

St. Benedict's High School NEWSLETTER

Winter 2024





Welcome from Mr Taylor

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Winter 2024 edition of St. Benedict's News! I am delighted to share with you a compilation of the many activities, successes, and achievements of our young people this session.

It has been a busy but exceptionally positive start to the year, reflecting the incredible hard work and commitment of both pupils and staff.

Some particular highlights include:

Outstanding SCQF Qualifications

- Our senior pupils have achieved remarkable success, with our S5 cohort celebrating our best ever Higher results since the school's establishment in 2006—a testament to the dedication of both our young people and staff.

Pupil Leadership Opportunities

- Leadership roles are growing across all year groups, allowing our pupils to take on more responsibility and develop valuable skills.

Celebration of Achievements

- From school awards ceremonies to newsletters, house assemblies, and Twitter (X), we've been delighted to recognise the wide variety of pupil achievements, both within and beyond the school.

High Standards of Uniform

- The pride our pupils take in their appearance continues to enhance our shared sense of belonging and community spirit.

Industry Partnerships

- Our growing collaboration with employers is providing a range of exciting opportunities for pupils to engage in meaningful and relevant workplace learning experiences.

Catholic Ethos

- Our strong Catholic ethos is more evident than ever, shining brightly and guiding everything we do.

These highlights, along with many others, are captured in this newsletter.

As always, I welcome your comments, feedback, and any new information you'd like us to share in future editions.

I hope you enjoy reading!

Alan Taylor

Alan Taylor
Head Teacher



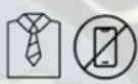
The ACHIEVE system has been very well received by pupils from S1 to S6.

Pupils receive a Merit for each class they attend, giving them a total of 33 Merits each week for meeting the expectations of the LET'S ACHIEVE TOGETHER Action Plan. These are all displayed on Satchel One so that pupils and parents can see their running totals each week.

Additional Merits are now available for pupils who have an improved attitude to their learning or for those who significantly contribute to the school community.

At the end of each term, there is a prize draw where pupils with over 95% of their Merits are entered – this has been so well received by pupils that we've increased the number of prizes this term so that more pupils' hard work and effort will be recognised.

LET'S ACHIEVE TOGETHER - ACTION PLAN

A	Arrive to class on time and get ready to learn.	
C	Concentrate and listen to the teacher.	
H	Have a positive growth mindset.	
I	Involve yourself fully in the lesson.	
E	Ensure you stay on task.	
V	Value and respect your teacher and classmates.	
E	Exit the class in a calm and orderly manner.	


Respect – Love – Trust – Tolerance – Integrity


The school's attainment and achievement levels continue to thrive ensuring that the hard work of our young people is rewarded. This year we recorded the best SQA results since the school opened in 2006.



S4 Year Group

Percentage of pupils achieving five or more awards at SCQF 5: 49%

Thirty-five pupils achieved seven National 5 awards and seven pupils achieved 7 A grades passes. Well done!

S5 Year Group (based on S4 roll)

Percentage of pupils achieving five or more awards at Higher level: 28%

Percentage of pupils achieving three or more awards at Higher level: 48%

21 pupils achieved five Highers with seven pupils achieving five grade A awards.

S6 Year Group (based on S4 roll)

Percentage of pupils achieving five or more awards at SCQF Level 6: 41%

Fourth Year Dux

Grace Adams

Sean Colligan

Jennifer Gardyne

Mia Kidd



Fifth Year Dux

Ava Garrity and Aaron Rai



We were delighted to celebrate the achievements of our young people at the awards ceremony in October.

It was a fantastic evening for all involved as we celebrated academic success, outstanding effort, sporting champions and wider achievement.

The guest speaker was Janie O'Neill, Director of Children's Services for Renfrewshire Council, who gave an inspirational speech.

The wider achievement awards showed the diversity of talent among St Benedict's young people including Irish dancing, football, martial arts and performing arts.



We were also treated to high quality entertainment throughout the evening from the soloists, Musical Theatre group, Irish Dancers and Highland Dancer. It is fair to say that St. Benedict's really does have talent!

Special Award Winners

Crieff Award	Sam Parker
Jan Merrick Award	Ava Garrity
McLoone Award	Jamie McQueen
Headteacher's Award	Fhallon Boyle
Benedictine Award	Nathan Law





School Uniform - Dressing for Excellence

Uniform is an important part of our school identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and allows students to feel a sense of pride in their school. It also helps prepare pupils for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work.

Over the past five sessions, there have been **significant improvements** in our standard of uniform. An increasing number of pupils are now wearing blazers and I am delighted to report that over 99% of pupils are now wearing all black footwear. **A big thank you to you as parents/carers for supporting this.**

Our main driving force for striving towards 100% of pupils wearing black shoes is to ensure equity for all. No pupil or parent should feel pressured to wear/buy an expensive pair of "converse style" trainers. This was also highlighted by our young people through our pupil voice.

Our improved standards of uniform coincides with our increasing pattern of attainment.

The wearing of school uniform:

- Is invaluable in conveying a sense of community, wellbeing and purpose.
- Indicates a sense of pride in the school and helps pupils to form positive attitudes to the school and their school work.
- Protects children from the harmful effects of social distinction and competitive dressing.
- Promotes the school's identity in their community, with our immediate neighbours, local business and industry.
- Assists staff in the task of supervising pupils and keeping unwelcome visitors out of the school.

The school uniform consists of :

- A white school shirt/blouse, and school tie which is visible at all times. S4, S5 and S6 will wear the Senior tie.
- Tailored black trousers or black skirt - leggings, denims and tracksuits, are **not acceptable**.
- A school blazer with badge.
- Comfortable footwear (black in colour). No **Converse style trainers unless fully black in colour**.
- Plain black jumper or cardigan (optional). Black school jumpers should be of an unbranded style that allows the school tie to be clearly seen. **Hoodies are not allowed.**





House System

Our House System is now well established, encouraging young people to participate in and take on a variety of leadership roles.

Pupils and staff can achieve house points as detailed below.

★ House Points ★



Behaviour and Effort
5 points for a grade 1
3 points for a grade 2

Attendance
25 points for ≥95% attendance

500 points for monthly departmental challenges
Respect • Love • Trust • Tolerance • Integrity

Achievements
50 points for being a House Hero

Extra Curricular Activities
50 points for attending 10 club sessions
10 points for community litter pick



Month	Subject/Faculty
September	Maths
October	Social Subjects
November	Modern Languages
December	Art and Music
January	Computing/Business/Admin
February	Home Economics
March	Science
April	Technical
May	English
June	P.E./R.E.

Each faculty will have a month where they will run an event within their department and award points to pupils at their end of the month departmental meeting.



Attendance Matters

Attendance Matters – Is your child missing out?

The importance of good attendance and timekeeping is essential for pupils to fulfil their potential. It is also a crucial life skill. If a pupil is not in school, they are missing learning.

It is important we work together to monitor this closely.

Parents/carers are by far the most important influence on children's lives and learning and are vital in shaping the mind set and behaviour of children.

You will receive attendance and timekeeping updates on all tracking reports you receive. Please pay attention to this.

100% attendance	0 days missed	Gives your child the best chance of success and gets them off to a flying start.
95% attendance	9 days of absence 1 week and 4 days of learning missed	
90% attendance	19 days of absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	Less chance of success, makes it difficult to progress.
85% attendance	27 days of absence 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed almost half a term missed	Serious implications on learning and progress.
80% attendance	36 days of absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed half a term missed	
75% attendance	45 days of absence 9 weeks and 1 days of learning missed almost 1 whole term missed	



5 minutes late per day = 3 school days



10 minutes late per day = 6.5 school days



15 minutes late per day = 10 school days



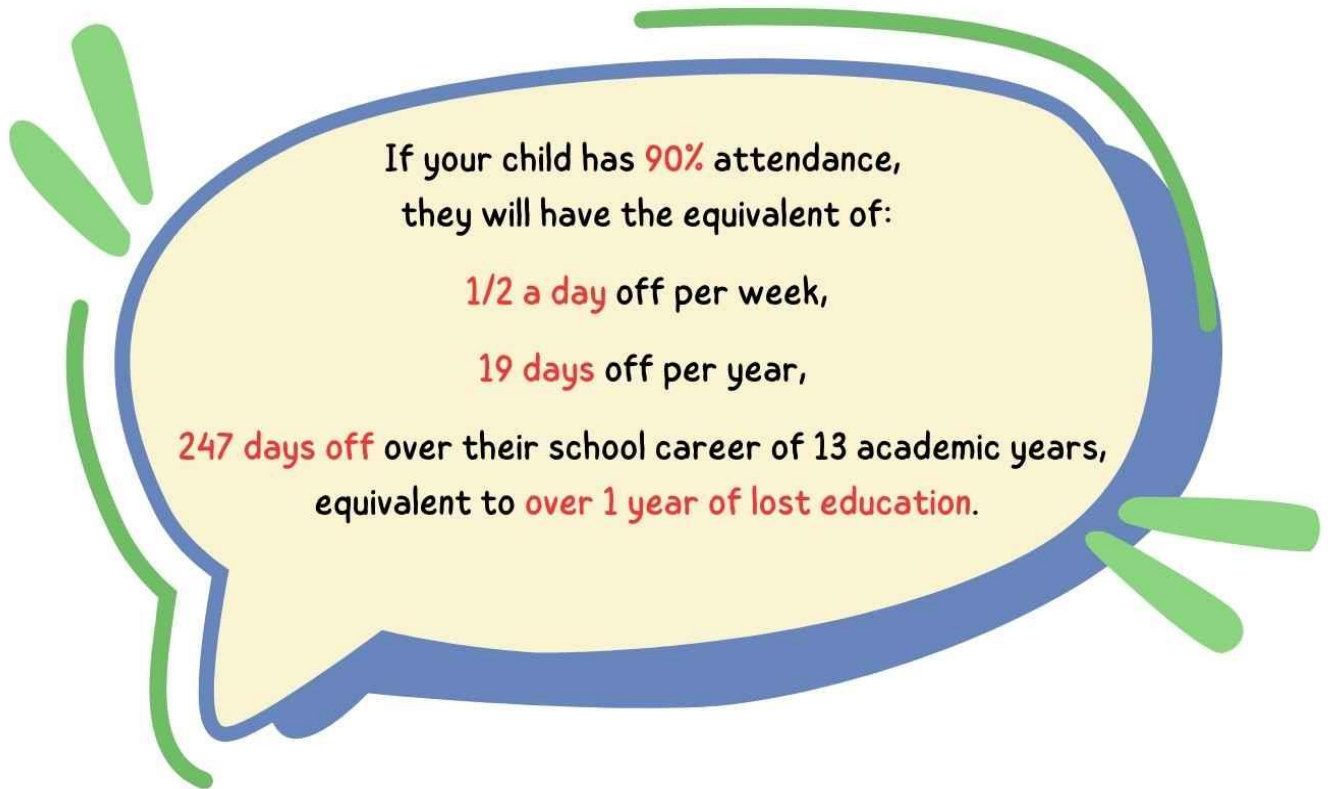
20 minutes late per day = 13 school days



25 minutes late per day = 19 school days

What can you do to help?

- Be aware of the impact of regular absences – missing school is missing out.
- Take family holidays outside of term.
- Try to arrange non-urgent dental and medical appointments outside school hours.
- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead; build up good habits of punctuality and attendance.
- Be involved with your child's education and school – ask questions.
- Inform the school if you child is absent due to illness or other reason.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school, staff are there to help and will be supportive.



We do understand that pupils can be unwell from time to time and that some pupils are affected more than others by health issues including anxiety. These pupils will be fully supported by school staff in their learning journey.



Malawi Partnership

The partnership between St, Benedict's High School and St. Patrick's Minor Seminary was formed in 2013 with the shared intention of developing and supporting both schools to become centres of excellence as communities of faith and learning.



The mottos of our two schools encapsulate the values which lie at the heart of our partnership, and which give direction and purpose to our endeavours. This is an equal partnership between our two communities and with the central aim of this partnership, being to enable our young people to achieve their full potential in life and to become the people God is calling them to be.

It is with great joy that we were able to return to St Patrick's during the Summer after a five-year gap due to Covid restrictions. A group of seven outstanding Sixth Year pupils, accompanied by Miss McFadden and Canon McMahon were able to make the journey to visit Malawi.



Our pupils attended classes every morning, after 6:30 am Mass, then served in the local community each afternoon, such as helping at St. Magdalena's boarding school for disabled primary children.

Back home, our school community has been busy organising Christmas presents to be sent to St. Patrick's in Malawi. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who is generous in their support of this annual appeal - we know the boys in St. Patrick's will be too!





News from St. Maximilian Kolbe's House

Thank you to our wonderful House and Vice Captains this year. As you can see we have a strong team. Representing our house is a wonderful opportunity and I am confident our captains will carry out their duties with pride and commitment.

House Captains



Anthony
McArthur



Ava
Garrity



Marley
Biernacki



Harmony
Etinosa-Iroghiendo

Vice Junior House Captains



Ellie
Martindale



Harry
MacKay



Ciara Orr

Harry Cavanagh

Jack McLaughlin

Ella Whitehorn

Michael Downes

Sean Doherty

Lewis Chisholm

Leah McConnachie

Madison Reyes

Harry MacKay

Corey Jamieson

Jack Graham

Emmanuel Fatuyi

Lewis Henderson

Grace Thom

Owen Campbell

Annalise Muggins

Ryan McKay

Ava McNish

Ian Kelly

Daniel Murray

Jack Hainan

Sofie Dillon

Isabella McFadden

Tobiloba Mosuro

Julia Laskowska

Hayden Mackay

Ciaran Jones

Treasure Akande

Lynn Muteveri

Choolwe Shipota

Faith Rutsvara

Oscar Liwowski

Rosie Costello

Flora Okungbowa



St. Maximilian Kolbe House Wider Achievement



Sophie Dillon
Summer McKnight
Farrah Lindsay

Dancing their socks off in NYC!

Martha Ludlow
Wonderful performance at PACE pantomime



Andrew Miller



Winning a 1st and 2nd with his dancing teams in Dublin. Andrew is now a champion dancer and will qualify for the World Championships every year.

Andrew has shown true teamwork in creating opportunities to support other dancers in his team.

Well done Andrew!



House Assembly - 11/12/24

Our House Assembly was a wonderful celebration of our young peoples' achievements. Much fun, quizzing and karaoke was had by all.



House Assembly

We successfully celebrated our House Assembly this term where pupils received awards and certificates for their many achievements throughout this school year so far. Our House enjoyed spending time with other year groups taking part in quizzes, games and prize giving!

QUIZ!
GAMES

• PRIZES •

Congratulations to this year's House Captains for St Teresa House:

Senior Captains: Katie Cananagh, Lauren Murphy

Junior Captains: Jeshof Jenith, Ruby McKeeman



1.3 James Lowrie, Ethan Kane, Kadi Porter, Mollie O'Neill, Kameron Robb and Zachary Crombie.

2.3 Gabriel Lesiak, Keziah Massengo Fleury, Adaeze Ononye and Jakub Swistak.

2.5 Poyinsola Babarinde, Dylan Crombie, Lily-Anne Greenan, Lucy Howie, Chloe Martin, Danny Moynihan, Nathan Quinn, Oscar Russell and Joseph Smith.

3.3 Oliver Campbell, Michael Double, Jeshof Jenith and Joshua Milne.

4.3 Caelan Bonner and Thomas Colquhoun.

5.3 Thanatip Meesat.

6.3 Isla Colquhoun, Chelsea MacDonald, Lauren Murphy



St. Teresa's House Wider Achievement

The following pupils have been awarded
with outstanding achievement out with school:



Sarah Price 2.3

Sarah recently was cast as Tinkerbell in her Panto in her drama class. She has been lucky enough to audition and to gain a place at the prestigious Inter Performing Arts Academy in Glasgow.



Niamh Armour 6.3

Along with her Solid Rock Teammates, Niamh won the Junior Pom Dance World Championships in Orlando Florida in April 2024. She has also qualified for the same competition and will be travelling to Florida again in April 2025.



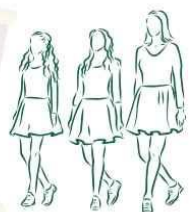
Thomas Colquhoun 4.3

Thomas achieved his Royal Yachting Association Assistant Instructor certificate over the summer for his Dinghy Sailing. He also completed his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award and is an active member of the Explorers section of Kilbarchan Scout Group.



Katie Moynihan 4.3

Katie competed in the Irish Dancing World Championships in Killarney, Ireland. She danced as part of a team placing fifth in the world! Katie competed in the Erin's Isle Feis in Dublin. She was highly commended in the under seventeen category - competing with an older group at this new grade level. She also earned two second place medals and one third place in the under seventeens.





Isla Colquhoun 6.3

Isla has been helping at the local community food larder every second Saturday for the last two years. Over the summer she completed her Duke of Edinburgh Silver award and is an active member of the Semple Rangers unit of Howwood Girl Guides where she recently completed her Silver Rangers award.



Leona Bos 5.3

Leona has been fund raising for charity and volunteers to work at church. She participates in choir and altar serves at church every Sunday. Leona also attended Great Britain Youth Catholic meeting last month in London.



Lucas O'Donnell 3.3

Lucas O'Donnell has been training in Shotokan Karate for nine years. He is one grading away from his black belt.



Ava Hampson 2.5

Ava recently took part in Cowal World Highland Dance Championships in Dunoon. She has also, for the second year running, been nominated for the British Association of Teachers of Dance scholarships.



Well done to all our winners, do not forget to update us on any other achievements throughout the year for our house points!



I hope you and your families have a wonderful Christmas,

Mrs Knapton



It was a great honour to celebrate our first House Assembly, as Acting PT Pastoral Care, where pupils received awards and certificates for their many outstanding achievements. They should be very proud of themselves, well done!

Congratulations to this year's House Captains for St. Oscar Romero House:



Senior Captains:
Brogan McCreadie and Sophie Chambers

Junior Captains:
**Noah McSkimming
and Emily McKenzie-Adams**



Well done to the pupils below who have achieved 100% Attendance certificates this year:

- 1.1** Amy Brolly, Rosie Kane, Jakub Hryc, Ewan Logan and Robert McGlynn.
- 2.1** James McFadden, Sheba Reji, Smiles Sackey, Luca Thomson and Leah Thomson.
- 3.1** Natalie McIntosh, Zara Muir and Jessica Walters.
- 4.1** Sophie Coutts, Frank Haraburda, Alex Kerr, Olive Kilpatrick, Lucy McElhinney and Erin McFadden.
- 4.5** Amber Moody
- 5.1** Kelsey Anim-Addo and Sean Colligan
- 6.1** Eoin Reynolds and Aimee Shaw

The following pupils have been awarded with outstanding achievement outwith school:

- 1.1 Harrison Watson S1 recently competed for Scotland at Scoot GB- UK Finals.
- 1.1 Ewan Logan swims for Ren96 and recently competed at the Onyx and gained a PB in his IM.
- 1.1 Rosie Kane recently performed Kilbarchan Pipe Band.
- 1.1 Grace Klar took part in The Little Mermaid show, performing over two nights.
- 2.1 Leah Thomson has successfully been cast in Annie which is showing at the Kings Theatre in January.
- 2.1 Keira Hutchinson was selected to attend A Highland Dance Scholarship after achieving over 90% in her recent exam.
- 3.1 Jessica Walters won most improved player for her local rugby club, Paisley Rugby Club, in July 2024 after being the only girl in her section and playing against all other clubs. She also plays for Paisley RFC U14 girls team, currently on loan to Greenock u14 team. She regularly wins the highest try scorer and highest tackle count per game.
- 3.1 Noah McSkimming successfully completed auditions for a role in Aladdin in December and Cinderella in January.
- 4.1 Patrick Burns has recently completed 25 hours volunteering for his Saltire Award.
- 4.5 Catherine Morier continues to dedicate her time to Johnstone Burgh FC.
- 4.5 Mariya Javed's artwork has been exhibited in the Big Art Show, Paisley for the second year running.
- 5.1 Sean Dempsey Sean has signed pro youth with Airdrie Football Club.
- 6.1 Rosie McLean has completed three years as a Young Leader for Girl Guides.



I feel very lucky to have joined the St Benedict's Pastoral Team in October and have received such a warm welcome from our wonderful pupils and parents.

The pupils of Oscar Romero have excellent talents, skills, and gifts. Please continue to share this success and we will celebrate these again in June.

Mrs Monica McLaughlin





To all pupils, parents and partners, I hope you have a peaceful and well-rested Christmas break.

Mrs Kearns.



Meet Eilidh and Oliver,
our Junior House Captains:



Charlotte Gorrie
Erik McFee
Myla Addico
Donnell Chipanda
Mufaro Kapesa
Chinemerem Eze
Lynette Wong
Kayla Chipanda
Christabelle Alabi
Chad Duru Inegbenose
Cher Duru Inegbenose
Chambalyn Duru Inegbenose
Rory Kiernan

Iain Richardson
Oliver Hart
Keelan Sloan
Reiss McGhee McNally
Jaden Katope
Aadhesh Satheesh
Monica Adams
Jason Devoy
Cara McIntyre
Lily Connolly
Aimee Duggal
Lucy Wishart
Robyn Gray

St. Bakhita House Wider Achievement

1.4

Hayley Billington - volunteering in school library
Lynette Wong - playing piano in Christmas concert
Alexis Neeson - winning dancing competitions
Jay Armstrong - school football team
Ava Hay - won trophy with football team
Eilidh Wallace - won trophy with football team
Olivia Geldard - playing for Thorn F.C.



2.4

Olivia McIntyre - won medal for golf
Zoe Boyle - playing football for Evro
Erin Hampsey and Myla Addico - school netball
Erik McFee - tennis tournament
Charlotte Gorrie - gymnastics
Tommy Bowman - boxing
Ellis Kennedy - squatting 250kg



S3

Eilidh Fitzpatrick - passed dancing exams
Oliver Stan - finished Open University Course 'Discover Chemistry' with 85%
Stepan Pelvetskyi - basketball
Gurseerit Chahal - volunteering



S4

Amber Franks - Scottish Martial Arts Champion
Ben Sheridan - PACE pantomine



S5

Hope Robertson - PACE pantomine
Brodie MacLean - World, European, UK and Scottish bagpipe competitions

S3 Braveheart Challenge in conjunction with The Malcolm Group

Our partnership with The Malcolm Group continues to grow and once again this year our S3 year group all had the opportunity to take part in the Braveheart Challenge.

This challenge gives the entire year group a business planning experience where they work in groups to design an entire project which would be implemented in their local community.



The students took on various business roles within their groups and then worked together to deliver the required outputs. The students presented their pitches to a panel of senior Malcolm executives – the judges – who then presented the awards.

"It was a joy to do the Challenge with your lovely St. Benedict's Pupils, and great to see how they threw themselves into the Challenge."
Clare McDonald, Braveheart Advisor.

Careers Fair 2024

St Benedict's Careers Fair 2024 was a great success with local and national employers, colleges and universities setting up their stalls in our street area and offering invaluable insight and advice to our senior students.

With such a diverse range of employers and educators attending – Barclays, The Army, Police Scotland, Grant Thornton, Dell etc – there really was something for everyone!

Thank you so much, as ever, to the janitorial, auxiliary and kitchen staff for all the behind-the-scenes support.



DWF Law Firm

Our S4 cohort have been involved in our annual 5 Star programme at DWF Law Firm in Glasgow. They have attended three separate masterclasses, produced CVs and cover letters for a job and been involved in mock interviews. A fabulous experience in the world of work.



S4 Attainment Seminar

Our former and current students presented in front of our whole cohort of S4. They presented their pathways since leaving school and routes already secured going forward.

New Initiatives in 2024

Car Valeting

S3 and S4 students have been working in partnership with Car Valet Glasgow. This has been such a lucrative business opportunity for our young people who are constantly improving skills for entering into the world of work.

They have been taking responsibility of the allocating of cars to be washed, collecting money, and giving out of receipts.

Well done to all the students and staff involved and thanks to catering for supplying hot chocolate on those icy cold mornings.



Career Ready

Our S5 are one of few schools piloting mentors from the Career Ready programme in Renfrewshire.

We have attended Celtic Park for the opening ceremony of the launch and invited our mentors into the school to meet parents and students.

We are ready to start our partnership and for our students to be welcomed into the workforce by their mentors. Students will undergo 18 months of mentorship and a 4-week internship in late June/early July 2025.



S1 Digital Literacy

Very busy term with over twenty pupils upskilling their knowledge on how best to support their literacy skills using digital technology.

Thankyou to Miss Pope and Mrs O'Neil for taking groups. Next set of groups to start in January.



Welcome to SfL Key Workers

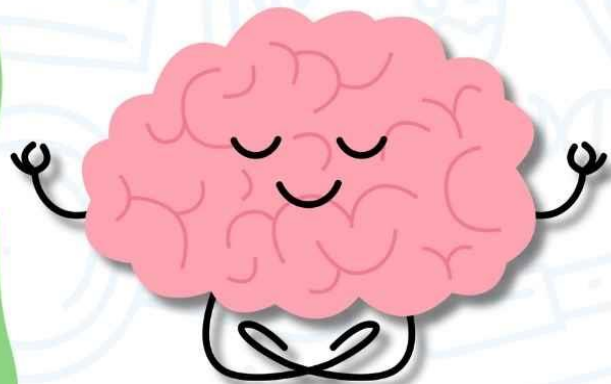
Congratulations to Emma Bull and Stephanie Campbell. They will be adding to their existing ASNA roles and looking forward to working more closely with a small number of pupils to enhance their achievement and wellbeing.

Mindfulness and Understanding Anxiety

We had two groups from S3 and S4 exploring what anxiety is and how thoughts affect the way they feel.

Calming and mindfulness tools were explored to support their mental wellbeing. Great feedback and the groups loved the hot chocolate (thank you Mrs McCrae).

Useful Mindfulness Link:
<https://www.mindfulnessscotland.org.uk/>



S1 Getting to Know My Dyslexia

Successful S1 group gaining a better understanding of what Dyslexia means for them.

They were enthusiastic in exploring tools and setups that can best support their learning.

Useful Dyslexia Link:

<https://dyslexiascotland.org.uk/>



Bikeability

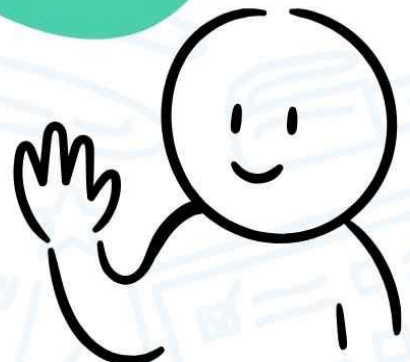
Lots of fun had by SfL staff learning how to teach bikeability and we are all 'geared' up for putting it into practice with pupils.

Mountain Biking

Ten pupils from S1-4 enjoyed two days of mountain biking with the OneRen Cycling Project! Pupils took part in challenging trails at Canada Woods and Mugdock Park, braving the weather!

Transition for New S1s

Preparations already set in motion to get to know our new S1s for 2025. TAC meetings have been taking place with primaries, and SfL staff are looking forward to going out to meet the pupils.



Skills Development Scotland (SDS) is Scotland's careers service, and they support pupils, parents, and teachers with a comprehensive range of career information advice and guidance services. Their Careers Advisers are available to support you and your child throughout their time at school.

Our SDS Careers Adviser is Audrey McNab. You can get in touch with her through the school or by emailing audrey.mcnab@sds.co.uk

From the beginning of term, the Careers Adviser has been supporting senior pupils through 1:1 meetings and group sessions, helping them to develop their career management skills and supporting them with their career planning, to make informed decisions about their future career path and highlight the range of career routes out there.

Options and Choices

At different stages of the academic year pupils will be making decisions around subject choices or may be exploring the range of options and routes open to them beyond school. There's also lots of information for parents/carers and pupils available on the SDS careers website My World of Work: Your paragraph text or for parent and carer information Your paragraph text

Useful Websites

- Scotland's careers website: www.myworldofwork.co.uk
- Your one-stop shop for apprenticeships: www.apprenticeship.scot
- Digital World promotes the skills and training needed to work in Scotland's tech sector: www.digitalworld.net





BGE Homework Club

Our BGE Homework Club (S1-S3) takes place every Wednesday at lunchtime in the PE classroom. This is run by Miss McCahill who is part of the Attainment Team. She works along with staff volunteers and S6 students to provide help and support to S1-S3 pupils in their learning.



Please encourage your children to come along for a quiet place to work and access ICT. You can continue to check your child's homework through the Satchel One app and please contact the school if you have any difficulty using this and we will be happy to help. Any pupils experiencing difficulties with Satchel One should see Miss Reid in Business Studies.

Senior Phase Mentoring Programme

As in previous years, our Senior Phase Mentor Programme continues to run offering additional help to all of our S4 and S5 students. This enhanced support builds on the work of Pastoral and Year Head and provides young people with the opportunity to discuss their achievements and concerns as they make progress throughout the year towards the prelims and the final exam diet in May. Staff offer support and advice regarding study skills, wellbeing and target setting at regular points in the school year. It is important at this time that students have a clear study timetable, are focused and coping with the demands that prelims will bring in order that our young people achieve their full potential across all subjects.

Interview Techniques

HOW TO PLAN YOUR INTERVIEW EFFECTIVELY

An extended mentoring programme is also being run by our SDS Advisor, Audrey McNab. This programme focuses on a group of S5 students working closely during mentor time to prepare them for interviews as well as giving tips and guidance on how to dress and behave in an interview situation.

These skills will be invaluable in building young people's confidence as they prepare to move out into the world of employment.

S5 Raising Attainment Seminar

This week we delivered our annual S5 Raising Attainment Seminar which was a productive and very enjoyable experience; S4 having benefited from their own seminar in November.

The morning began with Emma Lauder PT Literacy and Teacher of English delivering an inspiring motivational presentation in which she shared her own experiences of school, work, and university. This was very positively received, and student feedback highlighted that her words encouraged them to study for their prelims and allowed them to see the benefits of always aspiring in life.



Students then attended a range of workshops on Study Skills, Mindsets and Meta-cognition as well as Team Building, Well-being and Mindfulness. Volunteer staff prepared and implemented these allowing support and advice in a range of areas. Students thoroughly enjoyed the wide range of workshops on offer and especially appreciated the balance between academic support and well-being.

Our S6 students also contributed, providing an invaluable input to the day as they shared their experience of assessments with our current S5. Both positive and negative experiences were shared between students in order to ensure S5 can learn from the insight of their older peers.

For the final event of the day students attend an elective "Next Step" workshop where they chose from guidance in Careers, UCAS or Modern/ Foundation/ Graduate Apprenticeships. For students hoping to move on to university, Kate Doyle, PT Pastoral Care, took students through the UCAS process and highlighted the deadlines for different courses. Students also received advice on widening participation and how to apply for SAAS funding and student loans.



Our SDS Advisor, Audrey McNab, offered detail on exploring different pathways to various careers as well as highlighting the resources available for support. Katrina Maxwell from West College Scotland joined Jacqueline Delaney, PT Employability, in delivering a presentation for students interested in a pathway into apprenticeships. They highlighted the qualifications which can be gained and offered advice on the entry requirements and application process. Student feedback made clear that these were a particularly successful part of the day with pupils gaining a clearer understanding of where their learning can take them in future.

One of the key missions of our programme is to help our students to realise that they are resilient, have the capacity to cope and, with appropriate levels of study and support, are destined to achieve their very best.

**BE
RESILIENT!**

Digital Learning - Online Study Resources

In order to continue to support your children in their learning and exam preparation, here is a reminder of the wide range of online study resources available to them. Students can access these to assist them in their preparation and revision of prelims and final exams.

E-Sgoil

E-Sgoil offers online supported study.
<https://www.e-sgoil.com/senior-phase/study-support/>



Achieve

Offers concise explanations of each topic, links to further learning and links to SQA past papers for each topic. Students can test their knowledge of the unit or their entire course. Achieve will provide feedback on strengths and weaknesses.
<https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/user-start/?next=/>



West OS

A growing number of recorded video lessons across different subjects are available via West OS to support learning. Students can access these via Glow or by scanning the QR code.
<https://www.westpartnership.co.uk/west-os/senior-phase-resources/>



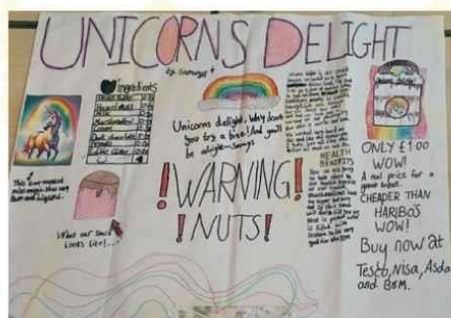
ClickView is also a valuable resource for exam and prelim preparation.

BBC Bitesize also has a range of study resources across subjects at both National Five and Higher Level.

IDL Software



We are continuing use of IDL, a digital programme proven to improve reading and spelling ages, with the aim to improve reading and spelling skills. Learners are enjoying using IDL and can see how it is improving their confidence in reading and writing across the curriculum. From tracking learner progress, it is clear there has already been a significant improvement in the reading and spelling ages of many pupils. As we move through the 24-25 session, we will continue to use IDL to support learners in literacy improvement. IDL can be accessed from home – if you'd like more information about how to use the software at home, please contact the school office or visit www.idlsgroup.com/literacy.



P6 and 7 Transition Programme

Cluster primary 6 and 7 pupils recently took part in our Snack Invention Challenge where they were tasked with designing, advertising and promoting a new snack to a Dragons' Den-style judging panel. All pupils did a fantastic job at brainstorming ideas for advertising their creations and delivered extremely impressive sales pitches to their judges.

Sky Up Academy

A group of S1 pupils will soon embark on our annual trip to Sky Academy Studios in Livingston, where they will receive the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a producer, director, actor, presenter, reporter, scriptwriter, editor, and camera operator! They will write, film, edit, and produce a news report on social media influencers. Watch this space for the results of what will be an amazing experience!



sky up



Mr Canning

My favourite book from childhood

"Lord of the Rings" by J.R.R. Tolkien

Why I loved this book:

It was the first book I read in an exciting series.

What it taught me:

It taught me how to be a brave person.

International Literacy Day 2024

Pupils and staff recently took part in an emoji treasure hunt as part of International Literacy Day 2024. This involved hunting around the school for 12 hidden messages to translate into a variety of languages, with the fastest and correct submissions taking winning chocolate prizes and house points! Staff also had the opportunity to showcase their favourite childhood books to promote reading with our young people.

Literacy Games – Christmas Edition!

Christmas isn't just about the presents – spending quality time as a family is important too! Here are some great ideas to bring the family together whilst developing key literacy skills.



Available on the App Store for FREE, Heads Up will challenge your ability to describe. Usually this game is acted out as charades, but it can also be adapted for players to shout out descriptive words.

An old family favourite, Stop the Bus is a competitive way to show off your world knowledge as well as refine your reaction times. Best of all? It's FREE! All you need is paper and pens or download free templates online.

Stop The Bus

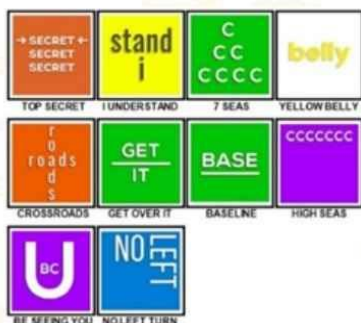
Play our fun game and see how high you can score!
Remember the more unusual answers you pick the more likely you are to get full points.

Player					
Girl's name					
Boy's name					
Food/Drink					
Animal					
Place					
Colour					



Bananagrams is available to purchase as a Scrabble-like board game as well as from the App Store. There are loads of ways to play and the in-depth instructions can easily be found online.

Articulate is another old family favourite that tests your ability to describe things fast! It is available as a board game to purchase, or you can make this more cost-effective by taking words online and creating cards yourself.



Dingbats are visual word puzzles of a famous phrase or saying. Identify all the phrases correctly to be the winner! Again, this is another cost-effective way to enhance literacy skills and spend quality time as a family.

As ever, pupils in the Art & Design department have produced some beautiful work. Some of the work displayed below shows great skill and attention to detail. Well Done National 5 and Higher we look forward to seeing what amazing work you produce this year.



SQA Supported Study

Supported study is running again Monday and Friday lunchtimes and Wednesday after school. Any pupil from any of the senior classes can attend these sessions. Students should look to take advantage of this extra time as these extra few hours can make a big difference in the preparation of a portfolio.



S1/2 Art Club

Art Club continues after the Christmas break. Pupils can get involved with some interesting pieces of work as well as have the opportunity to enter competitions. Pupils should bring their lunch and come to Miss Gibson's room on Wednesdays.



S1 Christmas Card Competition

S1 have had the opportunity to to enter our school Christmas Card Competition. They were asked to design a card which could be sent out as the official St Benedict's High School Christmas Card 2024. Well done Lynette in 1E on your design, your submission is beautiful.



@StBenedictsArt



If you haven't already, you can follow the Art Department on X @StBenedictsArt. This is where we share some of the amazing work by our talented pupils.



BGE Work



Finally, the Art Department would like to thank all staff, students and parents for their continued support throughout the past year and wish you a happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.



BGE and NQ pupils have been working hard throughout the year developing their knowledge and understanding and their cooking skills in the HFT department.



The HFT department are running the Barista Course for senior pupils again this year. Pupils are learning Barista skills and have been making coffees for staff and helping out at parent's evenings and various events.





European Day of Languages

This year, we celebrated European Day of Languages with a learning passport which pupils used to see the applicability of languages in all curricular areas. All Modern Languages classes immersed themselves in the spirit of the day with many bespoke tasks, while classes across the school participated in a variety of lesson starters in a variety of different European languages. Social Subjects lessons even had pupils building their own versions of geographical phenomena from other countries.



Mentors in Violence Prevention

Many of our senior students have signed up to function as Mentors in Violence Prevention. As part of the project, they have been partnered to English classes and will lead one lesson per month on how to build meaningful and respectful relationships across the community. Our young people have responded to this with pride and determination and we look forward to seeing the continued success of the programme.



Family Quiz Night

A huge thank-you to everyone who attended our family quiz night at the Linwood Welfare and Recreational Social Club on Friday 8th November. It was a fantastic evening and so well-attended that the venue had to move tables and chairs from their main bar area into the function suite in order to accommodate everyone who showed up to help us with our fundraising goals.



Halloween Disco

Another record-breaking fundraising effort was our Halloween disco which saw the highest attendance ever for the event. We would like to send a special thank-you to Mrs Kean for making sure the place was kitted out in suitably spooky attire, as well as Dr. Phelps, Mr Canning, Miss Lauder and Mr McKee for attending and ensuring the evening could go ahead and be the success that it was. There were some outstanding costumes on display, which you can view on our faculty Twitter/X page @sbhslanguage.



Cinema Trip

The faculty recently led a cinema trip to the Showcase for a private screening of "Joker: Folie a Deux". Aside from the film being of questionable quality – indeed, we still don't know what we think of it – one thing that was not in question was the conduct of our students. Indeed, they were a fantastic representation of our school community, and it was lovely to be able to witness them living our school values out so visibly. Thank you to all involved.



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

A number of our senior students attended an information session with representatives from Renfrewshire Council before helping to launch Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in local schools and nurseries. This initiative is designed to enhance literacy in young people and ensures children receive a book each month throughout their formative years. We are delighted that St. Benedict's will have such a strong presence in the community throughout the launch of the scheme.



All that remains to be said is a huge thank-you to our pupils, parents and partners for the support and encouragement of all that we do within the faculty. Please have a peaceful and well-rested Christmas break.

Maths Week Scotland: 23 September - 29 September 2024

Maths Week Scotland is a celebration of the importance of maths in our everyday lives.

Our S1 pupils were fortunate to enjoy a presentation from John Devlin from the University of Strathclyde on the Mathematics behind codebreaking. They learned how this helped to shorten World War II.



Some S3 pupils this year got the opportunity to visit the Glasgow Science Centre and attend 'Flight School' where they put themselves in a pilot's shoes and flew a plane on a real life simulator. It was an amazing experience for all pupils.



Congratulations to some of our talented S1 pupils who managed to design the most impressive 'Maths Flags' for Maths Week.

An exciting Numeracy event took place in November where some of our pupils were fortunate enough to be visited by M and G by The Talent Foundry who run enterprise challenges which link Numeracy to practical real-life scenarios.

This year's challenge involved pupils having to plan and organise a music concert for 10,000 people. They had to design and analyse their own market research and use these results to plan the event including set lists and stage design.



Some of our superstars also got the opportunity to visit the Riverside Museum to partake in the annual 'Numeracy Hunt'.

Did you know?

There is now a YouTube channel that is being regularly updated to support your child's learning S1 onwards?

Just search **Mr Canning Maths** on YouTube where you can access resources which can be used prior to assessments for revision or if something from class needs clarified.

A Festive Puzzle

For this festive quiz you need to be familiar with the song Twelve Days of Christmas.

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me a 'partridge in a pear tree' but he also sent me one on the second, third, and in fact all twelve days of Christmas.

For the entire song, how many gifts would you receive altogether?

Awards Ceremony

Well done to the performers from the music department who contributed to the entertainment at the Awards Ceremony. Brodie gave a warm piping welcome at the door to audience and then piped our VIP guests into the Street Area. Mariya performed on the trumpet, Bethany and Noah both sang beautifully.



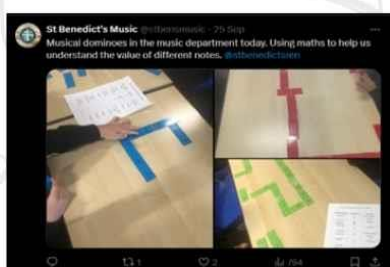
What's on?

There are a number of clubs on in the department as well as instrumental groups. Pupils receiving instrumental lessons can get involved in Strings which is on a Monday. Chanter is on a Tuesday. Percussion is on a Wednesday. Get involved!



Follow us on X!

If you haven't already, you can follow the Music Department on X (Twitter). Here you will find information about what pupils are doing in class.





Physical Education

The Sports Development pupils (with support from David Rose at Active Schools) have been leading sports sessions during placements at associated primary schools and working with S1 in PE lessons. At the change of timetable, pupils assisted at St Anthony's Primary Sports Day. They have also participated in a variety of workshops including Scottish Handball to gain coaching qualifications. Pupils have been volunteering to help out at various extra-curricular clubs, school events and community events to gain valuable leadership experience.

This year we have four football teams who are competing in the Renfrewshire League and Cups. Mr Carr is the Football Representative for the school, and he and Miss McCahill are taking the S1/2 team; Mr Scarff has been taking the S3/4 team, Miss McCahill the girls, and Mrs Banks the seniors.

Lunchtime and afterschool clubs have also been well attended, improving pupil's health and wellbeing. Mr McGeady's junior basketball team recently qualified for the ONEREN basketball finals day in June 2025. The timetable of clubs is below. Clubs are free for kids to attend.



DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	STAFF	LOCATION
MONDAY	LUNCHTIME	S4 BOYS FIVE A SIDE FOOTBALL	MR MCPHEE	GAMES HALL
	AFTER SCHOOL	GYMNASTICS AND TRAMPOLINING	MISS SHEARER/ MRS SCOTT	SMALL GYM
TUESDAY	LUNCHTIME	DANCE	MRS SCOTT	SMALL GYM
	AFTER SCHOOL	BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU/GRAPPLING	MR MCGEADY	SMALL GYM
	AFTER SCHOOL	NETBALL	MISS SHEARER	GAMES HALL
WEDNESDAY	AFTER SCHOOL	BASKETBALL	MR MCGEADY	GAMES HALL
	AFTER SCHOOL	GIRLS FOOTBALL	NICOLA	PITCHES/SMALL GYM
THURSDAY	LUNCHTIME	BASKETBALL AND S2 FOOTBALL	MR SCARFF	GAMES HALL
FRIDAY	LUNCHTIME	VOLLEYBALL (S1-S6)	MR MILLAR	GAMES HALL

N.B. All clubs require a P.E. kit to participate, **except Dance**.
Canteen queue jump passes available from P.E. for pupils attending clubs.

S1/2 Core P.E. block plans for the year are below. This is for pupils and parents to know when lessons will be indoor or outdoors. Please bring suitable clothing for adverse weather if outdoors such as jogging bottoms, jackets/jumpers, gloves, towels etc.

S1 Core

	1.1 B	1.2 G	1.3 CE	1.4 G	1.5 B
1	BADMINTON	AESTHETICS AND DANCE	RUGBY AND FOOTBALL	BADMINTON	RUGBY
2	FOOTBALL	RUGBY AND FOOTBALL	AESTHETICS	RUGBY AND FOOTBALL	FITNESS AND ORIENTEERING (FS/O)
3	RUGBY	BADMINTON	FITNESS AND ORIENTEERING (FS/O)	FITNESS AND ORIENTEERING (FS/O)	BADMINTON
4	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE
5	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY
6	AESTHETICS	FITNESS AND ORIENTEERING (FS/O)	NETBALL	AESTHETICS AND DANCE	FOOTBALL
7	FITNESS AND ORIENTEERING (FS/O)	NETBALL	BADMINTON	NETBALL	AESTHETICS
8	CHOICE	CHOICE	CHOICE	CHOICE	CHOICE
9	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS
10	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES

S2 Core

	2.3 B	2.5 CE	2.4 G	2.2 G	2.1 B
1	FOOTBALL	FITNESS (FS/O)	AESTHETICS AND DANCE	RUGBY AND FOOTBALL	FOOTBALL
2	VOLLEYBALL (GH)*	AESTHETICS AND DANCE	VOLLEYBALL (GH)*	BASKETBALL (SG)	VOLLEYBALL (GH)*
3	RUGBY	VOLLEYBALL (SG)	FITNESS (FS/O)	AESTHETICS AND DANCE	RUGBY
4	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE	SOCIAL DANCE
5	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY	CROSS COUNTRY
6	AESTHETICS	BASKETBALL (GH)	RUGBY AND FOOTBALL	FITNESS (FS/O)	AESTHETICS
7	BASKETBALL (GH)*	RUGBY AND FOOTBALL	BASKETBALL (GH)*	VOLLEYBALL (GH)	BASKETBALL (SG)
8	CHOICE	CHOICE	CHOICE	CHOICE	CHOICE
9	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS	ATHLETICS
10	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES	SUMMER GAMES

Block Dates

1. 16th August - 13th September 4 weeks
2. 16th September - 11th October 4 weeks
- Fitness Test 21st October - 25th October 1 week**
3. 28th October - 29th November 5 weeks
4. 3rd December - 20th December 5 weeks (Social Dance)
5. 6th January - 17th January 2 weeks (X Country)*
6. 20th January - 13th February 4 weeks
7. 1 9th February - 21st March 4.5 weeks

Fitness Test 24th March - 28th March 1 week

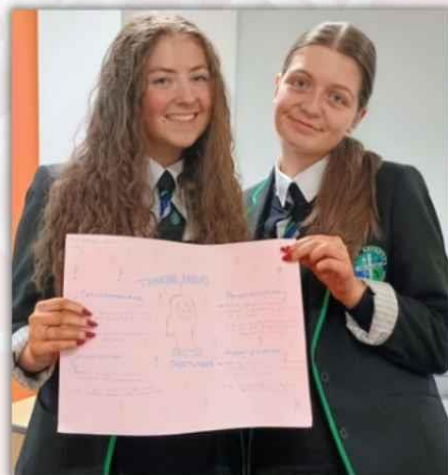
8. 31st March - 4th April 1 week (Choice)
9. 22nd April - 30th May 6 weeks (Athletics)
10. 2nd June - 27th June 4 weeks (Summer Games)

Coach Josh from the Paisley Bear American Football Team delivered coaching sessions to S1-4 pupils to give them an introduction to the sport in October.



Thanks to Mr Taylor and the Parent Council for providing new basketball and football kits for the S1 and S2 teams. Pictures to follow in the summer newsletter.

Twenty pupils in S6 are studying towards achieving a Higher qualification in Psychology. The students are learning how to research human behaviour using experimental and non-experimental methods. The topics being studied include sleep, depression, conformity and obedience. In addition, students will design and carry out a research study into an aspect of behaviour. The students have enjoyed career talks from our educational psychologist and community psychiatric nurses.



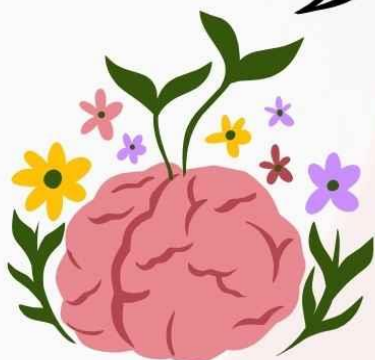
I love Psychology because it is interesting. We have learned a lot about how the brain works which I have thoroughly enjoyed. The teacher makes the subject exciting, fun and very interesting.'

Olivia McInnes, S6



Last year I studied N5 Psychology and was awarded an 'A' pass. I have applied to university to study mental health nursing. This year we have studied mental health and depression which has been very useful to me.

Jemma Johnston, S6





Holy Mass with the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Marín Buendía.

We gathered as a cluster community to pray for the academic year ahead.



A group of our staff and pupils joined Bishop John Keenan for the Diocese of Paisley's annual Vocations Mass.



Grace visited Mgr. McFadden and St. Fillan's Parish for Catholic Education Week.



Miss Howell attended a roundtable in the Scottish Parliament to discuss Catholic Social Teaching and politics.





Dr. Phelps visited Fr. Paul and St. Margaret's Parish for Catholic Education Week.



Caritas pupils met with their parish priests to plan their year of service.



Annalise, Cian, Liam and Broghan visited Fr. Michael and St. Conval's Parish for Catholic Education Week.



S3 pupils had a wonderful day participating in a WYD event at St. Mirin's Cathedral.



We had a lovely Caritas coffee morning with pupils meeting up with their parish priests to discuss their plans for the session ahead.



Sophie and Niamh visited Fr. Matthew and St. Aidan's Parish for Catholic Education Week.





Caritas pupils helped out at the St. Fillan's Church Fete.



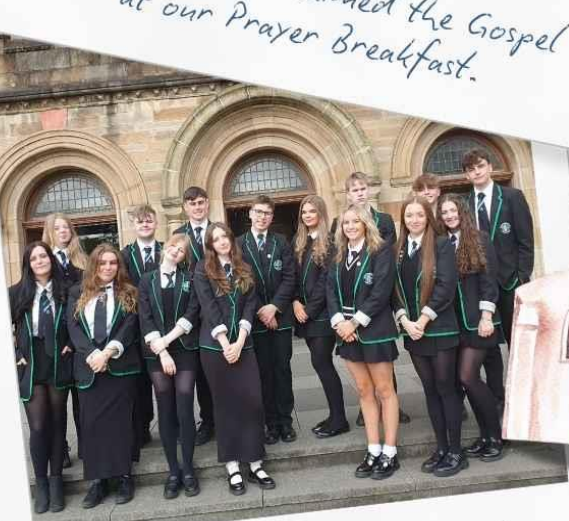
Caritas pupils welcomed Bishop John Kennan to St. Margaret's Church.



Fr. Michael proclaimed the Gospel at our Prayer Breakfast.



Broghan led the School Prayer at our Prayer Breakfast.



Sixth Year pupils took part in a retreat during Vocations Week.



Sophie led the reflection at our Prayer Breakfast.

Powering Futures

This exciting new qualification has been launched in St. Benedict's this year, it aspires to better prepare our young people for the workplace. Watch out for an article in The Herald about our journey.



Out on the road today visiting @PaisleyGrammar @stbenedictsren and @renfrew_high

Delighted to hear that the Powering Futures classes are going so well
#PowerUp

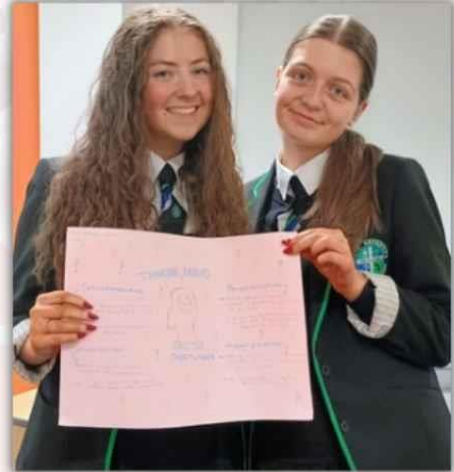


I had the BEST day today. ❤️

I spent my morning at @stbenedictsren with the @poweringfutures teams - what a great bunch, we talked about their personal development journeys this year. Also had a fab coffee and chat with Anthony & Callan who were working the machine.



Twenty pupils in S6 are studying towards achieving a Higher qualification in Psychology. The students are learning how to research human behaviour using experimental and non-experimental methods. The topics being studied include sleep, depression, conformity and obedience. In addition, students will design and carry out a research study into an aspect of behaviour. The students have enjoyed career talks from our educational psychologist and community psychiatric nurses.



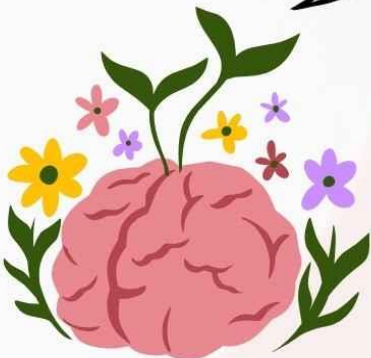
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Olivia McInnes, S6

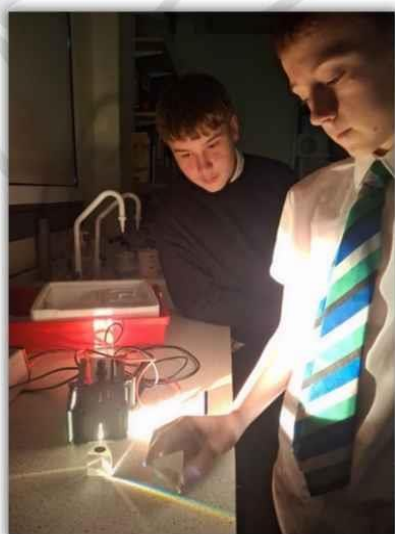
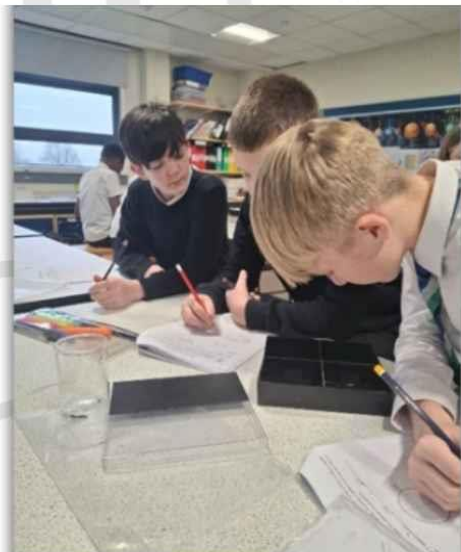


Last year I studied N5 Psychology and was awarded an 'A' pass. I have applied to university to study mental health nursing. This year we have studied mental health and depression which has been very useful to me.

Jemma Johnston, S6



Our young scientists have been learning about biodiversity, investigating the behaviour of woodlice.



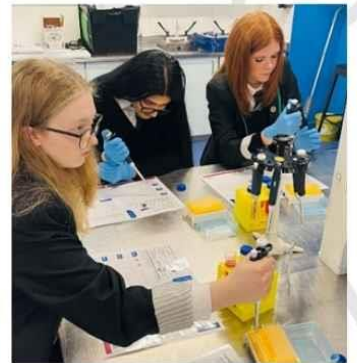
Some of our S2 have been making some lovely rainbows all over the classroom, demonstrating their knowledge of refraction.



S4 physicists investigated factors which reduce radiation exposure.



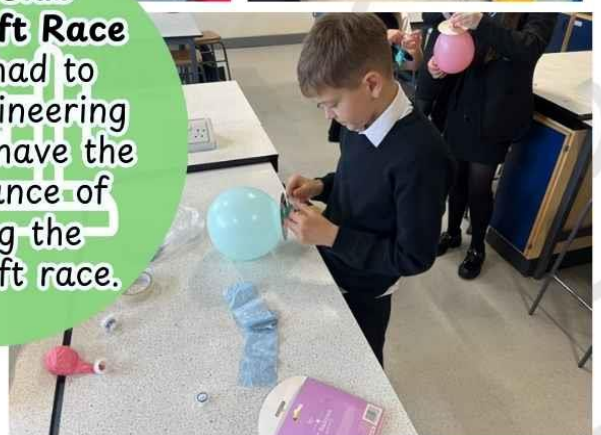
Spooky STEM Club



STEM Club Hovercraft Race

Pupils had to solve engineering issues to have the best chance of winning the hovercraft race.

Some of our S6 scientists taking part in a precision medicine workshop at the Glasgow Science Centre.





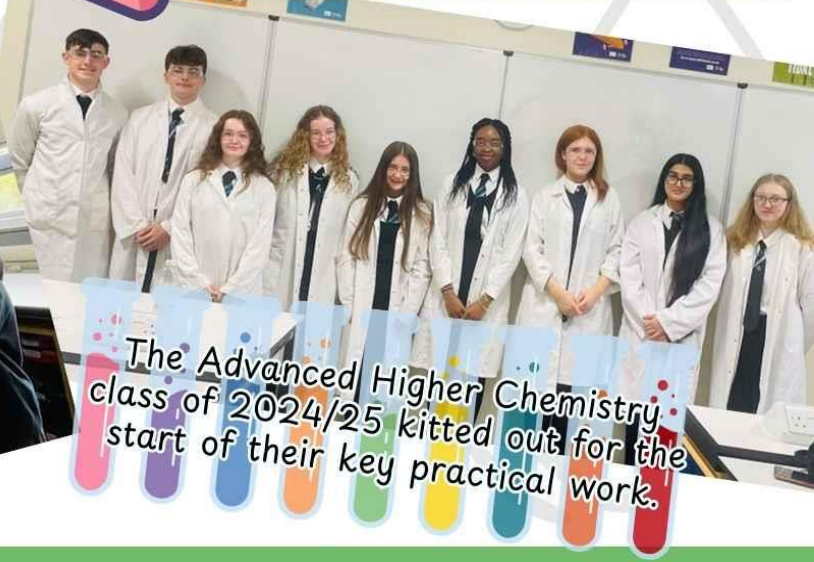
Some of our new S3 chemists enjoyed the crazy chemical reactions introduction.



S2 were investigating how concentration impacts the rate of a chemical reaction with a microscale iodine clock.



The new S1 Science cohort have settled in really well to their practical work.

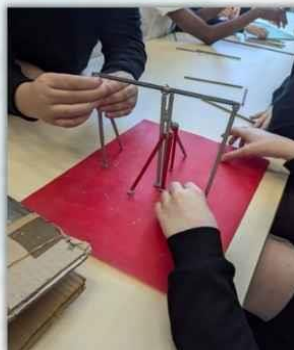


The Advanced Higher Chemistry class of 2024/25 kitted out for the start of their key practical work.

The first two terms have been a busy time in social subjects. Our pupils have had some amazing experiences in class and out! Follow us on @socsbstbens!

GeoBus

We had a brilliant two days of workshops with GeoBus from St Andrew's University. S1 pupils looked at how seismic waves work and simulated their own earthquake and measured it. They also worked in groups to build earthquake proof buildings. Fantastic hands-on learning!



GeoBus also worked with the Higher Geography class. The team worked with Higher Geography students looking into the role of soils. The students used different sediment textures to investigate the effect of grain sizes on infiltration. We also looked at different soil textures and soil profiles. Amazing experience.

Glasgow Clyde College

Our Travel and Tourism classes had a fantastic opportunity in November when they visited Glasgow Clyde College.



The pupils completed their Cabin Crew Experience getting to use life vests, oxygen masks and service trolleys!

Brilliant customer service and employability skills shown by all!



Social Subjects House Event

Our House Event happened in November. Pupils in S1 took part in an escape room challenge, Escaping Vesuvius AD 79. Pupils used their numeracy skills to crack codes as well as translate Latin! Winning team were from 1.1 with a time of 10 minutes and 13 seconds. House Romero earned 175 points!



Remembrance Day

Our Head Boy and Girl were honoured to represent our school community at this year's Remembrance Service hosted by Linwood War Memorial, along with representatives from Our Lady of Peace, Linwood High School and Father Michael, our School Chaplain.

Holocaust Educational Trust

In October we hosted a live chat with The Holocaust Educational and Mr Berdach a Holocaust Survivor. Our Higher History classes and History Ambassadors found the experience thoroughly moving and highly informative. Thanks to The Holocaust Educational Trust and Mr Berdach.



Police Scotland

Thank you to PC Kyle Reid who visited Mr Tonner's S3 Modern Studies class in October for a Q&A session.

Very insightful and informative!

Arran Trip with Lochranza Outdoor Centre

Some of our N5 and Higher Geographers enjoyed a lovely trip to Arran to complete some field work in September. Pupils carried out both a river study and an urban study. Amazing day to fully experience the subject!



Celts and Romans - Glasgow Museums

In S1 History, we borrowed resources from Glasgow Museums to bring Roman era artefacts into the classroom to enhance our learning of the Celts and Romans topic!



We have a lot to look forward to after the Christmas break!

January - Gathering the Voices Exhibition

February - Dynamic Earth trip

Summer term- Local heats for SAGT Quiz

Summer term - Micro Tyco event

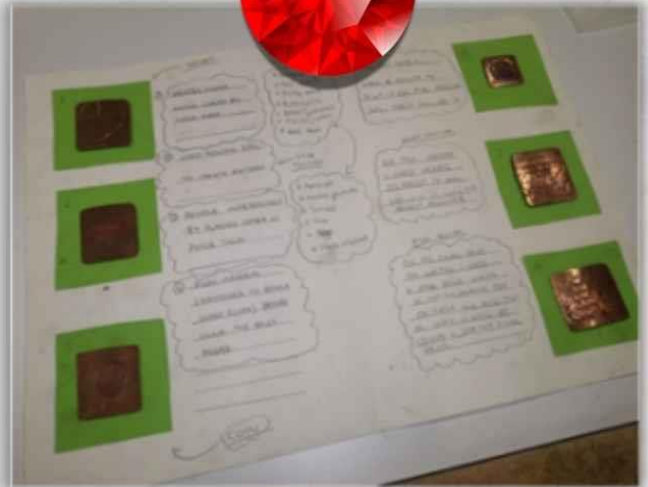
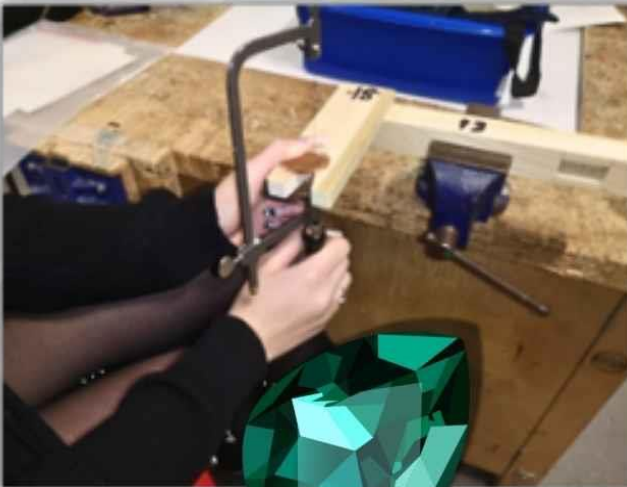
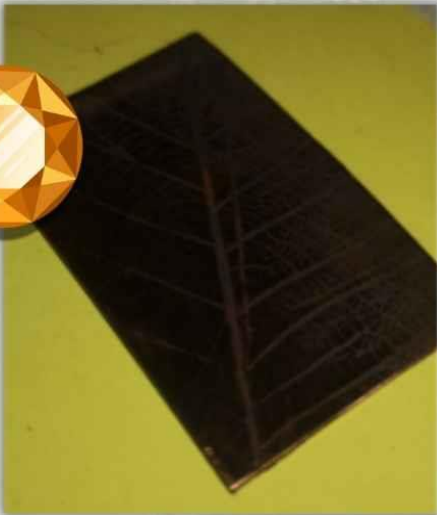
Summer term - Loch Lomond trip

All of this along with our continuing efforts for highly effective learning and teaching which can be seen on our X (twitter) feed.

Tech

The new S3 Jewellery Design class have been practicing lots of new skills.

Here is a small selection of their work and the new tools they are using.



Meanwhile, the Woodworkers have been busy too and even found time to make various Christmas trees!



Christmas Celebrations



Christmas Ceilidh

Christmas Lunch



Snow Ball



Christmas Concert





Dates for Your Diary

Second term: January to April 2025

Event	Status	Date
Start of term	Schools open	Monday 6 January 2025
In-service day	Schools open for teachers and staff only	Friday 14 February 2025
Mid-term holidays	Schools closed	Monday 17 February 2025
Mid-term holidays	Schools closed	Tuesday 18 February 2025
Second half of term	Schools open	Wednesday 19 February 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Monday 7 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Tuesday 8 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Wednesday 9 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Thursday 10 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Friday 11 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Monday 14 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Tuesday 15 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Wednesday 16 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Thursday 17 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Friday 18 April 2025
Easter holidays	Schools closed	Monday 21 April 2025

Third term: April to June 2025

Event	Status	Date
Start of term	Schools open	Tuesday 22 April 2025
May Day	Schools closed	Monday 5 May 2025
Normal school day	Schools open	Tuesday 6 May 2025
In-service day	Schools open for teachers and staff only	Friday 23 May 2025
Local holiday	Schools closed	Monday 26 May 2025
Normal school day	Schools open	Tuesday 27 May 2025
Summer holidays	Schools closed	Monday 30 June 2025

Further term and holiday dates can be found here:

<https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/11856/School-term-dates-and-holidays>