

INSIDE GHS



Summer Issue:



Welcome to our summer newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome to our final newsletter of session 2018-19.

We have had an incredible year with lots of hard work and fun throughout this session. I am delighted with the work which has been undertaken by staff throughout the session and the fantastic efforts of the young people who really make Gleniffer a great school.

We say a fond goodbye and good luck to our retirees – Mrs Gibson, Dr Gaggini and Mr Clannachan. We wish them a healthy and happy retirement and thank them for the dedication they have shown to young people throughout their careers.

We also say goodbye to Miss Brown and wish her well in her career as well as many staff who worked with us on a temporary basis throughout the session.

I'd also like to wish all our school leavers the very best in the next stage of their lives and look forward to hearing of their endeavours.

I have produced a wider achievement booklet which is now available on our school website. This details some of the achievements of the young people in and beyond school. We will be doing a lot of work next session to recognise the successes of our learners and I would appreciate parents and carers keeping me informed via our school website.

I would like to wish you all a happy and safe summer and look forward to welcoming the young people and staff back in August.

Lisa Chalmers

Head Teacher

S1

It's really hard to believe that our S1 class of 2018-19 have now almost completely finished their First year in Gleniffer High School and for the month of June they have already stepped up as seasoned veterans into S2. It is great to see how much their confidence has grown since they arrived 'wet behind the ears' last August compared to last month when they were confidently showing our new Primary 7 the ropes during their Induction days in May. What a positive difference a year can make!

Since Easter it has been full steam ahead with hardly time to pause for breath. In March we had our Cross Country Championships followed by Health Week in May where we saw Thornly House take the winning shield in the S1 Mini-Olympics. During Health week, among other things, we saw S1 take the 'Great Glennie Walk' in their stride with some S1 pupils also participating in the Judo workshop (aimed at building resilience) and the boxing event led by a professional boxing athlete. For Mental Health Week all of our S1 girls participated in a giant 'Zumbathon' as part of their PE programme. It was a fantastic sight to see over 100 girls all dancing and smiling at the same time in our Social Area. In the month of June, undeterred by the weather, the PE department also ran a really successful sports day and our S1 girls won the Renfrewshire Outdoor Summer Netball Tournament which saw them successfully perform to win over all other schools in the local area.

Our Certificate of Merit Ceremony took place at the end of May and has got to be my favourite event of the whole session. We never get tired of celebrating the success of our pupils and it is even more poignant when this celebration is shared by our proud parents/carers, friends and families. This year our new S1 were really well represented gaining awards for effort, attainment and service to the school. You should be proud!! Last week we watched two outstanding evening performances of our school show which this year was High School Musical. Parents, friends and invited guests were absolutely 'blown away' by the outstanding performances from our talented young pupils. I am delighted to say a significant number of boys and girls from S1 were big contributors to the overwhelming success of this amazing production. Can't wait till next year.

On our last Thursday before the holidays CarniMalawi is the big favourite that everyone looks forward to. This day offers all the fun of the fair right here in Gleniffer but at the same time raises a huge amount of money to support projects to improve conditions for the pupils of Dzenza Primary School in Malawi.

As our school year comes to a close for a well-earned holiday I would like to say it has been a real privilege to work with so many wonderful young people this session. I would also like to thank all parents and carers of S1 pupils for their continued and unwavering support. Have a wonderful and safe holiday. See you all in August!!

Mrs Sangster

S2

The S2 pupils have had another very busy term since the Easter holidays and it is great to see that they have been working very hard in classes and taking part in many extra-curricular activities in and around the school.

The “I can do anything” day event, which happened in February certainly helped our pupils when they were selecting their option choices with the Pastoral Support team. All the pupils have now started their 3rd year which began on Monday 3rd of June. Thank you to all the parents who attended these sessions. The feedback from parents was very positive and pupils have settled well into their new subjects. Please keep up the great work and ensure you attend school as much as possible. 3rd year is a very important year, preparing you all for your National Qualifications in S4.

The S2 pupils have been involved in a number of exciting events this session and as always they have represented our school very well. I was so delighted to see so many of our S2 pupils at the Certificate of Merit Award Ceremony receiving their awards. It is a testament to their hard work and effort. Congratulations to them all!

I wish to say a huge bravo to all those who participated in the School Show “*High School Musical*”. We saw a number of S2 pupils in the band, on stage, back stage and even front of house selling tickets and programmes. Well done! I hope you enjoyed taking part as much as the audience enjoyed watching the show.

It has been a real pleasure working with the S2s this year. I have particularly enjoyed our assemblies together, where we have been celebrating their successes, encouraging them to take part and discuss what they have been undertaking this year. Wishing you lots of luck for your 3rd year at Gleniffer High School.

Mrs Futamata

S3

S3 pupils have really stepped up to the mark this term whilst seniors were on exam leave - helping out at the primary induction days and the junior prize giving. It has been an absolute pleasure working with the year group this year, watching them mature ready for the senior phase and making great contributions to the school.

They had a session from Live n Learn on goal mapping, target setting and ambition in preparation for starting their National Qualifications. I’d urge them to enjoy their summer and relax before the pressure of S4 really kicks in!

Some of our S3 pupils have been developing their own leadership throughout the year by leading activity through the Hearty Lives initiative, Arran Outdoor expedition, Student Council and Duke of Edinburgh.

Our last assembly of the year highlighted the talents and commitment of many young people in the year group with over 40 extra-curricular awards being issued!

I know they are going to have a great S4 and wish them all a happy and safe summer.

Miss Chalmers

Departments in the Spotlight



Sciences

Physical Education

Library

Modern Languages

Mathematics

Business & Computing

Business & Computing

National 5 Retail Class

Over this coming session we are offering a new 'Skills for Work' course in our Business and Computing faculty – National 5 Retailing.

While studying this course, our pupils have the opportunity to gain a national qualification through developing a wide range of skills, knowledge and attitudes required for learning, life and work.

One exciting area of the course is the planning and implementation of events. Since the change of timetable at the beginning of June, the class could not wait to get started and have already ran their first successful retail event - a tuck shop at our School Show.

The tuck shop was a roaring success and the pupils conducted themselves in an extremely professional manner – well done!

The class have lots of ideas for events this coming session, which they keep you updated with in the school's next newsletter.

Below you can hear from some of the pupils in the class, about their reasons for studying this new course and what they hope to get out of it.

Mirin Stewart (S6)

I want to get an extra qualification by studying this course because it will help me in the near future when applying for jobs. So far I have enjoyed working with the team and completing lots of team building activities, allowing me to know the class better.

Caitlin Muir (S6)

I currently have a part-time job in the retail sector and hope that by studying this course I can learn more about the sector I work in and potentially progress in my career after school.

Skye Green (S6)

When I leave school I want to work as an Administrative Assistant, I thought that learning about interview skills and how to interact with customers will help me achieve this in this future. We have only been in this class for two weeks and I have already enjoyed the planning and running of the tuck shop, this was fun because I got to use lots of different skills.



Business & Computing

S3 Business – Krispy Kreme

At the end of the course in May, our S3 business pupils applied what they had learned about customer services, production, finance, marketing (and much more!) to a real business – Krispy Kreme.

Over several weeks they explored the entire operation of Krispy Kreme and produced formal business reports of their findings. This was followed by a visit to the Krispy Kreme factory at Braehead, where the class were able to see what they had been learning about in action. The class also got to design and produce their very own doughnuts in the factory – understanding more about the life of a doughnut!

They were all a credit to the school and the staff at Krispy Kreme were impressed by what the class had discovered from their research – well done!



S2 Computing Science - Science Centre Trip

A group of budding Computing Scientists from S2 enjoyed a great day at Glasgow Science Centre on 8th May. The pupils got to spend some time exploring the science mall and they participated in a workshop on encryption, frequency analysis and brute-force hacking attacks. The pupils learned how messages can be encrypted and how encryption can be broken before working together to crack a secret message. Good fun hands-on activities and information on careers in Cyber Security made for an enjoyable and motivational day!



Mathematics

Pupil Achievement in Maths

This session pupils have continued to achieve success in a number of areas both within and outwith the school including Maths Week Scotland (MWS 2018), The SMC Enterprising Mathematics Competition and all UKMT Mathematical Challenges for individuals and teams.

There were many opportunities for our young people to develop their leadership skills with S4 – S6 Maths Champions supporting, encouraging and showing a positive attitude towards learning throughout MWS 2018. A group of S1-S3 pupils were actively involved in the maths department's contribution to the P7 Open Evening. They gave a presentation, answered questions from P7 pupils and parents and demonstrated learning and teaching approaches.



- We are delighted that our very own Mr Benzie was voted Best Male Teacher by S6 pupils for the second year running.



Mathematics

P7 – S1 Transition

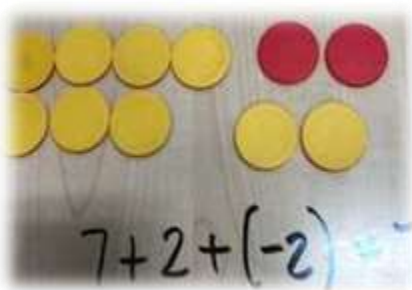
We have continued to build on the good relationships with our associated primary schools. This session our transition programme included:

- Coffee, Cake and Communication (CCC) meeting held after school involving primary 7 teachers, our transition teacher Mrs MacLeod and GHS maths teachers. This gave us an opportunity to have an informal dialogue around Maths teaching and learning, allowing time to further discuss pedagogy and to look at numeracy across learning.
- The P7 teachers joining S1 maths classes. As well as seeing their former pupils settled in GHS, further discussions to support pupils in their learning ensued.
- Another CCC meeting during the P7 induction days where S1 pupil progress was shared. We also continued our discussions on methodology and resources, with a view to developing common approaches across our cluster.
- Miss Thomson, Mr Madden and Mr MacCuish taught P7 pupils in their own schools whilst Ms Walker and Mrs MacLeod met with the P7 teachers.

The feedback from pupils and staff on the maths transition programme has been very positive and we look forward to welcoming our new S1 pupils in August.

Department News

- All staff have undertaken Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract and Language (CPAL) training. The CPAL approach values the use of concrete and pictorial materials to aid pupil understanding from S1 to S6. As well as the training, we have invested in a range of concrete resources for use across the maths and pupil support departments, with a focus on increasing pupil engagement and deepening mathematical understanding. This will continue to be a priority for the department and our associated primary schools next session.



- We are busy boxing maths books for the Renfrewshire Council trip to Malawi in July.



Modern Languages



German Exchange

The second leg of the German Exchange will take place in October 2019. A group of 24 pupils from our partner school in Fürth, Bavaria will visit us here in Paisley the from 21st until 28th October. The pupils will spend some time in school meeting up with their partners again. Along with our own pupils, the group will be welcomed by the provost at a civic reception in Paisley Abbey. During the week, they will take part in various trips, including a day in Edinburgh, a day trip to Millport and a visit to New Lanark. The pupils will also spend time with their Scottish partner and their family and the week will finish off with a ceilidh in the social space. Any pupil who went to Germany and who has not yet been in touch, please see Mrs Quinn.

Modern Languages – Competition

Pupils in S1 – S3 recently took part in a language competition. They were asked “Which teacher?” and “Which language?” Nine teachers were recorded speaking a variety of languages. From all of the entries, there were 12 pupils who had everything correct. Names were pulled out of a hat in the social area and Millie Whelan was the winner. Millie was delighted to receive a Braehead gift voucher for £50! Pupils were very impressed at the number of teachers who can speak another language. Miss Dowd was the winner from the staff.

Here are the answers:-

Mrs Bryan - Russian
Mr Allely - German
Mrs MacLeod - Gaelic
Miss McCullagh - Dutch
Miss Feggans - French
Mrs Prentice - Italian
Mrs Gillen - Spanish
Miss Chalmers - German
Mrs Futamata - Japanese

Thanks to all staff who took part and well done to pupils who guessed correctly.

Mrs Quinn

Library News

Matt and Tom Oldfield's series of football biographies are some of the most popular titles in Gleniffer School Library and on April 30th, the school had the pleasure of hosting Matt.

Matt entertained an S2 assembly and an S1 workshop with insights into his writing career and explained the techniques he uses to make his writing vivid and effective for readers.

He took time also to answer many questions from students eager to know his thoughts on the current season and how he researches his glamorous subjects.

Matt stayed on during the interval to read some of the short stories that had been completed in the workshop and even to chat and recommend books to pupils in the library.



Music

Our SQA music Advanced Higher practical exams took place in May and the performances of our eight young people were of an extremely high standard. Six out of eight are going on to study music or musical theatre and we wish them all the very best for their future careers. We will miss them and thank them for all they have given to Gleniffer High School over the years.

Our trad music group will continue to perform together as they take part in Feis Phaislig Ceilidh Trail over the summer and they will return next year to tutor our junior trad ensemble.

Music

Adam Salisbury will be sitting ABRSM Grade VI11 clarinet in June. We wish him all the best and congratulate him in advance for reaching this incredibly high standard.. He is also a member of the West Of Scotland Concert Band and the Nation Youth Wind Ensemble of Scotland.

Jessica Fraser also sits Grade V111 harp in June having previously achieved Grade V111 piano. Jessica has excelled as a junior student at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Several of our pupils took part in Play to Learn event at the Royal Concert Hall event in Glasgow which was hugely successful.

Beth Hannay is our first young person in Gleniffer High School to be awarded the Youth Leader Scotland Award from The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. This involved Beth performing solo and in groups along with rehearsing various ensembles in school. It was a lot of hard work for Beth which she completed admirably.

Our two evening performances of High School musical were excellent in every way. Band, chorus and soloists practiced in every corner! It was an amazing show and our cast and band worked so hard.



Physical Education

Sports Day 2019

On Monday 10th June our top athletics pupils in S1-3 were invited to complete in our 2019 Sports Day. Throughout the day pupils competed in a variety of events from, from the 100m sprint, the 1500m and the Long and triple jump. Pupils were awarded points for placing in the events and these points were tallied up towards the running of Sports Champion. It was a great day with many pupils participating and winning medals and even the sun stayed out.

Our 2019 Sports Champions were:

S1 Reiss Scally and Sarah Deans

S2 Owen Ferguson and Erin English

S3 Darren Rafferty and Jasmine Moore



Reiss and Sarah



Owen and Erin



Darren and Jasmine

Physical Education



Renfrewshire Summer Netball Tournament 2019

On Tuesday 11th June Gleniffer hosted the Annual Summer Netball Tournament for Renfrewshire. This year we had 9 different school enter the competition and over 250 girls playing throughout the day! It was a great success and the girls all played extremely well. Our S1 team won the 2019 title.



Well Done girls, and our Open team (S4&5 pupils) were runners up in a very tight final. This has been a very successful season for all our teams and we look forward starting club again in August.



Physical Education

Gleniffer Hockey teams

The Hockey teams have had a very successful season, competing in the Renfrewshire championships, finals day and the Lagoon indoor series.

The senior team were the only team to take points off the eventual league winners, Gryffe High school and placed in second position over the course of a very competitive season.

The S1-2 players have equipped themselves very well and have achieved some excellent results, beating all Renfrewshire schools and placing second in the lagoon indoor series.

If your son or daughter would like to try hockey, they're more than welcome to come along and join the team.

Have a great summer and I'm sure we will have a great season, starting back in August.



Gleniffer Ski and Snowboarding Trip 2020

The next skiing and snowboarding trip will be to Serre Chevalier in France. Any pupil who would like to go on the trip should collect a letter from Mr Bleach in the P.E. department.



Science

Go4Set

Following the Celebration and Assessment Day for the Drummond Hub held at the University of the West of Scotland Paisley campus on 14th May our team, 'Always Green Energy' were declared the winners. They were presented with a trophy and certificate and went on to the Scottish final which was held at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh on the 5th of June.

The feedback from the assessors at the Drummond Hub was the best that our mentor, Mike Young, and teacher Ms Campbell, have heard in all the years they have been involved with Go4SET. The team were complimented on their presentation skills and their ability to answer questions. In terms of their formal written submission certain elements would not have been out of place in a professional engineering report.

Go4SET Scottish Final - Update

Coinciding with World Environment Day this year's Scottish Final was held at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh where we were up against the winners from the other seven hubs. Interestingly all the projects in the final were the same - Future-Proof: Designing Buildings for Climate Change.

The photograph above shows our team with Richard Lochhead MSP, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science and Julie Feast Chief Executive Officer of The Engineering Development Trust.

Feedback from the assessors was again very positive with particular regard to the costing elements within the report. Part of the introduction of the presentation summarised some of the early issues the team had experienced which required some tough decisions to be made resulting in some changes in team members. The assessors were impressed that these issues were tackled head on and that subsequently the team had gelled and worked well together.

Our congratulations go to Whitehill Secondary School from Glasgow who were the overall winners. Unlike the other teams they did not start with a blank sheet of paper and design a house from scratch they came up with a plan to upgrade the tenements in the area around their school. Whilst we may not have won, it is no mean achievement to have got to the last eight from a total of 91 schools from across Scotland.



Developing the Young Workforce



Contact:

Sam Marshallsay, Principal Teacher for Employability,
gw07marshallsaysam@glow.sch.uk

Business Partnership: City Gate Construction

City Gate delivered two days of learning about joinery at Gleniffer High School in Paisley.

CGC carpenter Andy Watson praised pupils for their enthusiasm and willingness to learn.

Contracts Manager Andy – returning to his old school – spent time showing the fourth year pupils how to do things like create a partition wall, hang doors and other joinery-related tasks.

Andy Watson said: “ I feel very privileged to have gone back to my former school where I learned such a lot. Showing young people joinery may help them make choices when it comes to picking a career. I hope they found the experience worthwhile.”

Our visit was ideal timing because Gleniffer High School is currently undertaking a five week-long “enrichment programme” designed to offer pupils a range of employability skills.



Dave Palmer, Commercial Director of CGC, accompanied Andy along with colleague Gary Tracey, CGC’s Finance Director.

Dave said: “CGC has a strong track record of helping communities where we operate as a business. Engaging with young people is one of the things we are most enthusiastic about and we want to thank Renfrewshire Council and Gleniffer High School for making Andy’s visit happen.”

Councillor John Shaw, Convener of Renfrewshire Council’s Finance, Resources and Customer Services Policy Board, visited the school to see the pupils being taught by Andy.

Councillor Shaw said: “It was nice to see first-hand the skills the Gleniffer High School pupils are gaining thanks to this innovative opportunity with City Gate Construction. For Andy, as a former pupil, sharing his experience will I’m sure have been invaluable for the pupils as they gain important employability skills.

We were assisted in setting up the visit by “Developing the Young Workforce West” (DYW West) based at West College Scotland’s Paisley campus.

Its task is to build relationships between local schools and colleges and employers.

Bob Davidson Programme Director of DYW West added: “What a simple yet powerful example of an ex-pupil coming back to their old school – to share their experience in a hands-on manner to benefit current pupils.

“A huge thanks to CGC for all their efforts from coming up with the idea to turning it into a reality with Gleniffer High School. “

Developing the Young Workforce



Contact:

Sam Marshallsay, Principal Teacher for Employability,
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My World of Work Virtual 'Meet the Experts'

Gleniffer High School were given the opportunity to be one of the first schools in Scotland to take part in a Skills Development Scotland's pilot 'Virtual Meet the Expert' session as part of the My World of Work Live programme. The programme involves taking experts in a range of jobs roles and sectors into schools using video conferencing facilities so that pupils can learn more about jobs where there will be opportunities in the future.

Our expert for the session was Julie Cameron who works in a Quality and Regulatory role in Life Sciences. She delivered her half-hour session with a group of our S3 Biology students where they were able to ask questions about the role and qualification routes into current positions.

Following this successful pilot, we hope to be involved in further meet the expert sessions in a variety of industries.



S5 Greenpower Challenge

Renfrewshire Greenpower racing team "Scooby Doo Racers" comprised of pupils from Gleniffer High and other Renfrewshire Schools, had their first racing experiences in March competing against teams from Glasgow, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde. Unfortunately, no win on the day, but what an experience for our young people! Colin McLaughlin from the Greenpower trust tweeted: "What a great bunch of young people – most dedicated. Was great to watch you all doing us proud. The most amazing day of the year by far."

S5 pupils Jamie Calder, Craig Maclean and Nicholas Adams have really done us proud representing both the school and Renfrewshire. Well done team!

Developing the Young Workforce



Contact:

Sam Marshallsay, Principal Teacher for Employability,
gw07marshallsaysam@glow.sch.uk

S4 Enrichment

During the exam period, pupils not sitting formal national qualification examinations took part in a 5-week 'Enrichment' programme within the school. During enrichment, the pupils undertook a variety of activities aimed at improving their self-confidence, teamwork, life-skills and employability skills including first aid, money management and meal planning. In addition, during the 'Employability Week' pupils undertook a full series of employability activities including identifying skills, filling in applications, psychometric testing, attending the Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce Business to Business event, making CVs and taking part in mock interviews. After the five week programme, pupils were given the opportunity to practice their skills with two weeks of extended work experience.



Pupils described the programme as "brilliant" and "very useful" one remarking that they felt "buzzing - can't wait 'til my next interview!". Thanks go to all the staff who supported the activities and volunteered to deliver workshops as well as the various employers such as Doosan Babcock, British Airways Maintenance Glasgow, JP Morgan and the British Army who presented and participated in the applications workshop and mock interviews.

Gleniffer High School would like to thank all the organisations who have supported us this year and if anyone would like to get involved in supporting our young people, please get in contact via our twitter account @employgleniffer



College/Modern Apprenticeship Workshops.

In January our young people were supported by our Careers Advisers from Skills Development Scotland to apply to College. Nicola Keane and Catriona Makeham ran sessions supporting S4-6 pupils in applying for College Courses. These sessions were popular and we had a high number of pupils taking part. The pupils were supported in completing applications and writing personal statements. Having the careers advisors on site while writing the applications was a valuable resource for our young people. Already we are seeing the benefits, as already a high number of pupils have been offered places for starting College in August. Good luck to all of the students starting on their new ventures in the new session.

On the back of our successful College Workshops, S4/5/6 pupils attended Modern Apprenticeship application workshops run again, by our Skills Development Scotland Careers Advisers. This was part of Scottish Apprenticeship Week 2019: Skills for the Future. Apprenticeships and work-based learning are providing the skills needed for a successful Scotland. This years theme 'Skills for the Future', promoted the importance of investing in our workforce. A number of Gleniffer High School students were supported in applying for Apprenticeships as part of these workshops in school. Good luck to all that applied.



Skills Development Scotland

Almost all pupils are now registered with My World of Work. They use this website to build their profile and support their career journey as they go through school. This includes skills development, strengths, achievements and personal statements.

If you have not registered you can go online and register now.

The website can be accessed at: www.myworldofwork.co.uk

Our Careers Advisers, Catriona Makeham and Nicola Keane are based in the school to give pupils the support they need to help plan for and manage their careers. They are also available to speak to parents at Parents' Evenings.

Through a combination of group sessions, one-to-one interviews and drop ins, they help pupils understand how their personality, interests and values are key to making the right career decisions. They also help pupils understand how to develop and use their talents and skills.

In recent weeks, they have been helping pupils apply for suitable jobs, apprenticeships and further and higher education opportunities.

School leavers are invited to access further SDS support by contacting Post-School Advisers in the SDS Centre at Russell Institute, 30 Causeyside Street Paisley 0141 849 0942.

IDAHOBIT

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia takes place on the 17th of May each year. The date of May 17th was specifically chosen to commemorate the World Health Organization's decision in 1990 to declassify homosexuality as a mental disorder. This year pupils from Gleniffer High School were proud to be part of events to mark the day in Renfrewshire as the Provost raised the Rainbow flag outside Renfrewshire house for the first time.

Provost Cameron said "In Renfrewshire this is the beginning of a journey to raise awareness of the hatred and intolerance still faced by many across the world."

The aim in raising the flag is to highlight that Renfrewshire is an inclusive and caring community where everyone is welcome regardless of who they love or what their gender identity is.



Duke of Edinburgh

A group of S3 pupils are well underway to achieve their bronze award through Duke of Edinburgh.

They have worked well as a group throughout the year helping each other and learning new skills such as navigation skills, compass work, stove cooking, teamwork, first aid and country code.

They have now completed their practice expedition and are now adapting their skills to complete their qualification expedition in August and complete their volunteering, skills and physical sections in their own time.

We wish them all the best for their next steps.



Youth Philanthropy Initiative

May 17th was the final of our YPI which brought to an end weeks of hard work from our S3 pupils. The final was very competitive as seven groups presented for the £3000 grant awarded by the Wood Foundation and the school. The audience of S3 and S2 were fantastic, supporting their peers and a big thank you to our judges, Miss Chalmers, Alistair from Wood Foundation, Ms Tracey Craig from the parent council and our head girl and boy – Emma Spence and Scott Glassford. We also welcomed many of our charity representatives who attended the final or sent their best wishes to their team.

Well done to our winning team - Finding your Feet with Eva Terris and Rachael Stewart. We hope that many of our young people will continue to donate their time or thoughts to many of our local charities who so depend on support as they address so many social issues. Below is a quote from one of our charity representatives – Crisis Counselling –

...I do not think that day S2 and S3 could have failed to be inspired by all of the presentations on the day by the interest and care that young people do have, as all you usually hear is the 'bad press'.



Outdoor Learning

Pupils in 2.1 took advantage of the great weather in the middle of May and took their Geography learning outdoors. In small teams, using only pavement chalk and what they had learned in class they sketched out diagrams of the rainforest. Pupils showed off their knowledge labelling the layers of the rainforest and adding in plants and animals specific to the climate region. Some teams even remembered to include the people of the rainforest and the treehouses they live in.

This team made great use of some fallen branches to add a touch of realism.



John Muir Award

This year Gleniffer High introduced the John Muir Award. We delivered this award to a select group of S1 and S2 boys that highlighted as disengaging with the school curriculum. We delivered sessions for two periods weekly which allowed pupils to learn out with the classroom. Pupils developed their soft skills, including communication, teamwork and confidence skills.



We have seen some great improvements and developments from our young people which is very encouraging and has resulted in a great sense of pride from staff members.

The boys have been presented with their John Muir Discovery Award certificates and Saltire Award certificates. As a result of committing to the John Muir Award successfully, the boys qualified for a 25 hours volunteering Saltire Award. Another certificate to add to their collection!!



Gleniffer High School has also been acknowledged as a provider of the John Muir Award which is a great reflection of the hard work that has been committed to ensuring the John Muir Award was delivered successfully. We look forward to working with different groups in the upcoming years.

Well done to Jamie Hartley, Nathan McIntock, Adam Hayes, James Thomson, Taylor Lavelle, Lewis Young and Kyle MacLean!



Wiston Lodge Residential

We have returned from a very successful few days away at Wiston Lodge in Biggar. This was a preparation trip for a sailing trip in September with Ocean Youth Trust. A group of 8 boys participated in many teambuilding, resilience building and enjoyable activities.

The group learned how to start a fire with a flint and steel striker after chopping some wood. They enjoyed toasting their marshmallows and basking in the heat of the fire.

The boys were put through their paces with a digging project. The aim was to create a carpark that would allow for accessible vehicles to park up at the cabins. A few complaints and midge bites later, we had dug up the area for the carpark.

Trust between the young people was put to the test while participating in a nightline walk. This is where the boys are all blindfolded and they need to follow the rope. The person at the front communicates back to what objects are coming up and what the best route may be. All the boys outshone themselves!!



S6 Final Day

S6 enjoyed their final day in school prior to the start of the SQA exams. Pupils exchanged best wishes with the traditional shirt signing by fellow pupils and by staff. Each pupil received a certificate from the school, wishing them all the best for the future and reminding them of our school values which they will now take forward into their post school lives. These were presented by Miss Chalmers and Miss Feggans.

We then went down memory lane with a photo montage of the year group, showing many events from S1 through to S6.

Then it was off to Lapwing Lodge. Blessed by fantastic weather, S6 had a great day! It is testament to the excellence of this year group that every single pupil said thank you to staff on leaving the coach at the end of the day. Superb!



S6 Leavers' Dance

We celebrated an excellent end to the session for S6 pupils with the annual Leavers' Dance, this year at Oran Mor in Glasgow's West End.

The evening got off to a great start, with many family members and friends coming to the school to celebrate with leavers before they headed off to the event.

S6 Leavers looked stunning! The staff scrubbed up well too!

Oran Mor looked magical, thanks to the work of the staff there, our Badgeholders and Mr Gorman. We enjoyed excellent food and excellent musical entertainment from The Pavarottis. The early evening was compared by Cassi of Clyde 1, who helped Scott and Emma present the traditional awards to the year group. This was followed by a night of dancing and chatting amongst pupils and staff. The event was superb! Well done to the Badgeholders for all of their organisation over the months. All pupils were a credit to our school and our values. It was a very lovely end to a fine year!



New S6 Induction Day

The purpose of the S6 Induction Day is to provide the pupils with a greater insight into the life of S6 at Gleniffer High School. Responsibility, leadership, teamwork, creativity and volunteering were the key messages throughout the day. The day kicked off with an information session on when and how to apply for apprenticeship opportunities and college by our Skills Development Scotland team.

The pupils learnt about the "Making Changes Together Initiative" with implementation due to begin in August 2019, Gleniffer High School is the first school in the authority to launch this. Lead by S6 pupils, involving all other year groups of the school, they meet at lunchtime to develop an initiative of their own on ways in which we can tackle poverty here in Renfrewshire, allowing pupils a voice in the changes they want to see to tackle poverty. The pupils would then record and evaluate their results before submitting a Gleniffer High School report of Recommendations to Renfrewshire Council. An exciting opportunity for our S6 pupils to lead on!

Miss Feggans and Miss Cameron talked about S6 life in terms of the Badgholder positions, the House Captain role, the common room and how it will operate going forward. Study periods are now compulsory for all S6. In terms of volunteering all S6 pupils need to sign up for at least 2 periods of volunteering a week and ensure that they are regularly updating their volunteering hours through Saltire. UCAS hints and tips were given out as well as pupils being encouraged to use the summer to research their UCAS courses so that we can hit the ground running with the application process when the pupils return to school in August. Pupils were encouraged to follow the Gleniffer_Pastoral twitter page to be keep updated with all important announcements.

It was then over to the Tree of Knowledge and their "Intriguing Futures" workshop which aims to actively motivate students to lead the session in preparation for the leadership they will apply not only in school but in their own lives as well. Intriguing Futures is designed to allow students to embrace and overcome personal challenges towards leadership, unlocking confidence in their abilities, thus relishing their responsibilities. This course leaves students feeling empowered, ready to lead themselves into their very own Intriguing Future.

"it was motivational. It made me think about past and future choices. Teamwork is an essential part of life. It made me think about my current situation. It made me realise that we feel stress more commonly than it is spoken about." (S6 pupil)

The afternoon saw the pupils put their own skills into action through softball, tennis skills, basketball skills, bike skills and more teambuilding opportunities. A great day where even the weather held out to ensure that the pupils had a well-rounded introduction to the start of their S6.



S1-3 Certificate of Merit

Another fantastic evening in the Gleniffer High School calendar. We were overwhelmed by support from parents/ carers and family members this year. We literally ran out of seats! Our S1 – S3 prize winners should be very proud of their achievements. They were a credit to the school and to their families.

For the first time the school awarded a prize in memory of a very special pupil, Ben Thomson. Sadly, Ben passed away last summer following a tragic accident. The Ben Thomson Memorial Award will be presented each session to a pupil who shows outstanding achievement in Health & Wellbeing. We had joint first recipients this year, Daniel Duffy and Jamie Louise Murray. This was an outstanding achievement. Well done to both pupils.

Well done to all pupils who were presented with a Certificate of Merit this session.



S4-6 Certificate of Merit

The Senior Phase Certificate of Merit Award Ceremony was held on the last evening of the term prior to the Spring Break. Depute Head Girl, Kennedy Campbell and Depute Head Boy, Declan Caddis acted as masters of ceremony for the evening. Steven Quinn, Director of Children's Services, presented the certificates to our award winners. Martin Perry - 'Amp-bassador' of Finding Your Feet, a local Scottish charity supporting families affected by amputation and limb difference, delivered our keynote speech encouraging everyone in the hall to do the very best they can at all times and make the best of all opportunities. Martin is a former pupil of Gleniffer High School and we remember him well. We were absolutely delighted to welcome him back to Gleniffer High School. Martin was born with one limb, no hands, and almost half of his left leg missing. Martin has not allowed this start in life to deter him. He has been active and sporty his entire life, and played a variety of sports including football, basketball, rugby and athletics before finding table tennis. After being inspired by the London 2012 Paralympic Games, Martin made the decision to give everything he has to the sport. He is now living and training in Sheffield, aiming to represent Paralympics GB at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. We wish him all the best in this endeavour. As a school pupil Martin was, as now, an inspiration to all of us.

Martin presented our all of our Special Awards. Special Awards were presented in the following areas:

Volunteering Awards

These certificates were awarded to sixth year pupils who have volunteered within the school community to help others - paying back a little to our school. Pupils were very enthusiastic in this endeavour, acting as very positive role models to younger pupils across the school. Our Young People volunteered to work within departments, at school events, Parents' Nights and with our partner agencies across our community

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Award winners gained Bronze Awards within the Duke of Edinburgh programme

Mark Scott Leadership Awards

Pupils were awarded Mark Scott Leadership awards following the successful completion of this programme led by this partner agency. The programme develops the leadership skills of young people, enhancing their confidence and skills in working with others.

Gold Awards

We presented a number of Gold awards on the evening. Pupils attain Gold Awards within our programme of recognition for achievement on the national stage in their chosen extra – curricular activity or sport or for contributions to our school foreign exchange programme

House Captain Awards

House Captains worked very closely with pastoral staff and House group pupils this session, organising events, charity fundraising and acting as positive role models to our pupil cohort. They did a wonderful job this session

Emma Spence, Head Girl, and Scott Glassford, Head Boy, delivered an appreciation of six years at Gleniffer High School. Arran Gillies, Depute Head Girl & Harry Carlin, Depute Head Boy, gave our Vote of Thanks. All of the Badgeholders did a fine job on the evening.



**Adam Salisbury & Emma Caldwell
Joint Dux**

House Captains 2018/19

At Gleniffer High School we have four houses which are represented by two house captains per house; Chloe Caddis and Calum Ferguson for Brodie, Yasmin Jose and Keira Kelly for Glen, Katie MacLeod and Cameron Muir for Moredun and Rachel Wilson and Zoe Williamson for Thornly. Each house has a different charity that the house captains raise money for throughout the year by organising a variety of events. The house charities are as follows; Brodie- Lymphoma Association, Glen- The British Heart Foundation, Moredun- Accord Hospice and Thornly- Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity.

The first charitable event of the year was the Foodbank appeal which took place in the week beginning 8th October 2018. Throughout that week pupils from across the school brought in non-perishable items to donate to the foodbank, with the last day being the biggest drive as on the Friday pupils were asked to bring in food items equivalent to £1 for the opportunity to wear their own clothes to school. Thornly absolutely dominated this event with a total of 1801 items donated, second was Brodie with 1229 items donated, third was Moredun with 1145 items donated and narrowly last was Glen with 1128 items donated. Together with 5,303 items collected this smashed the previous record of total items donated to the Renfrewshire Food Bank by Gleniffer High School.

The next event on the calendar for the House Captains was the S1&2 Halloween Dance. This an extremely popular event with the two youngest years as they get the opportunity to miss class on a Wednesday afternoon. Lots of S1&2 grabbed at this opportunity as the first sum of money was raised for the house charities as a total of £461.15 was raised.

An extremely important event was up next Anti-Bullying week 2018. A key part that the House Captains played was having an interview with a RespectMe employee and creating a video all about the steps that Gleniffer High School has been taking to try and prevent and help victims of bullying. The video is still available on the RespectME twitter and website.

A brand-new charitable initiative was created by one of the Thornly House Captains Rachel Wilson – personalised Christmas chocolate bars. The other House Captains would take the orders while Rachel would personally design them at home on the computer then once complete they would be delivered out to the teachers by the other House Captains. This went down a storm with the teachers who thought it would be the perfect stocking filler for Christmas morning with some teachers even buying up to six chocolate bars! The total money raised from initiative was £185.40

Christmas time was a very busy time of year for the House Captains due to balancing the chocolate bar sales and the G Factor the most well-known school event. The G Factor is where pupils audition with their variety of different talents to get through to the grand final which is in front of the entire school. Although mostly ran through teachers the House Captains did get themselves involved with a few of them managing to get along to auditions to help with the judging, selling the tickets for the grand final and most embarrassingly along with the pastoral teachers filmed a carpool karaoke to keep the crowd entertained while the judges were deciding the winner. The total money raised for the charities from this event was a massive £606.85

The last event of the year was the Spring Fling for senior school pupils. Unfortunately, due to lack of teacher availability and pupils being busy with coursework and tests in the run up to Easter break the Spring Fling could not go ahead. However, the House Captains did manage to get a Mini Spring Fling for the junior school pupils which was a great success with the pupils very excited to skip class for one afternoon. The Mini Spring fling added a healthy amount of money to each charities fund with a total of £205.78

The House Captains were given an excellent opportunity to judge the YPI house finals in March 2019 for their respective houses. YPI is where groups of third year pupils from all the houses chose different charities that they believed should be granted £3000 and they create a short presentation to present to their PSE classes and the judges- the House Captains. It was an extremely difficult decision for the House Captains to make as only one group from each class could go through to the grand final which the House Captains were again given an amazing opportunity as they get to host this brilliant event.

As the House Captains come to the end of their reign they have been working with the head teacher Miss Chalmers to help improve the house system before we leave. All the House Captains have been creating new ideas to improve house identity as well as giving feedback on practices that are already in place as to how we would like to see them improved. We are appreciative of the opportunity to give our opinions on this important system within our school.

Overall, the House Captains have worked extremely hard this year to raise money for their respective charities. The total amount raised is £1,459.18 which will be split equally between the four house charities with each receiving a total of £364.80

Finally, the House Captains would like to say a massive thank you firstly to the Pastoral department for the opportunity to represent the houses and for all the support they have given us over the course of this year as well as all the opportunities that they gave us to develop our skills and qualities. Also, thank you to any pupils and staff that contributed in any way to our events this year.

The 2018/19 House Captains

"The Pastoral Team would like to say a very big thank you to all of our House Captains this year. We are extremely proud of what they have achieved as a team this year and the young adults they have become. They have been role models to so many and have lead their Houses with pride and enthusiasm. Thank you and good luck"



Badge Holders 2019/20

Following a highly competitive application process and interview, we appointed the following S6 pupils to Badgeholder posts for the coming session.

Head Girl: Kirsty Gillies

Head Boy: Nathan Lawson

Deputes: James Connery

Ruth Crockett

Rosie McCafferty

Stan Mudzamiri

Congratulations to our Badgeholders. I am certain that these young people will do a grand job this session. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all young people who made applications, putting themselves forward for these important roles within the school.

Miss Feggans



CarniMalawi

Our bi-annual event took place on the second last day of term. Organised by Miss Bowie who was supported by Mr Gorman, S6 pupils and the Malawi 2020 expedition group we had a fantastic day.

The sun shone on us all day as the young people had a go on amusement rides and inflatable runs. The festival hair stall made sure everyone was glittertastic, whilst the Henna stall decorated arms and hands.

DJ sets and a special guest musician Gregor Coleman provided entertainment throughout the day, creating a total festival vibe. The one and only George Bowie was the star act for the pupils and staff!! It's safe to say everyone had a fantastic time. A huge well done to Miss Bowie and her team and also Mr Gorman for pulling together this outstanding event.



Important dates next term

15th August	Pupils Return	26th September	P7 Open Night
20th August	PTA 7pm	27th & 30th September	Holiday
22nd August	S1 and S3 Photographs New S1 Parents 6.30pm	7th October	Foodbank Collection Week
26th August	Parent Council AGM 7.00pm	10th October	Non-uniform Day
18th September	Higher Geography Field Trip	11th October	In-service Day
19th September	Higher Geography Field Trip	21st October	School Re-opens
23rd September	Parent Council 7.00pm	23rd October	S6 Photographs

Uniform

A reminder of our uniform policy for session 2019-20

White Shirt

Gleniffer High School Tie

Plain black jumper/cardigan

Black skirt or smart trousers

Black footwear

Please no jeans or leggings or branded tops.

Physical Education

Red t-shirt or Gleniffer PE top

Black shorts or tracksuit bottoms

Suitable footwear

Our uniform is designed to promote equity amongst the young people. It is very much appreciated if parents/carers support us with these standards to reduce any feelings of inequity in the school community.

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

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

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



Website:

www.glenifferhigh.renfrewshire.sch.uk