royal Mail book awards. 'The Bookies' were divided as to what their favourite book was: 4 people voted for 'Nemesis' by Catherine MacPhail and 4 people voted for 'Scarlett' by Cathy Cassidy...watch this space to see how the rest of Scotland voted! For more info about the Royal Mail book awards, go to [www.braw.org.uk](http://www.braw.org.uk). The Bookies

latest project is to create a display for the corridor outside the Library. If any pupils would like to get involved, just ask Ms Paton, School Librarian.

Mrs Cameron, School Librarian, and Mr Greig, English teacher, took a group of S2 pupils to visit the Edinburgh Book Festival in August to see Anthony Horowitz, a famous and very entertaining children's author. Some pupils purchased books which they were then able to have signed by the author.

We've also been promoting events in the Library such as National Poetry Day (4<sup>th</sup> October) and Hallowe'en by creating book displays in the Library that generated quite a lot of interest from staff and pupils alike.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE MIDLOTHIAN VINEGAR

A group of S5 and S6 students from Newbattle Community High School are currently participating in a Young Enterprise Scheme. The aim of this course is to teach students key business skills and concepts which they acquire by "doing" rather than text book learning. This hands-on approach to business is very popular and continues to be highly valued by students.

This year a group of students have formed a company called EChO and are striving to make Midlothian a greener place to live.

Their concept is simple; To reduce the amount of detergents, chemicals and harmful products that are used in society unnecessarily, therefore making our carbon footprints "greener."

Their product is made using only recycled packaging and comes in glass or plastic to suit consumer's tastes.

They promote the usage of white distilled vinegar in the home instead of shop bought products containing substances harmful to the environment.

Vinegar's role in history is well documented. This versatile product was used by everyone—from kings and conquerors to explorers and everyday people.

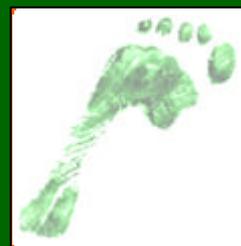
Their product "Midlothian Vinegar" comes with a little pamphlet telling the customer just some of the uses for this product. They are also in the process of designing a website and taking part in future selling events in Midlothian.

The first event, Young Enterprise Trade Fair at the South Gyle shopping centre took place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December. What a great green, local gift this could be for someone's stocking!

### STOP PRESS

Newbattle won:

- 1st for best product award
- 2nd for best sales skills
- 2nd for best overall company
- 3rd for best trade stand



Check out our website on [www.newbattle.org.uk](http://www.newbattle.org.uk)

## FASHION SHOW



Newbattle Community High School pupils are preparing for a fantastic Fashion Show on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Peak Performance groups of S2 and S5/6 pupils are working on a variety of tasks including t-shirt design in Home Economics, hat design in Art, a dance production in P.E, video projections in Media and Advertising and programme design in Business Studies. CDT pupils are even constructing a purpose built cat-walk for the event! The school has already been offered support from members of the community which will add to

the glamour of the evening.

Offers include a variety of prizes for both pupils and members of the audience. Local businesses involved include "Unique Beauty", Gorebridge, "Haloed," salon in Dalkeith, "Dalkeith Flower Shop" (formerly Bryans Flower Shop), "Chauffeured Limousines," Dalkeith and Ashe Tait of "Nature's Harvest," Fushiebridge. The evening will give senior pupils ideas for their Prom in June as Debenhams at Ocean Terminal have donated outfits for the "Masked Ball" finale, while outside,

limousines will add sophistication to the event.

Members of the audience will receive a goodie bag on the night with leaflets and freebies included. Local businesses and members of the community are also welcome to approach the school about advertising and sponsorship for the programme. We are looking forward to an exciting evening that will show off our pupils' many talents!

## ICE FACTOR

*There was once a quiet village in the Highlands of Scotland.....peaceful and serene. Then out of the mist came the white mini bus of doom, 8 overeducated youths, Iain Ross and 3 members of the Newbattle High School establishment. Glencoe would not know what hit them.*

We started our trip by going to collect all the equipment, then the bus left laden with tents and Kevin's lunch for our merry journey to the highlands. We arrived at Glencoe then had the task of setting up the tents. Next, we went to buy our food supplies for the week, this mostly consisted of sausages and burgers or in Kirsty and Emma's case curries (yes—healthy living!). We were told we were going on a nice wee walk up a little hill.....five hours later, sodden and midgie bitten, we arrived back at our camp for dinner. We cooked our freshly bought goods and luckily no one suffered chronic food poisoning on the first night!

Day 2 we went on another walk to the Ice Factor climbing centre. This was new to all of us especially some

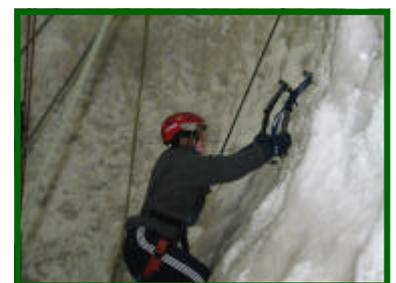
people who were afraid of heights. Fortunately, Mr Cudlipp took to it like a pro and motivated the rest with his friendly cheers. Freshly bought fried goods on the menu for our last night and we were all sad to wave bon voyage to our mascot Mr Cudlipp as he took the lonely road home for paint balling the next day. We were, however left with the lunge master Miss Frame and the intrepid Mr Chalmers Smith.

On the last day we all went to the visitors' centre where we learned about the highland clearances and this very sad part of Scottish history.

On the way home we got the beats pumping and sang along to some tunes. **Altogether a very enjoyable excursion.**



**"Altogether a very enjoyable excursion"**



## A NEW APPROACH TO LITERACY AT NEWBATTLE

In the continuing effort to provide Newbattle pupils with every possible support to raise their attainment a small group of staff is currently engaged in a project to help youngsters improve their performance in a variety of subjects across the timetable by focussing on literacy, especially research skills.

Mr Wilson, Miss Reynolds and

Mr C Mitchell are working with departments across the school in order to build a programme of work for S1 and S2 pupils encouraging effective research skills, as well as the ability to think critically for themselves, weighing up the value of information and forming and expressing their own opinions.

Mr Wilson noted, "Of course, these skills are already taught across the curriculum but the team are confident that their efforts to provide a uniform approach will help pupils to see the links between different areas of their timetable and use these valuable, transferable skills effectively throughout their school career as well as in later life."



Newbattle Community High School hosted a fantastic Quiz Night on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> to raise money for the BBC Children in Need appeal.

Excellent ticket sales ensured that the main hall in the school was packed to capacity with a mixture of pupils, staff and parents all eager to prove their general knowledge and generate funds for Children in Need.

The event was hosted by Mr J. Moore (Geography) and by Miss R. Forbes (Maths). Teams competed over 5 rounds focusing on sport, entertainment and back to school (the latter proving very embarrassing for some teachers).

The quiz night was not just about taxing questions; it was about raising money for BBC's Children in Need. This was exemplified by an excellent raffle featuring many fantastic prizes including a generous voucher donated by "Style Challenge" hairdressing in Newtongrange. Mr L. Porteous and Miss G. Carruthers, both of the

English department, handed out the prizes to the lucky winners while the important business of totalling the scores took place.

Tension mounted as the scores were announced and after the drama of a tie-break between Mrs A. Miller and the Square Roots team and Mr Porteous' Densities team, the Square Roots took the first Newbattle Quiz title!

The success of the night was not just reserved for the winning team. Pupils, such as Rebecca Flanagan and Laura Mackie of S1, beamed that, "the quiz was really good fun and we were all happy to be helping Children in Need"

Headteacher Colin Taylor said, "The school's charities committee work hard to raise funds for both local and national charities. The quiz night proved to be a real winner with all involved, whilst raising a sizeable amount of cash for the BBC Children in Need appeal".



A grand total of £200 was raised

and it was agreed that the Children In Need quiz night should become an annual event. A big thank you to everyone who took part and raised money for BBC Children in Need.





## Newbattle Community High School

64 Easthouses Road  
DALKEITH  
EH22 4EW

Phone: 0131 663 4191  
Fax: 0131 654 2611  
website: [www.newbattle.org.uk](http://www.newbattle.org.uk)  
Email: [newbattle\\_hs@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:newbattle_hs@midlothian.gov.uk)



Our School of Ambition

<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</b>	
All Resume	Monday 7th January 2008
All Break	Friday 8th February 2008
In Service	Thursday 14th February 2008
In Service	Friday 15th February 2008
Pupils Resume	Monday 18th February 2008
Term Ends	Thursday 20th March 2008

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



## Newbattle Attainment And Achievement

We were not disappointed! The **2007 SQA Examination** results were as good as anticipated. The S4 results contributed to our best two-year consecutive performance ever. The S5 and 6 results were excellent with the S5 group really fulfilling their potential and converting their superb Standard Grade performance of last year into Higher Level this year. We are proud of them!

Preparations for the 2008 Examinations continue with S4 recently completing their Preliminary Examinations, with S5 and S6 following at the end of January. Our target-setting events

take place in February and March with the **Get In The Zone!** workshops designed to help candidates focus on improvement before their final exams in May 2008. Here we go again!

## CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

A former Newbattle pupil, David Inkster, has recently opened his own hairdressing salon, Haloed, in Dalkeith on Eskbank Road. We have teamed up with David to offer a prize of two free haircuts (one adult and one teenager) at his salon.

In order to be in with a chance of winning, just answer this simple question:

**On which road is David's salon?**

All entries must be submitted through the school website: go to

[www.newbattle.org.uk/competition.html](http://www.newbattle.org.uk/competition.html)



Closing date: Friday 11th January 2008

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