



LATHALLAN SCHOOL

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19th December 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a wonderful end to term with the whole school community joining together for our annual Christmas Carol Service. The Pipe Band led us out of the Church with festive tunes, and were then on to their next gig the following night, supporting, and maybe stealing the show from the Red Hot Chilli Pipers at the Caird Hall in Dundee.

The build-up to the end of term was also appropriately busy. Our S3 Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) groups put together some excellent presentations, making it a tough decision for the judges to choose a winner. Poppy, Lola, Rachel and Mia came first with their pitch for the charity Time to Heal, securing £3000 for the cause. They will continue to fundraise throughout the academic year with our support.

The J1-4 'Boogie Woogie Nativity', followed by the J5-7 class performances, were a testament to the dedication and creative flair of both our pupils and staff.

The Sports Personality of the Year Awards and Dinner was a sell-out with keynote speaker Hannah Miley and Dean Fearn securing the well-deserved SPOTY title. Dean's achievements at the International Meet in Canada over the last week are truly commendable. He's participated in five swimming events and reached the five finals while setting three British Junior Records and four Scottish Junior Records.

The Junior School theatre trip to see Sleeping Beauty at His Majesty's Theatre Aberdeen was a great occasion (oh yes it was), enjoyed by all.

Christmas Dinner Day "was the best dinner I have ever had" (J2 pupil), jingle jogs, secret Santa gift exchanges, parties, and the virtual tutor class Christmas quiz were also all in the mix.

We have also achieved a significant National Award with Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) Gold standard. This sets us apart as the only all-through school in Scotland to have received this recognition. This Gold LOtC Mark is not just an accolade; it signifies our commitment to providing our pupils from 6 weeks to 18 years with opportunities to explore, discover, and grow beyond the traditional classroom walls. You are the first to know, we'll announce it more publically in January.

Finally, my colleagues and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable festive season, and we look forward to seeing you at the start of next term. Pupils in formal uniform please, for our coffee on the morning on the 9th January.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Toley
Headmaster