



LENZIE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

Session 2018-2019



Welcome to our January newsletter.

Supporting our pupils' post-prelim

In our December newsletter I informed you that our S4-6 pupils had been engaged in preliminary examinations and that, in all likelihood, there was likely to be a short-term dip in overall pupil performance, which is normal for the prelims. This is the first time that the young people face a significant volume of work that they are tested on and some do not put in as much study as they really should. Again, this is not unusual and the difference in performance between the prelims and the SQA examinations in May can be very marked.

The courses will be finished by early/mid-February, in most cases, allowing significant time for consolidation of work; the development of core skills required in each subject and revision of key themes using past paper type questions and the like. To help support our pupils further we have over 80 supported study sessions on offer from mid-February until the end of March. We will also be considering offering an Easter school programme during the first week of the holidays but this is yet to be confirmed. For S5/6 pupils we also utilise the Tuesday afternoon elective time to offer subject specific support in those subjects where staffing is available. We also have LA Launch

available after school on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3.30 – 4.30 where pupils can come and do homework; have a quiet space for revision; access ICT or work collaboratively with peers.

Our S4 pupils will all be involved in a double period of personal support with a teacher to discuss their strengths and where they could facilitate improvement whilst for some S5/6 pupils we may be able to offer some dedicated mentoring with members of the senior leadership team and other senior staff. Overall, we have a very comprehensive package of support for our young people and we hope this leads to continued success for our pupils in their important SQA examinations.

Burns Supper

In January 29 we held our first Burns Supper in the school, attended by approximately 80 parents/carers, staff and wider family members. This event was organised by the Performing Arts Department and the audience were treated to an excellent three course meal followed by some outstanding entertainment from our Drama club and our young musicians and singers. All in all, an excellent evening's entertainment in what we hope will become an annual event in our school calendar.

SNSA

Throughout the month of January, we implemented the Scottish Government's SNSA programme of assessment for all S3 pupils. The details of these literacy and numeracy assessments go to the Scottish Government so that they can gauge the national position across the country with

regard to literacy and numeracy standards. This is the second year of these assessments and as a school we tend not to take much cognisance of these as they are merely one off assessments whereas we have a range of assessment data for our pupils across S1, S2 and S3 which we feel gives us a much fuller and more contextualised picture of the progress of our pupils.

Holocaust Memorial

In this edition of our newsletter you will find details of our annual Holocaust Memorial Assemblies which took place on 25 January. These assemblies are fundamentally necessary for you may be aware that recent reports in the media, based upon research from the Holocaust Memorial Trust, indicated that in the UK as many as one in ten people was unaware that the Holocaust had taken place or massively under-estimated the extent of the attempted genocide that had taken place. This significant lack of awareness in the UK was replicated across many countries in Europe so it is important that we continue to remind each generation that comes through of the important lessons from history so that we reduce the chances of replicating them in the future.

Our young people from S2 and S6 delivered an excellent presentation reminding our pupils of the importance of moral duty towards others and it was a privilege to be a part of this event.

Also in this month's newsletter are details of our Tam O' Shanter competition and some details about some of our local companies kindly sponsoring our PE clubs with new kit.

I hope you enjoy this brief January newsletter.

Absences

If you are calling to report a child's absence can we ask that you leave a message on our **Attendance Line** to report the details of the absence. Please give the child's name, registration group, a brief reason for the absence and your relationship to the child. Thank you

Attendance line: 0141 955 2380

Need to Contact the School?

Telephone: 0141 955 2379
Absence Line: 0141 955 2380

Email:

office@lenzieacademy.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Website

www.lenzieacademy.e-dunbarton.sch.uk

Twitter

@lenzieacad

Address

Lenzie Academy, Myrtle Avenue,
Lenzie G66 4HR

FOLA (PTA)- Lenzie Academy fundraising page

www.fo1a125.co.uk

Holocaust Memorial Day 2019

Lenzie Academy marked Holocaust Memorial Day 2019 on Friday 25th January. Holocaust Memorial Day itself was on Sunday 27th January and is a day to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, throughout the time of the Nazi persecution of the Jews in Europe. It is also a time to remember and reflect on subsequent genocides, including those in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust sums up the importance of remembering these genocides:

“Holocaust Memorial Day is a time when we seek to learn the lessons of the past and recognise that genocide does not just take place on its own - it’s a steady process which can begin if discrimination, racism and hatred are not checked and prevented.”

As a school, with a large and diverse cohort of young people, it is vitally important to acknowledge this truth if they are to enter into the world as active, tolerant, empathetic and compassionate citizens.



Photograph: Eve (S2), Rory (S2), Jenna (S6), Abby (S6), Head-teacher Mr Paterson

The assembly’s core message this year was about the moral duty, that we as citizens have, to remember such events. The young

people involved in the assembly upheld this duty with compassion and integrity. S2 pupils from each house read the poem ‘The Action in the Ghetto of Rohatyn’ by Alexander Kimel, a Ukrainian Holocaust survivor, while two S6 pupils shared their experience of visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau as part of their ‘Lessons from Auschwitz’ project they are completing with the Holocaust Educational Trust. S6 House Captains and Prefects also showed their support for the proceedings.

Inclusion, equality, respect, tolerance and resilience to cope with change are embedded within the vision, values and aims of Lenzie Academy. This assembly emphasised these to our young people and hopefully left them with a lasting message to pass on to future generations.

Miss J Byres (History teacher)

Tam O'Shanter

All S1 pupils participated in a costume design competition inspired by Tam O'Shanter. Pupils read through the script and were challenged to create an original design for one character. The winning entry was designed by Ayub in 1CN. This became the front cover of the Burns Supper programme.

2nd place was awarded to Matthew in 1SL and third place to Karandeep in 1MC. Well done!



Lenzie Academy New Sport Kit

In the very challenging financial climate we all face today, we want to support our extensive range of extra-curricular activities to maintain the excellent provision that we currently have. This has enabled us to be awarded the Sports Scotland Gold Award for a second time. Through greater community engagement with a number of local businesses we have managed to secure funding from a number of generous benefactors who have provided financial support to purchase new high quality kit for some of our sporting clubs. Head Teacher Mr Paterson said, "We are very grateful for these offers of support that will enable us to continue to provide the highest quality of provision for our young people."

Through these sponsorships we have managed to purchase U13 and U15 football strips, Junior and Senior netball dresses, U16 basketball strips and a range of gymnastic leotards and athletic vests.



We would like to thank the below companies for their support:



www.time2dine.uk Time2dine - provides point of sale systems with an integrated

booking platform for restaurants. Their aim is to help diners spend less wait time and enjoy more time to dine. Restaurants run more efficiently through clever management tools built into our POS.



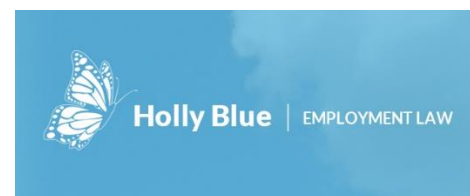
www.cube-glass.com Cube Glass Ltd – Cumbernauld. Designs, supplies and installs a variety of products involving aluminium and glass. These include – windows, bi-folding doors, sliding doors, standard doors, curtain walling, balconies, glazed roofs and internal glazed partitions.



Bannerman's Pharmacy – Merkland Place, Kirkintilloch



Trident Building
Consultancy – St Vincent Palace Glasgow.
www.tridentbc.com



Holly Blue Employment Law – Main Street, Milngavie.
www.hollyblueemploymentlaw.com

Debating and Public Speaking

Our debating teams were all involved in second round action in various competitions on Tuesday 29th January.

Jade (3MB) and Stella (2RA) took part in the semi-final of the Glasgow Procurator Fiscal's Public Speaking competition at the Glasgow Prosecution College. Their topic was about the internet and if it only benefitted those who could afford to access it. Despite good performances, and responding well to the questions of the other competitors and judges, they didn't manage to make it through to the grand final.

On the same evening, we had four competitors involved in the Law Society's Donald Dewar memorial debating competition at Bearsden Academy: Sandy (4DM), Lucas (4CN), Olivia (4RA) and Ross (3MR). The motion was "This house would abolish the National Minimum Wage" and, again, despite some strong performances both teams didn't manage to go through to the next round. Many thanks to the parents of the students for accompanying them to this event.

Better luck next year, everyone!

MSP Visit



S3 Modern Studies pupils recently welcomed Rona Mackay, constituency MSP for Strathkelvin and Bearsden, to our classes. We got to ask her

questions about her work as a Member of the Scottish Parliament, amongst other things. We have been studying Democracy in Scotland so the answers Rona gave to our

questions will give us good examples to include in answers to homework questions and in the S3 exam.

It was very informative and helpful to have a person who has first-hand experience in the area we are studying, share their knowledge and insight with us. We thank her for giving of her time to come to Lenzie Academy to answer our questions.