



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Once again we approach the end of a very busy term here in Greenfaulds. We are settling in nicely to our new school and thankfully we are almost at the end of unpacking all the boxes!

I would like to extend my thanks to all staff and pupils for the huge commitment, time and effort shown by all which has made the transition to our wonderful new facilities all worthwhile.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

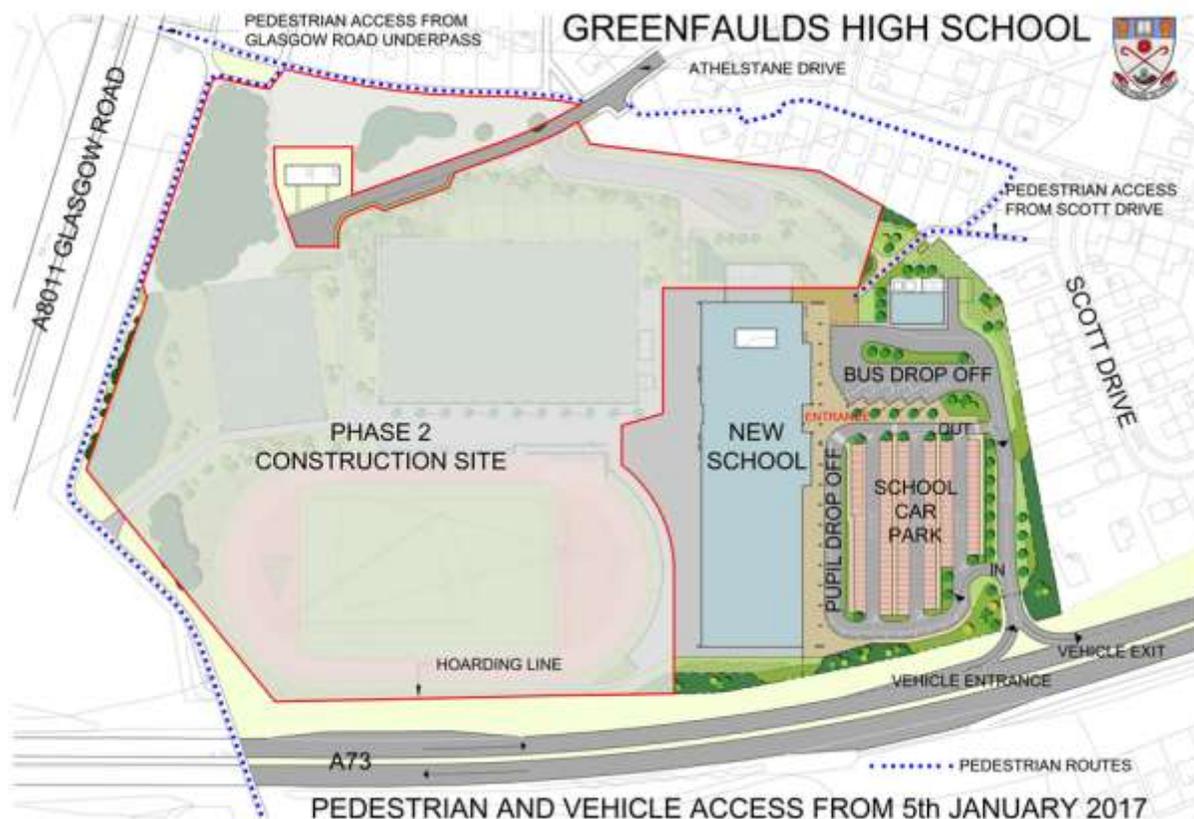
| DATES FOR YOUR DIARY | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 23 December 2016 | School closes at 2.30 pm for Christmas Holidays |
| | |
| 9 January 2017 | School starts back at 8.55am |
| 13 - 14 February 2017 | Mid-Term Holiday |
| 15 February 2017 | In-Service Day - School closed to pupils |
| 22 February 2017 | Greenfaulds High Careers Convention |
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School Build Phase 2

School Build Phase 2 – demolition and completion of external sports facilities

Work is now well underway with the demolition of the old building. Already the swimming pool, theatre, technical and PE areas are fast disappearing from the landscape, with the remaining main teaching block scheduled for demolition in 4 stages. Due to the nature of the work now being undertaken, the pedestrian access route will change slightly. From 9th January the current pedestrian access from Athelstane Drive in through the back of the old school will be closed. All pedestrian access from the Athelstane Drive area will be down the steps into the Scott Drive area and through the gate currently used in Scott Drive. This can be seen from the map below. The map is also on display on the school website. These pedestrian arrangements will remain in place until June 2016. Completion of the grounds is currently on schedule for the beginning of the new session in August 2017.





CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Performing Arts department christened the new stage in style at the first ever Christmas Concert in the new Greenfaulds High. Guests were greeted in the foyer by Mr McKreel and his brass ensemble with a brass fanfare of Jingle Bells before taking their seats in the new theatre for the evening. Our Gaelic teacher Mr Rodgers then piped the procession of pupils to their seats with a medley of traditional and festive tunes on the bagpipes.

Meanwhile the Junior Band were the first of many bands to take to the stage that evening and gave a rousing performance of Best Day of My Life, amongst other pieces, under the baton of Mrs Briggs and Mr Smyth. Thereafter followed the Traditional Band led by Mr Hegarty and Mr Ritchie featuring our accordions, harp, tin whistle and an army of guitars! Next came the woodwind ensemble playing the traditional 'Carol of the Bells' closely followed by Mr Smyth's new Jazz Band featuring guest singer, Miss Hall, on their final piece 'Hello' - Adele eat your heart out! Finally we heard the Senior Band, led by Mr Ritchie and Mrs Carmichael, who featured their brand new 3-strong percussion section in the wind band piece 'Where the Sun Breaks Through the Mist', contrasting with their Lady Gaga dance mix and to conclude, led the audience in a good old singalong to some Christmas songs in 'On With the Snow'.

Our soloists included Aiden Peebles (S3) performing a guitar duet of the beautiful 'Tears in Heaven' with Mr Smith our guitar tutor and vocal soloists Erin Newton (S4) and Ava McKinnon (S3) who really wowed the audience with their amazing voices.

As if all of that musical talent wasn't enough, right in the middle of the concert the audience were also entertained with a miniature pantomime 'Goldisocks and the Four Bears' performed by Miss Hall's new S1/2 drama group and expertly organised by her crew of stage hands. A special mention must go to the beatboxing bears - talented and also hilarious!

Thanks go to all who helped organise the concert, including office staff and janitors, ticket, programme and raffle sellers and special thanks go to Oliver and Conner who did the sound and lights for the evening, Mr Gardiner who was our compere and all of the music and drama staff and tutors. It was a memorable evening which really showcased the wealth of talent we have amongst Greenfaulds High pupils and hopefully will be the first of many memorable performances on our stage.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

This year's event was held on Tuesday 13th December with over 30 different stalls to tempt Christmas shoppers. Pupils from the music department provided some festive tunes and the pupils of the Modern Languages department sang carols. Santa was kept busy throughout the evening, with lots of young people visiting him and having their picture taken! All in all it was a very successful evening, with approximately £1400 being raised for school funds. The Parent Council accumulator was drawn on the night and prizewinners were as follows:

| | | |
|-----|--------------------|--------|
| 1st | Lynsey Brown | £13.18 |
| 2nd | Rosie McKenna | £7.90 |
| 3rd | Patricia McCartney | £5.27 |

Total raised £263.50





Mock Trials 2016

Students from the school took part in the Bar Associations Mock Trial event in Glasgow's High Court on Saturday the 26th of November. Students spent three months preparing, three hours a week, in order to be able to present their cases. This year we were prosecuting and defending cases involving an assault and a case of alleged witness intimidation.

We did really well winning two cases out of three and narrowly missing out on a place in the Grand Final. However we all had an amazing experience as always and will be back again next year!

Thank you to our amazing team of students who really worked incredibly hard over the course of 12 weeks.

Mock Trials Team: Cameron McIndoe (S3), Lauren Black, Sophie Crimmin, Mehek Ali, Jodie Curtis, Amy Weldon, (S5), Josh Strickland, Hugh MacDonald, Shauna Savage, Courtney Bryce, Rona McConnell, Lisa McGuigan (S6)





Modern Studies Club

The Modern Studies Club have been meeting every Friday lunchtime to discuss the latest news stories and as always it has been very well attended. On top of that, the club have made two visits this term one to Hampden Park Stadium and the other to the SSPCA. At Hampden we were given the VIP tour around the stadium followed by some time in the museum, finishing off with a visit to the local 'chippy' for a traditional Scottish dinner!

At the SSPCA students learned all about how the group raise their money and got to meet many of the animals in their care, from the ordinary to the exotic as you can see below.



S3 Parliament Visits

S3 Modern Studies pupil had the chance to visit the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh as well as carry out some excellent field research on the Royal Mile. The pupils got the chance to sit back and watch a committee take place. This gave the pupils first-hand experience about what they have been learning in class. They also got a tour to allow them to see the work that MSPs do throughout the building. On the tour students got the chance to take the route MSPs take to the debating chamber. (With some lucky students getting the chance to say hi to Ruth Davidson.) After catching some lunch pupils got the chance to take part in some field research where they surveyed the public on issues regarding crime in the community. To round the day off pupils got the chance to watch a debate taking place where one of their local MSPs, Mark Griffin, got the chance to ask a government minister a question.

Four excursions in total will take place between December and January.





S3 Modern Studies - Election Campaign

All S3 Modern Studies pupils have recently taking part in an election campaign. Each Modern Studies class was chosen at random to represent a different political party. The process involved pupils working extremely hard in classes preparing for debates, preparing campaign material, preparing political broadcasts and manifestos. Some classes even managed to get their MSP in to the school to help them with their campaign. Classes have been working hard for 2 weeks on their campaign which resulted in an extremely successful debate taking place in front of all S2 pupils. S2 pupils were then shown all of the **parties' political broadcasts and campaign material. They then took to the polls to vote.** Labour (Douglas Mitchell) came out on top with 54% of the vote closely followed by the Greens (Kim McLaughlin). Well done to all the candidates, Douglas Mitchell, Kim McLaughlin, Jason Kerr, Kyle Hallyburton and Michael Ward.



Our candiidates at the debate



The Labour team with Labour MSP Mark Griffin



Voting day



ART AND DESIGN

Art and Design Department

Art & Design and Drama were successful with a recent joint bid for funding from The Scottish Book Trust for an Authors Live Champions Project inspired by the graphic novel *Alpha*. Having initially started their project by reading *Alpha* and analysing its themes and illustrations, pupils then copied some of the illustrations with felt-tip pen and wash like the illustrator Barroux. Currently, pupils in 3G and 3F Art & Design are working on creating two large banners inspired by *Alpha*'s themes of migration and the refugee crisis. One banner is based on images of modern-day migration from war-torn Syria, with migrants fleeing across Europe to Scotland, and the other banner is based on migration from Scotland to North America and Canada after the Battle of Culloden and the resulting Highland clearances. Pupils are using mixed-media; including painted white cotton, handmade felt and beads, sequins, and other materials.

Pupils in Drama are also studying *Alpha* and will be taking part in Drama activities based on the themes of the novel, including 'still pictures'.

The Art & Design department were also successful with another two bids for 2017 Live Literature funding from The Scottish Book Trust and are looking forward to working with the Scottish artist and illustrator Kate Leiper again in the New Year. Thanks go to The Scottish Book Trust for the funding and the Head Teacher Mrs Park for additional funding to support the two workshops.

Miss Armstrong
Art and Design





ART AND DESIGN CONT.





Pupils in S3-S6 have created a variety of final posters with images and text for the Rights Respecting Schools committee for use around the school. The posters are to represent different articles for the UN's Charter for the Rights of the Child. A special committee of pupils helped to select the articles that they felt were the most important for Greenfaulds High. Initial artwork was produced with the Scottish illustrator and artist Kate Leiper at a special illustration workshop in October.

Geography Club

The Geography Club recently organised a whole school charity event for the local food bank. Members researched information online to locate the nearest food bank and suitable donations. Two S6 pupils who volunteer at Bethlehem House of Bread food bank - Jamie Timothy and Rachel Redmond - gave a talk about their experiences and answered members' questions.

The next task was to market their event, creating a PowerPoint which was shown to all year groups, a tannoy announcement script and posters which were displayed around the school to encourage everyone to donate.

The event was a fantastic success as the pictures below show with over 50 boxes sent to the Food Bank! We would like to thank all pupils and staff for their generous donations – the Food Bank was overwhelmed. In addition to helping local people in need, this experience has enhanced members' communication, organisation, leadership and team work skills. This is a fantastic achievement which has helped those in need!

Special thanks to all those who helped to make boxes, organise items and pack boxes: Geography Club members, DofE, 3H Geography, 4KR, 4SC, 4MM, 4PA and Higher Environmental Science pupils. Miss Morrow would also like to thank staff who helped pack and deliver boxes to the food bank: Mr Allison, Mrs A Brown, Ms Buchanan, Mr Clulow, Mr Dickie, Ms Hamilton-Cooper, Mr Hunter, Ms N MacDonald, Ms McManus, Mr Proctor and Ms Scott. As you can see it was a great team effort on the day!



Geography Club - Foodbank Collection



Geography Club Members with some of the donations



Sorting Items



Boxes delivered to food

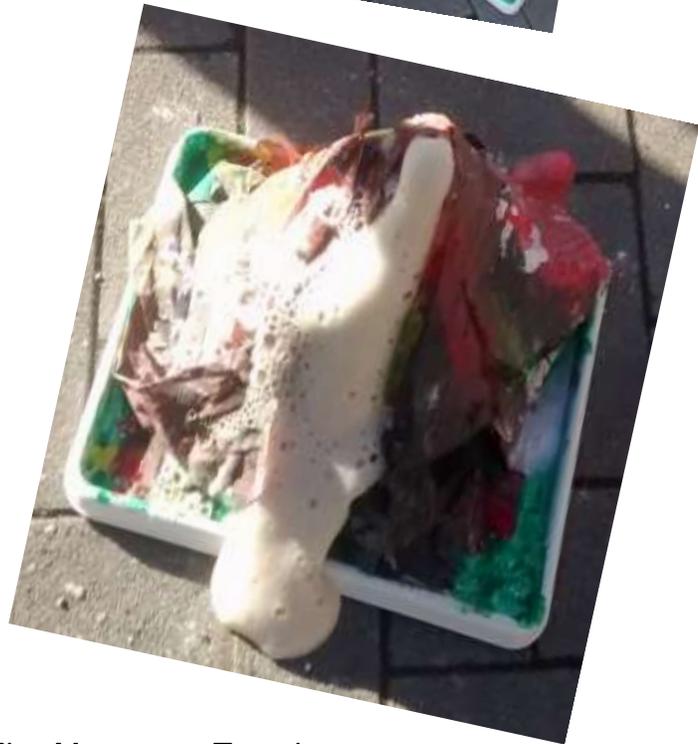
The delivery team...





Geography Club cont

Prior to organising this event, Geography Club members created Papier Mache volcanoes then had fun exploding them outside. Some pictures are below.



Geography Club is held in F044 with Miss Morrow on Tuesday lunchtimes. New members are welcome to join.



Geography

S2 Amazonia Trip

S2 pupils visited Amazonia as part of their Rainforest topic. They were given a talk by an expert guide who answered their questions about the animals in the exhibit. They then explored Amazonia themselves to interact with the fantastic rainforest creatures.



Pupils who were brave enough held a variety of animals, as shown





Geography

S2 pupils also had a game of bowling and those with the highest score were awarded with a prize.





Geography

Higher Environmental Science

A few months ago – when it was still warm and sunny – our Environmental Scientists embarked on a field trip to collect data at a beach in Fife. This is always an enjoyable experience which allows pupils to further enhance their research skills as they work in teams to collect data. Pupils used a line transect and took a range of measurements including the soil pH and soil moisture levels. They also identified flora and fauna. Following this, pupils analysed their results as part of the Experiment aspect of the course comparing their results to a model of sand dune succession.

Higher Environmental Science and Higher Geography

Higher pupils recently attended a Christmas Lecture at the University of Glasgow on the theme of Climate Change and Coastal Vulnerability. This was a fantastic opportunity to experience a university lecture as well as increasing knowledge from experts in an area that will be examined as part of their course.





Geography

Higher Geography

Higher pupils visited two areas of Glasgow which have been transformed in the last decade – Glasgow Harbour and the Gorbals. Pupils conducted research in the area, including questionnaires with local people; environmental quality surveys; traffic surveys; participant observation and interviewing housing association staff. They also photocopied secondary data from Gorbals library such as old photographs of the area to allow them to make comparisons to the photographs they took of the area on the day. This data will be analysed together with secondary data collected from the internet as part of the Assignment aspect of the course.

S5/6 National Travel and Tourism

Pupils arranged a trip to Edinburgh as part of their course. They experienced a bus tour of the city to learn about major attractions, visited the Dungeons and interviewed tourists along the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle. Pupils also had the opportunity to shop in the Christmas Markets. This will help pupils to plan a holiday back in the classroom which must include travel arrangements, accommodation, a range of attractions and a detailed itinerary.





IT DEPARTMENT

BEBRAS COMPUTATIONAL CHALLENGE

The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students. It is organized in over 40 countries and designed to get all students all over the world excited about computing. Oxford University is our National sponsor of the competition. The Bebras challenges are made up of a set of short problems called Bebras tasks and are delivered on line. The tasks are fun, engaging and based on problems that Computer Scientists often meet and enjoy solving. The tasks can be solved without prior knowledge but instead require logical thinking. The competition is free to enter.

Miss Buchanan signed up all our S1 pupils to take part in the Bebras Computational challenge. It is the first time we have participated. Well done to all our S1 IT pupils who certainly rose to the challenge. All pupils received a certificate for participating with a number of pupils achieving high scores. An extra special well done to Fraser Young who achieved the top score

