



# NEWSLETTER

*Christmas*  
*2019*

**JOHNSTONE  
HIGH SCHOOL**

DETERMINATION·HONESTY·RESPECT  
FRIENDSHIP·TRUST·RESPONSIBILITY

# Christmas 2019

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

*Lynne Hollywood*



## Welcome

As I have mentioned in previous Christmas newsletters, this is my favourite time of year in school. December remains busy and productive, however we still take time as a school community to revel in a little Christmas cheer. December has seen prelims for the first time in recent years and the pupils have mentioned that the 10 foot Christmas tree in the hall cheers them up when they walk in for an exam! We've also had our Parent Council Christmas Craft Fayre which raised an impressive £1500, a competition to decorate the most festive classroom door in aid of the Renfrewshire Foodbank (alongside a Foodbank appeal for donations) and Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children. The final week is shaping up to be a cracker with the Christmas Concert, Christmas Lunch (a firm favourite with pupils and staff alike), Carol singing in the local care home and on the last day we have the S1/6 Christmas Service, the legendary Interhouse Games, and Christmas Karaoke to finish off the afternoon before we close at 2.30pm for the holiday.

## Staffing News

We currently have a vacancy for a temporary Music teacher; sadly there were no applicants for this position when it was advertised. In the meantime, Mr Duffy (social subjects) is covering and Miss Davidson, PT Music, is rotating classes and prioritising the senior school. We have welcomed Ms Storey to the Biology department. Ms Cameron, transition teacher, left us in November to take up her new post as Acting PT at Auchenlodment Primary School; the job has been advertised and filled with

the successful candidate taking up post after Christmas. Mrs MacDonald, former office manager at Renfrew High, has been appointed as our new office Team Leader. I am also delighted to inform

you that Mr Cameron, former classroom assistant, was successfully appointed as our new Inclusion Support Assistant.



## School Life

Here is a flavor of what has been happening since the newsletter in Autumn.

- Children in Need fundraising – GBX disco, lip sync battle, staff v pupils volleyball, leg waxing and quizzes. An impressive £650 was raised through the organisational efforts of S6 – well done to them!
- Show racism the red card assemblies for S1-3. We were delighted to welcome former Rangers player, Barry Ferguson, to the school.



- Remembrance service led by Mrs Robertson and Miss Smith, with very moving contributions from S6.
- Seniors representing the school at the Remembrance service at the Cenotaph
- We had 72% attendance at the S4 parents evening (both Rangers and Celtic were playing in European games that night!)
- A number of S5/6 were taken to the Skills Scotland event at the SECC.
- Mr Scholefields brother (a self-employed visual designer) came in to speak to pupils from Graphics and Design Manufacture about his work.
- We had a successful senior Halloween themed disco in the Lynnhurst.
- A group of intrepid adventurers (staff and pupils) ventured down south for the weekend to see Newcastle vs Wolves and Man City vs Leicester.
- A number of our pupils performed at the Paisley Halloween festival.
- We signed up to the Anthony Nolan initiative and held a registration event for pupils aged over 16 on 22nd November – over 20 signed up for the donation register.
- We have around 60 S3s taking part in bronze Duke of Edinburgh this



term. Lots of hard work and preparation for the expedition in the summer term.

- P7 open evening on 22 October was a huge success. It has a slightly changed format, where parents and pupils could go round the building at their own pace and go to the places they were interested in. This received positive feedback from almost all.
- Foodbank collection on 10 October gathered 51 crates of food.
- The S3 Asdan class raised over £100 for St Vincent's hospice by hosting a coffee morning for staff.



## School Improvement Agenda

In November, Maureen Sneddon, our Education Manager, and Gordon McKinley, Head of Schools visited the school to speak about 'quality indicator' 3.2, attainment. This meeting occurs in every secondary school, and analyses the school's performance at the most recent SQA exam diet. Maureen and

Gordon were happy with the progress that the school is making. We are showing a strong pattern of attainment in literacy; we are making year on year improvements in supporting young people who have barriers to learning, and we compare favourably against our 'virtual comparator'. This is a measure that looks at how pupils in your school are doing compared with pupils 'just like them' in other schools across Scotland. Maureen and Gordon agreed with the targets we have set ourselves in relation to improving attainment, and particularly liked how we are tracking young people's progress.

This term we have undertaken closer look departmental reviews of the Maths and Social Subjects departments. The staff are now taking forward the recommendations contained in the reports, which are specifically focused (as they are in all dept. reviews) on raising attainment and ensuring that the young people get the best possible experience.

Finally, Mrs O'Malley and I met with two inspectors from Education Scotland on 12 November. They wanted to hear how the school has progressed since their continuing engagement visit, March 2018. They are pleased with the overall progress the school has made and will soon be putting something on their website to indicate that they have ongoing confidence in the school moving forward – WE ARE OFFICIALLY SIGNED OFF!

# Diary Dates

06/01/2020  
School Re-Opens

14/01/2020  
S2 Parents' Evening

16/01/2020  
Careers Event

30/01/2020  
S3 Parents' Evening

01/02/2019  
S4, S5 & S6  
Report Issued (Week Beginning)

07/02/2020  
School In-Service Day

10-11/02/2020  
Mid Term Holiday School Closed

12/02/2020  
School In-Service Day

24/02/2020  
Parent Council Meeting

24/02/2020  
Performance (Music)

5/03/2020  
World Book Day

10/03/2020  
S1 Parents' Evening

2/04/2020  
Non Uniform Day

3/04/2020  
Good Friday

6/04/ - 17/04/2020 Inc  
Easter Break

30/04/2020  
School In - Service Day

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## CHRISTMAS FAYRE

On Wednesday 27th November, the school's Annual Christmas Fayre took place, organised and led by the school's Parent Council. There were over 30 stalls which were filled

with beautiful Christmas crafts. There was also a beautiful performance performed by the school's Christmas Choir. It was a wonderful night and got everyone in to the Christmas

spirit. The total money raised by the Parent Council was a wonderful £1560. Thank you and well done to everyone who was involved.



# Pupil Attendance

**A**ttendance at school is essential to ensure that all our pupils reach their full potential and maximise their attainment. If your child is absent from school for any reason then you must phone the school before 9.30am to inform us of the reason for their absence and they should also bring in a note to the school office on the first day of their return to school. If your child's attendance falls below an acceptable level you will receive attendance letters, phone calls from their pastoral care teacher and you may be invited into the school for a meeting to discuss your child's attendance and how we can work together to improve it.

Timekeeping is an important life skill which prepares our young people for the world of work. To improve timekeeping and keep you informed of your child's timekeeping there is a late book every morning where the reason for lateness and time of arrival are recorded. If your child is repeatedly late then you will be contacted by your child's Pastoral Support teacher who may put them on a timekeeping card and if this does not improve the timekeeping you will be invited to school for a meeting to discuss how we can work together to improve their timekeeping. If a pupil is 10 minutes late each day this is the equivalent of missing a full lesson each week.

“  
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The school phone  
number is

0300 300 1331

If you need to contact the school you should always get in touch with your child's Pastoral Support teacher. You can do this by telephone or email:

## The Pastoral Care teachers are:

Arran House S1-S4  
Mr Rainey  
email:  
[daniel.rainey@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.rainey@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Iona House S1,S2 & S4  
Mrs Butler-Robson  
email:  
[lauren.butler-robson@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:lauren.butler-robson@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Iona House S3  
Miss Mullaney  
email:  
[gw16mullaneyjennifer@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw16mullaneyjennifer@glow.sch.uk)

Mull House  
Mrs Wilson  
email:  
[claire.wilson@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:claire.wilson@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Skye House  
Mr Kennedy  
email:  
[liam.kennedy@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:liam.kennedy@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

All S5 & S6 pupils  
Miss Wilkie  
email:  
[eileen.wilkie@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:eileen.wilkie@renfrewshire.gov.uk)



Our current group of S3s have been steadily working away at their volunteering, skills and physical activities. We have also been practising the essentials for the upcoming expeditions, doing tasks on map reading, how to pack a rucksack, outdoor cooking and many more. In the near future we will be doing tasks on

first aid, orienteering and camp craft. The practise expeditions are planned for the last week in April and first week in May and the qualifying expeditions in the last two weeks of May. Any seniors who took part in

DofE in the past but have not finished their award will get a letter in the New Year stating exactly what they need to do to complete the award. There will also be drop in sessions for uploading evidence onto eDofE the last 15 minutes of lunch on Mondays in IT4 for all year groups.

# PARENT COUNCIL UPDATE

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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](mailto:johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

The Parent Council meeting on Monday 18th November was very well attended. We were delighted to welcome four new parent members, recently elected on to the Parent Council. It was also great to see some new parents attending for the first time who were all given a warm welcome and introduction to the Council. The main discussion points of the November meeting were the detailed SQA results from 'Insight', departmental spend on materials and equipment from the recent Parent Council donation, and final preparations for the Christmas Craft Fayre.

The Christmas Craft Fayre was held on Wednesday 27th November and is the highlight of the Parent Council fundraising calendar. The craft fayre was busy with parents, pupils, staff and friends in the community enjoying some festive shopping from an abundance of fabulous craft stalls. Mr Brooks, aka Santa, brought a smile

to many faces and delivered a welcoming festive cheer to all. A super performance from the school choir also delighted the crowds with a selection of Christmas songs. The Parent Council would like to thank parents and the school community for all their generous tombola donations and support of the event. A special thanks to the Home Economics dept and school canteen for their delicious cakes which they kindly donated. It was fantastic to have representation from The Thrive Hive, World Challenge Bolivia 2021, Duke of Edinburgh and Young Enterprise, all supporting the fayre, whilst raising funds for their particular causes.

An amazing profit of £1,560 was raised at the Christmas Craft Fayre.

Our next Parent Council meeting is on Monday 24th February 2020. All parents are very welcome to come along. 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](mailto:johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Reminder – Parent Council minutes, Head Teacher reports and Chairperson's reports are posted on the school website.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the holidays!

Diane Spence

Chair, Parent Council

# CHILDREN IN NEED

Rebecca Adams S6

Children in Need week was a great success in Johnstone High School. We had lined up a fun filled week of lunch time activities involving the whole school. We started the week with a huge game of Kahoot then onto the highly popular Staff v Pupils volleyball match where the pupils beat the staff! Head shaving and leg waxing was also hugely popular with everyone desperate to see the brave staff and pupils handle the pain. On Thursday the hall came alive with the Battle of the Bands. It had everyone singing along with "The Spice Girls, Abba and Steps". There unfortunately could only be one winner and after a tense vote it went to The Spice Girls.

Finally, it was our last day with a PJ day for S6 and the GBX disco in the afternoon. George Bowie & Cassi from Clyde 1 generously gave up their afternoon to do a GBX disco for us. Glow sticks and tuck shop were a great hit while Mrs Colford got the party started with her DJ set until Cassi & George came along. The hall was bouncing, glow sticks

were in abundance and George had a queue for selfies (mostly from the staff!)

We raised a total of £650 which we couldn't have done without the help of everyone. Local businesses donated items for raffle, Morrisons donated food and drinks to sell for the tuck shop. Staff were fantastic in giving up free time to help and taking part in the many activities.

Once again on behalf of S6 thanks to everyone for your support, help and enthusiasm.



## CAREERS EVENT 2020

January 16th 2020 will see the return of the Johnstone High Careers Event. The purpose of this event is to help pupils make informed subject choices, which will enable them to progress onto a suitable career path.

To date we have 15 confirmed employers and organisations ranging from Rolls Royce, BAE Systems, West College Scotland, Engie Construction, Mason Evans Engineering, DXC Technology,

Street League, Tigers, Careers in Care and Eclipse Blinds, to name a few.

The event will start period 2 and finish at lunchtime, allowing a period for each year group to take the opportunity to speak to industry representatives.

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# ART DEPARTMENT NEWS

Mr Shepherd

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Congratulations to Nicola Martin of 4S1 who was picked as the winner of the NPA Photography Christmas card competition.

Nicola's winning design was fun and bright and considering it was her first foray into Photoshop, very well executed. It even made Mrs Hollywood smile.

Nicola's design will be printed and sent to our partners and other agencies across the authority and further afield in time for the festivities.



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# YOUNG ENTERPRISE

S6 YE Group

Recently our Young Enterprise team have set up stalls at some of the fantastic school events going on, such as the Christmas Fayre and the Options evening, as well as taking part in the YE Trade Fair at intu Braehead. We are currently selling hand-painted bamboo toothbrushes and we will begin selling bamboo hairbrushes soon too so stay tuned. If you would like to buy a toothbrush, order a hairbrush or even just find out more, we can be found at all school events, in the computing department, and even online at our Instagram - @bamboozleye.

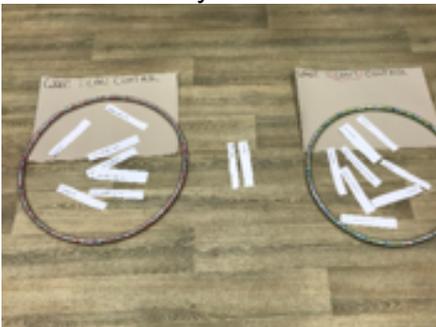


# NURTURE NEWS

Here are just some of the activities that our Nurture Groups have been doing throughout November.

## S1 Core group

Continuing with their learning of the Zones of Regulation, our S1 group have been learning about the Circle of Control: the things that they can and cannot control. One particularly fun and interesting activity was when the pupils had to step into one of two hula hoops to discuss situations in their life which they could or could not control. The group have also continued learning about more self-regulation strategies, in particular for situations that cannot be controlled. They have made a leaflet of strategies and these will be distributed to all S1 pupils straight after the holidays.



Our S1 group helped to make lots of the crafts that were sold by our pupils at the school's Christmas Fayre (more on this below). The group then decided to use some of the profits made from the fayre to buy a small Secret Santa present for everyone in their group.

All of our pupils' names were put into a Christmas hat and pupils randomly picked from the hat who they would be giving a gift too. The group then went out to buy the gifts ... with a quick stop off for breakfast.

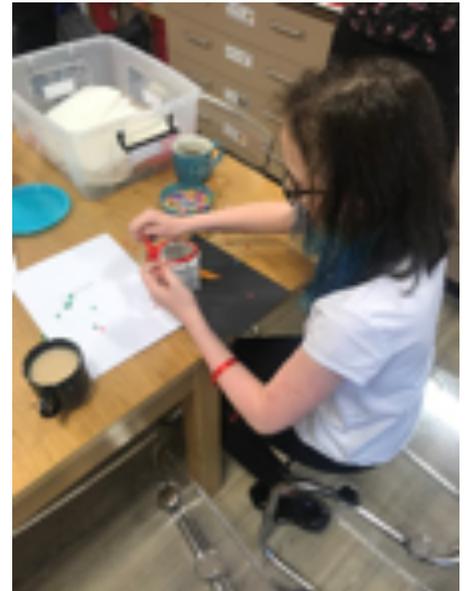
## S2 Core group

Our S2 group have completed some art intervention tasks this month. As well as creating the majority of the Christmas fayre gifts, our S2s have been designing a selection of personalised Christmas cards which will be distributed to the parents and carers of all Nurture group pupils prior to the holidays.

Our S2 group also entered a competition run by the Big Issue magazine. The competition was to design the front cover of the magazine's December edition



with the theme 'Together'. The group got straight to the heart of



what that means at Christmas and highlighted the importance of unity and friendship at this time of year



in their entries. We used this competition to discuss and learn about homelessness and the work of the Big Issue.

## S3 Core group

After a very successful Christmas Shoe Box Appeal last month, our S3 group have taken sometime this month to reflect on the success of their appeal and to plan their next project. One of the ideas is to make and sell 'Bird Boxes'.

The group learned how to make these as part of an outdoor learning project at Clyde Muirshiel National Park last session.



The group have also been completing activities from 'Starving the Anger Gremlin' resource. This is a cognitive behavioural therapy workbook and the activities help to understand anger, how anger affects others and how to manage angry thoughts and behaviours.



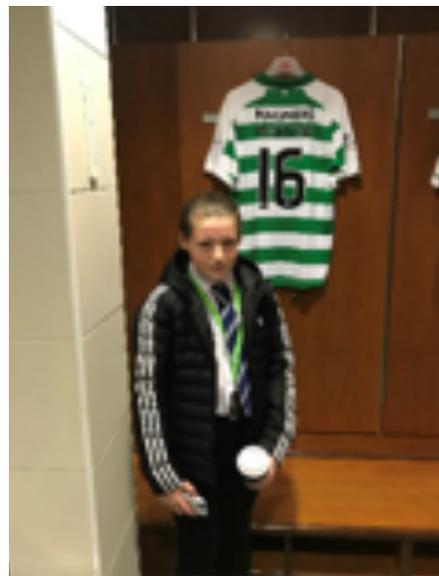
Variation group – After working through our 60 Mindful Minutes resource last month, this month the group began 60 Motivational Minutes. The aim of this resource is to teach pupils the skills that are essential for building optimism and resilience and how to recognise and combat negative thoughts that bring about loss of self-esteem.

### Trip to Celtic Park

After a brilliant tour of Ibrox stadium last session with some of our pupils, we were delighted to balance it out with a trip to Celtic Park this month. Pupils got to sit in the changing rooms, run down to the tunnel, sit in the stand ... and

take a Celtic Selfie. It was a brilliant trip and staff at the stadium commented that the pupils were a credit to the school.

Thank you so much to Mrs. Smith who happens to know the Head of Security at Celtic Park who organised this for us.



### Christmas Fayre

Throughout November, all of our Nurture group pupils helped to design and then create Christmas crafts to sell at the school's Christmas Fayre. Crafts for sale included Santa door stops, Christmas candle jars, lucky bags and Christmas coasters. Our pupils also made macaroons and tablet (absolutely delicious) to sell.

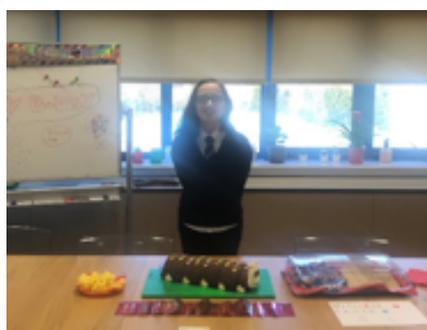
Many of our pupils also helped out on the night. It was a wonderful festive evening and the pupils made a very healthy profit of £102.50.



## Thrive Hive birthdays / celebrations

It was another busy month of birthdays in the Thrive Hive this month. We celebrated the birthday of Owen McGuigan (S1), Jay Garrity (S2), Amy Sharp (S2) and Grace McMillan (S2).

We were also delighted to welcome back Lewis Nicholl (S1 pupil last session) who came in for lunch and a catch up with his friends while his new school had an in-service day. It was wonderful to see Lewis. He misses J-High very much and wishes everyone well but he is enjoying his new school.



## Open Afternoon

This month, we invited the parents and carers of all Nurture group pupils into the Thrive Hive for an Open Afternoon. We were delighted to have a great turnout of parents and carers who got to see some of the work that their children have doing, eat delicious treats made by some of our pupils, meet other parents / carers ... and play Christmas Bingo.



## Whole School Approach to Nurture

Nurture Core Group – The Nurture Core group will meet again in January and continue to roll out the Nurture Action plan. For the rest of the session, there will be a much greater focus on the Nurture Principle ‘Learning is understood developmentally.’

Each month, a resource related to the Nurture Principle will be distributed to all staff. This will range from information leaflets containing strategies - to posters (first up is an Impact of Development poster made by pupils).



There will also be training opportunities available for staff. The training will include: Nurturing approaches; a guide to the Box-all Profile – the assessment tool designed to track the progress of cognitive development and behavioural traits of young peo-

ple; and an overview of Emotion Works – which all S1s are currently being trained in.

The Core Group will also begin their PDSA cycle of introducing Mindfulness into the classroom. Proven to help young people to regulate their behaviour, the group will try out different mindfulness activities in their own classroom, before supporting all departments across the school to introduce small and quick activities related to this approach.

Mrs. Currie is also going to begin group Mindfulness sessions for staff and pupils in January. Beginning on Friday 10th January, and then every Friday morning from 8.20 – 8.40, Mrs. Currie will lead sessions in the Calm Room (next to the Staff room).

## Nurture Outreach

This month, S1 pupils continued through their 6 week Emotion Works programme. After learning about the 13 categories of emotional state, on Week 2 pupils moved on to learn about the different body sensations we might feel in different areas of our body when we experience an emotion. Following this, on Week 3 they learned about Emotion Intensity and the different ways we understand and represent the size, amount and degree of things we experience and perceive. Week 4 was on Emotion Triggers - the things that happen to cause or trigger an emotional experience, reaction or response and which explain why we feel a certain way ... and Week 5 was Emotion Behaviours - the things we do to show, communicate, display or express the emotions we feel. After Christmas pupils will finish off by learning about Self – Regulation strategies.

Pupil feedback on the programme has been overwhelmingly positive. Feedback includes: ‘Learning about the different body sensations that link with different emotions helps me to understand how I am feeling’; ‘It is helping me to understand why other people sometimes do things I don’t understand or agree with’, and ‘I know some things that will help me next time I am feeling angry’.

# MANCHESTER FOOTBALL TRIP

On the weekend of the 26th/27th October 45 pupils and 5 staff travelled down to Manchester. Pupils attended Manchester City vs. Aston Villa (3-0 to City) before staying at the Premier Inn Preston. They then went to Newcastle vs. Wolves on the Sunday (1-1) before travelling back home. The pupils were a credit to themselves as they always are on these trips!



# SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

Mr Merriman

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This term has been a really successful one for all our sports teams.

## Football

All three of our football teams (U14, U16 and seniors) have successfully progressed through their league sections to the Champions League sections.

## Volleyball

Our senior volleyball team have been dominant in the Renfrewshire Volleyball league this year, winning 14 and drawing 1 of their 15 games.

## Netball

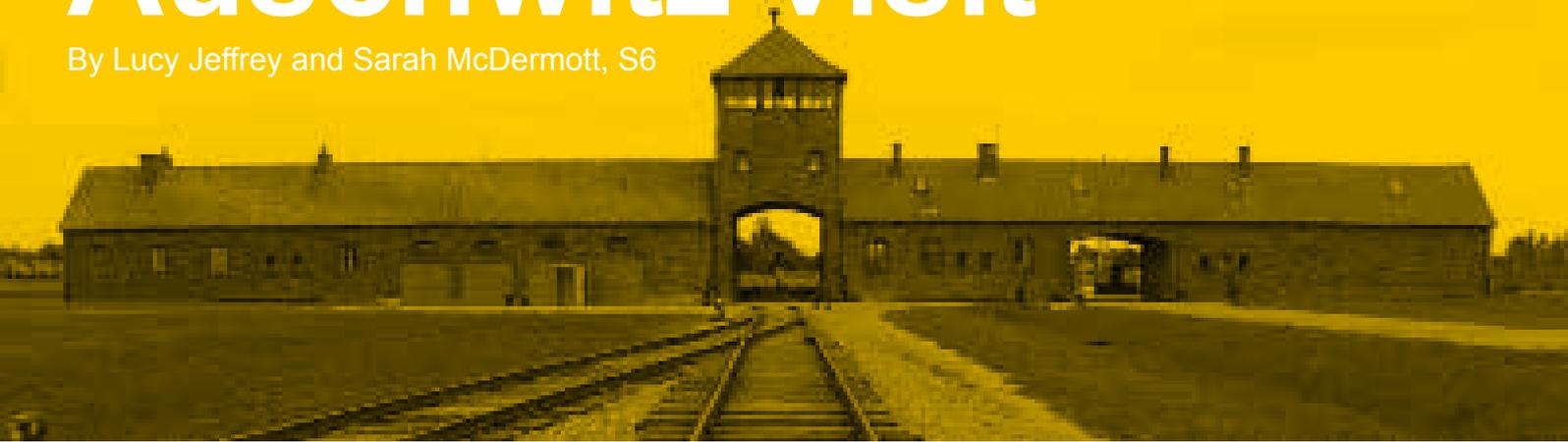
The Netball club has started off great this season with over 35 girls attending each week.

All year groups are represented with teams and have been competing over the last few months against other schools within Renfrewshire. All teams have shown great enthusiasm, etiquette and skill resulting in many successful games. The girls have had wins, draws and a few losses throughout the year but are keen to start 2020 off on a positive note and work to improve their netball play.



# Auschwitz visit

By Lucy Jeffrey and Sarah McDermott, S6



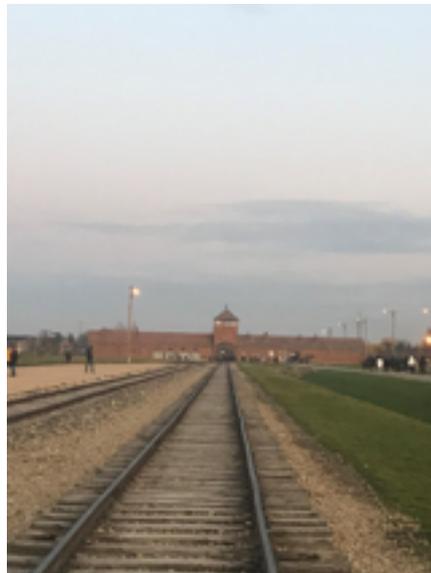
On November the 8th, we went on the Holocaust Educational Trust's, Lessons from Auschwitz programme, visit to the Auschwitz concentration and extermination camps in Poland. In undertaking this opportunity, we had to attend a seminar before we went to Poland, where we heard the heart-breaking testimony of Jenine Webber, a Holocaust survivor, who spent many of her childhood years hiding from the persecution of the Nazis because of her religion. After learning about the horrors which we would see at the Auschwitz concentration camps at the seminar, we embarked on our journey to Auschwitz.



On arriving in Poland, we first visited the town closest to Auschwitz see what the town was like before the Holocaust and to be able to understand how the Holocaust affected the town and more specifically its Jewish population. We then headed to the first Auschwitz

camp.

Arriving at the first Auschwitz camp was a very surreal ex-



perience for the both of us. It was a shock to us to find that such a place of extreme suffering and loss was situated on a main road surrounded by hotels and shops. On entering the camp and walking on the same path as those who perished at the hands of the Nazis, we only just began to realise the full extent of what a great atrocity happened there. Auschwitz-I was set out in a series of displays, much like a museum. The most shocking and hard hitting of these displays was a room, about the length of a swimming pool that was filled top to bottom with the shoes of the victims of Auschwitz. These artefacts being displayed

made us realise that those who perished in the holocaust are not just a number. The 1.1 million people who perished in Auschwitz each had their own life stories and their own pair of shoes. After visiting Auschwitz-I we went to the second camp Auschwitz-II Birkenau.

Auschwitz-II Birkenau was set out very real to what the camp would've been like at the time of the Nazi Holocaust. After walking round the gas chambers, registration rooms, barracks and walking down the infamous train tracks, we had a memorial service at the site of one of the gas chambers with a Rabi. At the service poems written about the Holocaust experience by people who lived it were read out and songs were sang in memory of those who were lost. We then lit candles to remember each of the individual victims of the Holocaust.

This experience has furthered to us the importance of remembering and learning from the Holocaust and remembering those who perished as individuals and not just a statistic. Therefore, we will now go on to educate the pupils and teachers of Johnstone High School of the horrors of the Holocaust and how prejudice and discrimination can cause a mass genocide of an innocent people.

# CHRISTMAS DOORS COMPETITION

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This year we decided to do a competition to get staff and pupils alike into the Christmas spirit (all the while prelims are going on in the background).

In an idea 'borrowed' from a neighbouring high school, we challenged staff to decorate their classroom door, with any interpretation of Christmas that took their fancy. For an entry of £2 (going to Renfrewshire Foodbank) staff could enter

their door with the hope of winning a wee prize for the best dressed door. Judging is scheduled to take place on Thursday 19th December and the winner announced on the last day of term.

So far over 40 doors have been decorated raising approx. £80 for the Foodbank. Well done to the staff (and the pupils who helped!) who embraced this fundraising competition and

brought a little Christmas cheer to their classroom.



# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

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Erin Corner  
Head Girl

On Friday 13th December, Johnstone High School held its annual Christmas Jumper day. This was a great way for pupils to get into the Christmas Spirit while raising funds for a good cause.

Pupils and staff donated £1 to wear their Christmas Jumpers in school with the funds raised going to the charity Save the Children. It was fair to say that the event was a huge success

as pupils and staff demonstrated their wonderful Christmas spirit with their fabulous Christmas jumpers.

We are delighted to announce we managed to raise over £260 for Save the Children. This was a fantastic amount of money raised and therefore on behalf of the Christmas Jumper Day committee I would like to take the chance to thank everyone who participated in Christmas

Jumper Day! We are very grateful for your effort and support.



# CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

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Our Christmas Carol concert took place on Tuesday 17th December. We had a full range of performers from S1 to S6 including the junior and senior choirs, solo performers, group ensembles and of course, the incredibly talented pipe band. It was a great evening and displayed the talents of our brilliant young people.

Special thanks to Mrs Davidson

and Miss MacPherson in the Music department for bringing the evening together, Mr Duffy who helped behind the scenes, Mr Glen and Mrs Steven both from Science who helped out with piano and violin, our fabulous music instructors who work tirelessly with the pupils on skill development, and of course, all the pupils who worked hard on the stage and behind the scenes.



# CHRISTMAS LUNCH

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Christmas Lunch took place on Tuesday 17th December. This is an annual highlight in the calendar and it's great to see young people sitting down to a two or three course meal with all the trimmings (and some pupils even managed to eat their sprouts!). Many thanks to Kerrie (our catering supervisor) and her team who do so well for the pupils all throughout the year, and especially at Christmas.



# ANTHONY NOLAN TRUST

Tom Reid  
Head Boy



ANTHONY  
NOLAN

saving the lives  
of people with  
blood cancer



SCOTTISH  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE  
Working together for a safer Scotland

## LIFESAVERS WANTED



HIGH SCHOOL  
1966  
JOHNSTONE

### ANTHONY NOLAN **DONOR** EVENT

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in partnership with Anthony Nolan are recruiting for donors.

**WORKING TOGETHER - SAVING LIVES**

**DONOR REGISTRATION**  
Friday 22 November 2019  
Johnstone High School  
Beith Road,  
Johnstone, PA5 0JQ  
9am – 11am

**FIND OUT MORE  
SIGN UP NOW**  
for more info or to  
register your interest  
contact Mr Graham Munro

Donors must be aged 16-30 and be of good health. For further information, please visit: [www.anthonynolan.org.uk](http://www.anthonynolan.org.uk)

The Anthony Nolan trust is an organisation run by the fire service in which they match incredible individuals willing to donate their blood stem cells or bone marrow to people with blood cancer and blood disorders who desperately need lifesaving transplants. On Friday 22nd November members from the Anthony Nolan trust came into to run a registration event where S6 pupils and staff volunteered to sign up for the register to donate stem cells or bone marrow to someone in need of their help. The event was promoted and organised by a group of S6 pupils who volunteered to be the school champions ambassadors for the event. The event was a massive success as we managed to get 34 members of staff and S6 pupils to sign up for the stem cell/bone marrow donation register. A big thank you to everyone who got involved in the event, your help is much appreciated.

# FOOD BANK

## DECEMBER 2019

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Rhea Henderson

S6

This year for the S6 Christmas Collection we decided to do something different, so we collected for the Renfrewshire Foodbank. We thought this would be effective as it is a cause that greatly affects the community we live in, and is easy for everybody to contribute to.

With everyone's help we were able to collect a large amount of Christmas goodies such as selection boxes, mince pies and small gifts. As a school, we are so proud of this achievement and it wouldn't have been possible without everybody's input. With the help of S6 pupils and Miss Montgomery,

this fundraiser was a success, thank you to everyone that donated.



# CAPTAINS CONFERENCE

# 2019

Rhea Henderson  
S6

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One of the best parts of being Head Boy and Head Girl are the many inspiring events that we get to attend.

On Friday the 6th December we were invited to attend a Captains Conference at Gryffe High School where we were joined by every leadership duo from schools across Renfrewshire.

We were given the opportunity to present and impress each and every school with all the

amazing support and values Johnstone High has to offer. We also got the chance to hear from the other secondary schools, as well as discuss and share ideas. We both had a fantastic day and the Captains Conference was a great learning experience. We are now looking forward to putting our plans in action with our amazing S6 team.

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## SUBJECT OPTIONS

On the evening of Thursday 12th December, the Options Process for 2020/21 was launched at the information evening. This event gave pupils and parents an opportunity to be informed of the options process and to speak with the members of staff across all department about the courses on offer to pupils in S2, S3, S4 and S5 as they move through the school.

Pupils in S3-5 will complete the 'dummy run' options process in

early January in order that the options forms can be created to produce the highest level of efficient and allow for maximum personalisation and choice. We would ask that parents and carers begin to have conversations with their child about options for next session in order that they are fully educated before the dummy run process.

In order to support this, the course descriptor booklet, which provides all the informa-

tion on courses available, will be able to be accessed in the Parent section of the school website. Regular updates on the options process will available on the website also.

Options interviews for pupils and parents/carers will take place in early March.

If you have any questions regarding the options process, please contact your child's Pastoral Support teacher.

# PARENT PAY SYSTEM

Parent pay was 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.

We are happy to help.

## 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:

**Seniors:**  
**Miss Wilkie**

**Arran House:**  
**Mr Rainey**

**Iona House:**  
**Ms Butler Robson /**  
**Miss Mullaney**

**Mull House:**  
**Mrs Wilson**

**Skye House:**  
**Mr Kennedy**



**KEEP IN TOUCH**

**THIS IS YOUR SCHOOL**

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

QR Code to school web site

Address  
Beith Rd  
Johnstone  
PA5 0JN

Telephone  
0300 300 1331

Website:  
[www.johnstonehigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk](http://www.johnstonehigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk)

email:  
[johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:johnstonehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Twitter  
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