



JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

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FRIENDSHIP • TRUST • RESPONSIBILITY

SUMMER
2017

NEWSLETTER



**WELCOME FROM
MRS HOLLYWOOD**

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our last newsletter of session 2016/17, our fourth new look edition which is packed with articles and photos to give you an update of the life and work of our school.

The summer term is a favourite in school as pupils take part in a range of activities and trips, we 'bump up' into new year groups as we move timetable, we welcome P7s for their three day visit, and of course, we support our seniors through their SQA exams, say goodbye to our S6 and do it all again with a brand new S6 team. In this newsletter you will read in more depth about all of these, and much more.

As the 28th of June approaches I'd like to thank every member of our school community – pupils, staff, parents and friends of the school – for your support, commitment and hard work. I hope you all have a wonderful

summer holiday, and we will welcome pupils back on Tuesday 15th August at 8.50am.

Happy holidays!

Staffing Update

On 27th April I was honoured to be appointed as the substantive head teacher of Johnstone High School. I am thrilled to be a permanent member of the staff team and delighted that the selection panel which included pupils, parents, councillors and council officers have entrusted me with the long term care and education of the young people of Johnstone High.

At the end of this session we say goodbye to a number of staff who are moving on in their career to pastures new:

- Miss Leslie is moving to Glasgow as Faculty Head of Performing Arts.

GET IN TOUCH

01505 322173

WWW.JOHNSTONEHIGH.CO.UK

**Inside this
issue:**

Diary Dates

**SQA
Results
Procedures**

CREST awards

Ardentinny

**Duke of
Edinburgh**

**Sporting
Achievement**





JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

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- Miss Pinkerton is moving to a post in Renfrewshire.
- Miss Wilson is moving to a permanent post with Glasgow City Council.
- Miss Leggat is moving to a post in East Renfrewshire
- Miss Wakefield is moving to a permanent post with Glasgow City Council.
- Mr Tollan is returning to his permanent post in Kersland School.
- Miss Munro will be taking up a permanent post in Renfrewshire.
- Miss Mitchell is taking up the temporary role of PT Teaching and Learning.
- Mr Fulton is taking up the temporary role of PT Employability and Skills.

I will, of course, give you more details about the complete staff team in the first newsletter of session 17/18.

Improvement planning

On an annual basis, every school in Scotland draws up an improvement plan for the forthcoming school session to set out its targets and priorities.

In light of our recent Education Scotland inspection, this forthcoming school year Johnstone High School's priorities are health and wellbeing, and learning and teaching. To draw up our improvement plan we consulted with the full range of stakeholders in our school – parent and pupil council representatives via focus groups, staff drop in sessions, several meetings with promoted members of staff, and discussions with friends of the school (e.g. Renfrewshire Leisure Hub colleagues, the school Chaplaincy team, Skills Development Scotland, Community Learning and Development, Home Link and Educational Psychology). My thanks to everyone who contributed to ensure our plan is genuinely 'owned' by the wider JHS school community.

In August we will welcome a number of newly qualified teachers and we are hoping to make appointments in June for positions in Technical, Chemistry and English. We will have new permanent staff in English, Modern Languages and Music. Moreover, we will appoint a permanent Depute Head Teacher at the end of term to start in August.

Finally, in August a number of staff are either returning to school or are taking up new roles:

- Mrs Colford is returning from her secondment to Renfrewshire Council to drive forward numeracy.
- Mr Maitland returns to us from his one year sabbatical at Kersland School.
- Mr Brown is taking up a temporary post as PT Pastoral (Skye House).

We will publish a summary improvement plan for parents and make this available to you early in the school session 2017/18. If any parent wishes the full copy, please contact the school office and it will be posted home.



Available on the
App Store

School App

Just a reminder to download the school app. Details follow on the next page.

Please contact Mrs O'Malley with any feedback on the school app.



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SCHOOL APP

At Johnstone High School we are now using mySchoolApp to communicate with parents and carers. This will enable us to let you know about school news, events and important school information on your smartphone, wherever you are. The benefits to you include:

- Instant access to an up-to-date school calendar.
- Read our school news in an easy-to-use format and enjoy the pictures in the image gallery.
- Easy access to school documents and policies.

- Receive instant messages sent by the school direct to your phone.

1 Download for FREE

The first step is to get mySchoolApp on your phone or tablet. The easiest way, is to use your phone to search on the App Store (Apple) or Google Play (Android) for mySchoolApp. It's the one with the multi-coloured stickboy app tile. Once you have mySchoolApp on your device there are just a few things you need to do, to ensure you get the most from the app.

2 Login to the school

On the initial screen, start to enter Johnstone High School.

When you have entered a few letters, the app will give you some suggestions. Tap on the correct school name and you're logged in. You only have to do this once, mySchoolApp will remember your school automatically in future.

3 Register

When you have selected your school you will be required to enter your details. This is a once only form and enables the app to identify you to the school. The school app administrator will be able to see your name, email and phone number.

We are sure that both the school and our parents/carers will find mySchoolApp to be a benefit to communication.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

28 JUNE 2017

LAST DAY OF TERM SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1:00 P.M.

8TH AUGUST

RESULTS DAY

15 AUGUST 2017

SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR PUPILS

11 & 14 AUGUST 2017

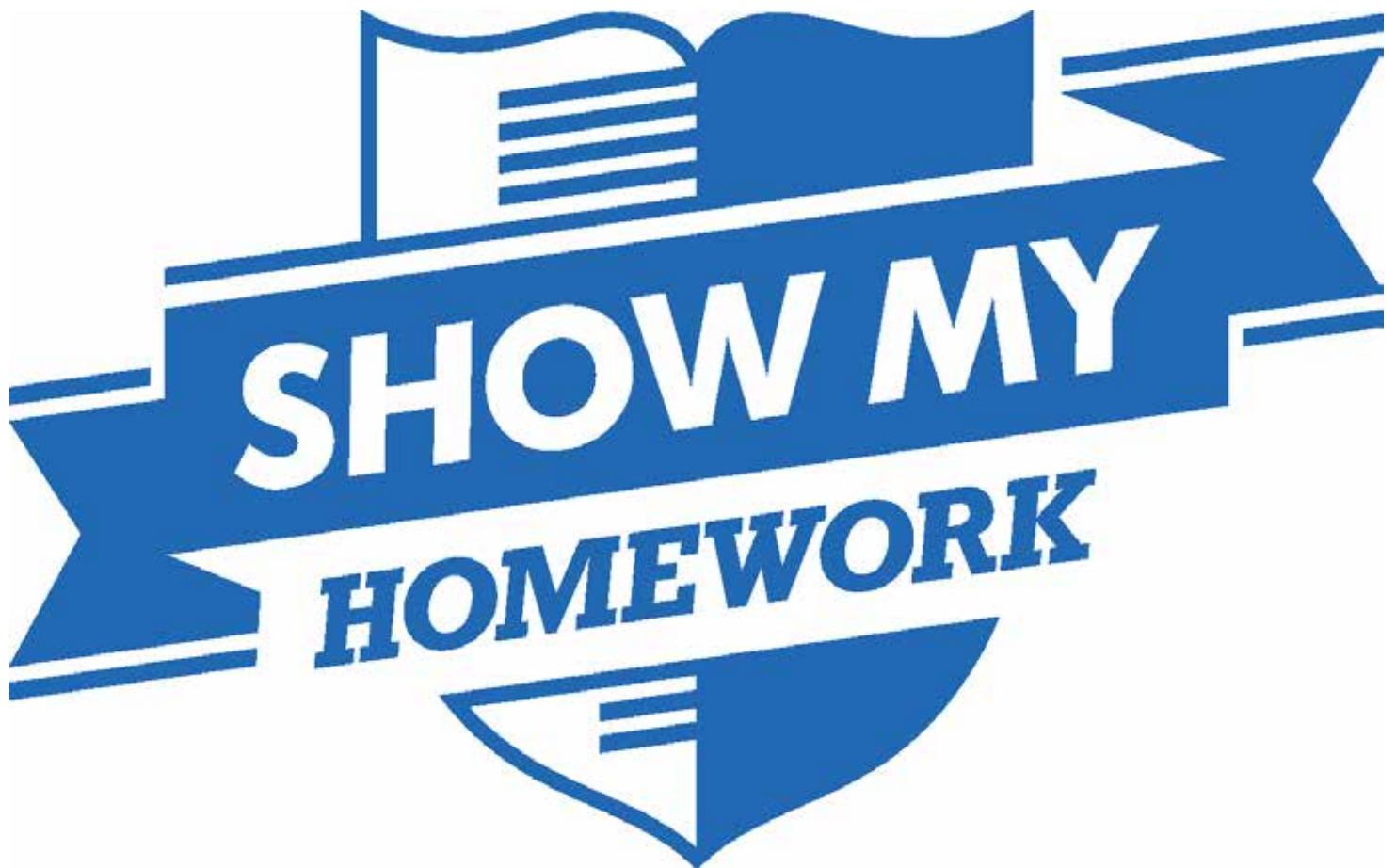
IN-SERVICE DAYS FOR STAFF



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SUMMER
2017



We are excited to be launching Show My Homework, an online tool to help you keep track of your child's homework. Show My Homework will allow you to see the details of the tasks your child has been set, as well as their submission status and grades. Pupils have been issued with parental login details to your personal account, ready-linked to your child's homework calendar.

We'll be fully launching Show My Homework in August 2017 and we hope that this service will provide parents with a deeper insight into the homework your child receives. More importantly, we hope that it will improve your child's organisation, time-management, and help them to keep on top of

their workload.

If you or your child have any questions about the service, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the team at Show My Homework, who are always happy to help. Just email help@showmyhomework.co.uk or call 0207 197 9550.

At Johnstone High School we are introducing a new homework policy. As part of this we are changing the way homework is issued. All homework will now be posted on line by staff. Pupils have been shown how to login to Show My Homework and they can also download the app on to their phones. Pupils have been issued with parent login details

which will allow you to login and see what homework your child has. Parents can contact Show My Homework directly to deal with any technical issues. You will also be able to see the whole school homework calendar on our website.

FEATURES

- **24/7 access.**
- **View quality and quantity of homework.**
- **Translation into over 50 languages.**
- **Free apps available for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, and Android devices.**
- **Receive automated notifications before homework is due.**



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SQA RESULTS PROCEDURES

Results day is 8 August.

If you have signed up to mySQA service, you will receive the results from 8am onwards electronically.

Post results process

If you feel that you do not have the result you thought then a process must be adhered to. This process is as follows:

If you require the result for entry to HE or FE then you must contact Mr Munro immediately. He will explain to you if you meet the agreed criteria for sending a request to the SQA.

This request is called a Priority Marking Review.

A marking review makes sure that all parts of the materials have been marked.

- the marking is in line with the national standard.
- the marks given for each answer have been totalled correctly.
- the correct result has been entered.
- for those pupils where time is not of the essence then the following can be operated. Either:-
- a clerical check or a marker review (similar to the priority one just not put to the 'top of the pile'!)
- a clerical check makes sure that:
- all parts of the materials have been marked.

- the marks given for each answer have been totalled correctly.

KEY DATES

18 August 2017

Priority marking review requests must be submitted

29 August 2017

Marking review and clerical check requests must be submitted by

Results for Post-results Services requests will be sent electronically to the school or college who submitted the request on the following dates:

28 August 2017

for priority marking review results

29 September 2017

for marking review and clerical check results

November 2017

Any revised certificates will be posted to candidates at the end of November 2017. Revised results will also be updated on MySQA at the end of November 2017.

Results for priority marking reviews will also be sent to the university or college contact provided at the time of the request.

If any of the above situations apply to you then you must contact Mr Munro in the first instance. He will issue you with a letter that has to be signed by candidates and/ or parents.

Please note that if you submit a marking review or clerical check the grade can go down as well as up.

Arrangements for Seniors returning in August

All S5 and S6 will receive a text message after the results have been issued offering them the opportunity to come to school prior to the school starting date to allow them to review choices should they require to.

If this is this case the school would strongly advise coming to school to ensure that the pupils have the correct level of course prior to the new term starting.

S6 issues

All S6 have been issued with a 'service to the school' form. They are required to sign up to two events throughout the year that will allow them to give back service to the school. All pupils will be registered for the Saltire award as a result. It is important that pupils continue to be involved with the event they have signed up to allow them to reference this on a UCAS form, CV or college application. All senior pupils have been issued



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SUMMER 2017

SQA RESULTS PROCEDURES

with a 'Guide to Senior School'. Any parent who wishes an extra copy should contact Mr Munro and he will post or email a copy to you.

UCAS applications

Mr Munro will meet with pupils applying for university early in the new session to issue guidance about UCAS applications. Pupils applying for Medicine, Dentistry and Vet Medicine will be met with separately to ensure the early deadline for their applications are met.

Mr Munro is depute head teacher with responsibility for S5/S6.

Pupil Support

Arrangements for seniors

From August all S5 and S6 pupil will have the same pupil support teacher. Miss Wilkie will be their guidance teacher.

Ardentinny 2017



There are still spaces on the Ardentinnny trip so if your son/daughter wishes to go then they should see Mr Fenwick. The trip will cost £223.00.

On Monday 4th September at 7.30, Aidan Docherty from Ardentinnny will hold a pupil and parent information evening in the school. This will give an outline of the week and an opportunity for any questions. I would also like to mention Western Ferries who have once again very kindly provided free ferry transport for the trip.

Any medicine must be in a bag and clearly labelled with the pupils name and the dosage required. These will be handed to Miss Arthur on Tuesday morning of the trip for safekeeping.

On the Tuesday 26th September, pupils should make their way to school as normal. They will go straight to the assembly hall.

On Friday the 29th September, we will return to school at 2.00pm. You should arrange for your son/daughter to get home or be picked up at this time. They will not go back to class.

In August 2017, a letter will be sent home which will include consent forms, kit list and travel arrangement for the trip.

For more information, such as kit lists go to the Ardentinnny Outdoor Centre web site <http://www.ardentinnnycentre.org.uk/>

D Fenwick
PT Social Subjects



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S4 UPDATE

This term has been all about the SQA exam diet. With the S4 pupils sitting their first ever set of national qualifications it was a stressful and anxious period for them.

The exam period saw every emotion from joy, fear, anxiety, happiness and even excitement for a few.

Following this, it was back to school and the start of S5. New timetables, new classes, some

new courses and even a blazer fitting. This was the point when pupils got the official hand over from myself as year head to Mr Munro as the DHT for the senior school. It was a sad day, as I have had the great opportunity to work with this fantastic year group. At times it has been challenging, but on the whole it has been extremely rewarding seeing the pupils grow as they took the steps towards the exam diet in May.

The year group now look towards the new session and the demands of S5 with the main focus being Higher and National 5 qualifications which could create a pathway for their future destination.

Thanks again to all the pupils who have made this a memorable year and I have no doubt they will succeed in the future.

Mr G Menzies

JOINT EMPLOYABILITY UPDATE

S2 University of the West of Scotland

In May, ten S2 pupils visited the University of the West of Scotland to take part in subject taster opportunities and experience the busy life of the campus. The pupils enjoyed learning more about the University itself and getting a quick tour before going to classes led by current students to experience lessons in Sports Science, Engineering, Media, etc.

Skills Ambassador

Throughout the year senior pupils were given the opportunity to work alongside a skills ambassador who works in the STEM field. In June the pupils were given the chance to visit their ambassador's place of work, ThermoFisher, and meet with their recruitment team to learn more about the application and recruitment process.

ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC



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ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

A number of our new S5 students took part in an Enrichment Programme during study leave. The programme was delivered over 2 weeks where the pupils explored areas to develop skills for learning, life and work.

The beginning of the fortnight focussed on skills development and cv building. The young people took part in a number of activities to make them aware of the standards expected when applying for work or a place in further education.

As time progressed the students were challenged with a number of real life situations such as job interview scenarios, arranging an event, budgeting and preparing

themselves for their first day at work.

In the second week of the programme PC Steven McMinn visited the group from Police Scotland. Steven explained his role within the Police as well as explaining the roles of his colleagues within the force. He was also kind enough to bring along a public order uniform and demonstrate how it was used to our students. One of the group ended up in cuffs but thankfully it was only for demonstration purposes.

To round off a productive and educational fortnight the group continued their research into the emergency services with a visit to Johnstone Community Fire

Station. The students were given an in depth explanation of a day working at the fire station. They were shown what happens when the team is called out as well as all the parts and purposes of a fire engine. Following up on the groups preparation for real life scenarios they tried on the uniform and equipment needed to attend an incident as well as using the hose to extinguish a fire.

Well done to Steven, Graeme, Liam, Shannice and Morgan who took part in the programme. Have a look on the school Twitter page to see the students with their certificates of achievement.





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CAREER INFORMATION ADVICE & GUIDANCE

Charlene Young
our SDS advisor

Get the help you need for the career you want with Skills Development Scotland.

Our Careers Advisers provide free and impartial Career Information, Advice and Guidance in schools and from our careers centres across Scotland.

We offer support to people of any age and at any stage in their career.

SDS Advisers are professionally qualified specialists who put customers at the heart of what they do.

And because we're Scotland's national skills agency, they have a wealth of knowledge linked to national, regional and local skills priorities.

Our Advisers will support people to develop their Career Man-

agement Skills – the skills that enable a person to plan for, and pursue, opportunities throughout their life.

They'll also support the development of an individual career plan, helping customers to reach their goals.

SDS has Careers Advisers in every state secondary school in Scotland.

We work closely with schools to make sure our services match their local needs and priorities.

Young people will see their Adviser in group sessions throughout their time at school.

There's also the chance of one-to-one engagements, especially at key decision points like early subject choices and there's increased support for those who

need it most from S3 to S6.

Advisers also hold drop-ins, and work with teachers, parents and carers; here they can offer help on a wide range of subjects, including the local job market, searching for jobs and courses, CVs, interview preparation, apprenticeships, education and training, redundancy support, and labour market information, such as where jobs might be in the future.

The Careers Adviser in Johnstone High is Charlene Young; she is based in the modern languages corridor and is in school 5 days a week offering support to pupils.

There is also information and advice 24 hours a day on myworldofwork.co.uk - our award-winning careers web service.

It's packed with tools and resources such as a subject choice tool, job and course search and a CV Builder.

For more on our Careers Information, Advice and Guidance services go to the Skills Development Scotland website, sds.co.uk

III
Skills
Development
Scotland



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PUPIL EQUITY FUND UPDATE

S3 UPDATE

Mr Miller

Following pupil, staff and parental consultation, we are pressing forward with our plans to use our Pupil Equity Funding to close the equity gap in relation to attainment. The funding is being used to target a number of key improvement areas – Health and Wellbeing, Teaching and Learning, Skills and Employability – and improve the attainment and achievement of our young people.

One of the key strands of our approach is the transition to a new pastoral structure for pupils, which will see Depute Head Teachers move from taking on Head of Year responsibilities to Head of House, working in a team with the House Guidance teacher to improve outcomes for our young people. More information will follow about the new structure before we break for summer to help pupils, parents and staff understand the changes and to direct them to the appropriate staff when contacting the school. Look out for our group call text message and guidance in the near future.

It's hard to believe that we're reaching the end of another school term and, more pertinently, the end of a school sessions and two fantastic years in which I've had the privilege to lead my year group. It was with huge pride that I sat on the stage at the Junior Awards ceremony at the start of the month and watched so many of my S3 pupils recognised for their efforts and achievements at the end of the Broad General Education phase of their time at Johnstone High School. In addition to the many subject awards earned, we celebrated success in the fields of sport, art, music and citizenship and it reminded the wider community of just how outstanding our young people are.

It is my hope and belief that the pupils have had a range of positive learning experiences and opportunities over the last three years to stand them in good stead for being successful in S4 and their SQA qualifications. Seeing them around the school in their new Senior school ties and with a spring in their step fills me with the confidence that they are ready for whatever lies ahead.

I would like to take this final opportunity to wish every one of them the best of luck as they move on to S4 and their new

heads of year. The relationships I have built with you and having the chance to be a part of you growing as young people and achieving across the school has been the highlight of my time at Johnstone High School so far. I look forward to seeing you making your way in the world and fulfilling your potential.

Good luck,
Mr Miller



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SUMMER 2017

S1 & S2 UPDATE

Mrs O'Malley

What an amazing and busy term our S2 pupils have had. S2 pupils have now settled into their new S3 timetables.

There have been many sporting achievements. Our S2 boys football team and S2 girls football team won their overall league. In addition to this our S2 girls hockey team and S2 boys rugby teams won the Renfrewshire Schools tournaments for their sport. There have also been many individual sporting achievements for our S2 pupils and I will mention a few. Congratulations to Aidan O'Hagan who recently came 1st in the Scottish schools U18's golf tournament and 3rd place in the Stephen Gallacher U18 golf tournament.

Ellie Devenay came 4th in the Renfrewshire tap dancing championship in February and recently travelled to New York with her dance school to get experience of dancing on Broadway. She danced in the Broadway Dance Centre and trained with Alvin Ailey who is a choreographer. She also got to interview a Rockette.

We got to see many of our S2 pupils recognised for their hard work and achievements at our Junior Awards ceremony. Andrew Boyce spoke to all the parents about his experience working with a chef for a day at Cameron House Hotel after winning a

competition at West College Scotland as chef of the future.

We are always keen to celebrate the success of our pupils so please keep us informed of their achievements outwith school.



What a busy term we have had. It was lovely to see so many families at our Junior Award ceremony and to see so many of our pupils receive awards for all their hard work and achievements. Our S1 pupils have all now started their new timetables and have settled well into S2. We recently enjoyed a visit from owl magic where our S1 pupils learned about owls and got the opportunity to hold them and ask lots of questions.

As always we are keen to recognise and celebrate our pupils achievements outwith school so please keep us informed of their achievements.

Congratulations to Anna Lyons who has won three 2nd places, a 4th and 5th place in show jumping and showing.





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SUMMER
2017

S1&S2 UPDATE

Mrs O'Malley



Congratulations also go to Katie Russell who has been selected to play for the U16 ladies Scotland ice hockey team.



Johnstone High School
Under 15 football team



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SUMMER 2017



PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

Diane Spence

As we approach the summer break, the Parent Council have recently held their AGM on Mon 15th May where the selection of office bearers took place. I have been reselected to continue as Chair for another school session. Anne Campbell has been selected as Parent Council Secretary, and replaces Paul Cameron who held the role for the previous 2 years. Many thanks to Paul for all his hard work and efforts. Gillian Williams, our Parent Council Treasurer will continue in her role for the next school session. At the AGM, the Parent Council presented flowers to Mrs Hollywood, congratulating her on her recent appointment as Head Teacher of the school.

The Parent Council fundraising sub group organised their 2nd event, a Car Boot Sale which was held on Saturday 10th June. After a drizzly start, the sun shone on the school carpark where 20 cars opened their boots and sold their loot.

Johnstone High families and the local community also enjoyed a tasty barbecue, home baking, games and a fabulous raffle. Funds raised from the Car Boot Sale were a fantastic £676 and will go towards our proposed school ground improvement plans. A huge thank you to the team of parents and staff who organised this event and helped on the day. The top raffle prizes of TRNSMT festival tickets, £50 Voucher for The Boarding House and an Amazon tablet were won by teachers Miss Mitchell, Mrs McHendry and Mrs Smith. Congratulations to them!

This term, the Parent Council Funding sub group have also successfully applied for local funding grants, making applications to both LAC (Local Area Committee) and Flightpath.

Several parents from the Parent Council attended the parent BGE (Broad General Education) curriculum meeting on

Monday 12th June. It was an interesting first meeting led by DHT Gordon Menzies, where initial discussions on how to improve the curriculum for S1-S3 for the future took place.

If you would like to get involved with future fundraising events or get in touch with the Parent Council, please email johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

The next Parent Council meeting is on Monday 11th September at 7pm. Parents are most welcome to come along.

Reminder - Parent Council minutes, Head Teacher's report and 2017 Chairperson's report are posted in the parent section of the school website and my School App.

Diane Spence
Chair, Parent Council



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SUMMER
2017



At the beginning of the session, 14 S4 Ambassadors were appointed to lead their year group in a number of events. Mrs Hollywood met with the group in November to set out her "head teacher's" challenge of hosting an event for the year group after the exam period.

The group got to work with their ideas and consulted the year group on what they would like to happen. After this consultation, it was agreed that the pupils would like a GBX themed disco and that with connections in the local community they would take the chance and contact Radio Clyde's DJ George Bowie to see

if he was available. It was then down to Nicola Caulfield to make the call to George Bowie to ask if he would assist with this event. Nicola worked her magic and George agreed.

It was then down to the organisation with everyone given a role. These included, drinks, food, decorations, tickets and event promotion. Regular meeting took place so that everyone was on track.

Then it came to the event. With over 150 tickets sold the hall was busy, the music was loud and even Miss Mitchell was excited to see the star attraction, George

Bowie, hit the decks.

He mesmerised the crowd with his GBX anthems.

A great night was had by all. The S4 ambassadors even stayed behind to assist with the tidying up. Brilliant night, great effort from the Ambassadors. Well done.





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YOUNG AMBASSADORS

Cara Hendriks
Laura-Rose Reid

Cara Hendriks and myself, Laura-Rose Reid of S6 were nominated by our PE department to be Johnstone High School's Young Ambassadors 2016-2017. Our first duty as Young Ambassador was to attend a training day at Hampden lead by previous young ambassadors and active schools co-ordinators. The day consisted of team building exercises, planning events and taking part in ice breakers. We also had the opportunity to meet some athletes who had competed in the Rio Olympics, these included Eilidh Doyle and Robbie Renwick; they shared their sporting experiences and motivated us to aim to succeed no matter what you do. Cara and I have a lot of events planned for this year and would encourage as many pupils to get involved.

Clubs

On Thursday 13th October we will be in the assembly hall at lunch with a sign up sheet for a variety of lunch and after school clubs that will take place in the PE department. These include netball, gymnastics and football and more! If you are interested please have a look at the list in PE.

Active Girls Day

We are also arranging Active Girls Day on Friday 28th October. To promote Active Girls Day we are inviting girls from S1-S3 to join us in the PE department during Friday lunch for a fun Halloween themed activities, games and sports. For more information, look out for posters around the school or ask the PE staff, Cara or myself.

School Sport Award

This year we are entering Johnstone High School for the School Sport Award. This award is not only beneficial to the PE department but also for the school as a whole. It is our ambition to achieve the bronze and silver award! With the support from pupils, staff and parents we are confident that we can achieve this status.

Volunteering

We have a variety of lunchtime and after school clubs this year with a large amount of attendees. To be able to allow as many pupils to attend our clubs as possible, we need volunteers. If you are willing to volunteer an hour after school or your lunchtime to help coach a club we would appreciate it if you can speak to a member of staff from

PE or Cara and I. We can provide training and you can use volunteering hours to count towards Duke of Edinburgh or Saltire Award.

Transition Day

We supported the planning the primary seven transition day. We were both very excited to be a part of organising this event and enjoyed working with SMT and the PE department to make it a success.

Finally, please speak to either of us if you have any questions about clubs or volunteering. We look forward to be working with the sports leader classes and to assisting our current coaches to promote sports and provide a variety of fun events and clubs within our school.





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SUMMER 2017

SPOTLIGHT MUSIC

In this issue of the school newsletter, we are placing a spotlight on our Music Department. The Department is a small but busy one, welcoming pupils from all year groups and offering Music and Music Technology up to Advanced Higher and Higher level respectively. Pupils in Music access a range of courses, extracurricular experiences and a safe and welcoming environment for teaching and learning.

The Music team is made up of 3 permanent, full-time class teachers; Mrs Davidson (PT), Miss Keenan and Miss Leslie.

Pupils and staff are also supported by six peripatetic Music Instructors; Mr Bolam (Guitar), Miss Rush (Strings), Mr Bowes (Bagpipes), Mr Russell (Woodwind), Mrs Tennant (Brass) and Mr McGibbon (Percussion). Around one hundred pupils take part in instrumental lessons during the school day and a further twenty attend lessons at the Saturday Music Centre at Paisley Grammar. With the removal of charging for lessons coming into effect in August, the Department is hoping to grow and develop the provision of instrumental lessons in Johnstone High. Pupils interested in signing up for lessons should speak with any member of the Music team.

Our Broad General Education Music course delivers a wide range of learning experiences for

our young people. Throughout S1-S3, they have the opportunity to develop their skills on acoustic guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, glockenspiel, drum kit and voice. Pupils who already participate in instrumental lessons are encouraged to use these skills in class music too. In Understanding Music, pupils explore a wide range of topics such as pop music, world music, Scottish music and film music. We are fortunate to have the resources to teach Music Technology skills within our BGE curriculum, a unit which has proven very popular with pupils. This is reflected in our increasing uptake for this subject at senior phase level.

At Senior Phase level, we have a healthy uptake for both Music and Music Technology courses. In SP Music, pupils specialise in two instruments and work towards a final practical exam, usually scheduled for February/March. They study the evolution of music from as far back as medieval times and use their knowledge to identify concepts aurally in a final listening exam. Pupils complete a unit on composition allowing them to create their own music after analysing the work of others.

In Music Technology, pupils learn the skills required to successfully create, capture and edit sound. They use this knowledge to develop a final project such as

a children's audio book, a multi-tracked piece of music, a podcast or animation soundtrack.

In addition to these courses the Department also offers the National Progression Award in Music Business and hopes to run a pilot of the Subject Leader Award for Music next term.

Our Music Department has three well-resourced classrooms, four rehearsal rooms and a recording studio, which is due to be upgraded over the summer. Pupils perform on a variety of electronic and acoustic instruments and can access these at lunchtime and after school, and through our instrument borrowing programme. We are expanding our collection of digital technology resources and have recently purchased Protools, an audio recording and editing programme. This will allow pupils to work on their Music Technology projects at twenty individual workstations. Pupils regularly use iPads, Glow and laptops during lessons and we hope to see this develop over the coming session.

We have a successful and growing extracurricular programme in Johnstone High Music Department. Activities are run by class teachers, instructors and senior pupils and meet on a weekly basis to develop their skills. We have a highly successful junior choir of over seventy pupils and this year we launched our new



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school orchestra which will debut at our transition concert in June. Our wind band and string orchestra also perform regularly. Next year we hope to add Folk Group, Drama Club, Piano Skills and more to our extra curricular programme.

Next session will also see the launch of our Music Department Pupil Council. We want the young people who give so much time and commitment to our department to have the opportunity to make decisions about resources, events and teaching and learning. Any pupil interested in being part of this group should speak to their Music teacher.

On the 19th June, Johnstone High welcomed our P7s to take part in a transition concert. After a final rehearsal in the morning, two hundred plus young people took to the stage to perform a variety of music items. Each primary seven class performed their own item and then came together with our pupils to perform as Johnstone High. The theme of the evening was "festival" so look out for lots of face painting, ice cream vans, welly boots and, most importantly, great music. The Main Stage acts began at 7pm but buskers entertained audience members on the Introducing Stage from 6pm.

Our main event for 2017 will be our school show, High School Musical. This was originally scheduled for summer 2017 but has been rescheduled for December and we can't wait to "rock the house, yeah yeah!" Rehearsals will begin in August giving our new S1 the opportunity to be involved so that "We're all in This Together." The school show is

always a highlight in the school calendar and we look forward to welcoming you to what is sure to be an enjoyable run of performances.

Once we've recovered from show week, it will be time to get practising for our tour to Belgium in June 2018. Around sixty young people will be visiting Belgium on a performance tour which will see the orchestra, folk group, choirs and pipe band perform to tourists and locals in Ypres and the surrounding area. It's not all work though, we'll still manage to fit in a visit to a theme park and a canal boat cruise. There are still spaces available for this trip and anyone interested in participating should speak to Mrs Davidson as soon as possible.

As you can see, our department is a busy place. We are passionate about improving the experiences we offer our young people both in and out of class time and hope that there is something for everyone to be part of in Music.

“If you can't
teach me
to fly, teach
me to sing

J. M. Barrie





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BEHIND THE NOISE

Emma Russell S5

Interested in music performance, business, event planning, art and design or photography? Yes? Well then, this article is for you!

Behind the Noise is a music and music business programme like

no other. Unlike many other programmes that try to teach you what the world of music is like by throwing a bunch of theory at you, Behind the Noise gives you the opportunity to form a band and play a sold out gig at the Classic Grand at the end of a six month long project.

Behind the noise offers expert industry advice at workshops from guys who have been working in the music business for years, the opportunity to professionally record a song at The Doghouse

studio in Glasgow, rehearsal slots in the top standard Berkley studios that boasts being the practice space of big names like Biffy Clyro and the opportunity to make new friends from your school and others along with being able to increase your skills whether that's music, photography or art!

If you fancy improving skills making friends or just having fun, behind the noise is a great idea for any musicians in S4-6, beginner or advanced!

School Uniform session 2017 – 2018

At Johnstone High School we take great pride in being an inclusive community where everyone belongs. A key factor in building a strong school community identity is the wearing of school uniform. The vast majority of our pupils and parents support this ethos and every year we continue to see improvements in the consistency of pupils wearing uniform. There are many benefits of wearing school uniform:

- Enhanced security as pupils are easily identifiable as being part of our school community
- Greater equality as pupils are dressed the same
- Reduced cost as our basic uniform is simple, unbranded and can be bought at several supermarkets or high street stores.

Our school uniform consists of:

- School Blazer
- Black trousers (plain formal trousers)
- Black skirt (knee length)
- White school shirt
- School tie
- Black v-neck jumper
- Black cardigan
- Black shoes/trainers

Our PE uniform consists of:

- White t-shirt
- School branded polo shirt
- Black/navy shorts
- Black/navy jogging bottoms
- trainers

Clothing items that are not acceptable include:

- Leggings
- Jeans of any colour
- Mini skirts
- Hooded tops/zippers
- Football colours
- White trainers (these are acceptable for PE only)
- All outdoor jackets, hats, scarves and scarves should be removed in the class.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement of our pupils wearing school uniform.



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DUKE OF EDINBURGH

All of our pupils participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award this year have been working hard preparing for and participating in their expeditions.

The Bronze DofE group have nearly completed their award. There has been lots of learning, a few sore backs (and tears), campfires and roasted marshmallows, some sun and some rain featured along the way.

The final qualifying expedition will take place at the end of the June and fingers crossed for dry weather and success for our pupils. Staff are regularly checking EDofE for the uploads of evidence on the physical, skill and volunteering to make sure everyone is on track to complete their award.

We are hoping to run a silver award next year with the current bronze group as well as a bronze award for the new third year.

Below is what the Silver Duke of Edinburgh group had to say about their expedition: On the weekend of the 3rd to the 5th of June a few of our Johnstone High pupils completed their practice expedition for the silver Duke of Edinburgh award. Over the course of 3 days, we walked approxi-

mately 50km from Ardvorlich to Lochgoilhead wild camping for 2 nights in the middle of the forest. Due to the lack of food some of us brought it was a difficult experience but at the same time, it was character building. The most challenging part was navigating our way through the forests but we successfully managed it in the end. We also built unforgettable bonds between everyone in our team and we experienced our first Bothy that was historically interesting. The incline of the hills and the amount of midges made the experience less enjoyable, however the sense of accomplishment at the end made it all seem worthwhile.





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CHARITY WORK & ACTIVITIES DAY

Johnstone High School pupils took part in a Charity Week in March 2017. In three days, pupils successfully raised £2045!

The purpose of the Charity Week was to give senior pupils an opportunity to lead various fundraising events including an inter-house volleyball competition, Blind Date lunchtime show, cake sale, leg wax auction, non uniform day, and bake off competition.

Well done to IONA who won both the senior inter-house volleyball competition and BEAT the all star staff team in the final!

Money raised was divided and sent to the chosen House charities. The charities included Lisa's Gift, Erskine, Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity and MacMillan Cancer Support.

Alongside the Charity Week, all S1 pupils took part in a sponsored PE event to support Comic Relief. All pupils in S1 took part in either a 3-legged-a-thon (playing Basketball, Badminton or Dodgeball while tied to a friend!), skip-a-thon, swim-a-thon or workout-a-thon.

Many thanks to all pupils who eagerly took part and brought in sponsor money. Specific pupils in S1 who raised a particularly high sum included:

Katie McBride	£62
Chloe Fyfe	£57
Kacey Johnstone	£55
Scott Edgar	£41
Noa Burt	£41
Tate Russell	£35

Thank you so much for your generosity!

Johnstone High School will be running another Charity Week next year, alongside Sports Relief in March 2018. Any suggestions on ways to raise money are most welcome to Mrs L Smith in PE.

Activities Days 2017

We are fast approaching the end of the school year. What better way to spend one of the final (hopefully sunny) days, than to be part of Johnstone High School's very first CARNIVAL. Simply by purchasing a £4 wristband (from Mrs L Smith in PE), allows pupils to come to school in non uniform on Monday 26th June, access all the inflatables for free and gain entry to the four fairground rides (cost £1.50 per ride).

There will be numerous stalls on display on the day including hair colour spray, candy floss, beat the goalie, sponge the teacher, lucky bucket, hoopla which have little or no cost.

On Tuesday 27th June 2017, we have some exciting trips operating this year, including:

FIFA Tournament, School of Rock, Movies, Go Karting and Laser Combat, Paintballing, Footgolf, Braehead Shopping Trip, Ryze Trampoline Park and Roller Disco, Cinema and Bowling and SOAR (Crazy Golf, Laser Combat and Bowling).

All trips have their maximum capacity. Any pupil who has not currently signed up for a trip will need to report to the school canteen on Tuesday 27th June where they will be issued a temporary timetable for the day including participating in Football/Softball, Movies and Board Games. Therefore all pupils are required to bring their PE kit on the day.

Any further questions about the Carnival or Activities Day, please see Mrs L Smith in PE.



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SUMMER
2017

Modern Languages Department news

German Department

In March we said farewell to our German assistant, Anastasia Hellermann. Anastasia had been with us since September and was a great help to our pupils studying German. She took small groups of pupils and helped them practise their German through games and conversation. She also helped the National 5 and Higher students to prepare for their final SQA speaking exam. Throughout the year the pupils also enjoyed learning about the many cultural traditions from Germany. Before she left she enjoyed a German breakfast with some of the S2 German students. Anastasia really enjoyed her time in Johnstone High School and returned to Germany with many happy memories.

Auf Wiedersehen und vielen Dank, Anastasia.

French Department

At the end of March the S2 students of French, who had been studying the topic of 'Food & Drink', took part in a French breakfast. They enjoyed croissants, pains au chocolat, a selection of cheeses and fruit, and of course Nutella! They also took part in a quiz about French

culture. The pupils had the opportunity to practise their language skills when asking for their food.

French Erasmus Students

This year we were lucky to have 2 French students from Toulon, in the South of France, for a 3-month placement in our Modern Languages Department. Florian and Valentine worked with the S1 and S2 students, devising games and activities to enhance speaking and listening skills. They enjoyed their time with us and commented on the enthusiasm of the pupils.





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2021 City of Culture Bid

Miss Mitchell

This year Paisley has submitted a bid to be the City of Culture in 2021 and myself alongside some S1 pupils in Social Subjects were lucky enough to be part of this process. This started with the creation of a lesson on culture that could be shared with all of Renfrewshire's secondary schools. The lesson

focussed around what culture really means and how it affects pupils personally, in school and in their local community. Some S1 Social Subjects classes got the opportunity to trial this lesson and give their feedback. Furthermore they got creative with ideas about how they could contribute to their school culture and com-

munity culture. Some of these suggestions included saying hello to someone new every day and visiting the elderly in the local community. Finally, pupils were able to write letters to the City of Culture judges explaining why they believed Paisley should be the City of Culture 2021.





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SPORTS NEWS

S3 Football Team 16/17

The S3 football team enjoyed an excellent year winning their league section as well as becoming Paisley & District Champions – the first time the school has achieved this at that age group in 30+ years. They defeated St Ninians High School in a penalty shootout to become champions after an extremely close and hard fought 1-1 draw. The boys only lost one game in 90 minutes all season, losing on penalties in both the Scottish and St Mirren Cup despite their eventual success vs. St Ninians. The boys are now looking to mount a serious Scottish Cup challenge next year as well as attempting to retain their status as Paisley & District champions.

Renfrewshire Road Race/ X Country/Athletics

Johnstone High pupils enjoyed multiple successes over the course of the year at various Renfrewshire events. Millie Spence (S2) claimed silver in the first event of the year, the Road Race,

in early November in an event in which we had 14 pupils competing. The beginning of March brought more success for Millie who claimed another silver during the X Country, as did Struan Campbell (S2) in the boy's race.

Our pupils experienced more success during the Athletics finals with medallists in a range of events. Sophie Sinclair (S1) won silver in the girls 200m and Lewis McPherson (S3) took silver and bronze in 100 and 200m. Iris Dickie (S2) claimed silver in the girls 300m and Millie Spence took home another silver in the 1500m. Hannah McPhate (S3) won bronze in the girls 300m to round off our track successes for the day.

In the field events, Aaron Hewitson (S2) won a bronze medal for his efforts in the Shott Putt, which was followed up with a gold for Aiden McHendry (S2) in the high jump. Rebecca Adams (S2) also won a silver in the girl's high jump. Finally, both of our S2 boys and girls relay teams took home bronze medals.

Overall, Johnstone High School finished top of the medal table at the athletics, which we had 53 athletes competing in, which is something to be extremely proud

of in terms of participation and achievement.

Renfrewshire Finals Day

Our pupils experienced more success during the Renfrewshire Finals Day, which is a competition based purely on team events. Our S1-3 girls football team, who had already won their league section, finished third on the day and were led by one of our Sports Leaders John Martin. Our S1/2 Hockey team won on the day going the full day unbeaten, winning four and drawing one. The S1/2 boy's rugby team won every game and therefore the tournament. Our basketballers finished fourth in their section with one win on the day and finally our volleyball team also finished fourth.





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SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS - ROWING

Several Johnstone High pupil's participated in the Castle Sempole Rowing Regatta in May. Kirsty MacArthur won in the Women's Junior 16 Quad and Lindsay MacArthur, Lauren Alexander and Grace London won in the Women's under 13's Quad.

In May Kirsty MacArthur also attended the National School's Rowing Competition at Eton Dorney, the Olympic Rowing venue, with her crew. Her quad came 10th overall in the Women's Junior 16 Quad event, competing against the top rowing schools in Britain. Well done and congratulations on all their achievements.

Women's Under 13's Quad & Cox

Women's Junior 16 Quad & Cox





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SUMMER
2017



STEM UPDATE

The Science/Technical departments are running a new course; N5 Engineering Science for senior pupils. This is similar to the old technology studies courses but has been updated to incorporate more modern technologies such as Raspberry-Pi's and BBC microbit.

So far, the course has been very popular with all 20 spaces filled and if enough demand exists next year we intend to run the Higher.

The extra-curricular clubs are drawing to an end this year and culminated in an inter-school STEM event. There was a scalextric competition hosted by Mr Marshall and a mini-robot wars hosted by Mr Fulton on

Tuesday 20th June. Pupils attended from over ten local schools and took part in a series of design/build/compete challenges throughout the day.

The junior robot clubs have just returned from the national finals in Edinburgh. As usual the pupils were a credit to the school and managed to win bronze medal for Sumo wrestling and a trophy for most innovative design for the fourth year in a row (mainly down to Mrs McHendry's assistance.)

Finally, the school had Owl Magic in on Tuesday the 13th June to give a presentation to all S2 pupils. The pupils learned about owls and were given the chance to handle some of the

amazing birds.





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CREST AWARD

“ Doing the CREST award allowed me to further my knowledge of carrying out experiments and science as well as having an interesting and fun time with my friends! ”

Errin Hughes.

“ I enjoyed doing the experimental sections of the award and learning about the effects different products had on hair. ”

Paulina Burke.

Over the course of the year, the following S3 girls have been working towards gaining a bronze CREST award issued by the British Science Association: Caitlin Armstrong, Paulina Burke, Mhari Campbell, Louise Gilmour, Errin Hughes, Morgan Malone, Chloe Russell, Megan Russell and Mabel Wylie. S3 girls were targeted for this award as it is commonly noted that females are under-represented in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) careers. Therefore, facilitating this extra-curricular activity aimed to provide a platform to enable the girls to explore this area.

CREST Bronze Awards provide a well-regarded, high quality and tangible recognition of success. It has given the girls a real-life experience of what it is like to be a scientist and working on STEM projects. This gave the pupils an opportunity to improve their enquiry, problem solving and communication skills, and aimed to boost their confidence in themselves and their scientific abilities. This project also served to foster a continuing interest in STEM education and highlight the vast array of careers in this field. Furthermore, the CREST award scheme is widely recognised and highly regarded by universities and colleges, which means that pupils can use their CREST award to enhance their

UCAS personal statements. Pupils can also talk about the skills and experiences they have gained through CREST to enhance their application and help them stand out from the crowd when applying for apprenticeships or on job applications.

From the outset, the girls chose, planned and executed a project on hair, which is something that they are interested in and wanted to explore further. It also highlighted that science is involved in various aspects of life, down to the simplest tasks such as hair washing and styling.

We were impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm shown by the girls and enjoyed seeing their scientific reasoning and analysis skills develop and progress throughout the year. We also enjoyed interacting with the girls over the hilarity of using the USB microscopes on absolutely anything they could find, from Mr Malaney's antique pocket watch, Miss Leggat's many clumsy bruises, Miss Wilson's post-stookie arm hair and the "fuzzy" core of an apple. All of this in addition to investigating the structure of a number of different samples of hair after a variety of treatments. Well done girls, from Miss Leggat and Miss Wilson!





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SUMMER
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ART DEPARTMENT COMPETITION WINNERS

Many congratulations to our prize winning artists!

As well as securing gallery-space in the recent Paisley Museums 'Inspired' exhibition, some of the pupils also had their work chosen to be featured in the 129th Paisley Arts Institute Schools Competition.

The pupils who have their work featured in the P.A.I exhibition are:

Shona Cairns, Ciera McKellar, Megan Cook, Rhona Carmichael, Sarah Henderson, Tia Hunter, Euan Taylor, Tamara Payne, Jenna Fraser and Leah Brown.

Shona Cairns' work was selected as the winner of the S4-S6 category and the overall winner of the competition! Shona received a cheque for £100, a glass winner's plaque and also won £100 for the Art department. Well done Shona!

Shona is pictured here as the event was reported in the local press along with the other winners from across Renfrewshire and receiving her prize from Mr John Love from MacFarlane Packaging, who sponsored the exhibition.

As always we are very proud of our pupils who continually showcase their talents within the school and further afield.

The exhibition is on now at Paisley Museum.

Mr Sheppard
Acting P.T. Art and Design.





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EXHIBITION

Budding Monets scoop awards

Talented pupils wow Art Institute judges

Kenneth Speirs

A stunning array of almost 100 works of art has gone on display at Paisley Museum.

They are all entries to Paisley Art Institute Schools' Competition, and range in subject matter from everything from portraits to still life drawings.

And it was a brilliant still life featuring fruit and a trophy by Johnstone High pupil Shona Cairns that was named overall winner.

Her intricate work is an example of pointillism, which creates a picture out of tiny little dots of paint, and was most famously practised by French post-impressionist Georges Seurat.

Paisley Art Institute president David Sutton was delighted with the standard of entries.

He said: "It's an annual competition and it runs parallel with the annual exhibition we have. Our 129th exhibition was opened just about two weeks ago, and the school competition is generally facilitated a week or two after the main exhibition."

"It's to encourage budding talents." Lesley Hinde, secretary of Paisley Art Institute and organiser of the schools competition, said there was no theme to the works submitted.

"We have some primary work that is based on a book they are reading, we've got some underwater scenes, we've got lots of still lifes and some design work from some of the high schools, as well as some really nice prints — every material, every medium, all we do is restrict size," she said. "We've managed to hang 80 works."

"It's all really interesting. Lots of different themes and mediums have been used."

As well as Shona, the winners were Rubi Mitchell, of St Columba's School, Kilmacolm (primary four to seven), with all of Paisley's Heriot Primary four to seven classes taking the runner-up place.

Sarah Feechan, of Gryffe High, Houston, was the S1 to S3 winner, with Gryffe's Libby Cole the runner-up.

Lauren McLean, of Linwood High, was the S4 to S6 runner-up, having been piped to the post by Shona in first place.



Winners Pictured, from left, are Rubi Mitchell, Libby Cole, Shona Cairns, Sarah Feechan and Lauren McLean



Lauren McLean The Linwood High pupil was the S4 to S6 runner-up



Rubi Mitchell The young artist won in the primary four to seven section



Shona Cairns The talented pupil's still life earned her a glass trophy



Libby Cole The Gryffe High pupil was the S1 to S3 runner-up



Sarah Feechan She was the S1 to S3 winner



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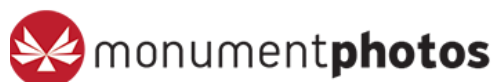
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With special thanks to all the staff and pupils who have contributed.



We'd like to offer our thanks to Graeme Hewitson of Monument Photography for taking some amazing photos for us this month. They're not quite ready yet for this edition but they will be featuring in future editions of the newsletter and all around the school.

<http://www.monumentphotos.co.uk/>



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