

Welcome to the final edition of KA Connections for session 2017/18.

It has been an incredibly busy, sometimes challenging and often rewarding session, with an amazing range of curricular and extra curricular events and opportunities that our young people have enjoyed. The KA Connections team have worked hard throughout the year to capture some of the highlights and successes. With Iona Brownlie - our former KA Connections editor - off to University to study journalism, a new team has been formed to take over. I am sure that Jennifer, Erin, Craig and Iona will continue to develop the publication, with plans to move to a digital newsletter in the new session.

The new session is shaping up to be another jam-packed year, with our School Improvement Plan taking shape (this will be available to view early next session) and a number of activities, events and trips already filling up the calendar.

Until then, to our pupils, parents and staff, I hope you have a relaxing and well deserved break. I have loved my first year as a member of staff here and feel very excited for next session.



Catherine Kay Depute Head

New kids on the block



Erin Oliver 6D



Jennifer Wright 6D



Craig McFarlane 4C



Iona Gilchrist 4C

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the new KA Connections Team for session 2018/19. Our Junior Journalists, Craig and Iona, are returning for another year and will be taking on increased responsibilities next session. Jennifer will be our lead journalist, taking responsibility for the main features within each edition and Erin will take over from Mrs Kay as Graphic Designer for the publication. If you have any suggestions or features you would like included, please get in touch: [@KA_Connections](https://twitter.com/KA_Connections)

New School Office



Our school office recently underwent some major renovations to update and improve our office facilities.

Work was completed in early May and Mr Orrock and the office staff have now moved into their new accommodation.

Thank you to everyone for their patience during this time.



GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Primary Invasion

On the 6th and 7th of June, we were joined by our Primary 7's for their induction days to experience life as an S1 pupil here at Kilsyth Academy. Throughout their two days, they completed multiple activities and gained experience in a range of subjects, such as Maths, English and Expressive Arts. They had the chance to meet their Pupil Support Teacher - as well as sample some of our amazing food from the Cafe. On the Thursday evening, we were also joined by our P7 parents, who had the chance to find out more about the life of the school and some new exciting opportunities happening in the new session. Both days were a great success, with the P7's eager to return as our new S1's in August - and we can't wait to welcome them to the Kilsyth Academy family.



Easter School success

This year's Easter School was extremely well attended, running classes such as Maths, English, Technical, and many more to help the pupils sitting exams this year. Nat 5, Higher, and Advanced Higher pupils who attended were able to complete a great deal of work over the busy week and with hope the effort put in will pay off during the exams this May.

By Jennifer Wright

School of Rugby coming this way

We are excited to announce that following talks with Scottish Rugby and Cumbernauld Rugby Club, the school will launch its "school of Rugby" for new S1 pupils in August 2018. More information to follow.



Enterprise Cafe

The new course in conjunction with home economics and the enterprise classes in first year, which ran during the month of May, was extremely successful. Pupils took time out of their enterprise class to gain experience in basic cookery skills and then put new found skills into practice by the end of the two weeks.

Near the end of the course pupils had to go round the teachers in school and take food orders, once all the orders had been placed the cooking could commence. The food was prepared during the enterprise/home economics class and those who wished to stay during their lunch times to serve the food to their high-end customers could do so.



By Erin Oliver



RESIDENTIAL TRIPS

S1 Residential - Auchengillan 2018

During the second week in June, the Auchengillan trip for first year pupils took place. The pupils had a fabulous time on the trip, even while battling through storm Hector they were climbing 18 metre tall towers showing their impressive bravery, kayaking or just ignoring the boat and jumping in the water, even swallowing tadpoles in the process. They did team building exercises such as a blind folded walk through the trees and then later, forgetting about the team building to have a Sumo fight. The week helped those who attended to gain confidence and team-work skills, along with how to successfully escape from swarms of midges. A key skill in Scotland! The staff at Auchengillan even complimented the Kilsyth academy pupils on how polite they were, setting a good example for our school.

By Erin Oliver



S2 Residential - Kilbowie

During May some of the third year pupils took part in the Kilbowie leadership course which takes place each year and is ran by the staff with the help of some returning third years. The pupils took part in many team building activities such as the infamous island challenge, where groups will undoubtedly get lost at least once while trying to navigate round stations and battling with the constant rain storms. Many pupils are pushed out of their comfort zones through the time there, most notably through challenges like the cliff jumping - at eight meters! (Where even Mr Rennie took the leap of faith). Kilbowie was a huge success with many achieving their leadership award at the end. Along with the award they received for achieving all this, an amazing BBQ hosted by our own Mr Turnbull took place on the final night.

By Erin Oliver & Iona Gilchrist



KA SENIORS 2017/18

On the 14th and 15th June we held both our junior and senior awards ceremonies. Our seniors were addressed by guest chairman Professor Frank Clarke C.B.E. and our guest speaker Mr Ken Lewandoski who delivered a thoughtful, direct and inspirational message to our pupils. In total, more than 200 of our young people received an award. Our congratulations go to all pupils who received either a prize or award recognizing their efforts and achievements over the course of next session.

Our School Trophy Award Winners are detailed below.



Amy Buck



Olivia McTiernan



Piotr Gacmenga



Craig Wilson



Erin Oliver

Amy	Buck	Miller Cup for English
Olivia	McTiernan	Bankier Trophy for Business Studies
Amy	Buck	Adam Cup for Maths
Piotr	Gacmenga	PTA Cup for Technology
Craig	Wilson	David Tolmie Award for Practical Craft Skills
Amy	Buck	Alasdair Mathie Shield for Modern Languages
Erin	Oliver	Bill Knight Memorial Trophy
Thea	Costiff	Morven Mitchell Plate for Practical Cookery
Rachel	Griffin Rafferty	PTA Cup for Expressive Arts
Amy	Buck	Rotary Club Public Speaking - Senior
Jessica	Curle	Val Watt Cross Country Trophy
Scott	Lilburn	Academy Cup for Individual Sporting Achievement
Martin	Murphy	Erin & Laurel Thomson Award for Community Spirit
Rachel	Griffin Rafferty	Rotary Club of Kilsyth - student who has made the greatest contribution to the life of the school
Morgan	Ross	School Dux Winner 2018



Morgan Ross



Thea Costiff



Rachel Griffin



Jessica Curle



Scott Liburn



Martin Murphy

KA SENIORS 2017/18



This year's Senior Social took place on Friday 14th June, at The Village Hotel in Glasgow.

More than 100 staff and S5/6 pupils enjoyed a lovely meal, dancing and some entertaining awards.

A great night was had by all!



TRIPS, CLUBS & EVENTS

Senior Fun on London Trip

Between the 17th and 21st of June, pupils from fourth, fifth, and six year took part in the London Trip. Day one was spent walking through central London, seeing Parliament, St James' Park, Leicester Square. They also visited Buckingham Palace and Big Ben, which was unfortunately covered in scaffolding for renovations, but that didn't stop people taking photos. Later that day they all went to the Natural History Museum which was followed by dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe, then going to the Ramada Hotel to prepare for the upcoming days.

Day two took the pupils through a Jack the Ripper walking tour of London, where they learned about the Ripper's victims and theories as to who he was. This already terrifying day was followed by a tour in the London Dungeons which had the pupils screaming in terror throughout. The pupils were rewarded for their bravery, however, with a meal at Pizza Hut. They were then shown a whole new world when they saw Aladdin in the West End. Amazing seats and incredible theatrics, what more could you wish for?

During day three the pupils were taken on a guided tour of parliament and learnt a lot about how the English government operates. This was followed by a boat trip which took the pupils across the Thames and to Covent Gardens where they were given lots of free time to shop; a few pupils even managed the walk to Oxford Street. They all then dined at Jamie's Italian Restaurant, and turned in for the night back at the hotel.

The final day in London was spent in Harry Potter Studios, where everyone got to see the magic behind the scenes of the infamous movies. They got to see the original costumes, props, and sets used in filming, and could even get their picture taken on a broomstick or in the carriages on platform 9¾. After a lot of time, and a lot of money spent in the gift shop, pupils were ready to return home to Scotland and take the opportunity of a long weekend.

By Jennifer Wright



London June 2018



London June 2018



London June 2018



London June 2018



London June 2018

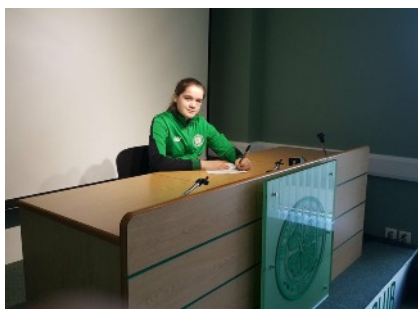
PUPIL SUCCESSES

KA SPORTING STARS

Aimee Gibb signs for Celtic

Kilsyth Academy's Aimee Gibb, S2 was recently signed as the new centre back for Celtic FC's Academy 15's.

This is an amazing opportunity for Aimee to be scouted by such a big and successful team - we are very proud of her and wish her all the best in this new position! Don't forget about us when you hit the big league!



Success for Holly at Gold Coast Commonwealth Games

The Gold Coast Commonwealth was filled with many victories for Team Scotland, but many more for ex Kilsyth Academy pupil Holly McArthur, who was the first Scottish heptathlete in 20 years to compete. Holly achieved a lifetime best in both the high jump and shot put and won her 800m heat. Holly finished overall in 10th place - an amazing feat for her first games. Watch this space!



By Iona Gilchrist

FUTURE KA SPORTING STARS

Kilsyth Academy were delighted to host the annual Primary Athletics Championships on the 20th of April. The event was organised by the S5/6 sports Leaders group who officiated very effectively for the entirety of the event. Over sixty aspiring young athletes from the feeder primary schools (Banton Primary, Kilsyth Primary, Balmalloch Primary, Craighead Primary and Lennoxton Primary) competed in a variety of track and field events. Each event offered points to be won for their school to put towards the "best school" trophy. The following pupils were individual champions in their selected events.

The girls awards go to...

Name	Event
Abbie Curtis	80 metre sprint
Angela Houston	200 metre sprint
Olivia Curle	600 metres
Lauren Findlay	Shot put
Kiera McKenna	Cricket Throw
Megan Girvan	Long Jump
Lennoxton Primary School	4 x 50 metre relay

The boys awards go to...

Name	Event
Blair Stewart	80 metre sprint
Braedon Kiernan	200 metre sprint
Max Smith	600 metres
Duncan Fotheringham	Shot put
James Bradshaw	Cricket Throw
James Clelland	Long Jump
Balmalloch Primary School	4 x 50 metre relay

At the end of a fun exciting day, filled with many events, the final champions were **Balmalloch Primary**. The school is excited to be seeing all these soon-to-be first years shortly and will be lucky to have them represent Kilsyth in future years.

By Erin Oliver

KA Updates

This term we have welcomed back some staff to Kilsyth Academy, as well as saying farewell to some familiar faces.

WELCOME BACK:

- Miss Stirling in Biology returned to us in June from her maternity leave

GOODBYES:

- After 9 years at Kilsyth Academy, Mrs Burke is leaving us for a post at Uddingston Grammar - Mrs Burke is a big loss to our English department, but we wish her all the best (Uddingston are very lucky!)
- Mr Terrell in Modern Languages finishes up in June - we wish him all the best for his future career
- Mr Scott in Physics will take up post as Local Area Secretary for the EIS in August. Good Luck Mr Scott!
- Miss Murphy leaves us this week to start her new post at Cumbernauld Academy in August...good luck Miss Murphy!
- We say goodbye to two of our probationer teachers from this session, Miss Graham is moving to Chryston High School and Miss Pollock will be joining Bishopbriggs Academy - we wish them well and thank them for their contribution to the school this year

SOCIAL MEDIA:



The latest department to join our growing twitter family - Team English!

Give them a follow and stay up to date with all the latest goings-on across Literacy, English and Media

PARENTAL FEEDBACK:

We are always keen to work with our parents and wider community. Please follow the links below to give us your feedback.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Kaparentviews>

Dates for the Diary

WHAT	WHEN
Last Day of term	Thursday 28 th June (1 PM)
In-service days	Tuesday 14 th and Wednesday 15 th August
Pupils return to school	Thursday 16 th August
Primary 5-7 Open Evening	Tuesday 18 th September
UCAS Evening	Tuesday 25 th September

 Stay up to date with departments



This terms
#TOPTWEETS

