



## LENZIE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



Session 2017-2018

Welcome to the June Newsletter.

Welcome to our last newsletter of the academic term in 2017-18.

It has been a busy and frantic end to the session with many trips leaving for various locations within the UK and beyond. As well as two trips to London and one to New York we also had our German Exchange and a trip to Paris/Alps. We also had lots of day trips too e.g. over 100 S1 pupils visited SOAR in Braehead and we had Geography field trips to Loch Lomond and an HFT trip to the Royal Highland Show.

Of course, it was a very unusual end to the session caused by the closure of all school for four days due to industrial action by three non-teaching trade unions. I hope that the council and the trade unions concerned can come to an amicable resolution of their differences to avoid any further disruption to schools.

At the end of the session we have to bid farewell to some staff that are leaving us for various reasons and I would like to thank the following staff members of their contributions over this year and beyond:

1. **NQTs** – Miss Campbell (English), Miss Edwards (Modern Languages), Mr Merton (Physics), Miss Kielty (Chemistry), Mrs Sampaio (Art), Miss McFadden (History) and Mr Chainey (Modern Studies).

2. **Temporary teachers** – Mr McAllister (PE) and Mr Brown (Business Education).
3. **Support staff** – Mr McGinty (Senior Technician), Miss Reilly (SLA) and Mrs Lochhead (SLA).
4. **Permanent staff** – Mr McLaren (Maths) and Ms Kidd (Wellbeing teacher).

All of the above members of staff have made very valuable contributions to the school and we wish them well in their future careers. I hope you enjoy the content of this abridged newsletter which has, for reasons outlined earlier, not included all of the activities that we would normally have in our end of term newsletter.

On behalf of all teaching and non-teaching staff within the school may I wish you all a pleasant and restful summer break.

### **Need to Contact the School?**

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Lenzie G66 4HR

### **FOLA 125- Lenzie Academy fundraising page**

[www.fo1a125.co.uk](http://www.fo1a125.co.uk)

## S2 Science Fair



Throughout the whole of May, the S2 year group carried out investigations in Science. Various investigations were carried out that ranged from variations of slime to how different types of music affect your concentration. After presenting the investigations in class, a variety of groups from across all the sciences were selected to take part in the annual Science Fair.

The Science Fair is a full day event which allows pupils to take part in many activities and problem solving tasks based around a disaster. The pupils work in small teams to solve these problems and be in with a chance of winning some great prizes.



This year saw 73, S2 pupils take part along with a judging panel made up our own Chemistry teacher, Mrs Walker and staff from Glasgow Caledonian University.

Four of the S2 boys were selected for the best investigation and were awarded with their very own chemistry set.

Several other prizes were awarded for various other tasks. Lenzie Academy would

like to thank FOLA and North Sea Plastics Ltd. for their sponsor which allowed for a fantastic event to take place.

Well done to the whole of the S2 year group for some fantastic investigations and congratulations to all the prize winners in the Science Fair.



## Army Cadets National Athletics Championship

Congratulations to Liam Farrel (New 3CN) who gained a gold medal for the 300m at the Army Cadets National Athletics Championship, as well as a silver medal for his part in the relay team.



## Writing Success (Update!)

After being shortlisted for Edinburgh Napier University's Robert Louis Stevenson Writing Competition, Reyah Martin (former S6) successfully won the prize for poetry! She attended a ceremony on Friday 15th June in Edinburgh where she was announced as the winner after a workshop with writer and head judge Louise Welsh. Reyah won £100 for her fantastic piece of work. Well done!



## Barcelona

On the 6th May 2018, 44 pupils and 5 teachers successfully touched down in Barcelona. On the first day, we all settled into the hotel and then enjoyed free time to get familiar with our surroundings.

We enjoyed both activities and free time, it was great that everyone got on so well and we really liked the fact that we got to spend time with other pupils, who we did not normally hang out with in Lenzie.

We liked using our Spanish when we could and some people even ordered ice cream and other food at the beach in Spanish. Another great experience was when we discovered a traditional street party which had lots of food stalls and dancing which was very different to what we are used to at home.

We all loved visiting Barcelona and the 1.5-hour bus trips in and out of Barcelona were not so bad as we listened to music and played games.

The girls of the group were amazed by Sephora's entrance which was a slide!

Final highlights: The visit to Camp Nou, la Sagrada Familia, Gaudi's Park, Olympic Park and all of the rides at the Portaventura theme park were great!

We'd recommend this trip to anyone who enjoys learning about another country's languages and cultures. Some people were even lucky enough to get pictures of the Real Madrid players at the airport and a Barcelona player at the Nou Camp!

written by Jemma Campbell,  
Alex Marshall, Jodi McLean

## Prizegiving

### SPECIAL AWARDS

The Gareth McKellar Trophy for Sporting Achievement in S3 - **Helena Crofts**

The MacLean Cup for Outstanding Sporting Achievement (Boys) - **Duncan McKinney**

The Williamson Cup for Outstanding Sporting Achievement (Girls) - **Christy Simons**

The Jones Cup for All-Round Sporting Excellence  
- **Robyn Morrison**

The Stewart Stevenson Snr Trophy for Excellence in Mathematics  
- **Laura McCafferty**

The Ailsa McKay Award for Outstanding Contribution to the House System  
- **Rebecca Morrison**

Junior Public Speaking Trophy  
- **Annmaria Joseph**

The Emily-Jane Gold Award for Positive Attitude  
- **Callum Brooks**

The Morag Redpath Award - **Jamie Campbell**

The Miller Reid Memorial Trophy for Personal Development / Achievement  
- **David Thornton**

The Julian Roebuck Memorial Award  
- **Nina Sosna and Jonathan Dely**

The Robert Muir Shield for Service to the School Community - **Ben Stewart**



The Christine Slimming Award for  
Service to the Wider Community -  
**Louise Aitken**



The Prize for Runner-Up to the Junior Dux  
for Session 2017 -2018 **Sandy Macdonald**

The Medal for  
JUNIOR DUX OF LENZIE ACADEMY  
for Session 2017-2018 **Sarah Graham**

The Prize for Runner-Up to the Senior Dux  
for Session 2017 -2018 **Freya Bradley**

The Medal for  
SENIOR DUX OF LENZIE ACADEMY  
for Session 2017-2018 **Holly Harrison**

Lenzie Academy House Cup – Presented by  
Mr P Reoch – **Friends Of Lenzie Academy**  
- The winner is **Fleming House**

The Head Teacher’s Citizenship Award for  
Girls' Vice-Captain - **Kirsty Donaldson,**  
**Holly Richmond, Beth Seggie, Nina Sosna**

The Head Teacher’s Citizenship Award for  
Boys’ Vice-Captain - **Jonathan Bryce,**  
**Euan Ferguson, Connor Gray, Jaims**  
**McIntyre**

The School Representation Cup and  
The Head Teacher’s Award for School  
Captain **Arran Greig**

The Local Area Sub-Committee Cup and  
The Head Teacher’s Award for School  
Captain **Beth Gilmour**

## Germany 2018

In June some S3 and S5 pupils visited our German partner school, The Staufer Gymnasium in Pfullendorf to take part in our annual pupil exchange and work experience projects. This year was even more special as we began the joint celebration of the 30th anniversary of our partnership and friendship.

The younger pupils stayed in host families, visited the school and also took part in day trips to local places of interest such as Freiburg, Lake Constance and the Zugspitze, Germany’s highest mountain. Although they do not learn German, they had a fantastic time getting to know their German hosts and sharing the exciting experiences, as so many pupils have done before them. The link with the Gymnasium has offered our young people the kinds of experience which we cannot provide in the classroom and it was a joy to see them develop socially, as they interacted with their new friends and their host families. Hopefully this will be the start of long-lasting friendships for them.



The S5 pupils had studied German to Higher level and were in many cases returning to Pfullendorf to see their friends and participate in a week’s Work Experience. They more than rose to the occasion and were praised by everyone who worked with them in the hospital, bank, primary schools, fitness studio and the internationally renowned company Geberit. In fact, one of them, Lloyd Gebbie, was acclaimed as “the

best work experience pupil we have ever had” by the bank manager – no mean feat as they are used to local young people having placements there too. Well done to Lloyd and all the other participants for making such a positive impression.

The third important part of our visit was celebrating the 30th anniversary of our partnership. Such a long-standing friendship is an outstanding achievement and Mr Ortiz and Ms Shaw were joined in Pfullendorf by Mr Ion and former colleague, Mrs O’Grady. As ever, we were welcomed so warmly by our friends and we celebrated with an outing to Bregenz, including a cable car ride overlooking Lake Constance.



A great time was had by all and we are now eagerly awaiting the return visit in the autumn!

### **Celebrating Community Connections**

On Saturday 16th June Lenzie Academy celebrated a year of connecting with the local community by having a Big Lunch for volunteers, the families and members of the local community.

The Big Lunch and Saltire Award ceremony was the third award ceremony held at Lenzie Academy that week but was unique because everyone present had given up their own time to recognise the progress Lenzie Academy Community Engagement has made in fulfilling their #iwill pledge to “encourage as many pupils as possible to work with others and for others”.



The lunch itself was a chance for families to meet members of the community groups with which their young people had been volunteering and there were representatives from a number of charities. These group had first made their connection with the school through the S3 Youth Philanthropy Initiative and then gone onto to become House charities over the last 3 years such as Cathleen’s Cabin, Glasgow Panthers Wheelchair Rugby ad East Dunbartonshire Visually Impaired People’s Forum. Lenzie Academy’s emphasis on establishing long lasting community connections ensures that these charities are not just contacted annually for the YPI competition but are valued by pupils throughout the year for the ways they exemplify the school values of compassion and respect.

Other community groups that were present including Lenzie Guides who took this opportunity to recruit potential new leaders and Beatson Cancer Care whose connections with the school come not only from the support charity gives to local families managing a cancer diagnosis but also employees who were ex pupils demonstrating the range of careers available in the Third Sector in developing Scotland’s young workforce.



The Big Lunch is an initiative run by The Eden Project and Lenzie Academy has embraced this fully this year by taking part in its sister project The Big Walk together with Glasgow Panthers Wheelchair Rugby and Lenzie Old Parish Church's Come and Sing Dementia friendly singing group. Representatives from all three groups had been present at Scotland's Big Lunch in Dundee on the 3rd June and met again back at Lenzie Academy on Saturday. The inclusive nature of Lenzie Academy's Big Lunch enabled pupils who had volunteered with these groups to introduce them to their families and share the stories of their year's achievement.



The second part of the afternoon was the Saltire Award ceremony which gave the young people the chance to have their award certificates formally presented by Elizabeth Wright, Paralympic swimming medallist and inspirational speaker. Lenzie Academy has agreed to become a pathfinder school for the University of Birmingham's Jubilee Centre for Character and virtues and Elizabeth Wright is currently studying her Master's degree with them as well as having co authored a book on practical ideas to develop character in primary aged pupils. Having aspired to become an Olympic swimmer at the age of 13 she exemplifies Lenzie Academy's school values of high expectations, ambition and continuous improvement achieving two medals in two separate Paralympic games.

Lenzie Academy pupils have amassed over 10,000 hours of volunteering between them and the audience gave great support and encouragement to all those young pupils

present to receive their awards, whether they were starting out on their Saltire journey having achieved a 10 hour certificate or were an established volunteer with 200 hours of recognised community involvement. The afternoon was run by LACE's Team Platinum who consists of S6 pupils who have achieved or are being nominated for Saltire Summit Awards, the highest Saltire Award possible for outstanding contributions to community engagement. They are working towards their Platinum Youth Achievement awards which recognise not only contributions to community action but also the personal development of leadership skills required by many universities and employers in the 21st century, recognising that excellent exam results are only part of what makes a responsible citizen.

The whole event was enjoyed by all the participants who had arrived in torrential rain but left the school under sunny skies with a sense that the young people of Lenzie Academy both value and are valued by their local community.

### **LACE activities in June**

June was an exciting time for Lenzie Academy Community Engagement as the year's activity was concluded with various celebrations.

The Intergenerational Volunteers were asked to attend East Dunbartonshire's Annual Intergenerational Event on the last day of their exam leave in order to present in front of practitioners in the Health and Social care field. Their presentation was written and delivered confidently by the group and they were able to answer all the questions raised by the different social care professionals.





In the afternoon the group facilitated some of the Intergenerational activities, both the familiar Come and Sing and the new experience of intergenerational Wii games to increase health and wellbeing through activity.



One of our S6 Diana Award winners was also present at the event sharing information on behalf of Carer's Link. The afternoon was rounded off with an intergenerational quiz in which one of our teams narrowly missed winning.



As this was the start of dementia awareness week our Intergenerational Volunteers were in high demand and were asked to facilitate East Dunbartonshire's Health and Social Care partnership's dementia awareness garden party on Friday 8th June. The pupils were soon involved in chatting to the invited guests and entertaining them with their music. This event was the first of its kind but



is going to be the start of a developing relationship between LACe and the EDHSCP

## New York Trip 2018

At 14:30 on Monday 11th June, the Delta flight carrying us (26 Lenzie Academy representatives) to the USA touched down at JFK International Airport. After a 7-hour flight we were all very grateful to finally arrive in New York City. As we drove away from the airport and approached Manhattan, the first glimpse of the famous New York Skyline was a sight that none of us will be quick to forget.



The following morning, we got our first real experience of being in Times Square. The height of the film-famous screens and the buildings surrounding us was overwhelming! For our first trip we took the Liberty & Ellis Island ferry where we visited the Statue of Liberty. It was totally surreal seeing such a famous landmark so close up! Looking back at the island of Manhattan from the ferry, everything seemed so much smaller than it did when we were at the top of both the Empire State Building and the Rockefeller Centre (where we realised the true meaning of the word skyscraper!).

During our stay in New York we got the chance to explore the city by foot with a native tour guide. Over the course of our two tours she was able to show us some of the classic New York sites such as Grand

Central Station, Trump Tower and the Brooklyn Bridge. As this was a Business Education trip, our tour guide spent time explaining why New York is arguably the financial capital of the world while showing us around the financial district (including Wall Street and the World Trade Centres). Part of this involved us visiting the 9/11 memorial. Although visiting the footprint of where the Twin Towers stood was a very solemn experience, it was definitely one of the most memorable as it gave us an insight into why New York is the way it is today.



We spent our Wednesday evening in New York seeing one of the famous Broadway shows. The production of the show was like nothing we had ever seen before; we are still trying to work out how they managed to get the genie to come out of the bottle! The atmosphere before, during and after the Aladdin performance was amazing and it really added to the experience.



We also got to experience an exclusive NBC Studios tour where we had an inside look into the production of many of our favourite shows including Saturday Night Live and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. At the end of our tour there was an interactive experience where we got to create our own production – some of us were definitely better at acting than others!

After a jam-packed four days, we got the chance to relax a bit on our last day. We visited Central Park which took us away from the busyness of the city. Some of us hired rowing boats and paddled around the centre lake while others took the opportunity to take photos at famous spots in the park. The whole experience was incredible. We had so much fun exploring all of the famous sites and seeing how New Yorkers live their lives. The Fifth Avenue shops also deserve a mention - they were a definite highlight (however, we think our bank accounts might disagree)! We cannot recommend this trip enough to any other students who may get the chance to go in the future. We loved every minute of it and would jump at the chance to go back.

By Abby Morrison & Rachel Cunningham

