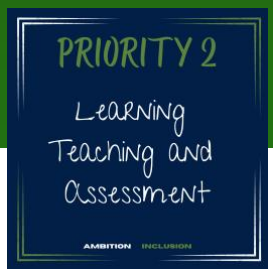
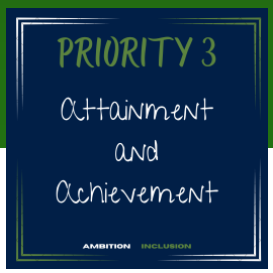
Lenzie Parent/Carer Matters

October 2026







Dear Parent/Carer

I hope our October edition of Lenzie Parent/Carer Matters finds you well.

What a busy and exciting October we have had! From our Halloween Fun Runs and S6 fundraising activities to the fantastic engagement with reading in our school library, there has been so much to celebrate.

Our transition event, Black History Month celebrations and S4 Battlefield trip have provided valuable opportunities to connect, reflect and learn beyond the classroom. Meanwhile, across our classrooms, staff and young people continue to work collaboratively to build confidence, raise attainment and celebrate achievement.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, supportive families and enthusiastic young people for the energy and commitment you bring to our school community. Together, we continue to create an inclusive environment where everyone is encouraged to participate, achieve and thrive.

As we move into November, I look forward to building on this positive momentum and celebrating more of the fantastic learning and achievements taking place across Lenzie Academy.

Thanks

Vicki Rice
Head Teacher

Lenzie Achievements

A Journey of Remembrance and Learning: S4 Battlefield Trip

A group of 38 S4 pupils recently returned from a moving and educational visit to the First World War battlefields of Belgium and France. Visiting Ypres and the Somme, pupils gained a powerful, first-hand understanding of a conflict that shaped the modern world.

The excursion connected classroom learning and preparation for their QS exams with the realities of the past. At Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the world, the rows of headstones provided a sobering reminder of the immense loss of life. Pupils also upheld long-standing school traditions by paying their respects at the grave of Lenzie Academy's 1913 Dux, Harry Asher Hayworth, and laying a wreath at Langemark German Cemetery as a symbol of mutual respect and reconciliation.

A highlight was attending the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, where pupils laid a wreath in memory of the 67 former pupils and members of staff who lost their lives in the Great War.

Alongside these meaningful experiences, pupils enjoyed exploring the local culture, including a visit to Bruges, where they sampled some of Belgium's famous chocolate and waffles!





Turning the Page at Lenzie

Following Lenzie Academy's achievement of Scottish Book Trust Reading Schools Gold accreditation last term, our school library has continued to go from strength to strength! Since returning in August, our pupils have borrowed or downloaded an incredible 1,389 books across our physical and digital platforms. A special mention goes to our enthusiastic S1 pupils, who have been particularly keen readers!

- **618** physical books borrowed
- **479** eBooks downloaded
- **292** audiobooks downloaded

October also saw graphic novelists Metaphrog visit our school library to deliver a comic-making workshop for S1–S3 pupils. Sharing their expertise, ideas and advice, they inspired our budding comic creators and were presented with a copy of our very own *Diary of a School Year* comic yearbook.

Comic superstars of the future? To be continued!



Pupil Leadership

A Recipe for Creativity! S1 Cake Decorating Competition

As part of their Creative Industries course, pupils worked collaboratively with the Art & Design and HFT departments to plan and organise a cake decorating competition for S1 pupils.

With cake sponges, colourful icing and fondant at the ready, the team set a Halloween-themed creative challenge. The S1 pupils impressed everyone with how quickly they sketched out their ideas and brought them to life, with every cake showcasing fantastic imagination and originality!

Choosing a winner was no easy task, but all participants received a certificate and took home their own edible creations. The event was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate creativity while putting the Creative Industries pupils' event-planning and teamwork skills into practice.

A big well done to the Creative Industries team – Mya, Ava, Gracie and Lily – for organising such a fun and successful event!



Showcasing Creativity: P7 Transition Evening

As part of their Creative Industries course, pupils organised an Art & Design exhibition for the P7 Transition Evening, showcasing the fantastic creativity and talent within Lenzie Academy.

Artwork by current S1 pupils was displayed in the corridor, while classrooms featured work from last year's National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher Art, Design and Photography pupils.

The team also invited P7 pupils and their families to take part in a collaborative drawing activity. This provided a great opportunity to spark conversations, share positive experiences of the school and Art & Design department, and find out what our future S1 pupils are most looking forward to.

A special thank you goes to the S1 pupils who helped welcome visitors and guide them around the department. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their achievements and showcase the creativity and opportunities awaiting our new S1 pupils.

Organised by our Creative Industries team: Megan, Leah, Freya and Naomi.

S6 Halloween Fundraiser

Our S6 Halloween Dress-Up Day was a fantastic success, with pupils and staff embracing the Halloween spirit and showcasing some wonderfully creative costumes! Highlights included Harry and Marv from *Home Alone*, Shrek and Fiona, and characters from *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Lord of the Rings*.

A parade around the school gave everyone the chance to show off their outfits, followed by awards celebrating some of the most imaginative costumes. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the day such a fun occasion. Together, we raised an impressive **£148**!



Halloween Fun Run

On Monday 26 October, our S1 and S2 pupils took part in the annual Halloween Fun Run, bringing plenty of energy, enthusiasm and spooky style to the event! It was fantastic to see so many pupils getting involved, showing off their costumes and giving it their all.

We are delighted to announce that an incredible £5,050.55 was raised for our PTA! A huge thank you to all our pupils for their efforts and to everyone who supported this brilliant fundraiser. Your generosity and enthusiasm make such a difference to our school community.

Well done to everyone involved in making both events such a success!





Celebrating Black History Month

As part of Black History Month 2026, our S6 Cultural Heritage Team delivered assemblies across most year groups, exploring this year's theme, "Honouring Our Communities". The assemblies highlighted the importance of recognising Black history, celebrating the contributions of Black individuals and appreciating the diverse communities that shape our society.

On Friday 8 October, pupils and staff also supported Wear Red Day, raising awareness of racism and encouraging everyone to stand together against discrimination. These activities provided valuable opportunities to reflect on the importance of equality, respect and celebrating diversity within our school and wider communities.

Looking ahead, save the date for our annual Celebration of Cultural Heritage Night on Thursday 18 March 2027! We look forward to welcoming our school community for a fantastic evening of food, song, dance and celebration.



Basketball Success

Our senior boys' basketball team had a busy October, competing in fixtures for both the West of Scotland Cup (WoS) and the Scottish Schools Cup (SSC).

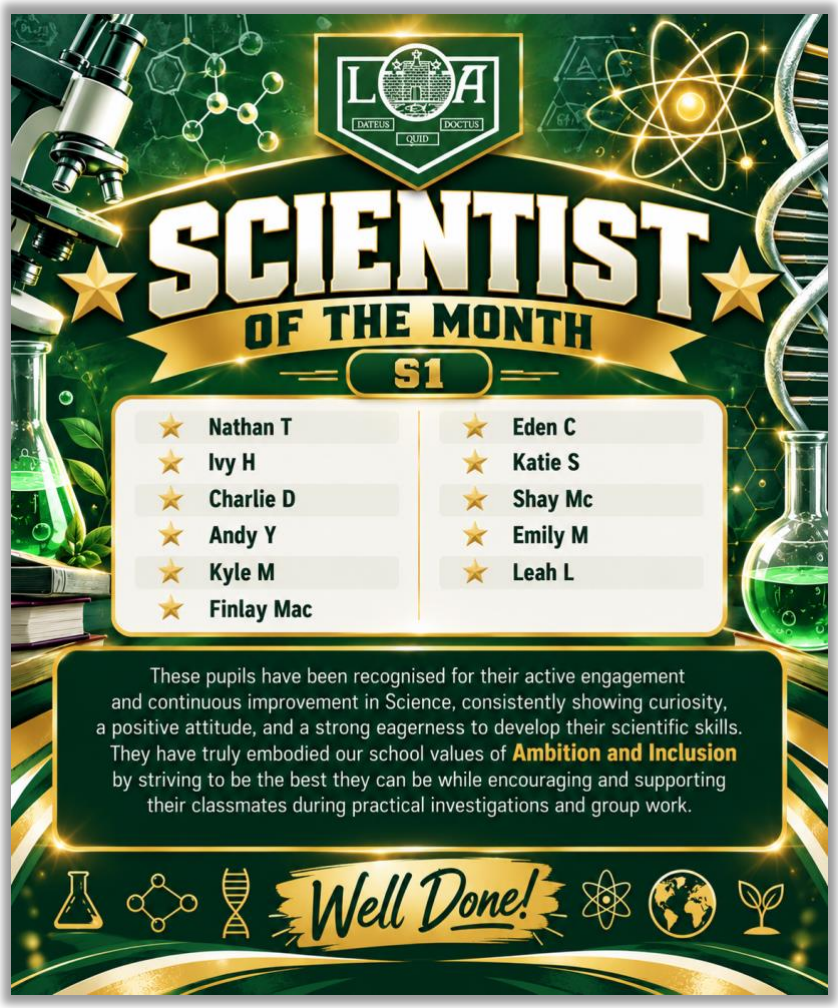
Although they narrowly missed out in the SSC, the team bounced back with an impressive 40–33 victory against Trinity High School, securing their place in the next round of the WoS Cup!

With league fixtures still to come and another exciting cup tie on the horizon against a team from a different section of the draw, there is plenty to look forward to.

Well done to the team, and we look forward to following their progress!

Department Celebrating Success





Alternative Assessment Arrangements

Alternative Assessment Arrangements take place throughout the year for all year groups. Class teachers discuss with pupils who can be considered for this what arrangements they require for assessments, for example, using ICT or extra time.

For the S3 assessments in December, Mrs Lennox will arrange this centrally by speaking with the S3 pupils over the next few weeks.

For the senior assessments in January, Mrs Lennox and Mr Farquhar (QS co-ordinator) will meet with the Principal Teacher of each department to hear what arrangements are required, in line with evidence gathering procedures. This will then be discussed with the S4-6 pupils before the holidays in December so that the pupils are aware what will be in place for them in January.

Parent/Carer Future Dates

Term 1: August 2026 – December 2026

November 2026		
Day	**Date**	
Monday	2	S5/6 Assessment Week Ends
Week beginning	2	S4 Monitoring and Tracking Issued via Parents Portal
Tuesday	3	S1 Parents' Evening 4 – 6.30pm
Wednesday	4	S5 Work Experience
Tuesday	10	Young Musician of the Year 7 – 9pm
Thursday	26	S4 Parents' Evening 4 – 6.30pm
Monday	30	S3 Assessment Week Begins
December 2026		
Day	**Date**	
Tuesday	1	Parent Council 6.30pm
Friday	4	S3 Assessment Week Ends
Week beginning	7	S5/6 Full Report Issued via Parents Portal
Monday	14	Winter Concert 7pm
Thursday	17	S5/6 Winter Dance 7 – 10pm
Friday	18	Last day of Term. School Closes at 2.30pm
Monday 21 December 2026 - Monday 4 January 2027: Christmas Holiday		

Term 2: January 2027 – March 2027

January 2027		
Day	**Date**	
Tuesday	5	Pupils Return
Monday	11	S4 Assessment Diet Begins
Tuesday	12	S2 Parents' Evening 4 – 6pm
Monday	18	S5/6 Assessment Diet Begins
Wednesday	20	S4 Assessment Diet Ends
Week beginning	25	S3 Full Report Issued
Tuesday	26	S4 Work Experience
Tuesday	26	Parent Council 6.30pm
Wednesday	27	S5/6 Assessment Diet Ends
February 2027		
Day	**Date**	

Week beginning	8	S1 Monitoring and Tracking Issued
Tuesday	9	S4 – S5 Course Choice Evening 6pm
Tuesday	9	S5 – S6 Course Choice Evening 7pm
Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 February: Mid Term Holiday		
Wednesday	**17**	**In-Service Day**
Tuesday	23	S3 Parents' Evening 4 – 6.30pm
March 2027		
Day	**Date**	
Tuesday	2	S2 – S3 Course Choice Evening 6pm
Tuesday	2	S3 – S4 Course Choice Evening 7pm
Thursday	4	S5/6 Parents' Evening 4 – 6.30pm
Week beginning	8	S4 Full Report Issued via Parents Portal
Tuesday	9	Parent Council 6.30pm
Thursday	11	S3 – S6 DYW Event 6 – 8pm
Week beginning	15	S2 Monitoring and Tracking Issued
Thursday	18	Celebration of Culture Evening 6.30 – 8.30pm
Tuesday	23	Dance Show 6 – 8.30pm
Friday 26 – Monday 29 March: Easter Weekend		

Term 3 April 2027 – June 2027

April 2027		
Day	**Date**	
Friday	2	Last day of term. School Closes at 2.30pm
Monday 5 – Friday 16 April: Easter Holiday		
Monday	19	Pupils return
Monday	26	QS Exams Begin*
Tuesday	27	Parent Council 6.30pm
May 2027		
Day	**Date**	
Monday	3	May Day Holiday
Thursday	**6**	**In-Service Day**
Wednesday	19	BGE Prize Giving
Week beginning	24	S1 Monitoring and Tracking Issued
Wednesday and Thursday	26 – 27	P7 Visit
Friday 28 – Monday 31 May: Holiday Weekend		
June 2027		
Day	**Date**	
Tuesday	1	Parent Council
Wednesday	2	QS Exams End
Monday	7	New Timetable Begins
Tuesday	8	P7 Parents' Information Evening 6pm
Wednesday	9	Senior Phase Prize Giving
TBC		*S6 Prom*
Wednesday	30	Last day of term. School closes at 1pm

Ready to Learn: Uniform

We place great value on school uniform as it promotes equity, supports the safety and security of our building, strengthens school connectedness, encourages sustainability, and reinforces our shared identity.

The uniform standard since returning to school has been fantastic.

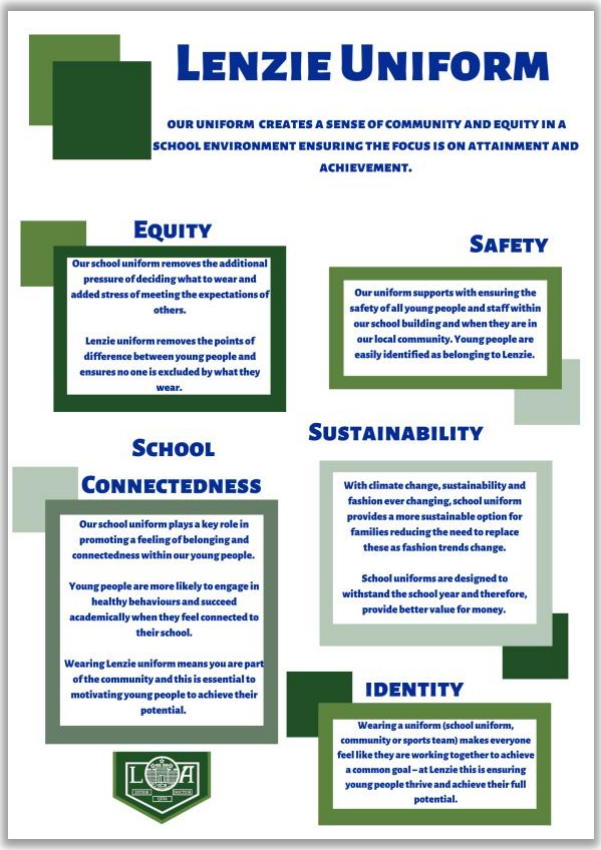
The continued support of parents and carers is key to maintaining these high standards, and we are very grateful for your commitment in helping us achieve this.

Our uniform consists of:

- White shirt /blouse
- School Tie
- Dark trousers/skirt
- Dark jumper/cardigan
- All black shoes or trainers
- School blazer



Ready to Learn: Purpose of School Uniform



If you require support with any item of uniform, please contact your child's guidance teacher.

Parental Involvement

