NEWSLETTER MAY 2021.

DUKE of EDINBURGH AWARD.

Usually we don’t have personal association with items in the national news, but this time I do & I feel that Prince Philip deserves this little local accolade to add to the others.

I went to work as a Maths teacher at Lanark Grammar School in 1958 & over the years I was promoted to Special Assistant & later as Senior Housemistress with responsibility for all aspects of the school life of my 300+ pupils, eg. Morning Assemblies, Parent Evenings, Report cards, Discipline etc. In this capacity I was approached by a group of girls who wished to achieve their Duke of Edinburgh Hostess Award. I got permission to use a “Cookery” room after school & the girls & I started to practise the required skills to get to their goal. I taught them how to set a table as part of their Presentation, how to make starters, main courses, sweets & also scones, pancakes & sponge cakes etc. When we were happy to be assessed I organised a lunch hour date when each pupil could invite a member of staff as a guest for a meal. The girls worked in pairs to serve their guests. Bearing in mind that this was in the 1960’s I can’t for the life of me remember the Menu we had chosen, except for the ambitious Sweet, Baked Alaska, which had to be prepared in situ by each pair. It was 100% successful with no melted ice cream as they emerged from the ovens.

I am sure there are many of you who have taken part in this wonderful award scheme & we would be happy to share your experience eg. My sister-in-law Barbara has a lovely gold brooch, her Duke of Edinburgh Award gained when she was in the Girls Guildry, I think, & lived in the Borders.

Grace.