



Eco Schools
Award 2004



Turnbull Times

February 2018



LETTER FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the first Turnbull Times of 2018. This is a very special year as we mark the anniversary of the 1918 Education Act and celebrate 100 years of Catholic education with the strapline 'Catholic Schools – Good for Scotland'. A number of special events will be taking place through this year at school, cluster, diocesan and national level. A calendar of events for Turnbull High School is provided on Page 6.

Advent Charities

Our Advent Charity Campaign 2017 was yet another tremendous success. I would like to thank our pupils, parents and staff for their continuing efforts in supporting our Advent charity appeal, providing some much needed essentials along with Christmas gifts for the children and the elderly. You can read about some of the wide ranging activities that took place during Advent inside.

Our Lenten Charities campaign will begin on Thursday 15 February.

Annual High School Mass

Every secondary school within the Archdiocese of Glasgow attended a Mass for High Schools in St Andrew's Cathedral on Thursday 1st February. Pupils from across S1 to S6 who are

involved with SSVP, Aid to the Church in Need and Caritas groups represented Turnbull High School at this Mass.

Catholic Education Week

Catholic Education Week took place from 29/1/18 – 4/2/18. The theme for 2018 was 'Serving the Common Good'. Pupils engaged with SCES resources on Catholic Social Teaching in school and representatives of pupils, parents and staff from across the Turnbull High School Cluster were in attendance at the designated Mass in each of our associated parishes of St Matthew's, St Dominic's and St Andrew's on Sunday 4th February.

Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January 2018)

On Friday 26th January a two minute silence was respectfully held at 11am by all pupils and staff. This was followed by a short reflection encouraging us to remember the victims whilst continuing to pray and strive for peace and respect across the world. In addition pupils listened to the testimony of a holocaust survivor broadcast through the Holocaust Education Trust.

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Raising Attainment

S4-S6 Prelims have been completed and a detailed prelim analysis has been conducted by the HT, DHTs (S4/S5/S6) and PTs Curriculum. Following on from this Progress Support Booklets, Targeted Supported Study and an Assertive Mentoring Programme will be used to support identified pupils. Where applicable, your support in encouraging your son/ daughter to participate fully in these programmes is greatly appreciated.

Parents of students in S4 – S6 are reminded that the Senior Phase Personal Learning Plan issued to every senior student contains lots of useful information to help them support their son/ daughter to track progress and set targets in their learning. Further information and past exam papers can also be found on the SQA website www.sqa.org.uk.

There are 9 teaching weeks until the SQA exams begin. Please encourage your sons and daughters to develop excellent study habits throughout this period to maximise their success in these exams.

School Improvement Plan Update

Throughout term one colleagues from across the school have been taking forward the various strands within our School Improvement Plan. Inside this edition of the Turnbull Times you can read about the work of the following school committees:

- developing literacy
- developing learning & teaching
- developing family learning
- developing numeracy
- developing digital literacy

Option Choices

Parent Information Evenings for parents of pupils in S2, S3, S4 and S5 have taken place and options programmes and pupil support interviews for pupils will continue to take place throughout February.

Electronic copies of the presentations delivered and further advice on making choices can be accessed through the parent section of our school website www.turnbull.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

YOUR OPINION MATTERS :

We are currently reviewing the timing of our Parent Information and Family Learning evenings. A groupcall will be sent to each family asking for your preferred timing. Please take a few minutes to respond to this survey. Results will be published in the next edition of the Turnbull Times.

Staffing News

Two new members of staff joined us at the start of January, Mrs Rebecca Fleming (Teacher of Physics) and Mrs Shelley Torrance (Teacher of Geography). A further two colleagues have recently been appointed and will join us in the next few weeks, Mr Scott Douglas (Acting PT Physical Education) and Mrs Claire Nolan (Teacher of Mathematics). I am sure you will join with me in extending a warm welcome to them.

Uniform

As always I would like to thank our parents and carers for their support of our uniform policy. Uniform helps to develop a sense of inclusion, belonging and pride in our school community and reduces incidences of low level indiscipline.

Following on from the recent inclement weather, there has been an increase in the number of pupils not wearing appropriate formal school shoes. Your support in remedying this situation as quickly as possible would be greatly appreciated.

(Continued from page 2)

Promoting Positive Behaviour

Turnbull High School operates a promoting positive behaviour policy based on respect. This policy was reviewed and updated in 2016 in full consultation with staff, pupils and parents. Pupils demonstrating high standards of behaviour, effort, homework, attendance and punctuality are awarded Aiming High (S1-S3) and Aiming Higher (S4-S6) certificates. In achieving these standards pupils are also eligible to attend any reward trips or school based events. I am delighted to be able to inform you that the majority of our pupils do achieve these standards. The figures for term 1 are shown in the table below:

Year Group	% Pupils Achieving Aiming High/ Aiming Higher Certificate
S1	90%
S2	80%
S3	73%
S4	74%
S5	82%
S6	87%

These certificates are awarded for high standards of behaviour, effort, homework, attendance and punctuality. They are not based on academic ability or progress and due cognisance is taken of individual circumstances which may impact on any of the factors listed. All pupils are capable of achieving an Aiming High or Aiming Higher certificate and therefore attending reward trips and school events. Tracking begins afresh each term. Please encourage your sons and daughters to meet these standards.

Litter

I am disappointed to have to report that we have received a small number of complaints from local residents with regards to our pupils dropping litter in the local community. The main issue is with pupils

who use the local food outlets at lunchtime. Please remind your sons and daughters to keep hold of all litter until it can be disposed of in a litter bin.

Parent Council & PTA Meetings

The dates for the next meetings of our PTA and Parent Council are:

- PTA – Tuesday 6 March
- Parent Council – Monday 12 March

Meetings take place in the THS Conference Room starting at 7pm. All parents are welcome.

Mid Term Holiday

School will close for the mid-term break on Friday 9th February at 2:55 pm and will reopen on Thursday 15th February at 9:00 am.

Thank you for your continuing support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

E Kennedy
Head Teacher

Committee Updates:

- Developing literacy
- Developing learning and teaching
- Developing family learning

The **Literacy Committee** is working on four initiatives, focussing on the area of writing:

1. Common Correction Code – The committee is developing a common code to give consistency across the curriculum. This code will ensure that pupils recognise when a mistake in basic literacy has been made and how to correct it.
2. Core Writing Checklist – Core writing targets are used by the English Department for every piece of writing that a pupil undertakes. This checklist will be used eventually across the school for use in all subjects. The checklist can be used by pupils for self-assessment (or peer assessment) or by the teacher.
3. Literacy Mat – This mat is being developed for use by all Departments, each having their own version adapted to the specific needs. This will be useful for all pupils, especially for those young people who find literacy particularly challenging.
4. Literacy Guide – The committee has been looking at a guide as a way of supporting our young people to improve their writing. It will focus on the skill of Writing and the various issues encountered by students, as well as hints and tips for how to improve the quality of written work. The committee felt that this would be very useful and could be beneficial for parents to support them in family learning.

This session the **Learning and Teaching Committee** took the responsibility for organising the inaugural Turnbull High School Learning & Teaching Conference. This took place over two 90 minute sessions during the morning of the October INSET Day.

After reflecting on the quality of Learning, Teaching and Assessment using Quality Indicator 2.3 and reports from previous Learning Rounds groups it was decided that the focus of the sessions would be split into the following:

- Session 1 – Activities to enhance the Good Lesson
- Session 2 – Digital technologies

Activities to enhance the Good Lesson decided upon were:

- Independent learning
- Effective use of plenary
- Effective questioning techniques
- Use of Learning Intentions and Success Criteria (with a focus on co-construction with pupils)
- Active learning / co-op learning techniques

In collaboration with the ICT Committee the Digital Technologies decided to deliver:

- Use of ipads
- Activote
- Interactive whiteboards
- Microsoft Forms
- Spreadsheets

Staff had the opportunity to opt into a variety of workshops to allow them to focus on activities that met their own professional development needs.

Feedback from the survey issued after the INSET day was positive with an overall rating of 4.5/5 for the Good Lesson workshops and 4.4/5 for the ICT workshops.

As a follow up to the INSET day departments spent time during collegiate meetings to plan for how they are going to use the knowledge gained from these workshops in lessons. This time was used for further research into areas or to 'play' with some of the ICT software/equipment from the Digital Technologies workshops.

To gauge the impact that these activities have had on lessons there will be a further follow up activity during the Staff Focus Groups that take place in the SQA exam period in April/May.

To continue to develop The Good Lesson format of lessons the committee have begun work to produce a 'toolkit' of resources to issue/make available to staff. It was agreed that the focus would be on starters and plenaries and differentiation.

Committee Updates:**Developing Family Learning**

Family learning encourages family members to learn together as and within a family, with a focus on intergenerational learning.

Family learning activities can also be specifically designed to enable parents to learn how to support their children's learning. 'Family learning is a powerful method of engagement and learning which can foster positive attitudes towards life-long learning, promote socio-economic resilience and challenge educational disadvantage.'

Scottish Family Learning Network, 2016

The first step for our Family Learning Committee was to conduct a family learning survey. This would provide us with a baseline from which to measure impact but, more importantly, it would ensure that the action plan we developed would reflect the views and needs of our parents.

The results of the family learning survey indicated that:

- Parents would benefit from more information on how to support their child with learning.
- Parents wanted easy access to more on-line materials to support them in understanding what their child is learning.
- Parents were satisfied with the family learning events being offered across S1-S6 and found them to be useful.
- Parents wanted to explore the issue of homework in more detail.

Each of these areas are being taken forward by the Family Learning Committee:

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH LEARNING

In August we launched our Family Learning Logo Competition. We wanted families from Turnbull High School to work together to come up with a brand new family learning logo. Using all the skills and talents of family members, the aim was for families to support each other in the process of learning about logo design.



The winning logo created by the Docherty family is now being used across the school. Whenever you see this logo you will be directed to a family learning activity that will explain how you can support your child in their learning.

To promote the use of family learning with staff, feedback on current practice in relation to family learning activities across the school has been gathered. This will be used by the Family Learning Committee to create a Family Learning Guide to share good practice.

Our series of parental leaflets "How to Help Children in" are also under review and will be updated to reflect current practice and signpost parents to appropriate on-line materials.

DEVELOPMENT OF ON-LINE MATERIALS

A family learning blog has been created within our school website. This contains generic information on family learning and serves as a portal for departmental blogs.

Members of the family learning committee have delivered training on blogs to nominated staff within each subject department and a development day has been provided for each department to develop their blog in line with the requested information from parents.

Some departmental blogs have already 'gone live'. Please take a look and provide us with any feedback.

FAMILY LEARNING EVENTS

A number of Family Learning Events have taken place over the course of the first term. These include:

S1 CFE Evening – This evening provided parents with an update on the on-line materials being developed across the school and workshops were offered on how to support your child in literacy, numeracy, music, PE and study.

S2 Options Evening – This evening contained a workshop on 'My World of Work' which allowed parents and children an opportunity to explore this website together within the context of making subject choices.

S4/5/6 Senior Phase PLP Information Evening – This evening provided parents with an insight into how the Senior Phase PLP and SQA website can be used to support parents in discussing progress and study planning with senior pupils.

HOMEWORK

A review of homework will take place from January to March. Feedback will be gathered through Parent Focus Groups and the 'Engaging Learners In Turnbull Executive' pupil group. The possible introduction of homework apps will also be considered.

DEVELOPING NUMERACY



Numeracy is about the ability to use numbers to solve problems by counting, doing calculations, measuring, and understanding graphs and charts. This is also the ability to understand the results.

Numeracy is a key Skill for Life, Skill for Learning and Skill for Work (SFLW) that young people use across their learning and throughout their lives.

However, as young people can traditionally lack confidence in using their Numeracy, raising attainment in the numeracy of pupils is a key priority for Scottish Government and Scottish Schools.

In Turnbull, the Numeracy Committee have been looking to develop and raise attainment in Numeracy in the following ways this year.

1. SUPPORTING NUMERACY ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Departments across the School are working in partnership with the Numeracy Committee and Maths Departments to design activities which reinforce and develop one of the following key elements of Numeracy.

- *Estimation and rounding*
- *Number and number processes*
- *Fractions, decimal fractions and percentages*
- *Money*
- *Time*
- *Measurement*
- *Analysis and data*
- *Ideas of chance and uncertainty*

2. BREAKING DOWN NUMERACY BARRIERS

This year, for the first time, Maths and Numeracy was celebrated across the whole of Scotland during the week beginning 11 September. The aim of this week was to help everyone to see Maths **positively** and ensure that our young people understand the **relevance** and **importance** of Maths across the wider school, real life and the world of work. It is well documented that Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) based jobs are the jobs for the future which made this week all the more pertinent.

- In Turnbull High School, the Maths department created a timetable to ensure that all year groups experienced activities in celebration of Maths Week, whilst subjects across the school highlighted the relevance of Maths within their curriculum. Pupils had the opportunity to compete in problem solving challenges, research Maths related careers, enter national competitions and attend lectures at Glasgow University. There were even some prizes up for grabs!

3. FAMILY LEARNING

It is important that development of numeracy in school can be supported at home too. The Numeracy Committee and Maths Department have the following advice and materials which can help do this.

NUMERACY ACROSS LEARNING BOOKLET

- This booklet which provides advice about how to develop different numeracy skills was issued to all S1-3 Broad General Education (BGE) pupils during Maths week in September. It can also be downloaded from the School website using this link http://www.turnbull.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Skills+for+Life%2C+Learning+and+Work&pid=426 or by going to the CURRICULUM SECTION and then choosing SKILLS FOR LIFE, LEARNING AND WORK.

FAMILY LEARNING WORKSHOPS

- The Maths Department have held workshops for S1 parents/carers to outline strategies that can be used with the young people to develop the Numeracy skills in the Numeracy Across Learning Booklet.

NUMERACY FRIENDLY LANGUAGE

- Socially there can be a very negative attitude towards Maths and Numeracy – “I was never good at Maths” or “Maths is very hard”. This is arguably one of the reasons why learners across the country can develop negativity to Numeracy.

East Lothian Council have produced a helpful guide for parents in terms of language surrounding Maths which is applicable in terms of Numeracy. Examples of positive Numeracy language which you can use can be seen below.

Please don't say...	Try to say.....
I can't do maths.	That's what I need to learn next.
I don't know how maths is taught today.	How many different ways can we work it out?
You've got it wrong.	This is a challenge – can we work it out together?
You got 7 right.	You thought really carefully to solve those problems. Good effort.
I didn't like maths at school.	I wish I learned maths the way you are learning it now.
Oh that's really hard.	That looks like a problem we can try and solve.

DEVELOPING DIGITAL LITERACY



Digital Literacy is concerned with providing young people with access to the skills and knowledge needed to safely and effectively use information and communication technology (ICT).

Developing digital literacy and access to technology is a key issue for schools as this development of ICT is clearly a key Skill for Life, Skill for Learning and Skill for Work (SFLW) that young people use across their learning and throughout their lives.

This school year, the Local Council, school staff and school ICT Committee have been looking to develop digital literacy and access to technology in the following ways.

- **S1/2 ICT COURSE REVISIONS**

Mrs McLaughlin and the Business and Computing Science Department (BECS) have redesigned the S1 and S2 courses to deliver the new Technologies outcomes for Curriculum for Excellence. This is ensuring all of our young people develop key ICT skills and knowledge as soon as they join the school and whether or not they decide to choose to continue studying ICT subjects from S3 onwards.

- **ICT IN LEARNING AND TEACHING**

Staff across the school have attended support sessions on the use of ICT in classrooms outside of the Technologies area of the curriculum in order to enhance the learning and teaching experience.

- **LOCAL AUTHORITY DEVELOPMENTS**

Plans have been put forward to EDC to approve upgrades to internet connections, Microsoft Office software and interactive class whiteboards.

New school websites are being designed and launched for the Easter break to help parents/carers access information about the School and its activities.



PROPOSED TURNBULL HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2018 CELEBRATIONS

Date	Event
January	
• January - March	Our Journey of Faith - PAST
• January - April	Creation of '2018 Values Walk' and associated gathering point reflection materials
• 15/1/18	Values Assembly - Faith & Compassion
• 29/1/18	Catholic Education Week Assemblies
February	
• 14/2/18	Staff Inset – Focus on 'Developing in Faith' and 'A Charter for Catholic Schools in Scotland'
March	
• 19/3/18	Values Assembly – Respect & Fairness
April	
• April - June	Our Journey of Faith - PRESENT
• 23/4/18	Values Assembly – Honesty & Hope
June	
• 7/6/18	Vocations Conference
• 14/6/18	National Mass
• 22/6/18	Iona Pilgrimage
September	
• September - October	BGE IDL Project – each department teaches through the work of prominent Catholic figures in their field
October	
• 12/10/18	IDL Project – Display of Work
November	
• 1/11/18	Education Saints Exhibition
• 16/11/18 – 30/11/18 (CEW)	Alumni talks – Catholic Teaching
• 21/11/18	Anniversary of Consecration of THS to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Holy Mass and whole school celebration)

Financial Support

Whether you have an S1 or S6, the costs associated with school can mount up. Yet many working parents are missing out on £1,000s of easy help.

Here are a few areas where parents and young people can receive support.

Clothing Grant

Parents/carers have a responsibility to ensure that their children have adequate footwear and clothing to take full advantage of the education provided at school. East Dunbartonshire Council will assist parents/carers in meeting this responsibility by providing a grant to enable parents/carers to purchase appropriate school clothing for their children. The current grant is £50 per child per school year, which will be paid by cheque. Clothing grant payments will normally be paid to parents/carers who are in receipt of Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance or Housing Benefit or Council Tax Reduction (Not Discount) or Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related) Universal Credit or Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 or Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit. Any other claims will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Further information can be found in the link below:

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/grants/school-clothing-grant>

Alternatively please contact your child's Pupil Support Teacher for more information or to request a paper copy of the application form.

Free School Meals

Since 5th January 2015, all P1-P3 pupils are entitled to a Free School Meal.

In addition Free School Meals will be granted to all other pupils whose parents/carers are in receipt of either Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance or Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit or Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related) or Universal Credit or Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Pupils are eligible to apply for free school meals in their own right if they are aged 16 to 18, and receive one of these benefits.

Payments of £2.35 are uploaded to the Cashless Catering system on a daily basis so there is anonymity for free school lunch pupils but allows top ups for impulse purchase.

Further information can be found in the link below:

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/school-meals/free-school-meals>

Alternatively please contact your child's Pupil Support Teacher for more information or to request a paper copy of the application form.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

Education Maintenance Allowances (EMAs) provide financial support to eligible 16 to 19 year olds who want to continue learning.

To be eligible, you have to meet the following criteria:

Residency

You need to have what's known as 'ordinary residence' to be eligible for EMA.

Ordinary residence means you live in one place, but there is a complicated set of rules that decide whether you're ordinarily resident in Scotland, with different arrangements in place for different immigration statuses.

Contact your local authority or bursary office for more information on whether you're eligible.

Household income

Your household income will also determine if you're eligible for EMA. Household income is the income of your parent(s) or carer(s) who live with you.

To qualify, households with one dependent child must be earning £24,421 per year or less, and households with more than one dependent child must be earning £26,884 or less, before tax.

More information can be found on the following website:

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/education-maintenance-allowance>

Alternatively if you would like more information or a paper copy of the forms contact Mr Broadley (DHT)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

'Word Mania' Winners

Following our successful participation in the Literacy Planet 'Word Mania' competition before Christmas, we were delighted to make it to the National Finals. A huge and very impressive achievement for our school – especially given that we are a small school and it was our first year taking part.

Sadly, we narrowly missed out on the national prizes, finishing outside the top ten in 18th place overall. However, we did select our own Turnbull prize winners for those pupils who achieved the most points over the course of the competition, and also those who made the greatest effort by playing the most games. House points and certificates were also awarded to all of the pupils who finished on our school 'Top 10' leaderboard as part of the inter-house competition.

It was a double celebration for St Teresa House after they secured the top spot for both highest word points and total games played, with Catherine Savage (1HT) taking the prize as points champion, while Ryan Findlay (1HT) was awarded a prize for the greatest contribution. Catherine and Ryan were presented with their prizes at the S1 assembly, each receiving a 'Word Stax' board game and a £10 voucher for the app store. Well done both!



As a department we have been delighted by the effort and enthusiasm our pupils have shown in taking part in Word Mania. From the start to the end of the competition pupils tallied up an impressive 1589 games in total and we saw a 154% increase in pupils' word scores – reflective of them building their vocabulary skills through taking part. Some of the highest scoring words produced by our pupils during game play can be seen in the word cloud:



We would like to thank all of our S1 pupils for taking part, as well as all of our families at home for helping to support us in this new, and highly worthwhile venture. Here's to next year – onward and upwards...

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT



The Geobus Blows into Town

The Geobus set S1 pupils the unique challenge of creating their own wind turbines before their designs were put to the test to see if they would generate power. Over the course of four periods, the pupils worked in groups, to create a company which created a turbine, had an advert and a location for the site based on best wind availability.

S1 Pupil Quotes

'I learned to use money wisely when it came to the budget and I learned the best place to put a turbine.'

Temilade Lawal

'I learnt how wind turbine blades affect the electricity provided.'

Matthew Fielding

'I enjoyed the storyboard and planning it out like drawing and writing out too.'

Rebecca Mahon

'I learned that if there's trees are in the way of a wind turbine it messes up the wind as it's not smooth'

Lily Begen

'I learned that renewable energy is the future.'

Ben Gallacher

Teacher Observations

'It was great to see pupils engaged in the activity from start to finish'

Mr Walker

'Pupils clearly enjoyed themselves and learned about the importance of renewable energy'

Miss Henry

'Pupils utilised a range of skills they had developed in different subject areas. They worked in groups, had to problem solve and then present their products to the class. It was great to see pupils using their knowledge from Science in this context.'

Miss McCrory

'The atmosphere in the classes was tense as each group came forward for the test. This changed to jubilation when a wind turbine worked. Pupils were extremely engaged. CFE and developing skills for L,L and W at its best.'

Mrs Irvine

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Scotland Rocks!

S3 Geography pupils were treated to a one off lesson about the geology of Scotland and the influence of climate on the makeup of the country.

Pupils were given samples of sedimentary rock types to study and used eye lenses and grading charts to learn about different rocks. They went on a quick journey through time to approximately 330 million years ago when Scotland sat on the equator! There was just enough time left to do a quick experiment looking at convection currents and plate tectonics!



'It was cool to learn how rocks can tell us what the environment was like in the past'

'It was pretty interesting to see the structure of rocks through the scope'

'It was very interesting learning about the history of what Scotland was like and that the rocks formed it'

'I liked examining the rocks through the magnifying glass'

'I enjoyed learning about the rocks and the history, especially the sandstone!'

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Glasgow University

Christmas Geography Lecture

Geography pupils from S4 and S5 attended Glasgow University in December to participate in the annual Christmas lecture hosted by the School of Geographical and Earth Sciences. This year's theme focused on 'Earth Futures' and provided pupils with the opportunity to learn about Geoengineering and Geopolitics. We learned that students at Glasgow University are developing a mirror design to put into space to reflect the sun's rays to reduce climate change! Pupils had the chance to experience a proper university lecture and find out more about what university life is like.



HISTORY/MODERN STUDIES DEPARTMENT



Christmas Nursery Visit

In keeping with tradition over the last few years, S3 History and Modern Studies students organised and delivered Christmas presents to a Nursery in Drumchapel.

Presents were provided by both staff and students in the usual generous spirit and the Nursery staff were again fulsome in their praise for the Turnbull students who were accompanied by Mrs McBrearty, Miss McCrory and Miss Provan.



MODERN STUDIES DEPARTMENT



S6 Modern Studies Students

House of Lords 2017



In November an invite was extended to Turnbull High to participate in the House of Lords Chamber Event 2017 - an inter-generational debate about the UK's place in International Relations in the 21st Century. This invite was the result of the strong parliamentary links built up by the Modern Studies Department over the last few years.

On the 2nd of December, therefore, 11 S6 Modern Studies pupils joined Miss Henry and Mr Thompson on a trip to the Palace of Westminster for this prestigious event.

Pupils enjoyed a welcome from the Lord Speaker, Lord Fowler (who was chairing the debate) and a buffet lunch before being taken on a tour of the House of Lords. As the photos show the group were also met by former Turnbull High pupil and recently elected Labour MP, Paul Sweeney.

The debate from the red benches involved groups of all ages across the length and breadth of the UK and led The Lord Speaker to remark that he was 'impressed by the scope and range of the confident and articulate views expressed'.

Both members of staff were effusive in their praise for all the students whose behaviour and level of participation were exemplary and who were a credit to Turnbull High School.

The magnificence of the setting and the grandeur of the occasion helped ensure it was an experience none of the participants will forget. They also received a certificate of participation and a special edition of the Hansard transcript of the debate itself.

Student Quotes:

'Absolutely brilliant!' Ryan Conlon

'Thought provoking' Ben McCartney

'A unique experience' Fiona McBride

MODERN STUDIES DEPARTMENT



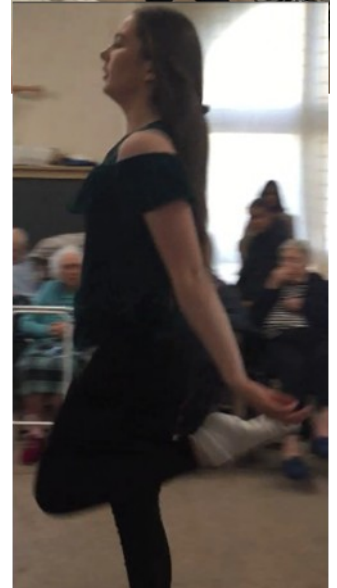
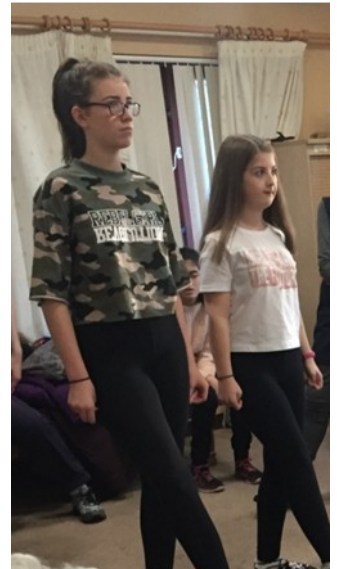


Society of
St. Vincent de Paul
Scotland

St Vincent de Paul Mavis Bank Visit

On the 25th of November, members of the Saint Vincent De Paul conference went to visit Mavis Bank Care Home accompanied by Miss Murray, Mrs Grant and Mrs Swann. S4 pupils Sophia Halpin, Breda Houston and Mia Crawford performed Irish dance routines for the residents and sisters Blythe and Desiree Fernandes sang some Christmas songs. We danced and gave out chocolates to the residents and you could see that they were having a great time. All of the members of SVDP really enjoyed bonding with the residents and we thank Mavis Bank for letting us come and visit. We hope that everyone at Mavis Bank enjoyed the day and had a Merry Christmas. We wish you all the best for 2018, see you next time!

Jennifer Drolle and Breda Houston





Aid to the Church in Need RED WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday 22 November 2017, Turnbull High supported this day of solidarity with those who are persecuted for their religious beliefs. Pupils and staff were encouraged to wear something red, such as – red hair bands, baubles, ties, socks, earrings etc.

Pupils were asked to make a donation – perhaps £1, for Aid to the Church in Need. This wonderful organisation assists Christians worldwide.

Christians are the most persecuted faith group in today's world. Many, many thousands are persecuted and suffer for their peacefully held beliefs.

A lot of fun was had during the day and the marvellous sum of £261.00 was collected.

Later, Clair Sweeney who does great work promoting Aid to the Church in Need, visited the school to meet our 'In-House' Aid to the Church in Need group, and to give informative talks to first year classes. She collected the cheque on behalf of this charity.

On February 6th this charity group are planning another fundraising day – an alternative 'Pancake and Candy' lunchtime sale (the school is on holiday on 13th February!) Any donations of home baking or other goodies will be gratefully received by the pupil organisers.





Rorate Caeli Mass

On Thursday 21st December, Turnbull High hosted a very special 'Dawn Mass'.

This was a Rorate Caeli Mass, a beautiful old tradition of the Church – a candle-lit, early morning Mass. This took place at 8.00am in our wonderful school Oratory, which had never looked better. This really helped the school community towards a conclusion of the Advent season in a truly fitting manner.

Fr Monaghan kindly agreed to say Mass and Mr Pearce provided some excellent chant style singing. The numbers attending was very encouraging, with over fifty in the congregation including pupils, parents, carers, grandparents and staff. Many requests were made for us to have similar such events.

Mass was celebrated 'Ad Orientem', in keeping with the meaning of Advent; looking forward to the coming of Christ.

After Mass we had a lovely breakfast of brioche, croissants and hot drinks.



Invincible's Remain the Invincible's throughout 2017!!



Celtic FC may not have managed to see the end of the year out unbeaten domestically but the Turnbull Football Academy did!!

The T.F.A who were unbeaten domestically throughout their double winning campaign kept the record going on the very last game of the year thanks to a 93rd Minute equalizer at home to Lenzie Academy in a pulsating 4-4 game!

The players deserve tremendous admiration for their incredible attitude and determination shown throughout the game to ensure they avoided defeat.

This now means that the T.F.A have not lost a game in East Dunbartonshire School Football since the 2015/16 season!

Well done all players past and present!

Mr Corr



The T.F.A Annual Christmas Breakfast 2017

It was that time of year where the players of the Football Academy are rewarded for their hard work and dedication they show to the programme, including all those early morning training sessions!! By receiving a well earned cooked breakfast on the last day of term before school!

This is the fifth year of the breakfast now and it was great to see the majority of the players there to celebrate!

Mr Corr

Golf Junior European Open 2017

It all started on the 2nd of September at a regional qualifier. Only two people from each regional qualifier around Europe could qualify. The qualifier I attended was held in Alloa and I had to take public transport to get there. I played with good players but I was delighted to have played well and I was invited to play in a week long competition in the south of Spain playing at the Alcaadesia courses.

Arriving in Spain I had never played in such a big tournament with over 150 competitors from around the world, straight away I realised how lucky I was to compete on such an International stage and for it to be sponsored by Sky Sports was also a surreal experience. There was a real friendly atmosphere so it was easy to make friends. I competed with boys from Sweden, Japan, England and Ireland and what a great laugh it was. I keep in contact with the players I competed with and we all keep up to date with each other on how our golf is going. My dad caddied for me, and although not a golfer himself we had a great time together. Although not much use at guiding my game, my dad did make the best sandwiches to cheer me up when things did not go to plan.

Unfortunately I didn't play too well but the experience itself made me more determined to get better. I also learned lessons on how to compose myself and deal with such a large amount of pressure when I did not play the way I had planned.

Overall the experience was worth the trip, and the boys and girls I met made it worthwhile. I am grateful for the opportunity to compete on such a huge stage and would like to thank the school and school community for supporting my trip.

Daniel Kerrigan



T-Factor

The annual Turnbull High School talent show 'The T Factor' took place on the afternoon of Tuesday 19th December. The event, organised by Miss Murray (Technical) and Miss Hart (Biology) was a sell-out, with the proceeds being split between the school fund and our Advent charities.

The show was hosted by Mr Thompson and was judged by Mr Simpson, Mr Hendrie, Miss Henry and Mrs Glen.

The show was opened by Charlie Brogan (S2) who played the drums along to 'I hate to say I told you so' by The Hives. Returning contestant Emily McPherson (S3) performed her rendition of 'Hallelujah' by Alexandra Burke and was followed by Ruby Hannon (S1) who sang 'Hey Ho' by The Lumineers while playing the guitar. Fellow S1 pupil Ciara Stafford performed 'Little Me' by popular girl group Little Mix. Morven McNeil and Erin McMaster sang 'Angel with a shotgun' by The Cab and were accompanied by Erin Revell's acrobatic backup dancing. The show was closed by S1 pupils Kirstie Nelson, Christy Bullock-Walker, Rachel Wilson and Gabrielle McGinty who showcased their dance and gymnastic abilities with an energetic routine to 'Deorro' by Pitbull and Elvis Crespo which they choreographed themselves.

Whilst the judges deliberated, pupils were treated to a very special staff video. This year Turnbull staff participated in a Christmas Carpool Karaoke, miming along to Mariah Carey's hit 'All I Want for Christmas is You'. The video which was organised and edited by Mr Walker was very well received by all who attended.

After the video was finished, the judges returned and Ruby Hannon was announced as our 2017 winner! Huge congratulations to Ruby and a massive well done to all our contestants this year! We hope to see you all back at auditions next Christmas!



Dates for Your Diary

February Break	Mon 12 and Tue 13 February 2018
In-Service Day	Wed 14 February 2018
S2 Parents' Evening	Tue 20 February 2018—4pm
PTA Meeting	Tue 6 March 2018
Parent Council Meeting	Mon 12 March 2018
Easter Holiday	Fri 30 March to Fri 13 April 2018 inclusive. Reopen Mon 16 April.

Training Opportunities being offered to parents/carers by respectme



Online Safety Workshop

Tuesday, 27 February 2018, 2-4pm (Glasgow) OR

Thursday, 29 March 2018, 10-12pm (Glasgow)

This workshop is designed to increase parents' and carers' awareness of bullying and the other risks and challenges children and young people can face online. The workshop includes a practical, hands-on session, looking at how to set and manage profiles and privacy settings on different social networking platforms, to help ensure that children and young people are safe online.

Responding to Bullying - Parents' Workshop

Thursday, 29 March 2018, 2-4pm, (Glasgow)

This workshop is designed to increase parents' and carers' awareness of bullying behaviour and to look at the different ways they can respond if their child is being bullied, or is involved in the bullying of others. This workshop also offers guidance on how schools and parents can work together to create inclusive environments and provide effective support for children and young people.

To book a place, please visit our website: www.respectme.org.uk

PTA Battle of the DJs

On the afternoon of Thursday 21 December, the whole school enjoyed a Battle of the DJs where our very own teachers, Mr Sloan from the PE Department and Mr Thompson from Modern Studies, competed for the coveted title. The dance floor was full of energetic pupils showing their talented dance moves. The best of the talent was four First Year pupils. Ciara Stafford and Sam Scouler were worthy contestants but the final dance off was between Jamie Bradley and Christy Bullock-Walker. After a fantastic dancing display and a very close fought competition, Christy piped Jamie to the post to win the trophy. There was also a close fought battle between our two superb DJs with Mr Sloan taking the trophy home. The pupils had a great afternoon and the PTA raised a considerable amount of money to be used within the school.