

Top award for TGS model pupil Aidan

A YOUNG man from Inch received The Gordon Schools' top academic award at prize-giving on Wednesday night.

Aidan Wood (18) received the Dux medal from Aberdeenshire Council's chief executive Jim Savege who was the guest speaker at the end of session celebration of achievement.

It was an emotional evening for Rector Zander Hall who is retiring.

Aidan headed a group of three outstanding principal award winners.

The runner up to the dux award was shared by Ebony Martin (18) and Angus Pope (17), the school captains over the past session.

Mr Hall said there had been keen competition among the students for the Dux award and the three successful students were of a particularly high standard.

Aidan also received the student of excellence award, linked to The Gordon Schools enterprise group.

The citation for the award said that Aidan fulfilled a huge range of criteria which might be applied in the selection of a student of excellence, from academic achievement, to being an excellent communicator and leader, with good organisational skills and creativity.

It read: "Aidan is mature beyond his years, a caring considerate individual who is mindful of the needs of others. A quiet determination and his self-motivation gives purpose and direction to everything he does."



Rector Zander Hall presents the Dux award to Aidan Wood flanked by Ebony Martin and Angus Pope.

Picture: Lyn MacDonald. Image No. 034303

Aidan secured 5 A grade highers in fifth year and studied for advanced highers in maths, physics and mechanics, higher chemistry and computing and national 5 woodwork in the past year.

In the autumn, he will take up a place at Strathclyde University to study mechanical engineering with aeronautics.

Another 5 A grade pupil, Ebony Martin will take up a place at Aberdeen University to study medicine.

Angus Pope, from Lumsden heads to Edinburgh to study history, politics and international relations.

Reflecting on his school days, head boy Angus said: "I have loved it, it has been really good, especially the past three years and fifth and sixth year have been such good fun."

■ **Be sure to get next week's Huntly Express for prize and merit lists and a selection of end-of-session photographs.**