

P Lead Teacher of Developing the Young Workforce

Miss Forbes (Biology) has been appointed Lead Teacher of Developing the Young Workforce. Miss Forbes looks forward to supporting the development of employability skills and raising awareness of career opportunities for all young people.

P Lead Teacher of Equity

Miss Leckenby (Geography) has been appointed Lead Teacher of Equity. Miss Leckenby looks forward to supporting our young people through various Outdoor Learning and wellbeing programmes.

P Acting Principal Teacher of Pupil Support (Milton House)

Mr C. Campbell (Maths) has been appointed Acting Principal Teacher of Pupil Support for Milton House. Mr Campbell looks forward to supporting students and working in partnership with families in his new role.

P IMS Senior Vocalist Day

Our Senior Vocalists travelled to Stonelaw Church on Wednesday, 3rd September, to participate in a specialist workshop to develop their singing and performing techniques. The day was led by the immensely talented baritone Andy McTaggart, who is a lecturer in Voice at RCS and Aberdeen University. This was a brilliant opportunity for our students. Thank you to the Instrumental Music Service for organising this event and to the Music department for organising our participation.

P Braw Clan Theatre Group – “The Needle Room” by Martin Travers

Students and their parents/carers have been invited by “Braw Clan Theatre Group” to attend a theatre performance of ‘The Needle Room’ on the afternoon of Friday, 19th September in St. Nicholas Church Hall, Lanark, commencing at 2.30 pm. The play is suitable for young people aged 14+ and has a running time of 75 minutes plus 15 minutes for questions and answers afterwards.

The Needle Room is about a housekeeper, Rebecca, of a grand home in Clydesdale. Rebecca cooks and cleans for the Galbraith family. During a heatwave, Jessie Galbraith’s health suddenly declines and various secrets erupt. Rebecca must make some difficult choices..... For further information, please see: <https://brawclan.com/> or speak to Miss Kelly in the Drama Department. Tickets have already sold out across the Clydesdale area for performances from 17-27th September. The schools’ performance is a great additional opportunity for young people to see live drama close to home.

We were delighted to work in partnership with Braw Clan Theatre Group last session and look forward to welcoming them back to our school to support Drama students later this month. Thank you to Clare Yuille, Creative Director, for offering this opportunity to our pupils.

P St. Andrew’s Hospice Ambassador Programme and 6K Run – S5 and S6 Students

On Thursday morning, we welcomed Amanda Stewart, Schools and Community Fundraiser for St. Andrew’s Hospice to our school. Amanda shared information with us about the amazing work of St. Andrew’s Hospice, fundraising and volunteering opportunities.

The Ambassador programme is a brilliant volunteering opportunity offered by the Hospice. Being an Ambassador means raising awareness for St. Andrew’s Hospice through either participating in your own or planned events, or volunteering, or a mixture of both. To gain a Bronze Award, you are asked to spend 15 hours volunteering/participating in events or holding events. The time commitment for the Silver Award is 20 hours and for Gold is 25 hours. This would be a great award to list on CV’s, UCAS forms or as part of DofE volunteering sections. If any S5/6 students are interested in being a volunteer at the 6K, please collect a volunteer form from Miss Lee or Ms Saleem (Maths) and send this to Richard at richard.trott@standrews.scot.nhs.uk

The annual St. Andrew’s Hospice 6K run takes place this year on Sunday, 5th October at Strathclyde Park. Ms Saleem (Maths) will arrange transport for those interested in participating in the event. We need to be at Strathclyde Park for 9.45 am, and the run starts at 10.30 am. It

costs £7 to register. Please see Ms Saleem for further information. Please note: Sunday, 5th October is also a Rehearsal Day for students involved in the School Show.

The other fundraising events that you might be interested in participating in are: Santa Dash - 7th December 2025; Schools Ben Nevis - 6th/7th June 2026 (TBC) Adult Ben Nevis 29th August 2026 (TBC)

P OnPath Energy – Healthy and Sustainable Living Programme – S5 Science and Geography Students

We look forward to working in partnership with OnPath Energy, community and business partners on a sustainability project over the next year. The project aims to inspire and encourage communities to be kinder to their pocket and the planet, and will involve engaging workshops, and trialling products from IKEA that are economical and use less energy. S5 Science and Geography students involved in the project will be mentored by Dr. Patrick Elf (Middlesex University) on interventions, data gathering, analysis and report writing, and will have the opportunity to achieve a Level 7 STEM Award.

Thank you to Healthy Valleys, Councillors Ross Gowland and Robert Brown, Duneaton Community Trust, Coalburn Miners Charitable Welfare, Douglas Community Council, Rigside and Douglas Water Council, Lesmahagow Development Trust, Carmichael Community Council, South Lanarkshire Council Connect2 Renewables, OnPath Energy, South Lanarkshire Council and IKEA Glasgow for supporting the project.

Please see Mrs McGuire, Faculty Head of Science if you have any questions about this exciting project!

P Volunteering opportunity for Senior Students - Lesmahagow Rainbows

Are you interested in a volunteering opportunity with Lesmahagow Rainbows? Rainbows (the youngest Guide group, aged 5-7 years) meet on Mondays, from 6.30 - 7.30 pm in Lesmahagow District Guide Hall, on Abbeygreen. This would be a great opportunity for anyone completing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, or for anyone interested in a career working with children and young people. For further information, please email: lesmahagowrainbows@gmail.com

B Lee

P Sustrans 'Hands Up' Travel Survey

On Wednesday, 10th September, all students will have the chance to participate in this year's national school travel survey. The data gathered from across Scotland is used to inform future transport and planning decisions.

P Scripture Union

Scripture Union Club meets on Wednesdays at lunchtime in B101. It was lovely to see everyone who joined us last week and brilliant to welcome new members. We look forward to seeing everyone again on Wednesday! All welcome, please bring your lunch!

B Lee

P P7/S1 Open Afternoon

Parents/Carers are invited to visit our school on the afternoon of Tuesday, 9th September, when students will be conducting tours around our departments. Further information will be shared with P7 and S1 parents and carers by email.

B Lee

P Chess Club

Chess Club is starting up again in Mrs Mullen's room (B102) on a Monday lunchtime. All are welcome. We plan to play both Lanark GS and Carlisle HS in a feisty tournament later in the autumn. We must win our trophy back!

S Rivans

P Parent Council Meeting

The first Parent Council Meeting and AGM takes place on Monday, 15th September from 7.15 pm – 8.45 pm in the School Library. New members are always welcome! We look forward to seeing you there. An online link can also be provided, please contact the school office for this.

B Lee

P School Photos

School Photos will be taken on Wednesday, 17th September, for S1, S3, S5 and S6 students. S1 and S6 year group photos will be taken. Full uniform must be worn! Please see Mrs McCallum for any uniform items required; please see Mr Gray if you have any questions about school photo day.

B Lee

P Everton vrs Spurs

The PE Department has secured tickets for the Everton vrs Spurs match on 26th October (please note, the change of date). Part of this package is a tour of Anfield. The cost of the trip is £129. Please see Mr Ross for further information.

B Lee

P Emergency Exits

A reminder that fire doors must only be used during emergency evacuations. This change has been implemented by South Lanarkshire Council, across all schools and other Council buildings, for health and safety reasons, to improve security and also due to maintenance issues. All pupils must enter and leave the school building using the main entrance/exit.

B Lee

P Home Economics

All pupils are reminded to bring a container for Home Economics when cooking. Thank you!

B Lee

P Uniform Items and School Bags

If you have any pre-loved uniform items or school bags that are no longer needed, we would be delighted if these could be handed into the school office so that we can add them to our uniform and school supplies for next session. Please help us to look after our environment– remember the importance of reducing, repairing, reusing and recycling!

B Lee

P Lost Property

A number of lost property items (including expensive outdoor jackets) remain unclaimed in the lost property store. Please check with Joan and Lynn if you have misplaced any items within the school.

B Lee

P Community

A reminder of the importance of placing litter in the bins provided. It is important that we look after the local environment and show respect for our community.

B Lee

P ParentsPortal

Thank you to all parents and carers who have signed up to ParentsPortal, our new digital communication service. ParentsPortal enables parents to update contact information, complete consent forms, view canteen menus and attendance information, link to ParentPay and other functions. From this session, school reports will also be available through ParentsPortal.

Please contact the school office if you require any further information.

B Lee

P 'Too good to go'

Unsold sandwiches/wraps/baguettes left over from lunch-time can be collected from a fridge in the Pupil Support corridor at the end of the school day or by arrangement with PTs Pupil Support/SMT/PTs Equity. Please speak to SMT, PTs Pupil Support or PTs Equity for further information.

Please also remember that a supply of toiletries are available in Mr Mallaghan's Pupil Support Office. There are also some porridge pots if anyone has missed breakfast.

B Lee

P Uniform

Our school uniform is:

- White shirt/blouse;
- School tie (red and black/ senior/ international);
- Plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan without logos;

- Black trousers/black skirt;
- School blazer, with option of braiding for S6;
- Plain black footwear (including laces); and
- P.E. kit (white, red or black t-shirt, black shorts).

Please speak to Mrs McCallum, your Pupil Support Teacher, or any member of SMT if you need any uniform items. Alternatively, you can request uniform items at the links below:

School uniform <https://forms.gle/AWcqcQ7seyd5c91i9>

We would welcome any donations of any pre-loved items of school uniform, particularly school blazers to add these to the supplies available to pupils. Please pass any donations to the School Office. Thank you.

B Lee

P Windfarm Connect2 Renewables Employability Fund – S4-S6 pupils

The following information about the Windfarm Connect 2 Renewables Employability Fund has been shared with S4-S6 pupils and posted in S4-S6 Google Classrooms:

Due to your proximity to the Kype Muir and Middle Muir windfarms, if you plan on leaving at the end of this school year, you could be entitled to up to £500 (if going to college/university) or £200 if going into employment/apprenticeship.

This is a grant payment that does not need to be paid back. The only real requirement is that you live within the required postcode areas.

I would encourage you all to apply if eligible - it is free money that could be really useful as you start your post-school journey.

To apply, you really just need to complete a form but you won't receive the money until you start college/university as they will need to see your student card. You can make enquiries now though by contacting: connect2renewables@southlanarkshire.co.uk or telephone 0800 9520 070.

J Mallaghan

P Homework

Homework will be shared using Google Classroom. Please make sure you are a member of all your Google Classrooms, including your Year Group Google Classroom.

LA Cimmino

P Young Scot Card and Free Bus Travel

If you need a new Young Scot Card, or still have to renew your card to access free bus travel, your Tutor teacher can give you a form to complete, which will allow us to apply for your card on your behalf. Completed forms should be returned to Miss Fletcher or the School Office. Please see Miss Fletcher if you have any questions about accessing free bus travel.

B Lee

P EMA – S5/6

EMA application forms can be completed on the South Lanarkshire Council website. On the Council website, click on 'Education and Learning', then 'Secondary School Information', then 'Education Maintenance Allowance'. If you need any help with this, please see Mr Robertson or your Pupil Support Teacher.

It is your responsibility to complete and send the application form.

When you receive an award letter with your EMA number on it, bring this to Mr Robertson who will then issue a copy of the Learning Agreement to be signed by your teachers and Parent/Carer. You should then return the completed Learning Agreement to Mr Robertson and the school office will then process your EMA.

Only when you have completed all of the above will the payment process begin. Please see Mr Robertson if you have any questions about EMA.

D Robertson