

# INSIDE GHS



**In this issue:**

*Three exceptional staff retire!*



*“Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened!” Dr Seuss*

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# A Final Goodbye...



Dear parent / carer,

Welcome to our fourth and final newsletter of session 2016 - 2017 which for me will be my last before I officially leave my post as Head Teacher on 10 August.

This 'summer special' edition is full of our achievements and activities since the start of the final term in April. It highlights the work and relationships that exist within our school and the collective desire we have to be the best in all that we do and all that we strive to do.

The last 3 months has been a time of SQA exams, pupil enrichments activities, primary transitions, school trips and CarniMalawi as well as finishing off another very successful school year and for me, my teaching career. Having started way back in 1977 in Possilpark Secondary School in Glasgow, I have seen many changes during my 40 years in education. However, my time in Gleniffer High School, since it opened its doors in 1988, has been filled with many wonderful experiences working with so many talented and committed pupils, dedicated staff and supportive parents.

It has been an absolute privilege to have served as Head Teacher of our school and I wish the entire community nothing but continued success under the leadership of your new Head Teacher Miss Lisa Chalmers.

Gleniffer High School has been in my life for 29 years, it has got under my skin and into my soul. It has been like a second home to me and when the summer holidays come to an end and everyone is heading back for the new session in early August, I will move onto a new chapter in my life but will do so with a heavy heart.

**There is no place like Gleniffer High School.**

David Nicholls  
Head Teacher



**IF YOU BELIEVE,  
YOU CAN ACHIEVE**



# Celebrating Achievement!

## Well Done Miss Cameron!

Gleniffer's very own Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care, Miss Cameron, made the headlines recently as she smashed the course record for the Glen Lyon Ultra Marathon by 14 minutes. Miss Cameron was 1<sup>st</sup> female and completed the 31.5 mile course in a fantastic 4 hours 49 minutes and 50 seconds.

Miss Cameron is very modest about her hobby, and even though the pupils see her running the local area, they are unaware of the competitive level Miss Cameron competes at.

Mr Nicholls and the whole school community are very proud of what Miss Cameron has achieved. A great ambassador for the schools motto *"Believe and you will achieve"*.

**You will Survive and Achieve if you Believe**

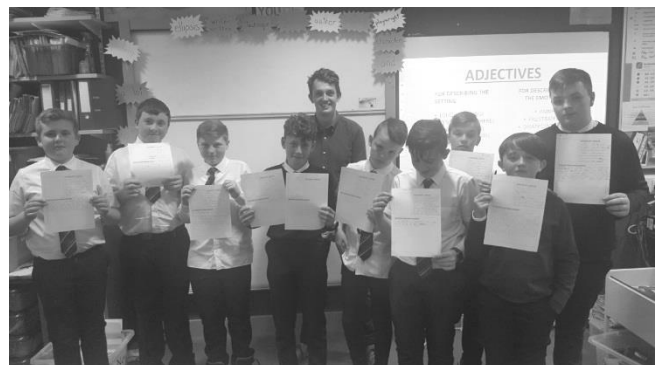


Scottish author Theresa Breslin is the writer of many popular books, including 'Divided City', which is set in Glasgow and deals with themes of sectarianism and racism. Theresa gave an interesting talk to S1s about her books. As part of the talk she asked pupils for help in choosing future book covers and also explained how research for her books is carried out.

## Author Visits

In May we were lucky to have two authors visiting Gleniffer High School.

Later in May author Matt Oldfield visited Gleniffer High from London, to carry out writing workshops with S1 and S2 English pupils, based on a football theme. Matt writes biographies of footballers aimed at Junior school level. The workshops were fun and entertaining and included a quiz about football. Pupils were enthusiastic about writing their own piece of work and they produced excellent results. Matt's books have proved very popular and are now in demand in the school library.



Mrs McMunn and Miss Feggans are very pleased to report back after a successful session for the S1 – S3 pupils in the school. The highlights of the session for the year groups were the Certificate of Merit ceremonies, Carnival Malawi and the French exchange trip.

*"The highlight of the session for me is always the Certificate of merit ceremonies, it is really a proud moment seeing all the pupils being awarded for the attainment and achievements in both the school and local community! Well done everyone who won an award"*  
Miss Feggans



*" Like Miss Feggans, the highlight of the session for me is always the Certificate of Merit ceremonies. Another highlight for me was the P7 induction days. It was just wonderful seeing all the pupils fully engaged in the life of the school on their two day visit. The S3 pupils did a fantastic job of mentoring the P7 pupils, all contributing to a very successful induction. Well done everyone!*

*I was sorry to miss CarniMalawi on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> June. However I was involved in supporting the pupils on the French Exchange, which you can read about further in the newsletter."*



This year was GHS's 26th annual junior Certificate of Merit award ceremony for pupils in first, second and third year. At the event, awards were presented for attainment, effort, service to the school, extra-curricular activities and Gold Award winning achievements. With musical performances between year group presentations, the event went without a hitch giving parents and family members a real sense of pride as their son or daughter stepped up to receive their awards.

*Mr Nicholls commented: "Tonight has been a celebration of everything that is good about Gleniffer High School from outstanding academic achievement through to the many examples of talent and good citizenship. This year's junior school has been ably supported by the Depute Heads Evelyn Feggans and Helen McMunn. They, alongside our very committed staff, have worked hard to ensure that the pupils in their care have every opportunity to succeed in school and beyond. The evening was also a very emotional one for me as this was my final Certificate of Merit ceremony as I edge ever closer to my final days in the school. This has been a truly inspiring evening and is one of the many treasured memories that I will take with me as I leave the school."*

# Head Teachers



*Mrs Prentice can you please tell us about your highlights for session please?*

Firstly I was so proud of Jessica Fraser who went to Moscow with the Junior Conservatoire group and actually played in the Bolshoi Theatre. Very jealous of you Jessica!

I loved teaching my 4D1 history class, who were a pleasure to teach. We has some great laughs and I am really looking to seeing all your results.

It was also great to see a bigger uptake in the number of S4 pupils attending and enjoying the Christmas Dance. You were all beautifully dressed.

I was so proud at the Certificate of Merit ceremonies when all the S4 stood up and gave Mr Nicholls a standing ovation at the end.

Finally, well done to everyone to who contributed to the Foodbank appeal. I was so impressed with everyone's generosity.



With the SQA examinations now no more than a distant memory our fifth year have now happily returned to make a start on their new courses at the beginning of June dressed to impress in their new blue ties. After a lot of last minute changes of options and courses the queue outside Mrs Sangster's door is finally beginning to diminish and we are now settling back down to some real teaching and learning. There will now only be further renegotiation of some courses in August and only of those pupils whose choices are affected by their examination results. This will allow us to launch straight into work as soon as the new term begins.

There have been a number of pupils showing genuine interest in nominating themselves for the coveted positions of Head Boy, Head Girl and their Deputes. Interviews for these positions and House Captains will take place very early in the new session, so watch this space!!

Pupils in the new S6 can also nominate themselves to take up a Prefect position for the beginning of the new term. I am delighted that so many of our pupils have already expressed an interest in doing this and are keen to give something back to their school.

Look for further information on the results of the nominations in the next newsletter.

Mrs Harris organised yet another very successful training day for the new S6 pupils which took place on Wednesday 21st June. The purpose of the training day was to inform and encourage pupils to get involved in a whole range of citizenship activities which form part of the very successful Student Volunteer Programme here at Gleniffer. This induction morning has allowed pupils to find out more about some of the opportunities available to them e.g. paired reading, peer support in any subject, primary visits, nursing homes, eco-volunteering, Clippens, community involvement etc. It is more important than ever in this difficult economic climate that our students have some additional experience to offer employers or university and college applications than exam results alone and the Student Volunteer Programme is the perfect vehicle for this and is great fun at the same time.

After all that, it's nearly time to head off for a well deserved rest for pupils as well as our hard working staff. See you in August!



The Leavers' Dance was the highlight of the year and was a tremendous success, thanks to the meticulous organisation and attention to detail by our Head Girl, Georgia Porter. Even after this great night some of our S6 were still not finished with Gleniffer as they turned up bright eyed and bushy tailed for School Show rehearsals the next day. Our wonderful production of 'The Sound of Music' was full of energy and nostalgia especially for those of us over 40. It was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all parents, pupils and staff. It is with mixed feelings I say goodbye to the class of 2017 as they have been truly special and I have formed some really good working relationships and friendships with all of them. Good Luck to all of you, I hope you all have very happy, prosperous and fulfilling lives ahead.

# Health

Healthy  
Living

# Week



The Health and Wellbeing Collegiate Group organised a jam packed Health Week for the S1-3 pupils. Throughout the week, pupils in all year groups had the opportunity to participate in and enjoy organised events like:

- The smoothie bike to raise money for a Mental Health charity
- The Junk Food Road Show
- A visit and workshop from Judo Commonwealth Games medallist Louise Renwick, organised by our Hearty Lives Group
- Yoga for our S3 girls
- Inflatable assault course fun, again organised by our Hearty Lives Group
- The Body Works workshop led by Glasgow Science Centre
- Makeup lesson tutorial for S3 girls
- S1, S2 and S3 Mini Olympics



The Mini Olympics event was a great success and pupils from S1-3 enjoy participating in this annual tournament. Well done to Thornly house who won the S1 tournament, Brodie House who won the S2 tournament for the second year running and also won the S3 tournament.



# French Exchange Trip



A group of 25 pupils and 3 teachers have just returned from our first ever French Exchange visit. The group flew from Edinburgh airport to Lyon in the South-East of France. From there we travelled by coach to our partner town and school in Amplepuis. We were given a fantastic reception by the pupils in our partner school and Gleniffer High School pupils were able to meet up with their exchange partners face to face for the first time. We stayed in the beautiful Centre Jean Recorbet situated beside a lake and there were many activities for us to do in these beautiful surroundings.

During the week we visited Lyon and its beautiful basilica with wonderful views over the city and we did a guided tour of the old part of the city. With our French partners we did the activity "Accrobranche" (Go Ape) and this was a great team building experience. When the pupils had recovered, they had a game of pétanque (French boules) with their partners. We strolled around a lovely French market buying some souvenirs for friends and family. In Amplepuis we did a guided tour of the museum – Musée Thimonnier – where the sewing machine was invented and we discovered that the material gingham (Vichy in French) was designed in Amplepuis and that Brigitte Bardot's wedding dress was made there. The textile industry was very big in the surrounding area with Lyon being famous for silk making. This was a nice link for us with Paisley and its' thread and textile heritage and of course the world famous Paisley pattern.

I think that the experiences will never be forgotten by our pupils, in particular the two days that the pupils spent with the French partners and their families. The French families had gone to a tremendous amount of trouble to allow our pupils to experience the French way of life at its' very best. Pupils recounted tales of eating snails, swimming in the natural pool beside the lake, going to a big nature park, and going horse – riding, to name only a few. The evening when our pupils returned to the accommodation, after having spent the day with the families, we could hardly hear ourselves think, such was the noise from all the stories.

There are so many memories that we will cherish, small things, such as our pupils patiently listening to instructions from their partners in order to play a board game, the impromptu game of "Elephant" with a group of French and Scottish pupils, French pupils explaining the school lunch menu to our pupils on the day they had lessons with their French partner. Such was the enthusiasm for this visit that the local newspaper reported on it and we were asked to speak on the local radio station.

Credit must be given to Emma Caldwell for her presentation in French on the radio. The radio reporters were also pleased to hear from another of our pupils Erwan Mathieu-Sol Boulanger, who is a fluent French speaker. One of the most satisfying aspects of the trip was the comments made by parents and staff from the school in France regarding our Gleniffer High school pupils. The pupils were congratulated on their good manners, respect and willingness to try to speak French.

They were a credit to the school and to their families and really typified the Gleniffer High School values.



Monday 26<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017



GHS is famous for putting on a fantastic school show, and this year will be like no other! Director Miss MacDonald is always thinking of new creative ways to enhance the performance, and this year we have younger pupils cast from our feeder primaries starring as the Vonn Trapp children. We also have a record number of staff participating in the show. It is going to be a show to remember!

Georgia Porter our head Girl from this year, has been in every show since she came to Gleniffer in S1. Lets hear what she thinks about this years show:

“School show this year has been a blast so far! Rehearsals are going really well and it's shaping up to be a great show. This year our show is the Sound of Music and we have some extra members from our feeder primary schools joining our cast playing the Von Trapp children. Having them there has been brilliant, they are so enthusiastic and excited and it's infectious. Tickets are on sale now! It'll be a great show, don't miss it!”



Georgia Porter & Fraser Scott pictured right in the schools production of Grease last year.

Dance Club



This year's GHS dance show was a massive success. Every pupil of Gleniffer High performed to their best standard and completely impressed our audience. The dance club is such a good way to help confidence, meet new people and have loads of fun! The dance club will warmly welcome all new members, so feel free to come along! The dance club is one of the best clubs in the school and is good fun for every year.

Beth Hannay.



# House Charity Week

House charity week took place on 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, with various activities taking place raising money for local charities. Pictured is Esther Crockett delivering toys and games, which Brodie house bought with the money that they raised to Ward 15 at the RAH. Well Done Brodie House!

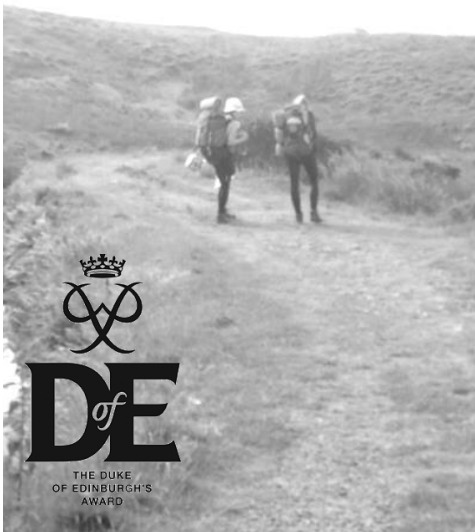


# Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh pupils completed their final expedition of the session on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

The girls involved in the DofE this year are Morgan Jackson, Rachael Simpson, Anna Rudaka, Jenna Girvan, Laine Alemu, Lauren Elliott, Holly Fyvie, Abbie Herd, Nicola Stewart, Beth Scott, Rachel Shaw, Amy Gardner, Kara English, Kirsty Gillies, Rebecca Stevenson, Katie Maltby, Alice Carslaw, Olivia Nicholls, Katie McGhee and Libby Sutherland.

By completing their final expedition, the girls have earned a Bronze DofE award. Well done girls!



# ACTIVITIES

## Activities Day



Blackpool was the most popular trip this year, with many pupils (and staff!) signing up. It was a great day with the sun shining and no queues for the rides. Well done to Miss Gillespie for organising another successful trip!

Airspace was another extremely popular activity with pupils. This was the first year of this activity and we're sure it won't be the last! The pupils thoroughly enjoyed showing off their gymnastic skills at the trampoline park.

### Castle Semple



Pupils enjoyed taking part in a range of outdoor activities at Castle Semple, including kayaking and bike riding.

This year, Activities Day ran on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May and was well attended by pupils in S1-S3. There were many exciting activities on offer, such as Blackpool, Air Space, Castle Semple, Go Karting, Paintballing, Horse Riding, Cinema Trip, etc. As well as these trips, activities such as Cake Baking, Film Day, Multi Sports and others were available to pupils at the school. A great day enjoyed by both pupils and staff and a good chance to relax before timetable change!

### Cake Baking

Mary Berry has some serious competition!





*As we say farewell to Mr Nicholls, we quizzed him on his experience in school*

**When did you start working as Headteacher in Gleniffer?**

August 2004 after having been a Depute Head Teacher, Assistant Head Teacher and Principal Teacher of Physical Education in Gleniffer High School

**What was your vision for the school and how has this changed over the years?**

Initially to continue with the good work of previous Head Teacher Roddy Gardner but to then gradually put my mark on the school. This happened sooner than I thought as the first two years in post were dominated with the new building programme and eventual move to our new school. However, it was always my plan to have a clear vision that covered the key aspect of life in a secondary school such as providing support and care for the welfare of our young people, ensuring that we delivered the highest quality of teaching, raising and maintaining high levels of attainment, providing opportunities for achievement in and out of the class, supporting pupil learning, working in partnership with parents and having a community with a set of agreed core values that work in school and in later life.

**Do you feel that you've achieved what you wanted to as Headteacher?**

I believe I have. Over the last three years the school has shown year on year improvements in national examination results. We are only one of 3 secondary schools that hold the UK Standard Customer Service Excellence award. We have a wide and varied extra curricular programme and we now have 3 sustainable links with schools in Germany, France and Malawi. I have also been in the fortunate position to lead the school through an Education Scotland Inspection resulting in a very strong report which highlighted all of our work across the school.

**What have been your proudest moments in the role?**

Apart from the pride of being the Head Teacher every day, the opening of the new school in 2006, our Education Scotland Inspection report in 2011 and accompanying a group of 30 young people to our link school Dzenza Primary School in Malawi in 2016

**What inspires you as a Headteacher?**

The energy from our young people, the commitment of staff and the excellent working relationships the school enjoys with the parent body and in particular the Parent Council and PTA

**How do you feel about retiring and what will you miss the most?**

My head knows this is the right decision but my heart is heavy because I have been here for so long and watched the school achieve so much over 29 years.

**What is the first thing you will do when you retire?**

Have a full summer holiday as in the past I have gone away for 3 weeks then come into school every day thereafter to plan and prepare for the session ahead. Thereafter, I plan to enjoy some time for myself before perhaps looking for some part time work that does not have the pressure and breakneck speed of a secondary Head Teacher.

# Farewell



Mr Nicholls and Chloe McNicholl, winners of the Ready Steady Cook competition 2017.



"TELL ME AND I FORGET,  
TEACH ME AND I MAY REMEMBER,  
INVOLVE ME AND I LEARN."

~ BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



The best thing about  
*Memories*  
...is making them



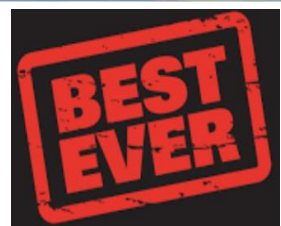
Delivering his final speech at the Leavers Dance.



# Mr Nicholls



Mr Nicholls oversaw the building of the new Gleniffer High School.



**IF YOU BELIEVE,  
YOU CAN ACHIEVE**



A very proud Mr Nicholls with his under 18 football team, holding the winning St Mirren Cup.



Mr Nicholls on his first German Exchange visit last year. Mr Nicholls, Mrs Quinn and Mrs McNicol accompanied a group of 26 pupils to Fürth, where they were welcomed by the town's mayor.



Mr Nicholls has always been the driving force behind the school's Malawi initiative since 2007, and travelled there in June 2016 to witness first hand the work in which the school had contributed to over the past ten years.





# SG Leavers'



# Dance 2017



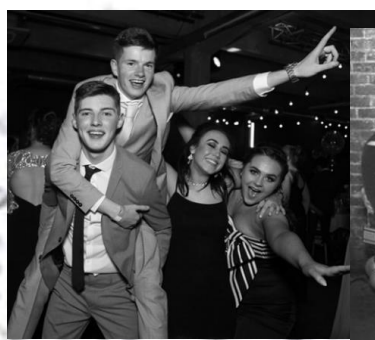
The task of organising the leavers dance is given to the Head Girl each year and so this year it was my turn! It was down to me to decide on everything: choice of venue, meals, invites, decorations etc. However, I had a great team of badgeholders who supported me when I needed it - including our honorary 7th badgeholder Mr Gorman! They did a great job of keeping me calm, reassuring me the decisions I was making were the right ones (despite the reactions of our year group) and it all paid off in the end! We had a great night and I can't thank everyone enough for all of their congratulations to me on the night - I'm just glad everyone loved it!

Georgia Porter, head girl.

It's pretty hard to try and narrow down your time at Gleniffer in a few words just simply because there are endless things for me to be happy and thankful for. There are teachers in Gleniffer that I now consider friends. I wish I could go back and do it all again. There would be simply nothing I would change about Gleniffer!

The badgeholders done an amazing job at prom and also through the year with organising events for the school and making our sixth year even better!

Chloe McNicholl, school leadership group.



# Employability Update



## S4 Employability Fortnight (Enrichment)

Between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of May, S4 pupils not sitting formal National 5 exams had the opportunity to take part in enrichment activities organised by Renfrewshire council including taster sessions in Mechanics, Computer Games design, Hair & Beauty and Construction at West College Scotland as well as an employability course at St. Mirren Football club.

In addition to this, pupils also participated in our own in-house Employability Fortnight.

Week 1: Pupils set up professional email accounts, attended a skills in music and media workshop from the SAE Institute, took part in team building exercises and a 'treasure hunt' around paisley, had presentations from Skills Development Scotland and STEM workshops from the Royal Army Outreach team.

We were delighted to be joined by pupils from Park Mains High School for a presentation from PC Audrey Paul on careers in Police Scotland during the week.

Week 2 was a packed program of activities mainly focused on preparing CVs, applications and interview skills.

During the week we also had a number of guest presenters coming into the school delivering talks on Social Media in the Workplace, the RAF, Languages in the workplace and apprenticeships in cyber security from ATOS

Mid week we had our careers speed dating event with fantastic representation from BA Maintenance, DYW West, Renfrewshire Leisure Scottish Bakers, SAE Institute, Engage Renfrewshire, Pulsant and Glasgow Caledonian University, followed by our very popular PC Building Workshop with Mr. Gould, Faculty head of Business & Computing and Gary Clark our IT Technician.

The culmination of the week was a series of Mock Interviews with local employers. Our pupils did themselves proud and some were even offered work experience on the day on the basis of their performance.



@EmployGleniffer

Employ Gleniffer

<http://employgleniffer.weebly.com>







# Recognising

# Achievements



## STEM Conference

A huge well done to Laura Gifford, Beth James, Eva Terris, Lauren Rooney, Aela Norris, Chiara Noble, Maryam Nagi, Kate Salisbury and Shannon Paul who took part in the SmartSTEMs@UWS 2017 Project Competition "Tip Top Town", where they were given the task of designing a new town for around 50000 people in central Scotland, with the remit of it being as self-sufficient and sustainable as possible.

The girls were delighted to win first prize in the secondary school category. The prize was an Arduino kit which will enable them to build 15 different electronic projects. They really enjoyed the day at UWS taking part in a number of "hands on" workshops and hearing from women scientists.

## Musical Achievements



Rachel McKay in S4 will leave us after the summer to begin her studies at The Dance school of Scotland. This is Scotland's top dance/musical theatre school to attend and we congratulate Rachel on gaining one of the few places available.

One of our S5 pupils, Jessica Fraser, has recently travelled to Russia with the Junior Conservatoire to perform at the world famous Bolshoi Theatre. Jessica, who plays clarsach and piano, had to seek special permission to sit some of her National 5 exams abroad as they clashed with her performance at the theatre.

## Mission Discovery



Daniel MacKinnon, S4, was a member of the winning team at Mission Discovery whose science experiment will be launched into outer space and carried out by astronauts on the International Space Station. The winning team's successful experiment – hailed as the first of its kind - will test if aloe vera can slow down or prevent the spread of candida fungus on the skin of astronauts in space.



## Gleniffer High School Award

The Gleniffer High School Award is a new award for session 2016-17, introduced by Mr Nicholls. This award is to be presented to a pupil who has overcome challenges in order to succeed. The award this year was presented to S6 pupil Ross Bell, who staff and pupils alike thoroughly agree is a worthy winner. Well done Ross!



# Sport in the Spotlight

For further updates check out our blog:  
[glenifferpe.wordpress.com](http://glenifferpe.wordpress.com)

## Under 18's Football



On the evening of Tuesday 9 May the senior boys took on St Ninian's High School in the final of the St Mirren Cup at the University of the West of Scotland's Thornly Park Campus in the showcase final match of the season. Having lost out to St Ninian's last season in the same competition final, the boys took to the field determined to beat the team that has denied them silverware in the past. Playing in very warm conditions on a firm pitch, the boys got off to the dream start scoring after 10 minutes through the deadly finishing of St Mirren bound Cameron Breadner. However, as the game progressed St Ninian's HS dominated much of the play but couldn't find a way through our defence and the very safe hands of goalkeeper Conor Thomson.

Against the run of play the boys then doubled their lead after 60 minutes with a wonder strike from Nathan Walton Craig only to concede a goal 3 minutes later. With the score locked at 2-1 the minutes ticked by with the boys displaying some wonderful team spirit and defensive resilience to eventually hold on to the final whistle. Silverware at last!

What a performance and what a super group of boys. This match also marked Mrs Nicholls' very last game in charge of a school team and we cannot think of a better way for him to finish his coaching career with a win that meant so much to the boys and the school.

A night that will never be forgotten!

## Hearty Lives



Well done to the S3 hearty lives group, who organised an inflatable visit as part of mental health awareness week and the school's health week. The inflatable was very much enjoyed by all S2 and S3 pupils.



Pictured Left: Skye Green, Eilidh Cassidy, Pippa Lieberman, Melissa King, Sylvia Dunlop, Chloe Droy, Rachel Pollock, Ruth Crockett, Laine Alemu, Erin Deans and Beth Cassidy.



# Primary 7 Sports Day



What a wonderful day for our P7 Sports Day.

Pupils had an action-packed day participating in athletics, football skills, multi-sports and rugby. Thanks to our S3 helpers who worked hard and supported the pupils throughout the day. The PE staff were extremely impressed with the effort, behaviour and teamwork shown from all of the P7's, we even had the sunshine that had been ordered!

We look forward to welcoming you all back as our new S1 in August.



## Extra-Curricular

The PE department have a range of different extra-curricular activities on offer, such as; netball, gymnastics/parkour, basketball, hockey, badminton, fitness, dodgeball and dance. Our senior pupils have also kindly helped out and offered multisport, football, basketball, volleyball and dance/fitness. Participation in all activities has been fantastic this year!

If anyone has any sporting interests or requests please speak to your PE teacher.

# Farewell!

"We just love her, she is the nicest teacher ever!"

Hayley McArthur, S6.



Mrs O'Higgins always contributed to the life of the school with her fabulous art displays for Malawi Week and Christmas.

## Mrs O'Higgins

Mrs O'Higgins retires from the Art and Technical Faculty at the end of June after a very successful teaching career in Gleniffer High School. Mrs O'Higgins joined Gleniffer when we were in the old building in 1999, and has been a fantastic colleague to work alongside not only as a classroom teacher, but as Acting Principal Teacher of Art. She has supported so many pupils to reach their full potential in so many ways, always making sure that their health and well-being were her top priority. Her humour and wit will be missed by staff and pupils alike – as will her immaculate attention to detail! (Who will keep us all right?)

Mrs O'Higgins has now embarked upon a new profession of bespoke one of hat couture – so watch this space for news of the next top designer! After all – everyone needs a hat to get ahead!

We wish her all the health and happiness for the future, because we are genuinely going to miss having her here every day. Mrs O'Higgins is a true teacher in every respect, her dedication to the pupils, the profession and Gleniffer High School really will be sorely missed! Mrs McLafferty



Mrs O'Higgins is even known for her parts in the school show, can you spot her in this picture from last years production of Grease?



# Farewell!



## Mrs Carr

Both staff and pupils say a fond farewell to Janice Carr who leaves us this summer. Janice has had a long association with the school. She was a supportive parent when her two daughters, Natalie and Victoria, were pupils at Gleniffer. During this time Janice was running her own clothes shops in Paisley. The business acumen and experience that she brought with her has been invaluable to us all in Gleniffer but equally importantly she has injecting a sense of glamour and style into the daily life of our school. Her shoes are legendary even amongst pupils.

Janice joined the staff as a classroom assistant in 2002, starting with the English department; for whom she will always be, 'Our Janice'. She has worked with practically every department in the school- Maths, Art, Social Subjects, Modern Languages, Science, Pastoral and even Music and PE. No matter who she has worked with she has always been at the heart of school life.

The school has been hugely fortunate, as Janice has taken on responsibilities far beyond her official remit. Almost every pupil in the school will know Janice and will see her smiling face in the social area at intervals and lunchtimes. She has been a go-to person for help and advice (both educational and personal), which she dispenses with a calm and friendly manner.

She has also worked closely with pupils in class, especially in English, providing emotional support for those who need it most. Many pupils have Janice Carr to thank for completing important course tasks, which would otherwise have been beyond them without that one-to-one support.

In recent years, Janice has taken on the responsibility for organising much of the administration for the SQA prelims and final exams, working closely with Mrs Sangster. Janice has always been the first soothing face meeting nervous pupils signing in for their exams. Many a Principal Teacher has been grateful for her efficiency and calm exterior whilst working at 100mph to complete coursework folios.

Janice will be most missed by her colleagues who have relied on and taken advantage of her immense management and organisation skills on a daily basis- from Mr Nicholls requests for 'just the 150 photographs' to be put up in the social area to Ms McAnena's never ending pleas of "Just one more thing Janice...".

Although Janice has always been appreciated because she is the consummate professional the reason why Janice is so loved by everyone in the school (and loved is not an exaggeration) is because of her kind-hearted, caring and warm nature. We are not only losing a colleague; we are losing a very dear friend.

Those legendary, fabulous shoes are going to be very difficult to fill.

Written by Mrs McAnena, PT English.



# Notice Board

## HEAD TEACHER INFORMATION MEETINGS

If you would like to discuss the current issues in education, the vision the school has for your child and the aims for the second half of this session, then Mr Nicholls is 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 Mr Nicholls 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](mailto:glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

## GLENIFFER HIGH SCHOOL CARES

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

## SPONSORSHIP

This session the PTA has donated £2,000 to school funds and £500 to our special support fund for those most in need of help with uniform, PE kit and school trips. This money is, as always, greatly appreciated and is now proving essential if we are to continue developing our extra curricular programme, rewarding pupils for excellent behaviour, achievements, attainment and representing the school. In addition to this money, the PTA also donated £100 of gift vouchers to support the fund raising no uniform day on 20 December. A big thank you to them for this very kind gesture.

However, as we work our way through the session and we continue to support and reward our pupils, we are always on the look out for assistance with additional finance to help assist with the financing of the many extras that go on within our school community.

In addition to this request for assistance, we are also looking for sponsorship and or donations towards the third planned expedition to our link school Dzenza Primary in Malawi in June 2018.

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 2018 development fund then please do not hesitate to contact the Head Teacher on 01505 813116 or at [glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Any offer of help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much to everyone who supported our recent afternoon tea. The fantastic sum of £372.00 was raised and while this was less than last year, it is still a great sum to support the School. We have 6 ladies retiring from PTA this summer so are looking for new volunteers. If you can spare some time to help at PTA events, please get in touch with me via the School office. Thank you for all your support and donations this year and have a lovely summer. Regards, Beverly Barclay PTA

## UNIFORM

Our school has a very smart and practical uniform worn by all of our pupils. As we move around the school and conduct our uniform inspection visits to classes, I am pleased to inform you that the standard of dress remains excellent as a result of your support. Thank you for continuing to support the school in this important issue.

### Girls:

White shirt school tie  
Black zipper, cardigan, tank top or jersey (tops with school badges are preferable)  
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 preferable)  
Black trousers  
Black shoes  
Dark warm and waterproof jacket  
School Bag Large enough for folders and pencils, pens etc.

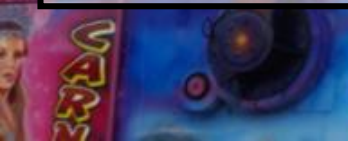


# CARNIVAL MALAWI



Miss Bowie, the new S6 and the Malawi Expedition Team organised Gleniffer's 4<sup>th</sup> Carnival to raise funds for our partner school, Dzenza Primary School in Malawi. £2100 was raised on the day, with tuck shop still to sell they are expecting to make £2400 in profit.

**Well done to everyone involved!**



£2400!





## Contact Us:

Tel: 01505 813 116

E: [glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

Post: Amochrie Road, Paisley, PA2 0AG

## Something We Need to Know?

*Please keep us informed about:*

- Absences,
- Reasons for absences
- Appointments
- Issues which may be affecting your child
- Achievements and successes of your child
- Holidays
- Family events

## Pastoral Support

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



GLENIFFER HIGH SCHOOL  
PARENT COUNCIL



@GlenifferHigh

@EmployGleniffer



**App:** Gleniffer-High-School

Find us on the App Store or  
Google Play Store



**Website:**

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

## SQA RESULTS

- You will receive your Scottish Qualifications Certificate (SQC) by first-class mail on TUESDAY 8th AUGUST.
- If you change your permanent home address, tell the school immediately. This will ensure that your SQC is delivered directly to your home, and avoids confusion or delays. If you are going on to university or college, SQA will send your results to the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) electronically.
- If you are returning for the new school session, SQA will send results information to the school so that there is plenty of time for teachers to renegotiate your timetables and give you career and course guidance.
- If your SQC does not arrive on Tuesday 8th August please contact the school immediately. The school will be able to confirm your results and liaise with SQA to find out what has happened to your certificate.

Why wait to receive your results?

You don't want to wait for your results envelope to drop through the letter box.

- If you sign up by 8th July, and then activate your account by 20th July, you can choose to have your results sent by e-mail or text on TUESDAY 8th AUGUST. Register and you will get your results no matter what. Even if you're away from home, you won't have to get someone else to open the results for you and you won't have to wait.
- Find out how to activate your account at [www.mysqa.info](http://www.mysqa.info) and enter your SQA candidate number.
- If you don't understand your certificate, or if you think something is missing or wrong, contact the school immediately and ask for help. If there is a problem, the school will contact SQA to sort it out.