

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023, albeit by the time you read this it will feel like we are well through the New Year. January was a relatively short month for schools in East Dunbartonshire as we didn't start back until Monday 9 January so only 16 days across the month, when we include that one of the days was a school closure day due to industrial action by teacher trade unions. Despite this we had a very busy and productive month with plenty of events happening across the month.

Our S4 pupils completed their second assessment block. We've reviewed the data from this assessment block and it would be fair to say the results to date are mixed. Many pupils have done very well and are on track to achieve their potential but a considerable minority are off track at this stage. There is still plenty of time for pupils to improve upon their current performance through ongoing application in class; we will have adequate revision time in curricular subjects for reinforcement of key ideas and themes and we will be offering supported study sessions right up to the SQA exam diet. All S4 who are off track in a number of subjects will be interviewed to see how we can support them to improve upon current performance. Indeed, we will be getting an external organisation to come in and work with our S4 cohort to enhance their motivation and to provide some hints and tips related to revision techniques.

In January we completed the application process for a 'Quality Mark' from the Association of Character Education (A.C.E.). Representatives from A.C.E. will visit the school in April and hopefully we'll gain accreditation as a 'School of Intentional Character Education'. Further updates in due course.

We held a very successful 'Developing the Young Workforce' (DYW) evening for parents/carers and pupils on Tuesday 24 January. As part of the DYW event we piloted our Barista Café – Café Latte. Further details related to this event are included within this newsletter and further details about Café Latte will be included in the February newsletter.

We also held one of my favourite events on 25 January with the Rotary Club Young Musician of the Year event. Further details are included later on but I would say that the quality of the vocals and the musicianship of the young people involved was truly outstanding. My personal congratulations to them all.

On Friday 27 January we welcomed the BBC to the school as part of their 100 year celebrations. They presented BBC Bitesize sessions focused on careers in the creative industries to our S1, S2 and S3 pupils. The event was hosted by one of our ex-pupils who is now working on Radio One and we had three invited guests – a video blogger who is self-employed; a videographer working for a small, independent film-making company in Glasgow and a BBC journalism apprentice. The guests all spoke about their schooling; their pathways into their present careers and the key skills and qualifications they need to succeed in their chosen fields. There was then an opportunity for pupils to ask the panel questions related to their careers to date and where they would see their careers going over the next 10-20 years. It was a very enjoyable event for our pupil and they got a real insight into possible future careers that they might be interested in pursuing post-school.

A final issue that I have been asked to bring to the attention of all parents /carers relates to a meeting I had with community wardens from East Dunbartonshire Council. They are very concerned about parents/carers parking on the zig-zag lines in Myrtle Avenue at the end of the school day. This is leading to problems with traffic management that could result in accidents or young people being hurt. They have asked that I bring this to your attention. Now that the worst of the winter weather is behind us I would ask that all parents/carers park at a suitable distance from the school to minimise traffic management issues around the school.

In this newsletter you will find details of:

1. [School uniform](#).
2. [DYW / Café Latte](#).
3. [Languages week](#).
4. [HFT Department](#) – DYW NPA in Bakery.
5. [History Department](#) – Cinema visit to see 'Till'.
6. [PE Department](#) – Continued sporting success.
7. [Modern Studies Department](#) – Visit to Low Moss Prison by our Criminology class.
8. [Performing Arts Department](#) – Rotary Young Musician of the Year
9. [Updates from our Parent Teacher Association](#).

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

School uniform

There had been a notable deterioration in the standard of school uniform through December and January. Many pupils wanted to keep their external jackets or hoodies on when in school. We cannot allow this as it becomes impossible to tell who is a Lenzie Academy pupil and who is not. Many pupils were wearing hoodies and zipped tops to hide the fact that they were not wearing a school tie. We expect pupils to ensure that all hoodies and external jackets are not worn when in the school building. These should be removed and put in a bag or stored in a school locker.

Through February we will inform pupils of our expectations re school uniform and would request support from all parents/carers. We are seeing much fewer examples of external jackets and hoodies in school and more pupils wearing full school uniform, including blazers. It is heartening to see so many more now respecting the school traditions and feeling included and proud to be pupils of Lenzie Academy. I would like to thank all parents / carers in anticipation of your continued support with regard to the wearing of school uniform.

DYW Parents' Open Evening 2023

Parents of pupils in S3-S6 were invited to attend Lenzie Academy's first ever DYW Open Evening on Tuesday 24th January, 2023, from 6-8pm. The purpose of the event was to highlight the various pathways pupils entering or currently in the Senior Phase can follow after school, or even while completing the Senior Phase. It was also a chance for Lenzie Academy to showcase our DYW provision and how we support young people to reach positive destinations and achieve their potential.

The evening was a huge success, with lots of parents and young people attending to find out from exhibitors and some staff speakers. Parents had the option, prior to the event, to select which talks they would like to go to via a glow form. They could choose from the City of Glasgow College presentation delivered by representatives from the college; Work Experience provision in S4 & 5, delivered by Mrs McNab; Senior Phase Partnerships delivered by Mr Curran and a presentation on Apprenticeships, delivered by our careers advisor, Rona Kinsman.

Below are some descriptions of the talks, that we hope will give you further information and provide some clarity on the different options.

Apprenticeships (Modern, Foundation, Graduate)

This presentation informed parents of the various apprenticeship routes available. This covered information on Modern Apprenticeships and the benefits of these, Graduate Apprenticeships, which are the equivalent to a university degree and Foundation Apprenticeships, which pupils complete alongside their school subjects. This also covered what they would do on an apprenticeship and the skills/knowledge and qualifications they can achieve to prepare them for the job market, college or university.

City of Glasgow College

City of Glasgow College is Scotland's largest technical and professional skills college. Lenzie Academy has made excellent links with this college over the years, with many of our pupils attending as part of the Senior Phase Partnerships Programme or as school leavers. Its award-winning supercampus in the heart of Glasgow city centre offers state of the art teaching, resources and opportunities for students to gain essential skills for their future careers. This presentation covered the process for applying and what to expect as an applicant and as a student.

Senior Phase Partnership Programme (SPPP)

The Senior Phase Partnership Programme offers a wide range of courses at SCQF Level 3-7 which are delivered at partner colleges and universities. Pupils in S5 & 6, can select a course that is relevant to their career path and study this at college while studying Nationals and Highers at school. The purpose of the programme is to help students develop knowledge and skills which will prepare them for the future of the job market, college or university.

Work Experience Programme

Lenzie Academy offer a Work Experience Programme for pupils in S4 and S5, where pupils can arrange a self found placement or choose from one of our linked providers. We have a number of links with local businesses and national companies that are always happy to take pupils on board for the day and equip them with the skills and knowledge of that industry. Pupils have found this to be a really worthwhile experience and has helped them with their choice of career path.



Many parents opted to attend all four of these sessions, while others opted for a selection based on their young person's interests. When not attending a session, parents could visit the stalls set up in the social area and diner with a host of companies and organisations that have worked with the school. These included – AG Barr, JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley, BAE Systems, Anderson Legal, Cameron House Hotel, Army recruitment and Street League. Members of staff also set up stalls to showcase the vocational provision the school offers, with stalls from Nat 5 Health Sector, Nat 5 Retailing, NPA Bakery and Nat 5 Practical Woodwork and Practical Metalwork. Three of our DYW staff mentors also showcased the work they have been doing to support targeted pupils reach positive destinations and Mrs Davidson and Caroline Shirreffs, our Youth Development Worker showcased their work on wider achievement. All stall holders did a brilliant job in showcasing what they have to offer and informally chatting with parents and pupils.



On top of all this, S5 & 6 Retailing pupils made their barista debut! The long-awaited Café LA'tte opened for a preview! This proved very popular with parents, staff and pupils queuing up for fresh barista coffee, with a side of cake. The pupils running the machine worked extremely hard to ensure everyone got their coffee on time and served all evening with smiles on their faces. Well done!



Some feedback from parents on the evening:

'Excellent presentation (apprenticeships). Clear explanation of foundation, modern & graduate & how you can progress if you wish. Great information, thank you.'

'Thank you - well worth coming this evening! Very informative and reassuring'

'This was a very informative and interesting evening. It will definitely help my child decide what her pathway will be'

'Really helpful to hear what is available' (work experience)

'Very informative on a different type of qualification to consider' (Senior Phase Pathways)

Thank you to everyone who attended and for all involved in its organisation!

Ms Byres

Café LA'tte

On Tuesday 24th of January, the school hosted a Developing the Young Workforce open evening with a range of companies attending to give students and parents information about the many options and pathways there are on leaving school. As part of DYW, the school has developed the 'Café LA'tte' alongside the National 5 Retail Class to provide pupils with a barista experience. At the open evening, we opened the café for the first time. It was a very exciting occasion. The pupils volunteered to work in the café, helping to organise and set up the café for the first time. This involved making sure the machines were on and checking stock levels. Throughout the evening, we made a variety of hot drinks such as lattes, hot chocolates and teas teaching us how to manage orders and be efficient while reducing waste. At the end of the evening, we cleaned the café and refilled the coffee beans. All staff and pupils that were involved have worked hard to make this a success and for it to run smoothly and cannot wait for the café to open fully shortly.

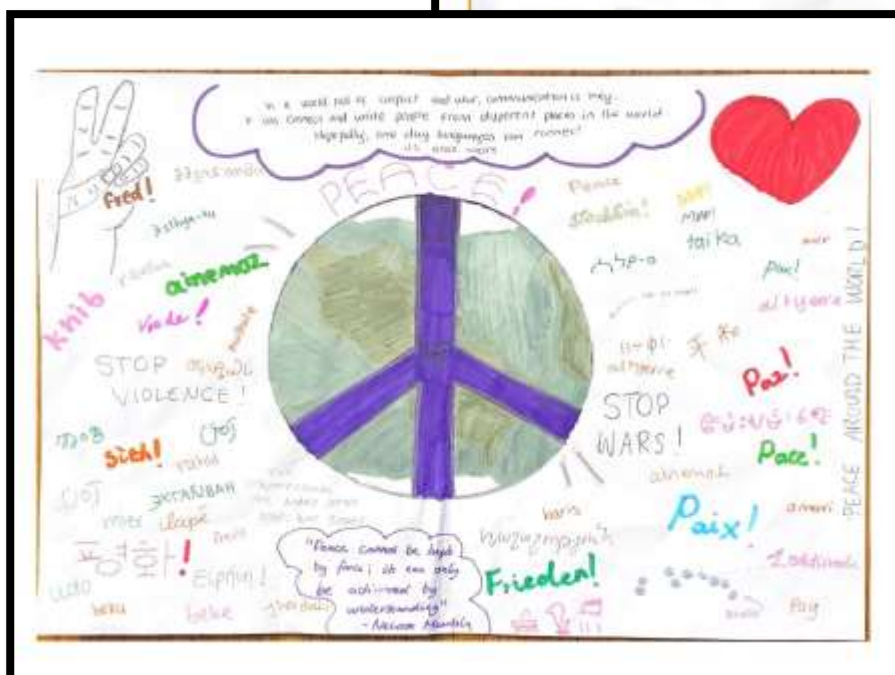
Languages Week Scotland

Languages Week Scotland 2023 is a celebration of language learning and multilingualism in Scotland. Our S1 - S3 pupils took part in various activities to celebrate 'Languages Week Scotland 2023' on the week beginning 30th January.

Pupils took part in a poster competition with the theme being 'languages for a peaceful world'. We are delighted to announce that the winners of this competition were Kathy S (3MK2), Katie Q (3MK2) and Grace M (3IG1) who all produced fantastic posters.

There were also various lunchtime activities on offer. Pupils were given the opportunity to learn some German during a lunchtime taster session offered by Miss McLean. In addition to this, pupils could attend the international film club run by Miss Gibbons and Mr Cortes offered a cultural lesson to celebrate the Chinese new year.

This was an excellent opportunity for our pupils to appreciate and understand other cultures as well as learn some aspects of other languages



DYW Event – NPA Bakery

NPA Bakery had fun putting the skills they've developed into action. The Bakery pupils all enjoyed catering for the DYW Event. The pupils worked hard to showcase their skills by preparing a variety of products such as; Chocolate Truffles, Brownies, Flapjacks, Cheesecakes, and a selection of sponges. This allowed parents to get an insight and a real taste of what types of products they've been baking and what skills they've been developing this year and where their talents can take them in the future.



Till – S2 Cinema Trip

On Thursday 26th January, the History department took 78 S2 pupils on a school trip to the cinema. Pupils travelled by coach into Glasgow city centre and visited the Cineworld Cinema in Renfield Street to watch the movie 'Till'. The film was about Emmett Till's mother's quest for justice for her son's racially motivated murder. The aim of this trip was to enable pupils to build upon their knowledge of Emmett Till, which they have previously studied as part of the S2 Fight for Equality, and emphasise the destructive consequences that racism has within society. Feedback from pupils who attended the trip, included the following comments:

"This film helped me to understand how difficult life must have been for African-Americans and why we must learn from our mistakes."

"I enjoyed attending the cinema with my friends to watch a movie about a topic we have learned about in class. It helped us to learn about the impacts of racism."



Sporting Success

Athletics - Our very talented Douglas K in S3 won the Scottish Athletics U15's National Indoor Pentathlon Championships on Saturday.

His score of 2676 puts him straight in at 8th in the all-time Scottish records for U15 indoor pentathlon. This was the first time he had ever entered a pentathlon competition.



| Commonwealth Arena - Site License | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|--|
| 4J Studios Combined Events, Relays & Masters 3k Championships - 28/01/2023 to 2 | | | | | | |
| 2023 CE Mas 3k Relay | | | | | | |
| Emirates Arena | | | | | | |
| Boys Indoor Pentathlon U15 Boys | | | | | | |
| Points | 60H | LJ | SP | HJ | 800 | |
| 1 Douglas K | 9.53 | 5.90m | 10.79m | 1.60m | 2:17.92 | |
| SPRINGBURN HARRIERS | | | | | | |
| 2676 | (633) | (565) | (533) | (464) | (481) | |

Table Tennis - Tony C, 2IG1 has been selected to represent Scotland for Table Tennis in a competition against Ireland

Visit to HM Prison Low Moss

The Modern Studies Department recently introduced a new course to its portfolio of S6 qualifications – L6 NPA Criminology. This NPA is designed to introduce those studying it to a selection of topics and areas of debate that inform contemporary ideas of crime and justice.

Criminology is the scientific study of crime, including the causes, responses by the criminal justice system, and methods of prevention. Learners study the nature and extent of crime, crime in the community, forensic science and crime control strategies. The course has a healthy uptake. For some of the pupils it is enhancing their general interest in the topic, and for others, it is directly related to their career path beyond school, e.g. Law, the Police, forensics, etc.

The class recently visited nearby Low Moss Prison in connection with their studies.

The visit was conducted by one of the prison's rehabilitation support officers. During their visit, the pupils got to see the education facilities – the Library, job centre, and classrooms where Fife College deliver SCQF level courses. The pupils found this interesting to know that prisoners can undertake education, whilst in prison, to achieve qualifications, both academic and vocational, to help improve their job prospects upon release.

They also had the opportunity to see the prisoners' workshops – the laundry, waste disposal, and the joinery/woodwork room. The pupils learned about the benefits of purposeful activity and how it can aid rehabilitation. They also saw the family visiting room where prisoners can meet with family. The main focus of this is to maintain family connections and hopefully reduce reoffending.

Finally, the head psychologist and a prison guard, who runs the offending behaviour programmes, participated in a Q&A session with the pupils. They discussed the Nature v Nurture debate, types of prisoners they work with and support, and the programmes they have implemented to support mental health. They also met the prison chaplain.

All the pupils, and the teacher accompanying them, found the visit to be very informative and interesting and we thank the Low Moss staff for allowing us to visit and learn, first hand, about what they do.

Rotary Young Musician of the Year Competition

On Wednesday 25th January, Lenzie Academy held the next round of the Rotary Young Musician of the year competition. Staff and pupils enjoyed an outstanding programme of music performed by instrumentalists and vocalists from Lenzie Academy, St Ninians and Kirkintilloch High School. Thank you to the Rotary Club and the Principal teachers of Music from all three schools for organising this fantastic event!

Well done to Lenzie Academy singer Eilidh R. (S5) who gave a fantastic performance. A big congratulations to Lenzie Academy pianist Samuel C. (S6) who won the instrumental category and Jennifer O. from St Ninians who won the vocal category. Both Samuel and Jennifer will now go on to compete in the next round of the competition at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.



Lenzie Academy PTA

The Lenzie Academy PTA have this year supported the work of staff and pupils in a number of ways.

The simplest way to help with the work of the PTA is to join our 500 club with cash prizes paid out each month. More details of this can be found on the PTA website <https://www.lenzieacademypta.org.uk/>

We are always welcoming of new members, pupils leave Lenzie Academy so do the parents on the PTA so please consider joining. We meet monthly for 1 hour to discuss how to raise money and how to spend it. It is good fun and we are a friendly bunch & everyone is welcome. Please get in touch by sending an email to us at lenzieacademypta@gmail.com or PM us on Facebook at Lenzie Academy PTA - FOLA

The next PTA meeting dates will be published on the school website and group called home, they are either held in person in The Hub at Lenzie Academy or sometimes we have online meetings, to find out more you can email the PTA at lenzieacademypta@gmail.com

The upcoming fundraiser is a Race Night on Friday 24 March at 7pm. The flyer below has the details you need, there will be a bar at this event so no pupils or U18's are permitted to attend but we would love to see parents/carers, friends and family members over 18.

Buy Your Tickets Online Now!

Lenzie Academy PTA Race Night

Friday 24th March 7 Till Late

At Lenzie Academy



LENZIE ACADEMY RACENIGHT IS BACK!!!
FRIDAY 24TH MARCH AT LENZIE ACADEMY.
Doors open 7pm - First race 7.30pm til late
Recorded races - Loads of competitvie fun
Tickets only £10 each
Price includes entry plus pizza.
Buy your tickets now at www.lenzieacademypta.org.uk/race-night
Or scan the QR code
Bets only £1 per race (no limit to number of bets on each race)
Bets can be bought on the night.
Winning bets will be split between race winners & the PTA.
Everyone welcome, so bring along your friends & family.
BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW, BEFORE THEY RUN OUT!
Looking forward to seeing you all there.
Lenzie Academy PTA
Made with PosterMyWall.com

Raffle Food Bar

Loads of Fun

Great Prizes

