

## Newsletter –November 2021

Welcome to the last newsletter of the current year.

As you will be aware the newsletter informs people of the events and activities that took place across the previous month. This newsletter will highlight 'some' examples of the events that took place in November. The December newsletter will be issued in January. As this is the last newsletter before the holidays I wanted to take the opportunity to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I hope you enjoy the contents of this month's newsletter.

### COVID Update

From August 2021 until now we have had, as a school, as close to a normal school session as we've had since March 2020. As the weeks and months go by there are continued updates to COVID guidance for schools from the Scottish Government. These updates are, for the most part, good news as they do bring small, incremental but positive change through the lifting of certain restrictions to enable schools to offer more opportunities to our pupils. The ability to offer extra-curricular activities at lunchtime and after school has been a blessing; the re-instigation of competitive sporting fixtures against other schools has meant that football and rugby leagues have been introduced once again and the ability to go on day trips enhances pupils learning experiences beyond the classroom and has been warmly welcomed. You will see from the contents of this newsletter that many of our pupils have embraced the extra opportunities afforded to them and have helped others through important charity fundraising; many have gone on trips to a variety of places ranging from outdoor education centres to cinema trips to a Champions League football match. You will also see that one of our teacher's, Ms Walls, ran in the London Marathon to raise money for charity too.

Of course, we are still living with COVID and many restrictions remain in force meaning that we are far from back to normal. As a school we must retain separate entry and exit arrangements for year groups/areas of the school; one way systems across the school must remain in place; pupils and staff must wear masks in classrooms and corridors; we must clean surfaces at the beginning of every period and much more besides. We will keep parents/carers updated on any significant changes but the Scottish Government remains concerned about the level of positive COVID cases and so for the moment, most of the existing restrictions do still remain in place.

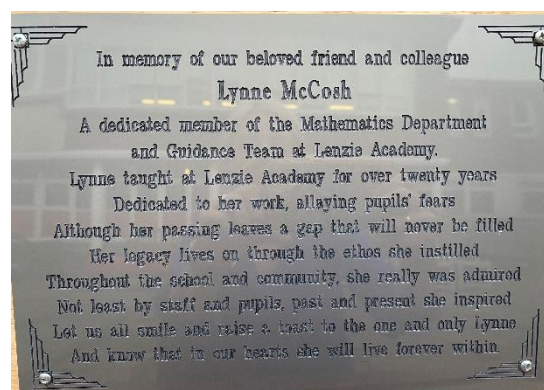
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## Ms Lynne McCosh

On Wednesday 24 November at 2.45pm many of our staff met in the quadrangle to remember our former colleague on the first anniversary of her death from cancer. Lynne was a much valued colleague who worked for more than 20 years in the school as a PT Guidance and a member of the Maths department. Her colleagues in Maths wrote a beautiful poem that was shared with all staff reflecting on Lynne's life and contributions to the school, which were significant. We have dedicated a bench to Lynne and a plaque has been added to the bench. This gives our staff a place for quiet reflection.



This year the Maths department will be coordinating the annual 'Decorate your door for Christmas'. This allows many of our staff to be creative and it also raises money for a charity close to Lynne's family's heart - Marie Curie. Last year over £100.00 was collected and we hope we can improve upon the amount of money raised. It will be challenging to improve upon the quality of some of the doors last year as they really were outstanding. We have included some examples for illustrative purposes.

Our school captains will choose the winner for this year and we will include this in the December newsletter.



## Broad General Education (BGE) and Senior Phase (SP) Councils

The first meetings of the BGE and SP Councils took place in November. Each year group has representatives from each of our four houses. The meetings are chaired by our House Captains, who also take a minute of the meetings and the House Captains will also feedback the key issues to the wider school during House Assemblies.

The young people representing their peers took the job seriously and were involved in interesting and reasoned discussions where they all contributed innovative and sensible ideas. The BGE and SP Councils will come together twice a year as the Pupil Parliament, which will also have representatives from various interest groups within the school e.g. the Fair Trade Group, the Sustainability Group, the Sports Council, the Equalities Group, the Allies Group and various other groups. The purpose of the Pupil Parliament is to agree the school improvement plan for the following year and to have a pupil voice on any major issues that emerge across the session.

## S4-6 Preliminary Examinations

All departments are working incredibly hard at the moment to ensure good course coverage to facilitate the preliminary examinations which will take place in January 2022. Departments will start to engage in revision for the prelims in December. The prelims will start a few days after we return in January and will run across a couple of weeks. During this time S4-6 pupils will have study leave, though they can come in to school if they need to speak with their teachers. They should contact their teachers in advance so the teacher knows they are coming and the pupils should come in when they would normally have the class e.g. if a pupil normally has H Grade English on a Monday P4 or Wednesday P6 they should arrange to see their teachers at that time. Teachers will have other commitments outside of these times such as teaching other classes or they may be engaged in invigilation duty.

All preliminary examinations will be of up to 1 hour 40 minutes in duration. This is shorted than the final exams in most cases but we will have another assessment block in March similar to that which took place in October 2021.

## S3 Parents Meeting (Virtual)

Due to COVID restrictions we cannot have face to face meetings with parents/carers in school. We used a system called 'Parents Evening Booking System' to facilitate a virtual parents meeting on Thursday 25 November for the parents/carers of S3 pupils. Early indications are that the system worked very well. We have had positive feedback from staff and parents and we will engage in a more thorough evaluation as soon as we can. This system will be rolled out for all parents meetings this year.

## Live - Parents Portal!

**parentsportal.scot**

Parents Portal is now live!

East Dunbartonshire Council is changing the way schools and families communicate with each other through a new online service called **parentsportal.scot**. It's an online portal designed to be a one-stop shop for a number of school-related activities and will create a new digital relationship between you and us. This exciting development will make communicating with one another easier and more efficient.

Here are just some of the things it will help you do: make online payments (cashless catering), report an absence, view your child's attendance and timetable, look at our twitter feed, update your contact details and get latest news from us. More services will be added in the future.

You can access the new Parents Portal via the Scottish Government's secure online account called **myaccount**. Don't worry if you don't have one yet or can't remember signing up for one, you will receive an email with joining instructions and there'll be a video to help you through the process. There is also more information and FAQs on the **school website** and on the **Council website** too.

## Parental Engagement Update

As part of the school's continued efforts to further enhance our stakeholder's roles within the school community, a short survey was recently issued for parental completion via our last newsletter. This data is being used to inform the Parental Engagement team's next steps. Your time taken to complete the survey was greatly appreciated. We had over two hundred responses, a quick link to the survey results is posted below for your information.

### [Parental Engagement Survey Results](#)

It is clear while there are many aspects of school life parents highlight as being positive, there are areas for development we can now work towards improving.

To allow for further analysis, we would like to invite parents to become part of a focus group. This would involve giving over a short time to answer specific questions and offer your opinion on school life for you and your child(ren).

A groupcall will shortly be sent to all parents with specific details of the focus group. Could I please ask you to respond to this by return email if you are able to attend a virtual focus group, and marked for the attention of G McClune.

## PTA News

Over the past couple of years, the PTA have continued to work tirelessly to raise additional funds to support staff in providing curricular and extra-curricular experiences for our pupils. This month several bids were received and supported.

In HFT £835 was allocated for equipment in Fashion and Fabric for our sewing club and £400 for new mixers and cooking equipment. There was £250 given to the photography club for equipment and £425 to our modern languages film club. The amount of £1000 was granted to the support for learning department to purchase laptops and £500 to Maths to ensure wider access to scientific calculators for pupils who do not have their own. The music department received £1700 to purchase 10 new keyboards and it is hoped that a further 10 will be able to be purchased later in the year.

To continue to support the school going forward there will be two fundraising events over the next few months. In December pupils will participate in a sponsored "Santa Dash" and in February we will run a "Race Night", hopefully in the rugby club. We ask that all parents and staff try to support these events to ensure we can continue to support these valuable experiences and opportunities for our children.

## S5 Outdoor Education Elective

Over the course of 7 weeks, Glasgow Kelvin College offered some of our pupils the opportunity to develop skills and experience in various water craft to attain their Paddle Start Award from British Canoeing. The group developed confidence using paddleboards, kayaks and open canoes, ultimately selecting paddleboards as their assessed craft. They learned how to select the correct equipment, launch successfully, basic manoeuvres and water safety. In their final session, they undertook an open canoe expedition along the Forth and Clyde Canal at Maryhill to celebrate their success.





## 'Be Bold for Brave Girls'



Recently in the geography department, Miss Gilmour's 4<sup>th</sup> year National 5 class undertook the challenge to support Plan International's 'Be Bold for Brave Girls' Campaign - keeping girls in school beyond 12 years old.

In the National 5 geography curriculum 4<sup>th</sup> year cover the population topic in which the pupils discover that in many countries young people, particularly girls, are not getting the education they deserve. Once they turn 12 years old their lives change, as they are forced to marry and start a family due to their parents no longer being able to support them. As a class everyone was shocked and wanted to change this situation; providing young people around the world with a suitable education and supporting their future just like we are privileged to have at Lenzie Academy.

We decided to raise enough money to send a girl to school for one whole year. It costs less than 65p a day to send a girl to school in many countries, equating to £123 for the year. Our challenge as a class was to cover the same distance in km. We walked, ran, and even hobbled around our school perimeter covering enough laps to reach this huge total. By setting up a JustGiving page we were overwhelmed by the generosity of parents, carers, friends, and other staff members in helping us reach our target. Miss Gilmour's class would like to thank everyone for your support and to let you all know that we surpassed our target, allowing us to hopefully support a girl through school for two years rather than one. Thank you!



*Pupils in S4E1 highlighting the 246 laps/123km completed and the comparison between the cost of education and 2litres of milk in the UK!*



**Less than 65p a  
day  
can transform their life and  
yours**

## Reading Schools

This session, Lenzie Academy is aiming to be accredited as a Reading School!

Reading Schools is a programme run by Scottish Book Trust designed to encourage as many people as possible in school communities to read more, find books they like, and talk more about reading for pleasure.

Throughout this school year, pupils will have the opportunity to take part in various events and activities related to reading such as completing a survey about their attitudes to reading, working on an English project based on a book they've read, finding out what staff in the school enjoy reading, reading book reviews in the school newspaper, and visiting the school library more often.

Junior pupils have already been introduced to the Reading Schools programme and Mrs Barry organised several activities including a quiz for pupils and staff during this year's Book Week Scotland!

## Equalities Groups

Our staff Equalities Committee was set up at the beginning of this year. The committee aims to work on raising awareness of diversity throughout the year and celebrating the differences in our school community. So far, pupils have received an input on Black History Month, an Equalities overview, and Remembrance Day. Unfortunately, facilitating in-person assemblies is still difficult due to restrictions; therefore, the committee inputs have been in the form of a narrated PowerPoint that has been shown to pupils in class. We are hopeful that as we move through this year, our inputs can become more interactive and engaging for pupils. The committee would like to thank all pupils who have been involved so far in the PowerPoint narration and who have shared their own personal experiences of discrimination. Pupil involvement is key to us raising awareness of these issues.

Our Senior Phase (S4-S6) Equalities Groups will work with Miss Provan and our staff committee throughout the year to help plan and advertise all celebrations. All pupils are enthusiastic to get involved in raising awareness of diversity within the school and have lots of exciting ideas as to how we can do this! The committee is looking forward to working closely with this group of S4-S6 pupils this year.

Miss Shearer and the BGE (S1-S3) Equalities Group have been working to promote inclusion and diversity across the school this academic year. We will be liaising with the Senior group to work collaboratively on projects such as Mental Health Awareness week, LGBTQ+ Rainbow Run and International Women/Men's day in the coming months

## Children in Need

Lenzie Academy has had an annual tradition of collecting funds for Children in Need as we seek to aid those less fortunate than ourselves. Naturally, this year was no different. Many thanks to the S6 Captaincy Team for making the week beginning Monday 15th November such a success, as the school raised over £1,500 for charity through various events. Though the organising was stressful, we have to say that it all paid off in the end.

Long anticipated as a staple of Children in Need week, on Monday hundreds gathered to watch the Teachers vs Pupils Football Match. The astroturf was bustling with excited cheers, leading our pupils to an outstanding 3-0 victory against the teachers. Better luck next time \*nudge nudge wink wink\*. We can only hope that the teachers won't hold on to any grudges during class time!

On Thursday, the bake sale was likewise a great success. Our teams manning the stalls were swamped with eager buyers, and all items were practically sold out by the halfway point of lunch. One can only imagine the smell of confectionery goods in one place, but I can tell that the dentist won't be so pleased...

Other events included Guess Pudsey's Birthday, Beat the Goalie, Guess Teachers' Baby Photos (yikes!), a PE event organised on Friday for the S1s and the ever-famous Dress Down Day. Overall, I would say a hustle and bustle week. Once again, the role of both staff and pupils in giving up their time for the benefit of Children in Need cannot be understated. We certainly look forward to what the next year's Children in Need team will bring to the table.

## Teenage Treats for Christmas

The pupils in the Support for Pupils department are again collecting Christmas treats and stocking fillers for teenagers in the community. Many families rely on foodbanks even more so this year and we are looking for donations of festive treats or small stocking fillers for teenagers in our local community at Christmas time. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.



Pupils can bring donations by **Friday 10 December** to the PI Room – **B8** Thank You





**November is the month LACE celebrates pupil social action**

Lenzie Academy Community Action has got lots to celebrate this November as we continue to move out of lockdown restrictions and our pupils are able to get back to what they love doing – working with others and for others.

This year's national **#iwill ambassadors** include one of our school captains. Felix applied earlier this year to join this select group of young people who represent the best of youth social action and work together to encourage more organisations to encourage youth participation. His application was accepted and he began work within Lenzie Academy straight away.

Anti bullying Week began and ended with a House challenge. On Monday #oddssocks day was to celebrate diversity and individuality. This year's campaign was "one kind word" and it finished with Children in Need House Colours Day. The whole week was a chance for groups and PSE classes to discuss the theme of kindness and the effect that creating a kindness culture has on everybody. The S6 pupils worked hard on various activities throughout the week and demonstrated many of the whole school values that LACE was built upon: respect, tolerance and compassion.

The week beginning the 22<sup>nd</sup> November is #iwill week. Nationally young people are celebrating the social action in which they are involved. The Fair Trade Committee were the first to take a selfie of the Team demonstrating their social action.



# Fairtrade Committee





**Past Events**

- S1 Change Challenge
- Fairtrade Fortnight
  - S3 Fairtrade Challenge
  - Malawi week
  - Spring Fling

To raise awareness of Fairtrade in the school and local community

Scan the QR code for more



The Group will be meeting on a Monday lunch in the library

Types of Awards You Can Gain

- Saltire Award
- Dynamic Youth Award
- Youth Achievement

Scan the QR code to Join the



**WE ARE A FAIRTRADE SCHOOL**

Felix is busy collecting all the #iwill shout outs from the current S6. In addition to working with younger pupils in subject areas, many volunteer in clubs and societies in school and in the wider community. The wakelet of #iwill week will be posted later this month to demonstrate how Lenzie Academy Community Action involves and recognises our pupils wider achievements.

## “Beat” – Eating disorders charity

A few months ago Miss Walls - Teacher of Health & Food Technology, did (in her own words) *“the scariest thing ever”* and shared her battle with anorexia with her colleagues at work. She wanted to raise awareness of eating disorders and signed up to run the London marathon in 2020 however due to covid it was postponed until 2021. She has raised £6,408.75 a huge congratulations from us all. You can read the full story online at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/amy-walls1>



## Basketball tournament

November saw the return of school v school indoor competitions! Lenzie Academy hosted an S1 3v3 basketball tournament. 6 schools (16 teams) from East Dunbartonshire competed in the event. Team Lenzie did exceptionally well, finishing 10th, 3rd and CHAMPIONS!





## S2 - Foods Around the World

Our S2 elective class have thoroughly enjoyed learning about a multitude of different food cultures. They have prepared a variety of dishes from countries including Mexico, France and Sweden, to name a few! They recently celebrated the Mexican holiday "Day of the Dead" and baked and decorated some fantastic calavera cookies.



## S1 - Healthy Choices

S1 pupils have been putting into practice their studies around healthy eating by producing pitta pizzas. Pupils discussed the variety of toppings available before choosing their own tasty toppings that link in with the Eatwell Guide.



## N5 Practical Cookery

Our N5 Practical Cookery pupils have been focussing on vegetable preparation and garnishing this term. Pupils have been working on practicing their food preparation skills and have been making excellent progress! Popular dishes include spicy chicken wings, sweet potato curry, and profiteroles with butterscotch sauce - All produced using local and seasonal produce



## Young Musician of the Year

We are running our Young Musician of the year competition on the 8th December 2:40-3:40pm in D7. We are hoping to live stream this to the school YouTube channel too.

Dr Angela Jaap from the RCS has kindly agreed to be adjudicator

## Rugby

Lenzie Academy U15 won the league on Saturday (West School's Conference B) with a victory over St Columba's. I'm waiting on the table updating to reflect this before making a bigger deal of this but certainly worth mentioning!

S2 achieved second in the competition and U18 achieved third as well.





## DYW @ LENZIE ACADEMY - UPDATE

### Overview of DYW

DYW stands for Developing the Young Workforce and was introduced by the Wood Commission for the Scottish Government in 2014 with the 7 year aim of reducing youth unemployment. With the impact of the pandemic, it is now more pertinent than ever to ensure young people have equal opportunity to achieve a positive destination after they leave school.



### Targeted Pupils

This term we have been piloting a DYW Staff Mentor programme, where a number of staff members have volunteered to work one-to-one with pupils who require a little extra support for applying to jobs, college or apprenticeships and with writing of personal statements and CV's. Increased partnership working with our Skills Development Scotland (SDS) Careers advisors has been invaluable here, with Rona Kinsman, Ruth Bell and myself working collaboratively to support these pupils.

### Employer engagement

I have aimed to increase our whole school links with outside employers with a range of industries. In September, the industry was construction and interested pupils attended a virtual talk from McLaughlin and Harvey and some pupils are now applying for their work experience programme. In October, the focus was on technology. From pupil evaluation forms, 100% agreed they had 'learned something during the presentation that they did not know before'. Feedback comments included that they found *"the younger employees speaking about how they ended up in the job they have" the most helpful and that it "helped me understand a lot about construction because I want to pursue a career in bricklaying"*.

In October, JP Morgan also gave a 'Pathways into Technology' virtual talk that gave pupils a specific insight into their apprenticeship programme. On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, CCG Group (construction) will be speaking virtually to a large number of pupils in S4-6 to explain the process of on-site apprenticeships. I am currently gathering names for an Army skills workshop for December. Employer opportunities and work experience are also regularly advertised via Twitter, period 2 communications, group call and Teams through myself or Mrs McNab and a number of pupils have followed up these opportunities. Please keep an eye out for these if there is anything your child might be interested in and forward their names to either myself or their Guidance teacher.

### Looking Ahead

The DYW Staff Committee has met recently with an outline of what we would like to achieve this year. SDS have released staff training modules related to DYW and careers education. As a knowledge of documents such as the Careers Education Standard is mandatory for all teaching staff, we are working our way through these modules as a committee with a view to applying them to whole school staff training. Myself and Mr Ortiz have been working to have all pupils registered to MyWoW by running workshops and drop-ins. It is now important to ensure pupils are building and using their MyWoW profile and I am looking at ways to embed this into the Senior Phase PSE curriculum. A series of successful lessons in this area have been trialled with S6 during their core time so far.

Making the various routes after school more transparent to pupils and parents is also a priority this year. A display outside the upper office offering this information along with QR codes is a good 'go to' for pupils who wish to find out more. Next term, we are hoping to trial an 'application workshop'



either at lunch or after school where pupils can work on applications and get careers advice from staff members. More information will come out about this in due course.

### How can you help as a parent/carer?

- ✓ Have conversations with your child about what they want to do.
- ✓ Use any interest they have as a starting point to discuss options i.e. they might only like a particular subject at the moment.
- ✓ Make sure they are registered on **myworldofwork.co.uk** and fill in their profile.
- ✓ Explore the 'My Career Options' on myworldofwork.co.uk tool to match their subjects, skills and strengths to a variety of job profiles.
- ✓ Help them through transitional times with aspirational and realistic advice, i.e. subject choices, applying for further and higher education.

There is some excellent 'in a nutshell' links on the National Parent Forum of Scotland that explain some options that your child has when they leave school:

**Skills** – <https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/skills-in-a-nutshell/>

**Career Education** - <https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/career-education-a-world-of-possibilities/>

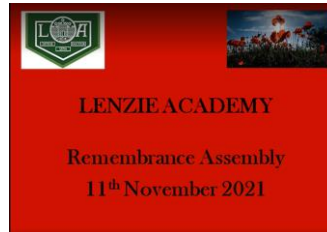
**Apprenticeships**- <https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/apprenticeships-in-a-nutshell/>

**Career Conversations** –

[https://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/edd/2017/04/career\\_conversations\\_JAN17\\_E.pdf](https://www.npfs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/edd/2017/04/career_conversations_JAN17_E.pdf)

***\*If you or someone you know works for a local enterprise that can offer employer engagement with young people (this can be careers talks, workshops, application and interview advice or work experience) please get in touch with Ms Byres. It is always helpful to have as many employer links as possible to widen the scope of opportunities for our young people!***

## Remembrance Day



Our annual Remembrance Assembly led by S6 pupils, Katie S and Ross W, was delivered virtually to all classes just prior to 11am on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November; timed to take us up to the observance of the national two minutes' silence.

This is the transcript of their presentation:

"In March 2020, we, like many Lenzie Academy pupils before us, were eagerly anticipating going on the World War One Battlefields Trip to France and Belgium. It was going to be our chance to visit the places that we had learned about in class. Unfortunately, this did not happen, because two weeks prior to our departure, the trip was cancelled when the Covid-19 pandemic hit. The subsequent months saw changes to our lives nobody could have anticipated, making us question if things would ever return to normal.

The pandemic has shown that we can take for granted the rights and freedoms we enjoy and that it is only when these are taken away, that we understand what we have lost. Remembrance Day gives us the chance to pay our respects to the soldiers who fought for these privileges. They took up the responsibility of protecting our democratic way of life. They gave up their jobs and left their loved ones behind. They gave up their safety and faced horrors we cannot comprehend. Some of them gave their lives so that successive generations could live in freedom.



We wear poppies to commemorate those who lost their lives whilst serving in the armed forces and the money donated goes towards supporting veteran soldiers and their families. A century ago, the poppy was chosen as the national symbol of remembrance because it was one of the only plants to grow on the otherwise barren battlefields where World War One was fought.



They do not glorify war or killing. Instead wearing a poppy is a symbol of respect, for the sacrifices that were made by previous generations so that we can enjoy the rights and freedoms we have today. The significance of the poppy is as relevant today as it ever was, while our Armed Forces continue to be engaged in operations overseas, and at home in the most demanding of circumstances, including currently supporting front line NHS services.



We remember the courage of these people and learn from their selflessness and resilience in their darkest hours. We may not face hardships on the same scale as previous generations, but the past 18 months have undoubtedly been a stern test for our generation.

We can learn lessons from the way they conducted themselves in the face of adversity, when there was no end in sight to the conflict that they were engaged in. We can gain inspiration for the challenges that we have faced, as we begin to take the cautious steps towards a return to some semblance of normality. Gain hope and take heart from the fact that, no matter the scale of the crisis, brighter days do follow. They did for those in the past and they will for us now, in the present."



Earlier in the day, School Captains, Katie F and Oscar C, accompanied by Ms Baxter and Ms Fordyce, laid a wreath at the Lenzie Memorial Garden near the station. Katie and Oscar should also have participated on the World War One Battlefields Trip which was cancelled and the wreath they laid at the Memorial Garden was the one which would have been laid by our pupils during the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium.

They recited the words of John McCrae's poem, In Flanders Fields before a minute's silence was observed.



## East Dunbartonshire Climate Change Challenge

During October, several of the S3 Biology classes took part in the East Dunbartonshire Climate Change Challenge. As part of this, each group chose a topic to do a project on. Groups then presented their project to their whole class. One winning project was chosen from the class winners to present in the East Dunbartonshire Showcase on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of November.

When we first heard about this competition, we were excited about doing something fun and different. We chose to do our project on climate change as we knew more about it. Also, we felt like it was time to raise more awareness about climate change and its dangerous consequences like COP26 was doing. We worked hard to make our poster look perfect with as much information as possible and the result was great! We felt proud of ourselves of what we had created and enjoyed the process of learning more about climate change. While writing down the consequences of climate change, we felt like we finally started to understand how serious climate change is and that it's not a situation to be overlooked. We were relieved to see that there was still hope to save this planet which we expressed during our presentation. Overall, it was a fun experience to learn about climate change while creating posters to present our findings. We genuinely believe we have learnt a lot of information about climate change through this experience.

By Sona T and Ria P

The Biology Department would like to congratulate all of the S3 pupils who participated in the challenge for the excellent posters, models, videos and presentations that they created. We extend a special congratulations to Alan W. for the great presentation that he gave at the East Dunbartonshire Climate Change Showcase on "The Fight against Flooding". Great work, Alan!

## S1 Interhouse event

On Friday 19 November we held an inter house event for S1s in the PE Department, they were able to take part in many activities such as Netball, Football, Rugby, Benchball and Basketball.

Each team competed against each other and the pupils got involved and wore their house colours. Donations were also taken to help raise funds for Children in Need which added to our total of over £1000.

The event was a success and the pupils enjoyed having healthy competition between their peers. MacKay took first place between all sports and Mackintosh claimed a close second. Overall the event was an opportunity for S1 to raise money, have fun and support their house groups

1st - MacKay

2nd - Mackintosh

3rd = Inglis

3rd = Fleming



## S1 Day Trip

Due to COVID restrictions we were only able to do a Day Trip this year rather than a week long residential. We went to Auchengillan in our house groups over 4 days. This took place during the week of 1 November with each house group attending on a different day. The aim of this trip was to develop our skills as well as helping to build a house identity within our year group.



During our time at Auchengillan we completed many activities. To be successful in these activities we needed to use a vast variety of skills. One activity we did was climbing; this involved being focused and motivated on the task to try get to the top. The group had to hold the rope at the bottom to ensure we were secure. We had to communicate with the rest of the group to let them know when we wanted to come down. We got house points for each person who reached the top or half way on the Climbing Wall. We also done Archery where we had to focus on the target and have perseverance in case we missed the board - it was tricky outside due to the wind. Our last 3 shots were counted up for house points too. Some other activities included: Grass Sledging and Laser Tag.

Overall, we really enjoyed our experience and would highly recommend for next year's S1 pupils.





## Scottish Youth Parliament Elections 2021



The Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) elections ran from 8<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November and gave Scotland's young people the opportunity to vote for the MSYPs that will represent them for the next two years.

In Lenzie Academy information regarding the elections was posted on Year Group and Guidance Teams, Twitter and at assemblies. Lunchtime drop-in sessions in the Library were facilitated during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> November and a considerable number of our pupils availed themselves of the opportunity to vote.

The votes of young people give MSYPs their democratic mandate to represent the views of Scotland's young people.

There were seven young people from across EDC standing for two seats representing the constituency of Strathkelvin and Bearsden in the Scottish Youth Parliament.

Three of the candidates came from Lenzie Academy and Felix S (S6), was elected. The other young person elected came from another EDC secondary school.

Josh Kennedy MSYP, Chair of the Scottish Youth Parliament, congratulated the young people who stood in the 2021 election and said:

*"We've witnessed fantastic campaigning from young people on the issues that matter most to them. Watching the campaign has given me confidence that SYP will be in the safe hands of passionate and inspiring young people for the next two years."*

*"On behalf of SYP, I want to thank everyone who has supported the elections on social media, in Local Authorities, in schools, etc.... A particular thanks go to the Named Election Coordinators in each Local Authority and National Voluntary Organisation; without their work these elections would not have happened. A huge thank you also to the young people across Scotland who came out to vote in the SYP elections – your votes give MSYPs the democratic mandate to represent you and voice your opinions on the issues that matter most to young people directly to Scotland's decision-makers."*

*"...I want to extend a particular thanks to the young people who put themselves forward to stand to become MSYPs. Your decision to campaign to represent young people in your area or NVO, whether you're elected or not, made these elections what they were, so thank you once again."*

Well done to all the candidates and congratulations to Felix on his election.



## Manchester City v PSG

The PE department in partnership with PE5 sports tours organised a fantastic football day trip for 53 pupils and 5 members of staff. The group travelled to Manchester on the 24th of November to watch the group A Champions League decider between Man City and PSG.



We had front row seats at the Etihad where the pupils enjoyed a thrilling 2-1 win in favour of Man City, seeing some of the best players in the world and managed to get a wave from this year's Ballon D'or and 7-time winner Lionel Messi.

## Girls Football

We would like to share some exciting news about Lucy B in S4. Lucy has taken part in the Scottish Schools Football trials the past couple of months and after overcoming 2 intense trials she has made the final squad to represent Scotland this year at school level. Congratulations Lucy on your success so far.

## Martin Creed Filming in Lenzie Academy

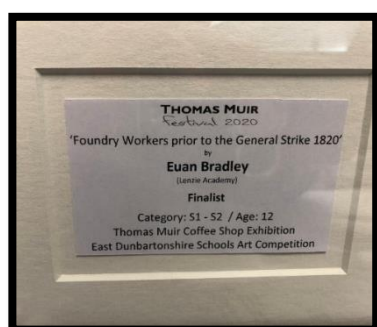
Over twenty-eight S1-S6 Lenzie Academy pupils from Music, Art and Drama had great fun assisting former Turner Prize Winner and Lenzie Academy student, Martin Creed in filming part of his biography on the school grounds, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of November.

Coordinated by Principal Teacher of Art and Design, Mrs Ward would like to thank, English teacher Ms Roy for crowd control; Head Boy, Oscar Chen for his, House-keeping role; Higher Photographers' Acacia Morse and Verna Lai S6 and last but not least props manager and journalist Zoe Allan-Darragh S6.



A visiting professional actress, Laylah Burns worked well alongside our students during filming from 9am – 4pm. Our visiting artist was delighted with his footage. Meanwhile, we look forward to the film premier in Glasgow and Los Angeles.

## Schools Art Competition



Congratulations to Euan Bradley 2MK1, whose work depicting, 'Foundry workers prior to the General strike of 1820' was selected for the Thomas Muir coffee shop exhibition as part of the East Dunbartonshire Schools Art Competition. 2020/21

