



Summer Newsletter

Summer 2014

Summer Greeting

Dear Parent/Carer

The end of another successful year in Lourdes Secondary. As you will see from the many stories in the newsletter it certainly has been a busy term to end a busy year. I am delighted to hear from feedback that our newsletters are very much enjoyed by parents and are giving you a real insight into the life of our school community. I am sure you will really enjoy this summer 2014 edition.

Our recent S1, S2 and S3 Award Ceremonies gave us a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all the learning, the many gifts talents and the wide range of achievements demonstrated by our young people in those year groups. On each occasion our Concert Hall was full to capacity with happy students and proud parents. Our two keynote speakers, Michael Canning, former Head Teacher of St Benedict's, Renfrew and now of the Conforti Institute and Moira Macaulay, retired Principal Teacher of RE from Lourdes Secondary, each brought a special something to their speech and gave staff, parents and pupils much to reflect on. Congratulations to every pupil who received an award to celebrate your success! We are very proud of you all. Our website contains photographs taken at these events www.lourdessecondary.co.uk

I would like to thank all parents for their support in maintaining a high standard of uniform across all year groups. Our uniform is an important symbol of the school in the wider community and the many favourable comments received from local residents is a clear indication that the smart appearance of our young people is highly regarded. I sent out a letter to all parents and carers about school uniform on 19 June 2014 and a copy of this can be viewed on the school website.

Safely returned from trips to London with the Performing Arts Faculty, which included a very popular visit to the "Making of Harry Potter" at the Warner Bros studio, from Alton Towers, where the queues seemed as long as the journey itself and from the more tranquil Lightwater Valley, pupils are already making requests for next year's reward visits. Our Wider Achievement Activities Day offered an even wider range of options this year from a cycle trip round the Isle of Millport to a Spa Day, MTV in a Day, Garage Band, Fabric and Jewellery Design and on and on. A great day was had by pupils and staff! Thanks also to Parent Council members who helped the day go really well.

As we start to look forward to well-deserved holidays our S4-S6 pupils – and their parents – will soon be thinking about SQA results arriving in August. On behalf of all the staff in Lourdes I would like to wish all of our students the very best of luck and hope that they achieve results which will allow them to continue to build a positive future. I am looking forward to lots of positive news and well deserved awards for young people who have worked very hard.

Since I have arrived in Lourdes, I have been very grateful for the support and co-operation of parents in our Lourdes community. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you throughout next session.

May I wish you, and your families, an enjoyable summer and restful holiday break.

With best wishes
Gerard McGuigan





Caritas Award

This year saw the third group of Lourdes S6 pupils receive their Caritas Award at a wonderful ceremony in the Armadillo on Saturday the 31st May. Pupils completed over and above twenty hours volunteering within the school and their local parishes. Pupils participated in many events including hosting a Tea Party for the local clergy, going on a two day retreat as well as an evening of reflection. Pupils spoke at assemblies, participated in school and parish masses, volunteered at youth group and parish cafes, mentored younger pupils and organised numerous events. "The Flourish" heard about all the great work the group had undertaken and interviewed the group.

We are now in the process of organising next year's group. If you are in S6 and would like to get more information ask Mrs Killin or Mrs Downie. We're looking forward to getting started!



Faith in Action...by all

As always Lourdes pupils and staff have excelled in fundraising for charitable causes through a number of activities. This year we have had Cake and Candy sales, Raffles, Sciaf football matches, Sponsored Silences, Wishing Wells, Staff Coffee Mornings to name but a few. As a Catholic school we are putting our Gospel values into action through all of our efforts. We look forward to all the activities during the next session...if have any ideas don't be shy!



Exam Masses

Before the beginning of study leave S4 and S5 each participated in a mass for their exams. This was a time where pupils could remind themselves of the reason they were working so hard and reflect on their personal gifts and talents and how they can continue to use them in their live's.



Feast of the Ascension

This holiday of obligation was celebrated by pupils having the opportunity to participate in Holy Mass in our local parish of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Fr. Gerry celebrated two masses in which S1-S4 pupils walked the short distance to the church. It was a wonderful experience and both pupils and staff had very positive feedback.



Leavers Mass

The S6 Leavers Mass and Graduation service took place on Friday 25th April. This was an emotional event and reminded pupils of all they have accomplished during their time in school. We thank every pupil for contributing to the life of Lourdes in their own personal way over the last 6 years, we wish you luck in your new journey and keep you in our thoughts and prayers. A thank you goes to Fr. Walsh for helping to celebrate such a memorable event.



S3 NET Retreat

We recently had the pleasure of the NET Retreat experience for our S3 pupils. The team were a group of volunteers from Canada and America who had taken a gap year from their personal study. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience and it was such a delight to see our young people engage in the activities to help further their faith. Particularly noteworthy was the pupil response to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the reflection time, it was very inspiring to see our pupils queuing to see our school chaplain, Father Gerry Walsh, to receive the sacrament.

We hope to be able to offer more opportunities like this in the new session.



S6 Servant Leadership

Our new S6 pupils were welcomed back after finishing their S5 exams. After quickly settling back into their routine pupils took part in the Servant Leadership course which was hosted by Michael Canning and Fr. Patrick Duffy of the Conforti Institute.

This gave pupils a flavour of some of the values and qualities that they can continue to develop throughout the year whilst taking on their leadership roles as part of their final year.





Modern Languages Department

Paris 2014

On the 15th of June, 37 of our young people in S3 & S4 set off for Paris. We visited the Sacre Coeur & MontMartre, the Eiffel Tower, the Champs Elysée & the Arc de Triomphe & a perfume factory. We enjoyed a boat trip on the River Seine and we also spent a day at Euro Disney. The pupils were able to practise their French listening and talking skills and had a great time working out what different words meant on signs and in menus. Well done to all the pupils who participated as they were excellent ambassadors for Lourdes Secondary School.



LFEE – Languages for Education Europe

Following the success of SCILT’s workshops with S3, we invited Languages for Education to come to the school and work with our S2 pupils. The immersion workshops included a memory game on French geography, a spelling and arithmetic competition and a cultural quiz all in French! Our young people were very engaged and thoroughly enjoyed the experience, gaining confidence in listening to and speaking in French and also working together in teams. Bon travail S2!



Commonwealth Week

Some of our S4 learners were involved in the Health & Well-being Interdisciplinary learning week on the Commonwealth games. They were asked to create a travel itinerary in French for French speaking visitors coming to Glasgow to watch the games.





Modern Languages Pupils of the month
The following pupils were awarded pupil of the month in
Modern Languages
May 2014
Bon Travail!



Class	Pupil
1/1	Aidan Lyons
1/2	Christopher Taylor
1/3	Zoe Peline
1/4	Abby Leishman
1/5	Brogan McGroarty
1/6	Asheema Kaur
1/7	Matthew Thomson
1/8	Erin McILwraith
2/1	Liam Rafferty
2/2	Josephine Barnes
2/3	Patrick Tierney
2/4	Richie Kidiata
2/5	Kara Donald
2/6	Mark Macklin
2/7	Taylor Docherty
2/8	Kaleb Stewart
3C1	Morgan McKenna
3C2	Emma McLellan
3C3	Brooke Hester
3D1	Riham Behnam
3D2	Chloe Nicol
3D3	Angela McKenzie





Enterprise and Employability



Cake-a-licious and S5 Steal the show!

Our pupils continue to show their dedication, skills, talents and enthusiasm for all things enterprise and were recently rewarded for their success in Social Enterprise. A Social Enterprise is a sustainable business model where there is social aim and not just about making money – it's about giving back. The generous pupils of Lourdes Secondary School have been doing just that. Cake-a-licious are an S2 company setup to produce baked goods. All the money they raise from their business goes to charities who are linked with children and young people. So far they have contributed money to SANDS and Let the Children Live based in Columbia.

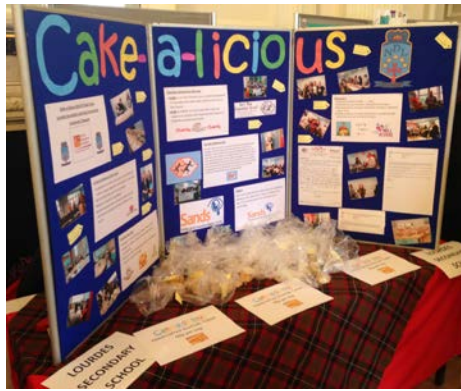
In S4 Change it Today and Shining Bright were created by pupils in their Social Enterprise Wider Achievement option. Change it Today created bespoke phone cases with all profits going to Help for Heroes. Shining Bright created a range of jewellery to support the work of charity Brightest Star.

The Social Enterprise Academy has an annual awards ceremony where they recognise the contribution schools make to social change. We were delighted when 3 of our pupils were asked to host this event at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh. Megan Leitch, Caitlin MacDonald and Michelle Devlin hosted the event with John Swinney, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth and Member of the Scottish Parliament present. The girls hosting skills were commented on by all in attendance as having done an outstanding job.

All three groups received individual awards for their companies and a Social Enterprise Award for the school.

Cake-a-licious also set up a stall and sold tablet to generate more funds on the day – how enterprising!!

Huge congratulations to all pupils for their efforts and here's to the future success of your businesses.



Social Subjects and Eco News

Mr Raeburn and Mr Whitmore accompanied 22 fourth year geographers on an urban fieldtrip on Tuesday 10th June. This outdoor learning allowed the pupils to gather information on various aspects of Glasgow, including examples of urban regeneration and identifying different land use zones. The route taken by the coach included the inner city areas of the Gorbals and the Parkhead / Dalmarnock area, where the class visited the Commonwealth Games athlete village, the Sir Chris Hoy velodrome and Celtic Park, where the opening ceremony takes place. Mr Whitmore still insists that he saw the new Norwegian Celtic manager driving up to the ground . . . should have gone to Specsavers ! Shopping questionnaires were carried out at the Fort Shopping Centre on the eastern outskirts of Glasgow and also in Buchanan Street in the city centre. The day's work will provide valuable information for the N4 Added Value and N5 Assignment parts of the Geography course. The weather was kind to us for most of the day until we took shelter from a heavy downpour in Princes Square late on. Mr Raeburn and Mr Whitmore and Stewart, the driver from Southern Coaches, were very impressed with the excellent behaviour and conduct of our pupils who were great ambassadors for the school – well done !



An Eco hat trick for Lourdes!

An informal celebration took place in the Conference Room on Monday 16th June at 3pm to mark the award of a third Green Flag from Eco Schools Scotland ! Lourdes Secondary is one of only three high schools in Glasgow to have Green Flag status but is the only Catholic secondary in Glasgow to have a triple award. Several of our Eco Committee members from last year's sixth year came back to school . . . they played a huge part in this success, with some having been Eco pupils since S1 and can be very proud knowing that their efforts and enthusiasm brought about two of the flags! Mr Raeburn and Mrs Gallagher were the staff members of the Eco Committee present along with some fourth year pupils. They were joined by Mr McGuigan, Mrs Downie, Mrs Devine, Ms Cairney, Mr Kerr along with Mrs Running, Mrs O'Sullivan and Mrs Osborne from the PTA.



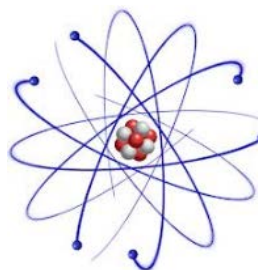


Acknowledging performance and achievement in Chemistry

The 'Chemistry Student of the month' award was launched in 2013 to support and encourage the learning of S3 and S4 chemistry students working towards their National Qualifications and to mark 2013 as International Year of Chemistry.

Congratulations to the April/May winners:

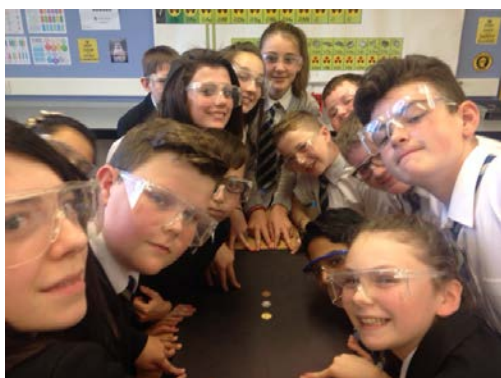
Luke Andrew, Peter Carragher, Adam Houston, Charlotte Macleod and Marc Gallacher on their enthusiasm and progress in chemistry.



S2 Commonwealth Chemistry of Medal Fest!

Our S2 students had a medal winning performance in the science department's contribution to the Commonwealth Games IDL. Stunned by learning about the lack of gold in gold medals!

The students learned about electroplating and did their own copper plating in class. The lesson culminated with students making 'gold' 'silver' and bronze medals in an experiment accompanied by a barrage of 'ohhhs' and 'ahhhhs' !



Lourdes Go4Set!

From January to April this year, a team of 6 S2 pupils took part in the Go4Set Engineering Challenge. Their task was to find a way to make the school more eco-friendly and reduce energy loss. Over the course of ten weeks the pupils researched how to reduce energy loss in the school, made a site visit to the new Polmadie recycling centre in Glasgow for inspiration, designed their own recycling unit for the school and wrote a report detailing everything they had done. The pupils then attended a Celebration and Assessment day at Glasgow City Chambers where they competed against 6 other schools in the Glasgow area for the Go4Set Trophy. Unfortunately they did not scoop first prize but they were highly commended for their report and model!



Commonwealth Challenge

A huge well done and thank you to all who took part or donated money to the Commonwealth Challenge. The school raised a fantastic total of £581.89 for Diabetes Scotland.

Osafo Atuah and Deborah Ward with the cheque.



P7 Visits a success!

P7 pupils from all our partner primary schools, Our Lady of the Rosary Primary, St Monica's Primary, Lourdes Primary, St Constantine's Primary, St Saviour's Primary and St Marnock's Primary joined us for two days on Tuesday 20 and Wednesday 21 May for an Induction Experience to Lourdes Secondary. We were also joined by a number of P7 pupils from Mosspark Primary, Cardonald Primary, Craigton Primary, Hillington Primary, Pirie Park Primary, Riverside Primary and Hillhead Primary. During the Induction the children followed a timetable with a mixture of school subjects including Maths, English, French, Social Subjects, Art, Drama, Music and Enterprise. Our staff were all impressed by the childrens' participation and enthusiasm.



I'm so happy I'm coming to Lourdes. It is amazing school and such a privilege to come. I can't wait. Thanks for two lovely Induction days at Lourdes.
Gemma from St Monica's

I really enjoyed Art, HE, and Maths. I can't wait until next year to get these subjects again.
Katie from Our Lady of the Rosary
10 out of 10. It was such a great experience.
Bashir from Lourdes Primary

The Induction days were great. It really gave me a good me a taste of what it's like at High School. The only thing is I would like to have stay in Lourdes for longer than two days.
Grace from St Saviour's Primary

S1 Credit Union

Our S1 pupils have been invited to participate in the Glasgow City' initiative: Future Savers' Starter for 10 programme. Each S1 pupil across Glasgow have been invited to open a Credit Union bank account with a gift of £10 from the city. 84 of our S1 pupils have opened an account to date and were given their passbook by Councillor at the launch of the Credit in Lourdes Secondary on Monday 9 June. Children who have yet to open an account can pick an application form up from Mr Kerr. Arrangements will be made next session for the children to deposit money in their new accounts within the school day. In the meantime the nearest Credit Union branch can be found in Silverburn Shopping Centre beside the Post Office.



XL Group Tea Party

The S3 XL class organised and hosted a Tea Party on the 9th of June. The class invited residents from our local elderly care homes to come along for an afternoon of tea, coffee, home-baking and live entertainment. Our guests enjoyed the refreshments provided, much of which was created by pupils in our Home Economics Department, and were enthralled by the array of music and drama provided by our Performing Arts Department. Many of our visitors won prizes in the raffle and everyone then joined in the sing-along led by Mrs MacVicar and Mrs Carpy. Our guests thoroughly enjoyed their visit and many commented on how impressed they were by the conduct of all the pupils involved. Well done!!



Footie Success

The under 15's achieved a wonderful double this season, winning both the Glasgow Cup and the League. The long hard fought season began back in September, and, from then on, until the end of May, the team never lost a League match and was rampant in the Cup. A truly remarkable achievement! All praise to the team, and their coaches Mr Blake and Mr Ward.



Maths Challenge Success

Junior Maths Challenge

This year's Junior Maths Challenge has been a highly significant one as it was the first year we have won Gold. This year has also seen an increase in the number of silver certificates awarded.

Gold, Best In Year
and Best In School:

Thomas Joyce

Gold:

Danny Menzies

Silver:

Lauren Donnelly Christo Jacob

Matthew Nicolson Sairah Amjad

Dylan Patterson

Bronze:

Drew McGregor Charlotte Fraser

Luke Russell Chloe Hughes

Dan Salamu Hasnat Ali-Ahmad



Primary Maths Challenge

The 4th of June saw the second Lourdes Secondary Primary Maths Challenge and was no less exciting than the first! This time around we had two teams from some of our schools so not only were they competing against other school's but they were competing to be the best team from their school. Going into the last round we had two schools tied for first place. What made it a little more interesting was that these two schools were tied for first place going into the last round in the previous Primary Maths Challenge. This time St Marnock's were victorious! Well Done St Marnock's!

Business Education and Computer Science Faculty

Pupils studying Administration and IT in S3, visited the IBM Offices in East Kilbride. This has become an annual visit – thanks to Mr William O'Donnell – father of Edward (S6).

Pupils learnt about the history of IBM and information regarding Networks, Data Protection, Servers, Databases (the Oracle), Spreadsheets, the Cloud, Smart Cities etc. Pupils were then given a guided tour of the business and finally enjoyed some refreshments in the cafeteria.





The English Department at Lourdes have has a busy, busy year. We have been working hard to prepare our pupils for their examinations and working to maintain a positive and varied experience for all. Here are some of our highlights:

Cinema

Our S1 have had lots of exciting opportunities this term. A group of keen Private Peaceful fans were treated to an outing to the cinema to see the film version of Private Peaceful with a video link to the author who actually read out one of the questions e-mailed in advance by one of our pupils!

Creepy Crawlies!

Another lucky group of S1 pupils in Miss Lucchesi's class were paid a visit from Scott Shanks from *Buglife Scotland* to talk to them about the creepies and crawlies which were to be the subject of their reports.

Creative Writers

Miss Lucchesi's Blue Sky Writer's club entered the BBC Radio 2 500 words competition. One of our budding young writers, Emma Jane Farren succeeded in being selected for the second round – well done Emma Jane!! The writers are now going to take part in some creative writing workshops with professional writers.

Debating

Recently a group of our S1 Debating club took part in a Schools' Debate Competition in the Debating Chamber at Glasgow City Chambers. The pupils prepared the debate topic of 'Why Badminton is the Best Sport' against 16 other schools and came in as runners up.



Author Visit

Our S2 have kept themselves equally as busy with their many activities and trips. Most recently a group of avid readers went to hear Malorie Blackman talk at the Mitchell Theatre. The pupils were highly entertained by her stories and asked lots of interesting questions!

Ballet Time!

In S3 pupils have been working hard to prepare themselves for their exams next year. This term, some of our pupils are heading off to see some ballet as a reward for all their hard work. They will go and see Matthew Bourne's '*Lord of the Flies*' at the Kings Theatre. Dance and Literature combined!

August

In August, we will be taking our annual trip to the Edinburgh Book Festival. Three groups of pupils will get the opportunity to listen to authors, buy the newest children's literature and generally soak up the atmosphere of Edinburgh during the festival.



The English Department at Lourdes Secondary would like to thank all our pupils for their hard work this session and all parents and carers for their support. We hope you have an enjoyable and restful summer and we look forward to more creativity, learning and hard work in 2014/15.



Performing Arts Department



Kelvingrove Art Gallery Trip

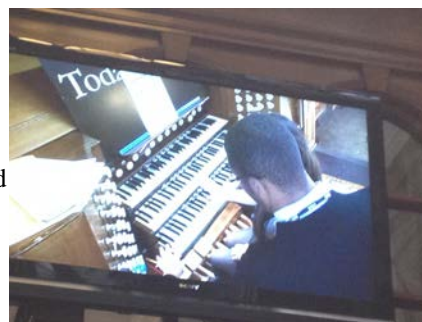
Just a couple of weeks ago, Mr Weaver organised a trip to the Kelvingrove Art Gallery for S3 musicians to hear an organ recital along with a guide round the instrument itself! Pupils were also able to play the Organ and go behind it to look at its workings. The general public watched as our pupils played on the 3 manuals and operated the foot pedals!! They also went to the "How Glasgow Flourished" exhibition to tie in with their work on the Baroque and Classical period in class. The pupils completed a questionnaire during the concert and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thanks to Mr Weaver for organising such an interesting trip.



Last week, the Performing Arts Department had their **Summer Spectacular**.

Acts included The B Sharps, Soul Band, String Group, Liturgical group two hilarious dramas, Ernie's Incredible Illucinations and The Perils of Emily Pollock. Musicals which featured were Avenue Q and songs from Wicked.

The pupils were superb and played to a full house!! A massive thanks and congratulations to all performers on a brilliant show....well done!



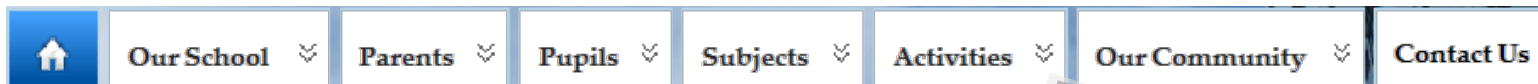


SCHOOL WEBSITE

Reminder that our school website is a useful tool for pupils, parents and staff to access current information and events within Lourdes Secondary.

Celebrating success within the school is just one of the aims of the website, along with excellent links and aids for home learning.

The navigation menu it is much easier to access all the important areas of the site.



Currently included in the new site:

- Links to class material helping to raise attainment
- News on all the exciting events taking place within Lourdes Secondary
- Regularly updated information on Parents' Evenings and school reports
- Useful documents specific to Lourdes Secondary
- A Twitter feed with even more news updates



www.lourdessecondary.co.uk



Why not follow us on twitter?



For news and updates, follow us **@LourdesSec**



Important updates

Jewellery Piercings

This is just a timely reminder for parents/guardians to advise that the summer break is the ideal time for pupils to have personal jewellery piercings.

This break can allow any piercing wounds to heal which then allows the jewellery to be removed for activities such as physical education or play.

This coincides with the current advice from the Physical Education Code of Practice -

www.goglasgow.org.uk/content/UserGenerated/file/GO%20Health%20Safety/PE_Safety_File_LR-2013.pdf (2.7 General Precautions) which states the following:

'Personal effects (e.g. jewellery, body piercings, items of religious significance, watches, hair slides and belts constitute a hazard and may cause injury if worn whilst participating in Physical Education and must be removed.'

School Meals Price Increase from August 2014.

From August 2014, the price of a lunchtime meal will be **£1.50 per day**. Please note that there is no increase for the price for breakfast, or for adult meals.

Tutor Time

Please note that as from Tuesday 17th June 2014, period one classes start at 8.50am every day for all pupils.

Tutor Time is now held from 9.40am until 9.50am.



Dates for your diary

Return Date for Teachers	Monday 11 August 2014
Return Date for Pupils	Wednesday 13 August 2014
September Weekend	Friday 26 and Monday 29 September 2014
First Mid-Term	Monday 13 to Friday 17 October 2014 (inclusive)
Christmas/New Year	Monday 22 December 2014 to Friday 2 January 2015 (inclusive) * Please note that schools will close at 2.30pm on the last school day before the holiday
	2015
2015 Return to School	Monday 5 January 2015
Second Mid-Term	Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 February 2015
Spring Holiday	Friday 3 to Friday 17 April 2015 (inclusive) Good Friday is 3 April 2015 and Easter Monday is 6 April 2015 * Please note that schools will close at 2.30pm on the last school day before the holiday
May Day	Monday 4 May 2015
May Weekend	Friday 22 and Monday 25 May 2015
School Close	Wednesday 24 June 2015 * Please note that schools will close at 1pm on the last school day before the holiday
In-service Days	
Day 1	Monday 11 August 2014
Day 2	Tuesday 12 August 2014
Day 3	Thursday 18 September 2014
Day 4	Friday 19 th September 2014
Day 5	Wednesday 11 February 2015
Day 6	Thursday 7 May 2015