

# Johnstone High School



Newsletter No.3  
2015-16

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to our final newsletter of session 2015/16. It will give you a flavour of some of the activities and successes in the school over recent weeks and months. Remember, of course that you can keep up to date with all of our goings on through the school website, facebook, and in particular our twitter feed.

As we look forward to the summer holidays I would like to share some staffing news with you. As you will be aware through a recent letter from the Director of Children's Services, Peter MacLeod, I will continue as acting head teacher for session 2016/17. Mr Miller was successfully appointed as a permanent DHT in June, and we will be welcoming Mr Menzies as a temporary DHT for one school session, starting August 2016.

Also, we would like to congratulate Mr Gilbert, DHT, who was successfully appointed as a Quality Improvement Officer in East Dunbartonshire Council. We wish him well in his new post which commences in August, and will seek to appoint a new permanent DHT at that point.

School finishes at 1.00pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June and reopens for pupils at 8:50am on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August.

Have a wonderful break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynne Hollywood". The script is cursive and fluid, with a small flourish at the end.

Mrs Lynne Hollywood

## **School Uniform**

The school has recently linked with Sportswear Made Easy (formerly known as Gilmour Sports) to provide branded Johnstone High School uniform and PE kit. This is a local company who are linked to the majority of the 11 Renfrewshire high schools. Please note that parents can of course go to any retailer for school uniform.

Our uniform consists of:

- Navy blazer and school badge (silver braiding for S6)
- School tie (senior tie for S4, S5, S6)
- White shirt or blouse (not a polo shirt)
- Navy blue sweatshirt, pullover or cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- Plain navy/black (not gray) trousers or skirt
- Dark shoes – no brightly coloured Converse

PE Kit consists of:

- Blue branded JHS PE top or blue/white t-shirt
- Black shorts/joggers

Please note the following are not acceptable:

- Denim jackets
- Skinny jeans
- Leggings
- Inappropriately short skirts/cropped shorts
- Offensive logos
- Football tops/scarves
- Inappropriately large jewellery

Hats/caps, scarves and hoods should not be worn indoors and pupils will be asked to remove these.

## Contacting the school

We firmly believe that partnership working with parents and carers is the very best way to support our pupils to fulfil their potential when they are at Johnstone High School. If at any point you have concerns or queries, please contact the school. In the first instance, contact should be made with your child's Guidance teacher, however the entire senior management team are also available.

Mrs O'Malley	Principal Teacher Guidance; Mull House
Mr Rainey	Principal Teacher Guidance; Arran House
Ms Milligan	Principal Teacher Guidance; Iona House
Miss Wilkie	Principal Teacher Guidance; Skye House

Mrs Hollywood	Acting Head Teacher
Mrs Sturgeon	DHT S1
Mr Miller	DHT S2/3
Mr Gilbert	DHT S4 (Mr Menzies from August '16)
Mr Munro	DHT S5/6

The school telephone number is	01505 322173
Our email address is	<a href="mailto:johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk">johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk</a>
Our website can be accessed on	<a href="http://www.johnstonehigh.co.uk">www.johnstonehigh.co.uk</a>
Follow us on facebook.	

## **S2 Ardentinnny Trip**

Many thanks, to all of those who have paid up for the trip so far. Final details for the trip will be announced before and after the summer holiday.

If you are still to pay the remaining balance this should be bought to Mr Fenwick as soon as possible. The cost, if you have paid nothing since the deposit, is £161.

## **INSPIRED Exhibition – Paisley Museum and Art Gallery**

Congratulations to Johnstone High! In February our very talented pupils were successfully chosen to exhibit work at the Paisley Museum and Art Gallery for the INSPIRE exhibition. The pupils enjoyed some light refreshments at the exhibition and had the opportunity to view their work displayed at the show.



From left to right;

Amy Dunn, Sophie Pearce, Lewis Anderson, Jessica Kerr, Ellie McGarry, Joseph Cameron, Ruth Johnston, Victoria Dock, Emma Thomson, Samantha Miller and Jack Vaughan



From left to right;

Kira Graham, Baillie Kerr, Lauren Anderson and Rachel Aird

Further congratulations to Lauren Anderson (S3) who recently won the Paisley Art Institute Competition.



## **Further Education, Higher Education, Training and Careers Fair**



JHS held its second annual FE, HE, Training and Careers Fair last term.

A large number of organisations including Rolls Royce, Clydesdale Bank, Renfrewshire Council, Morgan Stanley, Doosan Babcock, Thermo Fisher Scientific and the NHS attended, as well as the major Universities and Colleges.

All were on hand to offer senior pupils advice on their option choices and to discuss possible career pathways after leaving education.



All that attended commented on the positive attitude of the JHS pupils and how much they enjoyed engaging with them throughout the afternoon. A special mention also to the four S1 pupils, Aiden McHendry, Oliwia Brycka, Stephanie Tavendale and Lloyd Wilkie who were fantastic ambassadors for the school as they greeted and cared for our guests throughout the afternoon.

## **CITB Events Modern Apprenticeship Week**



A number of S2 pupils attended two events organised by CITB as part of Modern Apprenticeship Week.

Six boys visited the Briggait in Glasgow and took part in workshops showcasing traditional building skills. These included stonemasonry, stencil making and, the boys' favourite, making stained glass windows.

Eight girls also attended a Girls Into Construction Event and tried their hands at scaffolding, bricklaying and bridge-building, becoming YouTube stars in the process!

Both groups of pupils made a positive impression on the organisers and were praised for their hard work on the day and for their impeccable manners.

## **PE Department**

### **S1/2 Badminton Championships**

We had 7 pupils from S1/2 competing in badminton tournament at the ON-X sports centre on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February. For the boys we had Dan Auld, Sam London and Josh Gray and for the girls Emma Kinnear, Morgan Morton, Ellie Spence and Amber Dickie.

All of them played and exceptionally well and represented the school with distinction. Dan Auld, Josh Gray, Amber Dickie and Emma Kinnear all qualified for the end of year finals- the Renfrewshire Secondary Games. Well done to them and we wish them all the best in the finals!

### **Renfrewshire Schools Gym Festival**

Johnstone HS hosted the first ever schools gymfest in PE on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March to compete against other schools at both Gymnastics and Trampolining. The event was a huge success with some fantastic performances from the pupils taking part from J High.

If you are interested in trying out some trampolining or gymnastics then Mrs Dornan has a club for both activities on Mondays and Thursdays after school. No need to sign up just come along!

### **Renfrewshire Netball League**

Johnstone HS hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of fixtures for the S2 Renfrewshire Netball League. As well as our own team, we hosted teams from Gryffe, Castlehead, Linwood, Glennifer and St Andrew's. The event was organised by Miss Still who is our Netball coordinator along with our Senior pupil coaches who are responsible for running the team.

In what was only the girls' second outing as a team they performed extremely well and pushed some very high achieving, national standard teams right to the final whistle. If you are interested in joining our Netball Club then we have training and teams at every year group- see the PE department for more information.

## **The Language Challenge**



Recently S1 Modern Languages pupils raised £540 for Cancer Research UK. The S1 pupils raised this money by taking part in The Language Challenge where they were sponsored to learn 10 words in a completely unfamiliar language. Cancer Research plan to use the donations to find out how cancer spreads, why it starts and ways to prevent cancer.





## JUNIOR AWARDS

Junior pupils were recently recognised and awarded for all their hard work at the Junior Award Ceremony. It was lovely to see all the pupils being awarded for their hard work across the school and we look forward to seeing them progress and continue to impress on the senior phase. Well done guys!

## Music Department



As we approach show-time the cast and crew of Annie are putting in even more effort to make this the best show we have put on yet! With everyone involved putting in extra rehearsals, Annie is shaping up to be a great production that will showcase the talent of the performers, stage crew and band. It's fair to say the music department have had their hands full but in this final stage there is no doubt in everyone's mind that Annie will be a great night for all. The show runs from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June with a few remaining tickets for this fun-filled event!

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. Information also available Twitter (@JohnstoneHighSc) and Edmodo (JHS Musical Pupil Group).

## Modern Studies News

**1<sup>st</sup> year news:** After studying 'The Media' and learning how Facebook and Twitter have changed the way people communicate around the World, our 1<sup>st</sup> year students moved on to studying 'The Developing World'. They learned how to determine if a country is developed or developing and about the aid given to developing countries by developed countries.







**2<sup>nd</sup> year news:** Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year students completed an investigation on Terrorism. They are now experts on the causes of terrorism; the impact of terrorism and a number of different terrorist acts.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year students also studied 'Democracy in Scotland' where they learned how to participate in democracy in Scotland. We hope to arrange a visit to the Scottish Parliament with junior pupils in the forthcoming months.

**3<sup>rd</sup> year news:** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> year students studied 'Crime and the law' this term. They have been learning about the causes of crime, the impact of crime and about the different responses to crime.



**4<sup>th</sup> year news:** Our 4<sup>th</sup> year students learned about all aspects of Democracy in Scotland and recently moved on to studying America.

**Higher news:** After an in-depth study in to the major World Power that is China, Higher students finished off their Modern Studies Higher journey by examining the UK's position in the European Union and evaluating arguments for and against staying in the European Union.

If you need any information to help you make your decision in the upcoming referendum, our Modern Studies students will be able to help you by providing you with some facts.



We would also like to wish all students the very best of luck.

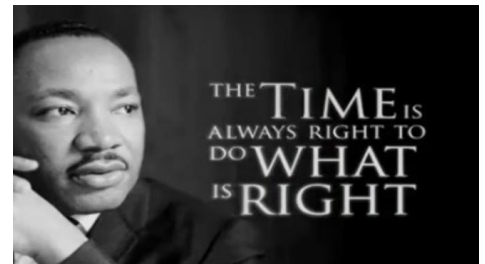
# History News

S1 – This term pupils finished the Normans topic and learned about the Scottish Wars of Independence.



S2 – Having previously completed individual investigation work on the Home Front during the Second World War pupils moved on to study the Plague in London which further builds important historical skills such as source work.

S3 – Developed their understanding of prejudice and discrimination in the past. Topics covered have included the Renfrewshire Witch Trials and the Atlantic Slave Trade. They also looked at the Civil Rights campaign in the USA during the 1950s and 60s.



- ✓ To all pupils who sat exams, good luck from the History Department.
- ✓ To those who have passed National 4 History congratulations from the History Department.

## **ROBOT WARS**

We were recently visited by Garnock Academy, Smithycroft, Turnbull HS and Glasgow Academy to compete in the 'Robot Wars' competition. All teams built detailed and intricate robot fighting machines which competed in 4 challenges. The overall winner of the whole event was Smithycroft High School with Garnock Academy taking second place. A great day was had by all and a huge congratulations and well done to those who organised and took part in the event.



## Tea Party



2Arran1 did themselves and the school proud as they hosted a Tea Party in the cafe for some of the residents of the local elderly care home, Ranfurly House.

The residents enjoyed an afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes, while musical entertainment was provided by some of the school's junior musicians.

The students were surprised to find out that one of the guests was 102 years old and another had truanted school to watch the Clydebank Blitz!

Thanks to everyone who contributed to making the day so special.

## World Book Day at JHS

On the 22nd of February, pupils from JHS took part in a nationwide attempt to break the world record for the most people taking part in a literary quiz. 100 pupils from S4 officially took part in the quiz, organized by the World Book Day organisation, with some English classes from S1 and 2 unofficially taking part just for fun. The attempt was successful and the record was broken with 6,388 people taking part at 62 worldwide locations. Well done to all our record breakers!



# The Big Questions

the **BIG**  
questions



a conference for  
rmeps students

thursday 3rd march 2016  
st mirin's cathedral halls

"I found it very enjoyable because of all the different viewpoints ... The topics spoken about were varied so it wasn't repetitive. The whole thing was organised well so it flowed from discussion to discussion. The speakers were enjoyable and engaging." **Charlotte Miller, S4.**



"I quite enjoyed it. I liked it when we went to the Origins debate, because some of the panellists got involved in a proper argument." **Calum Sprouth, S4.**

Firstly, we were given useful information on how to pass the exam by Mr Jack, which was very helpful.

The first [debate] was about the Existence of God. I found this one the most interesting as I heard a wide range of beliefs. These included Christianity, Islam, Humanism and Quaker. It was also very thought provoking and intriguing.

The final (third) debate was on Religion and Relationships. This one was interesting as while I had heard most of the view points which were expressed in class, they were expanded and explained in more detail. This gave me a wider understanding on the issues discussed. Overall, I enjoyed the conference as I learned about several new topics and viewpoints. I feel that this will help with passing the exam. I would definitely like to attend a similar event in the future.

Shona Cairns, S4

I feel so much more informed after that. I am more confident that I will pass my RMPS exam well with source information that I got today.

*Lucy Allison, S6*



**BEHIND THE NOISE**  
THE MUSIC AND BUSINESS EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Spork is Johnstone High's band which took part in the 'Behind The Noise' music industry project this year. Every school participating in the 'Behind The Noise' project records one track in a professional recording studio. The track has been uploaded to Sound Cloud and is definitely worth a listen. The band played Classic Grand on the 18th April.



Happy Summer!!!



Lastly, we would like to wish all JHS pupils a happy and relaxing summer. For those moving on we wish you all the best on your new journey and for those returning we look forward to seeing you in August refreshed and raring to go.