

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL - EASTER 2018



A message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to our action-packed Easter Newsletter! We have come to the end of another busy term at Notre Dame High School, and this week's Holy Week events have brought it to a most prayerful and appropriate conclusion; our S2 Youth Team demonstrated their commitment and leadership through their dramatisation of the Stations of the Cross, and staff and young people led us in Morning Prayer at the beginning of each day in the school Oratory. As always, our school

Chaplain, Canon Peter McBride, has served us faithfully this term through the celebration of weekly Mass and Ash Wednesday services.

I must make a special mention of our third year pupils who ensured that our 40th St. Patrick's Day treat was the best yet! The girls were an absolute credit to you and their school by the manner in which they embraced this opportunity to provide a fun, well organised and successful event for our local senior citizens. Already, I have received notes of thanks from our guests, each of whom left with a goodie bag of groceries, all of which were donated by you - sincere thanks.

Friday 23 March saw our third year pupils once again the centre of attention in the school's Youth Philanthropy Initiative final. Congratulations to our winning team, Clare Anderson, Sara Ali & Maha Dar for their thought-provoking presentation which saw their favourite local charity "Gladan" win the £3000 donation.

Not to be outdone, a large group of our S2 pupils volunteered to train as hosts when the Anne Frank exhibition visited our school in February. The girls gave a very moving and informative account of this remarkable young woman's life. On this same theme, Miss Thompson conducted our Choir beautifully as they performed two songs in Hebrew at a number of City events to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.

2018 is a significant year for Catholic Schools in Scotland as we celebrate the centenary of the 1918 Education Act. We have a number of events planned to celebrate this historic event with pupils, staff, parents, former staff and friends of Notre Dame - more to follow!

Finally, I wish to extend the prayers and good wishes of staff to our young people in S4 - S6 who will shortly embark on their SQA examinations, with a reminder of the support available to them during the Easter holiday at our study events - please encourage your daughter to attend. To our S6 pupils whose school careers will soon come to an end, thank you for your contribution to our school community and for your role as ambassadors. I encourage you to continue your commitment to others, charities and the wider community. Good luck in the next stage of your learning journey and remember that the staff and I are always here to provide support when required.

I wish you all a Happy Easter and an enjoyable holiday.

Best wishes

Rosie Martin

Head Teacher



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School Holidays 2017-18

- Easter Holiday - Fri 30 March - Fri 13 April (Inclusive)
- May Bank Holiday - Mon 7 - Tue 8 May
- Mid Term - Fri 25 May - Mon 28 May (inclusive)
- Summer Break - School closes Tue 26 June

Parking at School Gates

Please remember that it is illegal to park on the zig-zag lines outside the school.

Due to congestion in the surrounding area, parents who collect their children will find it easier to meet with their child a short distance from the school. Please be advised that you must not stop your car in the middle of the road causing inconvenience to other drivers, and please be courteous and considerate to local residents.



SCIENCE

Parental Partnership

Partnership working is an important aspect of our success in Notre Dame High School. As parents you show a keen interest in your child's education by participating in many events enabling us to work together to ensure all children achieve their full potential. The list is extensive but here are a few examples. Events such as:

- Parents' Evenings
- Information and Options Evenings
- Welcome Evenings
- Awards Ceremonies
- Concerts
- Workshops
- Masses

Your views and involvement are essential and very much appreciated. We have a large and active Parent Council and if you wish to make any contributions to their work, please contact Mrs. Martin on 0141 582 0190.

School Improvement Plan

Thanks to parents who contributed to the Improvement Plan through our consultation process. Copies of the Improvement Plan are available for any parent from the school office. Our Improvement Plan Priorities for next session are:

- Raising Attainment, and recording wider achievement
- Further developing Curriculum for Excellence
- Meeting the needs of all learners

Standards & Quality Report

Our Standards & Quality Report is produced every year by the Senior Leadership Team and describes the strengths of the school. Copies of the full report for 2016-17 are available from the school office and on the school website.

Child Protection

All staff in our school participate in an annual training event covering Child Protection issues in August of each academic session. The school has a policy on matters of Child Protection and clear guidelines and procedures to follow should a concern be raised.

What to do if you are concerned?

If you are worried about a child or young person, speak to someone. This might be a health visitor, nursery staff, teacher, GP, social worker, police officer or children's reporter.

We are entirely committed to ensuring that everyone takes responsibility for protecting young people and our own Child Protection Coordinator is Mrs Henderson, DHT.

Beatson Institute Visit

As part of their preparations for Advanced Higher Sciences and careers in STEM areas, 5 lucky 5th year pupils attended the annual Beatson Institute open evening. Here they had the chance to meet staff members from PhD students to clinicians and discover the range of cancer research engaged in at the institute. After fascinating talks from a variety of students and professionals, Noor Belrabi, Sufia Ahmed, Priscilla Adupong, Kainat Arshad and Eve Kitcher had the chance to tour the research laboratories. Using microscopes (totalling in excess of £1 million) to the wonder of cancer cell culturing was an motivating experience to the group. They will be in these labs one day!



S1 Science Club

The first year science club continues to run during Tuesday lunchtime. Mr Wright works with around 30 of our young learners and has them making everything from Elephant's Toothpaste to Volcanoes.



Good luck

Best of luck to 8 of our S5 students who have applied to take part in the Nuffield Bursary scheme this summer. The girls put a lot of work into their application forms and our hope is that some of them are successful.

Mrs Scrimgeour and 2T2 are continuing to work on their boat designs with engineers from BAE systems.

Success

Well done to **Pati Alonso** who was successful in her application to the Scottish Space School 2018. Pati will take up residence at Strathclyde University for five days in June where she will work with scientists from NASA and various other universities as well as young people from across the country.

S3 Chemical Ambassadors - Five of our S3 learners have been working with Mr Wright and a post-graduate student from Strathclyde University to hone not only their chemistry knowledge but also their presentation skills. The young people have developed an experiment which looks at the possibility of using a lightweight sludge as body armour. Ketsia, Aysha, Riyan, Hamna and Tarndeeep will present to classes in the school as well as visit our local primaries in the summer term.

Congratulations to **Manisha Waterston** from S6 who won University Of Oxford Engineering Innovator Prize for her "Music for the Eyes" project combining maths, physics, programming and acoustics. Manisha attended The Big Bang Competition (UK Young Scientists and Engineers 2018) at the NEC Birmingham.



DEVELOPING YOUNG WORKFORCE

Multiplex Competition at Glasgow University

This March nine of our S3 pupils are taking part in a Multiplex Construction competition to design a new building for Glasgow University. The project was launched in November 2017 and the students, alongside six other Glasgow schools were given the challenge of designing a new state of the art teaching and learning hub for Glasgow University. The girls visited the site at University Avenue to inspect the space and learn more about the challenges of building and construction from the Multiplex construction workers. They also paid a visit to the Wolfson Medical Building to see some of the hi-Tech learning spaces that Glasgow University have recently invested in. The students will present their project designs at Glasgow University to a panel of experts on Wednesday 28th March.



Foundation Apprenticeship Success Story

We are very proud of our S5 pupil Rabiya Sikander, who has been seen on the back of the Metro, STV live and posters at Glasgow Central as part of #ScotAppWeek18. Rabiya started her mechanical engineering apprenticeship last August at City of Glasgow College. Students in S5 and S6 can choose a Foundation Apprenticeship as part of their option choices to gain a qualification similar to a Higher. It is a qualification that combines college style learning with work placements. Rabiya felt that the benefits of the course were that, "The Foundation Apprenticeship has made me realise that by getting a head-start in mechanical engineering at school, I can do lots of different things. It opens a gate to a wide variety of options." If any parents or students are interested in finding out more about foundation apprenticeships please contact Ms McQuillan.



Morgan Stanley CV Workshop

Iain from Morgan Stanley came in to deliver a CV Workshop to S4 students. The session included tips and important information on career skills such as: CV Overview, CV Styles, how to make your CV stand out, CV order, Using descriptive words and phrases, creating a personal statement, Information building (gathering work experience, volunteer experience etc.)

The students found the session really beneficial with starting their own CVs and with writing personal statements when applying for Foundation Apprenticeships and University.



SCIENCE

We're looking forward to:

S2 SMARTSTEM

Twenty of our S2 learners will take part in this event at Anniesland College shortly after we return from the Easter holiday.

S1 Salters Chemistry Festival

A group of S1 learners will represent the school at the Chemistry Festival in May. The festival takes place in the Chemistry labs at Glasgow University and will have a CSI theme.

Senior Phase Pupils

There are Easter Revision Classes on, Supported Study has been running all year, you have excellent notes as well as numerous resources on GLOW groups/teams. Work hard! One big final PUSH!

See you when we come back in a couple of weeks.

MATHEMATICS

- Congratulations to Ellie McLure and Shritama Datta (S3). They both achieved a Bronze Award in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge competition. Ellie also achieved the 'Best in School Award' too.
- A number of our S2 pupils will be taking part in the Junior Challenge at the end of April.
- Some of our lower school pupils will be taking part in the national SUMDOG competition before Easter.
- The computer gaming club is now up and running on Thursdays at lunchtime with Mr Pass.
- Mr Pass has been visiting St Ninian's Primary School, working with P7 pupils as part of our transition programme. Further visits will take place at Notre Dame Primary in the Summer term.
- Supported Study continues to run on Mon or Tues /Fri for Higher maths and Tues/Fri for N5 maths.
- A number of maths staff are looking forward to working with S4-6 pupils over the Spring Break as part of the school's Easter Revision Programme.
- Reminder that N5 and Higher pupils can access a variety of maths revision resources via the GLOW platform on Microsoft Teams.
- The maths dept. are now on twitter. Pupils and parents can follow us @ndhsmaths.

Pupil Support

If you have any concerns or comments regarding your daughter's progress or welfare please do not hesitate to contact her Pastoral Care teacher shown below:



Pupil Support: Mrs C McCabe
Iona: Mrs P Kelly
Melrose: Ms L Dunn
Trinity: Mrs M McLaughlin / Ms McQuillan

SfL/EAL

Mrs McCabe manages all Support for Learning/EAL matters, and also has Pastoral responsibility for a number of pupils across the house groups. Our Deputies / Year Group Heads are also available to contact:



S1/ 2: Mrs Henderson
S3/4: Sarah Watt (commencing May '18)
S5/6: Mr D. O'Neill

Vision, Values and Aims

A huge "Thank You" to all of our staff, pupils and parents for their contribution to our refreshed Vision, Values and Aims statement, below. This important piece of work truly describes our school community and highlights our hopes and aspirations for the young people we serve.

Vision

We are Notre Dame, a Catholic High School, welcoming those from all faiths and backgrounds. We provide the highest quality education and support in a community which is inspired by our Foundress, St. Julie Billiart.

Values

Through the love and compassion of our good God, we nurture growth and enrich the lives of our young people. By displaying mutual trust, respect and tolerance, all pupils are treated equally and with fairness, creating a community where everyone is encouraged to realise their God-given talents.

Aims

Staff, pupils, parents and partners work together to achieve the following:

- To benefit herself, her family and society, each individual will be provided with what she needs to realise her full potential in;
 - academic studies
 - wider achievement opportunities
 - spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing
- Staff are provided with the tools and skills to carry out our vision
- Each pupil will make a positive contribution to society, both now, and in the future
- All young people will reach their planned destination beyond school, meeting their individual goals and aspirations.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY TREAT - FRIDAY 16th MARCH

For the past 40 years S3 Notre Dame High School pupils have been entertaining the senior citizens of our local parishes during the month of March. Weeks of preparation by pupils and staff in the form of fundraising, rehearsing, baking, and much creativity go into delivering a truly enjoyable afternoon for all.

This is an intergenerational event that allows our young people to build confidence and develop communication skills. Our pupils work in teams to decorate and set up the assembly hall, they provide hospitality for our guests, preparing and serving food and refreshments. Behind the scenes, our Art Department run competitions for pupils to design tickets and to decorate the walls of the hall with colourful celtic designs. Our Home Economics department work with their classes prior to, and on the day, to provide delicious cakes, tasty sandwiches and hot sausage rolls for our visitors. Many weeks of rehearsals with our school orchestra were very much appreciated. It was a delight for our guests to listen to beautiful Irish songs including a harp solo from Maggie Ewins, S2. We always enjoy the sing alongs and a big thank you also to Bernard, a member of the parish who sang unaccompanied for us. This year, we were joined by girls from St Ninian's Primary, to perform Scottish Country Dancing reels which lifted our spirits no end. Our own Kenidy Ferguson, S2, and Miss McCorry performed a graceful and energetic Irish dance.

Thanks to the generous donations from pupils and staff. We were able to give almost everyone a raffle prize and all of our guests were given a bag of shopping to take home! Every year we receive cards to express the gratitude that this joyful occasion brings to the senior citizens and parishioners in our community. The pleasure is all ours and we look forward to seeing you all again next year.



Song sheets and Ticket Design Winners

S3 classes in both Art & Design and Graphics have been working to prepare for this year's St Patrick's Day treat. The Graphics pupils competed to produce this year's invitation and songbook cover, whilst the Art & Design pupils produced the wall displays and decorations for the hall. This year our congratulations go to Lauren Cross and Ellie McClure who produced the winning entries.



Well Done girls!

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Young Ambassadors

As usual our Young Ambassadors have had a very busy term organising school events and clubs. Some of the girls have been helping out with associated primaries running clubs and classes. They recently supported our Active Schools Co-ordinator who was running the Sports Star event at Maryhill sports centre.



School of Rugby

The girls are continuing on with a successful year of rugby. They have represented the school at a number of tournaments this term showcasing their skills and showing off their new kit! They have been working hard developing their skills both here at school and at training down at Scotstoun, home of The Glasgow Warriors and Scotland ladies. The girls formed part of the guard of honour at the start of the 6 Nations Scotland Ladies match against Wales. We have our curricular rugby on a Monday morning and training for all year groups on a Tuesday after school. New players are always welcome!!



Authentic Dance Crew

It has been so much fun being part of the Authentic Dance crew. We cannot believe this is our last year representing ND. We love dance and hope the rest of our crew continue on next year with new recruits. We are competing in Glasgow City's Dance heats at Holyrood this term and will hopefully get through to the finals in June!



Maame, Yvette & Fanta S6

Squash

It has a busy year for the girls involved in squash with some classes going down to our associated squash club, Scottish Squash and Racket Club in Maryhill for lessons. The girls who have been involved in the squash development programme had their 2 minutes of fame in the limelight. They had great fun being filmed and interviewed for a Scottish Squash promotional video for girls do squash campaign.



<http://www.scottishsquash.org/girls-squash-campaign-launched-notre-dame-high-school/>

Sirens Netball Programme

15 of our S3 pupils were involved in the Scottish Sirens Netball programme this term and represented the school at the Sirens Netball Schools Festival.



FASHION SHOW

This year marks 100 years of Catholic education which we took as an opportunity to celebrate the school's vast cultural diversity.

We held a cultural fashion show on the 24th of February, with over 25 countries such as Ghana, Pakistan, and Spain, represented by pupils and staff. Despite being a Catholic school, it was amazing to see so many Muslims willing to participate in the show which allowed us to share each others' religions and traditions. The fashion show was fully organized by the sixth years which turned out to be a great success. We were very honoured to have the BBC News in that day to film bits of our fashion show for Notre Dame being an all girls' school. It was an amazing opportunity for those in the wider community to see how much Notre Dame thrives as an all girls' school and how we are so blessed to have such a rich diversity within our school community.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Notre Dame has embraced the world of Social Media and we regularly use Twitter and Youtube to communicate with our pupils, Parishes and the wider school community. Here are the links to our pages:

Twitter: @ndhsglasgow
YouTube: www.youtube.com/ndhsglasgow



Pupil Absence Reporting Line

Thank you for your continued support in helping make Notre Dame High a valued and successful participant.

Please continue to report absence to the Pupil Absence Reporting Line on 0141 287 0039.

ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Mackintosh - The Innovator

If Charles Rennie Mackintosh were alive today what design projects would he be involved in?

Well that's the task set to our current S3 Graphic Communication pupils who are taking part in a city wide competition titled 'Mackintosh - The Innovator'.

During this competition our girls are required to walk, talk and think like 'Toshie', and develop a range of design proposals based on their investigations on the man himself.

On a recent visit to the launch of the competition at 'The Lighthouse' our pupils experienced first hand some of Mackintosh's great legacy and were thoroughly impressed with the wide range of designs on display. Here are some of our pupils on their way to the competition launch and others gathered on the iconic Lighthouse stairwell.



Follow the ADT Dept on Twitter!

Our Art, Design & Technology department now have their own Twitter page. Follow them for the latest news from the department, including competition entries, pupil work and excursions. @NDHSDesignDept



ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Competitions

S2 pupils have been attending our lunch time competition club, where they have an opportunity to experiment with various drawing techniques and submit their artwork to national competitions. Maire Sinclair, Luna Rojas Vesga, Hannah McRae and Hajra Hussain, all submitted their art work to the 2018 John Byrne Award, which had a record number of entries this year! Pupils are now working towards the Tesco Bank Art Competition, for which they must respond to the theme: Energy. Watch this space!



EXPRESSIVE ARTS - MUSIC

SQA Performance Examinations

All pupils presented for performance in National 5, Higher have just performed their programme of music with great success, again, this year. Thank you to all our amazingly talented instructors who inspire and prepare pupils so well for exams. I am very proud of all our musicians in the Senior Phase. Congratulations!



Now, enjoy Easter, but remember to start your studying for the Understanding Music listening exam, as this will help increase your overall mark.

Glasgow Music Festival

Our first time entering the orchestra to this event, went very well. They played two pieces. I am so proud of the orchestra as their sound continues to develop so well. They achieved a score of 83/100 for their efforts on the day.

Music Groups

To all in the Orchestra / Vocal Group / Woodwind Ensemble/Guitar Group/String Ensembles- well done and please continue to be part of a music group, as this helps with your performance skills and your musical development.

A fond farewell

We say a fond goodbye to our amazing student Ms Kerr. She has been teaching with us from January to March, and the pupils will really miss her.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CARITAS

This year twenty-five 6th year girls chose to take part in the Caritas Award. This Award works on developing your individual faith through volunteering in school and in your local faith community. Through working towards gaining this award we were encouraged to explore our feelings about faith and God through short essay tasks and discussions in class. Many girls also became a lot more involved in the school community through helping in RE classes, Mary's Meals, Justice and Peace Scotland and fundraising for charity. Outside school we volunteered in our local churches and mosques where we took part in a large range of activities. A group of girls also volunteered in the Café Simon for the homeless which was an eye-opening experience for them. We also volunteered to take part in the Christmas bus run for St Margaret's Hospice. The Caritas experience was incredible and allowed us to become more involved in our school and outside community whilst developing faith connections and realising just what faith means to each of us.

Emaan Basat S6



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Catholic Education Week

The theme of this year's Catholic Education Week in February was "Serving the Common Good". BGE and Senior Phase pupils focussed on Catholic Social teaching in RE classes. All hands on board for the paper bag challenge!



High Schools Mass

A number of our pupils and staff attended the Catholic High Schools Mass in St. Andrew's Cathedral on the 1st February as part of Catholic Education Week.



Justice and Peace Scotland

Just at the end of last term, Justice and Peace Scotland visited the school, promoting the "Give me 5" campaign. Dorothy Maclean (former pupil) of J and P Scotland helped deliver workshops to our S1 pupils.



Praying for Peace

On Friday 23rd February we marked the world day of prayer and fasting for peace in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Pupils from our various Youth Teams led us in a beautiful prayer service before the start of the school day.

