



# Kilmarnock Academy

Issue 1

January 2018

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## Vision Statement

Welcome to the first newsletter for the new Kilmarnock Academy. Below is the school's vision statement which has recently been shared with pupils, parents and staff.

*Kilmarnock Academy strives, as a community, to ensure that all young people reach their full potential and have opportunities to achieve qualifications, learn new skills, develop as individuals and gain key employability experiences within a nurturing environment.*

In this edition, you will find information about the many joint events that have taken place to ensure the transition to the new school is smooth for all pupils. A lot of work has also been done on designing the uniform and devising the new school values.

There will be regular newsletters in the future however you can also keep up-to-date with news and information via the twitter account and website below:



**@WMCKilmarnockAcademy**



**[www.blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/wmckilmarnockacademy/](http://www.blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/wmckilmarnockacademy/)**





## Uniform and Badge

Pupils from both James Hamilton and Kilmarnock Academies were involved in designing the new uniform and badge. The new school tie is a blend of both school colours, retaining the history of both schools in a new and exciting design.

### The uniform will consist of:

- **White shirt and tie**
- **Black trousers or skirt**
- **Black jumper or cardigan**
- **Black shoes**

The school badge was also designed in consultation with pupils.

### The badge represents both schools:

- ◆ **Torch means to illuminate, just as education does.**
- ◆ **Infinity sign means there are no limits to what we can achieve**
- ◆ **Curling stone represents New Farm Loch, the location of the school**
- ◆ **Dean Castle is the centre of the catchment area**

The school motto is “**Aspire Together, Achieve Together**” highlighting the joining of two schools and the aim of working cooperatively.



## Topping Out Ceremony

In October, around 80 guests attended the Topping Out Ceremony at the new school. Visitors from East Ayrshire Council, Kier Construction, James Hamilton Academy, Kilmarnock Academy and associated Primary Schools enjoyed a tour of the school. They then heard Ross Whip, James Hamilton Academy pupil, talk about his work experience with Kier.



## Values

A lot of work has been done to encourage the new school community to work together devising the new school values. Parents from James Hamilton Academy, Kilmarnock Academy and associated Primary Schools were invited to the first session at the start of November.

A few weeks later, staff from both Secondary Schools attended workshops followed by around one hundred pupils from S1-6. Every session was led by Derek Gall from CANI Coaching. The focus was on the importance of values, what we should take forward to the new school and what values we should have. Derek is now working on the results and the new values will be launched soon!



## Joint Events

S1 and S2 enjoyed the recent sporting events arranged by PE departments in both schools. The S1 event was held at Kilmarnock Academy while the S2 event took place at James Hamilton Academy. The pupils spent the morning playing games and doing circuits while getting to know one another.

The next joint event will take place on the 1st of March for S3. It will be a Business Awareness Day held at Kilmarnock Academy.





### Future Dates

#### Exceptional Closure Dates

Wednesday 28th March 2018  
Thursday 29th March 2018  
Monday 16th April 2018  
Tuesday 17th April 2018

#### Dates

Wednesday 18th April 2018  
(S1-6 start at the new school)

### School Travel Plan

Parents will be consulted on the School Travel Plan in the next few weeks.

Consultation forms will be issued soon. Your feedback will help to plan safe routes to the new campus.

### **KILMARNOCK ACADEMY**

William McIlvanney Campus  
Sutherland Drive  
Kilmarnock  
KA3 7DF

### Information Sessions

Two information sessions have taken place at the Grand Hall. The first was in November for parents from both Secondary Schools to find out about plans for the new school.

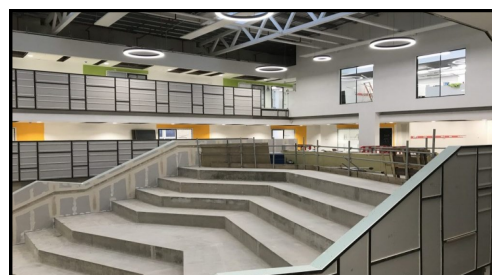
Information included an update on the build, uniform, transport and safety within the school. In December, Primary 7 parents were invited to the Grand Hall to find out about transition arrangements in preparation for the induction days in June. There are a further two parental events focusing on options and pathways for children in S1, S3, S4 and S5.

#### **Dates are:**

- ◆ **Monday 15th January 2018 at 7pm — James Hamilton Academy**
- ◆ **Thursday 1st February 2018 at 7pm — Kilmarnock Academy**

### New Build Update

Kier Construction is now on the final stretch of the new build. They are still on track to hand over on the 30th of March 2018. They are in the final stages of the internal fit-out on all floors with decoration, floor coverings and fitted furniture. Below are photographs from the recent visit by the Senior Leadership Team.



### Pupil Comments

"I'm really looking forward to being in a new building with new equipment, especially in Music and Technical"

"I really liked being part of the Values workshop. I feel I've already made some new friends."

"It will be a better environment to learn in and to sit exams."

"I think the new school will encourage us to learn more as it is new and a lot of money has been invested in it."

"I'm looking forward to doing different subjects at the new school and making new friends."