



### Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to all pupils back to the school and we look forward to what will be, I hope, a rewarding session for all the young people of Stewarton Academy.

In particular I would wish to welcome our new pupils and their parents to the school. I am sure the pupils will settle in quickly.

## EXCELLENT SQA EXAMINATION RESULTS

Once again Stewarton Academy pupils achieved excellent results in the 2011 examinations. All results at the moment are pre appeal.

It was a very good year for S4 pupils and overall their results showed an improvement from last session with over 45% gaining credit awards in 5 or more of their subjects.

The S5 results were very pleasing too. 16% achieved 5 awards at Higher level; 30% achieved 3+ Highers and 48% achieved at least one Higher pass. All figures represent the second best results from the previous five years.

Eight S5 pupils achieved 5 A Higher awards (a new school record). (Rachel Beveridge, Laura Meney, Jamie Erskine, Meghan Lynes, Caitlin Campbell, Kaitlyn Hair, Cameron Sheppard and Laura McGarvie. Laura's awards were all at A pass band 1).

The S6 results were also excellent. 2011 was the first year that Stewarton Academy presented pupils for the Scottish Baccalaureate and we were delighted with their success which included three pupils achieving distinctions for the science award. (Scott McDonald, Robert Cochrane and Gregor Devoy).

Seven pupils in total were awarded the Scottish Baccalaureate award, three in Languages and four in Sciences.

We were also delighted with the achievements of many of our other pupils some who exceeded expectations through their hard work.

We are very proud of our pupils' achievements and we congratulate them. We are delighted not only with their hard work and effort. The results are also a great tribute to the professionalism of the teaching staff and to the support that the pupils receive from parents and family. Well done to all.

#### Special points of interest:

- *Excellent SQA examination results.*
- *Websites*
- *Uniform*
- *S1 Freshers' Party*
- *Debate Club*
- *Physics dept College Lecture*
- *Maths*

- *Computing*
- *S1 Information*
- *Work Experience*
- *Music & Performing Arts*
- *PE Extra Curricular*
- *Senior Prefects*
- *Important Dates*

## KEEP UP TO DATE

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Throughout the year you will continue to receive newsletters in paper form. However we are moving more to communication by electronic means. The school website ([www.stewartonacademy.co.uk](http://www.stewartonacademy.co.uk)) is updated regularly and should provide you with essential details such as the school calendar and recent events.

I would also encourage you to log onto to GLOW. GLOW is the national online community for Scottish schools.

The site is excellent and it provides links to all the main websites concerned with Scottish education.

In addition you will have access to a part which is concerned with Stewarton Academy. To access GLOW you must have a user name and password. Your child will have been given one and this is what you should use.

However to access Stewarton Academy's GLOW Blog you can use a search engine to search for Stewarton academy GLOW blog. You do not need a password for this.

Please note the undernoted link to Stewarton Blog.

The blog is a website which is almost instant and is updated regularly

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/STEWARTONACADEMYBLOG/>

Other useful websites to help you keep up-to-date with your child's education.

[www.stewartonacademy.co.uk](http://www.stewartonacademy.co.uk)

[www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

[www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)

[www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk](http://www.parentzonescotland.gov.uk)

[www.curriculumforexcellence.gov.uk](http://www.curriculumforexcellence.gov.uk)

[www.ltscotland.org.uk](http://www.ltscotland.org.uk)

[www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)

[www.hmie.gov.uk](http://www.hmie.gov.uk)

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## UNIFORM

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The new session has seen a big improvement in the standard of uniform. Almost all of our S6 pupils have qualified to be prefects and they look very impressive with their smart black blazers and braiding.

I thank you for your support in keeping the standard so high. Could I remind parents that the uniform for girls is black trousers (not jeans, leggings or shorts). Skirts should be of a reasonable length. Shirts should be white only.

Jumpers and cardigans should be plain black with no logos.

Also for both boys and girls shoes should be black. Not canvas shoes.



## S1 FRESHERS' PARTY

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An S1 Freshers' Party will take place on Wednesday 14th September, 7.30pm—9.30 pm.

Tickets costing £2 will be available at registration and at door 2 at intervals and lunchtimes leading up to the party.

All S1's welcome to come along.

## JOURNEY'S END TRIP

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A Trip for S4 & S6 pupils to see "Journey's End" took place on 8.9.11 at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

## DEBATE CLUB

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The club meets every Tuesday lunchtime and the Juniors have been busy preparing a balloon debate while Senior pupils will soon be competing in the E.S.U Mace competition.

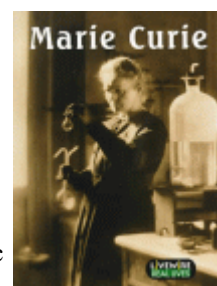
## SCIENCE DEPT.

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In September 40 physics students attended this year's Institute of Physics Schools and Colleges Lecture at the University of Glasgow: How physicists build machines that do what our eyes cannot – see inside the human body. 2011 marks the centenary of Marie Curie winning her second Nobel Prize for the discovery of the elements radium and polonium, as well as the centenary of Rutherford's model of the atom. It's therefore fitting that we study one of the many fields in which Marie Curie's research on radioactivity has been applied – medical physics.

Starting with the discovery of x-rays and including the advent of the CT (computerized tomography) scanner, the application of radioactive molecules in nuclear imaging and the use of super-strong magnetic fields in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), the lecture delivered by Dr Michael Wilson uncovered the science behind the techniques and introduce the physicists who pioneered their development.

The lecture involved hands-on demonstrations, 3D animations, and some amazing audio-visual media. The lecture lasted for one hour and was complemented by a tour of the physics and astronomy department conducted by students who encouraged questions from the pupils from what is it like to study physics at Glasgow to being a student.



## MATHS

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The competition season has started already. Mr Watt has entered a team for the Enterprising Maths competition. The first round takes place at Cumnock Academy where teams from all of East Ayrshire's secondary schools will compete for a place in the national competition.

Another group of S3 pupils are gearing up for the annual stock market challenge.

Stewarton will enter the annual Mathematiques sans Frontieres competition and hopefully we can equal last year's excellent performance where Stewarton came 4<sup>th</sup> in Scotland. Well done to all those who participated.

## COMPUTING

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A reminder to those in Higher Computing to use SCHOLAR for revision.

## S1 Pupils

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Our new first year pupils have settled in well and have adapted very quickly to being taught by different teachers in a variety of locations. They are all enjoying the diversity of subjects available in the academy. I am delighted that so many of them have received S.T.A.R. Awards for showing a positive attitude and working hard.

The focus of our assemblies so far has been developing a sense of responsibility and showing respect for others. With these important qualities in mind, the pupils are currently electing a Pupil Council to represent their interests. The Pupil Council will meet monthly and minutes of the meetings are available to all S1 pupils.

A wide variety of extra curricular activities is on offer at lunchtime in the school and we encourage all S1 pupils to join in.

## S1 Parents' Information Evening

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The Parents' Information Evening held on Thursday 8th September was well attended and the feedback from parents has been very positive. The topics covered included Maths and English, Science and S.T.A.R.S. The School's promoting positive behaviour initiative.

Following the success of this evening, a number of other similar events are planned this session.

## S1 Interim Reports

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S1 Parents can look forward to receiving their interim report shortly before Christmas but meantime any queries or concerns can be directed to Mrs Richardson, PT Pupil Support.

## S2 Pupils

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S2 pupils have made an excellent start to the academic session. This will be a very busy year for them and a number of events have been planned. The first of these is the Enterprise Day which takes place on Friday 30th September. Later this session S2 have a Careers Conference when pupils learn more about a variety of occupations. If you are interested in taking part in this event please contact Mr Johnston.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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All S4 pupils have once again been out on work experience placements for a week during September. This is a very worthwhile experience for the pupils and hopefully they will all have gained a useful insight into the world of work. Many thanks are due to local employers and parents who have helped in providing and finding placements for our pupils.

Pupils will now complete their work experience course online in PSE to achieve their Access 3 or Intermediate 1 award at the end of the year.

## MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS

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### *West Of Scotland Schools Symphony Orchestra & Concert Band*

A number of our Senior Band pupils attended the West Of Scotland Schools Symphony Orchestra & Concert Band annual concert in the City Halls, Glasgow, in September. The standard of playing by both groups was very high and hopefully we will see some of our pupils applying to join the groups this session; application forms will be available soon from the Music & Performing Arts Department.

### *Music Factory*

Pupils studying Music at Advanced Higher level this session have had their own compositions recorded by a trio of players from the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. The stimulus for the project was space and this led to a visit to the Glasgow Science Centre. A number of masterclasses followed with pupils working closely with the musicians and composer, Stephen Deazley. The project will finish with the compositions being performed at the SCO's Family Fun Music Day in the City Halls, Glasgow.

### *East Ayrshire Gala Concert*

The school's Senior Band and Guitar Ensemble will play at this year's Gala Concert in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock in October. The Senior Band will perform Dillon's Flight and the Guitar Ensemble will perform Wave.

# PE DEPT

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## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

The P.E. Dept will be running an extensive extra-curricular timetable again this year. Please see attached timetable

There will also be a number of teams in a variety of different activities at different age groups.

### **Basketball**

There will be 4 teams this year, as last year, with 3 of the teams entered in the Scottish Cup and all teams entered in the Ayrshire League and Ayrshire Cup. Training is underway and the first game already organised

Senior Boys V's Auchendarvie Academy 29<sup>th</sup> Sept (Home)

### **Football**

4 Football teams – U-13's coached by Mr Rankin and Ms Dumigan, U-14's coached by Mr Johnston and the U-16's and Seniors coached by Mr Arnott and Ms Munro.

### **Volleyball**

Practice has started for volleyball and there will be a number of tournaments throughout the year for all age groups. 2 teams will be entered in the Scottish Cup

## **BASKETBALL**

Ewan Lancaster has been training all summer with the Scotland U-13's team. He will have a number of games coming up and we wish him well for the season.

Craig McIntyre represented Scotland U-14's in a tournament in Barcelona! Here is Craig's Blog.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2011 the under-14 boys Scotland basketball team and I left for Spain to compete in the biggest tournament in Europe, 27<sup>e</sup> Nacex Torneig de basquet unim.

We started our week with a game against CB Vic at St Julia Pavllo Municipal, a local Spanish under 14 team, which we won by 29 points. That night there was an opening ceremony with a game with the Boston University women's team playing against a first division Spanish women's team.

Throughout the tournament we played a total of 7 games, winning 6 out of 6 the 7<sup>th</sup> game was a friendly against an under 17 team, the game was classed as the best game of the tournament and had a great atmosphere – unfortunately we lost by 1 point.

### Game Results

Scotland	45	CB Vic	16
Scotland	60	CB Manlleu	5
Scotland	54	CB Adept Figures	17
CB Askatvak U-17	34	Scotland	33
CB Nastic Vermell	7	Scotland	58
CB Nastic Blanc	24	Scotland	39
Penya Espetec	18	Scotland	49

The experience of being able to play at such a high level has been a great honour and I will never forget the experience and I will definitely be trying out for the under-15 Scotland team next year and maybe even the under 16 team if recommended by my coaches.

## **DANCE**

YDance are again back at Stewarton academy with Gillian running sessions for all age groups Tuesday's after school. Everyone welcome!!!

## EXTRA - CURRICULAR TIMETABLE 2010 - 2011

### LUNCHTIME

	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURS</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>
<b>GYM</b>	BASKETBALL Seniors		BASKETBALL S1 & S2	<b>BASKETBALL</b> S1 & S2	<b>BASKETBALL</b> S3 & Seniors
<b>GAMES HALL</b>	SHORT TENNIS	VOLLEYBALL (Boys & Girls)	BASKETBALL S1 & S2	<b>VOLLEYBALL</b> (Boys & Girls)	<b>BASKETBALL</b> S3 & Seniors
<b>OUTSIDE</b>					
<b>EXTENSION</b>					

### AFTER SCHOOL

	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>
<b>GYM</b>		Y DANCE	RUGBY S1-S6 BAD WEATHER ONLY		
<b>GAMES HALL</b>	<b>VOLLEYBALL</b>	<b>BADMINTON</b>	FOOTBALL (Staff)	BASKETBALL Rotation	
<b>OUTSIDE</b>		FOOTBALL Seniors & S4	RUGBY S1-S6		
<b>EXTENSION</b>					

# SENIOR PREFECT TEAM

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The senior prefect team was appointed in June and the positions were filled by:

- |                  |   |                  |
|------------------|---|------------------|
| Laura Meney      | - | Head Girl        |
| Hamish Forsythe  | - | Head Boy         |
| David Jones      | - | Depute Head Boy  |
| Caitlin Campbell | - | Depute Head Girl |
| Jamie Erskine    | - | Depute Head Boy  |
| Jasmen Pioli     | - | Depute Head Girl |



In order to achieve these positions we had to fill out an application form explaining why we thought we would be a good member of the Senior Prefect Team. We then had to attend an interview with Mrs Leslie, Mr Rose and Mrs Barbour. In addition to the Senior Prefect Team, positions were appointed to other applicants, such as Laura McGarvie and Cameron Sheppard, appointed as International Ambassadors and Peter Lunardi and Alice Kerr appointed as Head of Senate.

Before summer, all potential prefects were required to attend a leadership day to develop our ability as leaders and role models. Everyone, we are sure, took something away from the experience and are now more confident in carrying out the role of a prefect.



Within S6, over seventy prefects have now been appointed and each one of them is committed to carrying out their duties. For example, they are successfully enforcing the one-way system and setting a good example for our younger students. Many teachers have commented on the prefects' exemplary dress code and efficiency.

All members of S6 are taking part in a wider achievement activity to benefit themselves and the school. For example, we have a prom committee, year book committee, an enterprise group, a peer tutoring organization and many more activities which our S6 pupils are very enthusiastic to be a part of.

**STEWARTON ACADEMY: IMPORTANT DATES 2011-2012**

AUGUST 2011			SEPTEMBER 2011			OCTOBER 2011		
In-service Day 1 Staff return	Tues	16	Parents Info Evening S1	Thurs	8	Peace & Justice Week	Mon	10
Pupils return	Wed	17	S1 Freshers Disco/Party	Wed	14	Non Uniform Day School closes 3.30 pm (Mid Term)	Fri	14
S1/3/5 Photographs	Mon.	22	School closes 3.30 pm	Thurs	15	In-service Day 2 (Staff return)	Mon	24
			Local Holiday	Fri	16	Pupils return	Tues	25
			Local Holiday	Mon	19	S4 Interim Report issued	Wed	26
			Pupils return	Tues	20	Halloween disco	Fri	28
			Parents Info Evening S5	Wed	21			
NOVEMBER 2011			DECEMBER 2011			JANUARY 2012		
Parents' Evening S4	Tues	1	S4 Prelims start	Thurs	1	Re-open (Pupils return)	Mon	9
S2 Int. Reports issued S6 Photos (T.B.C.)	Wed	2	S1 Int. Report issued	Wed	7	Parents' Evening S1	Wed	25
S5/6 Int. Report issued	Wed	9	Xmas Disco	Tues	13	S4 Reports Issued	Fri	27
Parents' Evening S5/6	Wed.	16	S4 Prelims end	Wed	14	S5/6 Prelims start	Mon	30
Non Uniform Day	Fri	25	School Xmas Concert	Thurs	15			
S3 Int. Reports issued	Wed	30	S Factor School closes 2.30 pm (End of Term)	Fri	23			
FEBRUARY 2012			MARCH 2012			APRIL 2012		
S5/6 Prelims End/Non Uniform Day – School closes 3.30 pm	Friday	10	S5/6 Reports issued	Wed	7	In-Service Day 5 (Staff return)	Mon	16
Mid term holiday	Mon- Tues Wed	13 14 15	Parents' Evening S2	Thurs	8	Pupils return	Tues	17
In-Service Day 3 (Staff return)	Thurs	16	Non Uniform	Friday	23			
In-Service Day 4 (Staff return)	Friday	17	Young Musician of the Year	Tues	27			
Pupils return	Mon	20	School closes 2.30 pm	Friday	30			
S2 Reports issued	Tues	21						
MAY 2012			JUNE 2012			<p align="center"><b><u>School Re-opens</u></b></p> <p><b>Staff - Wednesday 15 August 2012</b></p> <p><b>Pupils - Thursday 16 August 2012</b></p>		
S3 Reports issued	Wed	2	Local Holiday	Mon	4			
Local Holiday	Mon	7	Local Holiday	Tues	5			
Pupils return	Tues	8	Pupils return/P.7 Induction Day	Wed	6			
Parents' Evening S3	Thurs	10	P.7 Induction Day	Thurs	7			
Parents' Evening P7	Thurs	17	S5/6 Pupils return	Mon	11			
S1 Reports issued	Wed	23	Prizegiving	Tues	12			
Health Week	Mon	28	School Prom	Friday	15			
Non Uniform Day	Thurs	31	School Review	Tues Wed Thurs	19 20 21			
			Non Uniform Day	Friday	22			
			Activity Day	Wed	27			
			School closes 1.00 pm (End of session)	Thurs	28			



**STEWARTON ACADEMY**

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**We're on the Web**  
[www.stewartonacademy.co.uk](http://www.stewartonacademy.co.uk)

Best wishes

*Saw- 29.10.*

Sandra Leslie  
Head Teacher

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