



# E-SGOIL NEWS

OUR TERMLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023

Welcome to our December Newsletter.

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of 2023. It has been another busy year with a large number of programmes being offered to schools and learners at all stages right across Scotland. Looking back there have been many highlights such as:

- seeing increasing numbers of young people from all backgrounds signing up for Evening Study Support
- our Gaelic Team's success at the Scottish Gaelic Awards
- seeing some of the amazing pieces of work being produced by our i-Sgoil learners
- launching our refreshed Senior Phase Learning Spaces
- supporting schools across Scotland to ensure continuity of specialist teaching
- enabling 1200 learners to participate in the Bear Cubs engineering programme through DYW Live, and
- the launch of our new website.

No matter what 2024 will bring, young people will always be learning and e-Sgoil looks forward to being able to support schools through online delivery as part of a rich and broad curriculum. Our values of equity, opportunity, innovation and inclusion will see e-Sgoil continue to strive to find ways to overcome barriers to learning, where these exist.

We would like to thank all staff and partners for their commitment and support over the past year and wish you a Merry Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

Nollaig Chridheil agus Bliadhna Mhath Ur



## Early Years & Primary

DUG'S  
DISCOVERY  
DEN

Dug continues to visit early years settings across Scotland. Join Dug in his Christmas themed activities by visiting his interactive learning space [here](#)

You can also join Dug in his adventures by following him on 'X' @BeingMeWithDug to see what he's been up to. Look out for new activities on his learning space in the new year.

Merry Christmas.

Dug 



SCOTLAND'S  
ASSEMBLY



This term we've had two brilliant Scotland's Assemblies.

We blasted off to SaxaVord Space Port in Shetland to learn all about why Scotland is at the forefront of the British space industry.

As part of this assembly the team at SaxaVord shared some great STEM activities that you can try yourself in your class or at home.

If you missed this assembly you can watch it on demand.

[Click Here!](#)

On **World Children's Day** we were delighted to be able to introduce the new Children's and Young People's commissioner for Scotland (CYPCS) Nicola Killean to thousands of children and young people across the country.

We hosted two special assemblies (one for Primary and one for Secondary) encouraging children and young people to get involved with shaping the commissioner's new five-year plan.

You can re-watch the assemblies and find out how to participate in the creation of the commissioner's plan by clicking on the CYPCS logo on the right.

CHILDREN &  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
Commissioner  
Scotland

## COMING UP

### Scottish Roots – Protecting Our Native Plants

Thursday 25 January



Royal  
Botanic Garden  
Edinburgh

On the anniversary of Robert Burns' birth, join e-Sgoil and the team from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) for a special **Scotland's Assembly**.

Burns was 'nature's bard'; he loved Scotland's landscapes, plants and animals – and wanted to protect them. You'll get an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at the rare Scottish plants the RBGE are growing in their plant nursery and hear all about the Scottish Plant Recovery team's hair-raising efforts to track down our most endangered plants and their ingenious experiments to grow plants in new ways.



Join us [here](#) for an interactive 45-minute assembly which will blend literacy, STEM and sustainability and inspire you with Scotland's amazing nature and the people who work to look after it. The RBGE staff presenting this assembly are supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Scottish Government Nature Restoration Fund.



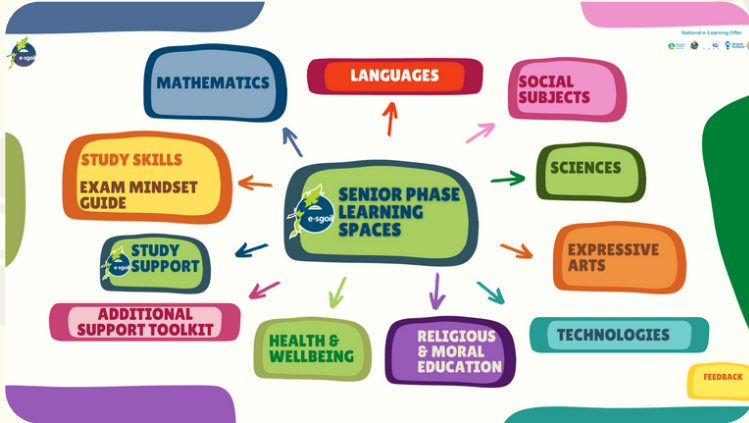
## Senior Phase

Senior Phase **Study Support** webinars have been busier than ever this term, with over 4500 learners registering for the service already. Participants rated the overall quality of their webinar experience for the winter term at 4.5 out of 5.

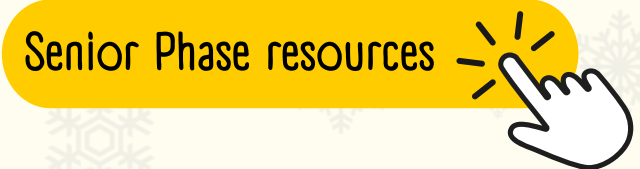


Registration for Study Support remains open throughout the school year, and although the webinars are busy, there is still plenty of room! See our [website](#) for full details of subjects/levels, timetables, and how to register using Glow.

Our website also features a range of useful resources and materials for learners in the Senior Phase, including resources to help with study skills and the development of an 'Exam Mindset', as well as our popular 'Learning Spaces' resource which features a bank of materials for twenty-five different subjects.



Click the button below to access the Senior Phase page on our website where you will find all these resources.



## Christmas Activity Days

### I-SGOIL CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY DAYS

Run over the last two days of term for our interrupted learner programme, the Activity Days gave our students a great way to celebrate the end of term and brought our online learners together informally.

To decide which activities to offer, student team leaders consulted with the whole student body through questionnaires and focus groups.

Just some of the activities that were on offer included delicious baking, festive photography, tasty cooking, creative Christmas crafts, fun Christmas quizzes, a merry kitchen disco, pitting wits against escape rooms, watching classic Christmas movies and lots, lots more!



Great fun was had by all. Many thanks to our Student team leaders and all the teachers involved for their hard work in making these days special.

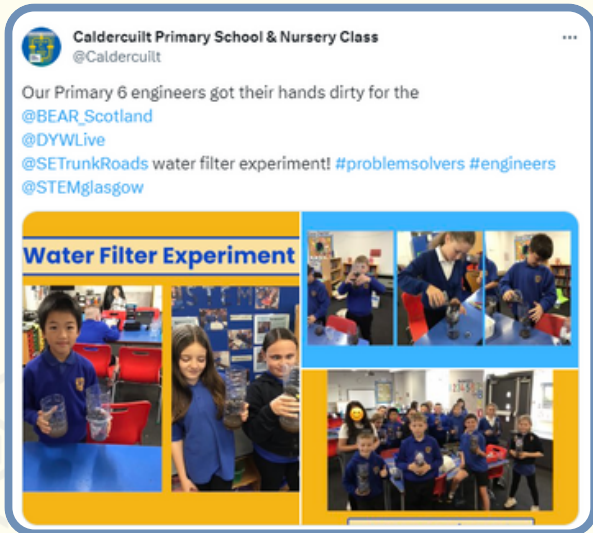


It's been a very busy Term 2 for the **DYW Live** team and the extensive network of partner organisations, companies and volunteers who inspire, inform and upskill learners across Scotland in work-related topics.

New and established partnerships alike are enabling the delivery of more certificated learning than ever before, with courses like New College Lanarkshire's Introduction to Podcasting making the acquisition of a wide variety of skills available to learners, no matter where they are in the country.

For the first time this year, the industry standard Maritime Studies NPA is being taught to an aggregated group of learners from four secondary schools.

Established offers like Bear Scotland's introduction to engineering for primary learners, Bear Cubs, the Games Design and Cracking Cryptography sessions delivered by SDS' excellent MyWorldofWork team and SCILT's Languages and Your Career sessions have all proved hugely popular.



This academic year there have been more than 2,800 attendances at DYW Live courses delivered on Glow, with an estimated 17,500 attendances at webinars delivered as part of the programme of themed events. This term, these have included Scottish Careers Week, a packed 5 days of career inspiration delivered in partnership with Skills Development Scotland, and Subject Choices Week, a series of sessions aimed at secondary learners gearing up to make options choices in the new year.

We're delighted that DYW Live is delivering quality as well as quantity. It is heartening to hear from schools like Annanhill Primary in East Ayrshire, whose P7 class joined a Games Design coding session along with two other schools and reported, "Amazing call where the presenter spun a lot of plates to get 3 schools up to speed. Kids in my class expressed their enjoyment. Opportunities given that I couldn't give the children so really appreciate the running/facilitation of such calls."

While we're looking forward to the Christmas break, we're raring to get going with an equally packed new term. January sees the launch of an exciting new course comprising 10 micro-credential units in fundamental topics for anyone considering a career in Health and Social Care. We'll also host our first themed event of the year, with two webinars celebrating Global Media and Information Literacy Week. We're excited to be joined by Young Scot and the BBC for that event.

**Online Micro Units in Health & Social Care**

NCL NEW COLLEGE LANARKSHIRE

National e-Learning Offer

**Online Microcredentials in Health and Social Care**

The course is a collection of 10 micro units in Health and Social Care covering a variety of topics such as; Infection Control, Autism, Dementia, Children's Rights and Mental Health. These are short and informative units with interactive quizzes to test your knowledge.

**YEAR GROUP:** S3-S6

**WHEN:** January 2024 - July 2025 on Demand

**LINKS:** Health and Wellbeing

Visit [e-sgoil.com/dyw](https://e-sgoil.com/dyw) for more information

**D/W Live**  
Skills • Employability • Pathways

New for 2024 will be the opportunity for learners to gain DYW Live certificates when they tell us what they have gained from attending our online sessions, as well as an Ambassador programme for our 'frequent flyer' schools.

And there's lots more to come... Stay tuned to the DYW Live social media channels for more fantastic opportunities to bring the world of work into the classroom in 2024. Search for DYW Live on X, Facebook and Instagram.

Click the image on the right to view a short video showing some of the impact quotes from the DYW Live programme in 2023



## JAPANESE

An exciting partnership with the University of Edinburgh has seen the launch this term of a taster course in Japanese language and culture. Aimed at any secondary learners in Scotland, two cohorts of young people from 13 different local authority areas have participated in the first course delivered in November and December and it sounds like they had a great time!



“ Yuko sensei was able to give us a little bit of cultural background and insight every time we learnt something new; it was a course which was easy to learn with. I really enjoyed it as you are able to receive a lot of support. ”

There is still an opportunity to take part in this offer, as the course is being re-run, starting in January 2024. [Find out more and register your interest here.](#)

## GAELIC

We enjoyed an excellent Christmas themed Leugh 's Seinn le Linda session on the 14th December which was attended by over 800 pupils from 46 different classes.

We're delighted to announce that we'll have weekly sessions in February and March for nursery, P1, P2 and P3 pupils.

Times and registration information will be announced on the [Gaelic page](#) of the e-Sgoil website early in the new year.

2024 sees exciting new **Gaelic (Learners) in the Secondary** classes starting in schools across Scotland. If you'd like to discuss a free Gaelic (Learners) class for your pupils or are interested in running a lunch club, please get in touch.



## CALL FOR CREATIVE CATALYSTS

e-Sgoil is seeking individuals and organisations to work in partnership with groups of Scottish learners through the lens of UNCRC.

This work will be funded by the Corra Foundation's Innovation Fund.

We are looking for individuals and organisations who:

- Are fantastic at not only listening to children and young people, but facilitating conversations and workshops where children and young people are fully empowered to think, form opinions and share their views.
- Are keen to innovate and use service design or other creative approaches to generate solutions to complex problems.
- Are keen to develop and sustain partnerships and relationships over an extended timeframe.
- Have incredible people skills, and are able to work across the layers of adult systems around the children and young people to share the learners' thinking.
- Prioritise listening, especially to children and young people, in order to ask the right questions before attempting to solve perceived problems.
- Bring open-mindedness, curiosity, imagination and problem-solving to their involvement.

The educational settings we are hoping to work with include:

- Interrupted Learners (online)
- Gàidhlig Medium Secondary School Learners in the Western Isles
- Secure and Residential Learners in Angus
- Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Displaced Learners across Scotland

More information can be found [here](#)

The deadline for tender submissions via Public Contracts Scotland will be **5pm on Wednesday 31st January 2024.**







### National e-Learning Offer

The National e-Learning Offer complements the delivery of teaching and learning by schools and settings, local authorities and Regional Improvement Collaboratives in Scotland.



The NeLO is made up of three elements - live, recorded and supported resources.

Live resources include interactive, online classes. Recorded resources are available to watch at any time. Supported resources include assessments, practical experiments, revision resources and more.



All resources have been created by educators for educators to support the development of learning opportunities across the curriculum, from the beginning of the Broad General Education through to the Senior Phase.

Click on the NeLO & West OS logos above to find out more and search the resource banks.



Sign up to our mailing list using the form [here](#) or scan the QR code to have our weekly email newsletters and end of term newsletters delivered straight to your inbox



### KEEP IN TOUCH WITH E-SGOIL



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### SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow both the main e-Sgoil and DYW Live social media accounts for all the latest news, programme updates & offers.



Click the button below or scan the QR code to contact us on WhatsApp

