

Notre Dame High

Christmas Newsletter



A Message From Our Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is my pleasure to introduce our Christmas Newsletter which brings to an end the first full term of this session – and what a busy end eventful time we have enjoyed!

The ongoing implementation of Glasgow's Connected Learning programme saw our school as the first in the City where all young people and staff were provided with iPads to support the learning process. It is inspiring to see how our community has embraced the opportunity these bring to make learning more enjoyable and fun, and the additional support it is providing for young people with particular needs. We could not have done it without you, our Parents and Carers; your attendance at the induction evenings and the support you are providing at home is helping pupils to realise the potential these devices provide. The New Year will see the training programme we have devised for staff and pupils continue.

Our commitment to realising the rights and views of our young people is reflected in our successful application for the Rights Respecting Schools Bronze award and already, staff and pupils are working towards the next stage – Silver! Our Pupil Council is a key vehicle for promoting communication with pupils and following consultation with all year groups, we have implemented a revised, more streamlined model. This is proving effective in allowing pupils to raise and discuss issues most important to them. Our new weekly Pupil Bulletin is shared with all pupils through Microsoft Teams and highlights activities and opportunities which may be of interest.

Most notably this term, we have seen a monumental decision which will impact on the future, but not the heritage, of our school. In August 2021, we will welcome both girls and boys to our school community and this brings an opportunity for us to share our inspirational learning environment with young people from our local area and across Glasgow. Each day provides an opportunity to delight in our young people's success but I must highlight my pride in how they conducted themselves throughout the recent consultation process. At school, in the local community and in the large number of media articles which featured the school, the girls shared their views in an articulate, mature and considered fashion, highlighting their passion for their school.

Please enjoy the wide range of articles contained inside and, on behalf of all our staff, I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a successful 2020. I look forward to working with you in shaping the continued success of Notre Dame High School.

Rosie Martin
Head Teacher



Notre Dame High School

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SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2019/20

Christmas and New Year – School closes at 2.30pm on Thursday 19 December and Returns on Monday 06 January

February Mid-Term Break – Friday 07 February 2020 (In-Service day)
Monday 10 - Tuesday 11 February 2020
Wednesday 12 February 2020 (In-Service day)

Spring – School Closes at 2.30pm on Friday 3 April and returns on Monday 20 April.

May Bank Holiday – Monday 08 May and Tuesday 11 May (Inclusive)

Mid Term Break – Friday 22 May until Monday 25 May (inclusive)

Summer Break – School closes at 1pm on Wednesday 24 June

DEVELOPING IN FAITH

St Julie Billiart – 50 Years a Saint!

Wednesday 19 June 2019 was an historic date in our Notre Dame heritage – it marked 50 years since our Foundress, Julie Billiart, was canonised, and as a member of this special “club”, we enjoyed celebrating alongside the other ND schools from around the UK.

Mr O'Neill and Ms McQuillan travelled to Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral with 12 students to participate in a celebratory event, hosted by the City's Archbishop, Malcolm McMahon.



Catholic Schools: Good for Scotland

DEVELOPING IN FAITH

St Julie Billiart – 50 Years a Saint!

The Headteacher had the pleasure of accompanying a group of 44 pupils and staff on a 5-day pilgrimage to Rome, where they too celebrated with pupils from around the UK, at the Church of Sant' Alfonso. Members of our school choir brought the event to life with their angelic singing. We enjoyed a trip to the beautiful town of Frascati before the wonders of Rome itself, including the Sunday Angelus—Pope Frances even gave us a special mention!



St. Margaret of Scotland Hospice

Each Christmas, we are delighted to support the fundraising work of this local charity, which provides palliative care and support for families in our local area. Our S6 pupils, supported by Mr O'Neill, Mrs Watt and Mrs Henderson, participated in the Christmas Bus Collection, and even on the last day of term, our S2 pupils continued this collection in the City Centre – well done to all!



DEVELOPING IN FAITH

St Vincent de Paul Food Bank Collection

We are delighted to have such an active SSVP group and this November, students have been asked to donate stationery items which will go to support childrens' education overseas. The group also ran a very successful food bank appeal for families in need around Glasgow, as well as organising a food collection for St. Peter's parish St. Vincent de Paul group.

Some of our SSVP group
with Anne Marie McGovern
from St. Peter's parish



Notre Dame to Notre Dame!

Following a very successful fundraising cycle from our school to Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris during their summer holiday of 2016, a group of our staff undertook another gruelling challenge in July this year.

This time their journey began at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris before cycling to the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Pisa, via the Basilica of Notre Dame in Nice! Covering 940 miles of road over a 14 day period, the three staff raised over £2800 for Mary's Meals (and picked up some blisters along the way!).

Congratulations to Mr Hegarty, Mr Harte and Mr Cavanagh for their determination and commitment to this worthy charity.

Catholic Schools: Good for Scotland



DEVELOPING IN FAITH

Scottish Interfaith 2019

Our S2 interfaith group participated in an inter schools faith project, organised by Interfaith Scotland. Jia Rehan, Mercedes Richter, Amy Fuller, Rina Wasim and Julia Rigano visited St. Aloysius Church and the Synagogue at Garnethill, the Sikh Gurdwara, Om Hindu Mandir and the Faith Museum. They carried out research, alongside S2 pupils from St Roch's Secondary and Holyrood Secondary. They presented their findings at year group assemblies and made an interfaith chain for display around the school.



Red Wednesday 2019

Once again NDHS supported Aid to the Church in Need through our prayers and fundraising. Pupils wore a hint of red, in remembrance of those suffering for their faith throughout the world. Morning Prayer was led by our S6 Caritas class.



DEVELOPING IN FAITH

November, Month of the Holy Souls

Once again we had our annual display of “candles” in the school foyer area, remembering the souls of the faithful departed.

S6 Retreat

Thank you to the Salesian Sisters @urspaceglasgow for leading our S6 students in their retreat days. The focus of the retreat was faith witness and leadership.



DEVELOPING IN FAITH

S1 class visits to St.Peter's

As part of the S1 Welcome Unit (including the Mass of Welcome) all classes were given a guided tour of St. Peter's earlier in the term. Thank you to Canon McBride and Deacon Jim for being such knowledgeable hosts!



St Therese Relics

A group of S6 Caritas pupils visited the relics of St Therese of Lisieux at St Andrew's Cathedral Glasgow. This was truly a blessed time for our country and Archdiocese.



BUSINESS EDUCATION AND COMPUTING SCIENCE

S2 ENTERPRISE

2m1 for their Enterprise class this year, created Recipe Books which they then sold for their chosen charity. There is recipe book for food and one for baking, both recognising the diversity of the class with recipes from around the world, including Asia, Greece, Italian and Portugal. The girls worked well together to get the job done and sell at the Christmas Fair. There are few left so get your orders in quickly before we run out...!



KINDNESS CLUB

The Business and Computing Department ran an informal Kindness Club to facilitate friendships and positive relationships whilst making products for the Christmas Fair. This was a huge success and everyone felt the benefit of being kind to each other and raising money.

S2 BUSINESS MASTERCLASS

Mr Coll's S2 Masterclass have been working extremely hard in preparation for the Christmas Fayre. S2 developed their leadership skills to ensure they were successful in completing their Christmas products. As a result of making Hot Chocolate Cones, Dog Cones and personalised Candy Canes the pupils raised over £100.00



BUSINESS EDUCATION AND COMPUTING SCIENCE

YPI

The Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) is an active citizenship programme which empowers our young people to make a difference in their local communities while developing a range of skills. Each participating school, each year is responsible for directing a £3000 YPI grant to a local charity through a unique programme of teamwork, research and competition.

The YPI Launch for S3 took place on Tuesday 27 August and since then, our S3 pupils have organised a range of events to raise funds for their chosen charity. There has been car washing, a cinema afternoon and dodgeball all organised by the pupils.

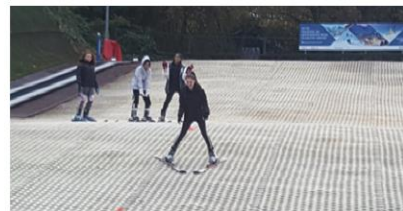


Notre Dame Ski Trip

22 girls from S1-S3 are going on a ski trip to Pila, Italy on 25 January to 31 January. To ensure they can ski and get the most out of their trip, they have been going to lessons on the dry slopes at Bellahouston for the last 6 weeks.

To raise funds for the trip, the girls sold ice lollies in the summer and have done bag packing in Tesco on 2 days in the last few weeks.

They are all so looking forward to the skiing and the apres ski but not so much the cold weather!



BUSINESS EDUCATION AND COMPUTING SCIENCE

Computing

Our girls have been very busy this term, learning about many different aspects of computing.

S1 – Computer components, Digital Literacy and Women in Computing.

We learnt about different parts of a computer, how they work and what parts of the body they resemble.

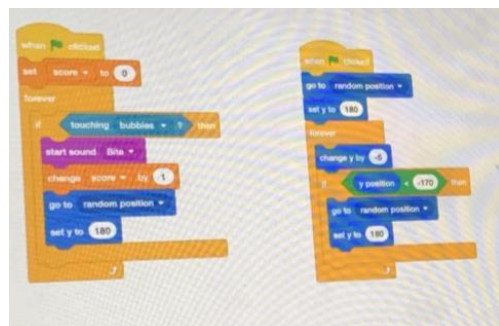
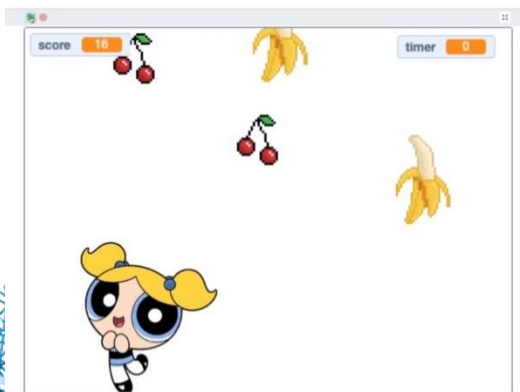
We also learnt about aspects of Digital Literacy such as how to be a responsible digital citizen and the advantages and disadvantages of social media.

Finally, we did some research to find out about some of the inspiring women in computing. Some of the women had some very interesting stories and have created a range of computing inventions such as the COBOL programming language and WI-FI.



S2 – Developing Scratch skills, building our own games in Scratch

Our S2s have spent time building up their Scratch skills, firstly by familiarising themselves with the Scratch programming language and then by developing analysis, design, and implementation skills by planning and then building their own Scratch games.

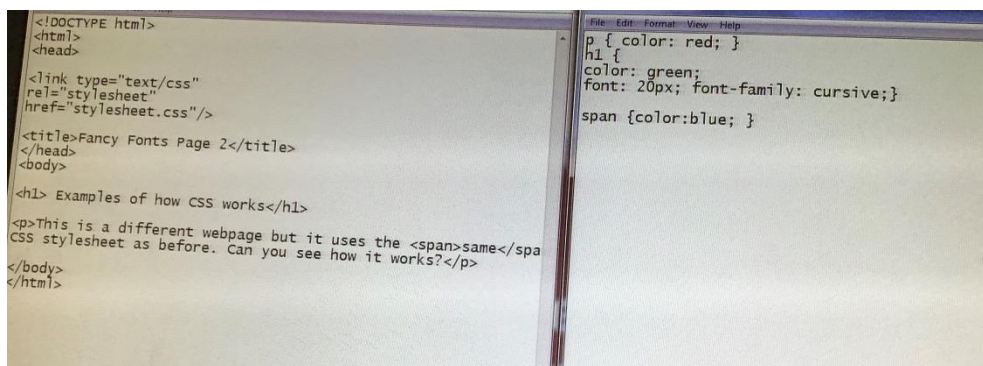


BUSINESS EDUCATION AND COMPUTING SCIENCE

Computing

S3 – Developing HTML skills, learning about Web Design and Development

S3 have moved on from learning software design and development skills using Visual Basic and are now focusing on Web Design and Development where we are learning how web pages are structured; what CSS is, and how to create web sites using HTML.



```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>

<link type="text/css"
rel="stylesheet"
href="stylesheet.css"/>

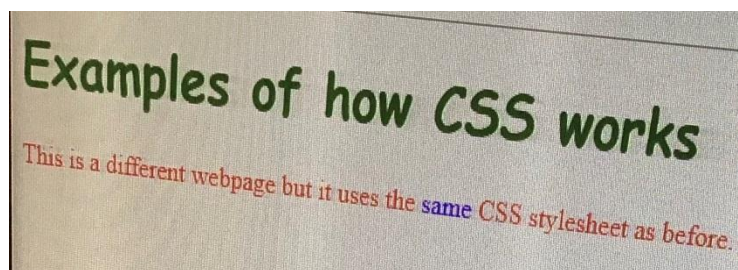
<title>Fancy Fonts Page 2</title>
</head>
<body>

<h1> Examples of how CSS works</h1>

<p>This is a different webpage but it uses the <span>same</spa
CSS stylesheet as before. Can you see how it works?</p>

</body>
</html>
```

```
File Edit Format View Help
p { color: red; }
h1 {
color: green;
font: 20px; font-family: cursive; }
span {color:blue; }
```



S4 – Preparing for, and sitting the National 5 Computing Prelim

S4 have worked very hard this hard term as we have worked our way through the practical and theory elements of Software Design and Development and Database Design and Development. The girls have practised various different exercises and past papers and exam style questions.

We will move on to cover the final elements of Computer Systems and Web Design and Development in the New Year.

MATHS

Follow the Maths Department on Twitter @ndhsmaths

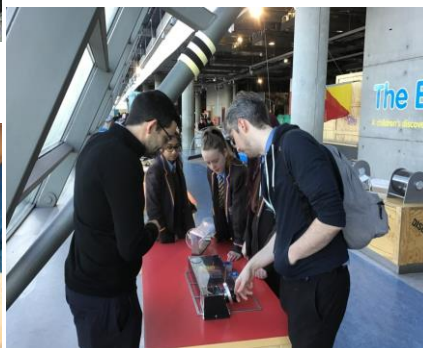
Accurate Aigbokie, Divya Karthikeyan, Darcy Brennan and Caoilainn Hill (S3) attended a series of fun maths Masterclasses at Glasgow University on cold Saturday mornings during the month of November.

The school chess club is now up and running on Tuesdays at lunchtime with Mr Pass.

The department has been running supported study sessions for National 5 and Higher groups most days after school. This will continue in January in preparation for the S5/6 Prelims.

Mr Pass and Mr McIntyre took a group of S2 pupils to the Science Centre in November to participate in an Overcoming Barriers to STEM event.

A group of S4 pupils attended a tech-fest event with Mr Pass with the focus on maths and engineering in relation to the oil industry.



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 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.

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 the next session are:

- Improvement in attainment and achievement, ensuring equity for all.
- Ensuring highly effective learning, teaching and assessment
- Enhancing the emotional and mental health of our school community.

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. Henderson

Iona – Mrs. Kelly – Principal

Melrose – Mrs. Dunn – Principal

Trinity – Ms. McQuillan - Principal

SfL / EAL



Mrs. McCabe manages all Support for Learning / EAL matters. Our Deputes / Year Group Heads are also available to contact:

S1/2: Mrs. Henderson

S3/4: Mrs. Watt

S5/6: Mr O'Neill

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

DOE 2019

Well done to our 40 Young People who received their DofE Award at the Royal Concert Hall on the evening of November 19th. They applied themselves enthusiastically in all of their activities which were; Volunteering, a Physical Activity, and Improving in a Skill. In total they dedicated over one thousand hours of Volunteering in their local communities in such diverse endeavours as assisting in Special Needs Children's clubs, horse handling, Charity Shop working, litter picking, and working in Animal Welfare. In addition to this, they also successfully completed 2 Wild Country Walking and Camping Expeditions.

The young people who made their families and school proud are; Sarah Al-Dulaimy, Zayhnab Ali, Safia Alsayed, Jessica Azubuike, Radia Benjellon, Shannon Connolly, Amna Farhad, Netusha Fernando, Hermione Goodyear, Ayaat Hassan, Amna Hussain, Mehak Hussain, Juliana Khuc, Tiffany Mbiba, Bonnie McClure, Isla McGarry, Lana McKenzie, Yasmine Mehaseb, Fatima Muhammed, Barbara Niven, Sophie Pickett, Mia Roznowski, Sana Said, Andrianna Shodeinde, Maire Sinclair, Harpreet Singh, Karina Slowikowska, Laura Yuill, Harpreet Singh, Sarah Abid, Sufia Ahmed, Laibah Anwar, Kainat Arshad, Lori Bell, Ana-Maria Conceicao, Thelma Ejihkeme, Abbie Gentles, Nadena Ghousi, Maryam Naeem, Maryam Sajjad, and Halia Siddiqi.

Good luck to our 42 Bronze and Silver participants who are working towards graduating in 2020.



SCIENCE

Nuffield Projects

In September our new S6 attended the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh to take part in the Nuffield Bursary Celebration Event. Eleven of the sixty eight young people from across Scotland who took part in the programme were from our school! This year's Nuffield Bursary Programme is now open to applicants. Anyone interested should see Mr Hughes.

Chemical Ambassadors

Mr Ferguson is supporting a group of S3 Chemical Ambassadors as they embark on their work with Strathclyde University. They are Maude Clancy, Aleezah Ali, Anya McChristie, Victoria Niven & Maddison Ford. Our ambassadors have been paired with an experienced mentor to support them as they take part in activities and workshops. They will also find out how engineers and scientists use chemistry in their jobs.



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**.

PUPIL ABSENCE REPORTING LINE



Thank you for your continued support in helping make Notre Dame High School a valued and successful Participant. Please continue to report absence to the Pupil Absence Reporting Line on
0141 287 0039

SCIENCE

Outdoor Learning:

A busy term in the Science Department started with all of S2 visiting Pollok Country Park in September. Learners sampled and observed living things (big and small) using a variety of techniques. They also learned how to build a fire and enjoyed some toasted marshmallows.

STEM careers at the Science Centre:

In November, we took S2 learners to STEMFest19 at the Science Centre. Our young people found out about the importance of STEM qualifications from a range of employers. They also took part in a variety of workshops.



Other news:

Finally, a big thank you to our former pupil Siham Aoudj who came in to talk to our Health Class about her experiences as a trainee midwife. Siham is currently studying in Aberdeen and took an hour out to come and see us when she was home visiting her family. Siham is loving what she is doing and her enthusiasm really came through when she was discussing her career and time at college.

Looking Forward to 2020:

Nuffield Bursary Applications for S5 (January)

S2 visit to the Glasgow Film Theatre (February)

BAE Systems Ship Design, Construction and Testing with S2 (February and March)

SOCIAL SUBJECTS

UNICEF RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS



Notre Dame High School aims to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. As part of this plan we have gained our first recognition – the UNICEF UK 'Rights Respecting School Bronze Award'. UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and young people and their rights. In 1989, governments across the world agreed that all children have the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential.

Notre Dame High School pupils will learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day. A Rights Respecting School models rights and respect in all its relationships.

We really hope that you will be able to support our school on our journey towards our Unicef UK Rights Respecting School Silver award.

For further information about Rights Respecting Schools please visit:

www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa

World Children's Day

On Wednesday 20 November, our Rights Respecting Schools Steering group hosted a number of events to celebrate World Children's Day and the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child. Pupils from S1-3 took part in a selection of workshops relating to the past, present and future of children's rights around the world. This encouraged the pupils to consider issues that are important to them and how they themselves could become activists for these. Other events that were held throughout the day included a bake sale for UNICEF UK, face painting, a photo booth and a selection of big questions to allow pupils an opportunity to share their views. The event was a huge success and our steering group look forward to hosting similar events in the future.



SOCIAL SUBJECTS

Holocaust Survivor Visit

Mrs McBride, Hope Easton and I had the opportunity to take part in Lessons From Auschwitz. We listened to the testimony of Holocaust survivor Janine Webber, a real eye-opener into the complicated and brutal realities of the Holocaust from a first hand point of view. In Poland, as well as both camps, we visited the nearby market square of Oświęcim, a town once seething with Jewish life and now a painfully silent home to none. Walking through the rooms filled with possessions, shoes and human hair allowed us to humanise the Holocaust - to understand that we didn't just lose a statistic of people, but we lost their individuality, their culture, their religion; everything they brought with them, including their life.

The final memorial service we attended in the death camp, consisted of reflection, prayer and hope for the future. The whole experience was heart breaking, yet incredibly powerful, and left us feeling a great desire to share it with others. Janine Webber told us that even after these historic events, she feels there is hope. With more people forgetting the past and less Holocaust survivors able to tell their stories, now more than ever, we felt like the personification of her hope. To keep alive the memory of the Holocaust is absolutely crucial and a duty we are intent to do our part to fulfil in our newfound role as Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors.

Rubab Waseem

Janine Webber



Anne Frank Exhibition

In November, 20 of our S2 students were selected to work alongside the Anne Frank Trust to become exhibition guides. Students worked together to share the story of Anne Frank: an ordinary young person in extraordinary circumstances who wanted to do good in the world and whose story continues to inspire today, as it did when her diary was first published. Students also learn about the history of the Holocaust and its contemporary relevance: one of the starkest warnings from history about what can happen when prejudice is allowed to go unchecked. Students received training on how to deliver presentations about the exhibition and became a source of inspiration to others while gaining the skills and attitudes to become responsible citizens of the future. Many of our Notre Dame community attended a guided tour including pupils from S1-S6 and some Primary 7's.



ART, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Circular Economy Competition

Congratulations to a group of S4 Graphics pupils who were successful in a recent competition run by the St Enoch's Centre. The pupils were tasked with designing an idea to promote the circular economy within the St Enoch's Centre.

Amna Farhad was awarded Second place overall, with Abbey Carlin and Aminah Wasim receiving special recognition awards for their designs. Notre Dame was also awarded Second place overall.

The girls are pictured below with their certificates and prizes.



S1 Christmas Card Competition

The S1 pupils who attend the Art club with Mrs Vallance have been busy working on their competition entries for the School Christmas Card competition.

This year's winners are: Muryam Kaneez and Hannah Sattar

The winning designs have been used by the Head Teacher to send to other schools across the City and beyond.

The girls are pictured with their winning designs and receiving their prizes.

Well Done!



ART, DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

Kelvin College Fashion Runway

Three of our Senior pupils were chosen to participate in a Fashion Design competition with Kelvin College. Groups were given a collection of fabrics and items to up-cycle into a garment.

Their design had to match the theme, 'Tutti Frutti'. Once completed, their final garment was showcased in a Fashion Show at the college.

Well done to Yasmina Alsoudani, Sumaiyaa Larraidji and Luna Rojas; they learned many new skills from the experience!



Creative Workshops

Another group of our senior pupils attended creative workshops at Kelvin College, before watching their peer's participate in the Fashion show mentioned above. They tried their hand at sandcasting jewellery, embroidery and sound and video production.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Young Ambassadors

There are 16 Young Ambassadors (YAs) who represent Notre Dame and they range from S3 to S6. In September, the YAs went to the City Chambers to learn about their role and planned together with our Active Schools Coordinator what they can do for Notre Dame for session 2019/2020. All YAs have a role in promoting lunchtime and after school clubs as well assisting to run those clubs with a member of staff. They also organised and ran an event for the promotion of clubs for all S1 pupils. Their next job is to create posters and displays that can put around the PE department.



Netball

This year Notre Dame have five netball teams competing in the Glasgow School League: S1, S2/3, S3, S4 and senior. S1 pupils have their own club on a Tuesday lunchtime due numbers of up to 40 pupils! Training for the S1 League team and S2 to S6 pupils takes place on a Tuesday after school. Participation numbers have increased since last year and all pupils are progressing well in their teams. The S1 team remain undefeated and are on course to win their league! Here is to a successful 2020!



DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE (DYW)

SOCIAL
BITE

S2 – THE WEE SLEEP OUT

On Friday 8th of November 60 students from S2 in Notre Dame High School, supported by several of our S6 girls and 10 teachers, slept overnight in the school as part of “The Wee Sleep Out” campaign which is run by Social Bite. This amazing Social Enterprise which operates right here in Scotland is on a mission to end homelessness for good and works tirelessly to raise funds and awareness to make this happen. The girls learn about Social Enterprise as part of their curriculum in S2 and took the lead in organising this wonderful event. Activities on the night included, dance competitions, a glitter tattoo station, a nail bar, a photo booth and eventually some sleep! A great time was had by all involved and more importantly we have raised over £500 so far with more donations coming in.



DYW
Developing the
Young Workforce