



# Easter Newsletter

March 2015



## Easter Greetings

Dear Parent/Carer

This term has been particularly busy. However, staff and pupils have found time to enjoy sporting moments, expeditions, trips out of school and other ways of learning which are outside the classroom.

In addition to making personal sacrifices during Lent staff and pupils have been active in fund raising to support those who are less fortunate. Charity football games, a long-established Lourdes tradition, non-uniform days, a Onesie wearing day and a range of other activities are all combining to raise as much money as possible for SCIAF whose work supports many of the most vulnerable communities world-wide.

Thank you to parents for your support in ensuring our young people maintain high standards in our school uniform. I ask you to support this by ensuring that pupils wear completely black shoes or black trainers, dress black trousers or skirt and, if they have one, a blazer. Our young people are very much the school's ambassadors in the wider community and high standards in uniform reflect very positively on them and on the school.

Current indications are that the roll in S1 will be the biggest in recent years, with over 230 pupils. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our newest and youngest members of the community in May for their induction experience and then in August. Our new S1 pupils will be measured by Logo Xpress, our uniform suppliers, in their current primary school and their blazers will be delivered there. Logo Xpress (T: 01786 447454 [www.logoxpress.cp.uk](http://www.logoxpress.cp.uk)) will attend the Primary 7 Parents' Information Evening on Wed 6 May at 6.30pm. More details about these arrangements will be made available to parents early in the new term.

Term comes to an end on Thursday 2 April and school will dismiss at 2.30pm for the Easter Holidays. School resumes on Monday 20 April 2015.

On behalf of the pupils and staff of Lourdes Secondary I would like to wish you a very happy and restful Easter.

Best wishes

*G McGuigan*



## Faith in Action

As part of our Faith in Action Wider Achievement class we chose to fundraise for the British Heart Foundation, we chose this charity after a lot of personal research and a moving story from one of our classmates. As part of our fundraising event, we decided on a number of activities for all pupils and staff to get involved in. These included: a non-uniform day, a bake sale, face painting and a change challenge...there was something for everyone.



With a lot of enthusiasm our whole class got involved and everyone made a team effort to get organised and promote events, it felt like no time until the events came around.

Our class decided on a goal of £200.00 but we smashed this total by raising £979.00! This is something that we are very proud of. We invited a member of the British Heart Foundation team to come in and receive the cheque so we got to meet Nina and she told us all about the work that the foundation does and how the money will be put to good use.

We would like to say a massive thank you to all pupils and staff for their support for this very important cause and a special mention to Mrs Killin for guidance and support she gave us throughout.

We're already thinking about our next project!

*(Written by Kirstie Evans, Emma Paton and Aimee Caldwell)*

## S1 Retreat with the Salesian Sisters

Last month all of the S1 classes visited Lourdes Church Hall for a retreat. At the retreat we played games and had time for reflection with Sister Bernie, Sister Jill and Catherine from the Salesians. One of the games we played was called "Fruit Salad" and it was lots of fun, in this game we were all given fruits and when your fruit was called you had to swap with someone who was the same fruit as you. We had our lunch there and then we were split into teams where we had to build a stable tower out of uncooked spaghetti, mini marshmallows and wine gums, the tower had to be able to hold a small toblerone without breaking, and then the team with the best tower won. We spent some time thinking about ourselves and our gifts and talents; we had a short reflection at the end of the day and we sang a hymn with lots of actions.

Lots of people were nervous at the start of the day but everyone had fun and really enjoyed the experience. Thank you to Sister Bernie, Sister Jill and Catherine for planning such a good day.

*(Written by Morgan Grant S1)*



# Our Religion, Beliefs, Values and Caritas journey

This year a group of us took part in the Religion, Beliefs and Values/ Caritas Award programme, a programme designed to help us reconnect with our faith and really find out what our faith means to us but in a comfortable and fun environment. We had the class 6 times a week, just like every other class. However, contrary to what everyone thinks about caritas, it really isn't just another RE class. You're with a group of people that are all there for the same reason as you are; to really delve into the roots of our faith, what they mean and where they come from but still having a fun time and making amazing memories with your friends at the same time.

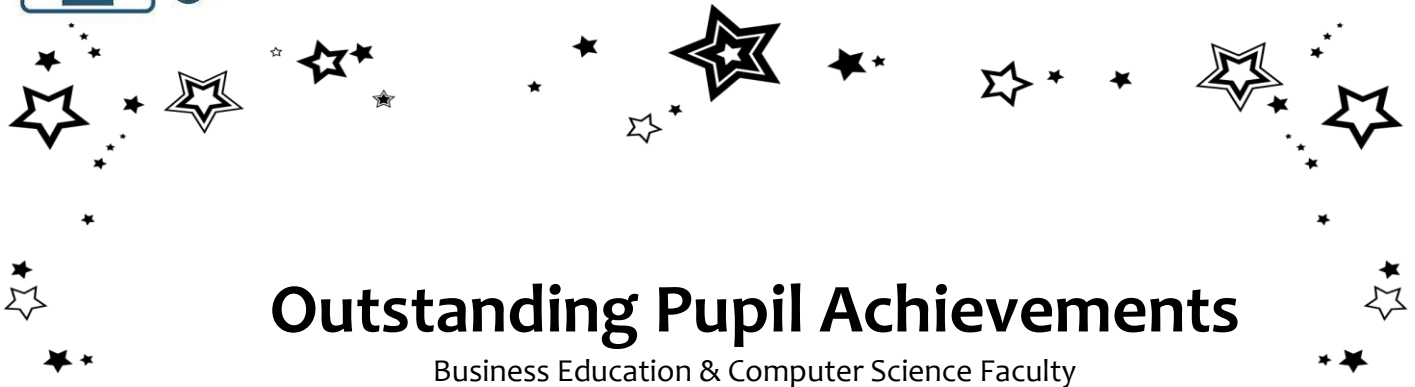
We were given the opportunity to go to New Lanark on a Retreat – 30 of us in a youth hostel for the weekend. I think I speak for the whole Caritas group when I say it really was a true highlight of 6<sup>th</sup> year! The memories from start to finish were amazing – we took part in meditation activities, games in the living room, walks through the hills to see the waterfalls... there was so much happening the weekend flew in. It might come across as really intense and not in the least bit fun at all – learning about your faith for a year just sounds like a more serious RE class really – but the programme really exceeds expectations.

Throughout the year, we've done so much volunteering as well. We've spent hours with the elderly in care homes, young people in youth groups and raised money for various charities as well. Mrs Killin gave us numerous chances to pick the charities and fundraising activities we would be involved in, which really made the impact we made so much more personal because at the end of it you really get to see the change you made for the purpose you initially chose.

The award asks you to successfully complete a minimum of 20 hours of volunteering in your school AND your parish – it sounds a lot and seems virtually impossible but once you really get involved in the activities you choose at the start of the year, those 20 hours come and go and before you know it you've accomplished well over double those minimum hours. A big thank-you goes to Monsignor Gilmartin and Fr Walsh for helping us to volunteer in our parishes, something that was quite intimidating at first. All in all, the award gives you the opportunity to spend a year with your year group to finish off your school journey and renew your faith journey in a way that you feel comfortable with. You make a huge amount of memories in 6<sup>th</sup> year through various opportunities you're given, and Caritas just gives you the opportunity to make these memories even better. I personally feel that I've grown so much closer to my year group through caritas and that we've made so many amazing memories together to leave school with; something that myself and the rest of the Caritas group would really like to immensely thank Mrs Killin for as without her we definitely would never have been able to have had such an amazing time in the course!

All of us would definitely recommend picking Religion, Belief and Values/ Caritas in your final year at Lourdes. Don't forget if you can't pick it in the timetable column you can still choose it as an extracurricular activity!





## Outstanding Pupil Achievements

Business Education & Computer Science Faculty

The girls below have produced material that is beyond what has been asked in class and have both produced professional quality results of the class work tasks. They have always taken their own initiative to produce this extra work and has added value to the work they were to produce. Well done Girls!

Nikole Orbeta 2J1  
Charlotte Fraser 2J1



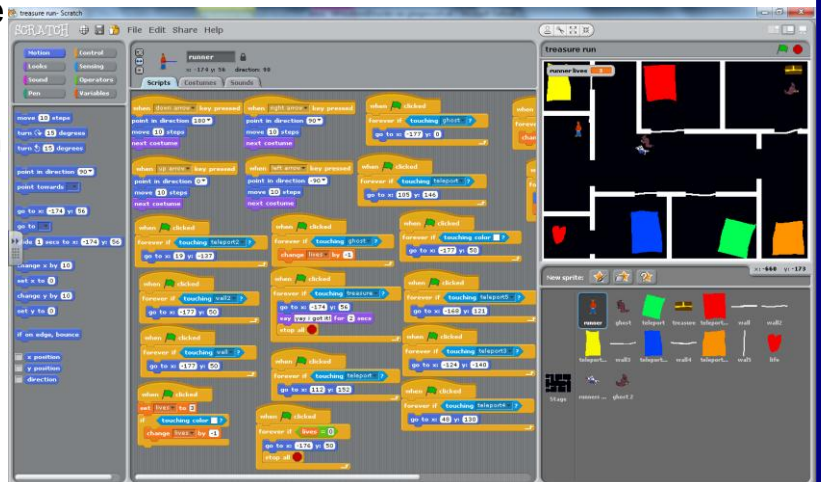
## Lourdes S1 Games Development



S1 Curriculum Enrichment has had the chance to try their hand at games development. Using a program called Scratch the pupils investigated current games and the various games platforms right back to the Atari.

Pupils then had a chance to create their own game and invite other pupils to play the game.

Who knows, maybe they will go on to create the next candy crush.





# Lourdes Computer Games Club



The Friday lunchtime Games Club is proving to be very popular. Pupils are enjoying the showcase of games and the chance to create their own games. With club numbers rising who knows who could be the next Satoru Iwata (Nintendo CEO).

**We would be grateful for any donations of old controllers, consoles and games.**

Mr Hezseltine would like to offer a big thank you to all who made this club possible.

The games club will take a break over Easter but this is not GAME OVER.

The club will re-spawn after the Easter break.

Have a Happy Easter and keep gaming.



## Primary Transition

Our local associated primaries have been visiting the school throughout the course of the last few months. Both primary 6 and primary 7 pupils have been having a great time trying out subjects such as Art, Home Economics, ICT and English. They can't wait to start in the secondary for real!!!

Here is what some of our visitors had to say:

“The school is huge. I can't wait to go and investigate.” “Art was brilliant. I got to take home a painting I made with water colours.”  
“Home Economics was the best. We made truffles and they tasted amazing!” “I thought it was ace! I can't wait to come here next year.”

### Dates for your Diary

P7 Parents' Information Evening  
P7 Induction Days

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015 from 6.30pm  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May



## S3 at SCILT Event

In January some of our S3 pupils were lucky to be chosen for a trip to a Languages Business breakfast. Daniel Whitelaw in S3 tells us what it was like:

Hi, my name is Daniel Whitelaw and I am in S3. I would like to tell you about the Modern Languages Department trip that I went on with my classmates in February. This trip was to a conference centre on St. Vincent Street and it was all about languages and how far languages can get you in life. When we arrived, there were a lot of pupils from different schools in the building and there were many staff, they could not have been nicer to us; they took our jackets for us and hung them up and they told us what we could get at the breakfast tables from a wide variety of food and drinks. As we all started to walk around the building there were people from Universities and Colleges giving us advice and telling us to continue studying Languages because they take you a long way. After breakfast, we were taken into this room where we got told a little more about languages and how they help with not only employment opportunities but also about different things like sport and communication. The conference lasted for about 25 minutes and then we were split into three groups and had one person in each room telling us how languages took them where they are today. I found the conference very interesting as the speakers were very engaging. They told us about their experiences and how useful languages were to them in their working life, but they also told us how languages could benefit us in life. I am now very happy to continue learning French in S4 and maybe even Spanish in S5 or S6.

## Languages for Life and Work Award

Well done to our S3 pupils who have completed the second stage of their Languages for Life & Work Award. Most pupils have successfully passed assessments in Talking and Listening for the Languages for Life Unit and the Employability Unit with Mrs. Hamill (from Youth Services, Glasgow). There is only one more unit to go until they achieve their SQA award. Bon effort!



## S3 / 4 Trip to Paris

The countdown has started until the S3 & S4 Modern Languages trip to Paris in June! We are going from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2015 and we will visit the Eiffel Tower, Montmartre and Le Sacre Cœur. We will go on a boat trip on the River Seine and spend a day at Euro Disney.



## Interdisciplinary Learning with Robert Burns

Some of our S3 pupils took part in an Interdisciplinary Learning focus on Robert Burns. They read about Burns' life in French, improving their reading skills and dictionary skills and they learned about the Imperfect tense in French. They then created a poster describing Burn's biography in French which was put on display during celebrations of Burns' life in school.



## Strathclyde University Ambassadors

On Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, two student ambassadors from Strathclyde University visited S3, S4, S5 & S6 French and Spanish classes. One of the students, Barry Dempsey is actually a past pupil and did Higher at Lourdes with Miss. Elliott. He loved French so much at school that he decided to continue studying French with Law at Strathclyde University. The two representatives spoke to the classes about the value of continuing to learn languages at university. The pupils were given an insight into different options of studying languages, either on their own or with other subjects like law or engineering. The pupils responded very positively and were enthusiastic about what our visitors from Strathclyde University had to say. Merci!





Modern Languages Pupils of the month  
The following pupils were awarded pupil of the month in  
Modern Languages for January & February!  
Bon Travail!



| Class         | January               | February                 |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1/1           | Saskia Alexander      | Sam Cullen & Erin Cullen |
| 1/2           | Nassor Salim          | Rachel McCracken         |
| 1/3           | Olivia Watret         | Jhozef Sheldia           |
| 1/4           | Tashen Rajakaruna     | Cara Brooks              |
| 1/5           | Amy Donnelly          | Gary Cook                |
| 1F6           | Aimee Louise McDonald | Sean Ramsay              |
| 1F7           | Gabriel McNeill       | Mario Zaarour            |
| 1/8           | Shaheer Khan          | Aaron Horsfield          |
| 2/1           | Charlotte Fraser      | Matthew Cowan            |
| 2/2           | Chloe Hughes          | Skala Jaweed             |
| 2/3           | Charlotte Tierney     | Shaun Gillespie          |
| 2/4           | Nicole Carmichael     | Jessica Lizemore         |
| 2/5           | Farah Rashid          | Josh Lee                 |
| 2/6           | Tiffany Cassidy       | Shannon McGreevy         |
| 2/7           | Barnard Watson        | Daniel Welsh             |
| 2/8           | Patryk Izdebski       | Eva Hale                 |
| 3C1           | Daniel Whitelaw       | Mareena Emmanuel         |
| 3C2           | Kieran Donnelly       | Kieran Donnelly          |
| 3C3           | Dylan Whitten         | Kevin Emordi             |
| 3D1           | Emily Harley          | Amrit Singh              |
| 3D2           | Evan Stuart           | Abdulkabir Olajide Adams |
| 3D3           | Sonu Choudry          | Beth Clark               |
| 4C1           | Jakub Choluj          | Amy McGroarty            |
| 4C2           | Kalvin Yu             | Abby Dyer                |
| 4D1           | Nicole Mines          | Nathan Ogilvie           |
| 4D2           | Ahilesh George        | Louise Smith             |
| Spanish       | Aston Bolger          | Ryan Porteous            |
| Higher French | Megan Brooks          | Rachel Donnelly          |

**Higher French Subject surgery**

Wednesday 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Make an appointment & bring along any questions you may have.

**Higher Listening**

Monday 3.00pm – 4.00pm

**National 5**

Working lunch drop in

Tuesday lunchtimes 12.35- 1.00 room 101



# Fairtrade News

Several S3 Geography pupils along with Mr Ferry and Mr Raeburn visited the City Chambers on Monday 23 February to take part in Glasgow City Council's official launch of Fairtrade Fortnight 2015 (23 February to 8 March).

The Rt Hon The Lord Provost of Glasgow, Councillor Sadie Docherty introduced the event and welcomed a number of invited guests. Lourdes Secondary was one of over 25 schools from across Scotland represented at this event which involved hearing how some schools have been involved in Fairtrade activities, with some attempting to gain Fairtrade School status. Lourdes Secondary was the first Glasgow school to achieve this distinction back in 2006 and we are due to renew this award next year.

In addition to a quiz, the large audience heard a very powerful and motivating presentation from Pamela L'Intelligent, a 44 year old mother with a teenage daughter who is a textile worker from Mauritius. She was a machinist in a factory where she worked very long hours for a low wage and where the environment in the factory affected her health, causing eye and skin irritations. She left to join another workplace which is Fairtrade certified, where her working conditions have made a huge improvement to her work / life balance. She thanked everyone who has bought clothing made from Fairtrade cotton because it has helped to transform her and her daughter's life. They can now afford to buy basic things that we all take for granted. The pupils were superb ambassadors and left with the gift of a Fairtrade football, given to all those schools present at the event.



## S3 Events Management and Children 1st

Our S3 Events Management Wider Achievement class are those responsible for organising the very first Lourdes Secondary Christmas Fair. It was an outstanding success with many many people turning out to support the event. There were numerous stalls, local businesses, parents, pupils and staff who all pitched in for a fun packed day – where even Santa made an appearance.

What many of you may not know was that was entirely organised by the S3 class with support from their teacher Mrs Cullen. They organised, planned and co-ordinated with staff, pupils, members of the public, local press and local businesses. Their hard work paid off with £1000 raised.

The pupils decided at the outset where this money was going – Children 1<sup>st</sup>. Children 1<sup>st</sup>'s vision for the future is for every child and young person in Scotland to have a happy, healthy, safe and secure childhood.

A representative from the charity recently attended school to chat to all S3 pupils about the work they do and were delighted to be handed a cheque for £1000. Well done S3!





# English Department

## BBC News School Report

Some of our S2 Carousel pupils represented the school in the BBC News School Report. Pupils spent the day making interesting news reports on the solar eclipse, the new £1, the smog hitting London and the demolition of the Tarfside flats. Pupils interviewed some teachers, members of the public and filmed and edited their own recordings. Their news reports can be found on the school website.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/LourdesSecondaryBBCSchoolsReport/>



## Improving our classrooms

A recent project focussing on the development of Higher Order Thinking Skills and the use of effective questioning to promote deeper learning has yielded excellent results for our S1-3 pupils. The initiative stemmed from staff involvement in the city-wide 'Improving Our Classrooms' course. The pupils who participated have reported increased levels of motivation and tenacity with respect to their learning. They have also produced some outstanding work in response to questions that they themselves developed as part of the project. We hope to extend the scope of the project to include a wider cohort of pupils next session.



## Wee Write

On the 5th of March, a group of 2nd year students attended an author event with renowned comic creator Gary Erskine at the Mitchell Library as part of the Aye Write Festival. The group was given advice on creating comics characters, developing a narrative and on comic layout. They also had an opportunity to ask Gary questions about his experiences of working in the comics industry. The group was hugely enthusiastic and participated very well in all of the activities during the afternoon event.



## Basketball Success

The Boys' Basketball Club has had another successful season. This year we ran 2 teams in League and Cup competitions, the Under 14s and the Under 18s. As well as playing matches, about 30 boys from S1 to S6 train once a week on Fridays. Most of our games are played in and around the Glasgow area, but for some competitions we travel further afield.

This year, the Under 14s won all their League Section matches but lost in the play-off Semi-Final and the Cup Semi-Final to St Mungo's, the eventual winners.

The Under 18s had a good run in the Scottish Cup winning 5 games, including a home win against Gordonstoun in January but lost in the Quarter Final away to Queen Anne High School in Dunfermline.

In the Under 18s cup, they met St Andrews and St Thomas Aquinas on their way to the final at the Emirates Stadium. There they played in a close match against Hillhead High School, but eventually won by 7 points, to lift the Seniors Cup – Well Done! For most of the team this is their third cup win having been successful in winning the Cup in S2 (2011) as Under 14's in S4 and in 2013 as Under 16's.

In the Under 18s League, they won all their section games and their Semi-Final play-off match against St Thomas Aquinas, to reach the Final against St Aloysius. The League Play Off Final Match is due to be played on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 2.00 pm in the Easterhouse Sports Centre. This will be their last match as a school team and I hope they finish with a win to complete a remarkable, Treble Double.

None of this would be possible without the hard work and dedication of our Parent Coach Mr Donald MacLeod and his assistant and former pupil, Miss Sarah Pirie. They train the boys every Friday after school. When we started working with this group in S1 they were all smaller than us, but now that has all changed!

I have enjoyed working with the boys.

Mr Hastie



## Social Success

Our S3 Social Entrepreneurs in their Wider Achievement Class have had outstanding success.

The class has formed two companies whose sole aim is to create a sustainable business that has a social purpose. Our companies are called Story Aid and Frulatto. Story Aid are developing storytelling sessions for primary and nursery schools with all profits going to Yorkhill Children's Charity. Frulatto are creating healthy smoothies in partnership with Sainsburys, with all proceeds going to mental health charity SAMH.

Both companies pitched their ideas to the Social Enterprise Dragons Den at the City Chambers and the "dragons" were very impressed to hear about their business plans. As a result Story Aid walked away with a £50 investment and Frulatto with £100. After hearing about their success, STV Glasgow got in touch and wanted the story on Frulatto and what they hoped to achieve and why. The pupils were delighted and aired their views to the nation.

Both groups have also successfully secured a Social Enterprise Award from The Social Enterprise Academy and will be collecting their award in June at The Hub in Edinburgh.

Both groups continue to grow from strength to strength and you can expect more good news soon!



## Brookfield Independent Learning Programme

Nine of our senior boys took part in the Brookfield Multiplex Independent learning programme which culminated on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March with a presentation on their findings in the lecture theatre at the Burrell Collection. Since February the pupils have been working with a mentor from construction company Brookfield Multiplex who built the New South Glasgow Hospital. Our mentor was Sheila Browne a former Lourdes pupil. They had to create a fictional construction company and bid to be the builders of the new Institute of Neurosciences at the hospital. The pupils had to research roles and responsibilities, logistics, health and safety, new building techniques and scheduling. They created an impressive presentation which was delivered to a panel of judges made up of industry professionals. The boys were delighted to receive Highly Commended from the judges and especially glad to receive praise from the NHS representative who was delighted with their ideas.



# Passing Places – Perfect Play!

On 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> of February, Lourdes pupils presented a production of 'Passing Places', a comedy 'road -movie for the stage' by the Scottish playwright Stephen Greenhorn.

The play is made up of multiple short scenes set in different locations. This presented a challenge both in terms of acting and also with regard to lighting, set, sound and scene-changes.

The young people in the play responded magnificently to the challenge, rehearsing after school from mid-September onwards. Their hard work and creativity resulted in a successful production which audiences found enjoyable and entertaining.



# Time to Dance in Yer Street!

Yes it's that time of year again! The school show has arrived! This year we have a completely original show for you. Written by our very own Mrs Simpson and former performing arts staff member Mr Sweeney, we bring you "*Dancing in Yer Street*".

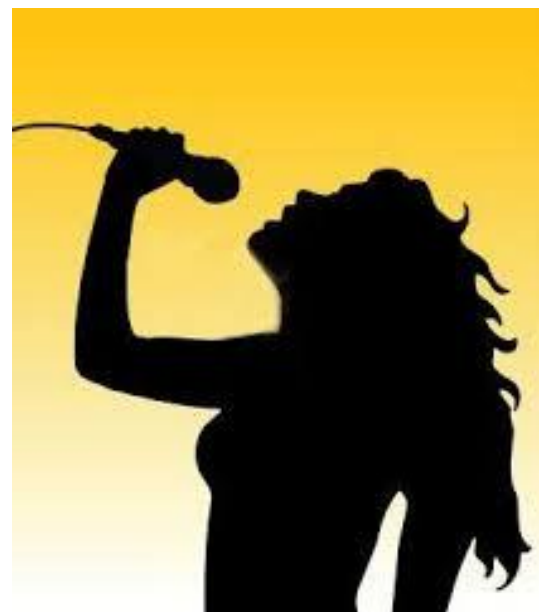
Will Abbie reach the dizzy heights of fame that she has her heart set on? Will she make it in the harsh world of the music industry?

Come along and find out.

With completely original songs and some surprise acts, this year's show is guaranteed to get you Dancing in Yer Seat never mind the street!

Curtain up is **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June** and it will run until **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June**.

Ticket information coming soon!  
One definitely not to be missed!





**Lourdes Secondary School**  
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Cardonald  
Glasgow G523DF  
**Phone 0141582 0181**  
Fax 0141 582 0181

**Head Teacher**  
Gerry McGuigan MA(Hons)

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE/INTERNET ACCESS PARENTAL PERMISSIONS UPDATE**

Our school is in the process of updating and looking to improve communications with parents, carers and the local community.

This will include a number of existing communication tools within the school – the school handbook and website, automated text and newsletters which we would like to illustrate with as many images of young people as possible.

As a school we are also looking to promote and celebrate the school's good news stories and successes through the media, social media (Twitter @lourdessec etc) and local community and would like to host photo calls and send out media releases – either directly or via the council's media office.

As you know, social media is a fast and effective way to communicate – especially to our young people – and a good way to cascade important information to a large group at the same time.

To enable us to do this safely we would like to take this opportunity to update our parental permissions in line with council media and social media guidelines.

Please can you let the school office know if you would **NOT** like your child's photograph or name used in any promotional material or on our website or Twitter feeds – if we do not hear from you then we will take this as informed permission.

Please also let me know during the school year if your decision regarding photographs changes or of any circumstances, which could affect your child and we will amend permissions accordingly.

Yours faithfully

*G McGuigan*

G McGuigan  
Head Teacher

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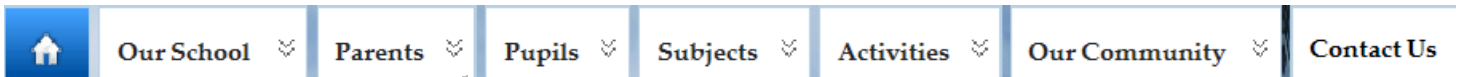


## SCHOOL WEBSITE

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 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

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/LourdesSecondarySchool/>



Why not follow us on twitter?

For news and updates, follow us @LourdesSec

