

# 2026

Spring

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Issue 25-26

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## Mentors In Violence Prevention

An impressive 23 of our S6 pupils have volunteered as MVP's (Mentors in Violence Prevention). They completed training in S5 as part of their PSHE programme and delivered their first workshops with S2 groups in January 2026. The programme develops leadership skills and knowledge in senior pupils and focuses on promoting healthy and respectful relationships within our school community. Through a peer education scheme, younger pupils are taught to recognise healthy and unhealthy behaviours in a relationship and are empowered to be active bystanders by studying a variety of scenarios which cover topics such as bullying and online safety.

- Mrs Kirkland



## Mock COP 30

On the 20th of November, students attended the mock COP 30 conference in Dumfries, which was an imitation of the real COP conference that took place in Brazil that same year. Schools were given a country, company, or charity to represent while there, along with a group aim that they had to keep in mind when negotiating. At the end of the day, schools would then vote on resolutions as to how the given issues should be solved.

One student from each school was selected to join a team of news reporters whose role it was to take notes on what was being said, ask different teams questions about their aims and then report on what different schools had achieved throughout the event. Midway through the convention, "breaking news" was announced, which gave the schools new information to negotiate with.

The rest of the Kirkcudbright Academy students represented the Nordic Council, which composed of several Scandinavian countries. The Nordic Council were aiming for more sustainable resolutions to the given issues and overall, their negotiations were successful.

Every student involved enjoyed the event and said that it was a great experience and opportunity that has helped them to learn about what happens at COP conferences and environmental negotiations in general. The teams demonstrated superb teamwork and communication, along with the flexibility to cooperate with other groups.

- Ally Gourlay, S5





## Youth Speaks

On Thursday the 6th of November, eleven pupils took part in the annual Rotary public speaking competition, Youth Speaks. The audience of parents, friends and Rotarians were entertained by all the speeches which covered a wide range of topics. In the Junior category, Loic M came in first place with his talk on "Tricking", Fiona A was in 2nd place, and Ben-Levi W came 3rd. The winner of the Senior competition was Max McFarlane whose speech was titled "From Crisis to a Just World." Hazel D was in 2nd place and Isla D came 3rd.

- Hazel Dempster, S5



## Modern Studies

In preparation for the upcoming 2026 Scottish Parliament election vote, the Higher and Advanced Higher modern studies class were given the opportunity to attend the 'Making Sense of Politics' event at Easterbrook Hall. This was a live panel discussion organised by the Royal Society of Edinburgh where local politicians including Emma Harper and Craig Hoy spoke about issues regarding young people in Dumfries and Galloway. The event

was very engaging, and pupils felt that what they learned will help them to cast an educated vote in May. Some of the class were even featured in the ITV news report of the debate with one pupil even shown verbally participating! Thank you to Miss Hodgson for organising this trip, it was a great experience.

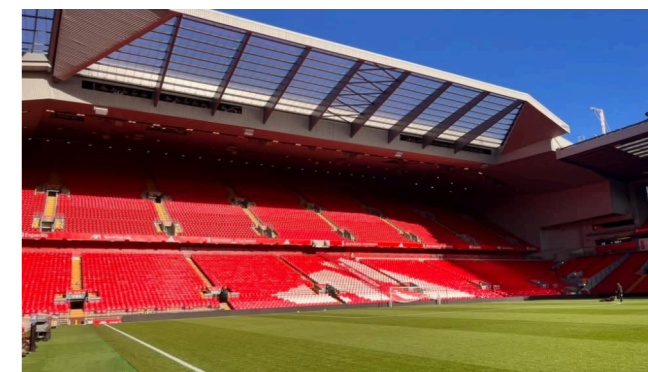
- Eliza Clark, S5



## Anfield Stadium Trip

Kirkcudbright Academy pupils recently attended an exciting football trip to two football stadiums home to major UK clubs. Pupils started the day by travelling to Liverpool where they experienced a guided tour of Anfield football stadium. During the tour, students got to see the pitch, changing rooms and the tunnel where the professional players walk out. They then travelled to the Etihad stadium where they were able to watch a live football match against Bournemouth and Manchester City. The match was thrilling and many pupils were pleased with Manchester City winning the game with an overall score of 3-1. Thank you to Mr Morton, Mrs Cluckie, Mr Templeton and Mr Perez for running and organising this trip, it was an amazing experience which pupils greatly enjoyed.

- Eliza Clark, S5

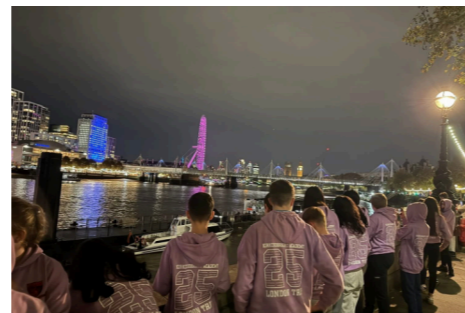




## London School Trip

Our yearly London Trip kicked off on November 5th, 2025, for 4 days of fun filled adventure. 46 S2 and S3 pupils, along with 5 members of staff made the 7-hour bus journey down to London to kick start their trip with a wander round Covent Garden for some quick shopping, then dinner and ending the evening watching Hercules at the Theatre. Day 2 started with a morning visit to Madame Tussauds, with an exciting viewing of Back to the Future after Lunch. We spent time shopping on Oxford Street, ending our day with a walking tour of the London sights. Day 3, had us on a wet and windy boat trip down the Thames, and a 360 view of the city on the London Eye. We had a scarily good time in the London Dungeons and took a spin on the ice-skating rink at Leicester Square to end the day. We had one last opportunity to shop before making the journey home on the final day. A fantastic and exhausting time was had by both pupils and staff making it a trip to remember.

- Miss Gibson





## Junior Maths Challenge

Kirkcudbright Academy pupils recently had success at the Enterprising Maths in Scotland 2025 Regional competition which was held at The Bridge in Dumfries. The competition provided a series of logic and problem-solving challenges where pupils had to work as a team to successfully complete each task. Kirkcudbright Academy finished as the runners up, which means that they will now proceed to the National finals in Glasgow on the 25th of November. Well done Ava, Arthur, Jean and Joshua!



## UK Mathematics Trust Senior Maths Challenge

On the 9th of October 2025, the UK Mathematics Trust held the senior maths challenge in which 27 pupils across S5 and S6 participated. The challenge is a national competition made up of difficult multiple-choice questions to test students problem solving and logic. Out of the 27 students who participated, 9 of them received the bronze award. Lucas Kinski Kidd scored the highest, earning the silver award, using the negative point system to his advantage by only answering the questions that he was confident that he would get right. A big well done to all who participated!

-Ciara Simpson, S5

### Awards

#### Bronze Award Winners:

Obi Clear	Eden-Rose Hinchliff
Amy Croskell	Ben Hodson
Stuart Davies	Inigo Lipton-Chaney
Ally Gourlay	Asha Morris
	Maya Patel

#### Silver Award Winner:

Lucas Kinski Kidd





### Peter Pan Pantomime

The week before the Christmas holidays, Kirkcudbright Academy entertained hundreds of people with our annual pantomime. On the 17th and 18th of December Peter Pan was performed with the unbeatable energy this school always brings.

Accompanied by the incredible school band, the cast of all pupils put on a vibrant show and kept the varying ages of the audience engaged and laughing throughout. The cast welcomed some new chorus members, whilst other cast members made the scary leap into named rolls. In total, over 50 students were involved in pulling the show together, including those that helped paint the backdrop, make the props, and create costumes. The whole production was supported by the pupil lead tech crew and the pupil heavy band.

As always, the show brought together by different year groups, allowing juniors to bond with seniors and vice versa. The whole process has required huge amounts of time and effort from pupils; however, the show would have been impossible without the incredible effort and dedication from Mrs Curtis, Miss Gilliland and Mrs Tuffery as well as the help from the art teachers, Miss Gibson and Miss Wells.

Thank you for your complete commitment to making the show the best it can be and giving all pupils at the academy an opportunity to perform and be part of a show and community.

- Inigo Lipton-Chaney, S5





## Regional Badminton

This year's regional badminton competition took place on the 1st of February at St Joseph's College. 21 Kirkcudbright Academy pupils took part in a range of categories, including singles, doubles and mixed doubles. All participants played a range of games against different people from schools across Dumfries and Galloway, scoring up to 11, 15, or 21 points depending on which age category they were in. The competition was tough and all students played very well, winning a range of medals.

- Asha Morris, S5



### Results

#### U14 Mixed Doubles

Billy and Olivia **Bronze**

#### U16 Girls Doubles

Milan and Kokomi **Gold**

#### U16 Mixed Doubles

Milan and Joseph **Silver**

#### U19 Girls Singles

Asha **Bronze**

#### U19 Boys Singles

Thomas **Silver**

Ewan **Bronze**

#### U19 Boys Doubles

Thomas and Fraser **Silver**

Karol and Ewan **Bronze**

#### U19 Mixed Doubles

Karol and Asha **Bronze**

## Netball

This year, our school netball teams have been working very hard in training and competing in games against schools in the region. Both our junior and senior teams played against 6 other teams, with the seniors winning 3 games, drawing 1, and losing 2. This placed them third overall in the fixture. A total of 84 goals were scored across all games. The junior team played extremely well but were up against some strong opposition and unfortunately lost all 6 games they played.

- Asha Morris, S5

### Game Results



KBT vs WHA



28 - 14



KBT vs CD



17 - 17



KBT vs St Joes B



31 - 20



KBT vs AA A



4 - 69



KBT vs St Joes A



(Forfeit) 1 - 0

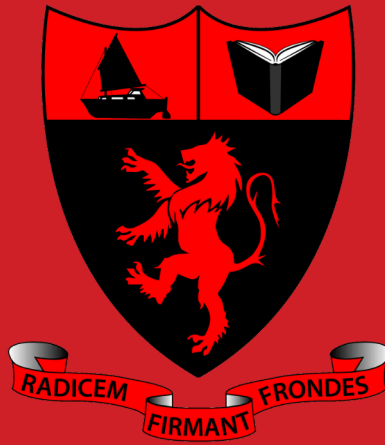


KBT vs AA B



13 - 17





# The Team

Grace Cardozo-McDowall

Eliza Clark

Isabel D'haen

Stuart Davies

Hazel Dempster

Ally Gourlay

Inigo Lipton-Chaney

Christina Marshall

Asha Morris

Maya Patel

Ciara Simpson