

Pebbles Education Newsletter

August 2023



Glenn Gibson

Head of Education

As we welcome our Pebbles Education pupils back into the schools for another academic year, we take the opportunity to look back on the news and stories from our school activities just before summer. These stories highlight some of the wide range of activities our pupils can participate in as part of our Adapt learning model, many of which our pupils are excited to continue into this new term of school.

Blackpool Pleasure Beach

As a reward for all their hard work over the school year, the pupils at Muirkirk were treated to a trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach just before their summer holidays. The young people and staff had a fantastic time riding the thrilling rollercoasters and playing the games, especially getting soaked with water on the new Valhalla rollercoaster.

Vegetable and Herb Gardens

As part of Science and Technologies, the pupils at Muirkirk have been developing a vegetable garden as a way of learning more about sustainability. The young people had to dig, rake, and plow the earth to prepare it for sowing. They also germinated wheat before planting it in the soil. The goal is to have the garden in full bloom when they return from the Summer holidays so they can start making their own flour to make pasta and baked goods. They also plan to utilise the various vegetables being grown for cooking different recipes.

One of the young people in Dunfermline who particularly enjoys cooking in home economics has started her own herb garden. She has started growing her own basil, parsley, thyme and oregano from seed and will be moving them into pots as they grow larger. She then plans to use the herbs in their cooking classes.

New School Aquarium

Our Dunfermline school have recently had some pet fish join their part of the Pebbles' family. The fish are named Blue, Princess Peach, Marky Mark, Reggie, Cheeto, Sir Fishy McFishington, SpongeBob and Patrick. A young person from the school took on the role as aquarium manager and worked extremely hard to set up a beautiful environment for the fish. They have also been ensuring the fish are well taken care of.



Optical Illusion Art

Our young people regularly partake in various creative activities. Some of our Dunfermline pupils have had great fun recently, learning about and creating their own optical illusion artwork in their art class. The results were some lovely and interesting pieces of work.

Equine Therapy

Some of our young people have been continuing to take part in Equine Therapy which has led to them gaining qualifications in Horse Care. All of the young people who take part really enjoy many aspects of the therapy including riding and grooming the horses.



Alternative Timetable Activities

As part of our Adapt learning model our young people are provided with personalised timetables which include alternative learning activities to appeal to some of their individual interests and skills.

A great example of this is the skills workshop currently being run at Dunfermline where some of the young people are involved in learning how to service and maintain cars and other vehicles. The school recently installed portacabins to use for this. The young people have been really enjoying this workshop and are learning very useful skills while taking part.

Some other interesting elective activities our young people have been taking part in recently include boxing, recording studio sessions, fishing and work experience.

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