



JOHNSTONE
HIGH SCHOOL

DETERMINATION·HONESTY·RESPECT
FRIENDSHIP·TRUST·RESPONSIBILITY



Summer 2024 NEWSLETTER

Summer

2024

A Word from Mrs Hollywood

Welcome to the summer edition of our school newsletter. I hope you find it an interesting read, and a way of keeping up to date with all the goings-on and achievements of our young people.

In terms of staffing news, Ms Brown has returned from her maternity leave, back into her role as PT Nurture and Mrs Merrick, PE, is due back on 3rd June as is Mrs Davidson, DHT. Mrs O'Malley was appointed acting HT, with effect from August 2024 when I take up a 23-month secondment with HMIE. Particular thanks to the two parent council members who supported the recruitment process. In April, Stephen Gorman joined our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) team as our new Education Support Manager, following the retirement of Mrs Lorraine Dick who had been in post for many years and will be much missed. Stephen has extensive experience of working in schools, and also in the Children's Services Resources Team.

In terms of staff who are finishing up at the end of term, Mrs Zych, Transition teacher, is due to return to her substantive post at Kilbarchan Primary school in August. Mr Duncan in Maths is moving to Park Mains High School and we wish him all the very best of luck. Mrs Smith (PT Learning Support) retires at summer and her post will be

taken on an acting capacity by Mrs Priestly (Inclusion teacher), starting in August. We are also saying a fond farewell to Mr Gilmour (PT Attainment) also retires in June. Mrs Smith has looked after youngsters in learning support for over 20 years and her expertise and knowledge is second to none. Mr Gilmour is a beloved Geography teacher who in recent years postponed retirement to set up and run all of our data systems that allow us to support young peoples' attainment. Both have made a massive contribution to the school and I, personally, will miss them very much as colleagues and friends.

School Improvement

Options evening took place on 27th February and thereafter learners in S2,4 and 5 had meetings with their house team to agree options for the forthcoming year. This year we have introduced electives to S5/6 and these have been well received. We hope that parents and carers have liked the new options form as it doesn't use columns and gives young people more choice. Furthermore, this session we also incorporated advice from departments on which subjects young people should be considering to maximise their attainment (i.e. what are your best 7 / 5 / 4 subjects).

We welcomed Emma Henry,

interim Head of Service, to the school in March to carry out the second of our annual attainment visits. This was a thorough session which involved a 'deep dive' into the attainment for our most recent (2023) leavers from across S4-6. The meeting went well as our leaver attainment is particularly strong; we are above the 'virtual' comparator in all but one measure. Furthermore, we have the strongest leaver destinations across Renfrewshire for the second year running at 99%. Janie O'Neill, the new Director of Children's services, visited the school in April. Janie met with the SLT, a group of staff, and a group of young people. She was very impressed when we heard all the great things happening in the school, our attainment and destinations, and the wide range of opportunities open to the young people.

We have been liaising with Renfrewshire Council about a new fence to go around the school to strengthen school security. This is progressing and I hope work will commence shortly. A full CCTV upgrade has been carried out and almost all corridors and stairwells are now covered. This is also an important school safety measure.

I have approved the purchase of a new school minibus. This cost comes from our 'capital items replacement fund' which is ring-fenced monies for large scale

investment. We have calculated that we should break even on this after three years due to the expense each time we have to hire a bus for a school trip/team event. The minibus should be with us in the next few months.

Life of the school

It's always busy in Johnstone High. As I write this article, there is a company specialising in Owls in the PE classroom doing talks for all of S1, with seven gorgeous owls for the young people to interact with and hold! You'll read about many events in this newsletter, but here are some of my favourite moments from recent months.

In March we had all P7s into school for a fun Maths morning, and then again on a second day in March for a PE event. These are some of the many events that we put in place to familiarise the young people with high school.

Also in March, the Johnstone High senior freestyle band brought the house down at the new Paisley Town Hall as they closed the Renfrewshire Schools' Spring Concert. The same group won the Scottish Schools pipe band championships freestyle competition in March – listen to their wonderful performances on our X feed.

Our S6 finished up with us in fabulous fashion. First, we had Lapwing Lodge on 17th April and the pupils had a great time doing activities such as archery, high ropes and Sumo/ Gladiators. The next day was the S6 graduation which is a highlight in our calendar. We had a rehearsal in the afternoon, then the event after school. Although 'formal' it is a warm and emotional event, and a sense of strong community and family permeates. We

finished off with a buffet and a bleeher, and a great time was had by all. Finally, we had the S6 shirt signing day on Friday 19th April. Yet again, the S6 did us proud with their conduct which was exemplary and finished off a brilliant year for them. Photos are on 'X'.

On Friday 10th May, Miss McGinley and myself, along with Luke and Kate, represented Johnstone High at the 100-year rededication of the Johnstone War Memorial in Houston Sq. We met lots of dignitaries and former pupils, including a lady who told us she was in a pupil in the school when the current JHS school badge was designed and introduced – in 1959!

Celebrating Success

Here are just some of the wonderful things our young people have been getting involved in.

- Well done to our girls' football team who took part in the Scottish National Finals in March and won 2, drew 5 against some of the best competition from across Scotland.

- Hive 25, our Young Enterprise group, won the Best Business Report, Best Renfrewshire Team, and Best Overall Regional Team at the YE Regional Finals in March. National Finals, here we come!

- Renfrewshire Young Musician of the Year took place on 17th April and I am delighted that our school representative, Logan, was a very worthy second place. A supremely talented and dedicated musician, Logan is no stranger to performing competitively and we are very proud of him.

- At the end of April our junior volleyball team won at the Renfrewshire volleyball

tournament.

- House awards were sent home in April as a thank you for young people who had achieved high numbers of badges on Satchel One – plus an Easter Egg at the end of last term for those who were the top two for Satchel one points in each class S1-3.

- Well done to Nate who swam at the Grangemouth Falkirk Otters Swim Meet on the 4th May, picking up 3 x Golds, 2 x Silvers and 1 x Bronze. Nate picked up the trophy for Top Boy in his age category.

Our wider achievement awards (for all the extras that pupils do, both in and out of the classroom) and S1-3 awards will take place in June. Senior awards will take place in August.

Final thoughts

I hope you enjoy the summer newsletter, and please remember that we are here for you and your child. If you have any worries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us on 0300 300 1331. We're here to help.

I hope you have a brilliant summer holiday, when it officially starts at 1pm on Thursday 27th June. School resumes for young people on FRIDAY 16th AUGUST at 8.50am. Please show your support of the school by sending your child into school wearing full school uniform.

Thank you.



Expectations around behaviour and conduct

Parent and carer support is so important to us to make sure our children and young people achieve their best. A good example of this is attainment, for example, parents and carers supporting revision and homework; however, it can also apply to behaviour and conduct.

Whilst the vast majority of our pupils live up to our expectations and demonstrate our values, we are particularly concerned about the following:

1. Uniform: standards of uniform are not as they were at the start of the school session. Pupils should be in a shirt and tie, wearing trousers or a skirt. PE kit, leggings, trackies etc are not part of our uniform and we will challenge pupils who come to school wearing these items as they do not look like they are part of our school community. Uniform is essential for us to keep our school safe as it helps us to more easily identify intruders. We will also support pupils with uniform, and everyday we hand out items of school uniform to pupils who require them. Your support in this regard is very much appreciated.

2. Phones: we are actively in the process of ordering phone caddies for every classroom. Once these have arrived, we will communicate with you and the young people about our plans to get phones out of classrooms. Many schools in Renfrewshire and across the UK have already taken this step. Phones are a constant

source of disruption in the classroom, and sadly this outweighs their usefulness as learning tools. Furthermore, we are increasingly seeing young people who are demonstrating the signs of being addicted to their phone, which I'm sure we can all agree is very worrying.

3. Vaping: we have supervision around the milling area, back path, local community and toilet areas, however we are concerned about the number of pupils of all ages who are vaping. When we find a pupil has been vaping, we will confiscate the item and put an appropriate sanction in place. For your information, vapes are very similar to highlighter pens. Some are crystal in appearance. Please speak to your child about vaping – it's much more common amongst the younger generation than we, as adults, would suspect.

4. Absence and latecoming: I prioritise attendance and time keeping as they are vital life skills and essential for the world of work. Please support the school, and your child's attainment and future prospects, by making sure they get into good habits and come to school every day and on time. We have a range of supports that can be put in place to support attendance and timekeeping. In our experience, these have maximum impact when we work in close partnership with parents and carers.

5. Following instructions and manners: a very small number of pupils present staff with challenge on a regular basis. This can include dodging lessons to truant in areas of the school, lack of manners, not following instructions, even to swearing and being verbally abusive to staff.

We are really supportive of our pupils and work hard to give them a curriculum and package of support that meets their needs. We also understand that many young people have difficult situations in their lives and need their adults to be mindful of this. However, part of supporting young people to learn to regulate their emotions and behave in a socially appropriate way means that adults have to put consequences in place. We are always grateful when we contact parents about behaviour to have a productive, mutually supportive conversation where we focus on solutions and work in partnership.

We will continue to have the highest expectations for our young people and will always rely on parental support. If you would like to contact us about any aspect of support for your child in terms of their behaviour and conduct (regarding matters at school or indeed, in the family home) please contact your child's pastoral teacher on 0300 300 1331. Thank you.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Free school meals (FME) & clothing grant (CG)

If you received free school meals/clothing grant last session you should receive a letter to your home address. If there are no changes to your circumstances, complete and

return to the council

If you have had a change of circumstances, or are applying for the first time, please complete an application form.

These are located on the council website, or paper copies will be available from

mid-June from schools.

The level of clothing grant is £150 per eligible pupil

If you have not received your clothing grant after three weeks, phone the council.

APPROVED UNIFORM

Navy school blazer (Braiding on S6 blazers)
White shirt
School tie
Black trousers
Black skirt
Black cardigan/ V neck jumper
Black shoes

PE KIT

Royal blue Johnstone High t-shirt (see picture) or a plain royal blue t-shirt
Dark shorts, dark tracksuit bottoms or dark sports leggings
Trainers (different footwear to school shoes)

For outdoor PE, in adverse weather, pupils should bring appropriate warm clothes e.g. a hoodie, jacket, waterproofs



JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

FOCUS ON ATTENDANCE

At Johnstone High School we want every pupil to attend school regularly and have a positive school experience where they can achieve to the best of their ability.

Since the pandemic there has been a drop in school attendance both locally and nationally. We are currently updating our attendance policy and are working with parents, pupils and staff to ensure that our policy works for our school community. There are many supports in school to help with attendance and letting us know at the earliest stage possible that your child is struggling will help us put the most appropriate support package in place.

A 10% drop in attendance is the equivalent of missing half a day per week. Over the whole school year this adds up to 19 days of missed education. This

is the same as missing 4 weeks of education in a year.

At Johnstone High School if a young person's attendance drops by 10% in the senior phase they will on average attain 2 fewer National 5 qualifications or 4 fewer National 4 qualifications by the time they leave school compared to their peers with higher average attendance at school.

We want all our young people to be in school as much as possible because in addition to gaining qualifications there are many more activities in school which help develop other important life skills that will prepare them for the world of work. We have extra-curricular clubs, school trips and leadership opportunities that all pupils can get involved in to help develop these important skills.

As always we are keen to support our young people and families. Please get in touch should you have any concerns about your child's attendance. Please see contact details below:

House Group Pastoral Teacher
contact email address

Arran

Mr Rainey
daniel.rainey@
renfrewshire.school

Iona

Miss McCormack
elese.mccormack@
renfrewshire.school

Mull

Mr Smith
alan.smith@
renfrewshire.school

Skye

Mr Kennedy
liam.kennedy@
renfrewshire.school

ATTAINMENT *UPDATE*

Mr Anderson

Depute Head Acting

At Johnstone High School our commitment to ensuring that every young person reaches their full potential remains unwavering, and we are proud to report significant progress in several key areas.

Johnstone High continues to perform above our virtual comparator in terms of tariff points, attainment versus deprivation, and literacy and numeracy. This achievement reflects our relentless approach to supporting all young people and ensuring they have the opportunities and resources needed to succeed.

Our strategy includes both universal and targeted support to cater to the diverse needs of our pupils. We believe that every young person has the capacity to excel, and we are dedicated to providing the necessary interventions and support systems to help them achieve their goals.

To further enhance our support for our young people, we have introduced GL assessments in literacy, numeracy and CAT4 for our S1 pupils. These tests provide robust information that helps us tailor learning and teaching strategies within the classroom. By understanding each pupils' strengths and areas for development, we can offer more personalised

support.

This session we have developed our tracking, monitoring and reporting framework within the Broad General Education (BGE) phase. Our new reporting framework indicates whether a pupil is beginning, progressing, or achieving a curricular level. This detailed reporting enables us to set precise targets for each pupil to reach by the end of the year, creating a clear progression pathway into the Senior Phase. This has enhanced our formal calendar of learner conversations, allowing each pupil to understand their progress in each subject. This approach ensures that our young people are aware of their current progression and what they need to focus on to achieve their full potential.

Our S3 pupils have recently completed their Scottish National Standardised Assessments (SNSA) in Literacy and Numeracy. The data from these assessments will be instrumental in informing our planning for learning and teaching. This ensures that our educational approaches are data-driven and focused on meeting the specific needs of our students. Furthermore, our S3 Assessment Week provided valuable data that

informs teaching strategies and targeted support, ensuring that each pupil's learning needs are addressed as they progress towards the Senior Phase and National Qualifications.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in ensuring the success of every young person at Johnstone High School.

Raising Attainment Booster Sessions & Easter School

In preparation for the recent exam diet, we offered a comprehensive range of Raising Attainment Booster Classes (RABS) and an Easter School program, thanks to the incredible dedication and support of our staff.

The Raising Attainment Booster Classes were designed to provide focused support to our S4-S6 students, targeting areas of the curriculum that they may

have found challenging. These additional sessions allowed our young people to receive targeted guidance, clarify their understanding, and reinforce their knowledge in preparation for their exams. In total there was 96 RAB classes offered across the curriculum in March and April.

Furthermore, our Easter School program offered an intensive and immersive learning experience during the holiday period. This initiative provided a structured environment for pupils to consolidate their learning.

The purpose of both the Raising Attainment Booster Classes and the Easter School was to equip our pupils with the necessary skills and support to sit their

final exams with confidence.

By addressing specific areas of challenge and providing additional practice opportunities, we aimed to ensure that our young people felt well-prepared and capable of demonstrating their true potential..

As we reflect on the recent exam diet, we are proud of the efforts of our young people and the support provided by our staff.

Options 2024/ Timetable

As part of our ongoing quest to improve pupils experience at school we decided to move to a “free” options choice this year with our S2, S4 and S5 pupils making informed options based on career pathways and previous performance in a subject all without the restrictions of options columns.

This change, along with several others in relation to the options

process, has proved to be very positive with only a small number of pupils having to adjust their options. Any pupil who will be affected by these changes will be contacted and alternative options discussed.

We are continuing to try to secure places for some Advanced Higher subjects at other schools thought the authority’s consortium arrangements. As and when these arrangements are confirmed we will let pupils know.

This year we have been able to secure a college course for Hair and Beauty SCQF level 4, for some of our new S4 pupils, which will be delivered in school.

The new timetable will start on

Monday the 3rd of June with pupils being issued these during period 1 on the Monday. More information on which classes to attend period 1 will be shared with pupils and will be available on the schools web site.

SATCHEL ONE

UPDATE

Mr Anderson

Depute Head Acting

We have been delighted with the continuing engagement with our homework platform Satchel:One.

The primary purpose of using Satchel:One is to provide our young people with a centralised hub for accessing homework and receiving feedback from their class teachers.

This year we have implemented a system within Satchel:One to acknowledge and celebrate achievements in class. Through the use of points and badges, we can instantly recognise positive engagement, effort, and curricular progress within the classroom setting. This immediate feedback not only motivates our young people but also allows parents/carers to be instantly notified about their child's success.

During the recent Easter break, we took the opportunity to celebrate the outstanding efforts of our young people by sending out recognition certificates from each house group. These certificates were awarded to pupils who have consistently demonstrated the ethos of Johnstone High School, embodying our values of respect, responsibility, and determination.

If you have any issues accessing Satchel:One or need

further support please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

The logo for Satchel:One, featuring the word "satchel" in a dark blue sans-serif font and "one" in a lighter blue sans-serif font, with a small orange dot above the 'e'.The logo for glow, featuring the word "glow" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font, set against a blue rectangular background.

PUPIL PROMISE



Working directly with our care experienced young people and those at risk of becoming care experienced, we aim to ensure their needs are heard and are met across all areas of school life in addition to feeling nurtured and happy at school. We have been busy ensuring this happens!

Promise Champs Youth Club

The Promise Champs Youth Club is now open and runs every Wednesday after school, in the Cove. We have local Community artist Seamus Killick who will facilitate arts projects until the end of summer. Pupils will also take part in a consultation on future activities and planning a summer trip.

Promise Champs residential

Our students took part in the Promise Champs residential at lapwing Lodge. They enjoyed a packed programme filled with fun outdoor activities such as high ropes and Laser tag. They had the opportunity to get creative at our art workshop and for young

people to have their say and co-design future youth clubs within their local community. In addition to designing a summer programme of trips for themselves and other Care Experienced young people and Young Carers within Renfrewshire.

Care Day

In celebration of Care Day, pupils received Love2Care gift bag filled with lots of selfcare items, feel good goodies, plus an invitation to sign up for future Promise Champ workshops and experiences, to support to young people to gain confidence in leadership, to gain new skills, to take part in fun social experiences and to be provided with the tools to practise selfcare at home.

The Cove

Due to increase demand, our dedicated room for our Care Experienced community and friends, is now open every lunch time and Wednesday after school! It will also be used for various other fun activities throughout the school year. It

is in the Pupil Support Wing, if you have not spent time in the Cove, please visit! We look forward to seeing you.

CLE Fund Success

We are incredibly grateful to receive laptops, experience days and, gift vouchers for successful applicants of the CLE Fund, all will be distributed to pupils to enjoy over the summer holidays.

Care Experience Support Charter

Pupils have created a document captures the voices of the pupils from Johnstone High School who are part of our Care Experienced community. By using their first-hand experiences, they aim to create a guide which will help staff view through a Care Experienced lens and ensure "The Promise" is kept at Johnstone High.

SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICE

Our adviser will be at

JOHNSTONE HIGH SCHOOL

on the following dates:

Friday 25th August 2023
Friday 8th September 2023
Friday 6th October 2023
Friday 3rd November 2023
Friday 17th November 2023
Friday 8th December 2023
Friday 22nd December 2023
Friday 2nd February 2024
Friday 16th February 2024
Friday 1st March 2024
Friday 15th March 2024
Friday 19th April 2024
Friday 3rd May 2024
Friday 17th May 2024
Friday 7th June 2024
Friday 21st June 2024

Renfrewshire Citizens Advice Bureau is offering advice sessions at High Schools across Renfrewshire. We can assist with a wide variety of enquiries including but not limited to: money and debt, financial capability, welfare benefits, housing, and employment.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Call 0141 889 2121, go to
<https://schoolsupportservice.10to8.com>
or scan the QR Code



Renfrewshire Citizen's Advice Bureau Charity No. SC001738
Registered at: 7 Glasgow Road Paisley PA1 3QS



S6 Round Up

After 6 years at Johnstone High School, it was finally time for the class of 2024 to say goodbye and go off to start the next stage of their journey. However, before we could let that happen, we had to give them one more opportunity to come together as a year group and celebrate their incredible achievements.

Lapwing Lodge

On their last day of school before Gradation the S6 were accompanied by Mrs Robertson, Miss Vernal, Mrs Blair, Mrs Priestley, and Mr Cameron for a day of outdoor pursuits which thankfully took place in the sunshine. During the day the S6 were running around playing laser tag, doing some questionable wrestling moves in the gladiators' games, and braving the high ropes.

They were then treated to an incredible feast courtesy of the staff cooking team who managed to run that kitchen like a military operation. Everyone has a terrific time, and it marked a wonderful end to the school careers of the S6.

Graduation

Graduation is always a very

special event in Johnstone High School and this year was no different. Thank you to all who attended and helped make the day memorable for the young people involved.

The Events Team did an incredible job of decorating the hall/canteen areas and put on an excellent selection of refreshments that were enjoyed by all.

We had wonderful speeches given from House Group Leaders, School Captains, and Mrs Hollywood.

During the ceremony there were memories shared, laughs had and tears flowing but the message remained clear. The class of 2024 have been outstanding and overcome so much to be who they are today. We as a school community wish them all the very best of luck in the future and know they will do amazing things.

Prom

The S6 Prom will take place in The Coats Memorial in Paisley on Thursday 30th of May. There are 102 staff/pupils set to attend this event and we know that everyone is very much looking forward to it.

As guests arrive, they will be served a mocktail, then sit for their 3-course meal and finally they will take to the dance floor where we will see lots and lots of interesting dance moves on display. Also on site will

be a Johnstone High School Themed Photo Booth to help pupils capture those memorable moments.

A massive thank you goes out to this year's Prom Committee who fundraised, planned, and organised their entire evening which is not an easy task. Well done!

S6 Helpers in our primary schools

It has been another fantastic year for our S6 pupils who have been down helping in our associated primary schools. Over the course of this year we have had pupils helping out in primary classes which has led to one of our S6 pupils successfully securing a place at university to study to become a primary teacher. We have many pupils who are talented at sport and they have been down helping with primary P.E. lessons whilst working towards gaining Saltire Awards. The Senior pupils have had an amazing experience and our primary schools have reported that Johnstone High pupils have been a great help and that they look forward to their arrival each week. Well done everyone.



S6

Round Up



Ammerah Kiani has been elected as a member of the Scottish Youth Parliament.



**JOHNSTONE
HIGH SCHOOL**

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Johnstone High School is very proud to detail that our very own Ammerah Kiani (6M2) has been elected as a member of the Scottish Youth Parliament. Ammerah is the MSYP for Renfrewshire South. The Scottish Youth Parliament is the democratic voice of Scotland's young people. Their vision for Scotland is to be a nation that actively listens to and values the meaningful participation of its young people. Their goal is to make this vision a reality, in order to ensure young people in Scotland grow up loved, safe and respected, and able to realise their full potential. The Scottish Youth Parliament fully embed The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. All at Johnstone High School wish Ammerah well in this great endeavour, as she strives to advocate for the young people of Renfrewshire South.

ACTIVITIES DAY

Plans are well underway for an action-packed end of term celebration for all pupils! Activities Day is on Thursday 6th June 2024, and we have vast selection of activities for pupils.

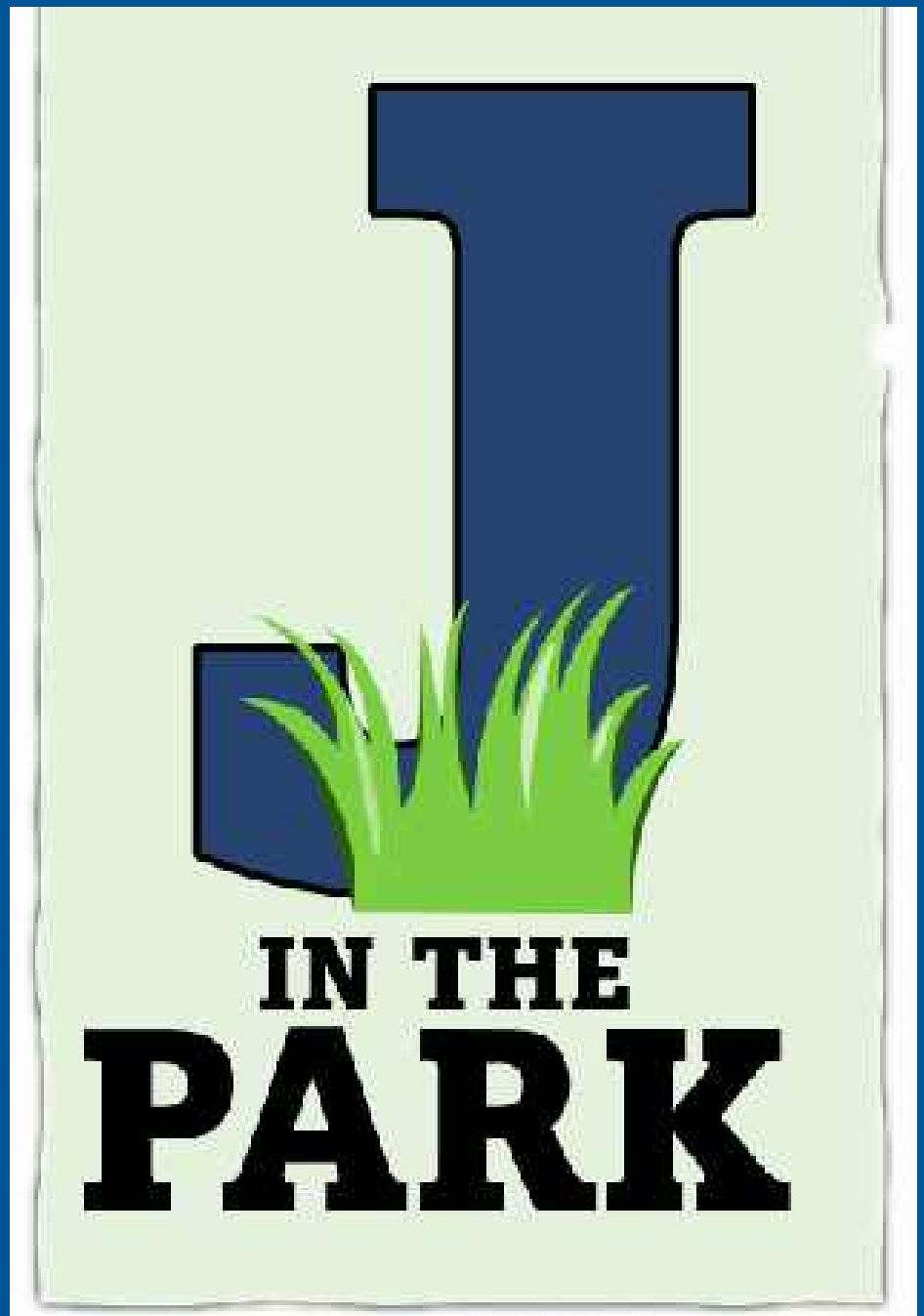
We have external trips to Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Landmark Forest Adventure Park, Foxlake Waterpark, Hollywood Bowl and Flip Out, Kelvingrove Art Galleries and Skypark, and Laser Tag. For pupils who are staying in school, we have a whole host of staff-led activities free to all, with the likes of football, tote bag making, karaoke, and guitar jam sessions, to name a few. It is set to be a fun day for all pupils and a chance to unwind after a successful and hardworking school year!

On Wednesday 26th June, we have 'J-In the Park' - a fun packed day with something for everyone to enjoy! With an old School style sports day vibe to the morning. Pupils are encouraged to dress up in their house colours and be ready to cheer on their house and compete in the likes of egg and spoon races, bean bag toss, and wheelbarrow races. We will have staff led stalls for face painting, glitter hair, magic tricks, coconut shy, and much more. The day will end with a music festival led by

our fantastic pupil bands past and present, and pupils can dance themselves into the summer holidays.

This day is not one to be missed for the pupils, and days like this really capture the ethos of Johnstone High School. This will be free for all pupils, and we

would be grateful if anyone is in the position to donate goods, services, or financially to contact Mrs Blair or Miss Falconer via the school office.



YOUNG LEADERS OF LEARNING

This year Johnstone High School is one of a few schools in Renfrewshire Council to have been invited by Education Scotland to try out a new way of including children and young people in school improvement. In June 2023, we looked to recruit some pupils from S1-3 to take part in this programme. The Young Leaders of Learning will be involved in working with young people from a partner school to identify what is working well and where improvements can be made. In its essence, pupils are getting an exciting opportunity to directly lead and impact on a section of each school's improvement plan. Johnstone High's Young Leaders of Learning have been paired with Renfrew High School and mentored by Mrs Cole (DHT) and Mr Smith (Project Leader Learning & Teaching).

This exciting programme supports the following articles from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: Article 12 (respect for the views of the child): "Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions

or the child's day-to-day home life." And article 13 (freedom of expression): "Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information."

At this early stage, the pupils from each respective school have met within Johnstone High School and had a productive working lunch. This meeting saw pupils getting to know one another and sharing thoughts and ideas about what areas of school life could have improvements made. Conversations surrounded both schools' relationship policies, teaching and learning, corridor displays and the embedding of careers into the curriculum. It turns out that excellent ideas can be shared over a Domino's pizza! Going forward, the two

schools will come together again, prior to Christmas, to establish the focus of the group. Once a vision has been created, pupil-led inspections of each school will take place and then we will be able to implement the pupil's findings as a project for improvement.





YOUNG ENTERPRISE *UPDATE*

This year 25 very hard working and enthusiastic S6 pupils are engaging with the Young Enterprise Company Programme. As the largest team in Johnstone High history, they have embraced this experience and grown both as a team and as individuals.

The team (Hive25) are a colony of 25 "Busy Bee's" who have taken inspiration from nature's true entrepreneur, the BEE. Like the BEE, they have worked to create something beautiful from natural resources all while giving back to the community and environment.

"Our goal was to have some fun, engage with our local community, make some profit all while supporting the now struggling bee population. We had some wins early on which clouded our judgement and made us possibly underestimate the challenges to come. As we progressed through this programme, we rode the highs and managed the many lows as a team."

- Jamie Young, Managing Director

To get started Hive25 had to decide on a logo, a product and



raise some start up funds. To raise the initial startup capital the team held bake sales each week with each member of the team donating goods. This enabled them to raise £230 required to kick start their venture. However, deciding on a product to sell was not

initially easy for Hive25. After a period of research, creation of a prototype, and some failed attempts the team voted unanimously to focus their attentions on developing a range of handmade, organic, cruelty free, vegan, non-toxic solid scents. They quickly



YOUNG ENTERPRISE *UPDATE*

got to work and managed to produce and sell over 400 units in December alone.

In December 2023 they sold at nine events across the local community and in one instance made it to three events in one day showing their commitment to this project. One event was the Braehead Trade Fayre run by Young Enterprise. Hive25 received high praise from customers, judges, and all in attendance. The team did themselves proud and made a significant number of sales. Their stall impressed so much that they won the Runner Up for the Best Trade Stand, out of the 15 teams competing that evening and the team were rightly very proud of themselves.

In March they attended the Young Enterprise Company Finals competing against schools from across Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, and Inverclyde. For this part of the competition the team had to submit a Business Report, give a presentation about their journey, and participate in group interviews. At the event our presentation team of Jamie

Young and Ben McKay were incredible and would have absolutely secured investment had they been in Dragons Den.

Again, Hive25 impressed the judges and won 4 of the 9 awards that were up for grabs.

- Best Presentation
- Best Business Report
- Best in Renfrewshire
- Best in Renfrewshire Area – Overall Regional Winner!

As the winner was announced the team were speechless. This win means that they are going on to represent this area at the National Finals in Hampden Park on Wednesday 29th of May. The team are very excited for this next challenge and know that no matter what happens here in our eyes they are already winners!

“We managed to launch a profitable, ethical small business while studying full time, volunteering, being part of our school pupil leadership team and working part time which is quite an achievement. This required us to improve our communication skills, time management skills and resilience. Overall, a very steep learning curve for all involved. However, with the support of each other, the staff in our school, and our families we made an enterprise and



created a legacy that we are all incredibly proud of.”

-Ben McKay, Operations Director

PRINCE'S TRUST ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE

In March a group of young people took part in Stage 1 of the Prince's Trust Enterprise Challenge. Competing in teams of 2-5, the young people played an online business game called Pop-Up, a business simulation game that puts young people in charge of starting and running a brand-new pop-up business. 56 schools across Scotland took part in this stage, with over 1300 young people participating. From this the 5 highest scoring schools were invited to the Regional Final, and thanks to some amazing enterprising skills Johnstone High was one of them.

We were invited to develop an idea for a social enterprise and pitch it to a panel of judges who would then invest £1000 in the winning business. Our group of 4 amazing pupils put together a high-quality pitch that detailed their idea of running a coffee shop for Johnstone High staff. This would involve pupils working towards a qualification in barista skills as well as developing customer service skills. The enterprise group described

how they would promote the business, ensure it was ethical, sustainable and that it was environmentally responsible. On the day of the final our young people travelled to the Prince's Trust Headquarters in Glasgow where they delivered a confident and considered presentation. We came a very close second in the final challenge and received incredibly positive feedback

from the judges. Our young people did us proud! Well done to Amy, Nathan, Harry and Findlay.



P7 TRANSITION

Johnstone High Transition schedule this year has been a busy one, indeed! In addition to multiple online events held on Teams, we also had several events organised within JHS which allowed the future S1 to come together and start building friendships and cooperation.

In January we met in JHS to celebrate Burns Night during a ceilidh dancing event – with amazing dancing instructors from our own PE department. In March we were joined by P7s from all the 7 primary schools to take part in Match Challenges in order to celebrate Pi Day with Maths Department. We also hosted a PE transition event, where all the P7 pupils were able to participate in variety of activities out on the pitches as well as in the hub.

Even though the summer holidays are approaching fast, we still have a few dates in our Transition Timetable to look forward to. On the 4th of June, P7 are joining us for a Grease performance – a truly spectacular show that is being prepared for them by our own JHS pupils. And mid-June we will welcome all the P7 pupils for their 3-day visit to JHS, where they will follow a timetable and will be given

a chance to have a taste of what it is like to be a secondary pupil.

We are very much looking forward to having them all here for a visit, and even more so, to their August start.



WIDER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Miss McGinley
Project Leader Wider Achievement



As a school, we are striving to gain more information about the wide and varied range of activities our young people are involved in. Since 2021, we have been able to recognise these wonderful achievements through Johnstone High School's Colours programme.

The JHS Colours system is designed to recognise and celebrate the personal achievements of all pupils both in and out of school. To celebrate the successes of our young people we award four levels of School Colours in each of the following categories:

- Sports
- Community
- Creative Arts

The levels of Colours that can be awarded are Personal Achievement, House Award, Half Colours and Full Colours.

How are our young people recognised?

Pupils are awarded with their Colours recognition and certificate at our Wider Achievement Award ceremonies which take place twice yearly.

Pupils will be entitled to wear Colours that represent their achievement:

Personal Achievement: Personal Achievement Certificate

House Award: House Award Badge

Half Colours: Silver Braided School Tie (single line)

Full Colours: Gold Braided School Tie (double line)

How to Apply

Our next Wider Achievement Awards Ceremony will take place in January 2023. Please encourage your child to input any personal successes in order for us to celebrate these as a school community.

To apply, please complete the 'Celebrating Pupil Achievement' form on the school website. Please note, pupils will need to use their Glow Login to access the form. (e.g. username@glow.sch.uk)

Pupils and parents can access the Colours application form and further information on the school website under 'Celebrating Wider Achievement'. Please speak with Miss McGinley in Social Subjects if you have any issues accessing the form.

What happens next

Our 'Celebrating Wider Achievement' programme includes meetings throughout the school year, where members of staff and senior school students will review the information that has been submitted and decide which level of Colours will be awarded.

The criteria used during these meetings can be found on the school website under "Celebrating Wider Achievement".

Dates for Submission

This term's Colours will be awarded at the Wider Achievement Awards Ceremony in January 2023. The deadline for Colours applications is 1st December 2023. Any submissions received after the submission date will be considered for the next award ceremony in June 2023.

World Challenge

Mr Rainey
Mr Johnston

And they're off!

Over two years in the planning and it's now all but time to depart for Nepal. Previous trips to Nepal (2013), Borneo (2015), Tanzania (2017) and India (2019) have been deeply rewarding and immensely successful. Only Covid stopped us in our tracks on the way to Bolivia in 2021.

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 sack? What's paracord? Are we going to love momos and dhal bat? Should I start fitness training now?

We are going back where it all began on our first World Challenge experience which took place in summer 2013, when a group comprising solely S6 pupils visited Nepal and took part in a community project in Pokhara with a trek in the Annapurna mountain range, culminating in the summit of Poon Hill.



This time, the first couple of days in Kathmandu and Pokhara should help in the acclimatisation as challengers prepare for some long and 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 local community in Pokhara will be the focus of the next stage after trekking. In the past, teaching English and Maths, painting school gyms, plastering and the construction of classrooms and the creation of play areas and vegetable gardens were some of the items on the agenda for the challengers to get stuck into for

a few days. We have always been given the warmest of welcomes by the local people (and the stray dogs.....) who love to mix with the visitors.

The last week sees some time for rest and relaxation. Challengers may choose to soak themselves through white water rafting or explore the many and varied sights of Kathmandu.

Overall, a fabulous learning experience in an entirely different culture.

MUSIC DEPT

UPDATE

Ms Adams

Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships 2024

The school was very well represented at the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships in March and even came away with some prizes.

Renfrewshire B Freestyle Band- 4th

Renfrewshire A Novice Juvenile A - 2nd

Renfrewshire A Freestyle Band (all JHS pupils) 1st.

An excellent achievement for all performers. You can find the winning performances over on our YouTube channel.

Gourock Highland Games

The Renfrewshire School's Pipe Band, strongly represented by JHS pupils competed at the Gourock Games in May. The band received the following prizes;

Juvenile Band- 1st Place

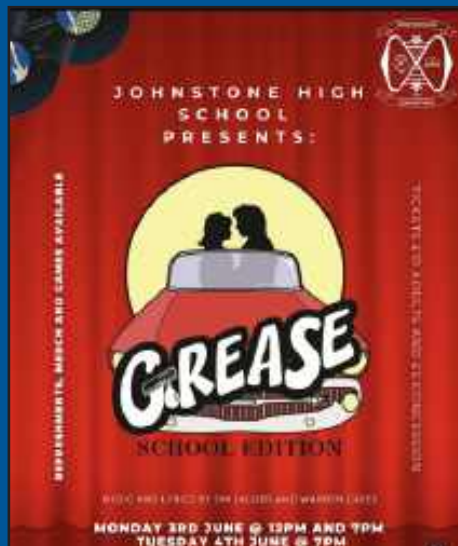
Novice A- 1st Place

Novice B- 7th

An outstanding achievement by all. The band have a busy summer season ahead of them.

Grease 2024

On Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th June, Johnstone High



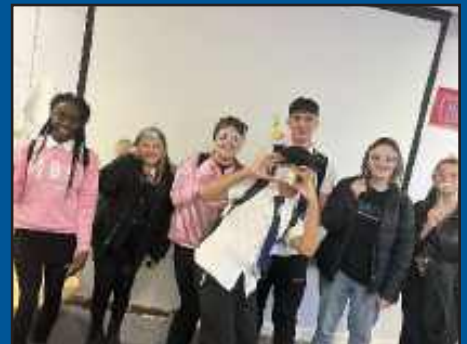
School will perform Grease the Musical, our first Musical production since 2019! Pupils have been working hard since August 2023 to bring the story of the pink ladies and the t-birds to life on stage with weekly singing, dancing, band, and acting rehearsals! Our pupils are incredibly talented and are currently in the middle of weekend rehearsals and putting the final touches together for the show.

You do not want to miss it!

Grease Primary 7 Transition 2024

S6 pupils have also been out to all seven cluster primary schools along with Miss

McPherson to teach P7s 'We Go Together' as part of the music transitions programme. P7 pupils will come up to Johnstone High School to see the show and participate in the finale of Act 1. We look forward to welcoming them to JHS.



Grease Sing Along 2024

As part of our preparation for Grease, the cast participated in a sing – along evening to give everyone a chance to fully understand the storyline and help them to understand their



characters! The pupils had a great time, and there was lots of popcorn, sweets, singing and a prize for best dressed.

MUSIC DEPT

UPDATE

Ms Adams

Grease Backstage

Our wonderful backstage crew made up of S1-S6 pupils have been working so hard since August on the Costumes, Set Design, Props, Front of House, Advertisement, Sound and Lighting design. We have had a mixture of outside hires as well as making our own pieces of set, props and costumes alongside a brilliant team of staff and parent/carers helpers.

"With tickets now on sale, the show seems closer than ever! All things backstage are shaping up nicely with technical putting the finishing touches on the car we are almost all good to go for show night. Along with our brand-new sound and light system which should be installed in the next coming weeks everything is coming together for this year's show school of Grease!" – Luke Palmer

Battle of the Bands

On the 20th of March, four bands made up of pupils from the four different S3 music classes competed in a battle of the bands competition. Pupils formed their own bands in their music class and came up with a band name, logo, slogan and were given points for their creativity, teamwork and organisation. After performing to the rest of the class, each band voted for their favourite performance and came out with one winner for each class.

Senior pupils Kai Coulter and Isaac Green organised the final event as part of their Level 6 Creative Industries. Three teachers across the school were selected as judges and had a very tough decision to make in choosing their winners but, ultimately, they decided that Mohammed Kiani and Holly Cullen (AKA The Glasgow Panics) were the winners after their beautiful performance of Zombie.

Renfrewshire Young Musician of the Year Competition 2024

On Thursday 2nd November the Music Department & Creative Industries class organised our annual JHS YMOTY competition.

The winner of our Senior YMOTY competition was Logan McKenzie S6 on Bagpipes. Runners up were Mark



MUSIC DEPT

UPDATE



Ms Adams

McKendrick S5 Snare Drum
and Ben McKay S6 Voice &
Guitar.

Logan went on to represent
the school at the Renfrewshire
YMOTY competition in April
coming runner-up. This means
that in the three years of the
competition running, JHS have
either won or come runner
up. A fantastic example of our
amazing our musicians are.

Quote from our 23/24 winner
Logan McKenzie

"I decided to apply for the
school competition because I
was in the middle of studying
Advanced Higher Music and I
thought it would be an excellent
opportunity to showcase my
skills and prepare me for up
and coming auditions as I wish
to pursue Music in the future.
The competition was really
strong and I was shocked,
stunned and amazed to have
been selected the winner.
Along with the help of Mrs
Adams on Piano both runners
up Ben and Mark I selected a
medley of tunes ranging from a
slow air, reels and a jig and we
began the rehearsal process.
I decided to include other
musicians because I wanted
to stand out and showcase a
performance like no other. On
the evening of the Renfrewshire
final I felt confident with my
performance and was ecstatic



MUSIC DEPT

UPDATE

Ms Adams

to be announced as the runner-up. My advice for musicians applying next year is to go for it and push yourself to your limit.

Celtic Connections

The Music Department received free tickets to Celtic Connections and had the opportunity to take a selection of pupils to a Celtic Connections concert on Monday 29th January. Celtic connections is Glasgow's annual folk, roots and world music festival which celebrates its connections to cultures across the globe.

For this trip, pupils will get to see Skerryvore. Three-time winners of Scotland's "Live Act of the Year" award, Skerryvore return to Celtic Connections energised by the release of their 7th studio album, Tempus. With a heady mix of bagpipes, fiddles, accordions, and whistles, not to mention soaring guitar, crisp vocals, and driving bass, drums, and keys, the band represent the best in contemporary Scottish traditional music.

"A once in a lifetime opportunity and a true inspiration"



Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Music Careers Day

The Music Department took a group of S3-6 pupils to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in February as part of Careers Week. The day consisted of a lecture by the Associate Head of the Bachelor of Music course and the Head of Production where pupils were also provided the opportunity to have a Q&A with industry professionals. We then watch a production of Peter and the Wolf performed by Scottish National Jazz Orchestra. The day was a huge success and pupils were able to learn about the audition process and what the expect when attending the University.

Music dates for the diary

Grease- 3rd & 4th June

Tickets available from the Music Department.

Keep up to date with all Music events/trips/achievements by following the department on:

Twitter @music_jhs

Instagram @
jhsmusicdepartment

YouTube @
jhsmusicdepartment

JHS Music Club Teams page
using code zavafqk

PE DEPT UPDATE

Mr Merriman
PT PE Department

Senior Football Team

On the back of two very successful seasons, the current league champions had a tough task this year having lost the majority of last years squad who had left school. However, the boys stepped up and managed to win their league section and in turn qualified for the league semi-finals where we faced our old rivals St. Ninians. Having raced into a 3-0 lead we were pegged back and unfortunately lost the game 5-4 against a very strong team who went on to win the league final. The team also got to the quarter finals of the St. Mirren Cup, narrowly losing to a strong Park Mains team 4-2. Well done to captain Jay M who played in a number of positions and led the team well scoring 6 goals in 9 games. Jay has also broken into the Thorn Athletic first team squad this year at the age of 17, as well as winning the league with Thorn U20s. Our top scorer was S4 pupil Kenzie R with 9 goals. Well done to the full squad: Jamie S, Ben M, Jamie Y, Ben H, Tyler F, Shayne O, Arron H, Jay M,

Rhys B, Godspower O, Kenzie R, Ross N, Lewis F, Arran H, Logan A and Mitchell S.

U15 Football Team

The under 15 football team this year were a credit to both themselves and Johnstone High School. We achieved a finish in the top half of the league, narrowly missing out on a play-off place. We also progressed well in the Scottish cup after overcoming some difficult opponents and coming back from 1-0 down at a difficult away venue. The team worked tirelessly in the St Mirren Cup but the draw was unkind and seen us exit the competition earlier than we would have liked. Throughout the full campaign I cannot complement the squad enough for their effort, commitment and unwavering sportsmanship through difficult results. The squad have upheld the values of JHS wherever we have played and been complimented at various matches as such. I hope and am confident that next year the team can go one step further and deliver some well-earned silverware back to Johnstone. Thanks to Sam R (Captain), Sam MaC, Aaron D, Lucas E, Alistair M, Aaron McG, Karis R, Jonathan S, Oscar S, Keir S, Zach M, Max M, Keegan M, Lauchlan S, Lewis

J, Lewis H, Alfie B, Cole McK, Theo W, Jake R, Ethan T and Joshua McC.

U13 Football Team

The S1 boys football team fought a long hard season. From the outset they were willing to throw themselves into the games, to be positive, helpful and supportive to each other and to enjoy themselves. As a result, they learned much about developing a positive outlook and remaining calm and cheerful despite some difficult results. Throughout the season they tried hard and improved with every game they played. Thanks to Conor A, Theo W, Regan D, Ben M, Josh Mc, Fraser S, Oliver R, Tyler N, Dax S, Adam M, Archie D, Jay J, Oliver R, Cameron C and Nate U.

PE DEPT UPDATE

Mr Merriman
PT PE Department

Girls Football Teams

This year both the senior and junior girls football team have been successful. The junior girls team attended their final league tournament where they worked extremely hard but sadly were beaten by St. Ninians in some very close matches. The senior team made their way through the 'Spar Future Stars' tournament. They won the local and regional rounds to qualify for a national final! The full squad worked brilliantly as a team throughout the tournament but again sadly were beaten at this round. The girls came up against the best teams in Scotland at this stage so they should be extremely proud of getting that far!

Although both teams didn't get the final results they wanted, their dedication to the team and commitment to representing their school well was evident throughout the full year. Well done!



Volleyball

The S2-S3 Volleyball team were a credit to themselves and their school, winning the Renfrewshire Secondary Games competition! They conducted themselves in a manner that enhanced the image of Johnstone High School. Well done to Lewis T, Sam M, Oscar S and Jamie M.



PE DEPT UPDATE

Mr Merriman
PT PE Department

Netball

JHS senior team competed in the Scottish Cup this year and played against St Andrew's, Renfrew and Gleniffer and were a credit to the school. The junior team played a friendly game against Renfrew High and won 35 – 17 showing excellent ability, team work and effort. We wish the teams good luck for the upcoming Renfrewshire summer tournament at Gleniffer on Tuesday 11th June!



PE DEPT UPDATE

Mr Merriman
PT PE Department

Dance

This year on Wednesday 28th February we had three girls perform at the annual Renfrewshire Dance Competition - Eilidh M, Sophie L and Sophie I. Well done to Sophie I who came 2nd for her solo performance – an excellent result! It was great watching such talented performers.



Individual Pupil Success – Nate U

Nate U swam at the Grangemouth Falkirk Otters Swim Meet on the 4th May. He picked up three gold medals (100m Individual Medley, 50m Butterflyly and 50m Backstroke), two silver medals (50m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle Relay) and one bronze medal (50m Breaststroke). Of the six Races, Nate achieved five new PBs and also picked up the trophy for Top Boy in his age category. Well done Nate!





Magic Breakfast

Mr Cameron
Project Lead

Magic Breakfast @ Johnstone High
Served Daily 0800-0830

At the start of the school year in August we began working in partnership with The Magic Breakfast. This is a charitable organisation which supports breakfast provision in schools throughout the UK.

Recently we were selected to be part of a research project commissioned by Magic breakfast and conducted by Blake Stevenson, a market research company based in Edinburgh. This looked at what could be done to improve the number of pupils using this service in the school. This project ran from the start of February until the end of March 2024 and involved a change in the foods being offered.

During the project we offered a "new menu" with themed days, these were:

Multigrain Mondays, with multigrain bagels, breads, cereals and 3 flavours of porridge.

Pancake Tuesdays, with scotch pancakes.

Weggensday, with scrambled eggs.



Tattie Scone Thursday
Beans Friday.

We have looked at the data from attendance and portions served, with 2 groups of pupils and a staff group meeting with Jennifer Lambert, a Director with Blake Stevenson, to give their views. The pupils, as always, were outstanding with their input and impressed Jennifer.

We will be taking this feedback and suggestions forward, looking to improve what we offer and plan to develop the breakfast further.

So far we have started working with the school Librarian, Joyce who is coming in on Wednesday mornings to help with the breakfast but also promote reading. A selection of books will also be available every day.

The Breakfast will be available from 8am in the Home Economics room opposite Ms Barry everyday and is free for

all pupils.

Trays will be made available at the late desk, nurture, inclusion and learning support.

So far we are very proud of what we have achieved and want to develop further. What has been attained with a core group of staff volunteering on a rota and pupils offering their support is astounding.

We have had 7112 young people sign into the room.

During the research period (2 months) we provided –

2361 bagels, 454 crumpets, 66 loaves of bread, used 59.5kg of butter, 35 tubs of cream cheese, 1905 pieces of fruit, 158 pancakes, 57 eggs, 164 potato scones, and 28 tins of beans.

Again this would not be possible without the support of staff, management, The Magic Breakfast, Parent Council and of course the pupils who not only use the breakfast but help us by volunteering themselves in the morning.

MENTAL HEALTH MENTORS

A Big thank you to all the JHS Mental Health Mentors who have helped at numerous school events throughout the year. Firstly, we had Active Communities in to deliver basic mental health training, followed by our Santa Dash – which considering the weather everyone kept in high spirits! We then focussed on Mental Health Week at the start of February, consisting of staff vs pupil football match, Just Dance sessions, slime making, biscuit decorating and kinetic sand! Senior mentors also delivered an assembly to BGE pupils on 'My Voice Matters' – great experience for all. In June, ten mentors have signed up for the 'Mindful Mentor's' programme run by Rainbow Park Yoga where they will learn basic mindfulness, meditation, and yoga techniques to support the overall wellbeing of pupils at JHS.



War Memorial Re-Dedication May 2024

Miss McGinley

On Friday May 10th, S5 pupil Kate McEwan and S6 Leaver Luke Palmer accompanied Miss McGinley and Mrs Hollywood to the rededication of the Houston Square War Memorial in Johnstone. The occasion marked 100 years since the war memorial was unveiled in the town.

Placed in the middle of the town square is a tall statue of an infantryman standing with a rifle, which was erected in May of 1924 to commemorate those who died during the First World War. The memorial also stands to remember those who died during WW2 and subsequent conflicts.

As time has passed, the monument has become a place of remembrance to pay tribute to those who died in all conflicts, with the bronze statue having wreaths laid at it on Remembrance Day events. Members from the council, local primary schools and representatives from the police and fire service were all in attendance.

The community were invited

to hold a moment of reflection and people with wreaths were invited to lay them at the foot of the memorial.

Councillor Lorraine Cameron, Renfrewshire's Lord Provost, during her speech said: "As we stand here today, we're not merely observers of the past, but custodians of the future, and it's our responsibility to ensure that the sacrifices of those who came before us are never forgotten and that their courage and valour continue to inspire generations."

Members of the public commented on the maturity and kindness of Kate and Luke at the event. They were an asset to the school, and we are incredibly proud of them both. Thank you both for your attendance and representing Johnstone High School.



LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

This year we launched Johnstone High School's Leadership Academy! The Leadership Academy has had a successful first year with pupils taking part in 6 different committees. In December, pupils met with the Head Teacher to discuss their progress and targets for the following term. Pupils were then invited to take part in a team building day where they worked together to tackle different challenges! Some pictures of their creations are included below.

This session pupils have been involved in consulting in different areas of school life. For example, the Health & Wellbeing Committee have been heavily involved in consulting on the new canteen refurbishment and some new uniform items for the new session.

The Events Committee have been involved in successful events such as J High does Grinchmas and our Children in Need fundraising.

The Eco Committee have been working hard campaigning against litter and promoting recycling across the school. They have fundraised in order to buy seeds to plant wildflowers on the hill outside the school and have regularly been out litter picking in the school area and local

community.

Our Classroom Experience Committee have been involved in the Young Leaders of Learning programme where we have been paired with Renfrew High School. The pupils involved have "inspected" each school with a focus on Careers Education. The Committee have exciting plans on how we can improve our Careers Education next session!

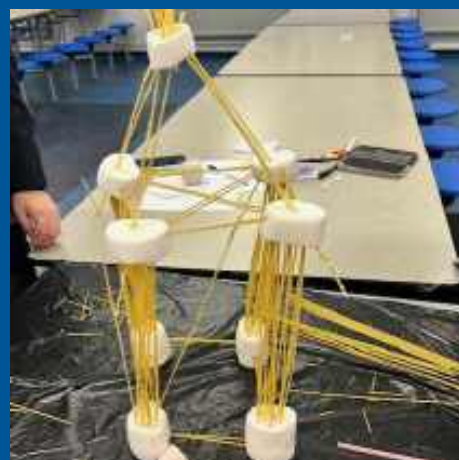
The Digital Committee have evaluated our current school website and identified where updates are required. They have also been researching what they would like to see more of on the website, so this continues to be under construction.

Finally, the Employability Committee have been a visible presence at Pupil Progress Evening's and school events to promote employability pathways both in school and employment opportunities out with school.

Currently, pupils are giving feedback on their experiences this year to allow us to continue to build on the Leadership Academy's success next session. Below some pupils give their thoughts on their experience this year:

"The great ideas presented and ability to voice opinions and feedback for what should happen in the school."

"I was able to help change the school and make it a better place for the younger years."





**LEADERSHIP
ACADEMY**

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Reading School

Reading Schools is an accreditation programme for schools that are committing to building a reading culture for their learners and communities. Research proves that reading for pleasure is central in supporting equity and wellbeing, positively impacting learners' attainment across the curriculum, critical thinking, creativity, empathy and resilience. English teachers and librarian are working towards Silver Award involving pupils to lead book club in the library, volunteer in nurseries, be part of reading leadership team, and choose books for the library collection.

Author Visit

Librarian secured a successful Live Literature part-funding by Scottish Book Trust and rest from the library budget to host Victoria Williamson's visit on 5 March for S1. She actively engaged pupils with her new novel 'Norah's Ark' about poverty, homelessness, cost of living crisis and understanding animal behaviours.

a new project, Libraries Lyt Up Lives a project in collaboration with One Ren and Glasgow Life libraries, funded by Scottish Libraries and Information Council. 3 authors - Graeme Armstrong, Alan Bissett and Brian Conaghan will be visiting 12 schools in Renfrewshire (6 high schools) and Glasgow (6 high schools). Through this project we had Brian Conaghan on 13 March for S3, he shared an inspiring life story of a 19-year old who couldn't read to how he became an author of 9 books. We will also be having Graeme Armstrong (author of Young Team) on 10 June and Allan Bissett (author of Lads) on 11 June.

We had Victoria Gemmell and Nadine Aisha Jassat as part of Paisley Book Festival's school programme. Victoria Gemmell on 23 April hosted a creative writing workshop for S2 to encourage budding writers. Nadine Aisha Jassat gave a talk about her new book 'The Hidden Story of Estie Noor' on 25 April and activities to inspire story tellers through creative poetry writing.

School library was able to start



Victoria Williamson



Nadine Aisha Jassat



Victoria Gemmell



Victoria Gemmell



Brian Conaghan



Brian Conaghan

PARENT PAY SYSTEM

Making secure payments online using your credit or debit card

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available.

You will have a secure online account, activated using a unique username and password; you will be prompted to change these, and to keep them safe and secure.

Making a payment is straightforward and ParentPay holds a payment history for you to view at a later date; no card details are stored in any part of the system. Once you've activated your account you can make online payments straight away.

How do free school meals work?

Pupils entitled to free school meals will have their ParentPay account credited each day. Because all account types are accessed in the same way, whether paid for or free, the new system allows those pupils receiving free school

meals to remain completely anonymous.

Free school meal credit balances will not be carried over to the next day.

Using PayPoint

PayPoint payments are recorded by ParentPay and can be seen by logging into your ParentPay account and viewing your payment history online.

When can I log in to my account?

Once you have received your activation letter from school with your activation login details you'll be able to activate your account and start making payments. This letter will be sent to you soon by your school.

Navigate to www.parentpay.com

Select Login at the top right corner of the screen

Enter the username and password provided in your account activation letter and select Activate

Complete the activation as detailed on the screen



Applying for:

Free meal entitlement

Free school meals and clothing grant applications for 2022/2023 now open: Please apply using the link below:

www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals

Education Maintenance Allowance

The applications for the above are not yet open, this can be an online application to Renfrewshire Council, but we also get hard copies sent to school. Any pupil wishing a hard copy should obtain one from the school office. A link will be sent to pupils for on line applications once it is opened by Renfrewshire Council.

The email link will also be on Renfrewshire Council website.

Address

Beith Rd
Johnstone
PA5 0JN

Website:

www.johnstonehigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk

email:

johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

T: 0300 300 1331

Twitter: @JohnstoneHighSc

Facebook: @JohnstoneHigh



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



**JOHNSTONE
HIGH SCHOOL**
DETERMINATION·HONESTY·RESPECT
FRIENDSHIP·TRUST·RESPONSIBILITY