



HOLYROOD SECONDARY

Head of School's Message

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter which comes at the end of a very busy term. It highlights some of the many activities that have been taking place in our School and the successes of so many of our young people. I hope you enjoy reading about them.

It has also been a busy time in terms of staffing for our School.

Firstly, I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed as the new Headteacher of Holyrood and look forward to continuing to work with you all to ensure continued success and improvements for our School as we work towards our 2020 Vision.

At the end of the summer term we always say goodbye and thank you to staff that are leaving us. This year we say goodbye to a number of staff who have made an enormous contribution to Holyrood over many years and who are now retiring:

Miss Mary Crearie DHT & Languages Teacher, Miss Margaret Leyden DHT & Geography Teacher, Mrs Bernadette O'Shea DHT & Languages Teacher, Mr Andrew Gallacher PTPC & Physics Teacher, Mrs Elaine Coyle PTPC & Languages Teacher, Mrs Margot Gallacher Chemistry Teacher, Mrs Anne Foley Languages Teacher, Mr John McGeady English Teacher, Mrs Jackie Anderson Drama Teacher, Miss Attracta O'Reilly Mathematics Teacher & Mrs Helen Carlin Chemistry Teacher.

Thanks to them for everything they have given to our young people, our school and our community best wishes to them for every success in the next phase of their lives.

Also, thanks to Mr Gerry Lyons, our Executive Headteacher, who leaves Holyrood this summer to take on a new challenge. His strategic vision and direction for our school has been invaluable.

Good luck to our NQTs and Supply Staff who have contributed greatly to our school this session.

I wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer and I look forward to welcoming our young people back on Wednesday 15th August at 8.45am.

MALAWI

This is the 11th year of the Holyrood RC Secondary School and Blantyre Malawi partnership. In the previous 10 years this partnership has seen the build of over 30 new classrooms , 2 school libraries, 2 units for children with additional support needs plus a toilet for children with physical disability. They have refurbished and decorated 2 Mary's Meals under 6 Feeding Centres. Also they have refurbished and decorated with learning materials over 40 other classrooms.

The 2018 team have worked incredibly hard to each reach their personal fundraising target. Local charities also helped some of our young people with their funding and those includes William Grant & Sons and the Livingston Volunteers and Tunocks Ltd.

The 2018 team were lucky enough to receive sponsorship from Glasgow based insurance company Laurie Ross who agreed to sponsor all the 45 T-shirts and Hoodies that the team are wearing during their travel and work in Malawi. The plight of the group touched Company Director June Lynch so much that not only did they assist in further fundraising by attending our annual ball they have even sent one of their staff Lorraine on our project this year. Lorraine has been such a fantastic addition to the team with her bubbly personality and her unbelievable fundraising!

In February we had the annual Malawi Ball which was attended by more than 550 guests, the most we have ever hosted. The team was very lucky to have the help of Terry Strain, friend of Holyrood and Malawi veteran to assist us in running and organising this event. The evening raised over £20,000 this forms the bulk of the funding that we use when buying materials to build over in Malawi.

Later in February we did three days of team bucket shaking at the Hydro in Glasgow. That weekend's show was 'Strictly Come Dancing' the tour which the young people had been lucky enough to get a preview of as this year's winner was former Holyrood pupil Joe McFadden. Joe and his partner Katya had visited the school as part of their VT for the strictly final. The weekend was very successful with over £1000 being collected from the Strictly Audiences.

Since then the team have been very busy under the guidance of Tom McDonald former Holyrood Headteacher and the founder of the Holyrood Malawi Project along with his wife Carol.

The team are excited to set off on Friday 8th June and have been busy finalising details of the projects this year.





We wish them good luck and thank the team for all their hard work the Lord Provost of Glasgow held a reception for them at the City Chambers on Wednesday 6th June. She was very proud of the continuing work the Holyrood Malawi partnership does and the great job the 2018 team have done so far.



CARITAS

Congratulations to those students from our 6th Year who have successfully completed their Caritas Award Year and will receive the Pope Benedict XVI Caritas Award on Thursday 7th June 2018 along with 6th Year students from all over Scotland. This award is in recognition of their faith Learning, Reflection and Witness within their school and parish communities.

Their certificates state: -“The Pope Benedict XVI Caritas Award recognises the efforts of young people, through Faith-inspired learning, witness and reflection, to demonstrate that Caritas – God’s love – can be ‘an extraordinary force in life.’ “

Well done to all our Caritas Award achievers!



Anna Gardiner S6 “Caritas really has been ‘an extraordinary force in my life’. I have reconnected with my faith and with God. Attending morning Mass in the school oratory has been a great way to start the day and I will miss having this opportunity when I leave school.”

“Anna has given a powerful, joyful continued witness to her faith.” *Parish Priest*

Sean Hughes S6 “Participating in the Caritas Award during S6 has reinvigorated my faith. It has brought me closer to God. I look not to prioritise my own interests but to use my actions to benefit all.”

“Sean has been very active and conscientious in his pass-keeping duties each Sunday.”

Parish Priest

Holyrood pupils represented their school community well at two significant liturgical events this year in St Andrew’s Cathedral Glasgow. Firstly in February, the annual Archdiocesan Mass for schools lead by Archbishop Tartaglia, followed by the Holy Thursday Mass of Chrism in March. This special Mass was attended by all the priests of the Archdiocese who renewed their priestly vows in the presence of the Archbishop that morning and **Peter Tompkins (6th Year)** helped to bring forward the new oils to the altar where they were then blessed by Archbishop Tartaglia to be distributed and used in the Parishes throughout the archdiocese.



English Department

Medieval Extravaganza

This session, Miss Belton's Second Year English class made a special study of literature featuring a medieval theme. The poem, *Abbey Tomb*, with its powerful description of a Viking raid on a sixth century Monastery and the historical novel, *Blood Feud*- the dramatic story of a young boy caught up in the world of the Vikings, each provided the pupils with an imaginative stimulus for a wide range of class and homework activities .

Lively group discussion and close engagement with the texts resulted in some perceptive Critical Essays being written, in which pupils showed their understanding and appreciation of the writers' literary techniques. With these evaluations completed in the first term and the work displayed in a colourful frieze for their classroom, the pupils may have thought that their study of the medieval theme was at an end. In effect, it had only just begun!

The S2 pupils were required to take their learning to the next level when Miss Belton told them to write their own scripts for a series of entertaining Presentations, designed to inform another class about aspects of life in the Middle Ages.

" I was nervous when I knew that we had to perform for an audience," admitted Arbaz Khan, " but we rose to the challenge!"

So, after several weeks of active learning and rehearsal, the 16th March saw English room 3 transformed into a mini – theatre. This was thanks to Mr. Cargill, who, with all the wizardry of Merlin the Magician, provided a kaleidoscope of coloured lighting, intriguing backdrops, amazing sound effects and atmospheric music, including Gregorian Chant. Daniel Carson , Lucy O'Neill ,Zain Abbas and Reece Blair, all in monks' garb, together with Cameron Hamilton and Liam de Buffalo, (really rather intimidating in their Viking armour!) opened proceedings by acting out the narrative of the *Abbey Tomb* poem. Matthew Newman and Vidon Adetoro had also been members of the team. The audience of S2 pupils and their teachers were then entertained by a Viking Game Show in which Arbaz and Haseeb Basit , the comic duo, quizzed Evan Hutchison from the 6th Century and Charlie O' Brien from the 21st , on their knowledge of Viking culture.





Then, in swept St. Columba as he has never been seen before, the intriguing events of his life presented in a 'tour de force' performance by Liam Fielding , ably supported by Catriona Hendry, Jessica Harrison, Sophie Foley , Dora Canzanella and Olivia McKendrick. With the help of Mrs Mack 's prop – making skills, Maria Marley and Katie McGinty ' became Nessie' in order to dramatise Columba's encounter with the legendary monster. The haunting atmosphere continued in the carefully scripted parody of the T.V. programme Most Haunted, in which Niamh Henaghan, acting as the Ghost of a monk who had lost his life in a 6th century Viking raid, made a special' visitation' to Kerri Blackbourn , Trinity Duncan and Taiba Noor, as they toured the famous Scottish island of Iona .

The whole extravaganza ended on a high note, with a Medieval and Modern Fashion Show. Toni Ellis (singing solo !) and Ciara Barbour ,both resplendent in medieval ladies' attire, joined Lucy Graham, Erin Drysdale and Niamh Coll, together with their very own make – up artiste, Sharies Mc Closkey, in a presentation which highlighted evolving styles from the Middle Ages to the present day.

Charlie O' Brien summed up the experience and its outcome: "How did it go? How did I feel? I was excited and thought we did well. I think the members of the audience learned something new from our Presentation. I was told it was very funny, so they must have liked it!"

Mr Birrell's photographs have preserved the Event for posterity! Meanwhile, Miss Belton is planning the pupils' next challenging steps in learning, but more of that next year...



Business Education

Samia Shamsher and Maleeha Saeed represented the school at this years' Social Enterprise Academy Competition. Samia and Maleeha came up with the business called All Around The World. All Around The World is a restaurant with a twist. All staff will be 'legal immigrants' . The ever changing menu would celebrate the staff's cultural background of which there are many in Govanhill - Irish, Asian, Italian, Spanish, Eastern European.

The aim of their Social Enterprise is to:

- Improve cultural diversity in our country
- To make immigrants feel more included in society
- To ensure immigrants receive the minimum wage in order to create a better future for themselves



Their pitch to the Dragon's was well received and this is something the Samia and Maleeha would like to set up once their studies have finished. Well done!

International Education

Mr Gault and 4 of our pupils will be working with pupils from Bellahouston Secondary in preparation for a E twinning project with pupils and staff from Nuremberg. the project is called Brushes with Art and will be featured in Glasgow Museums later this year or next year. The project focusses on the role of art in conflict and we will be basing the project on rarely seen art made by serving soldiers from the Great War 1914-18.

Pupils will work together via the E twinning live space before making exchange visits to each others cities (Nuremberg September and Glasgow November) It looks like an exciting opportunity for our Holyrood pupils, more details and photos to follow next term.

Football

The Holyrood Under 13s football team ended their league season with a stunning win over John Paul Academy in the Glasgow league final. Despite trailing 4-1 in the early stages of the 2nd half, the boys showed tremendous resilience to drag themselves back into the game which ended 4-4. With the league title at stake, the final went into extra time where a brace from Liam Devlin Dominic Kavanagh's fifth goal of the match secured a 7-4 win which sealed the title. Having reached this final by winning two league group sections, a quarter-final and a semi-final, it was a just reward for a group who have shown such tremendous dedication, talent, and togetherness over the course of the season. Our trophy was collected by captain Daniel Carson and the celebrations will live long in the memory.

Unfortunately our success couldn't be repeated in the Scottish Cup where we were defeated by an outstanding Boclair Academy side in the semi-final. Our team went toe to toe with a side that boasted nine Rangers players in their starting XI but despite a disappointing result it was a great experience for the boys to play at the Renfrew Juniors football ground.

The last event in our football calendar saw our squad split in two for a Glasgow school's 7-a-side tournament at Toryglen where Holyrood A managed to win the competition; beating Holyrood B en-route to the final against St Paul's!

Player's player of the year: Andrew Gaffney

Coaches player of the year: Dominic Kavanagh

Most improved player: Jude Cullen

Geography

S3 Geography – John Muir Award

Geographers have been working towards their John Muir Discovery Award during S3. Pupils have mostly been outdoors in the patio and meadow areas of the school. They have engaged in outdoor lessons and also conserved the land by doing litter picks, planting trees and generally looking after the outdoors. They also have the opportunity to visit other outdoor spaces and will be visiting Loch Lomond National Park in June. We are delighted that 58 pupils will receive their Discovery Award and certificate this year!



Technical Department

Technical Students congratulated at TRADES HOUSE Awards 2018.

The pupils named below (those in attendance in pictured) were fortunate enough to be chosen by Trades House, Glasgow as winners across the city through their work in Technical.

Trades House visit the schools in Glasgow each year to view the selection of work produced by pupil over each academic session. The awards given are noted below and are designed to congratulate and encourage young people in their successes.



PHYSICS

Visits to Viridor

During April and May, several class groups of S4 Physics pupils took part in a curricular related visit to the Glasgow Recycling and Renewable Energy Centre (GRREC) at nearby Polmadie. In a partnership between Glasgow City Council and Viridor, the facility will use state of the art technology to convert approximately 200,000 tonnes of waste per annum into 15MW of electricity. Although not yet fully commissioned, once operational, GRREC will be one of Europe's most advanced recycling and energy recovery plants, with the potential to power up to 20,000 homes and heat the equivalent of some 8,000 houses.

During the visit, pupils were given an introduction to Viridor and learned about the range of technologies employed at the plant, undertook an engineering challenge to design and build a wind turbine capable of delivering the largest

possible electrical output using a small electric generator, some waste paper and plastic bottles and were given an insight into the world of work by young undergraduate and graduate engineers. Most pupils appear to have enjoyed the visit with many more young people stating after the visit that they would consider a career in engineering than before it.



Computing Studies

Computing Department June 2018

The Computing Department hosted the Mini Game Jam again this year. This event involved pupils from feeder primaries designing and creating games using Scratch. Competitors were given a theme at the start of the day around which all game projects will be based. This was a great opportunity for young people to work together and learn about the craft of making games, highlighting the varied and rewarding career opportunities in this medium.



Literacy

We would like to encourage all of our young people and their families to take advantage of the local public libraries this summer. Reading regularly is a fantastic way for your child to improve their vocabulary and literacy skills as well as promote a love of literature.

Gorbals Library

180 Crown St, Glasgow G5 9XD

Govanhill Library

170 Langside Rd, Glasgow G42 7JU

Langside Library

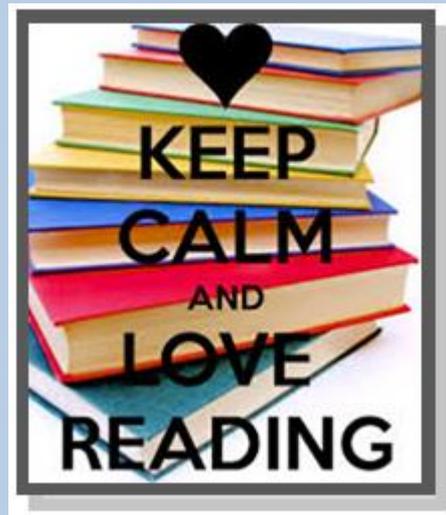
2 Sinclair Dr, Glasgow G42 9QE

Pollokshaws Library

50-60 Shawbridge St, Glasgow G43 1RW

Pollokshields Library

30 Leslie St, Glasgow G41 2TE



Thank you to those in the Holyrood school community who once again responded to our SCIAF Lenten campaign, which this year was to help the people of Cambodia stand up for their rights and live with dignity, enabling them to build a better future for themselves and their children, allowing them to **survive and thrive**. Our SCIAF 24 Hour Sponsored Fast (supported by the 6th Year Music Performance group) along with monies raised through the 'Wee Box' collections raised a total of **£3055**.

Extra special thanks to **Kara McCrory (3rd Year)** who raised just over £165 and **Carly Miller (4th Year)** whose sponsor total was just short of £100.

SCIAF received the money in time to maximise its effect with '**double funding**' from the UK government this year, making the benefit to the people of Cambodia a fabulous **£6110** to help fund their SCIAF projects.

