



Christmas Newsletter

December 2015



Seasons Greetings

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to another bumper edition of our school newsletter. Apologies for the delay in issuing our newsletter to you. Glasgow City Council schools were experiencing technical ICT problems before the holidays which meant that we were unable to issue our newsletter before the end of term. As you will see, there was an enormous amount of activities going on both in and outside of the school over last term.

As we are at the beginning of a new year we can reflect on what was an eventful and successful 2015, with many of our young people experiencing success in their learning, success in SQA examinations, success in sporting, mathematical and entrepreneurial challenges and success in a wide range of other activities. We are rightly proud of the efforts which pupils in Lourdes are taking to learn both within and outwith the classroom.

We finished last term with a host of activities including our hugely successful pantomime, 'Jack and the Beanstalk.' We pass on our sincerest thank you to those members of staff and pupils who provided such an excellent show and also to parents and friends who came along to support the production.

We also raised significant sums for charity over the last few weeks of term, including the sum of £537.28 for Epilepsy Scotland, £696 for 'The Brightest Star' and £468.10 for 'Downs and Proud.'

I would also like to thank parents for their continuing support of staff and pupils throughout this session. Our partnership is so important in ensuring every young person has the opportunity to grow fully in their intellectual, social, personal and spiritual potential.

May I end by expressing, on behalf of all the staff, our wish that you had a peaceful and happy Christmas and we hope you have a successful 2016.

Best wishes

G McGuigan



Pupil of the Month

Business Education & Computer Science Faculty

September – Going the Extra Mile

Charlotte Fraser CfE Business 3P5, Lucy Kavanagh CfE Business 3P8, Blandine Ntumba CfE Business 3S9, Dylan Paterson CfE Business 3P6, Louis Robertson CfE Business 3S2, Charlotte Tierney CfE Computing Science 3S5, Zain Abbood S1 BECS 1P8, Adeen Asad S1 BECS 1P3, Steven Griffin S1 BECS 1P3, Carly Hamilton S1 BECS 1P7, Scott McCormack S1 BECS 1P3, Maria Sheldia S1 BECS 1P7, Connor Woodhouse S1 BECS 1P2, Elizabeth Akpangi S2 BECS 2P2, Cara Brooks S2 BECS 2P11, Jemma Campbell S2 BECS 2P7, Jo Cox S2 BECS 2P11, Amy Donnelly S2 BECS 2P6, Jazmin Hamilton S2 BECS 2P9, Shannon Holmes S2 BECS 2P7, Nathan MacLachlin S2 BECS 2P2, Suzanna McNulty S2 BECS 2P11, Taylan Saritas S2 BECS 2P10, Amith Shajan S2 BECS 2P5, Joni Sinclair S2 BECS 2P3.

October – Grit and Determination

Hasan Amjad S1 BECS 1P6, Michael Andrew S1 BECS, Alberts Berzins S1 BECS 1P7, Jennifer Ferris S1 BECS 1P2, Marcus Gualitieri S1 BECS 1P7, Steven Griffin S1 BECS 1P3, Muir Kirkwood S1 BECS 1P9, Kelly Ann Lappin S1 BECS 1P3, Weronika Badach S2 BECS, Gary Cook S2 BECS, Kathleen Gallagher S2 BECS, Taylor Johnson S2 BECS 2P11, Allana McFadyen S2 BECS 2P11, Alphi Robert S2 BECS, Jhozef Sheldia S2 BECS, Hamzah Turiq S2 BECS, Matthew Cowan S3 Admin & IT 3S6, Lauren Donnelly S3 Admin & IT, Ellie Russell S3 Admin & IT 3S2, Patryk Izdebski S3 Business 3S10, Rebecca Ashton S3 Business 3S8, Nikole Orbeta S3 Business 3S8, Janet Johny S3 Computing Science.

November – Trying Something New

Logan Healy S1 BECS 1P3, Matthew Beaton S1 BECS 1P8, Logan Healy S1 BECS, Dominik Just S1 BECS, Taylor Kettle S1 BECS 1P2, Louise Mallon S2 BECS 2P10, Elise O'Callaghan S2 BECS 2P2, Courtnai Burns S2 BECS 2P5, Ryan Docherty S2 BECS 2P9, Kinga Pietrzak S2 BECS 2P6, Sara Wilson S2 BECS 2P3, Stephen O'Connell S3 Admin & IT 3P8, Rowan Andrews S3 Business 3S8, Wali Hall S3 Business 3S8, Aidan McCabe S3 Business 3S8, Luke Russell S3 Computing Science 3S9.



Lourdes

Computer Games Club



The Wednesday lunchtime Games Club is proving to be very popular. The club allows access to various different games consoles as well as PCs for students to engage with each other, meet new friends and have fun while playing video games.

The club is open to S1 and S2 pupils, however the club is currently full but new students will be welcomed in January on a first come, first served basis.

The staff in the Business Education & Computing Science Faculty (BECS) would like to offer a special thank you to the S6 pupils who manage and support S1/S2 pupils at this.

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

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



On Friday, 13 November our National 4/5 Business Management classes took part in the **Investment Challenge 2015** competing against 34 other schools in Scotland.

The Investment Challenge is set in a fictitious world financial market. In this fast-moving and exciting game of strategic thinking and pressured decisions, the competitors had to demonstrate many of the skills necessary for business life, including team-working, problem-solving and critical thinking. The aim of the game was to increase the value of each team's starting fund by trading in company shares and commodities.

The school also had the pleasure of welcoming to visitors for BNP Paribas Securities Services who spoke to us about the role the finance industry plays in Scotland and the job opportunities that are available within the industry. They also assisted us in a practice challenge, offering hints and tips on how to read the events on the Stock Market.

On the day of the live Challenge, **Margaret Cole** and **Brandon Connelly** were our winners with a respectable profit of £10,366. Unfortunately this year we were "pipped at the post" but it was a very enjoyable experience for all who took part.



BNP PARIBAS



UK Bebras Challenge 2015



During the week beginning 9 November all our S2 BECS pupils along with S3 – S6 Computing Science pupils took part in the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge.

The **UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge** is a competition aimed at raising awareness of Computer Science in a fun and rewarding way. The competition involves solving problems using computational thinking skills.

Computational thinking involves using a set of problem-solving skills and techniques that software engineers use to write programs and apps. Examples of these techniques would include the ability to break down complex tasks into simpler components, algorithm design, pattern recognition, pattern generalisation and abstraction.

This year over 50,000 students in the UK and Europe took part in the competition.

All pupils have now been issued with their certificates for taking part in the Challenge.

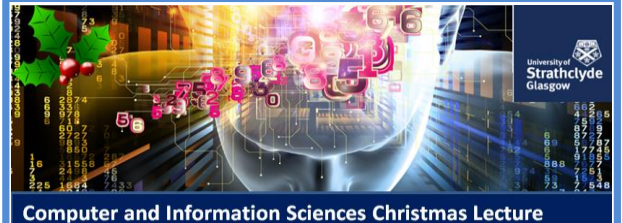
A special congratulation goes to our “Best in School” pupils who achieved the highest marks in school at each level.

Intermediate (S2) – Laura Stewart
Senior (S3/4) – Thomas Joyce
Elite (S5/6) – Mark Watson



COMPUTING AT SCHOOL
EDUCATE. ENGAGE. ENCOURAGE
In collaboration with BECS, The Chartered Institute for IT

ARM



On the afternoon of Wednesday 9 December Mrs Connelly’s Higher Computing Science class attended the annual Christmas Lecture given by the Computer and Information Sciences department at Strathclyde University.

This year’s lecture was delivered by Dr Ross Duncan on the subject of

“What is a Quantum Computer?”

Dr Duncan looked at the idea that for the past 45 years the components used to build computers have been getting smaller and smaller, so what happens when we take this to its ultimate limit and use individual sub-atomic particles as components? You get a **Quantum Computer!**

At such small scales our usual ideas about how computers work no longer apply: quantum computers are governed by the strange laws of quantum physics.

By taking advantage of these bizarre properties quantum computers can do many things, which are impossible for a normal computer, and force us to re-evaluate our ideas about reality itself.

It was a very enjoyable and informative afternoon for all.





On Sunday 6 December, 13 S5/6 BECS pupils changed their school uniform for Santa suits, for Glasgow City Councils Annual 5K Santa Dash. This is the first year that Lourdes Secondary has taken part in the event and it was safe to say that all pupils and staff from the Faculty had a "jolly" great time.

The team joined forces with local charity, Brightest Star, which aims to provide invaluable support to bereaved families in Scotland. The sea of blue Santa hats stood out and raised a fabulous amount of awareness and money, especially at this difficult time for those families missing their beloved child.

Brightest Star founder, Arlene Clark praised the pupils, "Huge well done and thank you to all at Lourdes Secondary. Spending your weekend supporting charity says so much about each one of you".

Watch this space to find out the total amount raised. www.brighteststar.org.uk



Supporting bereaved families



Currently we have a group of S3 students taking part in the Junior Saltire Challenge. Now in its 5th year, the competition brief challenges teams to design, build and test a simple floating Wave Energy Converter (WEC).

This is a challenge set across Scotland and finalists will test their devices in an indoor wave pool in June. Fantastic prizes of up to £750 and special Junior Saltire Medals are up for grabs.

Watch this space for further news. Good luck to the following pupils; Jack MacLeod, Reegan MacLeod, Ciara McGowan, Blandine Ntumba, we wish them the best of luck! See the video below for further information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLY0o-zMycw&feature=youtu.be>



**SALTIRE
PRIZE
JUNIOR**



Additional Learning Needs News

Citizenship Project

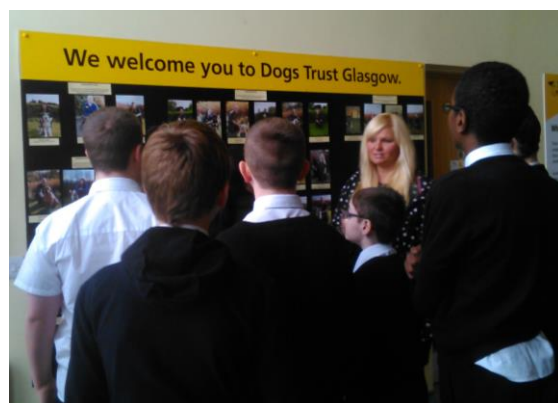
This term the young people in the ALN Provision have been busy working on a Citizenship project. They have been learning about responsibility and caring for others including the animals in our communities. We have made posters, read and watched animal issues in the news, made help guides for new owners and have learned about animal charities and the animals who help people in their daily lives.

We have had two visiting speakers this term to the provision and were joined by Miss McSween's S4 XL Group.

Our first visit was from Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. Neil Smith came to school to speak with us about how his working dog, Ginger has changed his life for the better. Ginger and other hearing dogs alert owners to sounds in the home and outside where there is a need- for example Neil's alarm clock! The young people were amazed at the skills demonstrated by Ginger and happy to see how well Ginger and Neil work together. When the special coat of a working dog is on, it is work time, but Ginger enjoys chasing squirrels in her spare time when the coat comes off.

The young people also visited the Dog's Trust in Glasgow to learn about different animal care jobs and for a tour of the centre. Alison, an Education Officer from Dog's Trust visited the ALN Provision with her dog Alfie to do workshops with young people about caring for animals. The pupils in S1 and S2 went on a dog walk with Alfie in the local community and really enjoyed it!

We are collecting used stamps to help fund a Hearing Dog- please send them in to the ALN Provision from any Christmas Cards and it would really make a difference to the charity since Royal Mail reimburse them for each stamp collected.



Christmas Crafts

Pupils from room G11 provision made Christmas crafts including handmade cards, brooches, calendars and decorations and held a sale on the 2nd of December in school. The profits they made were donated to 'The Teapot Trust' a hospital charity which provides art therapy to chronically sick children in Glasgow's sick children's unit in the new Southern General Hospital.





Modern Languages Department



S3 Languages for Life and Work Award

Well done to our S3 pupils who have completed the first stage of their Languages for Life & Work Award. Most pupils have successfully passed assessments in Talking and Listening for the Languages for Life

Unit. Some classes have already completed the Employability Unit with Mrs. Hamill (from Youth Services, Jobs & Business Glasgow). Bon travail!



S5/6 French Trip

Our S5/6 Higher French class are going to the French restaurant, *Le Bistro Beaumartin*, on the 17th of December. They will get the chance to dine in a typical French bistro and taste French delicacies like 'Dégustation d'escargots et cuisse de grenouilles' (Taster plate of baked snails and sautéed frog's legs), and of course they will have to speak French during the whole experience !



S1 French Club

Some of our S1 pupils have been immersed in a French food tasting and French cultural experience with Charlotte, our French Language Assistant. All S1 pupils are welcome to come along and join in with this fun French club on Wednesdays at 1.25pm in room 103.



National 5 & Higher French Working Lunch

Pupils doing National 5 and Higher French are welcome to come to room 101/102 on Tuesdays from 1.25pm-1.45pm for a Working lunch.

This gives pupils an opportunity to get extra help with areas causing difficulty. Bring your lunch.





Modern Languages Pupils of the month

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

Class	Pupil
1/1	Roisin MacEachen
1/2	Kelly Ann Lapin
1/3	Kathleen Burns
1/4	Luke Harvey
1/5	Matthew Beaton
1F6	Sophie Johnston
1F7	Aaron Tucker
1/8	Stephen Hope
2/1	Eve Maguire
2/2	Elise O'Callaghan
2/3	Aidan Croal
2/4	Chloe MacDonald
2/5	Mia Quinn
2/6	Craig Adumuah
2/7	Kiera Diamond
2/8	Jamie Appleby
3C1	Paul Woulfe
3C2	Eve McQuaid
3C3	Patryk Izdebski
3C4	Chloe Sims
3C5	Danny Menzies
3C6	Eve McQuaid
3C7	Hajar Alkhader
4G1	Chloe Lynch
4G2	John Carlyle
4D1	Ciaran Byrne
4D2	Sophie Boyle
4E	Cassie Gannon



Live@Lourdes with George Bowie!

With the help of our student teachers Miss Kelly (Geography), Miss Gillick (English) and Mr Holman (Art & Design), we were lucky enough to have Clyde 1 DJ George Bowie pay the school a visit on Wednesday 2nd of December to deliver a radio workshop. George very kindly took some time out of his busy schedule to visit some of our 5th and 6th years whom are either already involved with the radio station or those interested in getting involved as we try to re-launch LIVE @ LOURDES. The workshop allowed the pupils to ask George Bowie questions about achieving careers in radio and sound production and he also shared some of his experiences with them, which was excellent to hear!

During his visit George was given a tour of our LIVE @ LOURDES facilities by some 5th and 6th years, during which they had the chance to discuss with him how they have already been using the radio room, and their plans to improve LIVE @ LOURDES. During his visit George was able to highlight to pupils how important it is for young people to have the opportunity to take part in student radio as activities of this nature help to develop important skills for learning, life and work. He also emphasised how experience in student radio can be valuable when applying for college or university. Throughout the workshop George was able to use his experience to explain to pupils that participating in student radio encourages the development of skills such as responsibility, creativity, time keeping, problem solving and planning. Student radio enables pupils to develop a wide and diverse range of organisational, social and interpersonal skills!

Students were also given the opportunity to put George under pressure by creating their own 10 question, 60 second quiz, where he only managed to score 5/10! A great evening was had by all, and Lourdes Secondary even got a mention on his Clyde 1 breakfast show the following morning! A Big WELL DONE and THANK YOU to everyone who was involved!



George Bowie with the Live@Lourdes Team and Miss Kelly, Miss Gillick and Mr Holman

Fairtrade Christmas Fair

On Friday, 20 November, a Fairtrade Christmas Fayre was held at lunchtime in the school. Liz Cotton from Rainbow Turtle, a Fairtrade shop in Paisley along with some senior pupils and Mr Raeburn helped to set up stalls with a range of Fairtrade products. Staff and pupils who came along had the opportunity to buy Christmas goods such as advent calendars, cards and tree ornaments as well as chocolate, biscuits, tea, coffee, fashion and jewellery. Rainbow Turtle emailed the school with a certificate acknowledging the fact that £265 worth of goods was sold during lunchtime – a tremendous achievement! Thank you to all those who supported this latest venture and to Liz and her band of helpful, smiling helpers: Rebekkah McLaughlin, Jennifer Lewis, Toni Williams from S4, Kathleen Dooley from S5 and Alisha George, Jelli Ramos, Elizabeth Abraham, Sharon Shaji and Jewel Joseph from S6.

Plans are at an early stage for Fairtrade Fortnight, running from 29 February – 13 March 2016.



Talent for Life

Lourdes recently hosted the first ever 'Talent for Life' inter-schools talent competition. The event was the brainchild of young members of the Lourdes Life Group.

Senior pupils who had been studying Catholic Social Teaching as part of their S6 Re course came on board with the suggestion that the event should be a practical expression of this teaching and decided to fundraise for refugees through SCIAF. Head boy – Ebuka Nnemani expressed this with great eloquence when he referred to the Parable of the Talents in his welcome speech.

The talent competition was preceded by mass which was concelebrated on the feast of the Vietnamese martyrs by Archbishop Philip Tartaglia, Lourdes chaplain Fr. Gerry Walsh, Msgr Gilmartin and Fr. John Carrol, the Holyrood chaplain who had previously served as Lourdes Secondary's chaplain for eight years. Archbishop Tartaglia spoke movingly in his sermon of the fortitude and determination required of young people who choose to stand up and show their compassion for the unborn and for the world's most vulnerable.

There was a stunning array of talent on show- from string quartets to boy bands and everything in between! Our own B Sharps put in an amazing performance which had the audience on their feet!

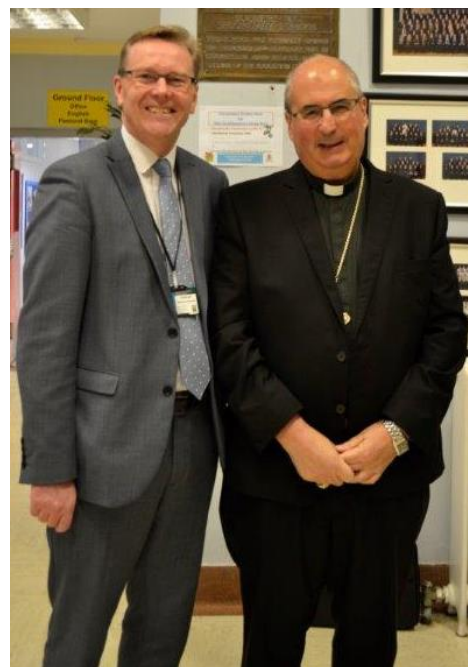
First prize went to singer/songwriters, Sabrina Mandulu and Erin McEvoy of Lourdes Secondary who performed a beautifully haunting song they had written especially for the occasion, entitled 'Who Can Bear to Feel Themselves Forgotten?'

Second place went to Clodagh and Shannon O'Donnell sisters from St Ninians who gave a beautiful rendition of two Irish traditional tunes on the harp and fiddle.

And third place went to Indian dancers from S2 in Lourdes – Alphi Robert, Helga Joseph, Jovanna Joseph and their choreographer, Merlin Kumjomon.

It was particularly fitting that these girls were placed among the honours, as not only was the act a stunning and colourful injection of Indian culture, but these young Pro-Life group members had come up with the idea for the event! The event was compered with wit and aplomb by Lourdes co-hosts Seamus Brady of S6 and Alan John of S3.

Judges were Bishop Philip, John Deighan of SPUC, Mark Booker of SCIAF and Sister Jill of the Salesian Sisters. There was a large turnout of residents and carers from Nazareth House and the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.





Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leadership Group yet again volunteering to help and this time in the pouring rain!

The group were marshalling and organising the Primary Schools Cross Country Championships in Nether Pollok Park. This was one of many events that our pupils have attended and assisted with so far this year. We now seem to be in great demand for these events due the efficiency and expertise that our pupils are displaying. Obviously hard work and training from Mr Johnston is paying off.

Pity we don't get enough indoor events or dry days to help with!



Girls Footie Success

The story so far...

The girls' football team is currently competing in the U15 Scottish Shield. The girls have had two convincing wins beating Mearns Castle 9-0 (Deborah Ward 2, Erin McGinlay 2, Abby Kerr 2, Megan Lee, Carly Girasoli, Rachel Thompson,) and 14-1 against Duncanrig (Louise Robb 4, Deborah Ward 4, Carly Girasoli 2, Abby Kerr 2, Erin McGinlay, Rowan Andrew).

A number of our girls also took part in a football tournament at Toryglen on Fri 11th Dec. The girls had a fantastic performance with Team A finishing 3rd in the top league and Team B finishing 1st in the lower league, with both teams losing only two games throughout the whole day.

As always, the commitment that the girls have shown to the school team and their behaviour is second to none.



A big thank you and well done to all involved:

S1 – Megan Lee, Abby Kerr, Leigha McIlvenny S2 – Carly Girasoli, Jade Menzies, Rosie Watt, Jazmin Malcolm, Rachel Thompson
S3 – Deborah Ward, Erin McGinlay, Rebecca Ashton, Rowan Andrew S4 – Louise Robb, Jordan Shennan

School Rowing Club Revival

A number of pupils have taken up rowing on the River Clyde. So far up to 15 senior pupils have been along and have been taught to row.

The photograph is of Rowan Andrew from Third Year who, after only five weeks of rowing, competed in a 5 Kilometre race at Inverness.

Well done Rowan!





Enterprise News

Lourdes Social Entrepreneurs Give Back!

Our S4 Enterprise and Employability Pupils have created a Social Enterprise as part of their course work this year. A Social Enterprise is a business that is not all about profit but is there to support another cause. Our talented group of entrepreneurs have established a gap in the market for a stationery selling business in school. They have conducted market research about what their customers wants and needs and how best they could meet these. They have created their company, branding, ran advertising campaigns and sourced their suppliers of stock.

They have also decided what the social aim of their business is. They will be using all profits raised to support the homeless by working with Shelter Scotland. They will donate any money made but more than that, they want to work with Shelter Scotland to produce materials, information or workshops to help young people in schools understand what it means to be homeless and to try to remove any stigma attached.

On the 19th November the group successfully launched their business, *The Social Write*, in school. They made a tidy sum which will now be reinvested for their next set of products and also some will go to Shelter Scotland.

In February, the pupils will also be taking part in a Dragons Den event with Glasgow City Council, The Social Enterprise Academy and Glasgow Social Enterprise Network where they hope to secure £100 to develop their business further. Fingers crossed!

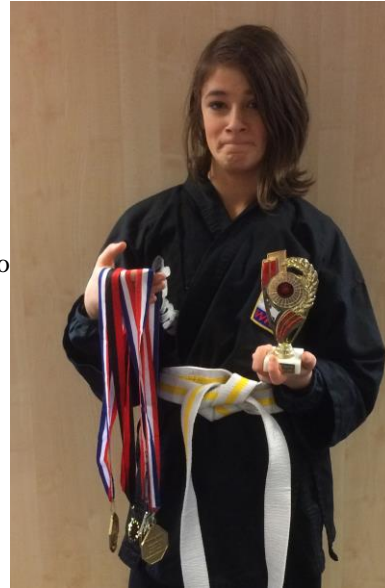


Pupil Achievements



Sporting Success for Yazmin

Yazmin Malcom (4P2) only joined Kuk Sool Won (a sport which covers all aspects of Korean Martial Arts) less than six months ago but has arrived with a bang! At the start of December, Yazmin travelled to Liverpool to compete in the largest Kuk Sool tournament. On her first day of competing, she won 2 copper medals and 1 silver medal. On her second day of competing, Yazmin came first in the sparring competition, seeing her receive a gold medal and a trophy.



Well done Yazmin. A huge success!

Piping Success for Scott

Scott McCormick from First Year demonstrated his piping skills by treating Fifth and Sixth year parents at the recent Awards Ceremony to a selection of songs from his repertoire.

Scott, who plays with the Govan Schools' Pipe Band, appeared on **1st January 2016** in a documentary on **BBC Alba at 8pm** which covered some of the events which the band have been involved over the past year. If you missed it, see it on BBC iPlayer!



Boys Football

The school has representation at U13,U14,U16 and U18 levels this year. Our Under 13 team are playing well in the league but unfortunately were eliminated recently from both the Castle Cup and the Scottish Shield competitions. Our Under 14 team continue to bounce back from a few early set-backs and had a tremendous result in the league by beating St Thomas Aquinas. Unfortunately, the recent bad weather has resulted in the cancellation of some games and this has not allowed them to build on the result. The Under 16 team are progressing well in the league having recently enjoyed a victory over local rivals, Rosshall Academy and they are involved still in the RS McColl cup.

The Lourdes Under 18 team are involved in all three competitions and have been achieving some fantastic results, remaining unbeaten this season. They very recently defeated Castlemilk High in the Cameronian Cup and can now look forward to what the draw brings them in the next round . The U18 team hope to build on their successes of the past couple of seasons and win some silverware.

In all teams, the enthusiasm shown by the boys has been fantastic. They show a real desire to play and to attend training. The only downside has been the recent adverse weather which has been frustrating as it has resulted in the postponement of games.

A big thanks must go to the Cooperative Funeralcare who recently made a very generous donation to help purchase strips for our school football teams.



Pupil Achievements

S1/S2 Cross Country Results



S1 Boys individual medals: -

1st Oliver Power 1P6.

2nd Ciaran McAllister 1P12.

3rd Jordan Todd 1P10.

S1 Boys team medals: -

1st 1P12 Ciaran MacAllister, Kieran Davies, Stephen Hope, Samuel McAvoy.

2nd 1P4 David Fletcher, Daniel Elliot, Kerr Brooks.

3rd 1P10 Jordan Todd, Nathan Brown, Hussain Ali Ahmad.

S1 Girls team medals: -

1st 1P1 Roisin MacEachan, Ciaralee Redmand, Nekrisha Noor.

S1 Girls individual medals : -

1st Roisin MacEachan 1P1.

2nd Cait Gallanagh 1P9.

3rd Niamh Irvine 1P4.

S2 Boys individual medals: -

1st Gary Cook 2P6

2nd Rock Moses 2P12

3rd Sean Ramsay 2P7

S2 Boys team medals: -

1st 2P10 Shaun Harley, Liam McGinnity, Shaheen Walizada.

2nd 2P7 Sean Ramsay, Jay-Edward Cummins, Jamie Appleby.

3rd 2P11 Tashen Rajakaruna, Dalina Loku Yaddehige, Drew Garry.

S2 Girls team medals: -

1st 2P5 Melissa Harvey, Courtnai Burns, Jennifer MacInnes.

2nd 2P11 Chloe McDonald, Suzannah McNulty, Taylor Johnson. Only two teams took part in the girls competition.

S2 Girls individual medals : -

1st Jade Menzies 2P4

2nd Chloe McDonald 2P11

3rd Ellie Mallon 2P12