



LENZIE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

SESSION 2017- 2018

November 2017



Welcome to our November newsletter.

The month of November is always a very long and challenging month for all pupils and staff within the school, especially Senior Phase pupils who are busy working on assignments and/or sitting important assessments in their various courses. We also have our annual Children in Need week during this time and we also hold our Remembrance Assemblies for all pupils in the school. Just in case we were not busy enough we held the Lenzie Academy Dance festival and hosted the EDC Dance Festival and I had the good fortune of attending our annual Young Musician of the Year competition where the standard of musicianship and the quality of our vocalists was just outstanding.

This month's newsletter has a very eclectic feel with a wide and disparate range of events that our pupils have been involved in and it gives you a flavour of the outstanding range of opportunities that we afford our pupils and which they take up with great enthusiasm.

Staffing news

Mathematics – On 4 December Ms Gillian Ness will take up her position as a permanent member of the Mathematics department and we welcome Gillian as an experienced and dynamic member of staff who will be an undoubted asset to the school.

Art & Design – On Monday 27 November we appointed Mrs Gayle Porter to the substantive position of Teacher of Art & Design within the school. Mrs Porter has been with us for nearly two years as a temporary teacher so we are delighted that we have been able to secure her services on a permanent basis.

Looking forward to December I will be attending the EDC Christmas Concert on Monday 4 December in the Concert Hall where many of our pupils will be participating as part of the EDC bands and orchestra. We will also be holding our own Christmas Concert on Monday 11 December as well as our S1/2 and S3/4 Christmas Dances and our S5/6 Christmas Ball. Our S1 pupils will also be visiting the Pantomime and thereafter we will be having the Santa dash on the day on 21 December before collapsing for a day and re-charging our energies for our own family events around the Christmas holidays.

I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter.

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FOLA 125- Lenzie Academy fundraising page

www.fo1a125.co.uk

Debating



Our debaters have been hard at work competing in various competitions over the last few weeks. Andrew Taylor and David Thornton (both S6) took part in the first round of the ESU Mace competition at the High School of Glasgow on Monday 30th October. Their motion was: This House believes that a language that needs protecting isn't worth protecting. Despite a great performance, they narrowly missed out on a place in round two, although both are now taking part in a 'winner takes all' debate against Bearsden Academy on Tuesday 12th December for a place in the second round.

On Thursday 16th November, four of our students took part in the first round of the Donald Dewar Law Society Debating Competition. Both teams were opposing the motion: This House believes that statues to controversial figures should be removed. Up against Douglas Academy in both debates, Sandy MacDonald and Lucas Higham (both S3) saw off the competition to go through to the next round. Unfortunately, Rahul Kochar and Jonathan Bryce (both S6) were pipped at the post by the other Douglas Academy Team.

Our junior debaters will be involved in the first round of their competition at the beginning of December. Good luck to all of those taking part in competitions over the next month.

Dance

Lenzie Academy hosted the annual East Dunbartonshire Dance Competition this year which was a great success!

The competition allowed pupils across the authority to showcase their talents in a variety of different dances. 350 pupils across the authority put in a huge amount of work to choreograph some outstanding dances.

Well done to all pupils who participated in the event and congratulations to Turnbull Academy the winners of this year's EDC Dance Competition!



Karate

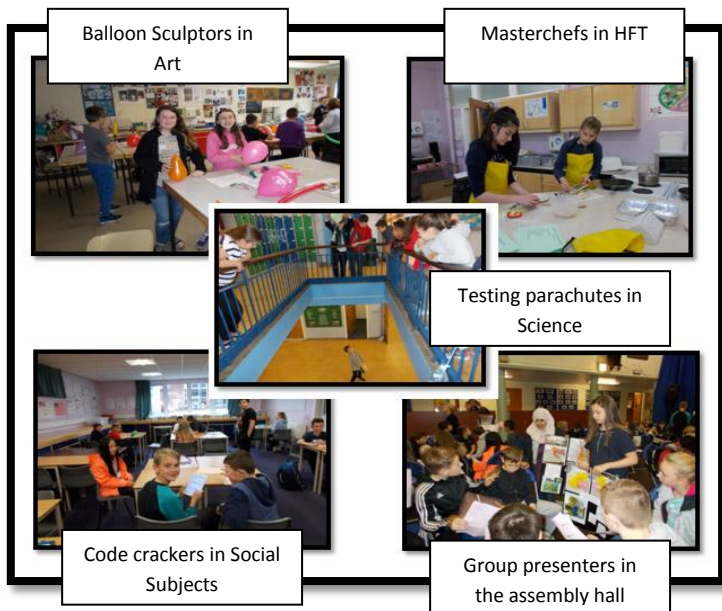
Congratulations to Lewis Graham (4MC) who competed in the SKGB National Kumite Championships. Well done Lewis! Individual Kumite - GOLD as well as Team Kumite - BRONZE

Congratulations also go to the Aliya Brear (2CN) as part of the Junior squad who competed in the Glasgow Karate Academy Kumite Development Championships. Aliya achieved SILVER. Well Done Aliya!

Bounce Back

On the 3rd of November Lenzie Academy hosted a Bounce back day for the new S1. For 1st period there was an assembly to discuss Bounce Back and what it means and why we were doing a day based on this Phrase and S1 discovered we were doing this day to build "Resilience". Resilience is the ability to recover quickly from something.

On this day we were off time table for 1st period where we had the assembly. For 2nd and 3rd period we had PSE lessons that looked closely at what resilience is and examples of it in our everyday life. For 4th or 5th period pupils were split between H.F.T, Art, Social subjects, Science, P.E, and Modern Languages.



Emma: In H.F.T we made pasta. You teamed up with a partner and decided what you were going to put in it, after that you were shown what we had to do. Then we started making the pasta, once you were done you had to write about how you thought the pasta tasted and what ingredients you put into it. After that we had finished and went on to have lunch which we didn't have to pay for as we had just made pasta.

Victoria: In Art we studied images of beautiful balloon sculptures some of which were made

from balloon and others made to give the effect of the balloon, After we studied the images and watched 2 videos about these sculptures we went on to creating our own balloon sculptures using a variety of different coloured and different lengths of balloons. We worked in teams to finish our sculptures and went on to creating a drawing of our creations and used coloured pastels to depict the colours of the balloons used.

During Period 6 we all gathered in the assembly hall with some of our creations from each subject. We didn't get round everyone but we saw in Social Subjects pupils completed an 'escape room' puzzle and in Science they made bridges out of toothpicks and sweets and made and tested their own parachutes.

By Victoria Reid (1MR) and Emma Coffey (1SL)

Top of the Bench

Once again this year a team of four enthusiastic young scientists were chosen to represent the school at the Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench competition.

Ross Donaldson, S2, Rachel de Blicck and Edward Quince, S3 and Gabrielle Singh, S4 travelled to the Department of Chemistry at Glasgow University to take part in the event. The pupils settled down to answering some really challenging questions and came in fourth out of 27 participating state and private schools. Well done Lenzie Academy.

The second part of the evening was equally exciting as pupils headed to DEesserts in Sauchiehal I Street to be treated by teachers to their well-earned reward. Delish!!



Performing Arts S3/4 Trip to Slava's Snow Show

On Tuesday 7th of November,



the Performing Arts Department took S3/4 Drama and Music pupils to see 'Slava's Snow Show' at The King's Theatre. 'Slava's Snow Show' is a circus based performance which contains very little dialogue. The production creates an immersive world through elaborate lighting and sound effects, snow storms and hurricanes. There is also a lot of audience interaction including the use of giant beach balls which the audience get to play with. We were so excited when they bounced all the way to the Upper Circle! This performance was unlike anything we have ever seen before.



S5 Forensic Elective Class



S5 pupils have taken the opportunity to gain some knowledge and experience of forensic work with Mr McDowell. Each week the class take on new challenges such as fingerprinting, hair analysis and recently, blood pattern analysis. The group produced their own fake blood and placed it into bags. Each pupil was provided with their own forensic outfit and various implements to strike the bags with.

After carrying out the experiment, each pattern was analysed to see the difference between each implement. The pupils have been thoroughly enjoying the class so far and are looking forward to some new challenges.



Remembrance Assemblies

On the morning of 9th November

Lenzie Academy pupils and staff paid their respects to those who gave their lives during the World Wars and more recent conflicts.



House assemblies were held led by senior students, Lucy Fleming, Abby Reid and David Thornton. All three had participated on this year's Battlefields Trip and spoke movingly, and knowledgeably, about that experience and how it relates to the theme of remembrance and reconciliation.

Thereafter a period of respectful silence was observed and a wreath was laid by School Captains, Arran Greig and Jaims McIntyre. Kirsty Donaldson, Zoe Mair and Beth Seggie played a beautiful rendition of Robert Burns' Ae Fond Kiss and Then We Sever....

"We will remember them."



Football

Girls football continues to thrive at LA



A huge well done to Deanna Duke 2CN who despite currently playing at under 14 level, has made the Central Region select squad at under 15's. Deanna proved her quality, successfully making it through a number of rounds of trials and will now represent the region in a national competition.

Deanna's success has continued at club level. Having recently finished the season, Deanna finished top goal scorer helping Pollock to win the league.

Well done Deanna and good luck with the Central Region!!

Laura McCartney 4CN continues to excel at national level. Having captained Scotland under 16's, Laura was selected for the 17's in a recent tournament in Latvia, helping them make it through to the elite round which will take place next year. Laura will now remain in the 17's squad and we wish her and Scotland, continued success!!

Lord Speaker's Peers in Schools Outreach Programme

Lenzie Academy hosted Lord Purvis of Tweed on Friday November 10th as part of the Lord Speaker's Peers in Schools Outreach Programme. The Programme aims to encourage pupils to become more engaged with the political and parliamentary process.

Lord Purvis met S4 National 5 and S6 Advanced Higher Modern Studies pupils to talk about the work and role of the House of Lords. A question and answer session followed on various aspects of the parliamentary process and daily life at the Houses of Parliament in general. The informative talk and answers Lord Purvis was able to give us will help S4 pupils with our N5 revision and Advanced Higher pupils with our dissertations.

The visit was arranged by Modern Studies teacher, Ms Fordyce, and the Lord Speaker's Office, Palace of Westminster, with the assistance of East Dunbartonshire MP, Jo Swinson.



By S4 and AH pupils

Millport Trip

On 13 November I went to Millport on the Island of Great Cumbrae as part of the Advanced Higher Geography field trip. We departed from Central Station on Monday morning and after a short train journey to

Largs we boarded the ferry to take us across to Millport. When we arrived we were met by our instructor Jack who showed us around the field centre. On the first day we studied soils and after a quick introduction in the classroom we set off for our chosen study area. We spent the rest of the afternoon using many field work techniques and equipment such as ranging poles, clinometers and a soil auger to investigate how the soil changes down a slope. In the evening we had a short classroom session examining our data before having some free time.

The next day we walked around Millport Bay to investigate flood defences, surveying both the human and physical factors that affect the beaches. This was very interesting and also gave us the chance to explore the town of Millport. The final day was focused on hydrosphere and we learned about the hydrological cycle before carrying out some fieldwork to investigate infiltration rates in the soil. We then boarded the ferry and headed home. Overall I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Millport and it was a great addition to the Advanced Higher Geography course.

Kirsty Donaldson
(6MR)



EDC Scottish School Swimming

Well done to the pupils who took part in the EDC Scottish School Swimming Competition on Saturday 18 November at the Leisuredrome in Bishopbriggs. Results for our pupils as follows:

Greg Lawrie-

Bronze/Bronze/Bronze

100m Butterfly/Individual Medley/200m Freestyle

Sam Glen

Gold

100m Breaststroke

Ava McDermott

Silver

100m Butterfly

Kirsty McNair

Gold/Silver

100m/200m Freestyle

Lauren McGhee

Gold

100m Breaststroke/200m Individual Medley

Hannah Mayo

Gold/Gold

100m/200m Breaststroke

Fallon Gilhooly

4th

100m Breaststroke

Emily Dick

5th

100m Breaststroke

Ruairi McKinnon

Gold/Gold/Silver/Silver

100m/200m Freestyle/100m/200m Backstroke

Joselyn McKenzie

10th

200m Individual Medley

Duncan McKinney

Gold/Gold

200m Freestyle/Butterfly



Political Literacy

Green Party MSP, Ross Greer, recently visited Lenzie Academy to speak to S3 Modern Studies



pupils about his work as an elected representative. He spoke to the pupils about what he does and they then got to ask him questions on a wide range of issues, from what it's like being the youngest MSP to Brexit. The answers Ross gave helped the pupils' gain a better understanding of what an MSP does to represent their constituents.

The Modern Studies department also welcomed former pupil, Callum McNally, who was the Labour Party candidate for East Dunbartonshire in the 2017 General Election. Callum answered questions from S4 pupils regarding campaigning, why he became a candidate and a host of other things. It was great to see one of our former pupils taking some of his learning from his time in Modern Studies into the real world. Callum complimented the pupils on their very good questions and said it had been a pleasure to return to his old school.



We are grateful to both Ross and Callum for returning to Lenzie Academy to speak to our pupils.

Advocate visit

The Modern Studies Law elective class recently had the opportunity to hear, firsthand, what it's like to be an Advocate in the Scottish Justice System when they welcomed a member of the Faculty of Advocates to Lenzie Academy. The Advocate described what a typical day might look like in her profession and then answered the pupils' questions on everything from court procedure to why lawyers wear wigs. One of the pupils said, "I thought the Advocate was really good and she told us lots of interesting things about her job. It would have been good if we could have had more time with her."



The Advocate's answers to the pupils' questions enhanced their understanding of what they've been studying in class about the Scottish Justice System and we're grateful to her for giving of her time to come and speak to the pupils.

Armed Services Careers Presentations

Over the month of November saw Lenzie Academy welcome representatives from the armed services for their annual visit, to discuss the vast array of careers available in their industry.

Visiting:

- Tuesday 7th, Mr Brian Tait of the British Army Careers Centre in Glasgow.
- Tuesday 14th, Corporal Grant, Sergeant Muir and Flight Lieutenant Ross from the RAF
- Tuesday 21st, CPO Mark Peachey a careers advisor for the Royal Navy.

Pupils from S4 - 6 who had indicated an interest in joining the armed forces, were given the opportunity to attend each workshop.

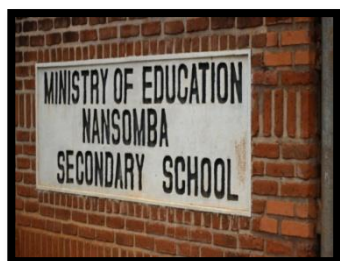
In each, they were able to find out more about the recruitment process: physical/academic and mental requirements were discussed. In addition to this, information on the various career paths that can be taken, the qualifications that can be gained, and of the transferrable skills they can take from it. Most surprisingly to the pupils was the number of apprenticeship opportunities, at varying levels of academic ability, which were on offer.



Malawi Connection- November Update



The Malawi Connection team have been very busy this month, in the run up to the Christmas Period. We have been making arts and crafts, and then visiting various events in the school and in the community such as the Lenzie Fairtrade Bakeoff and Millersneuk Primary Christmas Fayre to sell our products. We will also be visiting Lenzie Meadows Christmas Fayre on the 2nd December.



This year, we are raising funds to improve the facilities at Nansomba Secondary, our partner school. We

are also continuing to support the Scottish charity 'Aiming Higher In Malawi' and the Mendulo Early Childhood Development Centre (Nursery)



We are very thankful for all of your continued support. If you would like to join

the Malawi Connection, please come along to B12/13 on a Monday Lunchtime, new members are always welcome.

If you are interested in the work of the Malawi Connection and are able to donate a stall at an event in the Lenzie community, please contact us through the school office and we will be very thankful for your support. You can also keep up to date with our work through the Wider Achievement Twitter page, @LACELenzAc.

Ben Stewart S5

Badminton at the Emirates



Our Higher PE classes visited the Emirates Arena in Glasgow to watch the Scottish Open Grand Prix an annual event that is part of the Badminton World Federation Grand Prix series. Scotland's Kirsty Gilmour beat Danish third seed Mia Blichfeldt to win women's singles title for the first time.



Children in Need 2017



Big-hearted Lenzie Academy pupils and staff raised a magnificent **£2737** for Children in Need. No

reputations were spared in the quest for cash – with teachers putting their learning on the line and school captains finding pain and gain by volunteering for leg-waxing.

The Academy and House captaincy teams and members of staff dug deep for the annual BBC fund-raiser, organising a packed schedule of events including a game-show entitled "Are you Smarter than a Teacher?"



This was a great laugh for students and teachers alike and the pupils learned some surprising new things about their teachers. The captancy teams organised a talent show which was a great success and raised a considerable amount – the audience saw several different acts with a range of excellent and admirable talents. There was also leg waxing where every boy captain and six male teachers had one strip torn off each leg – it was a great laugh for the audience, not so much for the participants. Ouch! Of course, we had to have sporting events too, so the team organised the boys' rugby team to play the girls' netball team at a game of football, with the boys dressed in netball skirts and the girls in rugby tops. The game attracted a brilliant show of support from pupils and teachers around the school, with a final score of 30-0 to the boys' team. Last but not least, a teachers v pupils game of football was staged with the teachers winning 1-0; great fun to watch and many pupils were impressed at the skills of the teachers. There was also a very competitive house bucket donation challenge where house prefects persuaded pupils and staff in their relevant houses to “chuck the change in the bucket” We give a special thanks to the House captancy team and members of staff who helped organise the sale of the tickets for each event, a very difficult task made easy with the incredible amount of support

offered. This week would not have gone as well as it did without the fantastic support from all members of staff and the captancy team – and of course the very generous donations from all the wonderful students. Thank you!



By Jonathan Bryce, Boys' Vice Captain

Cake Sale and Coffee Morning

On Friday 17th November the National 5 Retail Class hosted a Children in Need Cake Sale and



Coffee Morning to raise money. The cake sale was for pupils and the coffee morning was

for teachers and staff. There were hot drinks, cakes and buns available at the coffee morning and the cake sale was made up of different baked goods that were brought in by class members and teachers. The total amount raised for the coffee morning was £195.32 and the amount raised from the cake sale was £213.21, which gave us a grand total of **£408.53!** All the profits from both events went to Children in Need, an organisation that provide money for charities who need it all across the country, the money goes towards things like new premises, equipment and events for children who are

disadvantaged. The class received positive feedback from both staff and pupils.

We would like to thank everyone for donating money, cakes and those who took part in the event and helped make it such a great success.



Sam Whitelaw

Debating News

On Monday 27th November, S6 pupils David Thornton and Jonathan Bryce were invited to take part in the ESU's annual St Andrew's Day debating competition held in the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh.

The boys were each teamed up with a pupil from another school and debated in three short-prep debates throughout the day, speaking about varied topics such as: corporate CEOs being held responsible for environmental disasters; compulsory Gaelic lessons in schools; and diversity quotas at the BBC.

David and Jonathan were both given positive feedback from their judges, with David coming in first place in two of his debates and Jonathan finishing the day with a second place position in his final debate.

Well done to both!



The Diana Award Inspire Scotland Ceremony



The Diana Award is a charity legacy to Diana Princess of Wales' belief that young people can change the world. The award itself is given to exceptional

young people for selflessly creating and sustaining positive social change.

Lenzie Academy Community Engagement (LACE) made good use of the opportunity presented to them on 29th November when two of their members, Emma Mahon and Iona Smith, were individually selected to receive the award at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh

This came at the end of #iwill week where LACE focussed on the range and depth of community engagement that is being undertaken every week by pupils at the school in the local community and in national organisations.

Representatives of LACE, active schools' coordinator Katie Clucas, supporting teachers and the award winners' parents were able to join together to recognise the achievement of these two young people. The celebrity style ceremony was enjoyed by all and it was particularly apposite during Book week Scotland that their award certificates were presented by well known novelist Ian Rankin. He spoke about his experiences as a young volunteer which led to his career as a writer and his greater understanding of the voluntary sector once he had become a parent of a child with additional support needs.



Emma Mahon who is currently in S6 was selected for her variety and scope of social action particularly in relation to encouraging the participation in sport. Emma has been a regular school and team mentor and ambassador but has developed these roles further within East Dunbartonshire and more recently by nationally representing her peers on the Young people's Sports panel, running national social media campaigns with the hashtag #unstoppablegirl. She is helping to shape the future of girls' participation in sport within Scotland but still has time to volunteer at Campsie View School and has ambition to become a prosthetist to give more people greater access to movement.

Iona Smith is in S5 but has already volunteered hundreds of hours of her time encouraging younger people to increase their participation in sport as an Active schools Champion. She regularly participates in mentoring pupils in Lenzie Academy and their associate Primary schools. However her other social action passion is human rights and she is one of the founding members of the school's Rights Respecting Schools Group within LACE which has led her to become one of the two ambassadors for the Year of Young People from Lenzie Academy. Iona will be working on her Platinum Youth Achievement award with East Dunbartonshire over the next two years.

There were other inspiring stories from Edinburgh Deputy Lord Provost, Louise

Macdonald the CEO of Young Scot. However a speech by one of the previous X factor contestants Caitlin Vanbeck about her personal experiences of bullying when at school gave many of LACE members the desire to focus upon this issue of pupil health and wellbeing later in the day when they took part in the Inspire Scotland workshop. The pupils were coached in personal effectiveness skills before creating and presenting their own action plan for social action. All these pupils are already veteran volunteers but this experience encouraged them to see themselves as leaders of change and they will now go on to lead a health and wellbeing initiative which will take advantage of the Diana Award Anti Bullying training (being offered to all schools) and develop the schools' Right Respecting Schools programme of action. For more information follow LACE on twitter @LACELenzAc.



Iona and Emma with their parents at The Diana Awards Ceremony

Senior Phase Curricular Pathways Event

At our annual event for S4 – S6 we were fortunate enough this year to have almost 30 exhibitors from universities, colleges, training agencies, armed forces, Fire services, JP Morgan, AG Barr, The Academy of Music and Sound, SAE Institute, EDVA and Skills Development Scotland. The main focus of this exhibition was to give pupils the opportunity to investigate a wide range of college courses, progression routes to university, training courses, vocational qualifications and further opportunities to consider after leaving school. Parents were also invited to the event from 4.00pm – 5.00pm.



Exhibitors set up their display stand with relevant information for the students and parents, and were available to provide first hand information on the opportunities available to them.

Feedback from pupils suggests that they found this to be an interesting and worthwhile event.

We are grateful to all our exhibitors who give up their time and pass on valuable knowledge to enhance our PSE lessons for pupils.

FOLA News

FOLA held their Prosecco and Pressies night at Lenzie Golf Club on Friday 17th November. The fantastic sum of over £900 was raised and we would like to thank everyone who came along and made the evening such a success. The money raised will go towards enhancing your child's experience at Lenzie Academy.

The monthly 500 Club is our main method of fund raising and it would be great if we could increase the number of people contributing. Application forms are available from the school office or online through the FOLA website www.fola125.co.uk

If you would like to join the happy band of fund raisers please come along to our next meeting which will take place in January, Date to be confirmed on the school website at the start of term.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from FOLA.

House News

Fleming DM/MC

It has been another great month for Fleming; we are currently in the lead with 2360 points. We raised a fantastic total of £168 through everyone's bucket donations for Children in Need, we really appreciate all the contributions. In the inter-house rugby tournament, in October, our 3rd year Fleming team came first. The 4th, 5th and 6th year classes for Fleming were all awarded class of the month, which helped gain points for our house. The modern languages department are hoping to organise a spelling bee for the junior pupils to earn points for their house, the date is yet to be confirmed, and we hope to see a great turnout for this event. A huge thank you to Sarah Millar in 3rd year for representing us in the Children in Need talent show, and everyone else in Fleming who participated in the charity events throughout the week. We hope everyone keeps up their hard work for the rest of the year.

Inglis – MR/MB

We are proud to say that Lenzie Academy has raised over £2700 for children in need this last week. Many thanks to all those who have participated in charity events as well as those who have donated money. Special thanks to our school captains for a thrilling 'Jingle Bell Rocks' rendition from the 'Mean Girls'. From children in need week we have managed to gain a total of 88 points! We are also going to host a series of Inglis house events this coming December. We hope that all those in Inglis will work together to make this successful.

McKay – MH/CN

Massive well done to McKay house! Inter-house rugby 'Spooky Sevens' took place throughout October for pupils in all year groups. The final match took place on Halloween with staff competing against S6, getting into the Halloween festivities in costumes. Pupils had to donate to watch and subsequently raised £45. Great success for McKay as we won the S1 game and joint first in the S4 game. We also came second in the S2 and S3 games. So a huge thank you to those who competed and well done! We gained 200 house points for our 1st place successes and 100 for second. S2 pupils are continuing to gain points for their reading programmes. We came in second place with our points for October being 40 which puts our total at 2335. Future upcoming events include the Modern Languages department running the Spelling Bee again which we will have the opportunity to take part in, the date is yet to be confirmed. There will also be a big House event before Christmas-further details to follow! Once again a big congrats to McKay and here's to continuing this fantastic progress!

Mackintosh – RA/SL

Well done Mackintosh for raising the most amount of money for charity so far! During the Children in Need week we managed to raise £212, this means that in that one week we got 212 points towards mackintosh. The rugby match took place on Halloween which saw members of staff competing against the S6 pupils this resulted in £45 raised for the school charities. This has been a great past month and we hope to make the next months even better, over the next few months look out for even more opportunities to raise money for charity and gain house points.