

Lourdes Secondary School Easter Newsletter

March 2018



Dear Parent/Carer

This time of year is always incredibly busy at Lourdes as our Senior pupils prepare for their SQA exams. Staff have been working closely with pupils to help them achieve their academic goals and to maintain faith in their abilities. Our younger pupils have engaged in a variety of exciting learning experiences across the school and have been choosing their subject options for next session. We have also been welcoming our new S1 pupils into Lourdes through a series of transition events. Current indications are that the roll in S1 will be the biggest in recent years, with around 280 pupils. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our newest and youngest members of the community in May for their formal induction days. 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) will attend the Primary 7 Parents' Information Evening on Thursday 19th April. More details about these arrangements will be made available to parents early in the new term.

You may have already heard your child talking about RAKTIVISM this session. In February Lourdes Secondary School launched its first ever Raktivism week- a kindness scavenger hunt with over 100 items to attempt to increase our kindness towards others. This was a beautiful week with pupils and staff showing their gratitude towards each other and those in our local community. This was a tremendously successful and enjoyable week and I am certain it will become a regular feature in our preparation for Lent. Fr. David has said Mass in our Oratory every Tuesday throughout Lent, this has been packed each week with staff, pupils and local parishioners. We are very grateful to have had the opportunity to celebrate Mass together as we prepare for the celebration of Easter.

Thank you to parents for your support in ensuring our young people maintain high standards in our school uniform. I ask you to continue to support this by ensuring that pupils wear the school tie, completely black shoes or black trainers, dress black trousers or skirt and 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.

Term comes to an end on Thursday 29th March and school will dismiss at 2.30pm. Easter revision classes will run for senior pupils during the holidays. Full details can be found on the website. School resumes on Monday 16th April. On behalf of the pupils and staff of Lourdes Secondary I hope you enjoy a happy and restful Easter holiday.

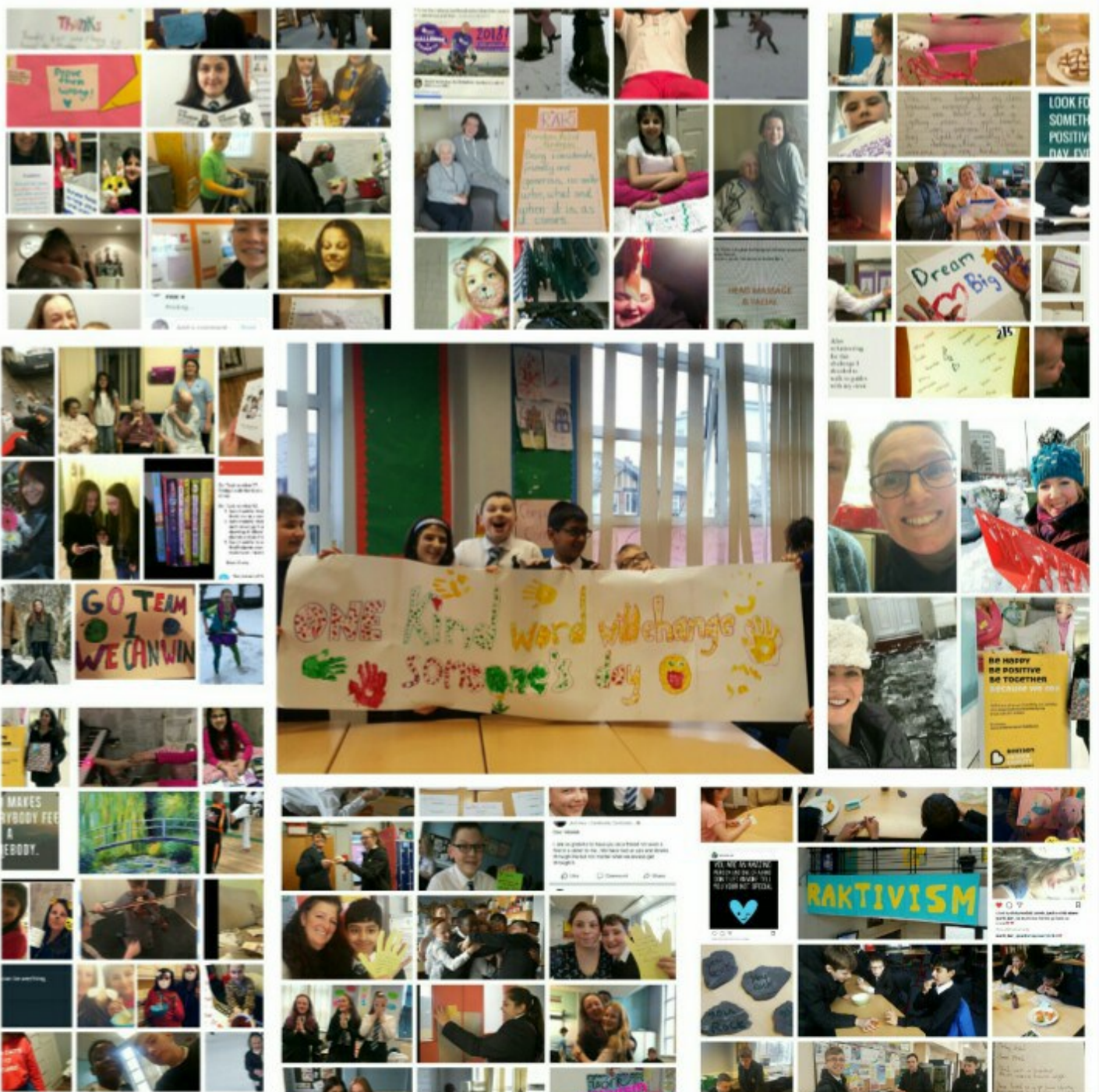
Best wishes

G McGuigan



RAKTIVISM@Lourdes

Congratulations to all S1-3 pupils who participated in RAKtivism week – a scavenger hunt with a difference. Instead of collecting items on a list, pupils were completing acts of kindness to tie in with Random Acts of Kindness day which happens in February. Pupils did a huge variety of activities: from making a family member a cup of tea; to telling a teacher what they mean to them; making care packages for people just diagnosed with cancer; and fundraising for local charities. As well as feeling good about themselves when completing tasks, pupils were also accruing points for each item they submitted. At the end of the week the points were totalled and the winning class were 1T10 – well done! 2nd place were 2T5 who were commended for their team effort, and the Learning Zone were 3rd. They have created a fabulous display in their corridor of all the tasks they completed. Special awards were given for pupils who tried particularly hard on an individual basis.





"Kindness is doing ordinary things with extraordinary love."

- RAKtivist

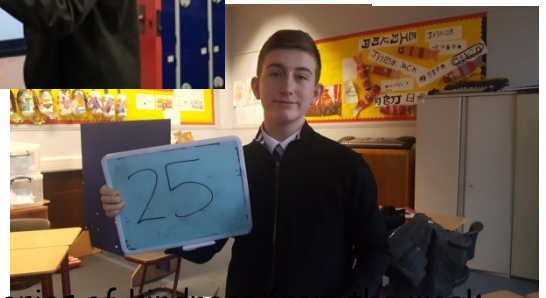
RAKtivism in the Learning Zone

The pupils in the Learning Zone are in small class sizes so were combined for this challenge and worked hard to do as many of the tasks as possible. The first two days of the challenge, S1-3 spent all their free time working hard. The first task S2 did was one of their most memorable and effective. The class went to Morrison's, bought and donated 10 items to the Food Bank.



"We liked going to the food bank in Morrison's to put in our donations. It was a challenge to find donations that were cheaper. The shops always put their expensive things out in obvious places so that people will just pick things up and buy them. The cheaper food was almost hidden. Luckily we found it. When we went shopping for the food bank it felt really good to help others".

The S3 pupils worked on several challenges. Chloe McAlpine carried out chores and jobs without being asked, helped Mrs Nicolson, shared food and made Miss Tiffoney a cup of tea. Jack was able to count the number of times he had said "Thankyou



On returning to school on Monday we heard fantastic stories of kindness from the weekend. Logan Kelly worked hard to dig out the local community centre so that people could gain access to its services. Jason Barrett helped move cars in the snow when they were stuck. Ciaran Hunter helped his dad after an injury with cooking and by walking the dogs for him. Mason McLeod helped a homeless person in the town centre with his friend. After trying new food in school, Logan started cooking new foods at home.

"I've noticed the young people being more thoughtful and kind"

Mrs Pollok SFLW

We were very proud of having achieved the Third Place in the Raktivism Scavenger Hunt and are continuing this throughout the rest of the year and beyond as best we can.



Creating a finger painted mural message "One Kind Word Will Change Someone's Day".



Everyone helps each other whenever we



We showed gratitude for our teachers and support staff in school



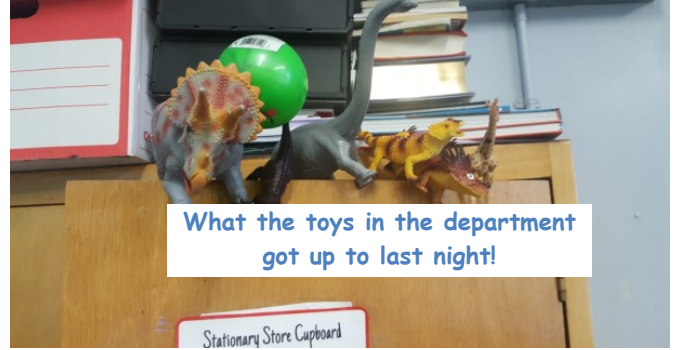
Try something new- Papaya and Radishes



Yoga at Mytime



Thanking our teachers



What the toys in the department got up to last night!

Miss Foy has started a Newspaper club at Lunchtime. Here is our first article written by a Learning Zone pupil

Random Act of Kindness

On Tuesday, a class was working on acts of kindness with a teacher called Miss Nicholson teaching pupils about kindness. And a new Jurassic World movie is coming in cinemas it's called Jurassic World.

Written by Logan Kelly.





CHARLES RENNIE MACKINTOSH

Artistic Bees



S1 Plan Bee Project meets Mackintosh at House for an Art Lover

Three S1 classes have been working on a beehive design competition. Pupils have researched Mackintosh's work and created designs that could be painted directly onto a real beehive!

The beehive is currently in Mrs Twaddle's art room and busy bees have been painting it at lunchtime and after school. 10 busy bees visited the House for an Art Lover to sketch the Mackintosh style and learn how to make painted stencils like the designer himself.

The beehive will be placed next to the walled garden at the House for an Art Lover. Everyone can go and visit the real bees at work making honey in the hive! Watch this space to try some of our very own honey in the coming months!

The project is funded by Plan Bee who are bee keepers and Visit Scotland who help to bring tourism to Scotland. 2018 sees Glasgow celebrate 150th years since Charles Rennie Mackintosh was born.

River City Project/BBC L.A.B project:

18 from S3 pupils were the lucky ones who took part in the River City/ BBC Lab project. This involved all pupils becoming either an Actor, Screenwriter or Crew member who collaborated in devising a short film for Mental Health Awareness. All pupils spent a considerable time working with professionals from the BBC and the end product is a fabulous short film which was premiered at the BBC studios Pacific Quay last month. It was filmed at Dumbarton Studios where River City is filmed. This has been tweeted and is available on-line:

www.bbc.co.uk/labuk

It will also become part of the Mental Health Awareness Festival in May. All participants enjoyed the experience and benefitted enormously from the experience.



RIVER CITY

Performing
Arts Faculty



Bon Appétit!

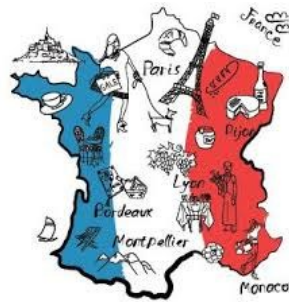


S2 pupils in French have been working extremely hard on the topic of Health and Wellbeing. They have been focusing on food and drink and the differences between Breakfast in France and in Scotland. We had a French breakfast and they loved trying some croissants and pain au chocolat!!



Modern Languages Awards

Miss Meechan and Head Boy Ciaran Byrne represented our department at the Glasgow City Council Modern Languages awards in February. We won 2 awards – 1 for our Partnership with Jurys Inn hotels and Ciaran won Young Language Ambassador of the year! Très bien!!!



Eiffel Tower Rewards Our classes this year have been racing each other to the top of the Eiffel Tower. Each class gets a reward when they reach the top so far Miss Meechan's 3.6 are in the lead! There is still plenty of time for each class to get the Reward at the top of the tower! Keep up the good work Boys and Girls!!

S3 Cinema Trip

Miss Fitzpatrick and Miss Meechan took a group of S3 pupils to the Glasgow Film Theatre to see a Joyeux Noel! They had a wonderful time and absolutely loved the movie!

GLASGOW FILM





Lourdes



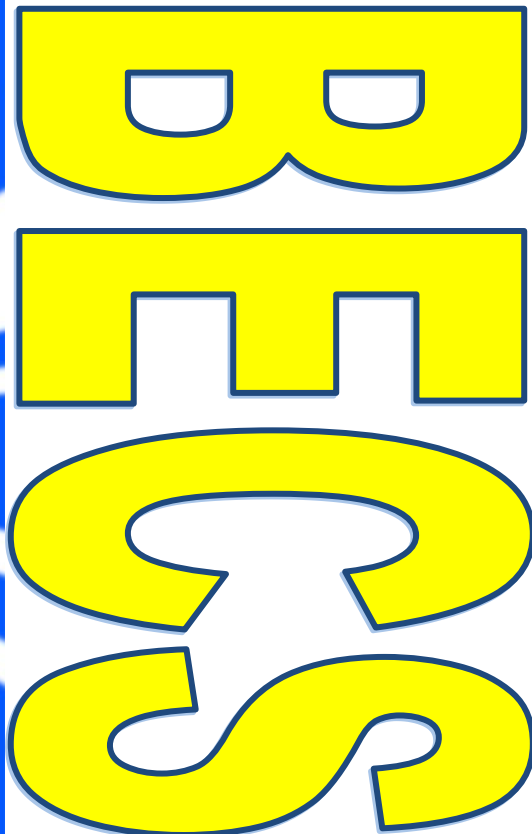
Computer Games Club

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 pupils, however the club is currently full but interested students can register their interest and be placed on our waiting list.

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

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



UK Bebras Challenge 2017



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.

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.

Junior – Lara Kemmett,

Intermediate – Nathan Brown,

Senior – Laura Stewart



"Cyber Skills Live"

S3 Computing Science pupils' have been working through a series tasks on the principles of ethical hacking in conjunction with Glasgow Clyde College and Skills Development Scotland.

Three sessions were streamed live into the classrooms and all pupils were fully engaged into the "hacking" of bank accounts. See our twitter feed for more details @Lourdes_BECS

Safer Internet Day 6 February 2018



Pupils across the whole school celebrated Safer Internet Day, by taking part in numerous events. Pupils wrote a pledge – ensure they take responsibility for making the internet a safer place. See the school website for Parental Guides.



DYW Partners



Ready, Steady, Girls Construct!

Ten of our S3 girls have been participating in an exciting Employability Programme in partnership with BAM Construction and Hub West Scotland. The ten week programme has introduced the girls to the world of construction and technology. The pupils have participated in industry site visits, work experience, college taster sessions as well as interactive workshops with industry professionals ranging from architects to quantity surveyors. Our celebration event is coming up soon where the pupils will be showcasing everything they have learned and undertaken during the programme.

Our Higher Business Management classes took part in the **Investment Challenge 2017** competing against various schools in Scotland.

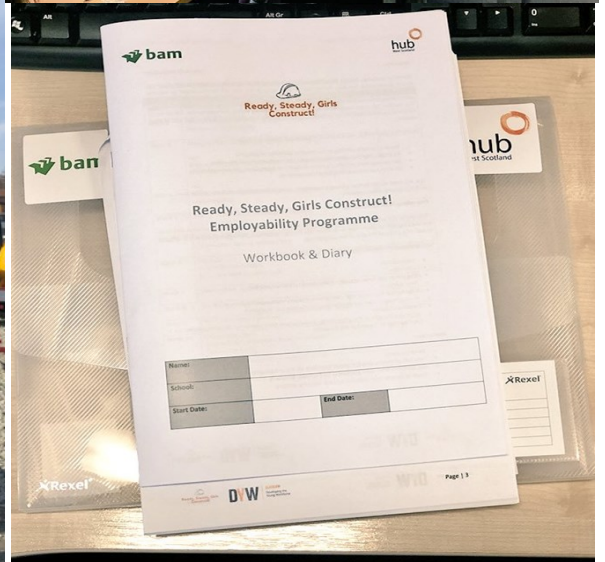
The Investment Challenge is set in a fictitious world financial market. In this fast-moving and exciting game of strategic thinking and pressured decisions, the competitors had to demonstrate many of the skills necessary for business life, including team-working, problem-solving and critical thinking. 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 a guest speaker, Lisa McEwan from BNP Paribas Securities Services who spoke to pupils about the role the finance industry plays in Scotland and the job opportunities that are available within the industry.

On the day of the live Challenge, **Amirt Singh** and **Declan McAree** were our winners with a respectable profit. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed this experience and we look forward to welcoming BNP Paribas back again to the school next year.



**BNP
PARIBAS**





Faculty of Science

Massive congratulations to Danny Menzies 5T6 who secured a place in the Scottish Space School 2018. Danny managed to successfully secure a place out of thousands of applicants across Scotland to make it into the final 100 spaces. From this 10 pupils will be selected to go on a visit to NASA later on in the year:

“I applied for Scottish Space School 2018 in January because I thought it would be an exciting and interesting opportunity to meet leading researchers and NASA representatives, and also to gain an insight into university life. I was thrilled when I was accepted into the programme as one of the 100 S5 pupils who will stay on the Strathclyde University campus for a week in June. I hope to gain experience which will be useful for getting into university and for pursuing a career in engineering “ – Danny Menzies



Saturday Science SQA Revision Classes.

We are absolutely delighted with the huge number of senior phase pupils we have attend our Saturday classes. In preparation for the final SQA we will be running Easter revision classes on the following dates:

Tuesday 3rd April : Chemistry, Mr McNaught

Tuesday 3rd April: Biology, Mrs Macdonald

Monday 9th April: N5 Physics, Mr Bastekin, 9am-12pm

Tuesday 10th April: N5 Physics, Mr Bastekin 9am-12pm

Saturday 5th May: Physics, Mr Low 9am-12pm.

Check our twitter page @lourdesscience for regular departmental updates.

Literacy THE DAY

NEWS TO OPEN MINDS

Some great news! Our school has just renewed its subscription to the online newspaper: The Day (<http://theday.co.uk/>). This fantastic resource is updated daily with all of the latest current affairs and developments across a range of topics. Reading articles from The Day will increase your child's knowledge and interests across and beyond the curriculum, and it will improve their vocabulary knowledge and literacy skills. It is easy to use, free and fascinating. Please encourage your child to

The English Department is very excited about this year's Carnegie Book Award! A number of S1-S3 pupils have volunteered to work with our fantastic librarian, Miss O'Neill, to read and adjudicate the 2018 shortlisted novels, and help to decide the winner. This is a great reminder for everyone in our learning community of how important and exciting reading is. Have a look on the Carnegie website at the excellent selection of novels that are in line for this year's award.



The School Library: An article written by Emma Jane Roberts and Alex Airens of S2 for the Easter Newsletter

The school library is a great place to be. The school library is on floor one between the maths department and the oratory. The person in charge and who is here to help you is Ms O'Neill. The services that are available are book lending, use of internet and word processing (for homework and general use), help search for books, order books, and she is good chat for book banter! Library volunteers can help with a number of things such as scanning books, returning books, putting books on the catalogue, shelving, creating book displays, and library projects.

It is open from Wednesdays to Fridays opening at 8.30am till start of school; at break it will be closed and lunch it is open from 13.20 till end of lunch and after school it is opened until 4.00.

Miss O'Neill has library cards for every pupil, for borrowing books. You can borrow a maximum of 3 books which you are allowed to keep for 2 weeks. Don't worry; you can get the book renewed 3 times. If a book is particularly popular, you will only be able to borrow the book for a week-with no renewals. If a book has been taken out you can reserve the book so no one else can get it before you.

You can also use your library card number to read ebooks and online comics, listen to audiobooks and get help with your homework. Ask Miss O'Neill for more information.

All pupils are required to have a library pass which helps them to use the library. If you lose your library pass, you can't use the library for a week (then you can get a new pass).

The librarian's email is gw16oneilkathleenmar@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Welcome Room News



WELCOME ROOM LIVES UP TO TITLE

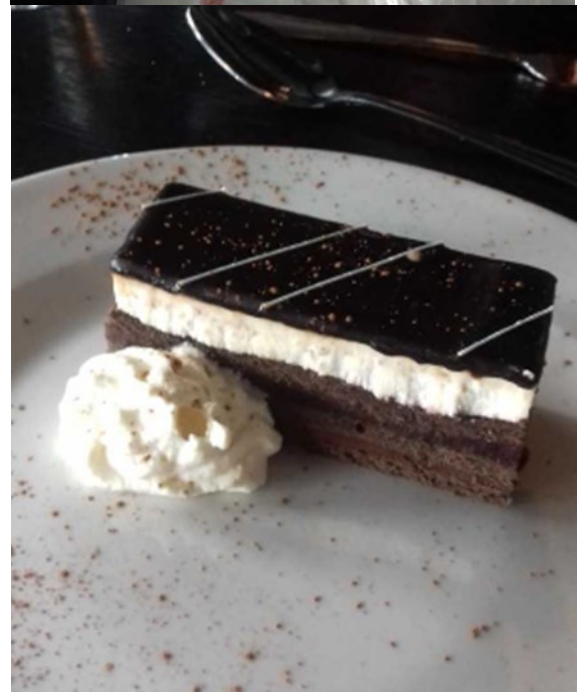
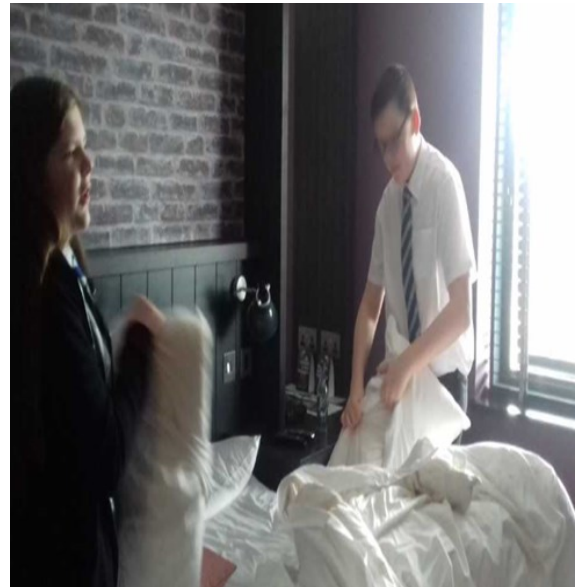
Welcome Room pupils recently planned and hosted a very successful parents and teachers coffee morning. Parents, carers and pupils attended an Easter themed get-together during interval on Friday 23rd March. This was the third such event in recent months. A Valentine's Day themed event in February was so enjoyable that pupils decided to make it a termly event; with a fourth planned for June to which members of the local business community and nearby Nazareth House are to be invited.



LOURDES PUPILS IN 'HOTEL TAKEOVER'

A number of first and second year pupils recently took part in what was billed as a 'hotel takeover'.

Pupils had the opportunity to visit the Village hotel in Ibrox and shadow members of hotel staff as they went about their day. Pupils experienced a range of jobs within the hotel including kitchen, front of house and housekeeping roles, before enjoying a delicious three course lunch which they had helped to prepare!





Technologies

Don't Waste a Drop

Three of our S1 pupils have been participating in an exciting STEM challenge for the past month. They are designing and creating a water pump, along with a poster, for a national competition at the **"Young Engineers and Science Clubs Scotland Celebration of STEM"** events in June! This has involved them testing various designs, as well as using their creativity, skills and knowledge to make an eye-catching pump design and poster.



We now have two cohorts of pupils completing their Duke of Edinburgh award, at Silver and Bronze level! Our Bronze group from last year worked hard and had a brilliant time on expedition in both Aberfoyle and Greenock. Our new Bronze group are already working hard and proving that they have what it takes!



Snow Stopping Them

Technical pupils continued to work hard during school closure, from S1 pupils expanding their knowledge of structures to senior pupils emailing for additional study!



PE Department

So far this year in the PE department at Lourdes we have had many different clubs and activities going on involving everyone from S1-S6. The highlights are as follows;

Gymnastics

The girl's gymnastics team competed this term at the Glasgow Schools Floor and Vault competition with Miss Purba. This involved competing against various Glasgow schools which was a great experience for them. They all performed excellent routines and vaults and despite not placing, they thoroughly enjoyed their first experience at a competition. For many of the girls, this was the first opportunity of taking part in a competition and they were a credit to the themselves and the school. They are very much looking forward to competing again next year.



Cross Country

A number of junior and senior pupils were selected to represent the school at the Glasgow Schools Cross Country Championships event in February at Netherpollok Park. Led by Miss Oldham, they competed against some of the top schools in Glasgow. Tsoanelo (S2) placed third in the junior boy's category and many of the other pupils finished within the top 20 out of around 100 in each race. This is the first time that the school has taken part in the Glasgow Schools Cross Country and all pupils had a great first experience of competing!

Dance

Well done to the girls dance club who competed at the City of Dance heats at Holyrood Secondary School on the 21st March. All the girls worked very hard to display a fantastic performance. A huge thanks to Taylor Doherty and Niamh Meechan for leading the dance club this year!



PE Department

Sports Leadership (S4/5/6)

This half of the year has involved the sports leaders working with and leading the primary schools in sessions in order to improve on their communication and leadership skills. P3 at Our Lady of the Rosary have been attending Lourdes on a Thursday and have taken part in various fun activities led by the sports leaders. This has been a very beneficial experience for the sports leaders and they have very much enjoyed helping the younger pupils participate in more PE.



Scottish Football Success

Carly Girasoli (4T5) was selected to represent Scotland U16 national team in the UEFA Development Tournament in York. Scotland finished third in the tournament, putting England out on penalties. Just to top off a fantastic tournament, Carly was selected of player of the match against Spain. A great achievement. Well done Carly!



Join the S1-S2 Rugby Team!

Catch the ball – catch the bug! We have first class fully qualified Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) coaches to develop our skills whether we are experienced players or complete beginners.

Congratulations to the S1/S2 team. We did brilliantly in the recent Glasgow Schools Under 14s tournament. We even impressed the Glasgow Warriors professional players who kindly took us for skills training sessions between games.

Training, matches and tournaments are after school on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome. Come and give it a try!



Basketball@Lourdes

We wish to pay tribute to Donald MacLeod who sadly passed away in February this year. Donald was the founder of the basketball teams in Lourdes Secondary and had huge success during the 15+ years he coached the teams, including a magnificent Scottish Cup win in 2006. He will be sorely missed by all at the school and in the wider community that he played such an important role in.



It has been another successful year so far for the basketball teams in the school. The under 16 team have reached another Glasgow Cup final which they will play against Shawlands Academy on 16th March. The same team are into the semi-final of the league where they play Hillhead at the “concrete palace” in Lourdes Games Hall on the 23rd March. The competition for places in the team is red hot with each player being able to stake a place in the starting 5 due to their ability levels. Our girls basketball team reached the semi-finals of the Glasgow Cup where they were defeated by St. Andrews but tried hard and competed in the game against a very good side. Well done to those girls that took part this year in our growing girls basketball at Lourdes.

The under 14 team has had a good year and are still in the league cup, recently playing St. Mungo’s Academy on the 22nd March. There has been a progression game by game in their play and understanding with some good wins against established basketball schools to help them gain even more confidence.

The under 18 team have fought hard in their games this year without managing to progress in the competitions. The boys have been role models for the younger ones to look up to which is one of the reasons why the school have been so successful over the years. Well done to those that took part in the games this year!

Dates for your diary

Summer Term 2018

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 16 April	Return to school for pupils
Thursday 19 April	Primary 7 Open Evening
Tuesday 24 April	SQA Mass for S4 – S6, 11:30am in Our Lady of Lourdes Church (Parents welcome)
Monday 30 April	SQA Exams begin
Tuesday 1 May	S1 Parents' Evening (5pm – 7pm)
Monday 7 May	May Day Holiday
Tuesday 8 May	In-Service Day
Wednesday 9 May	Return to school for pupils
Thursday 10 May	Ascension Thursday Mass, 12 Noon in Our Lady of Lourdes Church (Parents welcome)
Friday 25 May and Monday 28 May	May Weekend
Thursday 14 June	National Mass to Celebrate 100 Years of Catholic Education
Monday 18 June	Graduation Mass for S6 (6:30pm in school)
Tuesday 19 June	S2 Award Ceremony
Wednesday 20 June	S3 Award Ceremony
Thursday 21 June	S1 Award Ceremony
Tuesday 26 June	Last day of term (1pm Finish)



FireCloud
Faith.Education.Imagination

We are delighted that Firecloud will be performing a specially written performance for Lourdes Secondary on Holy Thursday. This will be a dramatic representation of the passion of Christ as seen through the eyes of his loved ones. Each voice in this creative performance offers a unique perspective on the person of Christ and their relationship to Him and to the faith he taught. The representation of each character is interwoven with questions that will encourage pupils to examine their conscience and reflect on their own relationship to Christ during Lent.