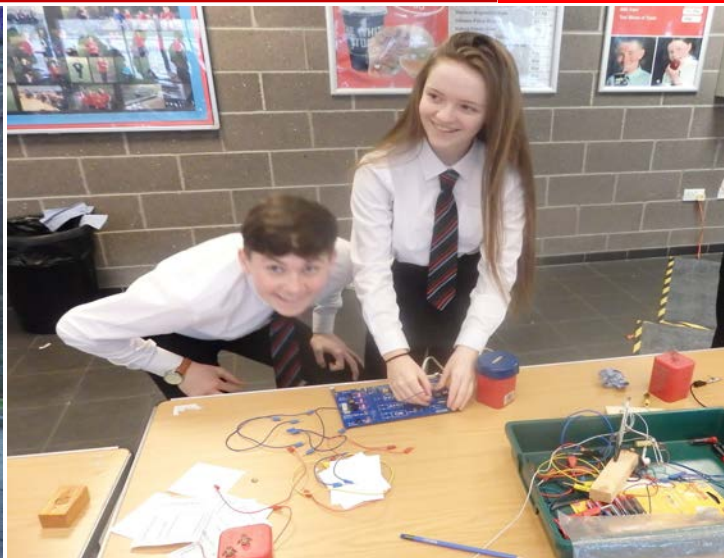


Inside GHS



Top Left : Cross Country Medal Winners

Top Right : S3 'LOST' Event

Bottom Left: Planning for Choices & Changes

Bottom Right: Fairtrade 5-a-sides

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Cross Country Champions



Mr. Nicholls' Welcome

Welcome to our third newsletter of session 2015 – 2016 which details our work and achievements from January through to the Easter holidays.

This is the longest term in the school calendar and in many ways the most demanding for our young people, particularly those in fourth, fifth and sixth year as they complete their SQA courses and head into the exam diet in May.

Over the course of the last term there have been a number of major events for almost all year groups with second year involved in course choices, third year participating in the planning for choices and changes day as well as making their options for next session's National whilst fourth year completed their work experience programme and made their options for fifth year. In fifth and sixth year we had the Higher prelim examinations and for fifth year their final set of options whilst sixth year can now look ahead to life after school as they prepare to sit their final set of in-school examinations after which it's the Leavers' Dance and a summer of old school memories.

As you can see from the number of articles within the newsletter it has been a very productive time out of the classroom and we are once again indebted to the staff who put in so much effort to support pupil learning experiences and opportunities.



If you would like to discuss the current issues in education e.g. Curriculum for Excellence, the vision the school has for your child, pupil support provision and the aims for the remainder of this session and next, then I am more than happy to meet with individuals or small groups of parents at a mutually agreed time during or after the school day.

If you would like to meet with me and have a particular area of interest or concern you wish to discuss, then please contact me on 01505 813116 or at glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

I look forward to hearing from you.



Malawi Message

"It seems only yesterday that the pupils were invited to apply for the Malawi 2016 expedition and here we are, now, with only weeks to go! The committee was established late 2014 to coordinate fundraising activities, in a hope of raising a similar amount to the 2014 expedition, with the committee being formed from parents and teachers. We had lots of ideas including bag packs, quiz nights, a Sportsman's brunch, a Splash Entertainment night, CarniMalawi event, a 5050 Club, and many other events along the way. We set ourselves a target, around the middle of last year, having had six months fundraising under our belt, and decided to stretch ourselves and aim for project to refurbish/rebuild the five main classrooms at Dzenza Primary at a cost estimated at circa. £20,000. It is fair to say that, from the start, we have been overwhelmed by the huge effort everyone involved has put in along the way; pupils, parents and staff - as well as money from our very generous sponsors! Well, some 18 months on from the creation of the committee, we are delighted to say we have managed to raise in excess of our target so the project was given the go-ahead! As a committee we are now looking to tidy things up, as the expedition party get ready for, what will hopefully be, a fantastic adventure. Lastly, and from the committee's perspective, there has been some hard work along the way but also great sense of enjoyment and new friendships formed along the way. So this is where our journey stops, and where the Malawi 2016 expedition will really start. Bon voyage...you've worked hard. . have a great time.."

Roundup

Fair Trade

Gleniffer High School is continuing to operate as a Fair trade school. Fair Trade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. Gleniffer High School is committed to Fair Trade. For example, we use Fair Trade products when we can, learn about why Fair Trade is important and take action for Fair trade in the school and the wider community. We are hoping to see more Fair Trade events in school in 2016 so keep an eye out!

FAIRTRADE TUCKSHOP

The weekly Fair Trade Tuckshop continues to be very successful and popular with lots of delicious Fairtrade snacks and drinks on sale. The Fair Trade Tuckshop is run by the hard-working Amy McSkimming and Isla Greenshields and is down in the Social Area every Tuesday and Thursday at morning interval during term time. There will be cereal bars, chocolate, dried fruit snacks and fruit juice available so remember to bring some pocket money to spend at the tuckshop and support Fairtrade!



Fairtrade Fortnight

As part of Fairtrade Fortnight 2016, Gleniffer High pupils got involved in a number of different ways. To kick proceedings off we welcomed Mauritian seamstress, Pamela Intelligent, to the school as part of her tour of the UK (which was only her second time leaving Mauritius). Pamela spoke with S1 and S2 about her inspiring life story and how Fairtrade has made a real difference in not only her life but that of her community as well. Pamela's story made a great impression on our pupils and gave a human face to the Fairtrade message.

Mr Tollan has worked closely with Bala Sports in ensuring that Fairtrade footballs are being used in school and as part of Fairtrade fortnight encouraged his S4 class to get involved in the dizzy penalty challenge. Mr Tollan also invited STV cameras to film the attempts, which were then broadcast on STV Glasgow's Live at 5 programme. Luckily for Mr Tollan he narrowly avoided embarrassment on live television and managed to slot his penalty away. Everyone had a great laugh and enjoyed their 15 minutes of fame.

The great fun continued with the S1&2 5-a-side football tournament on Thursday lunchtime. 12 teams competed for the crown of FairTrade champions with the final bringing Fairtrade fortnight to a close on the Friday.

Fairtrade Fortnight was a busy time on the football front, with Mr Bilsland and Mr Tollan overseeing the Fairtrade Fortnight 5-a-side competition in March. Once again keeping links with Gleniffer's 'ball sponsor' Bala Sports, of which Gleniffer High School is a member shareholder. All of the balls used in the tournament were Fairtrade certified Bala footballs. Pupils were once again reminded of the positive impact that Fairtrade footballs have on the factory workers in Saikot in Pakistan, with 10 % extra money allowing them to invest in health, safety and social care. The footballs nestled in the net countless times with lots of goals scored by the 50 boys and girls from S1-S2 who took part over the two days of games which provided a great atmosphere among all who took part.

Some pupils also became TV stars following STV Glasgow's visit to film S4's 'Dizzy Goals' to raise awareness of Fairtrade as part of the Global Goals campaign. Many spins, stumbles and goals from our pupils put STV's David Farrell to shame who missed the ball completely when it was his turn! Both David and Angus Coull, Director of Bala Sport praised the pupils for the great spirit shown and in raising awareness for this important campaign. More information can be found at www.balasport.co.uk and www.globalgoals.org/dizzy-goals.



S6 Volunteering

This session we encouraged EVERY S6 pupil to volunteer for at least two periods as part of their timetable. The majority of the pupils took this onboard and were keen to get involved. The pupils had the opportunity to volunteer both in and/or out of school. There were some placements set up out of school within local nurseries, primary schools and even some local charities were on board too. Employers, Colleges and Universities all look for volunteering and it is recognised as an important key quality for pupils' application forms and CVs.

The current S5 should keep checking notice boards and listening out at PSE for more information on how they can get involved in next years volunteering programme. All S6 pupils will be encouraged to have at least two periods of volunteering as part of their timetable and learning agreement when returning for S6. If pupils require any advice or ideas for volunteering please see Mrs Harris in Pastoral Support base. All pupils should register with Saltire to record their volunteering hours. Awards are designed to formally recognise the commitment and contribution of youth volunteering. Saltire enables you to record the skills, experience and learning you gain through successful volunteering placements in school or provided by voluntary agencies.

There are 4 awards available:
 The Challenge (one-off event)
 The Approach (10, 25 hours)
 The Ascent (50, 100, 200, 500 hours)
 The Summit (200+ hours – nominated)
 Achievement is recognised in the form of Saltire Award certificates and Young Scot reward points.
www.saltireawards.org.uk

Well done and thank you to every pupil who has been involved in this years successful volunteering programme. I hope that you will continue to volunteer in your own time post school. You have been a credit to yourselves and the school.

Active Schools

On the 15th of March the Gleniffer High school sports coaching class in partnership with the schools young ambassadors for sport, organised and ran a multi sports event for children in primary 1 to 3 with additional support needs. The event brought together pupils from special schools and units from across Renfrewshire council to enable them to have fun and try out new activities. The event was hosted during the school day and ran like clockwork due to the extensive preparation from the senior pupils. On the day there were 47 infant pupils who took part in the various activities including dance, playground games and parachute games. This is the second consecutive year that this event has run and due to its success and positive feedback it is hoped that this will now become an annual event.

This event was the final hurdle for the sports coaching class, as over the full school year they have been learning various new skills and training to become fully qualified coaches. Over the year they have been a key part within the Active Schools programme for the Gleniffer cluster schools. From the beginning of the year the class have been involved in several events including the Renfrewshire Rugby World cup, the Gleniffer cross country trials and the Infants multi sport event. The pupils have also been actively promoting and delivering sport on a weekly basis within the local primaries, as well as giving up their free time to deliver various clubs at lunch time and after school.

The greatest success of this course is that there are now over 20 responsible senior pupils that will graduate the course on the 23rd of March. On top of this more than half have expressed an interest in furthering their career in sport and have applied for local universities and colleges. Due to their commitment and dedication towards everything they have completed within the course, all of these young and confident sports leaders will be offered more opportunities to volunteer and gain paid employment within Renfrewshire Leisure Active Schools in the future as sessional coaches.

S1-S3 Profiling

Profiling is now embedded with our S1 pupils during their literacy time. Pupils are given an opportunity to reflect on their skills developed in their classes as well as the successes that they have achieved in their learning. The pupils are recording these achievements primarily in the diaries before transferring them onto MyMerIT – ask your child to log into their MyMerIT for a look at their achievements.

All pupils S1-S3 have achievement pages in their diaries. Ask to see your child's achievements in their diaries. If your child does not have achievements noted in their diary could you please encourage them to do so? Topics that they have been learning about and the opportunities that have had to develop their skills for work eg teamwork, presentations, ICT should all be recorded.

Pupils in S3 are currently working on completing their profile in PSE. All have been encouraged to bring their noted achievements to class to help support them in this process. Every child in Scotland has to have a Profile that celebrates their learning by the end of their Broad General Education in S3. Reflecting on learning and skills for work is ultimately a life skill that all young people will utilise as they transition from school to interviews for apprenticeships, college places, the world of work or completing their Personal Statements for University.

Art

It was that time of year again when Malawi and Fair Trade fortnight hit Gleniffer High School!

As usual the Art and Design Department were inspired to get S2 pupils to look at culture, lifestyle and environment in Malawi.

This is a special year as the next Malawi trip is fast approaching. There is always an element of competition between classes (and teachers!) to see who can create the best art works to hang in the social area.

This year the art work ranged from elephants and fish to village life and costume. The second years involved worked as teams to produce the banners which certainly draw attention in the social area. It's impossible to say which class 'won' or which teacher had the best result as we all have our favourites, but overall the classes were totally engaged and learnt about the culture of the country where our link school Dzenza Primary is; a great team effort.



Eco Committee

It is that time of year again where exams are looming just around the corner, and as such the eco committee winds down for another year.

As we have entered the spring session we are looking forward to the gardening project that shall be undertaken by the gardening committee lead by Callum McKay and Ryan Ticcioni. The project has been pushed back due to weather issues in the later part of 2015, however the plan that has been detailed looks promising.

Any pupil who is interested in joining the committee should simply speak to Mr Marshallsay.

The Eco-Committee shall actively be spearheading the school's Green Flag proposal with the aim that by the end of 2016 the school shall finally be a Green Flag certified school.

Please follow our progress on our website which is <http://gleniffereco.weebly.com/>

The position for chairperson of the committee shall be open from the end of March and any S5 pupil who wishes to take on this responsibility should also speak to Mr Marshallsay based in the Science department room number F068.

The last official Eco-Committee meeting shall be held on the 24th March in room F068.

John Martin S6

Music

A very hectic time of the year for Gleniffer High School Music Department.

Our practical SQA practical exams took place in March and our Advanced Highers will perform in May. Every pupil involved will play or sing a live programme of pieces to our visiting examiner so the department is as always buzzing with pupils practicing a wide range of instruments, singing and rehearsing with accompanists. A very daunting task for them but usually performed with much confidence on the day!

Our third year classes have been very fortunate in enjoying a series of master classes from Scottish Youth Jazz Ensemble tutor. It has helped them improve their skills in improvisation and their knowledge of jazz and blues.

Many of our pupils also attended a film at Braehead called Ten Pieces which showcases young musicians and gives an exciting view of Classical orchestral music.

Eighty of our pupils enjoyed an excellent traditional Scottish music concert in Glasgow Royal concert hall. It was a very exciting time for our

A group of S5-6 pupils have been working on a 'Behind the Noise' project with Ewan Macleod. They are now preparing for a studio recording session, poster designing session and a live performance.. This has been a most successful addition to our extra curricular activities and has prepared the pupils well for entering college/university courses in the future.

Our community music group has been very busy with a wide variety of events again. They are much sought after in Paisley and are always received with much enthusiasm.

Many of our pupils are participating in Renfrewshire percussion ensemble, concert band, jazz band, Celtic group and brass band, an excellent opportunity for all pupils involved. They have just performed in a series of Renfrewshire Council concerts.

Our sixth year pupil Janet Stott continues to enjoy working on stage management with Scottish Opera Connect, and Amy Blain and Jessica Fraser continue to enjoy the opportunities offered to them in the junior department at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Our November round of ABRSM exams was very successful and we look forward to receiving the results of our March exams. We have our main presentation underway for June when our school will be used as the examination centre.

Our music department term finishes with providing music for our school Senior Certificate of Merit award ceremony and Easter service.

Auditions are now complete and rehearsals underway for our school show in June which is Grease. It promises to be a lively show and our cast is extremely talented. A night not to be missed!

Senior School Roundup

S6

What an amazing term it has been since Christmas, passing by with incredible speed but S6 still managed to keep themselves busy attending Parents Evenings and participating in loads of fun events. After prelims were finished in February, Cupid and his Valentine's Day helpers decided to pay us a visit with Sixth year boys selling 'cookies and kisses' which were delivered (sometimes anonymously) to that special someone. A lot of fun was had by everyone with new romances blossoming and loads of cookies consumed.

In March we had Sports Relief with Miss McKissick and Miss Clark in the PE department putting the Sixth year through their paces in a cycle challenge. For two days a sponsored cycle was performed on the stage to raise money for a very worthwhile cause. We are all eagerly looking forward to our Certificate of Merit Award ceremony on the 30th March which will be an emotional night as we say goodbye to the class of 2015. After that we will have our Easter Holidays which will give staff and pupils a chance to unwind after a really tough academic term. Happy holidays to everyone!!

S5

Life since Christmas in Gleniffer has been chaotic for our Fifth year who have had to face prelims, unit tests and assessments galore this past few months. Fifth and Sixth year are working really hard to complete all their external coursework (folios and assignments) for their SQA exams which begin on the 4th May. The end is almost here with the Easter weekend looming and the spring break fortnight within our sights. During the holiday I am delighted to announce a very extensive Easter School Supported Study programme and as well as that an SQA Masterclass timetable will operate during the SQA exam study leave.

Good Luck to all our Fifth Year I know all your hard work will pay off !!

As part of our civic duty we encourage our pupils to help keep our local community litter free. In December some of our S5 pupils took to the streets round Ivanhoe shops and made sure they were litter free. Well done to our band of volunteers !!



S4

As usual for this time of the session – a very busy term for all S4 pupils.

In January, a very successful Work Experience programme was completed by all S4 pupils. Feedback from employers was very positive and I'm sure many of the pupils likewise enjoyed their experience. Pupils who made travel expenses claims should ensure they collect their money from Mrs Carr as soon as possible.

We are now nearly at the end of the tunnel as pupils finish off coursework and internal assessments, including the dreaded AVUs or course assignments. Next stop for N5 pupils – their first SQA exams in May. We wish them all good luck as they go through this experience for the first time! Remember to check out the Supported Study programme during Easter holidays! And don't forget the Master classes which will run during exam leave for N5 students

The Enrichment Programme will run for all N3 and N4 pupils during the month of May. This will start with the Employability Week from Monday 9th May. This has been a very worthwhile experience in the past for pupils as they prepare for the next stage in their education career. Please see Mr Marshallsay for further details.

N3 and N4 pupils should also have received feedback on their work experience placements by now and whether they were successful in gaining a place on the Renfrewshire Enrichment programme.

The S4 Community Litter pick took place in March. A total of 8 pupils were involved in completing their civic duty to keep the local area tidy. Well done!

A special Shout out for two groups of S4 pupils;

1. the S4 pupils who reached the semi final of the ifs Student Investor Challenge – Cameron Breadner, Jack Field, Gary Gilchrist and Graham Peacock
2. Amy Lieberman and Christopher Allan – the first ever Renfrewshire Schools Climbing Champions

Well done to both groups!

Finally, Good Luck and Goodbye! We wish all the best to S4 pupils who are moving on at the end of May.



Lower School Roundup

S1

The majority of S1 pupils continue to make excellent efforts to contribute to the school community by following our school values. All S1 pupils should continue in this endeavour.

The school has re-launched the House system this session with additional supports and activities targeted at S1. House Captains are working with House groups and pupils are involved in a number of House activities.

All pupils had the opportunity to design House logos. I had the pleasure of judging the entries; a very difficult task. However, the four logos chosen are superb and have now been produced digitally by Mr Allely of the Technical department and these will be displayed as House banners in the Social Area. The original art works have been framed and will be displayed in House notice boards.

The following pupils produced the winning entries, which can be viewed in the Gallery section of this newsletter:

Brodie House – Lucy Davidson

Glen House – Erin Gibson

Moredun House – Charlotte Donnelly

Thornly House – Milly Pratt

In addition all S1 pupils now have a coloured House button badge in the appropriate House colour. Pupils are wearing these with pride.

Many S1 pupils continue to take part in our school extra-curricular programme. A number of pupils have gained school awards for their achievements in the school programme and for achievements in activities that they take part in outside of school. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you feel that your child deserves recognition for any achievement in extra-curricular events outside of school. Sometimes pupils are a bit reticent in coming forward themselves.

I wish all S1 pupils and their families a very restful Spring Break and look forward to working with you in term 3.

Miss Feggans



S2

Another busy term as always with S2 pupils focussing on their progress as they make their subject choices for S3. I am pleased to say that the pupils have approached the process in a very mature way and almost all the information is now with Mrs Prentice, our timetable. Can I take this opportunity to congratulate our S2 parents for the excellent turnout at the recent parents' evening. The 87% attendance is the highest ever achieved and we do value your support.

Police Scotland delivered a presentation to pupils raising awareness of the dangers of alcohol and "legal highs" This was a very powerful message regarding the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and the need to make the right choices. A group of 40 S2 pupils joined pupils from other Renfrewshire schools at a follow-up event at St Mirren Park.

As we look forward to a well-earned rest, can I thank you for your continued support as always. I hope pupils return refreshed and with renewed enthusiasm on 18th April 2016.

S3

One of the most significant events for S3 took place during this term. In order to support pupils in the subject choice programme, looking at subjects for S4 study and future career options, all S3 pupils were involved in a Planning for Choices and Changes day. As the pupils worked together on team-building activities during the morning session, confidence levels and contributions rose steadily and it was really rewarding to witness how much energy and commitment the pupils gave to their tasks. They certainly made a good impression on the visiting advisors. During the afternoon session the pupils had the opportunity to go round the careers fair and we were impressed by some thoughtful questions from our pupils.

We are pleased to report that the majority of our pupils are working hard as they move towards the latter stages of the Broad General Education and the S3 tests which will take place in the beginning of May.

We wish all S3 pupils a restful and enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing them on 18 April.

Miss Feggans & Mrs McMunn



Notice Board

Talk to Us

As a school we aim to provide the best education and opportunities for participation and achievement possible with the staff and resources we have available to us. To ensure that we do this, I would welcome your feedback on how you perceive the service we are providing or any constructive comments on how we could improve our service. If you wish to do this, then please feel free to contact the school as we really do value your opinions.

If you would like to express your views please contact us by telephone on 01505 813116 or by email at glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

UNIFORM

Our school has a very smart and practical uniform worn by all of our pupils. Since the start of the session in August we have conducted several uniform trawls round every class and at two occasions the number wearing the full uniform was 100%. Where the number was less than 100% it was as a result of 3 and 4 pupils arriving at school without ties or wearing an inappropriate coloured outer garment in class. This has been a great start to the session and with the support of parents and carers we will continue to enjoy 100% as our expected figure throughout the session. My thanks to every family for supporting our continual drive on uniform.

Girls:

- White shirt school tie
- Black zipper, cardigan, tank top or jersey (tops with school badges are preferably)
- Black skirt or tailored trousers
- Black shoes
- Dark warm and waterproof jacket
- School bag large enough for folders and pencils, pens etc

Boys:

- White shirt school tie
- Black zipper, tank top or jersey (tops with school badges are preferably)
- Black trousers
- Black shoes
- Dark warm and waterproof jacket
- School bag large enough for folders and pencils, pens etc

Thank you for your support

This term has been very busy as I have taken over the role of Employability and Skills Project leader.

I have been working on a number of projects with pupils, staff and employers with aim of developing sustainable employability support for pupils in all year groups. This has included:

- o Working with departments to develop alternative courses for senior pupils.
- o Meeting with employers to set up future business partnerships
- o Working with Renfrewshire Council to develop employability provision across the region
- o Developing a new website for Employability in Gleniffer

<http://employgleniffer.weebly.com> with an attached twitter feed

@employgleniffer with up-to-date information on opportunities in training and employment

I would like to take the opportunity to thank staff, pupils and parents who have supported me in this new role and would invite any parents who wishes to get involved with developing our young workforce to please contact me through either through the school or the website. Mr. S. Marshallsay

Celebrating Achievements

As a community we like to be kept up to date with pupil achievements that take place out of school e.g. Boys' Brigade Queen's badge, local or national selection for sport or performing arts, extensive charity work or volunteering activities.

As many pupils are too modest to tell us about themselves notable achievements outwith school time can often go unnoticed and not celebrated. Therefore, we would like to ask you as parents and carers to keep us informed of anything that you feel is worthy of celebrating by simply email the school with the details and marking your email for the attention of Mr Nicholls. We look forward to hearing from you and having the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our pupils.

Thank you for keeping us informed

School email address:

glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

SPONSORSHIP

This session we have been extremely fortunate to receive substantial sums of money from the following companies to help support a range of activities.

A very big thank you to

BARDEMDEMOLITION-SCHOOLHOCKEY TEAM STRIPS

ARNOLD CLARK - FIRST YEAR BOYS' FOOTBALL TEAM STRIPS

ST JAMES'S PLACE WEALTH MANAGEMENT - MALAWI 2016

REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME OF DZENZA PRIMARY SCHOOL

GILMOUR SPORTS - MALAWI 2016 HOODIES AND T-SHIRTS FROM THE SUMMER EXPEDITION

If you would like to help the school by sponsoring a sports team, a musical event, the school newsletter, the school website, a subject within the curriculum or donate towards our Malawi 2016 development fund then please do not hesitate to contact the Head Teacher on 01505 813116 or at glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

National Writing Competition

Many of our pupils have had the pleasure of having their poems published in the Young Writers poetry anthologies, 'The Poetry Trials' this year. It is always a nice thing for them and their parents to preserve for posterity. In addition to that we have had finalists in two National competitions.

Struan McCorricken S5 was shortlisted in the final 20 of the Scottish Schools' Young Writer of the Year awards. He gained one of twelve commendations for his detailed account of a trip to La Fete des Ramparts in Dinan. The judges commented on the podcast announcing the winners that his piece was "nicely descriptive" and "captured a lovely sense of place and mood".

Beth Hannay S3 saw off competition from 100,000 entries across the UK to become one of four regional finalists for Scotland in the Royal Mail's Young Letter Writer Competition 2015. The competition asked pupils to write a letter of application for their dream job and Beth wrote to a local counselling centre asking if she could do some work experience to help her achieve her dream of becoming a psychologist. Beth will receive £40 of high street vouchers for herself and the school will also be given £40.

There are always other competitions coming up which are publicised in the school bulletin and in posters in the English corridor. Anyone can enter. The most recent one is the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award 2016. Closing date is 24th June. Entries for any competition should be given to Mrs Kennedy in English, room G010.



S1 Paired Reading

The Paired Reading Group is now well established amongst group members and running under pupil power. It is clear that the first years in the current group are not only experiencing benefits to their reading, but are also enjoying the regular positive interactions with mature and supportive sixth years.

We are enjoying the Paired Reading Group so far. There was not a Paired Reading Group available in primary school so we did not get this opportunity to improve our reading skills. Paired reading has mainly improved our confidence in reading aloud. We really like our sixth year tutors - Laura and Niamh - they are really funny and helpful. They're very kind to help us improve on our reading skills, and they are willing to devote their time just to us. We find it easy to approach our sixth year tutors knowing that they are so willing to help us. We would recommend joining the Paired Reading Group because it can boost pupils' confidence and help them to meet other pupils in the school.

S1 Accelerated Reader

The English Department has recently introduced a reading programme called 'Accelerated Reading' for some of our S1 pupils. The programme is designed to develop understanding and build vocabulary through the pupil's independent personal reading. The programme will complement the Paired Reading Programme between S1 and S6 and build on the 10 minutes of personal reading which every pupil undertakes at the start of every S1 English class.

After an initial STAR test pupils are guided towards a specific range of books that will challenge and motivate them. Books are labelled in the school library to guide pupils towards their reading level and the librarian, Miss Kane, is on hand to give advice. Once pupils have read their books they complete the computer generated quizzes which test their understanding and for some books their literacy and vocabulary skills. Pupils earn a percentage of points according to how well they pass the quiz and teachers can track pupil progress through the information generated by the programme. Pupils can also see how many words they have read through the course of the term which can be a very motivating factor in encouraging reading.

Business Studies

Stock Market Challenge (Sponsored By BNP Paribas Bank) 52 Higher Business Management Pupils of Gleniffer High School undertook the Stock Market Challenge, sponsored by BNP Paribas Bank. This was a Scottish national competition and one of our teams came 7th in our region. Unfortunately only the top 3 from each region were invited to a special lunch and to play in the final (Regions were North, West and East). Well done to Scott Spence and Cameron Dickson (S6).

The competition involved pupils working in pairs with one being the "Media Analyst" and the other "Investment Analyst."

The simulator lasted one hour and covered "a theoretical 2 days of trading on Wall Street" (time was accelerated). Trading markets opened at 8am with a bell, just like the real stock market. Trading then closed at 4pm (half an hour in real time terms).

Were the cash real, the boys would have made over £40,000!! Well done.



Final leaderboard - West region

- Williamwood High School, £266,911 & 0.422%, Jonathan Downs & Lewis Grant
- Douglas Academy, £264,985 & 0.416%, Liam Coote & Andrew Montgomery
- Gryffe High School, £255,977 & 0.528%, Chris Gallacher & Adam Noble
- City of Glasgow College, £256,295 & 0.354%, Lewis McArdle & Marta Zalewska
- Mearns Castle High School, £242,059 & 0.430%, Reiss McMahon & Ally Scott
- St. Ninian's High School (E. Ren), £240,973 & 0.512%, Scott Green & Daniel Paton
- Gleniffer High School, £240,535 & 0.253%, Cameron Dickson & Scott Spence



TEAM	TRADE UNITS REMAINING	FUND TOTAL
1 Team 1 (Cameron Dickson / Scott Spence)	0	240,535

Whilst we are on the topic of stock market challenges – we have to acknowledge the incredible achievement made by a team of S4 Business Management boys. Graham Peacock, Gary Gilchrist, Jack Field and Cameron Breadner have made it through to the semi-finals out of 7377 teams UK wide! The boys were competing against private schools such as Eton College. Only 500 teams went through to the semi-final round so this is a fantastic accomplishment!

The winning team gain £2000 prize money for their school, an educational trip to New York plus spending money of £200 each! Second Place achieves £1500 prize money for their school and £150 each member whilst third place are awarded with £1000 for their school and £100 per team member. In addition to the final top 3 prizes, there are a variety of smaller prizes available. These include £100 per team (£25 each) available each month. The semi-final round runs from Monday 22 February until Friday 18 March. I am sure you will join me in wishing the boys good luck!



Parent Council

Within the Parent Council this term we have had updates from our employability team in the school and Ben Davidson and Callum Tennant, 2 fifth year pupils, who have been redesigning our school website. The website looks great and you can find lots of useful information and links on it including the Parent Council page.

We also had our usual monthly updates from Mr Nicholls covering Curriculum for Excellence, Customer Service Excellence award, National Improvement Framework and the Cost of the School Day Report. These updates were informative and gave us the chance to gain more insight into the issues affecting our children's education and the running of the school. We also had input from the teaching staff and the Head Boy and Girl informing us about school successes and issues affecting the staff and pupils within the school.

Members of the Parent Council also attended Parent Council Liaison Meetings where Renfrewshire Council staff met with all the Parent Councils in Renfrewshire and we discussed issues affecting education.

The Parent Council is for all Parents and allows you to get involved in the issues affecting your child's education. You can find more information about the Parent Council on our Facebook and Website pages and if you have any issues you would like us to discuss please get in touch.

PTA

Thank you for your continuing support of our PTA over the past months. Thanks to this we have been able to make another donation to the Schools' ongoing 'Tackling Poverty in Renfrewshire Schools' initiative and also supporting the annual Certificate of Merit ceremonies.

Our next fundraising effort will be an afternoon tea with entertainment and shopping on Saturday 4th June in the school. Cost of a ticket will be approximately £5 or £7.50 if you would like a glass of Prosecco (ticket prices will be confirmed nearer the time) and tickets will be available from the end of April. There will be the usual afternoon tea goodies to eat including home made cakes and scones and we will be having a raffle that day so any donations of prizes or cakes can be brought into the school.

Hope you had a lovely Easter and ate plenty of chocolate

Kind Regards

Beverly Barclay

PTA

Pupil Voice

Gathering the views of our pupils is now well underway through the Pupil Voice House meetings. These meetings allow for a cross selection of pupils to share what they believe to be the issues facing the pupils of Gleniffer High School and to seek resolutions. All pupils should keep an eye on their House noticeboard to see what has been discussed at these meetings and the outcomes of such discussions. One of the first decisions made by the Pupil Voice was the House charities. A running theme in each Pupil Voice meeting was the desire of the young people to support a local charity, to that end we are pleased to confirm that the House Charities are:

Brodie – RAH Ward 15 Children's Hospital

Glen – Lisa's Gift

Moredun – Accord Hospice

Thornly – Providing for People in Paisley (P3)

The House charities will be donated to by pupil participation in House Charity Days. This year there is to be one House Charity Day which has been set as Wednesday 30 March. All year groups will be able to purchase cakes from the bake stall at breaktime. During lunchtime there will be face painting of House colours/logos for 50p whilst on the astro pitch there will be Staff V's Pupil football by bucket collection. In the afternoon S1-S3 pupils have the opportunity to go on a Easter Egg Hunt for £2 a ticket. All of these ideas have come from the pupils themselves in their Pupil Voice meetings, we would appreciate as much support as possible in raising funds for our local charities.

If you have anything that you would like to be raised at the Pupil Voice Meetings then please speak to your House Captain or a Pupil Voice representative from your year group, the names of which are on the House Noticeboards.

Special Achievement Awards

As part of our S4 – S6 Certificate of Merit Ceremony in March 2016 a number of our pupils will be presented with Special Achievement Awards for their outstanding contribution to their particular area of expertise.

1. Marilyn Stirling Award for outstanding contribution to school concerts 2015-2016 - Katie Monaghan
2. Marilyn Stirling Award for outstanding contribution to school band 2015-2016 - Janet Stott
3. Excellence in Music - Katie Monaghan
4. Alison Johnston Award for Excellence in Home Economics 2015-2016 - Caitlin Mc Cartney
5. Janet Ashcroft Award for excellence in Art and Design 2015-2016 - Sophie Mitchell
6. Roddy Gardner Award for Outstanding Achievement in Sport 2015-2016 - Laura Hamilton
7. Ruth Carroll Memorial Award for Citizenship 2015- 2016 - Callum Tennant & Ben Davidson
8. David Jack Award for Academic Excellence in RMPS - Ruth Carlin
9. Proxime Accessit 2015-2016 - Kirsten Nesbitt
10. Dux 2015- 2016 - Amy McSkimming
11. Depute Head Boy 2015-2016 - Thomas Logan & Jacob Gunn
12. Depute Head Girl 2015-2016 - Rebecca Jardine & Robyn Braes
13. Head Boy 2015-2016 - Ross Urquhart
14. Head Girl 2015-2016 - Amy McSkimming



Work Experience Account

When I began to think about my work experience, I wanted a placement that would have a strong Engineering related background so that it would let me see all the different aspects of it. By doing this I hoped that it would help me make an informed decision when choosing my career path. As a result of this I was able to secure a place with Grontmij through the help of a family friend.

I really enjoyed my work experience with Grontmij, it gave me an idea of what a working place is like. During my week I got to work with each area within the company, such as Water, Thermal, Energy, Transport Planning, Transportation, Business Asset.

I have never done anything like it before and I'm glad I chose Grontmij as it covered everything I wanted to know & more. Going to Grontmij has let me see what an engineer does in everyday life and also the goals that have to be accomplished.

It has widened my options for a career and gave me a better understanding of the different career paths in Engineering. Hayley McArthur S4

Mr. Jack - A Tribute

In schools across the land there are teachers, good teachers, very good teachers, great teachers and legendary teachers and Mr Jack is quite simply one of the best teachers if not the best teacher I have had to the pleasure to work with over so many years. Mr Jack's commitment to his classes and to Gleniffer High School has remained at the highest level since the school first opened as a merger of Camphill High School and Stanely Green High School in 1988.



It is fair to say that that true mark of the outstanding and inspirational teacher is that they are long remembered after they or the pupil leaves school. This is very true of Mr Jack with many former pupils still in contact with him and where his reputation goes before him and has done for so many years. However, whilst no one has given more to this school outwith the classroom than Mr Jack in the classroom where the real job is done he is a master. Inspirational, motivational, entertaining – his pupils simply love going to his classes. Ask any senior who has had the sheer pleasure of being in a Higher or Advanced Higher RMPS class. Mr Jack has the magic to captivate the imagination of the young mind and to draw them into his subject area of which I believe he has no equal in Scotland.

Since the early days of our school back in 1988 Mr Jack has been not only a fully committed inspirational teacher but a member of staff who has given so much of his time supporting pupils as well as dedicating a huge amount of his own time to our extra curricular programme. However, he will be always remembered as the member of staff who delivered what was one of the best school websites in Scotland back in 2005 and as his time as editor of the school newsletter from 2011 to only recently. During this time his exceptional literary skills were on show for everyone to enjoy with his unique sense of humour and his ability to take the 'mickey' out of me at every opportunity.

Mr Jack was also one of the first teachers to set up the very successful link with Hans Bockler Schule in Germany in 2007 and has been actively involved in every trip to Germany or visit by our German friends to our school since then. It is fair to say that Mr Jack is equally respected and admired as much in Hans Bockler Schule as he is here in Gleniffer High School.

Always up for a laugh he has participated in endless charity events eating Hot Dogs, having his beard waxed or being gunged. He has also taken part in school shows and pantomimes and whilst he is neither an actor nor a singer he is still hilarious on stage.

Over the course of his time in Gleniffer High School he has quite literally taken thousands of photographs of school events all of which have either appeared on the website or been displayed in the Social Area. Many of the photos he has taken have also appeared on the S6 years leavers' DVD presentation or in the S6 yearbook.

Over the last two years Mr Jack has worked part time in Gleniffer High School and with SQA as a subject implementation manager. Our loss over this period of time has been SQA's gain as I believe he is the most knowledgeable teacher of Religious Education in Scotland. SQA I am sure would also go along with this assumption as he was quite rightly recognised as SQA's appointee of the year for 2015. This is a wonderful achievement for his extensive support work across Scotland and one that he so richly deserves. So as Mr Jack heads into his new camper van and travels the length and breadth of his beloved Scotland we wish him all the very best for a long and happy retirement and thank him most sincerely for all he has given to so many pupils, students and our school community since Gleniffer High School opened its doors in 1988.

Goodbye our teacher, goodbye our colleague and goodbye our friend

Mr Nicholls

S3 'LOST' Event

On Friday 18th March the S3 pupils were involved in the “Lost” event which takes place annually. This is based on the idea that characters have crash landed on a remote desert island and they must now develop the skills needed for survival. There were a variety of stations for pupils to work round including a number of new stations for this year’s event. These included: debate stations where pupils considered scenarios which they would need to overcome; first aid; tent building; map reading in German; cookery skills including bug tasting, fish gutting and filleting; fire building with Paul from Primal Bushcraft and the animal man who allowed the pupils to come face to face with some exotic animals that they might find on the island. The pupils enjoyed the event and learned some new life skills in the process. Thanks to both pupils and staff involved in the event!

Miss D. Leishman



Planning For Choices and Changes

In March, S3 pupils at Gleniffer High took part in our annual Planning for Choices and Changes careers event alongside a number of major companies.

The BBC, Morgan Stanley, Atkins Engineering, CITB, Clydesdale Bank, Clyde Marine Training, the Army, RAF, British Airways Maintenance, Vets 4 Pets, Renfrewshire Council Apprenticeships and many others attended and exhibited at the event.

Sgt Marie McChesney from the British Army comment: “It’s the best careers event I have ever attended. The pupils were so well behaved and enthusiastic. It was great to be involved.” Showing once again how much of a credit our pupils are to the school.

In addition to the industry stalls, the pupils worked on team-building exercises including being tasked with creating a colourful poster that illustrated the personality of their individual group.

S3 Pupil Katie MacLeod, 14, said: “The event was a lot of fun and really interesting as it opened my eyes to the different career paths that I could follow. I also learned a lot about working in a group, time management and meeting deadlines.”

To complement the exhibits, the school had its own displays to illustrate the relevancy of school subjects and how studying these might eventually lead to further training and/or employment.

The event was organised by Sam Marshallsay (Project Leader for Employability and Skills) alongside Michelle Foley (PT Pastoral Support) and Elish Reid (Graduate Intern Developing the Young Workforce). Special mention should also go to Janice Carr and Carol Jackson (Pupil Support / Classroom assistants) who had a key role in organising resources for the smooth running of the event.

The Choices and Changes event provides an insight into the variety of careers and career paths available to pupils and comes at a time when pupils are choosing subjects to study for the coming years.

Mr. Marshallsay said: “I am extremely grateful to all the industry leaders who came to the event and the staff who participated. They gave our pupils the benefit of their experience and expertise and have contributed to on-going development of their employability skills.”

We look forward to continuing to improve this annual event and making it bigger and better again next year.

Employability

It has been a busy year for me as Project Leader for Employability; though with hard work and the support of both staff and pupils much has been achieved in the last two terms.

Our new employability website has been launched along with our twitter account @employgleniffer. The website provides pupils with valuable information providing support with preparing them for the world of work. There are tips for building CVs, preparing for interviews as well as where to look for opportunities to develop skills. The site gives a list of current job vacancies and training opportunities updated weekly with daily updates being provided through our twitter feed.

At the beginning of the August term S4-S6 pupils completed a careers survey allowing us to accurately track the aspirations of our pupils for employment and further training.

Our graduate intern for developing the young workforce, Elish Reid, has used these surveys to produce a comprehensive employability database which allows us to highlight pupils who are at risk of not achieving a positive destination and quickly match pupils to current opportunities.

The database has been presented to the senior management and extended management teams as well as the parent council and it is clear that it will be an invaluable tool in the future.

Within the last term I began a series of mock interview sessions with senior pupils. These have been extremely successful and have led to pupils achieving success within formal interviews for college applications and employment. One of our pupils, having initially applied for a HNC course in Mechanical Engineering, was offered a place on to the more advanced HND course based on the strength of his interview.

This year Michelle Foley, one of our PTs for Pastoral Support, set up the 'On-Track' group aimed at identifying pupils S3-S6 who are in danger of not achieving a positive destination. The group consists of myself, Michelle Foley, Catriona Makeham (Skills Development Scotland Careers Advisor and Aileen Sangster DHT. We meet fortnightly, discuss identified pupils and put forward actions to be completed for the next meeting. Pupils have significantly benefitted from this early intervention and through working collaboratively we have been able to secure work experience, training and employment for a number of our pupils. The meeting have also been supplemented with a new series of college application workshops run by our careers advisors Catriona Makeham and Nicola Keane and again will help identify pupils for the 'Step-Up' programme next year aimed at helping pupils with potential gain entry into University in S5/6.

Pupils have also participated in a number of events aimed at further informing and preparing them for the world of work including:

- S3 Planning for Choices and Changes event
- S2 Girls into Construction day at the National Construction College (as part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week)
- S5/6 ORBIT Enterprise scheme

Throughout May/June in the new term as most of our S4-S6 Pupils will be sitting their exams, the S4 pupils who are sitting few or no national exams will be engaging in the S4 Enrichment Programme. Between the 3rd and 19th of May pupils will have the opportunity to take part in taster courses provided by West College Scotland and in the final two weeks of the exam diet will have the opportunity to take part in extended work experience (organised by Mr. Ramsay). There is also the chance for pupils to participate in the St. Mirren Football Club activities which last for the full 5 weeks of exam leave. During this programme, participants take part in a number of activities including fitness and training sessions, community activity planning as well as CV building and interview techniques.

In addition to these activities we will again be holding our S4 Employability Week, where participants will engage in an intensive programme of tutorials, presentations, team-building exercises and workshops. The programme is delivered by business professionals, staff and Skills Development Scotland, at the end of which pupils will be equipped with a professional email, completed CV and increased confidence having undertaken a series of mock interviews and applications.

The Renfrewshire Joint Employability Project begins in April, seeking to provide opportunities for our most disadvantaged pupils to develop employability skills and also further develop partnerships with our parents. More details of this programme will be available soon.

Another part of my remit as Project Leader has been to assist departments within the school in developing a number of alternative courses in the senior phase which will give our pupils a greater breadth of opportunity and choice in how to develop their skills. The alternative courses, as the name suggests, are designed to be a meaningful substitute for traditional academic studies, each one incorporating the development of employability skills through real-world experiences which will include the opportunity for work experience in a relevant industry. The latest options presented to the soon-to-be senior pupils had more of these courses than ever before and it is the hope that at the same time next year there will be a meaningful alternative course in every department. Already we are working on courses in the Creative Industries, International Business and Preparing for Careers in Finance.

The new academic year holds many exciting opportunities for our pupils and I feel privileged to be part of their on-going development and preparations for the future. As always none of what I do would be possible without the support of the pupils, staff and parents of Gleniffer High School and for that, I thank them greatly.

For more information please contact:

Sam Marshallsay (Room F068)

Project Leader Employability and Skills

<http://employgleniffer.weebly.com>

@employgleniffer

Master Class Timetable 2016				
Date	Subject	Level	Periods	Teacher
Tuesday 3rd May	Lifeskills Maths	Nat 5	P3 & P4	Mrs McLaughlin P3, Mr McCuish P4, Miss Moran P4
Tuesday 3rd May	English	Higher/AH	P3 & P6	Ms McAnena, Dr Finnigan
Tuesday 3rd May	English	Higher/N5	P6	Mrs McKecknie
Tuesday 3rd May	English	Higher/N5	P3 & P4	Mr Forrest, Mrs Nairn, Miss McGlinchey, Miss Anderson
Tuesday 3rd May	English	Higher/N5	P6	Mrs Kennedy
Wed 4th May	English	Adv Higher	P5 & P6	Dr Finnigan
Wed 4th May	English	Higher	P3 & P4	Pupils to own class teacher
Wed 4th May	English	Nat 5	P3 & P4	Pupils to own class teacher
Wed 4th May	English	Nat 5	P2 & P5	Miss Anderson, Miss McGlinchey, Mrs Gibson (P2)
Wed 4th May	Geography	Nat 5	P5 & P6	Miss Birrell/ Miss Bowie
Thursday 5th May	Geography	Higher	P4 & P5	Miss Birrell / Mrs Sangster
Friday 6th May	Human Biology	Higher	P5 & P6	Miss Fyfe
Friday 6th May	Biology	Nat 5 (S4)	P4	Miss Leishman
Friday 6th May	Biology	Nat 5 (S5)	P5 & P6	Mrs Gillen
Monday 9th May	Graphic Comm	Higher	P3 & P4	Mr Jagger
Monday 9th May	Graphic Comm	Nat 5	P1 & P2	Miss Aitken
Monday 9th May	Graphic Comm	Adv Higher	P1 & P2	Mr Allely
Tuesday 10th May	Maths	Adv Higher	P3 & P4	Mr Benzie
Tuesday 10th May	Maths	Higher	P3 & P4	Ms Walker, Mr Parsons,
Tuesday 10th May	Maths	Nat 5	P3 & P4	Mr Wilson, Mrs McLaughlin
Tuesday 10th May	Maths	Nat 5	P6 & 7	Mrs McLearnie, Mrs Vass
Tuesday 10th May	Maths	Nat 5	P4 & P5	Miss Moran
Wed 11th May	Maths	Higher	P5 & P6	Ms Walker
Wed 11th May	Maths	Higher	P5 & P6	Mr Parsons
Wed 11th May	Maths	Nat 5	P5 & P6	Mrs Vass
Wed 11th May	Maths	Nat 5	P5 & P6	Mr Wilson
Wed 11th May	Maths	Nat 5	P1 & P6	Mr McCuish
Thursday 12th May	Music	Higher	P6 & P7	Mrs Gibb
Thursday 12th May	Music	Nat 5	P7	Miss Leslie
Thursday 12th May	French	Higher	P2 & P3	Mrs Quinn
Thursday 12th May	French	Nat 5	P2 & P3	Mrs McNicol
Friday 13th May	French	Nat 5 (S5)	P6	Miss McCullagh
Friday 13th May	French	Nat 5 (S4)	P6	Mrs McNicol
Monday 16th May	Admin & IT	Higher	P6 & P7	Mrs MacIntyre
Monday 16th May	Admin & IT	Higher	P1 & P2	Miss Dowd
Tuesday 17th May	Chemistry	Higher	P1 & P2	Dr Gaggini
Tuesday 17th May	Chemistry	Nat 5	P1 & P2	Mrs Graham
Wednesday 18th May	History	History	P3 & P4	Mrs Crawford
Wednesday 18th May	History	Nat 5	P3 & P4	Mr Bilsland
Wednesday 18th May	RMPS	Adv Higher	P5 & P6	Mrs Howie
Friday 20th May	RMPS	Higher	P5 & P6	Mr Doman
Friday 20th May	RMPS	Higher	P1 & P2	Mr Scholes
Friday 20th May	Physics	Higher	P5 & P6	Mr Downie
Monday 23rd May	Physics	Nat 5	P5	Mr Marshallsay
Monday 23rd May	Art & Design	Nat 5	P3 & P4	Mr MacDonald
Monday 23rd May	Art & Design	Higher	P3 & P4	Mrs O'Higgins
Monday 23rd May	Art & Design	Adv Higher	P1 & P2	Miss McDonald
Monday 23rd May	Spanish	Nat 5	P6 & P7	Miss McCullagh
Tuesday 24th May	Computing Science	Nat 5	P6 & P7	Miss Maley
Tuesday 24th May	Computing Science	Nat 5	P2 & P3	Mrs Smith
Tuesday 24th May	Computing Science	Higher	P6 & P7	Mr Gould
Tuesday 24th May	Modern Studies	Adv Higher	P6 & P7	Mrs Graham
Tuesday 24th May	Bus Management	Nat 5	P1 & P2	Miss Dowd
Tuesday 24th May	Modern Studies	Nat 5	P5	Mrs Jardine
Wednesday 25th May	Bus Management	Higher	P1 & P2	Miss Dowd
Wednesday 25th May	Modern Studies	Higher	P3 & P4	Mrs Moore
Wednesday 25th May	German	Nat 5	P1 & P2	Mrs Quinn
Tuesday 31st May	German	Higher	P4	Miss Farquhar
Tuesday 31st May	German	Adv Higher	TBA	Mrs Quinn
Tuesday 31st May	H & FT	Nat 5	P1 & P2	Mrs Morrison
Tuesday 31st May	Des & Manufacture	Higher	P6 & P7	Miss Aitken
Wednesday 1st June	H & FT	Higher	P3 & P4	Mrs Montgomery
Wednesday 1st June	Des & Manufacture	Nat 5	P3 & P4	Mr Allely
Thursday 2nd June	P.E	Higher	P6 & P7	Mr Menzies
Thursday 2nd June	P.E	Higher	P6 & P7	Miss Clark

Forensics Week

The S2 pupils have been using their detective skills this month in order to find out who stole the charity money from Mr. Nicholls office! The investigation into this unspeakable crime has been left in the trusty hands of our very own S2 pupils. Didn't you know we have our very own CSI team and police detectives lurking within the school? They narrowed it down to six main suspects Mad Man Marshallsay, Prentice the Punk, Big Man Birrell, Punk Parsons, Mad Man Menzies and Gangsta Gorman! Our detectives worked tirelessly throughout the week in the science labs to carry out numerous tests including ink chromatography, flame testing powder found at the scene, blood analysis and fingerprint analysis. Due to the hard work of the detectives they managed, amazingly, to find our criminal within ONE WEEK! Big man Birrell was cuffed and taken away in front of the judgemental audience of S2 thanks to their skills in the lab!

Go4Set



The Train Spotters' team's aim in the Go4set Challenge was to design a Station for the Future as well as learning many new and important skills for our future.

As our school is a new building and it has many modern eco ideas in place so we tried to put some of these ideas in place in our station.

We decided to use Paisley Gilmour Street Station to base our ideas on.

Our Go4set group visited our mentor's workplace at Taylor & Fraser Limited to see what it was like to do what they do. It was a really interesting experience and we learned a lot about what he does for a job.

Two of our ideas, not in the school, were to put turbines in the water pipes to produce electricity and to put LED lighting where the yellow line on the platform would be to make it easier to see. Unfortunately we did not win but we received many positive comments about both our presentation and our ideas. The picture shows us at the Celebration of Achievement Day with our Mentor, Mike.

S4 Assertive Mentoring

Over the past few weeks identified S4 pupils have been working with their mentors to set targets in each of their subjects. This process has involved the pupils reflecting on their current working grades and putting an action plan together in order to either maintain this grade or improve on it. Staff mentors will be encouraging their mentees to attend specific Master Classes and supported study sessions over the next few weeks. By the beginning of Spring Break all pupils will have put together a study plan and have identified general revision based exercises that will help them to revise for their upcoming exams.

Feedback about the mentoring programme has been initially positive and a questionnaire will be issued in May to gather the thoughts of the pupils in order to improve the programme for next year's cohort. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff mentors for their hard work and dedication to supporting our young people to fulfil their potential.

Step Up Mentoring

Over the past few months pupils' on the Step Up mentoring programme have been meeting on a regular basis with their allocated staff member. Staff have covered a wide range of topics with each of their pupil's and offered targeted support when appropriate. It's fair to say that the pupils have benefited greatly from the Step Up Mentoring programme and staff will continue to work with their pupils into the next term.

A massive thank you to Mr Dornan for leading and running the programme this year and also to all staff volunteers for giving generously of their time to support our pupils.

Monday 4 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Mrs Morrison	
Health & Food Technology (Nat 5)	
Mrs Montgomery	Mrs Montgomery
Health & Food Technology (Higher)	Health & Food Technology (Higher)
D. Benzie	D. Benzie
Mathematics (Advanced Higher)	Mathematics (Advanced Higher)
M. Walker	M. Walker
Mathematics (Higher)	Mathematics (Higher)
G. Wilson	G. Wilson
Mathematics (National 5)	Mathematics (National 5)
E. Moran	E. Moran
Mathematics (National 5)	Mathematics (National 5)

Tuesday 5 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Mrs Montgomery	Mrs Montgomery
Care (Higher)	Care (Higher)
Mrs Gibson	
Chemistry (Nat 5)	
Miss Clark	
PE Studies (Higher)	
Mr Jagger	Mr Jagger
Graphic Communication (Nat 5)	Graphic Communication (Higher)

Wednesday 6 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Mr Jagger	Mr Jagger
Graphic Communication (Higher)	Graphic Communication (Higher)
Miss Birrell	Miss Birrell
Geography (Higher)	Geography (Higher)

Thursday 7 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Miss Maley	Miss Maley
Computing Science (Nat 5)	Computing Science (Nat 5)
Mrs Smith	Mrs Smith
Computing Science (Nat 5)	Computing Science (Nat 5)
Miss Birrell	Miss Birrell
Geography (Nat 5)	Geography (Nat 5)

Monday 11 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Miss Fyfe	Miss Fyfe
Human Biology (Higher)	Human Biology (Higher)
Miss Leishman	Miss Leishman
Biology (Nat 5)	Biology (Nat 5)
Mr Gould	Miss Dowd
Computing Science (Higher)	Business Management (Higher)

Tuesday 12 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Mrs Gibson	Miss Dowd
Chemistry (Higher)	Business Management (Higher)
Mrs Montgomery	Mrs Montgomery
Care (Higher)	Care (Higher)
Mr Scholes	Mr Scholes
RMPS (Nat 5)	RMPS (Higher)
Miss Farquhar	Miss Farquhar
German (Nat 5)	German (Higher)
Mr Marshallsay	Mr Marshallsay
Physics (Higher)	Physics (Higher)

Wednesday 13 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
D. Benzie	D. Benzie
Mathematics (Higher)	Mathematics (Higher)
M. Walker	M. Walker
Mathematics (Higher)	Mathematics (Higher)
M. Parsons	M. Parsons
Mathematics (National 5)	Mathematics (National 5)
E. Moran	E. Moran
Mathematics (National 5)	Lifeskills Mathematics (National 5)

Thursday 14 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Mrs Moore	Mrs Moore
Modern Studies (Higher)	Modern Studies (Higher)
Mr Scholes	Mr Scholes
RMPS (Nat 5)	RMPS (Higher)
Miss Farquhar	Miss Farquhar
German (Nat 5)	German (Higher)
	Miss Dowd
	Business Management (Nat 5)
Miss Anderson	Miss Anderson
English (Miss Andersons Higher class)	English (Higher - Close Reading)
Mr Scholes	Mr Scholes
RMPS (Nat 5)	RMPS (Higher)
Miss Farquhar	Miss Farquhar
German (Nat 5)	German (Higher)
Mr Marshallsay	Mr Marshallsay
Physics (Nat 5)	Physics (Nat 5)

Friday 15 th April	
10.00 till 12.00	12.30 till 2.30
Mrs Moore	
Modern Studies (Nat 5)	

Easter Supported Study

Orbit Program

For the past 5 weeks four of our senior pupils have been taking part in the Orbit teenage business incubator program. The program is a social enterprise which aims to build entrepreneurial and employability skills within 16-18 year olds. Participants set up a small business and mentors guide them through everything relating to starting a business.

The pupils are now halfway through the 10-week 'incubator' and have set up their own business, developed pitches and started to take in paying customers. At the end of the programme the participants get to keep the profit from their business as well as gain confidence as well as valuable real-world skills.

The programme is supported by Sir Tom Hunter and the Hunter Foundation and recently two of our participants got the opportunity to pitch their business plans to Sir Tom himself along with Ewan Hunter from the Hunter Foundation.

Hearing Sir Tom speak at the programme was truly inspirational. He spoke of the future of Scottish Business, the skills shortage we face and value of programmes such as Orbit. "You, and those like you, are the future of this country - you should proud of what you have achieved."



Dillon Connery and Rebecca Kennedy (both S5) have set up a social media marketing business aimed at helping small and medium sized businesses get involved online and grow a greater customer base.

Dillon said: "Orbit has provided me with the opportunity to enhance my skills both socially and in the world of business. I am lucky enough to have the chance to meet some of Scotland's leading businessmen and women, thus allowing me to learn from them and hopefully make myself better.

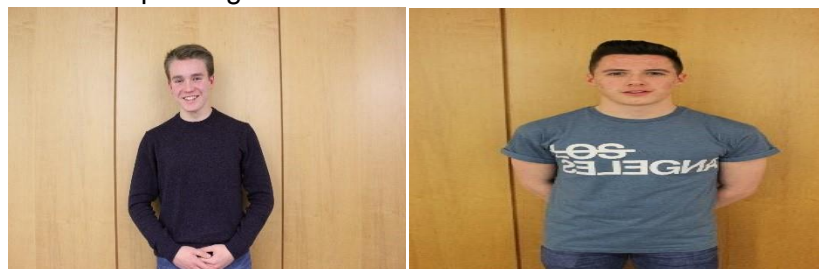
Ryan Kidd from S6 has set up a youth fitness and nutrition training programme. He hopes to introduce the program within all the 11 Renfrewshire Secondary Schools and help promote fitness as a "lifestyle". Ryan remarked

Ross Lochhead (S5) has also set up a social media marketing business (within a different geographical area) and along with Ryan was one of only three participants who won the honour of pitching to Sir Tom Hunter.



We are all immensely proud of the initiative and commitment that our young people have shown throughout the programme and thank Kieran Aitken (the programme founder) for helping our young people develop into fine young men and women.

As Ryan Kidd so succinctly put it – "It's Inspirational!" Kieran hopes to run the program earlier into the next academic year and we already have pupils looking to sign up, with our current participants acting as both mentors and examples of what can be achieved.



Duke of Edinburgh

The S3 Bronze DofE group enjoyed a 7 mile walk on Gleniffer Braes. Weather was fantastic. We have also been learning skills in navigation & first aid.



Cross Country Championship



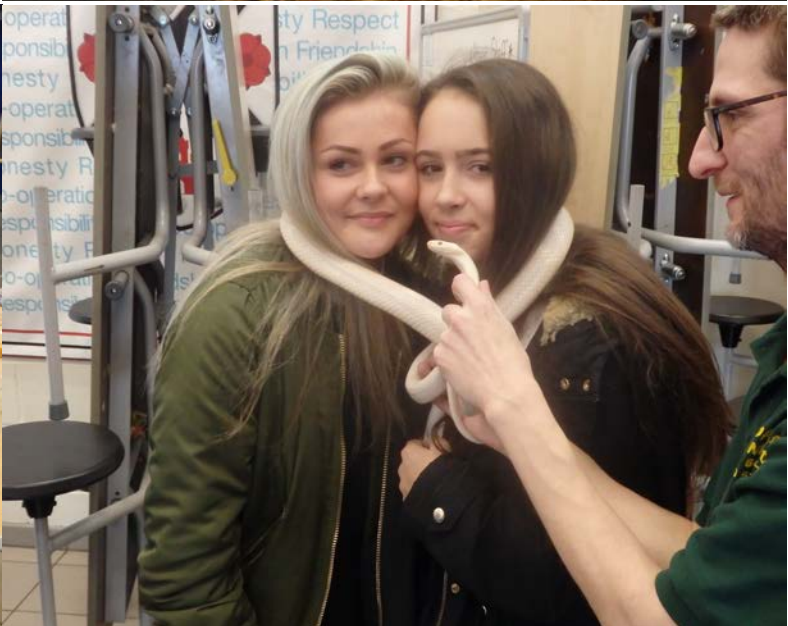
Fairtrade 5-a-sides



Easter Service



S3 'LOST' Event



Planning For Choices & Changes



S1/S2 Drama Workshop



Forensics Week



Staff V Pupils Charity Football



Easter Egg Hunt



GHS Create Fashion Show



S4 & S5 Certificate of Merit



S6 Certificate of Merit



Certificate of Merit



House Group Coat of Arms



Sports Roundup

Netball

This term Gleniffer hosted a friendly Netball tournament at the start of March for various teams in the Local Authority. We had two teams playing against teams from Gryffe, Castlehead and St Andrews. The girls really enjoyed the tournament and won some of their games.

The S4 Open team have also played in a friendly tournament at Gryffe High school this month against local teams again. Our girls worked hard, and held their own, even though they had team members missing and were playing against girls in 5th and 6th year.

The S2 team are looking forward to participating in a friendly tournament coming up at the end of March at Johnston High School. Even though the tournaments are run for fun and to get the local teams more match experience, our S2 team are very competitive and aim to win all their matches.

Finally, the Senior team did well to get into the Silver Section of the Scottish Cup Competition and had the opportunity to travel to Aberdeen to play against a Shetland team in the Quarter Finals. Even though the girls played extremely well and got stronger as the match went on, unfortunately the Shetland team were much bigger and more experienced and sadly our girls were knocked out.

U13s Football

The U13s owe a huge debt of thanks to Arnold Clark, who very generously provided and sponsored new strips to proudly wear. The squad can be seen resplendent in the picture below.

The U13s continue to be the team to watch for excitement and goals. The past few months have been dominated by a late-season run to the last 16 of the Scottish Plate. First up was the visit of Stonelaw, who were dispatched thanks to a dominant performance of attacking brio. Graeme McDonald's predatory instincts helped him plunder four goals, with top-scorer Ethan Furze notching another hat-trick to keep him just ahead of his striking partner in the marksmen charts. A cool finish from the penalty spot from impressive debutant Mirin Easdon, and a looping shot from distance from captain Max Brown completed the scoring and allowed Gleniffer to progress as 9-2 victors.

Welcoming Oban for the next round was the prize; arguably the game of the season, with thrills and entertainment (for the neutral) and stress and tension (for the coaches!) as Gleniffer emerged triumphant 8-7 in a pendulous battle. Trailing at half-time - in spite of a double from Max Brown - the introduction of Arron Lyall catalysed an upturn in attacking fortunes, as he grabbed a quick-fire brace, whilst setting up Ethan Furze and Lewis Hannigan for further strikes. Exciting progress in one cup was coupled with an exit from another: a 4-3 defeat at St. Ninian's in the Summer Cup. Such an exit made all the more unpalatable by the highly contentious nature of the debatably offside winner. Nevertheless, this should not be allowed to detract from the quality of the performance in more than matching notoriously tough opponents, and the presence of a strong contender for goal of the season: a Robbie Edgar wonder strike.

With the league campaign reaching its close, the last-16 Scottish Plate trip to Perth High focusses minds and quickens pulses in anticipation...



Senior Basketball

The team played the Paisley Grammar and Johnstone High in December. The boys played well in their first ever competitive games.

Johnstone 22: Gleniffer 11
Grammar 27: Gleniffer 9

The team was very strong defensively stopping the Grammar from reaching 30 points (Grammar scored 35 against Johnstone).

We replayed the Grammar in February with a final score of
Grammar 31: Gleniffer 12.

We however had our first win over Castlehead.

Gleniffer 12: Castlehead 9.

Again the boys were outstanding defensively. We are sad to say goodbye to our longest standing member Ryan Manson (S6) but are looking forward to more games next session.



U15s Football

St Mirren Cup Quarter Final

Gleniffer 0-3 Clydeview

An injury hit Gleniffer squad competed well but ultimately lost out to the better team on the day.

League Result

Gleniffer 9-4 Woodfarm.

Gleniffer dominated a game in which both teams attacked from the off. Imposing performances from Matthew McArthur, Tomas Brindley, Harry Carlin and Lewis Logan ensured Gleniffer had complete control. Blair Finnie's persistence finally paid off after he managed to successfully find the net on two occasions, ending a tough spell in front of goal.

Congratulations should also go to Matthew McArthur, Tomas Brindley and Jack Donohoe who will represent the Paisley & District select in the final of the regional association tournament.

U16s Football

The U16's team are still searching for that elusive win this season, and not for the lack of skill or effort. Luck has not been on their side in the past few matches. Racing into a 2-0 lead in November and looking in control, a goal just before half time and a controversial equaliser in the 5th minute of injury time saw yet another frustrating draw snatched from the jaws of victory. Fortunes also turned on the 'assist' of a referee against St Andrew's when 1-0 and in control with an injury hit Gleniffer, a clearance struck the referee and ran favourably for St Andrew's to equalise. From there on in, heads went down and St Andrew's went on to win comfortably. The following game against St Benedict's at home also saw a frustrating 2-2 draw however with both sides having chances this was a fair result. Despite a recent defeat to Johnstone having finished the game with 9 men due to injury, the team still remain positive and in good spirits. Hopefully this season's 'Holy Grail' of 3 points will be claimed before the season's end.

Senior Football

Wednesday 17 February

2-0 win against Woodfarm High School in the first round of the St Mirren Cup

Thursday 25 February

3-1 win in the league against Castlehead High School

Tuesday 1 March

2-1 league defeat to Gryffe High School

Tuesday 8 March

4-0 win against Eastwood High School in the quarter finals of the St Mirren Cup

Thursday 17 March

5-3 win in the league against Castlehead High School

Wednesday 23 March

7-1 win in the league against Renfrew High School

Hockey Club

The senior and junior hockey teams, who are kindly sponsored by Bardem, find themselves in second place going into the final tournament of the Renfrewshire league. The children have competed since August and are very keen to take top spot. Once the league is out of the way, the players will be preparing for the Renfrewshire cup and the Gateway to the games competition.

The teams train and compete on a Wednesday after school and the club are always looking for new players. Please encourage your son/daughter to come along and give Hockey a go.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsor Bardem who have kindly provided new playing kit.



Parents Contacting The School

Something We Need to Know? Keeping us informed is easy:

Phone: 01505813116

Email: enquiries@glenifferhigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk Letter:

Amochrie Road, Paisley, PA2 0AG

Inform us about:

Absences;

Reasons for absences;

Appointments;

Issues which may be affecting your child; Achievements and successes of your child;

Holidays;

Family events.

If you have a particular concern, or something you would like to discuss with us in relation to your child, please contact your child's Pastoral Support teacher in the first instance:

Brodie House: Mrs Foley

Glen House: Mrs Denny

Moredun House : Miss Cameron

Thornly House: Mrs Harris

Phone: 01505813116 Email: enquiries@glenifferhigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk

Letter: Amochrie Road, Paisley, PA2 0AG.

The Pastoral Support staff have a teaching commitment and are therefore not always available when you call. However, our office staff will take a message and pass it on allowing Pastoral staff to get back to you.