

INSIDE GHS



Autumn Issue:

SQA Success!



Welcome to our Autumn newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to the first newsletter of session 2019-20. I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new S1 pupils and their families.

It's been a hectic start to the year and already courses and programmes are well underway. I have included the success story of our SQA attainment in the 2019 Diet in this newsletter. You can also find our Standards and Quality Report and School Improvement Plan on the school website www.glenifferhigh.Renfrewshire.sch.uk.

If you don't already, please follow us on Twitter @GlenifferHigh and the **Gleniffer High Parent Council Facebook page**.

In this edition you'll also get to meet our new badge holders and house captains for the session and hear about the work our new Student Council is taking forward.

I'm looking forward to an exciting session ahead and wish everyone a happy October break.

Lisa Chalmers

Head Teacher

Learning Today for a Better Tomorrow

Parent Council Update

Please follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with news from the school and the Parent Council.

Our meetings this year take place on Monday nights from 7.30pm-9pm in Gleniffer High School. As well as our matters of business we receive reports from the Badge Holders, staff (teaching and non-teaching and the Head Teacher). If you would like to attend to raise a particular matter please contact us via glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk.

Scheduled meetings for this session are:

Monday 28th October
Monday 25th November
Monday 13th January
Monday 17th February
Monday 16th March
Monday 27th April
Monday 8th June

PTA

Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome to another year of PTA fundraising. Our annual Christmas Fayre is having a bit of a shake up this session, running on **Thursday 28th November from 7.00pm-9.00pm**. There will be the usual refreshments on arrival, bake stalls, raffle, tombola and of course Santa. As well as stalls selling Christmas treats, gifts and decorations. This is a great opportunity to get the shopping started.

Tickets for the raffle will be on sale at all parents' events running up to Christmas and the big draw will take place during the Christmas Concert on Monday 16th December.

This year, we will again be offering refreshments at Parents Night. Please pop by and say hello and find out about what we are doing to support the school. All donations received go back into the school.

We hope you will continue to support our fundraising efforts for the school community

Kind Regards
Tricia Graham
PTA Chairperson

Thanks to the PTA and all parents/carers who have contributed to the fundraising.

I am delighted to say we have been able to create a Nurture Base to support young people in the school, this is proving to be a very popular addition.

Donations also supported the Certificate of Merit ceremonies and prizes as well as a lovely reception for S6 Leavers before they headed off to their dance.

Without the donations which come via PTA we would have difficulty celebrating the successes of pupils in academic and extra-curricular awards. We are very grateful for the contributions everyone makes to events.

L Chalmers

Family Learning

Gleniffer Family Learning Programme 2019-2020

At Gleniffer High school we believe it is important that we enjoy learning together and encourage each other to strive for our personal best. When we learn together as students, parents and teachers we gain a better understanding of each other, a sense of pride in our community and we can boost our own self-esteem. This year we have created several opportunities for us to learn together as a community. Below is a list of sessions throughout this year for you as parents to participate in.

If you are interested in attending any of these sessions please e-mail Mrs Futamata at glenifferhighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk and state your name, your child's full name, which session you wish to attend and a contact telephone number. Some of these workshops have a limited number of spaces, so please book early to avoid disappointment. You will receive a confirmation e-mail stating if you have been successful in obtaining a place on your chosen workshop. If any of these sessions are oversubscribed, a waiting list will be created, so if your plans change and need to cancel, please call the school on 0300 300 1313 to do so.

A brochure detailing all of the sessions will be e-mailed separately to parents shortly. Please ensure that you register your selection no later than **Thursday 31st of October at 9pm.**

Session Leader	Session Title	Dates and Times	Location	Suitable for
Ms MacLeod Family Learning Event	How to use Mindfulness for ourselves and for our Pupils/Children	Mon 21 st October 4-5pm	Staff Development Base	Partner Staff Teaching staff Parents
Mr Bleach/ Mr Mollins Family Learning Event	Heartstart Certificated	This is a 2-session twilight Mon 28 th October 4.30-6.30pm Mon 4 th November 4.30-6.30pm	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Partner Staff Teaching staff
Karen Derrington Family Learning Event	Level One- Makaton Certificated	Dates to be confirmed All sessions must be attended in order for certification	Staff room	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff CLUSTER INVITE Max Capacity 20

Anna Devitt Family Learning Event	Laughter Yoga Therapy	Thurs 12 th December 4-6.30pm	G032	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff
Douglas Johnston- External Family Learning Event	Safe Talk	Tue 21 st January 4-5.30pm	Staff room	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff Pupils must be aged 16+
Douglas Johnston Family Learning Event	Scottish Mental Health First Aid	Mon 27 th & Tue 28 th January 9.30-4pm Certificated	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff Max Capacity- 16 Pupils must be aged 16+
Douglas Johnston Family Learning Event	Safe Talk	Fri 7 th February (IN-SERVICE Day) 9am-12.30pm	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff CLUSTER INVITE Max Capacity 20 Pupils must be aged 16+
Douglas Johnston Family Learning Event	What's the Harm?	Fri 7 th February (IN-SERVICE Day) 1.30pm-3.30pm	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff CLUSTER INVITE Max Capacity 20 Pupils must be aged 16+
Douglas Johnston Family Learning Event	ASIST	Mon 17 th & Tue 18 th February 9am-4pm	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff Max Capacity- 16 Pupils must be aged 16+
Mr Bleach/ Mr Mollins Family Learning Event	Heartstart Certificated	Mon 2 nd March 6-8.00pm Mon 9 th March 6-8.00pm	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Partner Staff Teaching staff
Douglas Johnston Family Learning Event	Self-Harm	Tuesday 3 rd March 4-5.30pm	Staff Development Base	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff CLUSTER INVITE Max Capacity 20 Pupils must be aged 16+

Gillian Brand- External Family Learning Event	CEOP/Online Awareness/Internet Safety	Wed 4 th March 3.15-4.45pm	Staff room	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff
Gillian Brand- External Family Learning Event	CEOP/Online Awareness/Internet Safety	Thurs 19 th March 4-5.30pm	Staff room	Pupils/Parents/Staff Teaching staff
Helen Orr Family Learning Event	Introduction to Adult Seasons for Growth	Wed 22 nd & 29 th April 4-5.30pm	Staff Development Base	Parents
Helen Orr and Audrey McCann Family Learning Event	Introduction to British Sign Language	Thurs 14 th May Thursday 21 st May Thurs 28 th May Thurs 4 th June 4-5.30pm	Staff Development Base	Partners/Clerical/Teachi ng staff Max capacity 20

Careers Advisors

This term has been busy working alongside our Careers Advisors from SDS. Catriona Makeham (Brodie & Glen) and Nicola Keane (Moredun & Thornly) have been meeting pupils across the school offering support and advice on career planning. Catriona and Nicola are here to support young people in Gleniffer High School by providing information, advice and guidance.

They have visited all S1 & S2 PSE classes where there were active lessons on different career paths and career areas to explore.

There have been a lot of 1:1 interviews taking place across the Senior Phase of pupils already planning on their post school destination plans.

This term there is a new twitter page. Please follow us GlenifferCareers Advisors @GlenifferCaree1 for up to date career planning, UCAS Applications, employment and training opportunities and much, much more.

If you would like a careers appointment please speak to pastoral or drop by the careers office in the upper library.



Developing the Young Workforce



Greenpower Challenge



As part of the Greenpower Trust Challenge, three of our Senior Phase pupils (two S4 and one S5) have been developing their skills and enhance their future career prospects at West College Scotland. Along with pupils from other schools from across Renfrewshire, they have been taking the first steps towards designing and building their Formula 24 Kart.

We look forward to seeing how the boys progress. Last year three S5 pupils attend the program - one is currently studying in S6, another studying mechanics a college and the last secured a Modern Apprenticeship with Arnold Clark.

Business Brunch

Our in-service day on Friday the 11th of October is being given over to 'Developing the Young Workforce' with a range of activities and workshops aimed at developing our strategies to support young people into positive destinations after school. As part of the program, Gleniffer will be hosting its first 'Business Brunch' where over 20 local employers will come in, meet staff and network whilst enjoying our hospitality. We hope to forge new business partnerships within our local community as well as celebrate the very successful ones we have already.



Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce ROCCO awards



We were very pleased to see three of our business partners all become finalists for the 2019 ROCCO award in 'Developing the Young Workforce'. British Airways, City Gate Construction and Morrison Construction have all supported our pupils across a number of different initiatives and continue to enrich the curriculum within Gleniffer High School – we wish them all the best of luck!

Developing the Young Workforce



Coming Soon...

23rd October – International Chef’s Day at West College Scotland – 7 Senior pupils will be attending a full day of workshops whilst gaining insight into the hospitality industry as well as links to hospitality courses at college.

24th October – Hire Me Workshops with DYW West / Renfrewshire Council – Pupils looking to leave school at the end of the first terms will take part in a service of interactive workshops to help build confidence and employability skills. These will include CVs, filling in applications and interviews

Fundraising

Malawi Special Project

Well done to Allan Sinclair in S6 who had his head shaved to raise money for the special project in Malawi. And well done to Nathan for shaving it!!



Well done S1

I am delighted to report that our S1 pupils have now thrown away their school guide maps and have become a fully-fledged part of the Gleniffer family. S1 pupils have settled in and really adapted well to their transition from primary school and are getting to know one another, making new friends and gaining confidence in all their classes. They are also getting involved in the wider life of the school participating in the many events that go on here: Foodbank appeal, 'Wear Something Yellow' day, Hearty Lives, PE extra-curricular clubs, the monthly community litter pick 'Freshen up Fridays' to name a few in this past week! It is great to see our young people flourish and grow in front of our eyes and we encourage them all to get involved!!

Mrs Sangster

S3 News

S3 have settled well into the new session and I have had the pleasure of seeing them working hard in classes in preparation for National Qualifications next session.

Soon they will sit their SNSA assessments which are standardised tests in literacy and numeracy and inform data collected by Scottish Government. It is important that the young people give their best effort in these assessments as we may also use the data to help us inform presentation pathways in the National Qualifications, alongside levels of achievement in the Broad General Education. Pupils can't study in advance for these assessments, however they will complete a practice assessment prior to the actual testing period.

S3 pupils will be invited to take part in our "Freshen Up Friday" campaign at the end of October. I hope many of them will join myself and S6 pupils as we try to help keep our community clean!

Miss Chalmers

S4 News

S4 have a successful start to what will be the most important session of their education career to date.

Tracking reports were issued at the end of September. S4 pupils should use this to identify areas for additional work and/or revision at home, especially as the N5 prelims will be with before we know it! (They start on Tuesday 3rd December, by the way). To help pupils who are unsure about the best way to study, Mr Marshallsay and Miss Chalmers are offering a Supported Study session on Wednesday 23rd October from 3pm to 4pm. This will give ideas and tips about the different study skills that can be used. The next tracking for S4 will be issued during the week beginning 18 November and will give an even better idea of what work needs to be done.

The work experience programme is already well under way in PSE. This takes place in January and it is important that pupils work hard to source a self-found placement to ensure they get the best out of the experience. The self-found placement forms should be handed in as quickly as possible to Mr Ramsay to ensure that they are approved in time. This Health and Safety check can take a few weeks so it is better to be early!!

Mrs Prentice

S5/6 News

S5 & S6 have made an excellent start to the session. Standards of uniform and behaviour have been of a very high standard. Pupils are now set into new subjects. Tracking Reports were issued this week. These give parents/carers, and the young people themselves, information on progress so far. There will be four of these reports this session.

Most of the young people in S6 have completed timetables showing a number of volunteering periods on top of subject commitments. We are delighted that so many are offering their time to give something back to the school. They are doing this in a number of ways; mentoring younger pupils, helping out in classes to support younger pupils, giving their time to support pupils in the social area during intervals and lunchtimes, helping out at a number of school events - Parents' Nights, information evening and social events. My thanks to these young people - keep up the good work. S6 should now be fully committed to class and study time.

UCAS applications are now underway. Pastoral staff will liaise with the applicants. I ask that all young people stick to the deadlines set by Pastoral staff within this process to ensure that applications are completed to a high standard and submitted on time.

Miss Feggans

The logo for UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) is displayed in the bottom right corner. It consists of the letters 'UCAS' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'U' and 'A' are black, while the 'C' is red.

S6 News

Badgeholders

After competitive interview, the following young people were appointed to Badge holder positions for this session:

Head Girl - Kirsty Gillies

Head Boy - Nathan Lawson

Deputes:

James Connery

Ruth Crockett

Rosie McCafferty

Stan Mudzamiri



They are a very dedicated group and it is a pleasure to work with them. Congratulations to all of them!

S6 Pizza and Quiz Night

S6 enjoyed an excellent social event, the annual pizza quiz night. This was organised by our Badgeholders. This was a lovely way for the S6 to enjoy some time together.

Our thanks to the staff who supported this event by attending, competing or handing in raffle donations. There were some very competitive people in room!



From your Badge Holders

“We as Badgeholders this year are incredibly excited to take part in the events of the school calendar this year. We have already carried out our first fundraising event on Monday 7th October: a Pizza Quiz Night. The funds raised have gone towards the 6th year fund and are helping us to subsidize the cost of our events to be able to support those that may feel excluded due to the financial demand of some of the large-scale occasions – such as our senior prom. Apart from fundraising our own events we are looking forward to raising funds for the school and PTA funds which are to follow.

“As a 6th year, we have been working as hard as we can to gain as much experience outside of our academic subjects as possible. For example, the 6th year volunteering programme is in rotation in junior classes around the school with experienced seniors in departments offering their knowledge to S1/2 classes. At the end of the year, many 6th year pupils will hopefully receive a Saltire award for the volunteering efforts throughout the year. Also, we have a peer mentoring system in place in rooms such as “The Hub” and Mrs Williams’ new “Nurture Base” which is helping S1 pupils get used to the High School day and the S2/3’s are receiving help regarding their literacy and numeracy skills.

“On the School calendar so far, the Halloween Dance for S4-6 is on Wednesday 30th October and tickets are on sale from now until then. We will have hot food on offer and there will be lots of spooky events taking place on the night of the dance and some spooky things to buy from Mr Thomson’s Retail Class. We are looking forward to welcoming S4 pupils as this will be their first of many senior events this school year.

“Also, as our first big charity push we have Children in Need week from the 11th-15th November. We will have loads of fun events on offer that week for the entire school – pupils and teachers alike. As a collective we’ve decided to put a fresh face on the fundraising campaigns by trying to involve as many of the younger pupils as possible. Typically 6th year organise their own events and other pupils donate to watch 6th year get the enjoyment out of the fundraising itself. We’re putting a spin on that – we’re trying to get all ages participating in events and making the week an inclusive one. We hope we have the support of pupils and parents to smash our predecessors’ targets and jump in to all of the things we have to offer!”

Nathan Lawson, Head Boy: on behalf of the Badgeholders



House Captains

Brodie House

This year's Brodie house captains this year are Kara English and Erin Deans. This year we are hoping to achieve many things for Brodie, we will be working along with Miss Foley and the other house captains to organise fundraising events and push to fundraise for our house charity; The Beatson. We will also be encouraging house identity to give the houses a more competitive aspect. We would like to encourage the younger year groups especially to come and get involved and bring forward ideas they have for fundraising events, we are looking forward for you as Brodie house to work with us and support us to achieve the best we can. We are welcoming and willing to talk and listen to any ideas and also problems the younger school may be facing, please don't hesitate to talk to us. We are looking forwards to working with everyone and having this year a great year for Brodie house.



Kara & Erin



Jenna & Freya

Glen House

Hi, our names are Freya Hamilton and Jenna Girvan and we are the new Glen House Captains for session 2019/20. We applied for the role of House Captain as we wanted to be able to give back to the school in our final year and be involved with lots of great events throughout the year like the Foodbank Appeal, Junior Halloween Dance and the Junior Christmas Dance. Our aims this year are to increase house pride around the school, start up our house points system and have an extremely successful Foodbank Appeal with the help of our fellow House Captains. We will hopefully have many fundraising events throughout the year for our house charity that will involve all year groups. We are very excited to step into our roles as House Captains this year, and any fundraising ideas will be greatly appreciated by the both of us.

House Captains

Moredun House

Hi, I'm Keziah McGregor this years Moredun house captain along side Ross Murray. This year we will work closely with Miss Cameron to make this the best year for Moredun. This year we will work to build a stronger house identity and to work together to raise awareness and money for our house charity Helping Hero's. We are also available at any time to talk to students if they have any questions or ideas for the school.

My name is Ross Murray and i am one of the house captains for Moredun this year along with Keziah McGregor. This year we will be working with the pupils of Moredun and Miss Cameron to assure that Moredun does the best we can. We will also work to make sure that everyone in all year groups is included . Our house charity is Glasgow's Helping Heroes which is a charity based in glasgow that helps out the war veterans who are struggling with there living conditions or there mental health. We will aim to raise as much money as we can for our house charity throughout the year.



Ross & Keziah



Allan & Beth

Thornly House

Hi there, it's the new Thornly House captains Beth Scott and Allan Sinclair. We are excited to announce that this coming year we have selected Glasgow Children's Charity Hospital as our house charity. This was chosen after getting input from classes in every year group. We both put ourselves forward for the house captain position with the intent to: improve house identity, act as role models and approachable students for the younger school, raise money and awareness for our house charity and make this year the best we can for Thornly and the rest of the school. This year we will be working alongside the Pastoral staff, the senior management team and co-house captains to achieve all of our goals as best we can. We are looking forward to what this year brings.

Departments in the Spotlight

A stage with red curtains and a spotlight on the text.

Art & Design

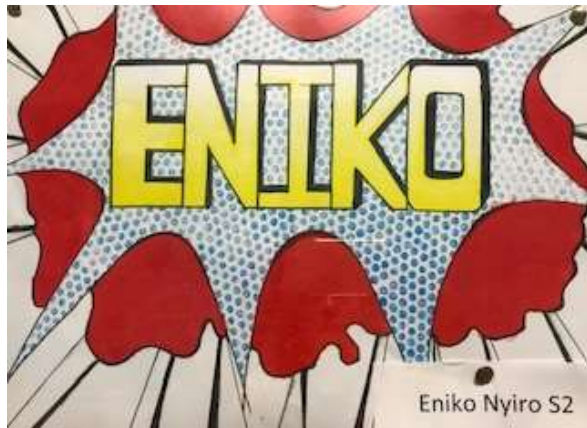
Modern Languages

Music

Humanities

Physical Education

Art & Design - Pupil Work of the Month



Rose McNeil S3
Hannah Price S2
Kamila Szapowalow S2
Eniko Nyiro S2
Lauren Struthers S3



Higher Geography Trip

On Wednesday 25th September all pupils in Higher Geography enjoyed their day out to The River Allander, Milngavie where they conducted a variety of fieldwork techniques in preparation for their assignments. Pupils visited all areas of the river, including The Upper, Middle and Lower Course and enjoyed their hands on experience of measuring the river's speed, width and gradient whilst also observing the changing landuses along the river. No field trip would be complete without a stop off for lunch in the town of Mlingavie.

Below is all of the class enjoying the gorgeous autumn weather at the Fish Pass.



Class 2.6 The Fiery Hot Earth Sweet

Class 2.6 were absolutely delighted (as was Miss Bowie) when Eoin Ramsay arrived to school having made his classwork The Fiery Hot Earth Sweet, into an actual cake. This had all of the layers of Earth clearly shown on the inside and on the outside the proportions of water and shape of the continents was perfect. This was the first time ever a pupil has succeeded in bringing their creation to life. Well done Eoin, this involved a lot of imagination, patience and effort and all of use greatly appreciated and enjoyed this.

Eoin received a platinum house token for Thornly. In the next newsletter we will announce the winners of the poster creations of The Fiery Hot Earth Sweet.



Modern Languages

To celebrate European Day of Languages on 26th September, all of our S1 pupils got together in the Social area and completed a quiz on lots of different topics about Europe. After the quiz the pupils all had a continental breakfast where they enjoyed croissants, pains au chocolat as well as some German cheese and meat. We all had a great time and the pupils really enjoyed all of the food. Thanks also to the S5 and S6 helpers. Winners of the quiz to be announced very soon!



Music

We have had a busy start to our year and we have been delighted to welcome two new members of staff to our department, Mr MCGonagle and Miss Collins. Our new musical theatre group and our choir are sounding in good voice but we always welcome new members.

Our Celtic group were extremely busy over the summer on a Ceilidh Trail again and have now moved on to study. Fortunately they are happy to return to school to mentor our new Celtic group. For the first time we offered our senior pupils the opportunity to take part in the Young Music Leaders Scotland Award at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and we are delighted to announce that Beth Hannay achieved a silver award. We are offering this opportunity again this session to our S6 students.

We already have a visit to an elderly clubs booked for November and we are currently investigating the possibility of delivering hospital music this session. Our pupils are keen to share their talents in our community and are growing their citizenship skills as a result.

George McPhee of Paisley Abbey choir has also visited a first year assembly to encourage interested pupils to join and enjoy their singing on a regular basis as they have openings for new choristers.

Many of our pupils have signed up for Renfrewshire and other Paisley music ensembles including some new initiatives this year. We also have pupils playing with Strathclyde Youth Jazz ensemble. We spent a most enjoyable day with Rich Cottell delivering song writing sessions to seventy of our young people from S2 –S6. He also gave advice on how to succeed in the industry and is happy to have any of their future work sent to him and to give advice. He was absolutely inspirational and we are hoping to hear of many successful song writers originating from Gleniffer High School in the future.



**Congratulations to
Beth Hannay!!**



**Rich Cottell working with
students on song writing.**

Physical Education

Renfrewshire Road Race

Tuesday 24th September saw our S1 to S3 runners competing at the Renfrewshire Road Race. All pupils gave their best effort and were successful in a couple of events:

S1 Girls:

Romy MacInnes 2nd – Silver Medal

S2 Girls:

Anna Milne 10th

Lauren McMahan 11th

S3 Boys: Overall Team 2nd place – Silver trophy

Owen Ferguson 5th

Emmanuel Ezeoke 7th

Daniel Coutts 10th

Matthew McCrystal 12th

Aaron Stirling 16th

S3 Girls:

Sophie Allan 5th

Robyn Allan 12th

Well done to all!

Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund Laine, Anthony and Erin (S6)



Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund – Success!!

Delighted to announce that the school was successful in securing 2 funding bids from the 'Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund' last night. Our Young Sports Ambassadors (Anthony Clark and Laine Alemu) and our Chair of Pupil Sports Council (Erin Deans) accompanied me to the Tannahill Centre to present our bids. Young people between 11-25 years old had been voting these past 2 weeks (our pupils proved to be very loyal after a day of voting last Friday!). The funding will go towards our Sports Coaches getting much needed coaching qualifications and emergency first aid training which will boost their employability status no end. Additionally, we are now able to get in specialist gymnastics equipment which is normally well outside of our normal budget.

Mr Giles PT Physical Education

Wider Achievement

Duke of Edinburgh

West Region Scouts

Ocean Youth Trust

John Muir Award

Staff Achievers

West Region Scouts – Malaysia Expedition

It's not often that young people get the chance to go on a life-changing adventure that also helps change the lives of others.

But that's exactly what happened this summer when 55 senior Scouts and Leaders found themselves in the deepest rainforests of Malaysia.

Organised by West Region Scouts, the young people had the daunting task of painting the outside and inside of a huge concrete classroom, creating an agricultural area from dense jungle and building a playpark for children in the heart of the Belum Perak – the oldest living rainforest in the world.

This amazing experience featured four members of Gleniffer High School; Matthew Allan, Sylvia Dunlop, Erin Gibson and Pippa Liberman.

Training weekends took place over the two years leading up to the trip. This gave everyone opportunities to get to know each other as well as learn the necessary skills to deliver the projects in Malaysia. This time was also used by many of the young people to undertake fundraising activities to pay for the trip.

The projects were extremely hard work in the most punishing of conditions. Temperatures were often nudging 40 degrees with almost 100 per cent humidity, meaning rest and fresh water were essentials.

The projects took 10 days to complete and involved a one-hour daily trip from the base into the depths of the jungle using two former army trucks bumping along a track that would deteriorate in wet conditions. At all times we were on the lookout for wild elephant herds, roaming the rainforest. For all of our young people this was a unique experience.

Over the first five days the contingent transformed the former derelict classroom by strengthening the floor and painting the walls. As well as decorating the classroom, the young people also drew a huge Jungle Book mural on one wall and covered the others with numbers, letters and pictures – to enhance the learning environment for the children of the local village.

Around the village there was plenty of land, but no crops were grown by the villagers. This was fixed by clearing the long grasses, digging over the earth and finally planting seeds for fruit trees and vegetables. It was very tough physical work but the aim was that the villagers would in time become self-sufficient and be able to tend the crops themselves.

The final project was building a playpark and assault course, something that the village children had never seen before. It comprised of a number of obstacles and a large swing, all made by hand by our young people using simple tools and Scouting knowhow!

However, it wasn't all hard work with no reward for the Scouts. In the middle of the project, a day off was earned to allow the young people to take a speedboat journey to a spectacular waterfall and an afternoon of swimming in the middle of the rainforest. Amazing memories made from that day for everyone. Each night the contingent returned to base to allow for a swim, hot shower, change of clothes and sit-down meal, followed by either a karaoke, quiz or games night to relax.

The final handover day when all the projects were completed on time was a great day of celebration. The local village children greeted everyone in traditional costume and entertained with singing and dancing. The women of the village played local musical instruments made from bamboo and danced – getting our young people up to join them at one point. This was followed by the boys and men of the village narrowing losing a football match 3-2 to the Scouts team. It was very competitive! The locals played in bare feet but could still kick the ball harder than any of the opposition. The final moments of the day brought tears as everyone could see how grateful the villagers were for what the young people had delivered and the sense of pride amongst the Scouts was intense.

West Region Scouts – Malaysia Expedition

The final night in the rainforest was marked by a BBQ feast and celebrations featuring a few of the better known Scottish traditional songs, which were very much enjoyed by our Malaysian hosts. The trip to Malaysia was completed with some days of relaxation and reflecting on the achievements of the first 10 days. We headed east to Terengganu and Sutra Beach to take advantage of the stunning beach and infinity pool resort before flying to Kuala Lumpur for the last night.

Everybody went to China Town for a traditional Chinese meal followed by some hard bartering across the market stalls. The final day took the Scouts up the Petronas Towers and then on a cable car into the Genting Highlands, some 4,000 feet into the sky where there was a large retail and amusement park to allow everyone to purchase gifts for taking back home.

The return journey via Dubai gave everyone the opportunity to remember what a life changing adventure they had been part of; one that both they and the Belum rainforest villagers would never forget



Achievers Celebration

Parents/carers can use the Report an Achievement function through our school website to share good news about the achievements of young people beyond the scope of the school. Photographs can also be emailed to glenifferhighenquiries@Renfrewshire.gov.uk.

Young people can also report their own achievements via the school office and only need to complete a small card to do so which we will follow up.

I plan to make this year's achievement booklet bigger and better so pass that information on!

John Muir Award



We have selected S2 pupils who will be part of the John Muir Award this year. We hope these pupils will develop their confidence, teamwork skills and responsibility. We have started by exploring the Gleniffer Braes, and look forward to getting out on the bikes in the community and visiting the RSPB centre at Lochwinnoch.

The focus for the John Muir group is to discover, explore, conserve and share. It is our hope that the boys appreciate their environment and look for ways to further conserve it. During our walk at the Braes this week, the boys spoke about something they are grateful for, some returns were: "I am grateful for having a clean space up here instead of it being dirty down there [looking down towards Paisley Centre]." "I am grateful for clean water."

It is great to hear these positive responses from the pupils this early on in the year. We are looking forward to a great session with the John Muir group.

Ocean Youth Trust

We have just returned from a week of sailing with Ocean Youth Trust. It was a great experience! Over the course of the week we covered 110 miles. Our route was:

Greenock – Loch Tarbet – Holy Loch – Rhu – Greenock

Throughout the week, the boys learned how to load a winch, tighten a winch, let fly and do numerous types of knots. The boys showed great teamwork and determination at crucial points of the trip.

Each pupil that completed a trip gained an OYT certificate and RYA certified introduction certificate. These certificates will be great for the boys in the future when they are writing their CVs!

Well Done to:

- Adam Hayes
- Robbie Shaw
- Ross Pickering
- Lewis Young
- Lewis Gray
- Lewis Falconer
- Glenn Colquhoun



Duke of Edinburgh

The pupils took part in a fitness walk on Tuesday 1st October in the autumn sunshine. We decided on a walk at The Gleniffer Braes to focus on our teamwork skills, compass work and map reading ability.

The group really enjoyed getting together and improving their skill set, working towards their final expedition and completing their Bronze award.



Staff Achievers

Well done to Ms Quinn and Mr Flook who recently completed a half marathon. Miss Cameron has been providing training and inspiration in recent months.



House Identity

This session we have relaunched our House Identity programme. This is largely being led by the House Captains who meet with me on a monthly basis.

Pupils can now receive house tokens from staff around the school for working toward our school values. It could be an excellent piece of work, an improvement in attendance or showing good behaviour, in fact adhering to our school values in any way may get the pupils a token.

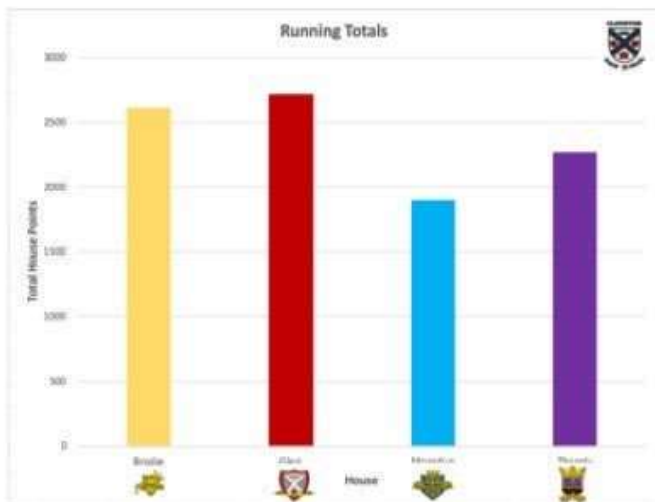
Tokens are worth 10 points each and pupils may also receive a platinum token for an outstanding effort, behaviour or attitude which gets 50 points for their house.

Mr Mitchell, a school technician, made a beautiful unit which stores all the tokens and on a monthly basis the House Captains open it up and count their tokens. Pupils can also get house points for extra-curricular achievements either in or out of school.

The first count shows Glen House narrowly ahead of Brodie, followed by Thornly then Moredun.

The winning house at the end of the year will receive the house cup and also receive a treat!

HOUSE POINTS RUNNING TOTAL – September 2019



1st Place – Glen (2720 points)

2nd Place – Brodie (2610 points)

3rd Place – Thornly (2270 points)

4th Place – Moredun (1900 points)



SQA 2019 Diet

Gleniffer High students had an exceptional year in SQA attainment. I am delighted to report some of the best results on record for the school and this is truly testament to the hard work of young people, staff and wonderful support from families. I have given a snapshot below of our results and provided a brief explanation of what the terminology means.

5+@3 – The percentage of young people in S4 who have achieved a minimum of five National 3 qualifications.

5+@4 - The percentage of young people in S4 who have achieved a minimum of five National 4 qualifications.

5+@5 - The percentage of young people in S4 who have achieved a minimum of five National 5 qualifications.

1+@6 - The percentage of young people in S5 who have achieved a minimum of one Higher qualification.

3+@6 - The percentage of young people in S5 who have achieved a minimum of three Higher qualifications.

5+@6 - The percentage of young people in S5 who have achieved a minimum of five Higher qualifications.

1+@7 - The percentage of young people in S6 who have achieved a minimum of one Advanced Higher qualification.

	5+@ 3	5+@4	5+@5	1+@6	3+@6	5+@6	1+@7
2019	95.71%	85.24%	52.38%	66.86%	50.29%	23.43%	20.98%
2018	92.61%	85.23%	54.55%	65.53%	45.15%	22.82%	23.74%
2017	91.75%	82.52%	46.60%	64.98%	44.70%	15.67%	19.91%
2016	97.69%	87.50%	45.37%	60.27%	39.73%	15.63%	18.14%

School Improvement Priorities

I recently had a meeting with our link Education Manager to review our school priorities for this session and over the next three years. Our school improvement plan can be found on the school website and has been reviewed with staff, pupils and parents.

The key strategic priorities are detailed below.

GHS 3-year Strategic Priorities	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Improve attainment and achievement through wider accreditation.	Investigate cross-curricular links, which will increase accreditation in Senior Phase and skills development in BGE.	Initiate cross-curricular accreditation where possible in the Senior Phase.	Expand wider achievement curricular offer in Senior Phase. Initiate additional accreditation where possible in the BGE.
Support and improve wellbeing of the school community.	Introduce whole school nurturing approaches to GHS. Relaunch restorative practice. Increase use of wellbeing indicators across the whole school.	Develop whole school nurturing approaches (PEF). Relaunch restorative practice. Increase use of wellbeing indicators across the whole school. Develop targeted nurture programme (PEF).	Develop GHS Positive Relationships Policy. Create opportunities for young people to assess their own wellbeing.
Use of school data to measure and predict progress and identify gaps in learning journeys.	Develop whole school tracking system to measure progress across the curriculum, in wider achievement and in wellbeing. (SAC)	Use whole school tracking data to monitor and predict pupil attainment from BGE to Senior Phase and identify pupils at risk of missing wider curriculum. (SAC)	
Improve outcomes of learners through a planned approach to develop Literacy, Numeracy and Health.		Develop three-year HWB, literacy and numeracy strategies.	Implement Year 1 of three-year strategies.
Increase the number of young people entering positive and sustained destinations.	Develop 16+ tracking system to identify pupils most at risk of failing to achieve a positive destination. Implement early intervention programme for young people most at risk of failing to achieve a positive destination.	Use 16+ tracking system to identify appropriate support programmes and work experience for cohorts of pupils and individuals.	

Hearty Lives

There is a new cohort of Hearty Live peer educators. 10 S3 pupils have taken on the challenge of spreading as much knowledge about mental health and helping to create a positive mental health community within the school.

The pupils are:

Faith	Blaikie
Olivia	Bellshaw
Robyn	Allan
Skye	Devlin
Emma	Harvey
Emma	McLintock
Paige	McGuire
Alana	Hughes
MacKenzie	Dickson
Aimee	McDermott

The logo for 'HEARTY LIVES' is written in a large, bold, red, hand-drawn font. The word 'HEARTY' is on the top line and 'LIVES' is on the bottom line, both centered.

The peer educators began by devising 3 topics that they wanted to focus on this year. The topics are areas of high importance within our school community and link in with our school values of Acceptance, Ambition, Respect, Trust and Nurture. These topics are; bully and peer pressure, drugs and alcohol abuse, and anxiety.

The pupils have completed peer educator training, and mental health first aid training and have presented at S1-3 assemblies, including at an after school staff cpd on how to support young people with mental health in the classroom.

On Mental Health awareness day on Thursday 10th October, there were many whole school events to support #HelloYellow in support of young people with mental health. The peer educators wanted to show their support, raise awareness and spread some kindness by selling origami kindness envelopes to all staff and pupils. The peer educators made and decorated over 200 origami kindness envelopes and created many different messages to go inside them.

The pupils are working towards getting a Lunchtime hub ready and open. The peer educators would like to offer help and support for other pupils. Providing a safe space for all with options to play games, colour in, listen to music, relax and unwind or get help completing homework or just come in for a tea and talk.



Mental Health Awareness Day



This year the school community helped to raise awareness of mental health by supporting the young minds #HelloYellow campaign. All staff and pupils were encouraged to wear something yellow. Throughout the day, there were many activities and events on to support this, such as:

- Staff Tea & Talk Coffee morning at morning interval
- Video Clips on in the social area about what is anxiety/ celebs dealing with it.
- Stats showing number of people dealing with anxiety to power point in social area.
- Anxiety support messages written by pupils and pinned on board in social area.
- Support info and helplines on a board for those dealing with anxiety.
- Hearty Lives pupils created and sold origami kindness envelopes and led a pupil tea and talk at lunchtime.
- All staff and pupils were encouraged to wear something yellow to show their support.
- #HelloYellow playlist, mental health bingo and an arts and craft tasks were some of the activities completed during some lessons.

It was a fantastic day where the school community came together to raise awareness of mental health and anxiety and how to support one another.





Malawi 2020

Recently, our Malawi 2020 group went on a practice expedition to Lapwing Lodge with the goal of strengthening our team as whole as well as our sub-teams. While at Lapwing Lodge, we underwent a series of team building exercises and personal development opportunities. To name a few, we were required to set up our own tents, plan our own meals, budget accordingly and then cook them. These activities secured the necessary skills that will go towards making our real expedition that bit easier. Another essential part of the weekend expedition was First-Aid training, we acted out potential scenarios that could occur in Malawi and were taught how to responsibly handle them.

We were surprised and delighted to be visited by a representative of the Scotland-Malawi partnership, Enoch, who answered our questions and gave us an insight into what travelling to Malawi will be like.



We are organising our Malawi Ball which takes place on Friday 25th October in the Normandy Hotel in Renfrew. Tickets are priced £40 which includes a 3-course meal and entertainment throughout the night. This is always a great event. Contact the school office for tickets. All profits go toward our special project in Malawi.



Gleniffer Malawi 2020 - 50/50 Club

2 Simple Steps to Joining the Malawi 50/50 Club.

1. Create a standing order for £5 (per person) to be paid on the 1st of each month, until 1st May 2020, to account:

- Account Name – Gleniffer High School Malawi Trip
- Bank Name – Bank of Scotland
- Account Number - 13337766
- Sort Code – 80-22-60
- Reference – “SURNAME + DAY OF YOUR BIRTH” e.g. “SMITH05”.

2. Email the 50/50 club team at 5050@gleniffermalawi.org.uk with your details:

- Standing order reference, or references if more than one payment.
- A name for each £5 payment.
- Email address and contact number* for each 50/50 club member/payment.
* only to be used if email is not available/appropriate.

Please refer to <https://gleniffermalawi2020.weebly.com/5050-club.html> for full 50/50 Terms and Conditions and Joining Instructions.

Uniform

School uniform promotes a sense of identity and belonging as well as equity and safety. The standard of uniform in Gleniffer High School, is generally very high. Before you know it you will be purchasing items for the new term. Could I please reinforce the following standards:

Girls

White shirt and tie

Black skirt

Plain black cardigan or jumper

Black footwear

Boys

White shirt and tie

Black trousers (smart)

Plain black cardigan or jumper

Black footwear

All pupils should have a school bag and suitable jacket for the weather. The following items are not permitted:

- Skinny jeans in any colour
- Leggings
- Branded jumpers

We are trying to promote a sense of equity amongst young people and therefore keeping uniform as standardised as possible is of real help.

PE Kit

The Gleniffer PE shirt can be purchased from school uniform shops. Otherwise pupils are asked to wear a red t shirt with black shorts/tracksuit bottoms. Footwear must be suitable for participating in physical activity. Pupils unable to take part in PE are still expected to change into kit and can participate in other activities, including score keeping and refereeing.

Families entitled to a Clothing Grant or Free Meals should apply via

<http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/Freeschoolmealsandclothinggrants>

P7 Induction – Open Evening

Our first transition event of the session took place on Thurs 22nd September. Parents and young people came along to Gleniffer High to get a tour of the school and meet lots of staff and pupils. Our pupils talked about their learning and experiences in school and showcased some of the skills they have been developing. There are details below of further transition events and we will be linking with our cluster primaries throughout the session, gathering information on young people to ensure we are fully prepped for next session. Our transition teacher Mrs MacLeod will also be working in the cluster primaries from January and getting to know the pupils, helping to make sure everything goes smoothly. Our newsletter will be available on the school website www.glenifferhigh@Renfrewshire.gov.uk please take time to have a read through this and get a real sense of what our school is all about.



Primary Induction Programme

Thursday 22 September 2019 - Open Evening at Gleniffer High School

Friday 17 January 2020 – First Transition Day
January 2020 - School handbook issued to all P7 pupils and parents

Wednesday 29 April 2020 - Information Evening at Gleniffer High School

Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13 May 2020 - two day induction visit for all P7 pupils

Friday 29 May 2020 - Sports Day event



Important dates this term

22 rd October	S1 Fireworks Presentation Period 7	28th November	PTA Christmas Fayre
23 rd October	S6 Photographs	29 th November	Freshen Up Friday (S1)
25 th October	Freshen Up Friday (S3) Malawi Ball	2 nd December	St Andrew's Day Holiday
28 th October	PTA 6.30pm Parent Council 7.30pm	3 rd December	National 5 prelims begin
30 th October	Halloween Dance (S4-S6)7.00pm-10.00pm	5 th December	S5/6 Parents' Evening 5.00pm- 7.30pm
1 st November	S1/2 Halloween Disco (P5&6) And Halloween Movie afternoon (S1/2)	13 th December	Freshen Up Friday 13 th December (S2)
7 th November	S3 Parents' Evening	16 th December	S1/2 Christmas Disco (P6&7) Christmas Concert 6.30pm
8 th November	Remembrance Assemblies	17 th December	S1 Christmas Panto Christmas Movie Afternoon (S1/2)
11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week	18 th December	S1/2 Gladiator Games
15 th November	Children in Need Fun Day	19 th December	Senior Christmas Dance (S4-S6) 7.00pm-10.00pm
18 th -21 st November	Dumfries House Residential S3 pupils	20 th December	G Factor P3&4 Christmas Karaoke P5&6 Non-Uniform Day School closes 2.30pm
21 st November	S1 Parents' Evening		
25 th November	Parent Council		



Dear Parent/Guardian

In the run up to bonfire season, Police Scotland and Renfrewshire Council are keen to keep everyone safe during the festivities. In previous years we have seen firework-related anti-social behaviour (ASB) and disorder in your area. In order to prevent and deter any issues this year we would like to ask for your assistance to keep our children, pets and local community safe. The following guidelines are recommendations to ensure our young people and other members of the community are kept safe and the events of the evening enjoyed by all.

Safety Advice

Only adults should purchase, light and dispose of fireworks once they have been used.

Children and young people should watch and enjoy fireworks at a safe distance and preferably at an organised display.

To prevent Children gathering fuel for a bonfire please dispose of your rubbish appropriately leading up to bonfire weekend.

Please report any large objects that could form part of a bonfire to your council office who will arrange for them to be removed.

Please report any unauthorised bonfires or firework displays to the council, Police or Crimestoppers.

Please report any unauthorised fireworks sellers to Police or Crimestoppers.

Unauthorised bonfires and firework displays have resulted in serious harm and injury in the past. We would encourage you to attend an organised display if you want to enjoy fireworks this year. Renfrewshire Council have an organised event which will take place on the evening of the 3rd November 2018 within Paisley Town Centre.

Legislation

No person under the age of 18 can possess an adult* firework in a public place.

It is an offence to supply adult* fireworks to persons under 18

It is an offence to supply *any* fireworks to persons under 16

It is an offence to throw fireworks on a road or other public place.

We want everyone to enjoy Bonfire Night and are working hard to ensure residents feel safe and able to participate in the celebration. However, the safety of those who live in our communities remains our top priority, any behaviour that places people or property at risk will not be tolerated. Thank you for your understanding and assistance.

Kind regards

Inspector Tracy Harkins

Renfrewshire Councils Warden Service Tel no: 0300 300 0300, Police Scotland Tel no: 101,
Crimestoppers Tel no: 0800 555 111

Our community

Our community is a great place to live and grow. I feel strongly that we should be working together to make it one of the best places to live in Paisley.



Sadly I have recently been receiving a spate of complaints from our neighbours about the mess left behind after lunch – on streets and in the park. As a school we take pride in our “Freshen Up Friday” campaign and have been praised by the public for being proactive in keeping our community clean. Unfortunately this message does not seem to have reached all our young people. Despite monthly pleas at assemblies and me personally going into the community at lunchtime, instead of being in school I am still getting complaints about pupils throwing rubbish on the ground, into gardens, the pond and smashing bottles. This is a slight on our school name and of all the individuals who contribute to the community in a responsible manner. I very much doubt the young people involved would approve of this behaviour in their own garden or if their family pet was cut on broken glass.

Could all parents and carers please encourage their children to use bins around the community. I know some local residents are contacting the council and there may well be an increased presence of wardens in the near future.

Thank you so much for your support with this matter.

Lisa Chalmers Head Teacher



**Pupils keep safe on the roads,
don't look down at your phones – look up!**

Use of Mobile Devices

Society increasingly relies on the use of mobile technology and in schools it can enhance teaching and learning. However, school policy is that mobile devices should not be used in classrooms or corridors without the permission of staff.

I would ask parents and carers to reinforce the message of responsible phone use at all times. Pupils should not be filming in classes or corridors and any misuse or sharing of images may result in sanctions.

Foodbank

Our annual Foodbank collection was outstanding as always this year. House Captains worked throughout the week to encourage donations from pupils and staff and organised a movie afternoon for students. In total 5227 items were collected.

House totals

Brodie 967

Glen 819

Moredun 834

Thornly 1150



Money donations meant two trips to supermarkets. Thanks to Aldi and ASDA for putting up with us as we negotiated trollies round aisles! The shopping trips helped to make up the final total. Young people and their families always enter the spirit of this and it directly supports families within our community #Challengepoverty.

Thanks to all who contributed!!



Attendance

All teachers register attendance in class. Attendance is recorded twice a day by Renfrewshire Council, morning and afternoon.

Absence from school is recorded as authorised, approved by the education authority, when a parent/ carer provides an explanation for the absence. If there is no explanation by parent/ carer, the absence is recorded as unauthorised (truancy).

We ask that all parents/ carers let the school know by letter or phone call if your child is likely to be absent for some time. Please give your child a note on his or her return to school, confirming the reason for absence. This will allow us to record an accurate account of pupil attendance.

Contact Us:

Tel: 01505 813 116

E: 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



GLENIFFER HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL



@GlenifferHigh

@EmployGleniffer



Website:

www.glenifferhigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk

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: Mrs Williams (Acting)
- Thornly House: Mrs Harris

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.



App: Gleniffer-High-School

Find us on the App Store or
Google Play Store

