



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our October newsletter covering the various issues and events undertaken within school across the month. Within this issue there will be lots of examples of pupils achieving well in various areas, and details of our new captaincy team who have settled well and the two school captains have met with all year groups at assemblies to introduce themselves to the young people within the school. Logan and Grace have impressed our staff by how quickly they have acclimatised to their new role as the leaders of our pupils.

It is hugely gratifying when our young people choose to fundraise for good causes through their own endeavours motivated by an inner sense of social justice and empathy towards others less fortunate than themselves. Over the past month I have had two groups of senior pupils approach me with ideas for fundraising activities. Some S5 girls are involved in supporting their local church to raise money to support people who are deeply impoverished in South Africa. I have allowed their flyer to be included within this newsletter and the option of voluntarily supporting the girls is there for anyone who wants to. Some S6 pupils approached me to have a bake sale in support of Islamic Relief, who fundraise for people affected by war and poverty in various developing countries. We have supported the group before and we will allow a bake sale on Thursday 6 November.

Within this Newsletter:

1. Staffing updates.
2. New school update.
3. Late coming.
4. Uniform
5. S7 Family Learning Evening
6. Introduction to our new S6 Leadership Team.
7. S6/S1 buddying programme.
8. S3 Mentor Programme
9. Physics news – WOSPEG success.
10. Maths news – UKMT competition.
11. Biology news – Edinburgh Zoo trip.
12. History news – S4 Battlefields trip.
13. PE news – sporting successes.
14. Book Club café.
15. S2 Step into STEM.
16. The Big Scottish Breakfast.
17. Pupil fundraising page for South Africa.
18. PTA Quiz night.

Staffing update

There have been some staff changes in recent weeks to make parents/carers aware of:

1. **Acting Depute Head Teacher** – Mr Imrie, currently PT Physical Education will assume responsibility for S5 pupils in Mr Farquhar's absence.
2. **Acting PT Physical Education** – currently up at advert to replace Mr Imrie whilst he takes on the Acting DHT role.
3. **Acting PT Guidance** – Ms Provan, currently in the Modern Studies Department, will take responsibility for all young people in Inglis 1 (or IG1) until June 2026.
4. **Teacher of Business Education** – Earlier this month we appointed Ms Bannerman to a permanent vacancy in our Business Education Department and she will start with us on Monday 24 November.
5. **Pending** – As well as the Acting PT PE we have a permanent teacher of English post and a temporary teacher of Science post still to be filled.

New school update

Week beginning Monday 27 October saw the second phase of public consultation of the new proposed Lenzie Academy. On Monday the Architects, Contractors and members of EDC's major Assets Team met with groups of pupils and staff to elicit views on updates from the first consultation. In the evening they met with representatives from all associated parent councils before there was an open event for any member of the public to attend in the school on Wednesday at 4.00pm within the existing school. The process will now move on to the next stage with a formal Planning Application later in the year.

Late coming

As you will be aware, schools are there not just to deliver academic qualifications for young people to move on to the next stage of their lives post-school. Schools have a duty and obligation to develop appropriate skills for learning, life and work. A key aspect of skills for work and life more generally is developing good habits with regard to timekeeping. The vast majority of young people within the school have very good time keeping skills (80%+) but it is with regret that we have noticed that the number of young people turning up late for school is increasing once again. When young people are late for class they miss the start of lessons which can adversely impact upon their learning and they also disrupt the learning for others. There has been research on the negative impact of late coming and attendance on young people's academic success. We have shared this with pupils at assemblies but it has had limited impact on a significant minority and the number of young people coming in late is rising again. We will monitor closely over the next couple of weeks and if the situation does not improve we will need to re-institute our system that operated last session as this did improve the numbers of young people coming to school on time. Hopefully, this will not be necessary but we will need to monitor this over the coming weeks. Please reinforce with your children the importance of good time keeping for school.

Uniform

We have noticed some deterioration in the standard of uniform just prior to and since the October break. Please ensure your child has appropriate school uniform and explain that heavy external jackets, whilst needed for the journey to and from school, must be removed when pupils enter the school building.

P7 Family Learning Evening

The open evening was perfectly executed and everyone enjoyed the experience from the volunteers to the visitors. Talents of the students and departments were showcased which allowed for a fun evening for all, we also managed to get lots of positive response from those who attended which was very encouraging. Everyone who took part was responsible for the great success of the evening that reflected Lenzie Academy and our values wonderfully! - *Grace M*

Senior Leadership Team

School Captains: Grace M and Logan S

Grace M – School Captain

With my position as a School Captain, I aim to inspire the younger students to pursue their goals and show them the wide range of opportunities they have access to both inside and outside of school. Additionally, I hope to promote an environment where everyone's voice is heard and understood, helping give the pupils a voice through my position. Lenzie Academy has connected me with new people and developed my skills academically and personally, allowing me to utilize them throughout my daily life.

This year I will collaborate with my peers to make this an enjoyable experience for all and bring about positive changes for future students.

Logan S – School Captain

As School Captain, I aim to be the point of call for whoever wants to be involved in creating change or just helping. Many people go about their day with ideas in mind on what they would like to see different around the school, but never voice these thoughts. I want to be someone who is approachable and who can help anyone and everyone by making the school better in various ways. Lenzie Academy has done so much for me. Taking part in Bronze Duke of Edinburgh made my CV stand out which in turn landed me a part-time job.

Networking opportunities are in abundance at Lenzie Academy, whether it be events like Step Into Finance, speakers hosting presentations, or work experience opportunities at various employers. For example, through Lenzie Academy I was able to take part in a week's work experience at AG Barr where I was able to make connections that I hope to use in the future. Lenzie Academy has all the tools for pupils success, it's just a matter of using them.



House Captains:

Fleming House: Kerr Mcl and Mary T

Inglis House: Sara McC and Grace N

Mackay House: Annalise W and Freya M

Mackintosh House: Alex D and Emily C



Vice Captains: Rose McD/Abhay K/
Zara D/Luke J

BGE Ambassadors:

S1 Sarah N/Callum McB

S2: Melny M/Chloe W/Hannah

S3: Megan L/Isabella S



S6 / S1 Buddying Programme

Here are some reflections by S6 students;

A meeting takes place at least once a term so that they can catch up and if any problems occur, the S1's can speak to their S6 buddy about it. This week we mainly talked about how the S1's are settling in. This was an enjoyable way to connect but also gave the opportunity to see if there were any problems which may have occurred since the last meeting. The S1's often enjoy speaking with someone older as they feel safe to talk to someone who has recently been there. I think this is the best way for S1's to settle into their first year of high school knowing that someone is there to support and be there for them. - *Jasmine T S6*

The third buddy meeting was great and it provided both of us with a chance to talk with someone outside our friendship group. It was good to hear a fresh perspective of the school from someone who has just arrived. It is also important that S1 have another person who they can be comfortable talking to. Today we talked about the five things which my buddy and I had in common. We learned new things about each other. We talked about friendships. My buddy had joined the Badminton Club and Jazz Band and had made new friends as a result of this. I really enjoy talking to my buddy and look forward to our meetings. - *Archie W S6*

Some S1 comments:

I love our conversation and the fact we have some common interests. My buddy is very nice and kind. - *Amelia B*

I have enjoyed knowing my buddy. She is a really good role model. When I first saw her I was already happy because I saw my best friend with my buddy, so I had two people I could talk to. My buddy is really pretty and smart, she is also a fun person to talk to. - *Ramnik K*

I like that we get to meet an S6, he's nice. I think we should do more seasonal events like a Christmas quiz or New Year bingo. - *Jack H*

I've enjoyed knowing my buddy and talking to him. He's a very great role model. I would like to play a game with him or everyone, like capture the flag, students vs buddies. - *Olivia T*

I enjoyed all the buddy meetings and how I got to know my buddy with the questions and I enjoyed talking to him and he told me about the school. I would like to do some outdoor activities and games with the buddies. - *Paige W*

I like the buddy programme because I get to be told about things I can do and clubs I can join and just chat. My buddy is really helpful at giving advice and a good conversation always flows easily. - *J-Leigh F*

S3 Mentor Programme

The S3 Mentor recruitment process requires many skills; it is a simple yet challenging process. Initially to become a mentor, an application form is to be completed which asks questions regarding the skills and qualities needed to become a mentor; teamwork and leadership being a key element. The application also requires an opinion of what pupils think is the best thing about Lenzie Academy. The applications are then taken in and reviewed, along with a workshop which is offered to all applicants, which determines whether pupils are successful in becoming a S3 Mentor.

The workshop includes a few group tasks and a final presentation on the positive experiences of transitioning to high school. Effective communication and patience are essential during this workshop.

The S3 Mentors also volunteer at many after school events such as the P7 Open Evenings and Parents Evening. In the P7 Open Evening, we had a group of mentors helping in the Maths Department, introducing intriguing

math games meanwhile trying some problem-solving activities! Another group of mentors were showcasing Lenzie Academy's new BGE academy programme to parents, presenting the several academies the school offer, and awards that can be earned through these academies. The S3 Mentor Programme is a great opportunity to meet new people and enhance your abilities. – Leanne Q, S3

West of Scotland Physics Education Group win!

Good news! We won our semi-final and are now into the final of the WoSPEG Physics Competition.

The final is scheduled to take place in the evening of Wednesday 12th November, at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) Paisley with a post competition reception for our competitors and their friends and family.

S6 UKMT

On Thursday 9th October, 10 S6 pupils took part in the UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust) Senior Mathematical Challenge. This was a UK wide competition in which the pupils had to answer 25 increasingly difficult questions in 90 minutes. The questions covered a wide range of Mathematical topics and logic puzzles, designed to test the pupils analytical and problem solving skills to the max!

Our competitors all did very well, with three pupils (Aryan C, Nakul Y and Sophie Y) achieving a Bronze certificate.

Three pupils; (Angus M, Grace N and Ben J) also achieved a Silver Certificate. A huge well done to all 10 pupils for taking part!



United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust

Zoo Trip

Before the October week, the Biology Department took their National 5, Higher, and Advanced Higher pupils to Edinburgh Zoo.

The National 5 pupils discussed concepts of evolution and adaptation, learning from a Zookeeper how different species have developed unique traits to survive.

The Higher and Advanced Higher pupils learned about animal behaviour and how to understand and observe these behaviours in the zoo. The trip included a guided tour for all groups, followed by an indoor session designed to link the zoo experience to the SQA Curriculum outcomes.

Pupils highly enjoyed the trip and gained valuable, real world context for the material they are learning in the classroom.



S4 Battlefield Trip

A group of our S4 pupils recently returned from a profoundly moving and educational visit to the First World War battlefields in Belgium and France. This has been a long running excursion offered by Lenzie Academy for decades, which returned for the first time since 2019. From 14th-19th September, pupils visited Ypres and the Somme region, gaining a powerful, first-hand understanding of a conflict that shaped the modern world.

The aim of the excursion was to connect preparation for SQA exams and classroom learning with the tangible reality of the past.

The pupils visited sites such as the sprawling Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the World, where the seemingly endless rows of headstones offered a sobering reminder of the immense losses. The group also upheld long-standing traditions of paying their respects at the grave of the school DUX of 1913, Harry Asher Hayworth, as well as laying a wreath at Langemarck, German Cemetery as mark of mutual respect and reconciliation.

A highlight for many was attending the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres. Standing alongside crowds of people from around the world, our pupils participated in this nightly act of remembrance, with Adam M and Sophie J laying a wreath to remember the 67 former pupils and staff who fell in the Great War.

Pupils also enjoyed some of the local culture Belgium and France have to offer. No visit to Belgium would be complete without chocolate and waffles, and a day spent in Brugge allowed the pupils to enjoy some of these delicacies! We extend our sincere thanks to all parents for their support and to the pupils for representing Lenzie Academy with such dignity.



Sporting Success

Trampoline, Rugby and Football.

Euan McP, 1MT2 is a member of Scotlands Performance Pathway Programme for Trampoline. He has been selected to compete at the 2025 *Loulé Cup* in Loulé, Portugal. This is a significant international competition, Please join us in wishing Euan the best of luck!

Congratulations to **M Morrison**, who is a recipient of the inaugural *Bill McLaren Foundation Bursary* scheme! He is one of ten young players, five male and five female from the Scottish Rugby pathway to receive funding. This support will help to overcome some of the challenges facing young, aspiring rugby players.

Ava G in S4, who is signed to Rangers Women's U17s took part in the *East Mallorca Cup* over the October Week, competing against some top teams such as Barcelona, Real Madrid, Chelsea and Man City. Ava scored a wonder header in the Plate semi-final 1-0 win which was voted best Rangers goal of the tournament. Well done!

Congratulations to our Girls Football team for S1-S2 who competed in the Spar Cup on Wednesday night. The team won 3 out of 5 games and have now qualified for the Regionals in February.



Book Club Café

Pupils across S1 and S2 enjoyed an autumnal feast of reads and hot chocolate at the school library Book Club Café. A wide selection of books and recommendations were shared amongst pupils.

Look out for the library's spooktacular Halloween reading list 

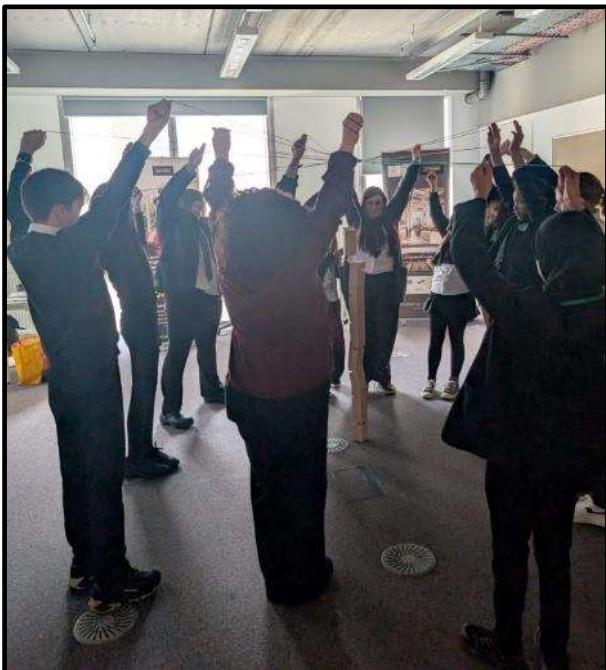


S2 Step into STEM Trip

On Monday 27th October, a group of 24 S2 pupils took a trip to City of Glasgow College to learn all about the world of STEM. The event, run by DYW, showcased many of the careers available to young people when they leave school. There were lots of interesting employees working in STEM for the pupils to talk to, including: IBM, Royal Air Force, Barclay's, University of Strathclyde, NHS Scotland, Police Scotland, Mott MacDonald, The Army/Navy and many, many more! Pupils had the chance to try some hands-on activities at each of the stalls and ask any questions they had about the company or careers. There were lots of discussions about subject choices for S3 so hopefully the pupils have some ideas for next year!

The second half of the session involved going round lectures and tutorials in the college. One of these was a woodwork challenge in which pupils had less than half an hour to make a mobile phone holder! Teams also learned about how lasers can be used to map images of 3D spaces and learned about the range of jobs in Farming and how many people it takes to make a packet of crisps from scratch! Overall, pupils had a great time learning about new skills and making links to possible careers in the future!

A big thanks to Mrs McDonald for organising and to Miss Ness & Ms Shirreffs for helping on the day!



The Big Scottish Breakfast – Round Up

The total raised at *The Big Scottish breakfast 2025* enabled the LACE events Team to donate £300 to the STV Children's Appeal and £170 to go towards the minibus appeal. Well done team!

The next event in their calendar will be the *Great House Inter-year Christmas Quiz* held on the last day before the Christmas Holiday where junior pupils compete together to change the ribbon on the Inter-house Quiz trophy.



S6 South Africa Fundraiser



**BUILD Home
South Africa
2026**

Hello, we are Jasmine and Emily of S5 in Lenzie Academy and are also part of Lenzie Union Church, we are going on a trip in July 2026 as a part of Amor Ministries to South Africa to be part of the Build South Africa 2026 expedition. This trip to South Africa is an excellent and a life changing opportunity for people over the age of 15 to be a part of something extremely rewarding. This is a charity trip to work together with local churches in an area outside of Johannesburg called Botleng to build a house for a family who are sadly trapped in poverty.

During our stay in Botleng we will get to experience how locals live their everyday lives and get a real taster for everything South Africa has to offer. We will also be looking out for some of the most vulnerable children and families living there. Our expedition will also include many opportunities to experience the cultural aspects of South Africa and issues of world justice, personal faith, and community transformation. We will be able to visit their local church whilst we are there and be involved in a church service as well as going to see a Soweto Tower. We will also get to participate in many team building exercises and training and will have a day revolved around their church and community.

Our Youth Worker Kim Halliday was able to experience this wonderful trip in 2018 and has now put us forward as part of Lenzie Union to participate in the expedition in 2026. We are really looking forward to being able to be a part of something this big and being able to help people in need.

The trip will take place from the 18th to the 28th of July in 2026. The trip costs £2,200 each and all team members will be fundraising this amount as part of a group. Together, we will be participating in different fundraising events over the next year and are sure there will be many that you will be able to join us for. We will hopefully be running bake sales and other fun events such as coffee mornings and a fashion show! We would love it if you would be able to come along to help support us.

In the meantime, we have attached a code to our Build South Africa 2026 easy fundraising page where you can subscribe and shop online with your favourite brands whilst we receive a small donation at no extra cost from you.

Our *Crowdfunder* page is also active where you can keep updated on part of our fundraising progress. There is also a link to the Amor page where you can read more about the expedition to South Africa and how it is such a fantastic opportunity for us to be participants of.

You can follow us and our journey at our group Facebook page **Kirkie & Lenzie Build South Africa 2026**.
Yours sincerely, J McLean & E Fraser

Build South Africa easy fundraising page: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/build-south-africa-youth-trip-2026>

Build South Africa crowdfunder page: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/build-south-africa-2026/backers#start>

Amor Page:

https://www.amoreurope.org/build/southafrica2026?fbclid=IwY2xjawloHN1leHRuA2FibQIxMQABHcb_oLk4ytw_yXzN74PhVe0EN88BtqCV7snLX-ilgroKhGewIDLqe5UPDZg_aem_L7uzGLJ36hy82VWZow8Sgg



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SOUTH AFRICA 2026 REBUILD TEAM

Kirkie & Lenzie Build South Africa 2026



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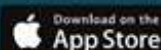
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ONE NIGHT BED & BREAKFAST
STAY FOR TWO AT AC BY MARRIOTT,
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One night hotel stay at the AC by Marriott, George Street, Glasgow.
Kindly donated by Marriott.

Lenzie Academy PTA have organised an online raffle for a one night stay for two, inclusive of B&B, at AC by Marriott, George Street, Glasgow.

Tickets Only £10 each.

Buy Your Raffle Tickets Online NowAt

<https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/hotel-stay-raffle>