



# JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

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FRIENDSHIP • TRUST • RESPONSIBILITY



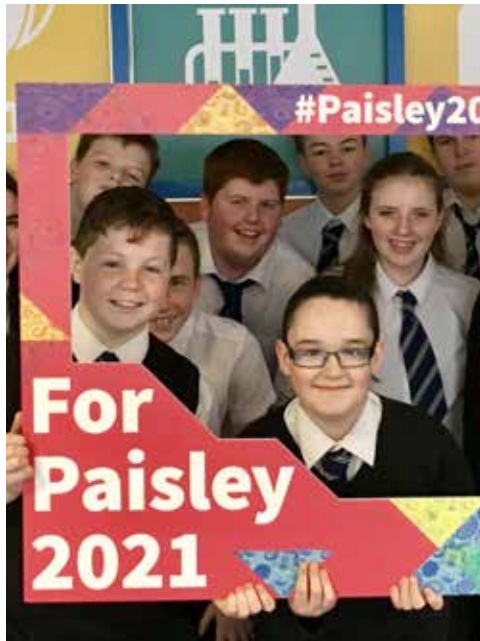
# NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME FROM MRS HOLLYWOOD

Welcome to our Spring newsletter which is jam-packed with school news and achievements. If you are following us on twitter you will have a feel for the life and work of the school as we try hard to keep our local community up to date with all our activities. We will showcase many of these in much more detail in this newsletter.

The spring term is a long and busy period in every school. This is when the vast majority of our parents' evenings take place and report cards are issued. It is when SQA practice exams, folios, practicals and unit assessments pick up the pace and the staff and pupils go about their business with real determination and purpose. Options evenings, option 'dummy run' exercises and option counselling days have also kept the SMT and Pastoral PTs very busy!

This term we have had a visit from Brian Costello from Headstrong to speak to the Higher Psychology class about his work in neuro-linguistic programming. The hearty lives peer leaders have introduced younger students to 'fruit booster smoothies', HIIT training and relaxation techniques as we continue to aim for healthier bodies and minds. On a similar note I am delighted to see the return of toast and cereal in the canteen for the breakfast slot as we are actively encouraging the pupils to make healthier choices. Please support us with this, and in particular, by



emphasising water as the best drink for school (too many students are drinking caffeine fuelled energy drinks).

Some of our extremely talented Music pupils have achieved success this term with the Johnstone Pipe Band, and 'Plagiarism and Fantom Rats' are getting ready to compete in the Behind the Noise battle of the bands competition. This is in addition to their studies in Music Performing and Music Technology – we were treated to two superb SQA showcase evenings by the S4 and S5/6 which are covered by head girl, Allana, later in this newsletter.

We continue to promote a sense of local and global citizenship with our pupils. March 13th saw all year groups supported to vote in the Scottish Youth Parliament elections and we supported the Renfrewshire Council voter registration drive with our pupils aged over 16 as they are now eligible to vote in the forthcoming local elections. Thinking more globally, we enjoyed a very successful fair trade fortnight and

## GET IN TOUCH

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## Inside this issue:

Diary Dates

Easter school programme

SQA Tips

Spotlight on Art

Employability

STEM

Tanzania Update





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the S1 were a super audience at the assembly to hear about the cocoa trade and they very much enjoyed taking the chocolate challenge!

STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) continues to flourish in the school and we were delighted to welcome Prof Martin McCoustra of Herriot Watt University to speak to our S3 Chemistry pupils about cars, catalysts and the environment. Similarly, Thales engineering have also been into school to discuss engineering and apprenticeships. Dynamic Maths booklets have been issued to seniors at all levels and we hear – mainly from parents! – that this is making a big difference to studying and revision at home.

We continue to work alongside our parents and this term we have had a parent council meeting (HT reports and minutes of these meeting are regularly posted onto our website). We have held a parental engagement exercise around our 'pupil equity fund' spending plans – please see below in this newsletter. We have also welcomed a group of S1 parents into school to discuss S1 literacy and numeracy as part of our 'parents in partnership' initiative. We had our first parent council fundraising initiative, supported by the Showcase Cinema in Linwood which raised over £400 for school funds – well done to all the parent and staff volunteers and especially Mr Fulton who has been working closely with the fundraising group.

Finally, this term has been all about lego and all about Paisley 2021! Many of you will know Morgan Spence, depute head boy, who runs his own production company and is a film maker. Morgan was commissioned by the Paisley 2021 team to make a short clip to motivate, educate and entertain the world about Paisley. In the process his lego clip has gone viral and attracted the attention of some of the great and the good he pays homage to in the clip, including Sean Batty, Paolo Nutini, David Tennant and Hollywood A-lister,

Gerard Butler. Gerard's Facebook upload about Morgan and his work offered the perfect platform for me to extend him the invitation to come into school anytime to meet Morgan! The Paisley 2021 team have visited the school and met with pupils in S1-6 for a photoshoot to show our support. We have been left with a 2021 photo frame, banner, and challenge to get the most creative/funny selfies on twitter. Challenge accepted!

To all parents, pupils and staff, I hope you have a wonderful spring break when it arrives. For our senior pupils, many of you will hear the voices of Mr Menzies and Mr Munro in your head, with their own unique motivational methods (the countdown to SQA exams started on the 18th of August!). It is important that you use your time well and that you follow your study plan. However it is also important that you get a break, have a rest, and come back to school energised for the challenge ahead. Happy Easter!

## Inspection update

At time of writing this newsletter, the Education Scotland letter to parents has not yet been published but we have been told to expect it on 21st March 2017. It will be sent out electronically via text message to each pupil's 'main contact' on our computerised system (this is a change to Education Scotland's previous distribution method and is part of the 'new model' of inspection). We will also upload the link to twitter and the school website. We are planning to host an informal drop in for parents on Monday 27th March, 6-7pm in the staff room. Myself and the SMT will be on hand to discuss the inspection in more detail and to answer any questions parents may have. I am delighted that Head of Schools, Gordon McKinlay will be joining us for that event as he has been with us for each step of our improvement journey.

## Pupil Equity Funding

You may have read in the press that the Minister for Education, John Swinney,

recently announced significant funding to go directly to head teachers with the sole purpose of 'closing the poverty related attainment gap'. This pupil equity fund has been allocated to high schools based on the number of pupils in S1-3 in receipt of free school meals and as a result Johnstone High School will be receiving £110400 in April 2017, with the understanding of similar funds for the duration of the current parliament (although it must be stressed that this funding is additional and temporary). Both the Scottish Government and Renfrewshire Council have been very clear that this funding must be focused on the most vulnerable pupils in S1-3, although it is acknowledged that the spending plans may also impact on other groups within the school (e.g. Seniors).

In Johnstone High School we have held consultation sessions with groups of staff, the pupil council, we put on an informal drop in for parents and I have met with the chair of the parent council. All have been in favour of our draft plan which is to use this funding for two main initiatives.

Firstly, a targeted approach whereby we employ a nurture teacher to work with small groups in S1/2 and reduce the number of teachers these children are exposed to as they make the transition from primary environment to high school. The focus will be on literacy and numeracy, as well as the social skills and resilience required for secondary school. Related to this will be the creation of a dedicated family room, an informal space for parent meetings and small group sessions, near the main foyer with a toddler play area and community notice board/information display.

The second part of our plan for our pupil equity funding is more universal in its scope. We intend to add capacity to our Pastoral team by appointing an additional member. This will reduce caseloads and allow the team more time to focus on raising attainment and accessing S1-3 pupils who oftentimes



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do not seek out their Pastoral teacher. This will also allow the team to embed health and wellbeing and a range of wider achievement opportunities through the PSE programme, for example, Dynamic Youth awards, John Muir, SQA Health and Wellbeing award etc. If successful in this plan we will change the structure of how the SMT and pastoral PTs support our pupils, moving to dedicated teams of two (a PT and a DHT) to support each house group S1-4 in a vertical system, with S5/6 remaining standalone with Mr Munro and the new member of the team. It is an exciting time for us and we will use this funding in innovative and creative ways to maximise impact on our S1-3 pupils to raise attainment and close the poverty related attainment gap.

If you have any comments on our plans, or other suggestions, please feel free to contact me at the school.

## New School App

Just a reminder that we are currently trialling a school app. To download it you need to go to the app store and download 'myschoolapp'. Once downloaded you will enter Johnstone High school as your school and you will then be asked to enter your contact details. You will have to allow push notifications. You should also join the groups relative to which year group your child/children are in. We are very excited about the new app in improving communications with parents. Please contact Mrs O'Malley with any feedback on the school app.



Available on the  
**App Store**

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## APRIL 2017

**3 – 17 APRIL 2017**  
EASTER HOLIDAY

**18 APRIL 2017**  
PUPILS RETURN

**20 APRIL 2017**  
SENIOR AWARDS  
CEREMONY

**24 APRIL 2017**  
S3 PARENTS' EVENING

**27 APRIL 2017**  
S6 GRADUATION  
EVENING

## MAY 2017

**2 MAY 2017**  
SQA EXAM DIET  
COMMENCES

**15 MAY 2017**  
PARENT COUNCIL  
MEETING & A.G.M

**22 MAY 2017**  
NEW TIMETABLE  
COMMENCES S1 – S4

## JUNE 2017

**1 JUNE 2017**  
JUNIOR AWARDS  
CEREMONY

**2 JUNE 2017**  
SQA EXAM DIET FINISHES

**2 JUNE 2017**  
S5/S6 INDUCTION

**5 JUNE 2017**  
NEW TIMETABLE  
COMMENCES – S5/S6

**5 JUNE 2017**  
WORK EXPERIENCE  
WEEK

**26/27 JUNE 2017**  
ACTIVITIES DAYS

**28 JUNE 2017**  
SCHOOL CLOSURES AT 1:00  
P.M. FOR SUMMER



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## EASTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

DATE	SUBJECT	LEVEL	TEACHER
MONDAY 3RD APRIL	ENGLISH	HIGHER PAPER 2 - CRITICAL READING	P PALOMBO
	ENGLISH	HIGHER PAPER 1 - RUAЕ	P PALOMBO
	BIOLOGY	NATIONAL 5	C LEGGAT
	MATHS	HIGHER	A DICKIE
TUESDAY 4TH APRIL	GEOGRAPHY	NATIONAL 5	P DAY
	FRENCH FRENCH	HIGHER NATIONAL 5	L CAMPBELL L CAMPBELL
	GERMAN GERMAN	HIGHER NATIONAL 5	G FERGUSON G FERGUSON
	SPANISH SPANISH	HIGHER NATIONAL 5	Y WISELY Y WISELY
	MUSIC MUSIC	HIGHER NATIONAL 5	S LESLIE G DAVIDSON
	CHEMISTRY	NATIONAL 5	S WILSON
	BIOLOGY	HIGHER	J IRVING
WEDNESDAY 5TH APRIL	MATHS MATHS	HIGHER NATIONAL 5	T MACKAY P SHEPHERD
	GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION	NATIONAL 4/5	G JOHNSTON
	PRACTICAL WOODWORK	NATIONAL 4/5	B MARSHALL



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## EASTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME

DATE	SUBJECT	LEVEL	TEACHER
THURSDAY 6TH APRIL	COMPUTING	HIGHER	J MCGIVERN
	MODERN STUDIES MODERN STUDIES	NATIONAL 5 HIGHER	J MULLANEY A BROWN
	GEOGRAPHY	HIGHER	A GILMOUR
	HISTORY	NATIONAL 5	L MONTGOMERY
FRIDAY 7TH APRIL	PHYSICS PHYSICS	NATIONAL 5 HIGHER	A MCKENZIE A MCKENZIE
	MUSIC MUSIC TECHNOLOGY	ADV HIGHER NATIONAL 5	K KEENAN K KEENAN
	GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION	HIGHER	C MCGURK
MONDAY 10TH APRIL	MATHS	NATIONAL 5	H MUNRO
	BIOLOGY	NAT 5 / ADV HIGHER	L WARDROPE
	CHEMISTRY	HIGHER	S TEVEN
	ENGLISH	NAT 5 CRITICAL READING	R CLARK
	ENGLISH	NAT 5 RUAЕ	B WAKEFIELD
TUESDAY 11TH APRIL	ART ART ART	NAT 5 / HIGHER NAT 5 / HIGHER NAT 5 / HIGHER	S MCHENDRY E MCGREGOR L MCALINDEN
	DESIGN & MANUFACTURE	NATIONAL 5	J BROWN
	RMPS	NAT 5 / HIGHER	D ARBICKLE
THURSDAY 13TH APRIL	HISTORY HISTORY	HIGHER ADV HISTORY	K MITCHELL K MITCHELL
	DANCE	NATIONAL 5	E DORNAN



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It's been a busy year across the Science Faculty at Johnstone High School. Pupils regularly have the opportunity to carry out both practical activities and learn scientific processes over a wide range of topics. We offer Biology, Chemistry and Physics at N3 through to Higher level and have this year ran all three Sciences at Advanced Higher level. We are very excited to be offering N5 Engineering Science

for this first time during session 17/18 for S5/6 pupils. This will be led by Mr Fulton.

Over the last few weeks the Higher Chemistry pupils have been carrying out the work for their SQA assignment on 'Vitamin C in Fruit Juices'.

Recently all S2 pupils along with some S4/5/6 pupils took part in a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) careers event. We had speakers from various industries such as Thales, Multiplex Construction, The Royal Navy and British Airways who shared information

about various career opportunities. The pupils found the event very informative and provided very positive feedback:

**"The STEM event was a great opportunity to speak to Ambassadors, like George, to find out about jobs in the construction industry, many of which we didn't realise existed. It is enlightening to discover the career opportunities that can exist in industry for us."** (S5 pupil)

We would like to remind pupils, parents and carers about the variety of clubs and





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“ Science is simply the  
word we use to describe  
organising our curiosity ”

Tim Minchin

extra-curricular activities  
available within the Science  
department including:

STEM Clubs (S3 engineering  
and S1, S2 and S4 robot club)

### SCIENCE CLUB

British Science Association  
CREST award scheme

### ECO-COMMITTEE

New members are always  
welcome!

The Science Department actively  
encourages pupils to attend the  
department for extra help and  
support where necessary and  
would like to remind pupils that  
they can attend the department  
for lunchtime support or come to  
any of the formal supported study  
sessions.

### Up-and-Coming Events in the Science Department

- S1 Cornalees Bridge  
biodiversity trip
- S3 science exams
- N5/H/AH supplementary  
prelims

## Science supported study

The Science Department actively  
encourages pupils to attend the  
department for extra help and  
support where necessary and  
would like to remind pupils that  
they can attend the department  
for lunchtime support or come to  
any of the formal supported study  
classes as follows:

### Biology

N5/AH – Dr Wardrope  
Tuesday after school

N5 – Miss Leggat  
Thursday after school

H – Miss Chalmers  
Tuesday after school.

### Chemistry

N5 – Miss Wilson

Monday after school

Mon/Tue/Thursday from 8am  
Dr Costello- any level

All department teachers  
any lunchtime

### Physics

N5/H – Mr Malaney/  
Mr McKenzie/Mr Fulton  
Wednesday lunchtimes.



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## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A PIPE BAND

By Josh Esson, S1

In preparation for the 'Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships 2017' the Renfrewshire Schools Pipe Band learned to play 2 tunes: Pipe Major Willy Ross' Farewell to the Scots Guards and Campbell's Farwell To Redcastle. To get ready for the competition we were asked to attend Tuesday night rehearsals for intense practice prior to the event. This meant we could tune our chanters and drones and any other maintenance work needed on the pipes as well as learn our pieces.

On the day of the event (Sunday, 12th March) the coach picked us

up at either Linwood High School at 7:45am or Johnstone High School at 8:00am, so it was a very early start! We were quickly on our journey to Edinburgh. Once we arrived at about 9:30am we tuned the drones, tuned the chanters, positioned ourselves and got the medley in our heads before we set off to compete.

The thrill of being on the stage ready to compete gave the majority of us a rush of adrenaline before playing and it must have paid off. The playing was excellent and we never had any dramatic starts or stops. Also, the harmony players sunk in perfectly with the

main medley.

At the end of our set we proudly marched off stage with a smile on our faces, our heads held high and hoping for the win. We had a little time to ourselves to hear other bands compete in other category competitions before we left at 2:00pm. On the journey back the coach was quiet, we were just hoping we would get a result. We arrived back home about 3:30pm. It wasn't until later about 5:30pm that we got the results. We were the winners!! Not only did we come first but we also won £500 towards band funds.

## New Staff

Mrs G Davidson

I arrived at Johnstone High as the new Principal Teacher of Music at the beginning of February and have really enjoyed my first month in the school. I am delighted to have joined such a busy and talented team of pupils and staff in Music and I am looking forward to the projects we have in the pipeline.

Before I moved to Johnstone High, I was a Music Teacher at

Grange Academy in Kilmarnock. During my time there, I acted as Principal Teacher of Guidance and then, latterly, as Principal Teacher of Mentor and ePortfolio.

Not surprisingly, as a Music Teacher, I enjoy making music, especially with young people. In my last school I was heavily involved in our school shows and concerts and ran orchestra and choir tours to London and Italy.

Outside of school, the music continues as my friends and I run a community youth theatre group.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received from staff, pupils and parents/carers. I am really looking forward to being part of the Johnstone High Community.





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## Teenage Lego movie whizz unveils new film for Paisley's City of Culture bid

A Kilbarchan teenager from Johnstone High School has created a fabulous stop-motion animation film about the nearby town of Paisley, Scotland in trademark Lego bricks style.

The three-minute film, which was launched on 1st February at Charles' Primary School in Paisley features the town's most striking buildings while Paisley "buddies" are depicted in their most famous roles – from David Tennant as Dr. Who and the artist and playwright, John Byrne, in his studio, to pop megastar Paolo Nutini performing at 'T in the Park'. There's even homage to kitsch 70s Paisley pop queen, Kelly-Marie.

Following his creation of 'Brick Flicks' - a series of stop-motion animation films using Lego of famous movie scenes.

17 year-old Morgan Spence has been fêted by America's Jimmy Kimmel and commissioned by a Birmingham man to create a unique marriage proposal.

Renfrewshire Council Leader and Chair of the Paisley 2021 Partnership Board, Mark Macmillan said, "The wealth of young, creative talent in Renfrewshire is an extremely important part of our bid to become UK City of Culture 2021, and we are delighted to have Morgan in our midst."

“ His film is a wonderful, affectionate tribute to Paisley, which we hope will ignite further debate about the town and its future. ”



“ Renfrewshire Council has supported my films for several years now, involving me in Lego exhibitions back in 2013 and 2014. So it was a privilege for me to be able to promote the town in this way. ”

“ My parents and grandparents are from Paisley and I'm delighted to have been able to play a small part in enhancing the town's bid to become City of Culture. ”





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# S4 UPDATE

The beginning of this term started with a bang. S4 had their first taste of the 'big exam hall' during their prelim diet. This important set of exams gives the pupils the opportunity to experience that feeling of sitting formal exams while also giving them an accurate evaluation of their progress in each subject. For some, this was very successful, while for others this has highlighted the steps that need to be taken to make improvements.

Over the course of this term the S4 Ambassadors have been working away to organise a post exam event for the year group. Each pupil in the year group has been consulted on what they would like to happen and the overwhelming majority voted for a GBX experience Disco. It was then down to Nicola Caulfield to make the call the Radio Clyde DJ George Bowie

to ask if he would assist with this event. Nicola worked her magic and George agreed to be part of this event. It is now down to the Ambassadors to organise the event over the coming months in order that it is the success they hope it will be.

Early March saw three of our S4 pupils asked to represent the school to promote the Mission Discovery local authority event. Lewis Philp, Jordan Hendriks and Cara Brown spent a morning at Paisley Observatory as the faces for this sessions Mission Discovery event. Keep your eyes out in the local news for their happy, smiley faces.

With the days rapidly counting down to their first set of formal SQA exams, S4 should now be embarking on a sustained study programme to give themselves the best possible opportunity to attain the results they are

capable of. Additional classes, supported study, Easter School and during the exam period, Master classes are available to support our S4 pupils during this extremely important period.

As I mentioned in previous newsletters, a large part of our school is to promote and celebrate the achievements of our young people. Many of them are heavily involved in the extra-curricular provision, but there are a large number who are involved out with school. I would ask that if any pupil has been successful on the sporting field, on the stage or any other activity that they let Mr Menzies know in order that these successes can get the recognition they deserve.





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# BERLIN



## S4/S5 trip to Berlin

Final preparations are well under way for the JHS trip to Berlin in June 2017. With a party of 48 pupils and 6 staff flying direct from Glasgow to Berlin it promises to be a wonderful experience. With excursions booked for Berlin Zoo, The Reichstag parliament, The TV tower, Tropical Islands water park among the fun packed five-day trip it promises to be memorable. Watch out for photographs in the next edition of the newsletter.





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## Employability Initiatives in school

### Logistics Programme

Six of our young people achieved a forklift driver's licence after a week of intensive training at Glasgow Training Group's Scotstoun facility in Glasgow. This is clearly a great addition to their CV and three of them are continuing to use and develop their skills in work placements with the Russell Group in Hillington. They are part of the Logistics Programme developed by Renfrewshire Council, Developing the Young Workforce and a number of local companies. This programme has also allowed the young people to achieve two motor vehicle modules at West College Scotland.

Five of the school's fork lift operators show off their certificates.



### Construction Site Safety

Scott McFarlane in S5 performed excellently on a training course at West College Scotland and achieved his CSCS card, which is his safety certificate for working on construction sites. This really puts him ahead of the pack when it comes to applying for apprenticeships in this sector.

### Behind the News

Three of the school's prospective journalists are still attending the Behind the News Programme and are currently writing articles they hope might be published on the websites of national newspapers.

A number of S4-6 pupils have been undergoing a course of employability skill sessions run by Wilma Leburn and Jessica Dradge from Renfrewshire Council. The pupils have been on numerous visits to college, council sites and community groups in addition to working on CVs and applying for jobs. They are about to complete their course with mock interviews with representatives of local businesses and the school would like to thank Fran Porter in particular and all our partners from the Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce, West College Scotland and Renfrewshire Council for helping to provide such a worthwhile experience for our young people.

### Modern Apprenticeships

As part of Modern Apprenticeship week over fifty S5/6 pupils attended two major recruitment events.

The NHS were looking for MAs in various areas including Health/Family Support Workers, Technicians and Engineers. A large number of pupils were able to discuss the posts, career progression and the recruitment process with professionals from the NHS and a number have applied for these brilliant opportu-



### Employability Group

Glasgow Training Group, who



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## Employability Initiatives in school

are a subsidiary of Arnold Clark, had a recruitment day offering vacancies in a number of different areas relating to the car industry. Over forty Johnstone High pupils were taken to the event and many of our young people have since applied for the large number of Modern Apprenticeships on offer.

Many of our young people are now seeing Modern Apprenticeship programmes as an alternative to Higher and Further Education as they can still achieve many of the same qualifications, have the same career prospects and of course, be paid a salary throughout their training.

There will be further Modern Apprenticeship and careers/jobs events and young people should be encouraged to take the opportunity to go and meet local

employers.

### S2 Hospitality Takeover

A group of twenty S2 pupils recently attended a Hospitality Takeover event at West College Scotland. The day consisted of a number of workshops giving them a taste of the wide variety of skills required to succeed in such an important industry to the Renfrewshire area. The workshops were delivered by top professionals in cooking, cake decorating, marketing and a whole lot more. All the young people had a great experience and thoroughly enjoyed their day.

Two of our young stars won prizes on the day. Andrew Boyce won the Future Chef award and will spend a day in the kitchens at Cameron House on Loch Lomond. Toni Christie won the

Star of the Future award. Well done to both of them and to all who took part and represented the school so well.

### Opportunities via email

In addition to information being displayed on notice boards and on screen within the school, S4 to 6 pupils are now being sent information regarding career opportunities to their email addresses. There will be information regarding higher and further education, modern apprenticeships and jobs. This could be information on events, open days/evenings or very often vacancies for apprenticeships. If it is of interest at all, it is very important that young people act upon the information they get and do not forget about it. If they feel they need any support they should speak to Pupil Support or the Employability Project Leader.



Graeme Cheevers – Chef at Cameron House oversees one of the workshops.

Mrs Hollywood with Cameron Coughtrie





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## PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Diane Spence

The Parent Council welcomed Mrs Susan Condy, our newly appointed Principal Teacher of Maths, to our February meeting. Mrs Condy presented and discussed her vision for the maths department. This includes a supported study programme for National 5 Maths students, with sessions tailored to specific weekly topics. Mrs Condy also discussed her plan to introduce "Dynamic Maths" revision notes to all National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher maths students by the end of February, as a supporting tool for pupils revising for their exam.

This term the Parent Council funding sub group were busy organising their first fundraising event; a "Movie Night" which was held on Friday 17th February. They were delighted that over sixty S1 & S2 pupils attended, raising £400. The pupils all

enjoyed the screening of "The Secret Life of Pets" while munching on sweets and popcorn kindly donated by Hannah's of Johnstone and Showcase Cinema. S2 pupil Tiamo Ross was the lucky winner of the free raffle receiving two cinema tickets.

A special thanks to Mr Fulton of the Physics Department and his team of helpers who sold tickets for the "Movie Night". Also, thank you to the parents and staff who supervised on the day.

The funding sub group are planning more events for pupils, parents and the local community to enjoy, while raising funds to support improvements to the school's external grounds. More details of forthcoming events to follow.

If you would like to get involved with future fundraising events or get in touch with the Parent

Council, please email [johnstone-highenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:johnstone-highenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

The next Parent Council meeting/AGM is on Monday 15th May at 7pm. Parents are most welcome to come along.

Reminder - Parent Council minutes and the Head Teacher's report are posted in the parent section of the school website.

Diane Spence

Chair, Parent Council



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## MUSIC SHOWCASE National 5 and Higher

Following from our prelim performances, a music showcase was set up by the music department as a way to tackle nerves and to boost our confidence in preparation for the final exam. The event was organised by S6 pupil Karla Halliday, as part of the NPA Music and Business course, who had to arrange tickets for family and friends, the refreshments, and to help out on the evening of the performances. The S4 showcase took place on the 15th of February and the S5/6 on the 16th and was held in the staff room. This gave pupils an opportunity to show off their talents in an informal environment and to provide a wide range of entertainment including voice, guitar and drums (an extremely loud but very enjoyable performance!). The guitar tutor Mr Bolam was also present to offer support to his pupils and to provide an excellent accompaniment in their performances. For most, the showcase was daunting with many anxious to perform, however, after doing so, there was a great sense of achievement and pride. This was a great opportunity to showcase our hard work put into perfecting our pieces and has given us more confidence to perform in the final exam.



Allana Henderson has uploaded SQA showcase photos on the twitter feed.

### Newsletter Hearty Lives report

The Hearty Lives initiative within our school as gone from strength to strength in recent months. The S6 Peer Educators have been coming up with lessons in order to raise awareness of the importance of nutritional health. The lessons have covered the dangers of:- smoking, alcohol, drugs, takeaway food and added sugar. These topics are covered in our PSE programme however our S6 pupils have done an

exceptional job of supporting our S1 students to make better choices on a day to day basis.

An alarming issue was the quantity of sugary drinks that a number of our pupils drink. The Peer Educators reacted to this when Carla McGoldrick and Lorin Mullen of S6 came up with the idea of making smoothie shots. The girls researched a number of basic recipes and provided Mr Brown with a shopping list of all the goods that they needed. The girls, Mr Brown and Miss Doherty then made the shots and created a display to advertise them at lunch time. The event proved to be a success with the majority of pupils choosing the Raspberry-Orange smoothie. The



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students were provided with the easy recipe and guide on how to make them so they could go on to make the smoothies at home.

Having researched and provided information on a number of

topics which affect our students nutritional health the Peer Educators then progressed on to the aspects of our students lives that affect their mental health. It was found that the S1 students who are in the Peer Educators classes struggle to meet challenges head on. Therefore the Peer Educators researched how they could

support the Peers and found that Growth Mindset techniques would be the perfect method to use. Each week the peer educators have been coming up with mini projects where the peers can learn about famous people who have used the criteria for Growth Mindset successfully and then provide the peers with scenarios so that they can also practise using them in school and out.

A number of the peers have stated that they are now more confident and they work harder to achieve their goals in class and out. A number of our Peer

Educators have been volunteering in local primary schools since the start of the year and are now using the Growth Mindset techniques to support the next generation of students to enter Johnstone High School.

A huge thanks goes to Lorin, Iona, Sophie, Caitlin, Daniel, Ceira, Leigh and Carla for all their hard work, perseverance and contributions over the year. Good luck for the future and be sure to remain resilient, confident and most of all...happy.

Enjoy Airspace guys.

Mr Brown

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**Gardening Club** – Mrs Barry  
Thursday Lunchtime, Home Economics Room 4 Vegetable Garden, [S1-S3](#)

**Sewing Club** – Mrs Carlin  
Wednesday and/or Friday Lunchtime, Textile Room, [S1-S6](#)

**Senior Choir** – Mrs Leslie  
Monday Lunchtime, Classroom, [S4-S6](#)

**Science Club** – Mr Fulton & Miss Leggat  
Monday Lunchtime, Classroom, [S1](#)

**Robot Club** – Mr Fulton & Mr McGurk  
Wednesday After School, Classroom, [S1-S6](#)

**Stem Club** – Mr Fulton  
Wednesday After School, Classroom, [S2-S3](#)

**Football** – Mr McGivern

After School, Astro Pitch [S5-S6](#)

**Green Power** – Mr Fulton & Mr Marshall  
Monday After School, Classroom, [S2-S5](#)

**S2 Football** – Mr Palombo & Mr Miller  
Days Dependent on Games, Football Pitch [S2](#)

**Basketball** – Mr Peters  
Wednesday After School, Games Hall [S3-S6](#)

**Football** – Mr Brown  
Training for S1 football team on request. Any day after school.

**Volleyball** - Mr Stevenson  
Monday Lunchtime, Games hall  
[Any year group](#)

**Football (7aside)**  
Mr Stevenson  
Wednesday After School Astro Grass [S1-S3](#)

**Trampolining & Gymnastics** – Miss Dornan  
Monday After school, Small Gym [S1- S3](#)

**Netball** – Miss Dornan  
Miss Wilson  
Thursday Lunch & After School – Schedule not set yet. Games Hall [S1-S6](#)

**Duke of Edinburgh**  
Mr McKenzie and other volunteers (including CLD)  
Tuesday after school, Thursday Lunchtime. Science Lab 1 [S3-S6](#)

**Science Club** – Miss Leggat & Miss Wilson  
Monday Lunchtime, Science Classroom [S1](#)

**Junior Choir** – Miss Keenan  
Wednesday Lunchtime, Miss Keenan's Classroom, [S1-S3](#)





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## S1 YEAR GROUP UPDATE

It's been another busy term for our S1 pupils. We started the term with our parents evening. We had one of our highest attendance figures to date of 83%. Some of our S1 parents attended our parents in partnership event which this term was focusing on literacy and numeracy. Parents participated in a taster experience of the curriculum and activities that our young people have in the classroom. We are looking forward to Brian Costello coming in to our next parents in partnership event on the 23rd of March who will be talking about Growth Mindset. Many thanks to

our parent council and Mr Fulton who organised a very successful movie night for S1 pupils.

Our S1 pupils learned about Fairtrade during Fairtrade fortnight and were able to show what they had learned at the house quiz during the Fairtrade assembly. Our community safety officer has been in to speak to all our S1 pupils during PSE about antisocial behaviour and littering in the local community. We are due to have our next rewards assembly before the Easter break and many of our S1 pupils will be on track to get a gold certificate for behaviour

which is fantastic. Again can I remind our young people to tell us about their achievements outside of school so that they can be given recognition in school.

Mrs O' Malley S1 DHT

## S2 YEAR GROUP UPDATE

Our S2 pupils have had a busy term this year which started with their parents evening in January and will end with them making their subject choices for S3. Some of our S2 pupils have been involved in the BBC school news report where they created a full news programme which they researched, wrote, filmed and edited themselves. There is a link to their report on the school website. We also had a group of S2 pupils who attended an event at West College Scotland about hospitality where 2 of our pupils won prizes. Congratulations to

Toni Christie who won a voucher for a local store for getting the star of the future award. Also congratulations to Andrew Boyce who has won a day with a professional Chef at Cameron House Hotel for getting the Chef of the Future award. All of our S2 pupils enjoyed an assembly from the community police on choices for life and a small number of S2 pupils then attended an event at Johnstone Town Hall following on from this assembly our S2 football team continues to go from strength to strength and they have played

well all season. We are due to have our next awards ceremony before the Easter break and a number of our S2 pupils are on track to receive gold certificates for behaviour which is fantastic. Can I remind pupils that they should tell us about their achievements outwith school so we can give them recognition in school for them.

Mrs O' Malley S1 DHT



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## S3 YEAR GROUP UPDATE

It's rarely a quiet time in the life of an S3 pupil at Johnstone High and this term has been a whirlwind of activity. In addition to the core business of learning, the year group have been involved in immunisations, a theatre trip to see *The Woman in Black*, sports trips to see Manchester City in action at the Etihad and a visit to Murrayfield to take in Scotland's victory over Italy in the Six Nations rugby and a chemistry lecture with a professor from Heriot Watt University. Quite the mixed bag.

Amidst this flurry of activity, S3 pupils have also been engaging in the options process, completing a 'dummy run' where they were given free choice to specify the subjects they would like to take forward into the Senior Phase and National Qualifications. From there, the options form was created to maximise the number of pupils able to take their first choice courses and this process was completed at their recent options interview on Thursday, 23rd March. This is a crucial stage in pupils' education as they transition from the Broad General

Phase to the Senior Phase, with all the expectations and possibilities that come with it. This means more than just a new tie and we will be doing everything we can to help support the transition into senior school and to help every pupil maximise their attainment and achievement during what's left of their time at Johnstone High School. I very much look forward to working with you to support our young people on the path to success.

Mr Miller  
Depute Head Teacher S3

## S4 ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

During the SQA diet, S4 pupils that are not sitting any formal National 5 exams will participate in the S4 enrichment programme. This programme gives these pupils the opportunity to participate in a range of Skills for Life, Learning and Work courses in order to develop key skills for their future plans.

The majority of pupils will have the opportunity to complete an extended work experience as part of the process.

Other opportunities will include some of the following taster

sessions at West College Scotland

- Car Mechanics
- Construction
- Computer Games
- Childcare
- Beauty
- Hospitality
- Dance
- Social Media and Animation
- Hairdressing/Make up Artistry

In addition, pupils will have the opportunity to work with St Mirren on a sport and employability course, Young Enterprise Scotland and The Experience in Hillington.

Letters with all this information will be handed to pupils in the coming weeks in order that we can capture the best possible opportunities for our pupils.

If you require any additional information or wish to discuss this further please contact Mr Menzies, DHT S4, at the school.



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## S5 & S6 UPDATE

Mr Munro DHT S5/6

### Higher and Further Education Updates

With almost 56% of the S6 applying to go on to study at university and a further 30% looking to continue their education in college it is encouraging to record that so far many have received unconditional and conditional offers. So far we have seen unconditional offers for Law, Engineering, Teaching and Science courses as well as conditional ones in Medicine. Many senior pupils are having the welcoming situation of having many choices where to continue their learning pathway.

### Saltire Awards

Many of the senior pupils have occupied their non contact periods volunteering in a variety of volunteering opportunities. Seniors can be found supporting younger pupils in paired reading schemes, befriending as well as helping out in classrooms. All who opt to volunteer register for the Saltire award and this addition to a UCAS application or CV can help in the pursuit of HE/FE or training places.

### S6 Hoodies

A massive thanks to Amy White from S6 who organised this year's order for leavers' hoodies. With military like precision the order was organised and sent meaning

that currently S6 are resplendent in a mixture of coloured hoodies complete with the statutory nickname emblazoned on the back. Such was the popularity of the hoodies many staff decided to get one too, including all the SMT.

### S6 Prom

Final preparations are being put in place by Stewart Baker of S6 for the forthcoming prom. Guest lists are being collated for the event which will be held on Tuesday 6 June.

### S6 Graduation

This year's S6 graduation will take place on Thursday 27 June at 7pm. Pupils have already received their tickets for what always promises to be an emotional evening. As you read this S6 have already had their fitting for their graduation gown. The evening will also allow parents and family to get a photograph taken by a local photographer Andrew Stark. Andrew has covered the last 3 graduations and his work is of high quality. At the end of the ceremony there will be refreshments served and it is hoped that this will allow the pupils and their guests to mix with the staff and reminisce about the past 6 years as well as wishing them all the best for the future.

### Senior Awards

This year's ceremony takes place on Thursday 20 April at 7pm. If previous ceremonies are anything to go by then this promises to be a fantastic evening celebrating the successes of pupils in S4, S5 and S6. With well over one hundred pupils due to receive at least one award then it is sure to be standing room only in the assembly hall.

Pupils should have received their notification of an award by the time you read this.

Due to the large number of guests the number of tickets available for each pupil is limited to two. Pupils receiving an award do not need a ticket.

### S6 PSE

Currently a new PSE course is being devised by Mr Munro and a small team of staff. This will be available for the new S6 in August 2017. Without giving away too many secrets this will be a fantastic new course which will aim to service the needs of the S6 in today's society. Staff have come forward to volunteer to both create and deliver the programme which will include inserts such as student cooking, managing your money, buying and maintaining a car to name but a few. It all promises to be a new and exciting development for S6.



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## SQA EXAM PREPARATION

With the SQA exam diet due to start on 2 May here are a few things that all parents with pupils about to face the exams should be aware of.

### 1. Exam time table

All pupils in S4, S5 and S6 will be issued with a personalised timetable. This will contain exactly the exams and at what level they should be sitting. The timetable will indicate what the starting time of each exam is and where it will be held.

Parents wishing to see the full SQA timetable can access it view the school website, school app or by following this link:

[https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files\\_ccc/Exam\\_Timetable\\_2017.pdf](https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/Exam_Timetable_2017.pdf)

### 2. What to do before each exam

Before every exam pupils should perform the following checklist

Have they signed in? Office staff take a register prior to every exam to see who is missing.

Have they got their seat number? All pupils sitting an exam in the hall are allocated a seat number. It is vital they sit in that seat as failure to do so could result in them mistakenly being marked absent.

If the exam ID not in the hall do they know the location? Even if it is not in the hall they must register before moving to the exam location. Sometimes due to large numbers classrooms are utilised.

### 3. What to do during the exam

The invigilators appointed by the SQA are very experienced and helpful. They will ensure the pupils have the correct paper and any additional equipment they need for each exam.

Please note that the following are not allowed in the exam locations:

Any mobile device such as a smart phone, Ipad or apple watch

Please also note that only water is allowed in the hall and any other drink is prohibited.

If a pupil feels ill during an exam they must inform one of the invigilators immediately.

### 4. When a pupil is finished an exam

The chief invigilator will let the pupils know when they can leave the exam hall. To avoid disruption in the last remaining minutes of an exam no one is allowed to leave the exam locations.

### 5. If a pupil is ill prior to the start of an exam is unable to enter the exam location.

If this should happen then parents must follow the exact procedure:

Telephone the school prior to the start of the exam and speak to Mr Munro who is Johnstone High School's SQA coordinator.

A medical line detailing the exact reason

for the failure to attend the exam must be submitted to Mr Munro. The school must then inform the SQA and begin the process of exceptional circumstances.

If you speak with Mr Munro he will detail the process for any parent.

### 6. In the run up to and during the exams there are a number of useful tips for parents and pupils. These are listed below:

On the morning of the exam please make sure that breakfast is eaten. Some exams last a few hours and so fatigue will be an issue if nothing has been eaten.

Make sure you have a bottle of water as you enter the exam location.

Use the study leave wisely. There will be another timetable of masterclasses available as in previous years. This is a series of classes put on the day before each exam to prepare the pupils.

Attend, if possible, the Easter school classes. The timetable is printed in the newsletter.

### 7. There are a number of study guides available from Mr Munro which may just give that last-minute tip which could help in the heat of the moment. Parents can receive these electronically by emailing Mr Munro at

[graham.munro@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:graham.munro@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)



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## STEM UPDATE

### **S3 ENGINEERING CLUB**

10 S3 pupils have been working all year on a full size R2D2 from star wars. This consists of a radio controlled drive system and a mobile phone and BBC microbit controller used to turn the head of R2D2 and operate the lights.

For the first year the school is building an electric race car large enough for a pupils to drive. The team have been using skills from practical metal work to design and build a chassis. Hopefully, we will be competing this year against other schools.

### **S1-3**

20 pupils are well into their construction of a robot to take part in the schools version of robot wars, Rampaging Chariots. The robots are radio controlled carriages based on two electric drill motors.

### **S5/6 Greenpower Race Car**



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Things are hotting up... as well as the weather in sunny Johnstone, preparations for our rapidly approaching June departure to Dar-es-Salaam are moving to the next level. Challengers are currently working on their fitness levels in preparation for the demanding trek. They are also immersed in learning some Swahili to make a good impression and communicate readily with the local people on expedition. (No rude words allowed!)

Challengers have continued to ramp up both group and individual fundraising activities with various events being organised to help with final contributions to funds. Raffles will take place at forthcoming school awards ceremonies so, if you are attending, please be generous – challengers are on the lookout for any prizes which you may be willing to contribute to a very worthwhile cause. All donations are gratefully received.

The detailed itinerary for our trips has been finalised and challengers can now look forward to fascinating (though very tough)

treks through the Livingstone Mountains (I presume) and to the top of Mount Rungwe. Project sites have been identified and we will be rolling our sleeves up to help with the construction of classrooms and teachers' accommodation blocks in two remote primary schools close to Lake Malawi. We also plan to make a financial donation to the schools in order to allow them to buy much needed textbooks and classroom equipment.

In addition, staff members have also taken part in first aid courses and an Expedition Conference in Edinburgh, which passed on medical, and health and safety information to enable the safest possible trip for all.

## **The countdown continues!**

Mr McGivern



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## WORLD BOOK DAY

Mrs Haggerty - Literacy Coordinator

## World Book Day

Mrs Haggerty - Literacy Coordinator

'Do something booky' – the slogan created by the World Book Day organisation, could not have been any more apt. Without a doubt, it summed up Johnstone High School community's World Book Day celebrations. Learners and staff fully embraced the day and by so doing, communicated the message that reading for pleasure is fun.

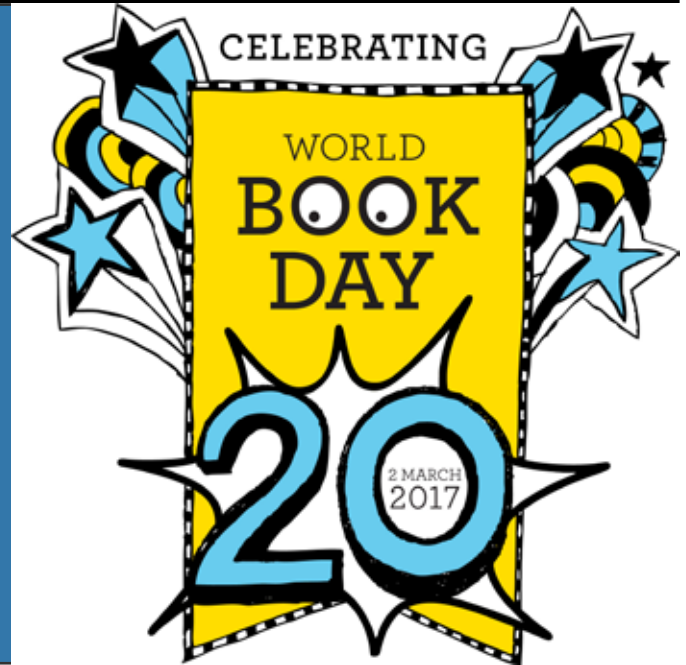
The continuous development of literacy skills is key as young people progress through the curriculum and prepare to live healthy, purposeful and happy lives when they leave school. Events like World Book Day remind us that reading the right book, with the right level of encouragement and support can be a pleasurable experience instead of hard work.

It was delightful to observe a group of S4 volunteers inviting members of staff to take part in 'Door Dress up'. The group demonstrated leadership skills as they set about ensuring that as many departments as possible had classroom doors disguised as the cover from a book. It was good to see doors dressed as covers from popular reads, such as Alice in Wonderland, Horrid Henry, Hunger Games and Diary of a Wimpy Kid': Mr Bump even made an appearance as a cover for Mrs Mc Alinden's door in the Art department. The purpose of the project was to stimulate discussion- and discussion, collaboration, and debate certainly took place. The visual images created the perfect opportunity to discuss books.

Celebration of reading gathered momentum when author Danny Weston visited our school. He met with S1 learners in our assembly hall and delivered an informative and entertaining presentation. The

S1 audience were engrossed as he talked about his determination to become a writer and introduced them to his books. Danny Weston also delivered a very successful creative writing workshop, in our library. S2 writers profited greatly from this experience and produced excellent pieces of creative writing. I am looking forward to reading the finished pieces and sharing them with staff and learners this term.

Our aim is to continue to promote reading as a valuable skill for life and our Big Read certainly raised the profile of reading. Staff and pupils from all subject disciplines settled down to read. Our librarians, teachers and senior pupils across learning and paired readers were determined to support the Big Read; they ensured that young pupils had access to a text of their choice. Aidan Hepburn, S3 captured images of scores of young people reading and might I say, they were engaged in reading their books. It is our





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intention to maintain interest and enthusiasm by launching a Readathon before the Easter break. During World Book day the librarian welcomed teachers and pupils throughout the day. We staged a 'Where's Wally?' hunt in the library in order to celebrate Wally's 30th birthday. S1, S2 and S6 took part in the hunt for Wally and decorated our walls with book recommendations which will inspire readers to widen their experience of books.

Our celebration of World Day was successful. It certainly supported developing positive attitudes to reading and it created the opportunity for S1, S2 and S3 pupils to apply their learning outside the classroom. We are

very grateful to members of the Home Economic department for supporting our World Book Day coffee morning. Pupils baked delicious cakes and a team of young people hosted our coffee morning. Rowan Houston, S6 created a quiz for staff and I thoroughly enjoyed watching them correctly identify words invented by William Shakespeare. The day was a true celebration of reading and learning together.

We are already looking forward to World Book Day 2018. We may even receive a book recommendation from a person who found one of the tags attached to a balloon was 're-leased' by a group of readers, on World Book Day 2017.

Angela Haggerty

Literacy Co-ordinator

Please see below for the final word from the participants themselves:

“ World Book Day is a great way of spreading the joy of reading and is an effective way of engaging young people in storytelling and the English language. It was nice to see so many pupils and staff involved across the school. ”

Morgan Spence S6

“ I enjoy reading more now and read on World Book Day. I think the word is engages you in a story, helps you find out information and helps you know the meaning of new words. ”

Ryan Mc Eachran S2

“ I enjoyed all the activities and really enjoyed helping organise the day. I really liked being the photographer. ”

Aidan Hepburn S3

“ The atmosphere in the school was very cheery. During the Big Read, the atmosphere in the school was very chilled, and readers in the library, were enjoying the experience of reading. ”

Rowan Houston and Jack Vaughan S6



“ I think World Book Day was good and I enjoyed it. ”

Chloe Fyffe S1





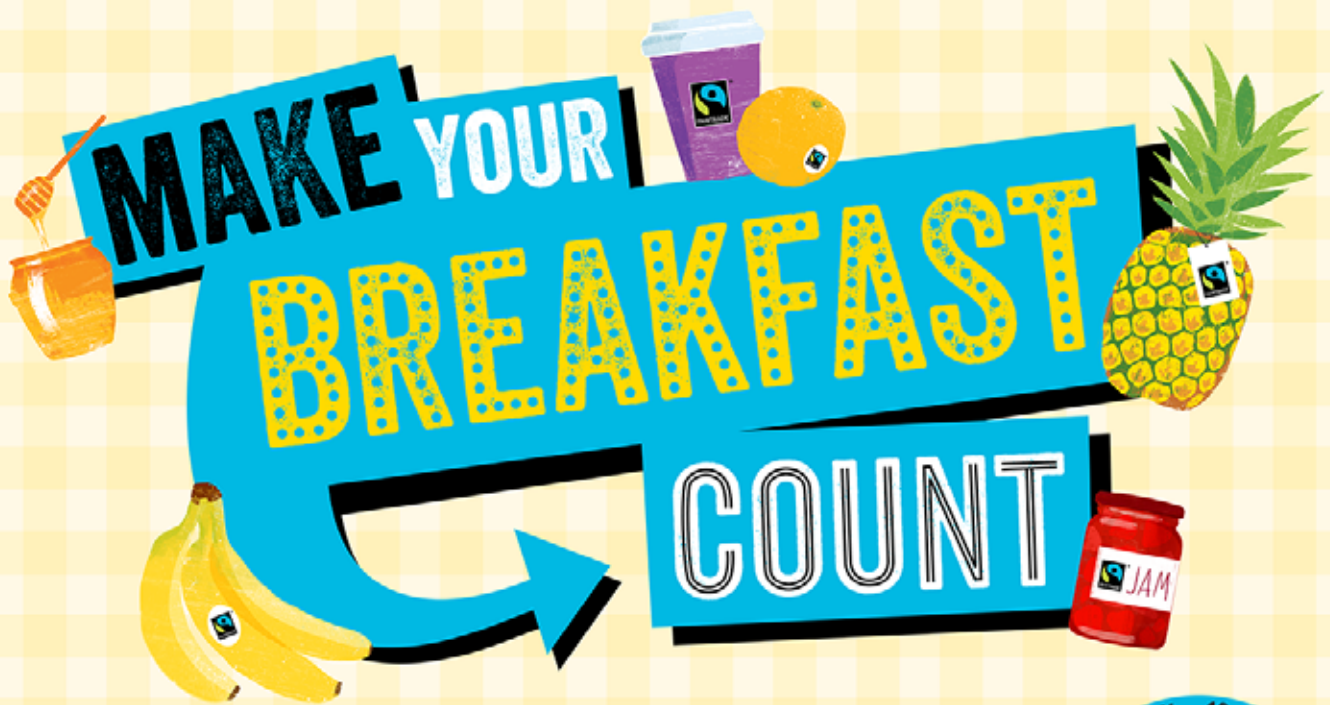
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27TH FEBRUARY - 12TH MARCH

# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT



SIT DOWN FOR BREAKFAST

STAND UP FOR FARMERS

JOIN THE BIG FAIRTRADE BREAKFAST





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## Fairtrade Challenge

Mull vs Arran, was won by: Mull



Photos taken by: Aidan Hepburn

Back, left to right: Nicole O'Reilly, Chloe McCarthy, Abbie Wedlock, Abbie Bone

Front, left to right: Taylor Foulds, Andrew Smith, Paul Houston

“ The Fairtrade assembly was good. It was interesting because it told us a lot about Fairtrade and how it works. The chocolate taste test was interesting. The quiz was fun because we learnt where some of the Fairtrade food came from. It was a good experience and good to learn new things that we didn't know about Fairtrade. ”  
Andrew Smith & Taylor Foulds.



Photos taken by: Aidan Hepburn

left to right: Matthew Rourke, James Smart, Marcus Pollock, Daniel Watts, Brodie Hood, David Lindie, Scott Edgar, Brandon Kerr

“ The overall favourite part of the assembly was chocolate tasting, even though some of them were horrible! ”  
Emma Ross & Amber Sowersby Kaplan

“ The Fairtrade assembly included a Powerpoint, a quiz, and the student's favourite,

a chocolate tasting challenge! The assembly was very interesting and informative, and was very fun as it really included all of us which made it much more exciting. ”

Naomi O'Rourke, Grace London.

“ The assembly was informative. It was also quite fun because of the games that were within the assembly. Ross and I enjoyed the chocolate eating section. The video was quite enjoyable too. ”

Noah Brown & Ross Muir



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## SPOTLIGHT ART DEPARTMENT

The department offers pupils a wide range of skills within the Art and Design framework both in the BGE and Senior Phase, this is in addition to Photography which is a fairly new course that has proven to be very popular and successful.

The department has enjoyed consistent success with SQA results and has an excellent record of winning competitions at local and national level. Our senior pupils have gained admission to Art schools and colleges across the U.K and abroad and have gone on to be successful in their chosen disciplines.

The department offers an inspiring, creative, challenging, supportive and inclusive atmosphere for our learners.

Art and Design is instrumental in helping to develop the following skills, fundamental to the personal present and future wellbeing of our learners:

Application of subject knowledge and understanding

Research skills – analysis and evaluation

Interpersonal skills – negotiation and collaboration

Planning: time, resource and information management

Independent learning – autonomy and challenge in ones own learning

Problem solving – critical thinking: logical and creative approach

Presentation skills and self evaluation – recognition of own skills development and future areas for development

Photography particularly encourages skills in the working world; vital in professions including journalism (reporting), hospitality (weddings) and media (film) to name a few.

It's a busy time in the Art Department for all our pupils but particularly those working towards submitting work to be assessed both in school and externally by the SQA. The department deadline for all practical work at Nat 4, Nat 5 and Higher levels is Friday, April the 21st. The deadline for Higher Photography and Advanced Higher Art is Friday, April 28th.

Easter School is on within the department on Tuesday the 11th of April.

### Course Update

Exciting times in the Art Department! As well as offering a diverse and



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challenging BGE curriculum, we are adding to the courses we can offer pupils in the senior phase. As well as Nat 4, Nat 5, Higher, Advanced Higher Art and Higher Photography, we will be offering Photography as a National Progression Award for 4th years and opening Photography up to pupils in 5th year. Photography has proven to be a very popular subject addition to the Art Dept. From a teaching point of view, the staff have all enjoyed seeing the work produced and amazed at the technical prowess of our pupils after only a short time working with the equipment. Photography benefits those who are taking Art and Design on into Advanced Higher and further education as it gives their work greater depth but also serves those who wish to be creative but feel they prefer a more technical and direct method of creating art. In addition to the NPA in Photography we are also pleased to be launching our 'Triple Skills Art and Design Course'. This course will allow those who take it to gain awards in three different Art and Design areas. This year we will be offering Painting, Printmaking and Jewellery in which the pupils will work with different themes in each subject area, culminating in a diverse and



Inspired Competition-Paisley Museum

visually exciting portfolio. There will be scope for working with photography, textiles and digital art within each subject area. This course will be ideal for those pupils who would like to supplement their Higher / Advanced Higher Art courses, particularly those hoping to go onto study art at Uni/College, as well as those who simply enjoy the creative process and want to continue to learn and expand their knowledge and skills within the subject.

Please speak to Mr Sheppard in the Art dept if you would like more information.

**C**ongratulations to our very talented pupils who were successfully chosen to exhibit work at the Paisley Museum and Art Gallery on 27th January for the INSPIRED exhibition 2017. The

pupils enjoyed some light refreshments at the exhibition and had the opportunity to view their work displayed at the show. The pupils were accompanied by Mrs. McHendry from the Art department and Head Teacher, Mrs. Hollywood.

The pupils who have work on display are:

Shona Cairns, Ceira McKellar, Tia Hunter, Megan Cook, Iris Dickie, Adam Dolan, Euan Taylor, Sarah Henderson, Melissa Lynch, Jenna Fraser, Leah Brown, Rhona Carmichael and Bruno Cameron.

The exhibition runs until Tuesday April 18th



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## Inspirational Pupils Morgan Spence,

6th year pupil, Morgan Spence has proved to be an inspirational pupil both in and outside of school. As well as being Depute Head Boy, studious, talented and an all round nice guy whilst in school, Morgan has also shown initiative and drive in his life out with the walls of school. Morgan's stop-frame animations using Lego figures have brought him international acclaim. Morgan's animation work was used by Paul Oakenfold as a video to one of his tracks and more recently as part of the bid for Paisley City of Culture 2021. Morgan has been interviewed by the media several times about his work.

"Over the last six years I have thoroughly enjoyed my studies in the art department.

Throughout there has been a wealth of support available and the subject has allowed me to develop wider skills and techniques which have proved invaluable for developing my passion for animation."

Morgan has recently been developing his photography techniques within the Higher Photography course with the use of a drone (when weather permits!), to stunning effect. Who knows what will come next from the mind of this young creative!

## Devlin McGhee of 2Arran1

is also a keen photographer and can often be seen out and about in his local environment and further afield, capturing landscapes. Devlin's photographic prowess has gained local attention recently and his work is soon to be highlighted in an impending issue of the Gazette.

## Positive Destinations Ryan Hughes

Ryan Hughes was a pupil at Johnstone High from 2005-2011. He proved himself to be an excellent Art student, achieving high grades at both Standard Grade and Higher level. Ryan then went on to study Art at Advanced Higher level as his aspiration was to go into higher education to study Graphic Design. Ryan created an excellent portfolio of work during his 6th year which gained him an A grade from the SQA as well as securing him a place on a Graphics course at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh. However, after a year in Edinburgh, Ryan decided Graphic Design wasn't the path for him and he applied to Glasgow School of Art to study Fashion and Textiles. Ryan was accepted and as well as studying hard towards his degree, has also forged a successful career as a model. This has allowed him to see the fashion industry from two different viewpoints. Ryan will be exhibiting some of

his work at the Glasgow School of Art Fashion show on the 21st and 22nd of March which some of our senior students will be attending.

Ryan's experience in his own words:

"The Johnstone High Art department, with the way in which they give their students freedom within their own creativity, gave me skills that I found fundamental in continuing my education in an art school environment. The openness to different ways of interpreting your own work and building upon it is something I still continue to do within my own work, never limiting myself to be anything less than my best and making sure my work is true to myself. Studying at Advanced Higher set me up for the quantity of work and quality of work that is expected from a student in an art school environment. It also gave me the opportunity to expand my knowledge of art education as a whole which in turn helped me choose the path I took post secondary education. The aesthetic of my work today in comparison to what I produced in high school is not too dissimilar as school helped me realise what type of designer I wanted to be. I would say my work nowadays has more of a maturity and refined eye however.

After my final year at art school I plan on furthering my education with a masters degree. The



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fashion industry is somewhere I see myself working in years to come and it's the decisiveness that I learned at Johnstone High that has given me the attitude to have a clear direction in where I see my design career going."

Ryan is one of many former pupils who have gone on to achieve success in their chosen fields. As a department, we are all extremely proud of their achievements and to have played a part in helping them achieve their goals.

## War Memorial Commemorating History Visually

To coincide with the 100th Anniversary of the Great War, Mr Sheppard has been working with pupils to create artwork to be included in a memorial to those men and women who attended Johnstone High School and who went on to serve their country in all branches of the armed forces. The memorial commemorates all service from WW1 to the present day. Each individual piece of art work is being etched in copper and will surround a larger central piece featuring a lion sleeping in a field of poppies which was designed by former pupil, Ciara Burke. The central lion image will be highly polished so who ever is looking at it will be encouraged to literally 'reflect' on the service and sacrifice of the service men and women of Johnstone High.

Any pupil who wishes to contribute a piece of art work

or text based piece of work should speak to Mr Sheppard. There are some spaces still to fill!



Jenna Fraser S5 Higher Design



Alasdair Stephen, Expressive Art

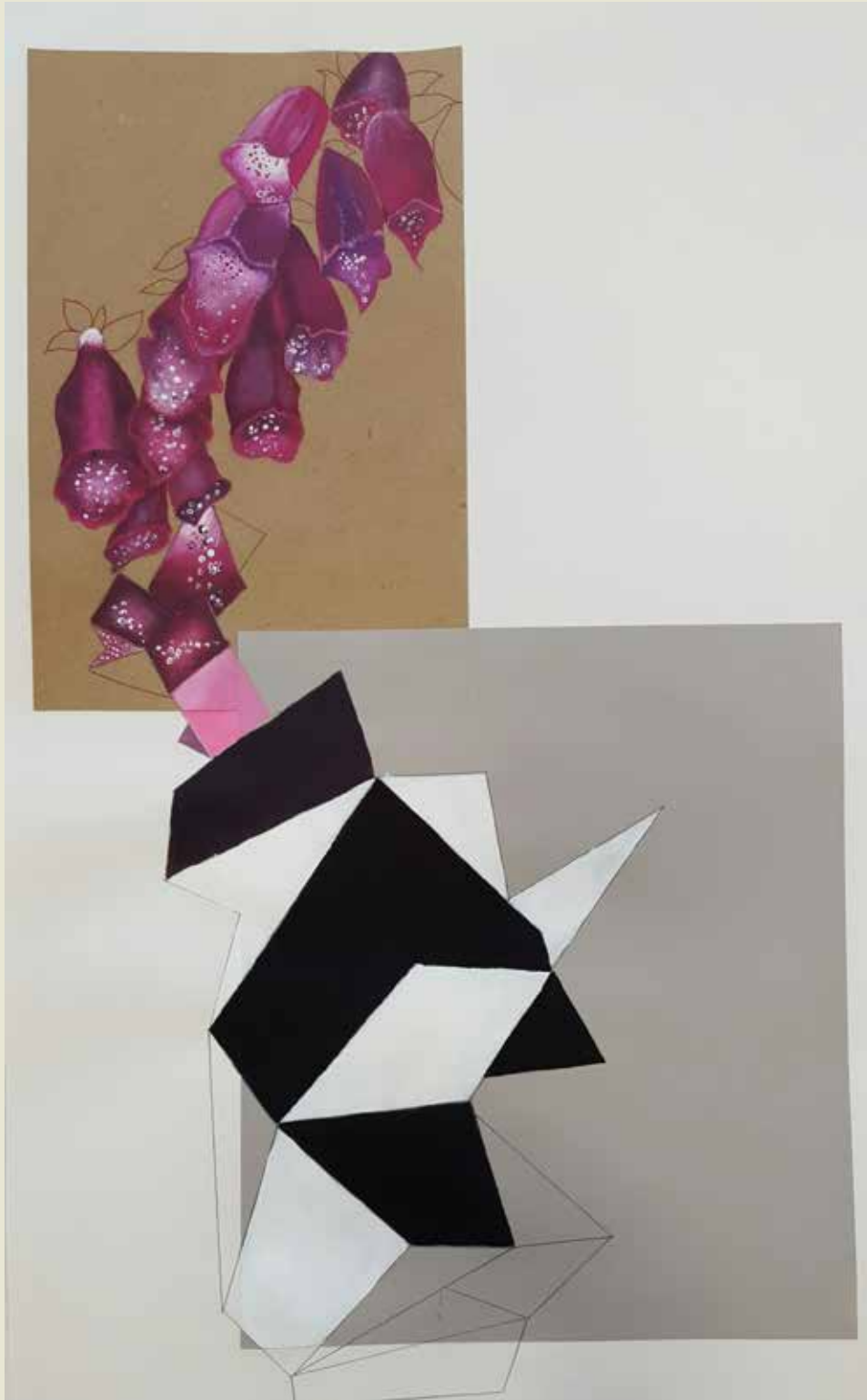


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# ART GALLERY



Shelley McDonald S6 Advanced Higher



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# ART GALLERY



Hockney Landscapes S1 BGE





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# ART GALLERY



Lucy Keith S2 Expressive BGE



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# ART GALLERY



Devlin McGhee Kelpies



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# ART GALLERY



Freya McEwan S5 Higher Expressive



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# ART GALLERY



Rhona Carmichael S5 Higher Expressive



Mabel Wylie S3 Expressive BGE



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# ART GALLERY



Morgan Spence HPhotog Drone Sunrise



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# ART GALLERY



Morgan Spence Animation



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# ART GALLERY



Ryan Hughes Textile Samples



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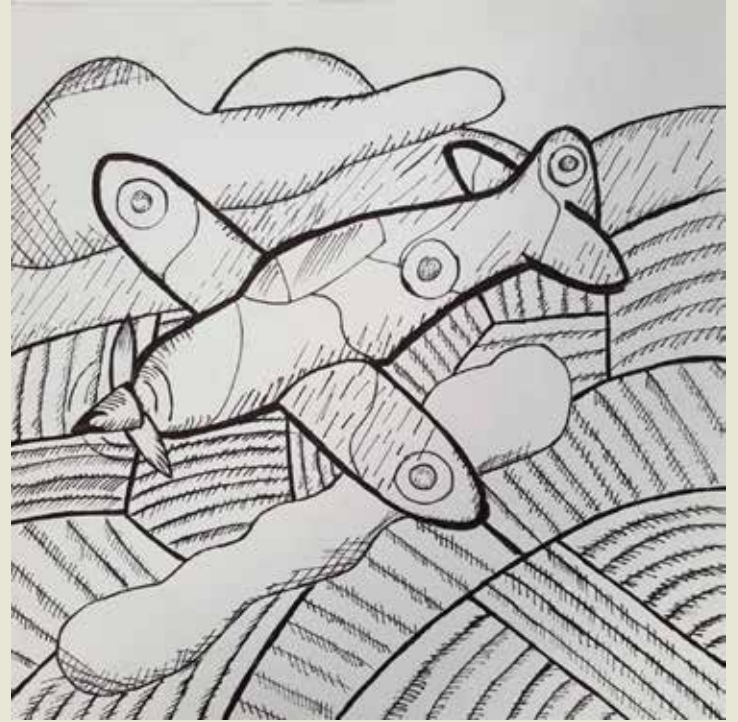
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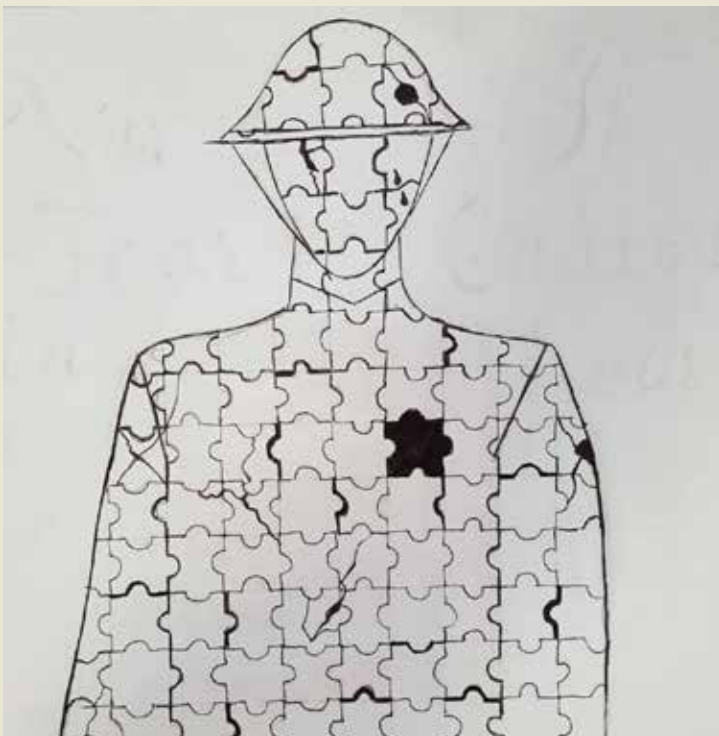
# ART GALLERY



Amy Anderson S3



Lauren Breckenridge S3



Nicole Avril S3





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With special thanks to all the staff and pupils who have contributed.



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