

JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

DETERMINATION·HONESTY·RESPECT
FRIENDSHIP·TRUST·RESPONSIBILITY

NEWSLETTER

*Summer
2019*

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Summer 2019

Mrs Hollywood tells us
what's new in the
Summer session

Welcome to the final newsletter of session 2018/19. It's a little earlier than usual, as the person who pulls it all together – Mr Johnston, Acting PT Technical – is off to India with the World Challenge students in June.

Focus on Pupils

Johnstone High School is a vibrant and busy place and you can get a feel for our activities and events through checking out our twitter feed. Since the last newsletter, we have had:

- a non-uniform day for Comic Relief
- fundraising for World Challenge community projects
- our hearty lives senior ambassadors have arranged for after school Club-berse sessions for staff and pupils
- the Zoo Man came into The Thrive Hive with a range of exotic and quite frankly, terrifying animals for the young people to handle and interact with
- we had behaviour reward events at Easter for pupils who have exemplary behaviour – the obligatory Easter Egg Hunt and chocolate prizes for the winners
- we have introduced the Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) project with S2 who are working on this through their English classes. This involves pupils working in groups to research and then select a local social issue/charity to champion. Each group puts together a presentation to their class to say why their charity is the most deserving, and the winning group in each class goes forward to the grand final that will take

place in June. Each winning group will present to their year group and a panel of judges, and the winning group will receive £3000 from YPI to donate to their local social issue/charity. Last session Renfrewshire Women's Aid was our winner.

This term has seen a range of sporting, music and art successes. Leon in S5 competed at the Youth Olympics, we had a terrific showing at the Renfrewshire Schools dance competition (another trophy for the cabinet), ongoing success for the senior volleyball team, a great set of results at the recent Renfrewshire cross country, and of course, great dedication from all our football teams, both male and female. Music successes this term have included the national five showcase evening, ongoing success and press coverage of the Renfrewshire Schools Pipe Band, many of whom are JHS pupils; JHS pupils stole the show at the recent Renfrewshire Spring Concert in Paisley Abbey, and finally, our own spring concert which allowed pupils of all ages and stages to showcase their talents in front of friends and family. We are very much looking forward to 'We Will Rock You' in June. Finally, the Art department had a many pieces of pupil work at the Renfrewshire 'Inspired Exhibition'. We are proud of each one of our talented young people.

Of course, the weeks up to Easter were very much focused on preparing for the SQA diet that began at the end of April and this year is scheduled for 6 weeks. Supported study has been delivered by a number of staff throughout the year; this usually works on a drop-in basis and is entirely at their goodwill. This year we supplemented this with 'raising attainment booster classes' (RABS) which pupils signed up for week by week and

were taught sessions. Although staff were paid for these, again it was a on a volunteer basis and depended on viable pupil numbers. Easter school took place during week one of spring break, and masterclasses have been scheduled as a 'final push' the day before each SQA exam. We have received positive feedback from pupils, parents and staff



Zoe Tait

on this programme of attainment support and hope to make this a feature year-on-year.

For youngsters who are not studying national five an 'enrichment programme' has been put in place. This has involved unit catch-ups in school, life skills and employability work in school, alongside work experience and employer visits and some cultural elements are planned such as trips to museums etc. Enrichment has been well attended so far; the pupils are enjoying their experience and are telling us it is worthwhile.

In terms of the life of the school, there

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have been a number of trips and residential that have taken place, or indeed, that are planned for the final weeks of term. For example, Mrs Carlin has taken a number of lucky students to London for the day for a special invitational event to work alongside Alexander McQueen designers. We are now a fully trained, self-sufficient Centre for Duke of Edinburgh (our staff can now independently run and lead expeditions at Bronze level) and I am aware that there are plans to get all pupils through their expeditions by the end of term. Miss Mullaney is currently away with 4 other staff and 15 S3 pupils to Skye for the Columba 1400 pupil leadership week. Our hope is that these pupils – like the previous cohort – will return to school as values ambassadors who will shape the direction of travel in the school and act as role models to other learners. Mr McGovern and his intrepid team of staff and seniors are counting down the days to the next World Challenge expedition in India. Mr McGovern has already booked in assemblies for August to launch World Challenge 2021! Watch this space!

Week beginning 20 May we holding a 'health and wellbeing week' in school for pupils and staff. Various things will be happening within PE, HE and across the wider school community:

- In PE, pupils will be experiencing a selection of alternative activities that they do not normally get. To ensure all pupils get the same opportunities, some of them will be getting off timetable in certain subjects to come to PE instead. On Thursday 23 May at lunchtime, we are having a staff v pupil's softball game.
- In HEc, all pupils will be making a 'fakeaway' that will take the form of a healthy pot noodle.

- Pupils will be focusing on kindness, creating positive postcards and giving and receiving positive mental health messages via flyers made in Art. There will also be a self-help mental health corner in classrooms.
- In PSE lessons, pupils will look at the Health and Wellbeing indicators and compare their feelings before and after health week. Health week coincides with national Nurture week. There will be a focus on feeling 'Safe' within Nurture week that fits in well with what PSE classes will be doing.
- Staff will be asked to deliver a lesson linked to HWB. This will be linked to the benefits of sleep.
- There will be an exercise bike in the foyer on Thursday 23 May all day. When staff are not teaching they will be encouraged to come down we will aim to cycle as many miles as we can in one school day. We will hold a competition for pupils to guess how far we get!
- The daily staff step challenge will involve staff counting their steps each day for three days with a prize at the end.
- All staff will need to leave the school building by 4.15pm on these three days and asked not to take any work home.

In our drive to be responsible citizens and good neighbours, we have taken part in any Renfrewshire Council planned 'team up to clean up' litter picking campaigns. Before Easter, our S6 leadership team wrote to local counselors looking for their support in relation to litter in the local area, specifically the

provision of bins. I have recently been told that there will now be an extra bin at the back path. The S6 group also wrote to parents to raise the prospect of pupils carrying out litter picking duties in school grounds (tear off opt-outs were included and then collated). I am pleased to report that Dr Crossan in social subjects is now organising for S1 classes to go out, one per week, and litter pick in the school grounds.

I must give special comment and praise to a fabulous cohort of S6 who finished just prior to the Easter weekend. They have been outstanding throughout the session and finished their few days in school with a litter pick of the local area, dressing up, senior awards, graduation and a brilliant farewell day at Lapwing Lodge. We took two buses to the Braes early morning, and the pupils were able to dip in and out of a range of activities including sumo wrestling, archery, high ropes and canoeing, followed by a burger lunch cooked by staff. A great day was had by all and we have already booked Lapwing for next year!

Focus on staff

In terms of staffing, as we near the end of the school session, we are already quite far down the line of organising staffing for August.

In February, the first date for appointing this year's NQTs, I interviewed for five positions and made permanent appointments for an August start in:

- Business Studies
- PE
- RE
- Chemistry

- Music

Last month I also made a permanent appointment in English to start in August. We will find out about next year's probationers at the end of this month. Mr Brown's 23-month secondment to the pastoral team will finish at the end of May and he will return to his teaching role within the Technical team. Miss Wilkie will temporarily cover Skye House over June, and it is my hope to appoint a new PT Pastoral position with a remit covering Skye House and Inclusion, starting August 2019. Ms Butler-Robson, PT Pastoral Iona House, is coming back to work from maternity leave 4 days per week, so a 0.2FTE opportunity will go out to staff.

Ms Irving, Dr Costello, Mrs Moffat, Mrs Smith and Mrs Barry are all reducing their days next session, and Mr Mulaney in Physics is retiring at the end of the term – we wish him well and thank him for his many years of service to the children of Johnstone.

In terms of the DHTs, Mr Palombo and Ms Cole will carry on as acting DHTs into next session. Similarly, Mr McKenzie in Science and Mr Clark and Ms Kilgour (Eng/ML) will continue in their acting roles.

In other news, Mr Combe (PE) has moved to Park Mains High School. Miss Wilson (Chemistry) returned from maternity leave in March. Miss Keenan has been appointed to the role of PT Music (temp – maternity leave) at Castlehead High School and takes up post in June. Finally, Mr Miller has been appointed as the new head teacher of Stewarton Academy. We are delighted for him and wish him well in his own school.

School life – Parents

This term we have had a parents' evening for S1. The feedback indicated that the majority of parents felt the evening was well organised, but there were a few comments about timings and the use of the dining hall (rather than the hall which was set up for exams). I am looking into an online system for parents' evening bookings and will liaise with the Council about this.

Parent pay has went live in the last few weeks. This programme is designed to make schools as cashless as possible and give parents more control and reassurance, as monies no longer need to be physically sent in to pay for lunches or school trips. The pupils have taken to it well, with the vast majority getting to grips with their 4-digit pin number and the need for confidentiality so no one can access their funds. We continue to support parents to sign up, and had a stall at the S1 parents evening. If you are struggling with any aspect of parent pay, please call us.

As you will know, our school phone number changed at the start of the month to bring us in line with the council system. Another wee change that went relatively smoothly! Please input our new number (0300 300 1331) into your phone.

We are working closely with primary schools, staff, pupils and parents, to prepare for the transition of P7 into S1. Our projected intake stands at approx. 190 and placing requests are holding up well. We will be offering P7 pupils and parents an information evening on 3 June, which will also include a taster session of the school meal offer. The three-day visit then takes place on June 12-14.

As we get towards the end of term, I will letter parents with the arrangements for the final week and the start of the new session in August. We will have learning and teaching right up until Wednesday 26 June as that has been designated as Carnival day and I am delighted that this year we will be joined by some of our feeder primary schools in the afternoon. Thursday 27th is activities day, with the usual range of trips out of school, alongside in school events. We are mindful of cost, therefore the carnival is £4 and there are trips to suit every taste and budget. We also, discreetly, support pupils and families for whom cost is an issue. We stop for the summer holidays at 1pm on Friday 28 June.

School Improvement Agenda

We are due to be visited by Maureen Sneddon, our link Education Manager, to validate the report I have written for Education Scotland to bring our HMIE continuing engagement to a

close. This visit will take place on Tuesday 21 May 2019. Maureen and her colleague Julie Colquhoun, Education Manager, will observe a number of lessons and will meet groups of pupils and staff.

As part of our on-going programme of professional development for colleagues, we held an 'attainment day' for the PTs during the winter term. The focus of this was on how best to support learners, particularly post-prelim, to maximise attainment prior to SQA exams. This was well received and we have another session scheduled for the end of the month to focus on departmental improvement planning and our school / department priorities.

As we are in May, it is the time of year to evaluate this session's school improvement plan and start drawing up our priorities for session 2019/20. As most parents will know, our current priorities are health and wellbeing alongside learning and teaching. I am keen to continue these for a third (and potentially, final) year, and now add in 'attainment' as a third school priority. I am interested in capturing the views of parents around this and brought this up at the parent council AGM.

Updates on building improvement

There are plans in place to revamp the assembly hall over the summer holiday. Contractors have been out and we are awaiting final firmed-up plans, however new stage curtains have already been selected!

Finally, we are always keen to maximise our accommodation to best meet the needs of the pupils. To that end, we will be looking at a range of areas in the school and are very likely to be making some accommodation moves prior to the new session start in August. We will work hard to ensure minimal impact on the learners.

Attainment Boosters

Ms Cole

After the prelim examinations many pupils asked for supported study sessions in the lead up to the final exams. As a school we felt that pupils needed a more focused/taught session lead by their teachers in order to really boost their understanding and to achieve their potential.

Therefore, In February we launched our first year of Raising Attainment Booster Classes (RABs). Teachers were asked to provide a list of sessions they would be willing to run with clear areas of focus. Pupils were then given a timetable of proposed booster classes that teachers had offered to deliver and then they signed up weekly for the sessions they felt would benefit them most.

I am pleased to say that the sign up rate was good and on average 9 booster classes a week were run after school by teachers. Having spoken to the pupils who attended they all felt these sessions were worthwhile and that they helped them to make good progress in their revision and/or exam technique. It would be great to see even more pupils signing up in future though so that all pupils can benefit from the expertise their teachers have to offer in their subject areas.

I would like to thank all the staff that prepared and delivered after school sessions at an extremely busy time in the school calendar. As ever our staff have gone above and beyond to support pupils in the lead up to their final exams. I would also like to thank the parents who arranged to pick up pupils after school so that they could stay later at school and the pupils who attended the sessions so

enthusiastically!

SQA

As you can imagine this has been a very busy period for exam preparation. All pupil coursework has been completed, compiled and submitted to the SQA and the focus in school has shifted to revision masterclasses and examinations.

On the 25th April 2019 our senior pupils started their journey through the SQA exam diet and by the time the exam diet finishes we will have had over 70 examinations here at JHS.

All exam subjects offer pupils a 'masterclass' in the days leading up to the final exams to provide the opportunity to ask last minute questions or to seek help and advice on specific areas of the curriculum they find challenging. So far the masterclasses have been very well attended and I know that pupils are very grateful for the last minute help and advice of their teachers.

Pupils were also issued with individualised exam timetables with seat numbers in advance of the exams in order to alleviate some of the stress pupils sometimes feel on the morning of an exam. The pupils have also had new clear filled pencil cases on their desks for every exam so there has been no last minute panic about pens/highlighters etc.

Staff have also been encouraging pupils to take a mindful moment with messages of encouragement which are displayed outside of the exam hall.

Exams are a no doubt a stressful experience for all involved- pupils,

parents and teachers. However when I see the determination on the face of our young people entering the exam hall I am constantly impressed by their composure and ability to focus for what, in some cases, are very long exams. The pupils sitting their exams have conducted themselves brilliantly as have the junior pupils in the school who have not had access to parts of the school for many weeks as exams take place.

We also have a number of young people with additional support needs and they have been superbly supported by the Learning Support team lead by Mrs Smith. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Smith and her team for all their efforts, this is greatly appreciated.

Exams could also never take place without a huge number of invigilators who give up their time to come into school to supervise exams. The invigilation team is aptly lead by Mr Beattie and again I would like to thank him and his team for their professionalism, organisation and support during this time. Unfortunately Mr Beattie is retiring his position as chief invigilator after this exam diet. We wish him well in his retirement and thank him for all his service to the pupils of JHS over the years.

I look forward to hearing about all the results when they arrive with pupils on Tuesday the 6th of August 2019. Please can I remind all pupils to register at mysqa.org.uk to receive their results via email or text.



Seniors Update

Mr Munro



Lapwing Lodge

2019

S6 Graduates



S6 Spring Dance

S6 and some staff had a great evening at the Bowfield Country Club for the S6 spring dance. It was a terrific evening which was another event which the S6 organised so well.

S6 Lapwing Lodge

On their last day of school before the exams began, S6 were accompanied by Mrs Hollywood, Mr Munro, Miss Wilkie, Miss Mullaney, Mr Brooks and Mrs Cullen for a day of outdoor pursuits. Canoeing and high ropes were

a feature of the day as was archery. Everyone has a terrific time and it marked a wonderful end to the school careers of the S6.

Photographs of the day can be found on the school Twitter feed.

S6 Litter pick

The Head Boy and Head Girl marshalled S6 into a morning litter pick in a variety of areas around the school campus. Over 20 bags of rubbish were taken away by the council. S6 wanted to give something back to the school and had been in contact with elected representatives to ensure they were on board too.

Photographs of the day can be found on the school Twitter feed.

Senior Awards

Below is a list of all the winners

S4 Awards

Edith Andrew 2nd Nat 4 PE

Katie Beverland
2nd Nat 5 History
2nd Nat 5 Mathematics

Eva Birchall
1st Nat 5 German

Andrew Boyce
2nd Nat 5 Art
Merit Nat 5 Hospitality

Lee Brannigan
2nd Nat 3 Mathematics
Merit Nat 5 Music

Alexander Brown
1st in Cyber Security
2nd Nat 5 Computing Science

Oliwia Brycka
Merit Nat 5 German

Darragh Campbell
1st Nat 5 Computing Science
Merit Nat 5 Physics

Callum Carruthers
1st Nat 4 Music
Merit Nat 4 PE

Darrell Carty
Merit Nat 5 Art
Merit Nat 5 Computing Science

Toni Christie
2nd Nat 4 Mathematics

Aidan Clark
ASDAN

Calum Cockburn
1st Nat 5 Physics

Jacob Cunningham

1st Nat 5 Music
2nd NPA Photography

Lewis Deighan
1st Nat 5 Mathematics
1st Nat 5 Modern Studies

Lucy Dempster
2nd Nat 5 Music

Iris Dickie
Merit Nat 5 Fashion & Textiles

Amy Dingwall
1st Nat 5 English

Kieran Duncan
1st Nat 4 German

Becky Figures
1st Nat 3 Mathematics

Kegan Finnigan
1st Nat 4 Modern Studies
2nd Nat 5 Woodwork

Emma Garrow
1st NPA Photography
1st Nat 5 Spanish

Matthew Glen
2nd Nat 5 Modern Studies

Alexander Guthrie
2nd Nat 4 Art

Lucy Hailstones
2nd Nat 4 Childcare

Louis Hay
Merit Cyber Security

Rachel Hepburn
1st Nat 4 Art

Kirsten Jenkins
1st Nat 5 History
1st Nat 5 Biology

Dillon Johnston
Merit NPA Photography

Lucy Keith
Merit Nat 4 Childcare

Jessica Kerr
2nd Nat 5 Music Technology
2nd Nat 4 French

Josh Logan
1st Nat 4 English
ASDAN

Sam London
1st Nat 5 Geography

Adam Mason
1st Nat 4 Mathematics

Ryan McEachran

1st Nat 4 PE
Merit Nat 4 Modern Studies

Leoni McFadden
2nd Nat 5 Spanish

Devlin McGhee
2nd Nat 4 Modern Studies

Lydia McReavy
1st H Music

Zoe Millar
1st Nat 5 Art
Merit Nat 5 French

Sam Milligan
2nd Nat 5 Business Management

Chianna Morton
1st Nat 4 Music Technology
2nd Nat 4 English

Scott Murdoch
Merit Nat 5 History

Sophie Pearce
1st Nat 5 Fashion & Textiles
1st Nat 5 Chemistry

Amy Phillips
1st Nat 5 Woodwork

Tom Pittaway
1st Nat 5 PE

Iqra Rani
2nd Nat 5 Admin & I.T.

Ewan Richardson
Merit Nat 5 Spanish

Sarah Rodgers
1st Nat 5 Hospitality Practical
Cookery
Merit Nat 5 English

Chloe Smith
1st Nat 5 Admin & I.T.
1st Nat 5 Music Technology

Ross Smith
1st Nat 5 Business Management

Cerys Speirs
2nd Nat 5 Hospitality
Merit Nat 4 Art

Millie Spence
2nd Nat 5 Fashion & Textiles
Merit Nat 5 Chemistry

Cameron Stewart
Merit Nat 5 Woodwork
ASDAN

Craig Stobo
1st Nat 5 Geography

Ryan Stobo
2nd Nat 5 Gepgraphy

Kate Storrie
1st Nat 4 Childcare

Alan Syska
1st Nat 4 History

Kenzie Thompson
ASDAN

Megan Thomson
Merit Nat 5 Geography

Kate Vidler
Merit Nat 5 Business Management

Marc Whyte
1st Nat 4 French

Lloyd Wilkie
2nd Nat 5 PE

Rhys Williams
Merit Nat 5 Modern Studies
2nd Nat 5 French

Allan Woods
Merit Nat 4 Mathematics

Olaf Wykret
2nd Cyber Security

S5 Awards

Rebecca Adams
2nd H PE
Merit H History
Merit H Music

Gary Allan
2nd H Computing Science
2nd H Physics
Merit H Mathematics

Lewis Anderson
2nd Nat 5 Music

Caitlin Armstrong
1st H Modern Studies
2nd H Business Management
Merit H Geography

Enis Bell
2nd Nat 5 PE

Paulina Burke
Merit H Spanish

Lewis Burns
Merit Nat 5 Woodwork

Taylor Cassidy
2nd H Computing Science

Katelyn Clark
1st Nat 5 Hospitality

Adam Cleer
Merit Nat 5 Music

Marcus Cole
Merit H Photography

Declan Curran
2nd Nat 5 English

Amber Dickie
2nd H Music

Shiree Docherty
1st Nat 5 Biology

Lewis Grant
2nd Nat 5 Mathematics

Joshua Gray
1st H Music

Aidan Hepburn
ASDAN

Emma Heywood
Merit Nat 5 Biology

James Hood
ASDAN

Errin Hughes
2nd H English
Merit H Art
2nd H Spanish

Jenna Hunter
2nd Nat 5 Modern Studies

Lucy Jeffrey
1st H Spanish

Sally Johnston
Merit Nat 5 Geography

Aimee Kean
Merit Nat 5 Mathematics

Abbie Kerr
2nd H Biology

Merit H Modern Studies
2nd H French

Emma Kinnear
1st H PE

Amber Kissell
Merit H History
1st Nat 5 French

Chloe Lafferty
1st Nat 5 Music

Ethan Livingstone
2nd H Music Technology

Josh McAlweenie
2nd Nat 5 Music Technology

Sarah McDermott
2nd H Modern Studies
2nd H History

Shannon McElwee
1st Nat 5 Modern Studies

Ellie McGarry
Merit H Mathematics
Merit H Biology
Merit H Chemistry

Hannah McPhate
1st H Art

Beth Miller
1st Adv H Music
1st H History
1st H French

Euan Mitchell
1st Nat 5 English

Callum Muir
1st Nat 5 Music Technology

Luke Mullen
1st H Computing Science
Merit H Physics

Ashley Murphy
Merit Nat 5 English

Harry Orr
2nd Nat 5 Biology

Jamie Stewart
2nd Nat 5 Gepgraphy

Katie Stobo
2nd Nat 5 Childcare

Rachael Storrie
2nd Adv H Music
2nd H Art

Tieghan Strachan
2nd Nat 4 Mathematics

Jamie Taylor
1st H English

AJ Torrens
1st Nat 5 PE

Jack Williamson
1st H Biology
2nd H Mathematics
2nd H Chemistry

Amy Louise Busby Wood
1st Nat 5 Geography

Mabel Wylie
1st H Mathematics
1st H Chemistry
1st H Physics
Merit H English
Merit H French

Anett Ziegler
1st Nat 4 Spanish

S6 Awards

Lauren Alexander
1st Nat 5 Woodwork

Lauren Anderson
1st Adv H Art

Cara Batin
2nd H Photography
2nd H English

Cate Bone
1st Adv H English
Merit Adv H Art
Merit Adv H Spanish



Fraser Campbell
Merit H Politics

Amanda Carnegie
1st Nat 5 Childcare

Iona Cleer
2nd Adv H English

Ben Deacon
2nd Adv H Chemistry

Iona Dean
Merit Nat 5 Hospitality

Lewis Harper
Merit H PE

Suzanne Hood
2nd H Admin & I.T.

Emma Johnstone
1st Nat5 Mathematics
2nd Nat 5 Metalwork

Andrew Johnstone
2nd H Politics

Julie Keith
Merit Adv H Chemistry

Taylor Kerr
1st Adv H History

Baillie Kerr
2nd Adv H Mathematics
1st H Psychology

James Laverty
Merit Nat 5 Metalwork

Lewis Lightbody
2nd Nat 5 Sport and Recreation

Jamie Macphee
Merit Nat 5 Modern Studies

Lucy McAlpine
1st Adv H History

Rachael McBride
Merit Nat 5 Sport & Recreation

Jorja McCloy
Merit Nat 5 Childcare

Eilidh McIntyre
Merit H Psychology

Lauren Nelson
2nd Nat 5 History
Merit in Nat 5 Art

Callum Ormond
Merit Adv H Mathematics

Cameron Richardson
1st Nat 5 Sport and Recreation

Katie Ross
1st H Admin & I.T.

Neil Ross
1st Nat 5 History

Cal Russell
1st H Photography

Emma Russell
Merit Adv H English
1st H Politics

Hayley Smith
2nd Nat 5 Woodwork

Mandy Sneddon
1st Nat 4 Mathematics

Arran Sowersby Kaplan
1st H Music Technology

Mackenzie Spence
1st H Geography
2nd H Psychology

James Steel
2nd Adv H Spanish

Alasdair Stephen
2nd Adv H Art
1st Nat 5 Metalwork

Matthew Tavendale
1st Adv H Mathematics

Joshua Thomson
1st H Business Management
Merit H Politics

Ross Thomson
2nd Nat 5 Hospitality

Connor Wilson
1st Adv H Spanish

Values Champions

Aaron Douglas	S4
Robert McGregor	S4
Ellie Rourke	S4
Stephanie Tavendale	S4
Fiona Williamson	S4
Amy Anderson	S5
Michael Buchan	S5
Erin Corner	S5
Ben Valentine	S5
Kyle Watt	S5
Lucy Keith	S4
Cal Russell	S6
Rachael Storrie	S5
Mandy Sneddon	S6
Jacob Cunningham	S4
Darrell Carty	S4
Katie Beverland	S4
Andrew Boyce	S4
Millie Spence	S4
Cerys Speirs	S4
Zoe Millar	S4
Kirsten Jenkins	S4
Caitlin Armstrong	S5
Lauren Alexander	S6

Saltire Awards

Iona Dean
Jennifer Kerr
Mackenzie Spence
Lucy Dempster
Diana Odiase
Katie Ross
Eilidh McIntyre
Lucy McAlpine
Emma Russell
Kiara McCarron

Megan McAleer
Rebecca Coventry
Zoe Tait
Taylor Kerr
Baillie Kerr
Ruby Hainey
Rebekah Jeffrey

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Sally Johnston
Aaron Douglas
Megan Thomson
Amber Dickie
Emma Heywood
Abbie Kerr
Ellie McGarry
Hannah McPhate
John Steel
Beth Miller
Rhys Williams

Columba 1400 Awards

Scott Murdoch
Struan Campbell
James Munro
Cameron McCalman
Callum McLay
Andrew Boyce
Kieran Duncan
Louise White
Megan Thomson
Glory Izedome
Jamielee Stevenson
Oliwia Brycka
Lucy Hailstones
Martyna Frasn
Katie Beverland
Young Enterprise Awards
Jordan Hendriks
Kiara McCarron
Cal Russell
Mandy Sneddon
Cameron Richardson
Alexander Wright

Colin Haldane Award

Anett Ziegler

Susan Belkacemi Award for Modern Foreign Languages

Lucy Jeffrey

Sports Awards

Volleyball player of the year
Harry Orr

U16 Football player of the year
Adam Murdoch

Senior football player of the year
Harry Pittaway

Matt Carruth Trophy
Harry Orr

Campbell King Award
Mandy Sneddon and Diana Odiase.

Christine Burrows award for
citizenship
Nicole McCarthy

Douglas Baird Award for Mathematics
Rebekah Jeffrey

Christine Byars Award for Art
Kirsty MacArthur

Hinshelwood Trophy for Academic
Excellence
Mabel Wylie

Head Teacher's Award
Zoe Tait



Head Boy and Head Girl interviews 2019/2020.

Application forms for the above posts are now available from Mr Munro. As with previous years there will also be a number of depute head posts available. The deadline for submission is 7th June.

London Trip 2019

Mrs Carlin



On the 21st March, Johnstone High's Fashion and Textile Department were one of two schools selected to visit the Alexander McQueen Flagship Store in London. This opportunity was made possible through our strong partnership with Future Textiles at Dumfries House (Glasgow Clyde College) and The Incorporation of Weavers Glasgow.

The experience allowed our learners to gain a better understanding of the fashion design and manufacture process. Learners had the privilege of meeting the Head of Embroidery, who travelled from Italy, to talk about the intricate and complex detailing on the garments.

Many of the learners who came on the visit are pursuing careers in Fashion,

which made the experience all the more meaningful.

SPOTLIGHT ON DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Mr Scholefield





To end a busy year for the Design & Technology department. We presented senior class across a range of levels of Practical Woodwork, Practical Metalwork and Design & Manufacture. The department has been a hive of activity with all staff members being involved in activities across the school. Great for building strong relationships with both pupils and other staff members.

This year has seen strong numbers of practical woodworkers undertake the course, with an improving numbers of girls taking the course. Standards across the board were high, the final project of a mirror frame with a drawer was a popular new model. The stand out pupils during the year were Amy Phillips, S4 and Kieran Munro, S4.

Senior metalwork saw a number of extremely high quality models being completed. This year's final model was a metal tea light lantern. Alistair Stephens and Emma Johnstone were the stand out performers throughout the year. Seeing them getting

extremely competitive when it came to the finish quality on their final models.

Design and Manufacture final assignments saw a great selection of creative and innovative folios and models being created. The design briefs that the pupils were to work to were headgear display, a fun coin display or plant pot display. Two models of note were John Wilson, S4 and Jenna Hunter, S5.

The Design & Technology will be a busy place next year with the numbers of S3 taking our subjects almost doubling. This includes Graphic Communication, Design & Manufacture and Practical Craft Skills. Mr Brown will be returning to the ranks full time after his time with the pastoral team, bringing great knowledge and energy.

Parents in Partnership

Mr McGurk ran a workshop for the parents in partnership initiative where they created an acrylic book stand/iPad stand. It was a great opportunity for some of the parents of the new S1 to see the department in action and get a present to take home.

Mr Johnston is soon to be heading off to the Indian Himalaya with the World Challenge group. Experiencing everything India has to offer and putting his technical skills to the test helping to

repairing school buildings.

Mr Scholefield Hockey.

May saw the hockey club come to an end. A successful year saw a stable number of pupils attending, where their skills grew and most importantly had fun.

Kiltwalk

Mr Scholefield and Mr McGurk joined a group of intrepid walkers from the school in this year's Kiltwalk. A brisk 23 miles from Glasgow Green to Balloch saw the group raise over £2,000 for Lisa's Gift.

Duke of Edinburgh

Mr McGurk has been heavily involved with the S3 Duke of Edinburgh getting ready for their Expedition. The final expedition will be from Milngavie to Killearn. A superb experience for all of the group.

Robert Dock, our technician has been working hard on the stage set for the school summer show, We Will Rock You. Making sure the show goes off without a hitch.

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

Renfrewshire Schools Dance Competition

written by Miss Clark



Well done to the JHigh Dance Team who competed in the Renfrewshire Schools Dance Competition on Thursday 28th February 2018. The Junior Dance Team were awarded 3rd in their category. The Senior Team won 2nd and the Mixed Team came 1st. Also well done to Ellie McGreish in S1 who was selected Best Young Dancer for JHigh.

S1/2 Netball Team

written by Miss McIntosh and Miss Clark

Our S1/2 netball team had a busy start to the season with their Scottish Cup games. The girls got through to the knock out stages, narrowly losing by 2 goals to Holyrood High School, Edinburgh. This was a great experience for the girls who thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. Throughout the year the squad has grown in numbers, giving more options and diversity amongst the team. Every player has improved significantly since the start of the term and have grown in confidence with each game they have played. We are looking forward to a successful season next year, with more members to join the club.

Renfrewshire Schools Cross Country

written by Miss Clark

Pupils from S1-3 participated in the



The S2 Boys team came 2nd with Matthew New placing 1st and Colin Arthur in 3rd.

The S2 Girls team were 1st with Emily Gorman winning 2nd overall and Ailsa Carrigan coming 3rd.

Senior Volleyball Team

written by Mr Stevenson



Renfrewshire Schools Cross Country Race on Tuesday 26th March 2019. The event took place at the On-X in Linwood and was organised by Active Schools.

The S1 Boys team came 3rd in the Team event and well done to Haydon Barrett who came 2nd overall.



Our senior volleyball team finished 2nd of eight schools in the Renfrewshire Senior Volleyball League. The boys played once every four weeks across various schools in the authority, coming second to St Benedict's. A special mention to captain Harry Orr, who has also won the Scottish league and cup double with men's team Su Ragazzi, and has represented Scotland at U17 and U20 level. Harry also won the Matt Carruth award recently for sporting excellence at the JHigh Senior Awards Ceremony.

Squad: Harry Orr, James Orr, Finn Fowler, Tom Reid, Johnny Orr, Lewis Lightbody, Andrew Spiers & Owen Haggerty.



Girls Football

written by Miss McIntosh

Our girl's football has both a junior and senior team, who are extremely committed to their training every Monday after school. Both teams have competed in a number of Active School tournaments throughout the year, with our junior team qualifying for Renfrewshire Sports Finals Day. The tournaments have provided the girls with a great experience of playing competitively for their school and having the chance to demonstrate their skills against other schools. From the tournaments, the girls have grown in confidence, demonstrated great teamwork and gained success along the way.

U16 Football Team

written by Mr Merriman

The boys performed well this season winning the initial group stage of the league. They qualified for the 'Champions League' stage and finished third in the group and just missed out on the league play-off final.

Players' Player of the Year: Adam Murdoch

Squad: Nathan Hunter, Adam Murdoch, Ross Smith, Jay Burnett, Dan Auld, Ryan Stobo, Jamie Lamont, Tom Pittaway, Scott Murdoch, Ben Andrew, Ryan Fitch, Jack McKellar, Rory Batin, Struan Campbell, Lewis MacPherson, Lloyd Wilkie, Zygy Lipka

Senior Football Team

written by Mr Stevenson

The senior football team suffered mixed fortunes throughout the season. They were successful in qualifying for the 'Champions league' section of the league but were unable to qualify for the final of the competition. They did however reach the semi-finals of the St Mirren Cup, where they lost out 4-0 to St Andrews

in a result which certainly did not reflect the team's performance. A special mention should go to centre back Ben Lauchlan who represented the Paisley & District squad throughout the season and reached the final stage of the Scottish School Boy trials.

Players Player of the Year: Harry Pittaway

Squad: Reece Murdoch, Kieran Houston, Harry Pittaway, Alexander Wright, Ben Lauchlan, Mark Lucas, Owen Haggerty, Cameron Lindsay, Declan Curran, Scott McGowan, Rhys Weir, Sean Woodhouse, Darren Young, Kai Smolarek.

Health and Wellbeing Week

written by Mr Merriman

Johnstone High School's first Health and Wellbeing Week will take place from Tuesday 21st- Thursday 23rd May. There will be lots of fun activities and initiatives taking place which will all have a focus on helping young people improve their Health and Wellbeing.

Physical Education

Pupils will get to choose between alternative PE activities they may not have taken part in before, including Clubbercise, Hydrospin, Swedish Longball and Heady Handball. There will also be House softball tourna-



ments running all week as well as a Staff v Pupils softball game! Each winning house will receive a prize!

Home Economics

Pupils will be making a healthy 'fake-away' meal. I'll let you think about what that may include!

Mental Health

There will be a focus on mental health in various lessons during the week with a particular focus being on kindness, feeling safe and sleep.

Staff

There will be various things on for staff including a daily step challenge and a bike challenge. The daily step challenge will see staff taking as many steps as they can in the three days. Mr Palombo is an early favourite! For the bike challenge staff will try to cycle all day on an exercise bike in the school foyer and accumulate as many miles as possible. Pupils can pay 50p to guess how many miles they think the staff will achieve. The winning pupil will get a generous prize!

What else can I do?

To be more healthy during Health and Wellbeing Week you could:

- Walk to school
- Cycle to school
- Stay off social media for the week (or cut your use of social media by half)
- Cut out fizzy drinks and sweets
- Cut out fast food
- Eat 5 pieces of fruit and veg per day
- Drink 10 glasses of water each day
- Go to bed one hour earlier than usual
- Speak to someone in your class you don't know well
- Help someone
- Make up with someone you have fallen out with.

ANIMAL ZOO

There was some unusual but very welcome guests to the Thrive Hive this term ... a travel zoo which included Guinea pigs, Mice, a Rat, Corn snake, Bearded dragon lizard, Leopard gecko lizard, Duck, Chicken, Tarantula, Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches and a 90 year old Tortoise.

The pupils were very brave and had snakes around necks, rats on shoulders and lizards on hands. Miss Brown was less brave and was scared to get too close even to the chicken ... but she did manage a selfie with the duck.

Mrs.Hollywood came along to meet the animals too although unfortunately we did not manage to capture photographic evidence of her facing her biggest fears ... maybe next time.

It was a brilliant experience. Thank you to Mr.Munro for helping to organise this. We hope to have the Travel Zoo back again soon.





SUBWAY CHALLENGE

Ms Moffat

The S3 Business class took part in the Subway Marketing Challenge, "Design a Sub" with one team, pictured below comprising of Jessica MacMillan, Natasha Alexander and Abbie Stevenson, getting through to the final, which was held in the Exhibition Centre in Glasgow.

The girls presented their idea for a brand new Sub to a panel of experts, detailing the Marketing Campaign that would be run to promote their idea along with how this would be financed working to a budget.

The team were up against very stiff competition from other schools and I am delighted to say that the girls won the prize for designing the most creative sub, named "The Brazil Thrill".

This was a great experience which Johnstone High's team embraced. It was a good day out putting what was learned in the classroom into the real business world.

Well done girls!



PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

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

As we approach the middle of the summer term, the Parent Council held their last meeting of the year on Mon 13th May, which included the AGM. We were delighted to have Mr Palombo in attendance (DHT) along with Mrs Hollywood at our AGM and were pleased to welcome some new parents who wished to come along too. At the AGM, the selection of office bearers and parent membership took place. Gillian Williams and I were reselected to continue our roles as Treasurer and Chair respectively, for the coming year. Jean McFarlane will continue as Secretary going forward for the 2019/20 session. As part of our Parent Council succession plan, Jean has agreed to take on the additional duties of a Vice Chair, working alongside me throughout the next session, with a view to taking on the role of Chair the following year.

The Parent Council normally has a full parent membership, however currently we have a few places available and hope to welcome some new parent

members to join the Council in September. Please complete the Parent Council form included in the School Data Pack, which will be issued in August, if you are interested in joining the Parent Council.

The Parent Council's main focus this session has been the realisation of our school grounds improvement project, to enhance the outdoor experience for our pupils. Using the funding awarded to the Parent Council in 2017/18, together with monies raised at school fundraising events, an outdoor classroom, seven large tables, numerous benches and two large planters have recently been installed by Glasgow Wood Recycling. We are thrilled that the outdoor classroom provides a new learning space for pupils, whilst offering shelter and a social seating area for use at break and lunchtimes. Roofing the pergola and adding a splash of paint to it and the exterior office wall, together with tidying of the garden, has greatly improved the aesthetics of the area. We will also see an injection of

colour here through some new planting planned by Mr Fulton's (Physics dept) S2 pupils later this term. A huge thank you to Mr Fulton and Mr Johnston (Technical dept) who have helped the Parent Council drive the project forward. The house builders MacTaggart & Mickel, Community Pay Back Team and Renfrewshire Council have all contributed and very kindly donated to our project. The Parent Council are delighted they have been able to improve the school grounds for pupils and hope they will enjoy the space for many years to come.

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 Reminder – Parent Council minutes, Head Teacher report and 2019 Chairperson's report are posted in the school website and school app.

Have a great summer.

Diane Spence, Chairperson
JHS Parent Council



PARENT COUNCIL OUTDOOR BENCHES



PARENT COUNCIL OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACE

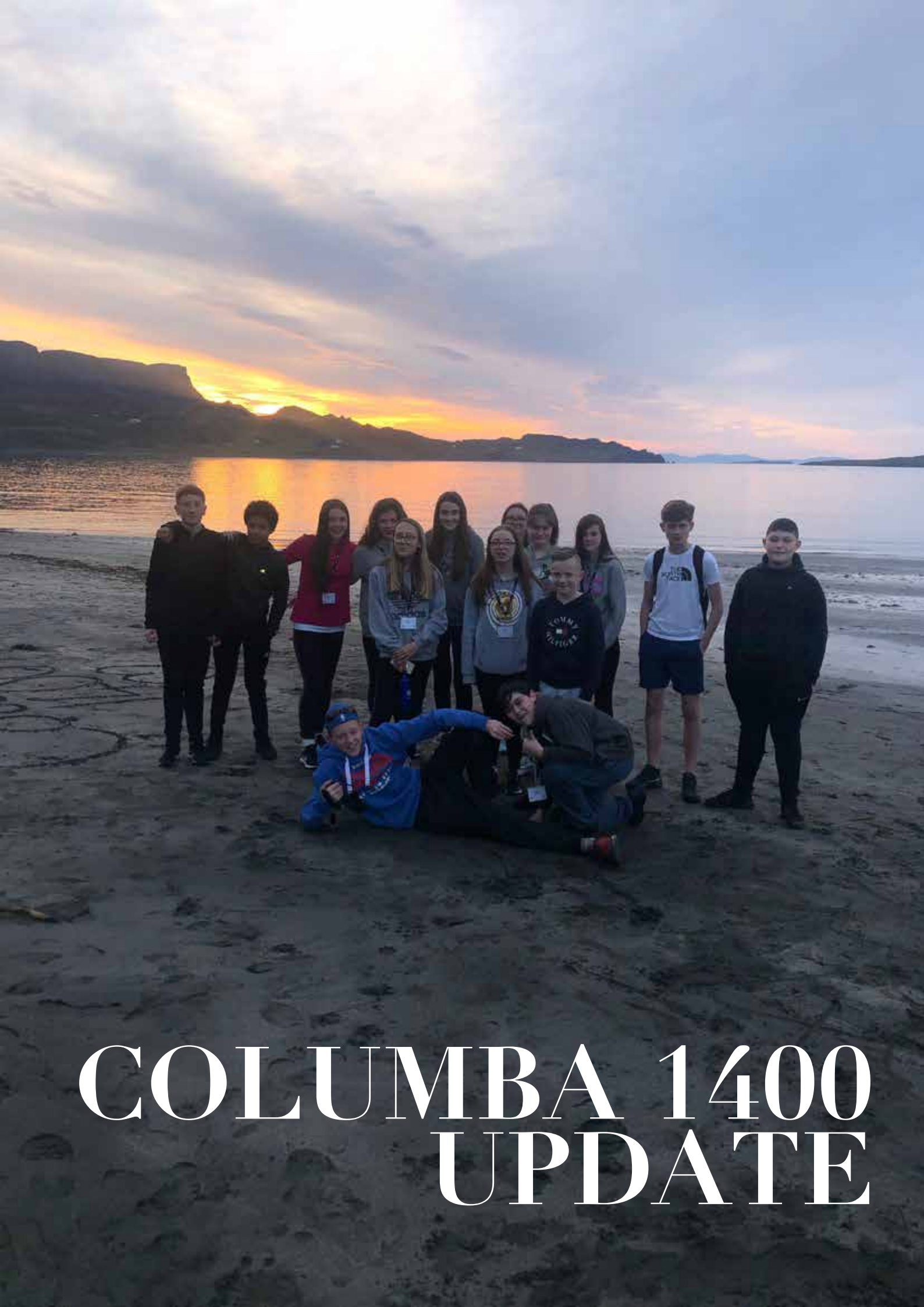
COLUMBA 1400 UPDATE



Before heading off on exam leave our S4 Columba 1400 Ambassadors led the recruitment process for the new S3 pupils as they embarked on their Columba journey. The S4 ambassadors ran a values day alongside the Columba staff for all S3 pupils who applied, which was a fantastic event which gave the new S3 group a real insight into what Columba 1400 is all about. They also led the interviews for the new S3 pupils, alongside members of staff, in

order to select our 15 new S3 ambassadors. You have picked an excellent bunch so well done and thank you! The new S3 Columba Ambassadors have recently returned from their residential week in Skye. The group had a fantastic week away at Skye where they have bonded as a team and developed their own individual leadership skills – the sunny weather was also a bonus! The team are now entering phase 3 of their Columba journey and are

ready to take on a new challenge to make a positive contribution to the Johnstone High Community. They will be focusing on pupil voice, in particular pupil opportunities, leadership and communication. They will also be working in partnership with the S4 Columba Ambassadors to deliver values week for the new S1 cohort in August. Keep up the hard work, we are all very excited to see what you produce!



COLUMBA 1400 UPDATE

PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

The 19/20 Parents in Partnership programme has recently begun, with a number of P7 parents attending in order to experience day-to-day life in Johnstone High School. So far, the group have experienced lessons from a range of different subjects including English, Social Subjects, PE, Art and Technical. In addition, they have also had information sessions from PT Learning and Behaviour Support and PT Nurture in order to increase their awareness

of the supports in place for our young people as they transition from Primary to Secondary.

Our 18/19 Parent Group have also been busy with a series of reconnect sessions. There have been Easter and Christmas catch-ups as well as cooking on a budget and Maths homework support lessons. These reconnect sessions have allowed the parents to come together as a group and build friendships as well as find

out more about the school.

Parents are a vital part of Johnstone High School and we are keen to involve as many as possible within our programme. If anyone would like to be involved, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

EMPLOYABILITY UPDATE

Mrs Carlin

The Spring and Summer months have seen a pause in Employability activities due to the SQA Exams, however at Johnstone High we are always focused on achieving positive destinations for all learners. New S4 learners will get a sense of the world of work in June as they embark on a week of Work Experience, within the local community and further afield. This week is a chance for learners to develop personal and employability skills which will help prepare them for life after Johnstone High.

Many senior learners are currently in the process of applying for training

opportunities within Renfrewshire Council and Glasgow, and we continue to celebrate the success of those learners who have secured Modern Apprenticeships throughout the year. This is an alternative pathway to college or university, and for some learners gives them the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge in a job they are passionate about.

The introduction of Employability classes into the senior time table next session, will continue to enhance the employability prospects of learners and we will continue to offer experiences and opportunities that develop the skills needed to move onto posi-

tive destinations.

Mrs Carlin will continue to inform learners about any career or apprenticeships opportunities through the school's twitter feed, assemblies or direct contact.

If anyone has any employment related questions or needs any help, please see Mrs Carlin in Home Economics Room 1.

CLUBBERCISE



This term seen the introduction of Clubbercise, led by Renfrewshire's Active Communities Team and our in school Hearty Lives Team.

Clubbercise is a simple and fun, dance-fitness based workout using glow sticks, to club tunes from the 90s throughout to now. Our Clubbercise taster sessions have

been a great success with a number of pupils, teachers and some parents attending the classes.

The classes paused for exam leave but will resume on Thursday 6th June and will be on in the Assembly Hall straight after school for the last three Thursdays of this session. The whole school community is welcome

to attend the classes. Please come along if you like the idea of a workout that feels more like a night out on the town.

We hope to build on the success of Clubbercise next session with our very own trained Clubbercise Hearty Lives leaders.

WORLD CHALLENGE

Mr McGivern

And they're off! Well – almost.

Two years in the planning and it's now all but time to depart for India. For some of the challengers the reality of the impending trip is only now hitting home as the questions come in thick and fast at the last minute. What's a compression sac? What's paracord? Do we really need to meet at the airport at 4.30 in the morning? Should I start fitness training now?

Both teams now know where their projects will be. Adarsh pre-school and John Wesley public school in Manali will be the bases for the first week in India. Some painting, plastering and the construction of a small play area and vegetable garden are some of the items on the agenda for the challengers to get stuck into.

Their time in Manali should help in the acclimatisation as they then prepare for some tough days trekking at altitude in the Himalaya. That's where we'll find out what "yeah, yeah, I've been getting loads of hiking practice in" means in reality. There's no doubt that the trekking will be tough – but awesome at the same time.

The last week sees a visit to Agra and the Taj Mahal. Challengers may also choose to visit the Wildlife SOS centre where they can see rescued elephants and sloth bears. They may even get to take the elephants for a walk. Oh you poor elephants.



ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

The programme will continue to offer support in personal skill development, employability skills and raising attainment

During exam leave, some of our S4 learners have been enhancing their employability and personal skills through participation in the Enrichment Programme.

Learners have had the opportunity to develop bike maintenance skills through the "Bike for Good" charity run organisation. The aim of this organisation is to refurbish, repair and work with communities to maintain bikes. This teaches sustainability and improves mental and physical health. Mr McCulloch in RMPS has taken the lead on this venture and learners have been very positive about their experiences.

During the second week of the programme, learners had the opportunity to visit West College Scotland in order to understand the courses available and routes into further education. We also developed employability skills through producing CV's and discovering ways in which employment and training can be accessed.

Our partners at Engie, who are developing houses at Johnstone Castle, invited us along for a site visit. This opportunity allowed learners to see the development from concept through to finished house. We also met with an ex-pupil who spoke to learners about his journey and route into construction.



Learners developed their personal skills in many ways throughout the Enrichment Programme, such as cake decorating and afternoon tea with Miss Purves and cooking on a budget with Mrs Barry. Both experiences allowed learners to develop their team working skills, organisational skills and ability to think for themselves. Miss Docherty has delivered Sleep workshops also, which learners found useful. They have become aware of the connection between good sleep hygiene and the ability to achieve success.

The programme will continue to offer support in personal skill development, employability skills and raising attainment throughout the next few weeks.



LISA'S GIFT KILT WALK

Miss Brown

We are delighted to support Lisa's Gift in the incredible work that they do, helping pupils all across Renfrewshire schools. The pain has faded but the memories live on.

On Sunday 28th April, seven members of Johnstone High School staff put on their kilts, their fundraising t-shirts and their trainers (and one See You Jimmy hat) and prepared to take part in the Mighty Stride Kiltwalk, to raise money for Lisa's Gift Charity.

After fuelling up with rolls, croissants, fruit and coffee at Mrs. Smith's house from 8am, Team J-High set off at 9am to begin the 23 mile walk from Glasgow Green to Balloch.

After seven pit stops, countless energy bars, six bleeding toes, an immeasurable amount of laughs ... and eight full hours ... Team J-High made it to finish the line, raising almost £2000.

On Tuesday 7th May, Team J-High put back on their fundraising t-shirts (washed I hope) for the school's Coffee morning which was also in aid of Lisa's Gift. Over £150 was raised from this event.

As it stands, the total amount raised by Team J-High is an amazing £2,175. An additional 40% fundraising boost will be added to the total raised on Kiltwalk fundraising deadline day by the amazing Hunter Foundation, which will take the total to over £3000.

We are delighted to support Lisa's Gift in the incredible work that they do, helping pupils all across Renfrewshire schools. The pain has faded but the memories live on.



IONA HOUSE UPDATE

Ms Cole

It has been another really busy term in Iona House. Our S4 pupils were focused on the build up towards their SQA exams. It was fantastic to see so many Iona pupils attending the raising attainment booster classes and supported study sessions during lunchtimes and after school in order to boost their knowledge and understanding of their exam based subjects before study leave. It has also been brilliant to see so many pupils attending the subject 'masterclasses' in the days before each exam, these classes have given our pupils the last minute hints and tips that we hope will help achieve their potential in their exams.

The exam diet started on the 25th April and runs for 6 weeks, a stressful time for everybody! I have been absolutely delighted with mature and sensible way that all Iona pupils have conducted themselves in school during the exam period and could not be prouder watching them enter their exams in a calm and confident manner. Fingers crossed for everybody!

We have also had a number of Iona pupils that have been attending our enrichment programme during the study leave period. Pupils have gained a

wealth of knowledge from Mrs Carlin and have been working hard to secure a positive leavers destination (i.e. apprenticeships/college courses/full time employment) whilst also developing their cultural experiences with trips to museums and other interesting destinations. I am very grateful to Mrs Carlin for all the support she has offered the pupils and I know they very much appreciate her time and efforts.

I was humbled to watch so many pupils from Iona House receive awards at the recent senior awards evening. To see so many pupils recognised for their academic excellence, personal achievements and support of the school values is so inspiring.

The junior school have also been very busy during this period. As I write this the certificates for the junior awards evening are being printed and I can't wait to see all the pupils receive their awards on the 29th of May. Well done to everyone who was nominated for/ received an award – keep up the good work!

S2/S3 pupils have also chosen their option subjects for next

year and most are keen to get started on these. Please can I remind all pupils and parents that the new timetable commences on Monday 3rd June- we also look forward to welcoming back the senior pupils on this day too.

I am sure you are aware that there are a number of activities that run during the last week of term. All pupils need to sign up for an activity for activities day which is on Thursday 27th June, the great selection is clearly displayed in reception. Tickets are also on sale for the Carnival which takes place on Wednesday 26th June.



MUSIC SUCCESS

Mrs Davidson

Each year, the Music Department encourages our N5 and Higher pupils to get involved in our February showcases and we were delighted with the engagement in this, this term. Our pupils are given the opportunity to perform their exam pieces to an audience of friends and family in preparation for their forthcoming exams. Those taking Music at this level should get this in their diary for next year as our pupils always feedback that this is a very valuable, if daunting, experience.

Schools Pipe Band Championships

On the 10th March, our young people travelled to Livingstone to compete in the 2019 Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships. We are delighted to report that our piping quartet (Emma Rafferty, Josh Esson, Mark Johnstone and Mr Bowes) took first place in this category. Congratulations!

Our pupils also competed as Renfrewshire Schools Pipe Band and in the Freestyle event. Although we didn't win any prizes in either of these categories, we had a great day and enjoyed the opportunity to work as a team, develop our musicianship skills and reflect on how we can improve our performances for the following year. Congratulations to all who took part in this exciting event.



Spring Concerts

Spring was a busy term in the Department. We rounded off the term with our own school concert but we were also asked to perform at Paisley Abbey as part of the Renfrewshire Schools Concert.

Our school concert showcased talent

from our choirs, pipe band, windband, Music Technology course and many soloists. We also welcomed P7 pupils from Fordbank Primary School who had been working with Miss McPherson on a number of songs.

We were delighted to be asked to perform our Freestyle Event entry at this year's authority Spring Concert. Our pipers, string players and choir performed our Parting Glass/I See Fire mashup to a sold out Paisley Abbey. This was a great opportunity to hear the piece, a Johnstone High School original arrangement, performed in the beautiful acoustics and setting of the Abbey. We also enjoyed the opportunity to listen to the other ensembles that are on offer within the authority.

Pipe Band Success



Our most recent success was again, from our pipe band. The British Championships took place in Paisley on the 18th May and once again, Renfrewshire Schools Pipe Band came away with a prize. The band, led by our instructors Mr Bowes and Mr Coils, were awarded 3rd place in their category. This is a large category (18 bands) and includes some really experienced bands and a number of fee paying schools. An amazing achievement for our young people! The band will soon head off to Inverness to compete in the European Championships – their first residential trip for a competition. We wish them all the best for this and the rest of the season.

We Will Rock You

We are all very excited about this year's school show, We Will Rock You, which takes place in the school on the 18th and 19th June. Tickets are available at

www.ticketsource.co.uk/johnstone-high-school

We look forward to welcoming you to our performances. S1-3 pupils can also purchase tickets for the Wednesday matinee. These are available from Mrs Gross in Maths.

Mhairi and Hannah, who play Galileo and Scaramouche tell us about their experience so far.

"We auditioned to be in the school show this year, We Will Rock You, and frankly, we didn't think we would get the main parts because of the amazing amount of talent already in this school. The show has been an amazing experience so far, watching everything come together and making new friends with all of the cast. We are thrilled to be a part of it and can't wait to see everyone on the night." – Mhairi Grant and Hannah Ramsay

Staffing

Much though we are looking forward to all the exciting things that the end of term brings, we are not looking forward to having to say goodbye to three members of our team.

Mrs Tennant, our brass instructor, will be leaving us in June to enjoy her "gap year." We wish her all the best with her new ventures and thank her for her contribution to the department in the years that she has been part of Team Music.

In August of last year, Miss McPherson joined us as an NQT. We are delighted to report that she has secured a position with Glasgow City council and will be moving to Castlemilk High School in August. Over this year, she has brought so much to the department and will be missed by both staff and pupils alike. We wish her all the best in her new post.

In addition to this, we are saying "bye for now" to a Music Department

legend. Miss Keenan was appointed as Acting Principal Teacher of Music at Castlehead High School and leaves us on the 31st May to take up this post. Miss Keenan has worked at Johnstone high for seven years and in this time has led and supported the department, staff and pupils through the highs, but also through the lows. She is an inspirational and highly skilled classroom teacher, but we've got a funny feeling she's going to be an awesome PT too. Castlehead is very lucky to have her and we wish her all the very best in this post.



ART DEPARTMENT NEWS

Mr Shepherd



In February, pupils from across the BGE and the Senior Phase submitted work to be chosen for the Paisley 'Inspired' exhibition. The pupils submitted a mixture of Art and Photography and in total, 7 of our pupils' work was chosen to go on display.

The pupils accompanied by Mr. McGregor attended the opening of the exhibition at the Tannahill Community Centre and were visibly proud to see their work on display.

The pupils who had work on display were:

Ellie Rourke, Leon Russell and Emma Garrow from S4, Anna Lyons from S3, Daisy Newness from S2 and Zak Jeffrey, Amelia Hood and Robbie Meikle from S1.

Congratulations to our aspiring artists and photographers.

Departing Senior Students

Delighted to let you know that a group of pupils from across the Senior Phase are leaving us to take up Art, Design and Photography in either further or higher education.

Megan McAleer-Photography at Clyde College

Kirsty MacArthur- Fashion at Caledonian University

Cara Batin- Fashion and Textiles at Heriot Watt University

Lauren Anderson-Painting and Printmaking at Glasgow School of Art



These pupils have been great ambassadors for the Art department and we all wish them every success for the future.



MULL HOUSE UPDATE

Mr Menzies

Since our last update, Mull house has been extremely busy. Our S4 pupils have been working hard towards their SQA exams and at time of writing, the vibe has been positive from pupils coming out of the exam hall. With only a few exams still to go, it will not be long until the wheel turns again and we are back to the new timetable and beginning preparations for the next set of exams in May 2020.

Attendance at support classes and booster lessons have been excellent. Well done to all S4 pupils in Mull house and we hope that the envelope (or text nowadays) in August brings positive news.

Our senior awards also showed us the best of Mull house with a large number of our 4th year pupils collecting awards across a range of subjects. This was a proud moment for Mull house and all parents. Well done.

The options process has been at the forefront since Christmas with all Mull pupils having an interview with either Mr Menzies or Ms Wilson. This has allowed us to structure our new timetable in the best and most efficient way to allow for max-

imised attainment moving into S3 and S4 for our pupils.

In mid-June, we welcome the new additions to Mull house for the Primary 7 transition days. Miss Wilson and Mr Menzies and the whole of Mull house are looking forward to our new intake and to bring them into the core of Johnstone High Schools 'BEST' house group.

As I mentioned in the 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 Mull pupil has been successful on the sporting field, on the stage or any other activity that they let Mr Menzies or Ms Wilson know in order that these successes can get the recognition they deserve.

CHARITIES UPDATE

Ms Wilson

Thanks to everybody who has contributed to the wide variety of fund-raising activities that have been going on in Johnstone High School this session. In addition to your generous donations of goods – 53 crates to be precise – to the Renfrewshire Food Bank, your generosity has also meant that we have raised £2532.30 so far through various events including school discos, an Inter-House quiz and non-uniform days. This will be shared between Comic Relief and the four House charities: Young Minds, Dog's Trust, MIND and the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Thank You.

ARRAN HOUSE UPDATE

Mr Palombo

Throughout the term our S4 pupils were focused on the build up towards their SQA exams. It was excellent to see so many Arran pupils attending the raising attainment booster classes and supported study sessions during lunchtimes and after school in order to boost their knowledge and understanding of their exam based subjects before study leave. It has also been brilliant to see so many pupils attending the subject 'masterclasses' in the days before each exam, these classes have given our pupils the last minute hints and tips that we hope will help achieve their potential in their exams.

The exam diet started on the 25th April and runs for 6 weeks, a very challenging and stressful experience for everyone involved. I have been absolutely delighted with mature and sensible way that all Iona pupils have conducted themselves in school during the exam period and could not be prouder watching them enter their exams in a calm and confident manner.

We have also had a number of Arran pupils that have been attending our enrichment programme during the study leave period. Pupils have gained a wealth of knowledge from Mrs Carlin and have been working hard to secure a positive leavers destination (i.e. apprenticeships/college courses/full time employment) whilst also developing their cultural experiences with trips to museums and other interesting destinations. I am very grateful to Mrs Carlin for all the support she has offered the

pupils and I know they very much appreciate her time and efforts. The pupils have also utilised this opportunity to ensure that they complete their National 4 units and full qualifications.

I was delighted to see so many pupils from Arran House receive awards at the recent senior awards evening. To see so many pupils recognised for their academic excellence, personal achievements and support of the school values is so inspiring. Arran House was also very well represented at the Junior Awards ceremony. We had many winners in both academic and extra-curricular endeavours. Well done to everyone who was nominated for/ received an award. Both events were evidence of the excellence of pupils in our house.

Arran House has enjoyed a successful session, with notable achievements over the course of the last few terms. After coming out on top of the keenly contested Inter-House end of term games pupils have been involved in a number of inter house challenges including sports tournaments as part of Health Week.

S2/S3 pupils have recently chosen their option subjects for next year and most are keen to get started on these. All pupils and parents should be mindful that the new timetable commences on Monday 3rd June. Our seniors will also return on this date and we look forward to making a positive start in our new classes.

I am sure you are aware that there are a number of activities that run during the last week of term. All pupils need to sign up for an activity for activities day which is on Thursday 27th June, the great selection is clearly displayed in reception. Tickets are also on sale for the Carnival which takes place on Wednesday 26th June.

Pupil Voice Teaching and Learning Workshop

A notable achievement this term was our pupil voice teaching and learning workshop at our recent in-service day. Twelve S3 pupils prepared, delivered and evaluated a superb workshop for our teachers that focused on feedback, active learning and assessment strategies. The pupils displayed maturity, confidence and a high level of determination as they took on a leadership role outside their comfort zone. Teacher evaluations indicated it was a very worthwhile experience that highlighted preferred teaching strategies they would implement in their own classrooms. All pupils involved were a credit to the school and displayed all the school values at every turn.

SKYE HOUSE UPDATE

Mrs O'Malley

Skye house has been looked after this year by Mr Brown and Mrs O'Malley. However, Mr Brown's pastoral secondment comes to an end at the end of May 2019 when he will return to the technical department as a class teacher. We would like to thank Mr Brown for all his hard work and the support he has given the pupils and families in Skye house. From the end of May the pastoral teacher for Skye house pupils will be Miss Wilkie.

Skye house has been extremely busy this term. Our S4 pupils have been working hard towards their SQA exams and some of our S4 pupils studying National 4 qualifications have been engaging in lots of activities in our Enrichment programme.

Our S3 pupils will be out on work experience at the start of June which we are sure they will enjoy. A small group of our S3 pupils were involved in the Columba 1400 programme and recently attended a weeks residential course in Skye and they will be working as values ambassadors next year. Another group of S3 pupils have been out on their Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition in some very changeable weather conditions. Well done everyone

Our S2 pupils have been working really hard on their YPI projects showing real enthusiasm and maturity when they are speaking to charities about the work they do. I can't wait to see the final presentations. Skye house were the winning house last year so we'd like

to uphold that position this year.

Many of Skye house S1-S4 year pupils collected awards across a range of subjects at our junior and senior awards ceremonies. This was a proud moment for Skye house and parents and carers. Well done.

We look forward to welcoming the new S1 pupils to Skye house for the Primary 7 transition days on the 12th, 13th and 14th of June.

LONDON TRIP 2019

Mrs Irving

London trip has been running for eleven years primarily for 2nd year but open to other years if there are spaces available. This has always been a fun filled trip, seeing the sights in London, theatre shows and the Harry Potter Studio Experience.

The London Trip 2019 is nearly here.

The excitement is rising, maybe not the early start!!!

Parents evening is on the 3rd of June at 6pm in the assembly

hall,

this is for PARENTS ONLY to meet the staff and group leaders.

The shows we are going to enjoy this year are Wicked and Lion King.

This trip will run next summer so make sure you speak to pupils who have been on this trip, or speak to Mrs Irving.

PARENT PAY SYSTEM

Parent pay successfully launched in Johnstone High School on 30th April 2019. Many parents/carers have already activated their accounts and are using the cash free environment for school meals and school trips. We would encourage all remaining parents/carers to sign up as

soon as possible as the school is no longer accepting cash. For any parents who need to continue making payments by cash they may do so using the PayPoint method at local convenience stores.

Please contact the school office on 03003001331 if you



require help setting up the account, re-issuing activation codes, issuing barcodes, general enquiries.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

There have been a number of changes to contacting the school this session.

The school phone number has changed to 0300 300 1331.

When contacting the school your first point of contact is the Pastoral Support Teacher.

Details of the pastoral teachers are:

Arran House:
Mr Rainey

Iona House:
Mr Kennedy (Acting)

Mull House:
Mrs Wilson

Skye House:
Miss Wilkie



KEEP IN TOUCH

THIS IS YOUR SCHOOL

QR Code to school web site

Address
Beith Rd
Johnstone
PA5 0JN

Telephone
0300 300 1331

Website:
www.johnstonehigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk
email: johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Twitter
[@JohnstoneHighSc](https://twitter.com/JohnstoneHighSc)

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