



St Mungo's Academy

Parents' Newsletter

2017-18

Nov-Dec

HEAD TEACHER'S WELCOME

As we come to the end of this term, we not only look back to review what has been achieved, but what our priorities are for next term.

It's been a very busy time as we prepared Senior Phase learners for the prelim examinations which took place before the Christmas holiday this year. This was a very deliberate attempt to provide a clear picture of attainment and progress so far but more importantly to identify how we support those learners to achieve their potential in the months ahead. There will be a tracking report available in January, as well as a Senior Phase parent night, which will identify next steps for improvement and it is important that, even when the examinations have not gone as planned, learners have the resolve and determination to persevere to success. This is when dialogue at home is critical and we would ask for your support in ensuring that all learners make the use of the opportunities available to them in the coming months.

As a result of additional funding from the Pupil Equity Fund, other developments have taken place in supporting our learners as we continue to work with a wide range of partners. Our twitter page provides regular updates and information on initiatives we are undertaking as we undertake to support all of our young people to reach their potential. New developments continue to gather pace including further mentoring programmes, an increase in the number of young people accessing Duke of Edinburgh programmes and alternative curricular pathways.

Over the past few weeks, S3 pupils have been engaging in a number of activities which will help them to make choices for their future pathway in our school. S3 Retreats have taken place to enable a period of reflection with regard to making the correct subject choices as well as profiling of attainment and skills through the Key Adult programme. Pastoral Care and the Senior Team have engaged in 1 to 1 interviews to assist our learners to reflect on their strengths and to identify their aspirations for the future. All S3 learners have been engaging with the PlanIt Plus website (<https://www.planitplus.net>) and investigating possible career choices to assist them in their choices for the future. This is something that can be explored further at home as all learners have their own log on details. We would encourage you to continue with these discussions at home in order to ensure that the options process is as smooth as possible.

The season of Advent always brings together the Community of St Mungo's to reflect on the needs of others and this year we have been collecting money to give to the local food bank. Although there is no total at present, there appears to be an improvement in the amount collected last year which was over £900. We are grateful for the generosity and

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support of parents, pupils and staff alike in supporting this very worthy cause.

Finally, Mr Brian Feeney, who was a DHT in St Mungo's for 6 years left us for pastures new at the beginning of December when he took up post as Head Teacher in another North East school in Glasgow, All Saints Secondary. We thank him for his service to our school community over the years and wish him all the very best in his new role. He will be replaced by Mr Gerry Burns who currently is Faculty Head of Science in St Margaret's Academy, Livingston. Mr Burns will take up post in St Mungo's in mid January and I'm sure that he will experience the same warm welcome that all new members of our school community receive when they arrive here.

Thank you for your continued support, thank you for your generosity and on behalf of the whole school community may I wish you a very happy, peaceful and holy Christmas.

Angela Milton
Head Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

20 Dec	School closes at 2.30pm
4 Jan	All pupils return to school
5 Jan	PEEK Panto Trip
w/c15th Jan	S3 Tracking Reports go out
w/c 29th Jan	Senior Phase Tracking Reports
12-13 Feb	Mid-term
14th Feb	Inservice Day

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WHAT PUPILS ARE LEARNING

S1	Place Value Four Operations with Whole Numbers (particular focus on division) Rounding
S2	Algebra Measurement Perimeter Fractions
S3 Mr Gray	Pythagoras' Theorem Trigonometry Solving equations
S3 Miss Macdonald	Pythagoras' Theorem
S3 Ms Kenny	Angles Algebra Pythagoras' Theorem
S3 Ms Harris	Angles Algebra Pythagoras' Theorem
S3 Mr Marsh	Fractions
S3 Ms McKelvie	Algebra
National 3	Probability Reading maps and scale drawings Negative numbers
National 4	statistics ratio algebra
National 5	circle sectors volume algebraic fractions
Higher	Logarithms Graphs of functions Trigonometry

Online Support

Traffic to our mathematics departmental blog has been very slow in recent weeks, which is disappointing as the blog contains some fantastic resources for learners studying SQA courses. Feedback has suggested that the link was too difficult to remember so we've created a new, simpler link:

bit.ly/smamaths

Alternatively, you can access the blog by using a tablet or smartphone to scan the code below:



Maths Week Prize Puzzle Winners

As part of our activities for Maths Week, we posed four prize puzzles to pupils to work on in their own time. The response was fantastic and many excellent solutions were submitted. The following pupils submitted prizeworthy solutions to the problems and were rewarded with a copy of the excellent "This is NOT a Maths Book" as well as a maths set to help them complete the tasks in the book.

Shannen Evans S3 Oliwia Kolbusz S1

Yi Zhou S2

Kelsy McDonald S1

Why not have a go at the puzzles with your child – there could be a prize in it!

Puzzle 1:

In the window of Bradley's Bicycle Bazaar there are some unicycles, some bicycles and some tricycles. Laura notices there are seven saddles in total, thirteen wheels in total and more bicycles than unicycles.

How many unicycles are in the window.

Puzzle 2:

The letters in the word ART can be arranged in 6 different ways:

ART ATR TAR TRA RTA RAT

The letters in the word MATHS can be arranged in 120 different ways.

How many ways can the letters in the word MATHEMATICS be arranged?

Puzzle 3:

John says that Justin is a liar.

Justin says that TOM is a liar.

Tom says that Justin and John are liars.

Who is telling the truth?

Puzzle 4:

A piggy bank contains £21.45. It is made up of four different denominations of coins and the largest denomination is £1. There is exactly the same number of each coin. How many of each coin is there and what are their values?

Pupil of the Month

Congratulations to the following pupils who were pupil of the month for their effort, behaviour and achievement in maths.

S1	S2
Kenzi Wright	Adelle Plenderleith
Millie McGowan	Kyle Bruce
Callum Gray	Declan Muir
Brad Ciohodaru	Julia O'Hara
Liliana Defelice-May	Natalie N'Dlovu



LITERACY

Ms Longo (PT)
Miss Weir (PT)

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.
-- Dr. Seuss

Reciprocal Reading

One of the ways we are seeking to improve the reading skills of our young people is through the teaching of specific reading strategies. Reciprocal reading is a group reading strategy in which the young people work together to understand and explore a text. Each person has a specific role that they take on in their group (Predictor, Clarifier, Summariser, and Questioner) and they work with other students to develop and extend their understanding of the text. We are currently using this strategy with our S1 and S2 students in English and will be expanding to other year groups and subjects in the coming months.

How can you help? Encourage your child to read at home. Ask them to make predictions about what will happen next. Have them look up unfamiliar words in the dictionary. Ask them to tell you the main idea of the text they're reading. Encourage them to come up with challenging questions about their reading.



KEY DATES

Thursdays 5-7pm	Parent and Carer ESOL Class
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Literacy Launch

We recently launched our new pupil literacy group. This group will be comprised of and led by students. Discussion will be based around looking at ways to promote literacy within the student body from speaking at assemblies to organising literacy initiatives. We are looking for students who wish to develop their communication, teamwork, and leadership skills to come forward and work together to improve school life for all!

Parent/Carer ESOL Classes

Calling all parents/carers with English as a second language! We are offering ESOL classes Thursday evenings from 5-7pm at our school. This will be delivered by Glasgow Clyde College and will result in a qualification. Please contact Ms Longo at:

gw13longojessica@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

or call 0141 582 0260 if you are interested in attending.

SPOTLIGHT ON: Bridgeton Library

Staff Profile

Name: Fiona Buist

Position: Library Assistant and also part of Future Families. Currently run Bounce and Rhyme on a Friday morning at 10.30 and Toddler's Tales on a Friday afternoon at 1pm.

Favourite book and why: 'My cat likes to hide in boxes' by Eve Sutton, illustrated by Lynley Dodd. A childhood favourite of mine which I love reading in my sessions now.

Favourite thing about your library: The staff of course and the customers. I'd have to say my favourite, favourite thing would be the Mediatheque because who doesn't love a free movie!

Favourite thing about your local community: The library! It brings the community together, especially during holiday and Christmas time, with all sorts of projects for different age groups. It's a real community hub.



Address and Contact

The Olympia Building,
2-16 Orr St, Glasgow,
G40 2QH

Activities at Bridgeton

Activity	Date	Time
MSP- John Mason	3 rd Monday of the month	2.00pm
Bounce & Rhyme	Tuesday	10.30am
Bounce & Rhyme	Friday	10.30am
Toddler's Tales	Friday	1pm
MSP- Alison Thewliss	4 th Friday of the month	1pm
ESOL	Wednesday	10am
Arts & Crafts	Alternate Saturdays beginning 30 th of September	2pm



PE & HOME ECONOMICS

Mr Meldrum (PT) Ms Bruce
 Mrs Fowler Mr Milton
 Mrs Gilchrist Ms Sullivan
 Mrs Howitt

WHAT PUPILS ARE LEARNING

Physical Education BGE

This month sees the introduction of the new **Literacy Mat** at BGE level. This has been used in conjunction with the **Learner Journal**. The Journal is used to record all achievements and experiences in PE and extra-curricular activities and set targets for improvement. This takes place as a **Learner Conversation**.

The **Literacy Mat** allows learners to become familiar with the **key words** used in our practical performance. This enables pupils to **identify and correctly spell key words and phrases** when **writing and talking** about their experiences in their **Learner Conversations**.

The mat includes **Significant Aspects of Learning, Activities, Skills, Aspects of Fitness, Evaluation Statements, Young Leader Units and Assessment Criteria**.

HOMEWORK TIME

Parental Quiz (please ask your child)

1. In PE what activity are you currently taking part in?
2. What is the Significant Aspect of Learning (SAL)?
3. What are the main skills used?
4. What have you enjoyed most?

Well done if your child can answer all questions. If not then ask them to find out any information that they did not know the next time that they are in the PE department.

If you would like to see your child's Learner Journal your child can ask their teacher who will let them bring it home after their next Learner Conversation. The learner Journal should be returned to the school to ensure continued recording and updating of your child's learning.

INFO FROM DEPT CALENDAR

Week beginning 4/12/17	Senior phase prelims
Week beginning 11/12/17	BGE Learner Conversations

GYMFEST 2017

Annual Gymfest

The girls of the gymnastics club participated in Glasgow City Council's annual Gymfest on the 7/11/17. This was held at the city's Emirates Stadium.



There were over 100 participants from primary & secondary schools in Glasgow. The girl's performance was fantastic and can be viewed on the school's Twitter feed. Well done to all the girls.

If you would like your child to take part in gymnastics, the club is held every Wednesday 3-4pm. All pupils



Reidvale Housing Association comes to our aid

Thanks to the two First Aid trainers from Reidvale Housing Association for training three pupils from each second year class in the Heartstart programme.

The pupils all gained a Dynamic Youth Award and will help train the rest of S2 in the Heartstart programme during health classes.



WHAT PUPILS HAVE BEEN LEARNING

S1 – pupils are nearing the end of their 'Ready Steady Cook' unit. In this unit they have been leaning all about safety, hygiene, weighing and measuring, using various pieces of kitchen equipment, using different parts of the cooker, practicing new food preparation

ns techniques and becoming more organised in the kitchen. They will carry out practical peer assessments followed by a written assessment in the coming weeks.

S2 – 'Foods around the World' where pupils are learning all about different cultures and foods from different countries around the world. Assessment in the form of a project was due in at end of November.

S2 'Design & Create your own Cushion' is also nearing an end.

S3 – Pupils are just finishing their SMART cooking unit. In this unit they were learning all about cookery processes and food preparation techniques.

Senior Phase Cake Craft - pupils recently completed a 'Cake Baking' assessment. They are now in the process of designing and making their Christmas cakes. Look out for the photos in the next newsletter! The Nat 5 course has changed this year to include a written exam.

Hospitality National 5 practical Cookery

The N5 course this year has changed format. This new format consists of a written exam, an assignment and a practical exam. The Practical Cookery classes are currently practising the dishes for their practical prelim.

Important Dates:

Monday 18th December - Written Paper - **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.**



SENIOR NAT 5 CAKE CRAFT

Ann Hilley, a lecturer from Glasgow City College, recently gave a Master class in sugar paste modelling to our senior Cake Craft class. This was an opportunity for the pupils to practice techniques required for their practical exam and make models suitable for their up and coming Christmas cakes. Here are some examples of their work.



Culinary Excellence 2017

This session, the Culinary Excellence Programme continued to be a great success with the culmination being an event hosted jointly by St Mungo's Academy and The Double Tree Hilton in Glasgow on Tuesday 14th November 2017. This event was an opportunity for the young people to showcase the skill development which had taken place.

The young people taking part were given some training to work as chefs and learn front of house skills. The programme helps create confident individuals and the transferable skills gained are recognised by employers across Glasgow and Scotland.

The programme gives real life work experience and contributes to aspects of Hospitality Practical Cookery National 5 and helps raise levels of attainment in the Hospitality exam.

Well done to all pupils involved.

**Chrissy Connolly
Siman Samatar
Ayomide Adesanya
Mbarimui Humauind
Caitlin Morgan
Chloe Cavanagh
Shannon Stewart
Chloe Robertson
Darren Hughes**



Congratulations to 2 of our pupils who were presented with a special award on the day

- **Chloe Cavanagh for Front of House Skills**
- **Chloe Robertson for Chef Skills**



S4 GUBES Dentistry Presentation

5 of our S4 learners who are interested in dentistry attended a presentation that was delivered by Glasgow University Bridging Education Society (GUBES) students. The purpose of the presentation was to give the learners more information about the dentistry course, the entry requirements and advice on the application process.

All of the learners who attended found this an extremely informative experience and gained an invaluable insight into the dentistry course.

Our learners will continue to work with GUBES over the next few years, especially when they are going through the UCAS process.



S5 Sutton Trust Presentation

34 of our S5 learners who are interested in studying at university after S6 attended a presentation that was delivered by The Sutton Trust. The purpose of the presentation was to give the learners more information about summer school courses available. It also provided learners with information about the UCAS process and an insight into what life would be like whilst studying at The University of St Andrews.

All of the learners who attended found this an extremely informative experience and are eager to apply in January when the applications open.

More information about the Sutton Trust Summer School can be found here.

<https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>



S6 Routes for All

Our S6 learners who are applying to college have been supported by FOCUS West in completing their personal statements over the past few weeks. They have been supported through the application process and should be ready to apply when the applications open in January.

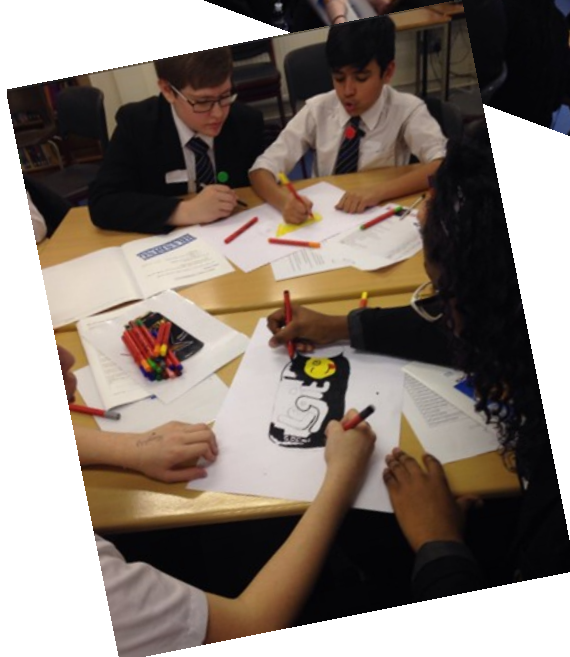
S2 FOCUS West

0 of our S2 learners worked with FOCUS West for a four hour workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce learners to the FOCUS West programmes and to help introduce them to FOCUSPoint – a computer programme that supports learners to explore possible careers and courses at university and college.

The learners discussed the differences between university and college and started to look at possible careers and courses that they are interested in.

This was tied into subject choices which will be extremely important when they are choosing their subjects for specialisation in S3.

All of the learners involved found the workshop extremely informative and are going to show their peers how to use the computer programme during PSE lessons after the Christmas break.



UCAS

The deadline for the UCAS applications is 15th January 2018. All S6 learners who are applying to UCAS should complete the application before they return to school after the Christmas break. They need to ensure that they have updated their personal statement on the form to ensure that their Pastoral Care teacher can complete their reference.

UCAS At the heart of
connecting people
to higher education

Dates for the diary

Date	Year Group	Event
09.01.18	S5	Sutton Trust Applications Open
15.01.18	S6	UCAS Deadline
15.01.18	S6	TOP-UP 2 – 3.40 pm
22.01.18	S6	TOP-UP 2 – 3.40 pm
26.01.18	S1 – S3	Aspirations Day 2 periods per year group
29.01.18	S6	TOP-UP 2 – 3.40 pm
	S4	Access to a Career

Date	Year Group	Event
05.02.18	S6	TOP-UP 2 – 3.40 pm
16.02.18	S6	TOP-UP Campus Visit All Day
19.02.18	S6	TOP-UP 2 – 3.40 pm

Date	Year Group	Event
09.03.18	S3 All day	FOCUS West Campus Visit

Hall of Fame

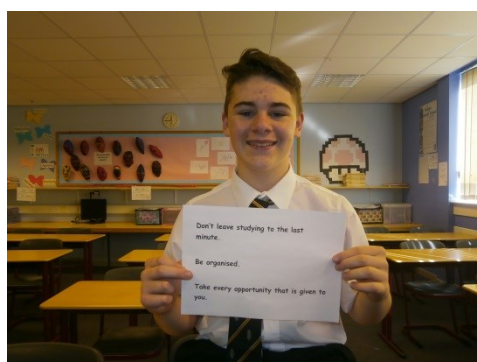
Did you used to attend Saint Mungo's or do you know someone that did? If so, we are looking for YOU! We are looking for former pupils who would be willing to come back and talk to our current learners about their careers/studies. We are looking to provide our learners with real life role models that were once students at Saint Mungo's. We want to inspire our learners by showing them all of the different careers that our former pupils have entered into.

If you would like to share your story and be part of our Hall of Fame, please contact us via glow or twitter.



Study Advice

Some of our Senior Phase learners have shared their study tips with our school community. These are their tips for exam success. Why not try some out for yourself and see how well they work.





Hall of Fame

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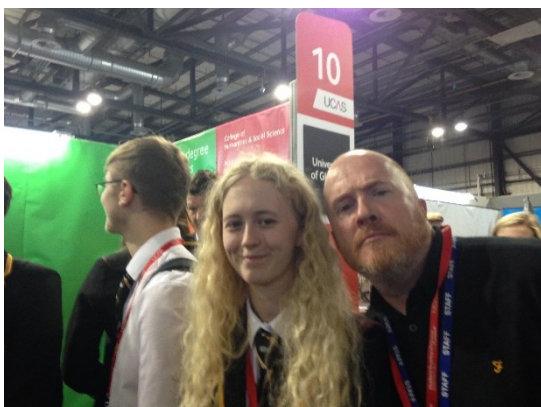


UCAS Admissions Support

On 9th and 12th October, all of our S6 learners who are applying to university this year will have the opportunity to review and amend their second draft of their personal statement with an admissions officer from FOCUS West. This is an invaluable experience for the young people to enhance their personal statement. To ensure that they maximise the impact of this activity, they must ensure that they have completed and printed the second draft of their personal statement prior to their interview.

UCAS Open Day

All S6 learners who are applying to university this year attended a UCAS Open Day on Tuesday 19.09.17. During this event, learners got the opportunity to speak to different universities, ask staff questions about the courses that they are interested in studying and get information about the application process and student financing. All of the learners involved really appreciated the experience and gained invaluable information about their chosen courses.



We are committed to working closely with our parents and carers to help you support your child with their learning. We have created a blog to support learners and parents/carers with information on study skills and much more.

The blog can be accessed on bit.ly/2bkUliE.



WHAT PUPILS ARE LEARNING

Our BGE ICT students are currently focussing their learning on Computational Thinking and will all be involved in an on-line challenge by @Breas. Their Computational Thinking Challenge is held in the second week of November and introduces computer science to students. The on-line tasks are designed to enhance logical thinking skills and allow young people to break down tasks into small logical steps. This should have a positive impact on their attainment at Senior phase.

All our Design and Manufacture students have completed the Tea light challenge, where they 'Design and Manufacture a tea light holder which could be mass produced and supplied to a high street store, like John Lewis or M&S'. This involved our young people analysing a problem, building a specification, highlighting factors that influence design and manufacturing / modelling a prototype. Furthermore, staff and students were involved in evaluating and scoring their favourite designs and identifying target markets.

Higher Business Management students and Higher Geography students were involved in an urban planning workshop. In particular, our Business students were learning about the roles and responsibilities that modern businesses have in city and urban planning process. The Higher Business Management Class is coming to the end of the Business Organisation Unit.

Our Technical and ICT departments welcomed our feeder Primary 7 young people. This was a great opportunity to showcase the work we do, and let our primary 7's see what they can expect, in terms of learning and standards, when they come to St Mungo's Academy.

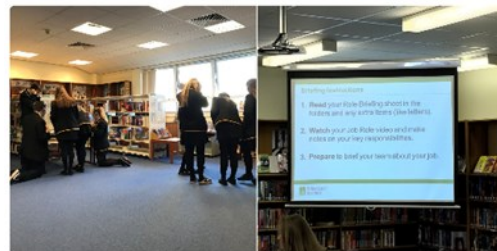
StM Technologies @StMTechnologies · Nov 7
Computational thinking hats on @StMungosAcademy as our first 53 class works on the @Breasuk challenge!



David Greechan @dgreechan · Nov 3
#friday deadline for Design and Manufacture @StMungosAcademy folios and models due today. 8 complete so far. 10 mins to go!



Miss McWilliams @miss_mcwilliams · Nov 2
Urban Plan workshop for Higher Business and Higher Geographers. Task 2-finding out their roles and responsibilities #UrbanPlanUK @ULIEurope



This can only mean one thing... Primary 7 evening @StMungosAcademy
Technical time! Drilling, sanding, shaping, measurement, finishing.





TECHNOLOGIES

Mr Greechan (PT)

Ms Litster

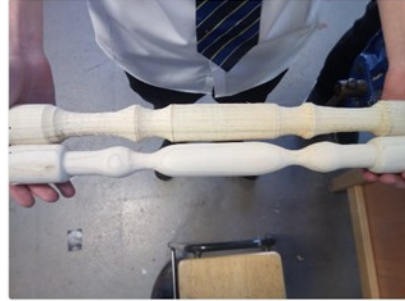
Mr Bonner

Mr Louden

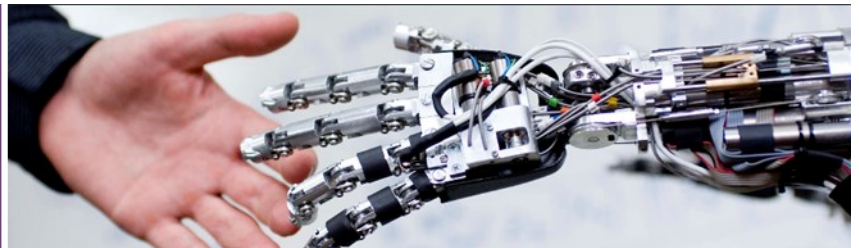
Both woodwork and metalwork students have been putting in some extra effort this month to complete their practical unit assessments on Machining and Finishing and frame / sheet construction. This has given all our young people an opportunity to showcase their practical skills. Wood and metal turning, finishing, fabrication of metals, tool and process recognition and industrial manufacturing are all assessed in the summative exams, so we give all students the opportunity to learn through practical projects. This will undoubtedly serve them well as we approach assessment and prelim time towards December.

Once more, we are looking for more digital ambassadors to showcase the learning we do across Technologies. If you are skilful with everything digital, from gaming to processing, Technologies are looking for you to lead our digital literacy strategy across the school. Please see Mr Greechan, Mr Baird or Mr Louden for details

Before and after; American poplar used @StMungosAcademy for wood turning. Zoom in for grain detail. #woodworking #techy



53 wooden box designs with added artwork @StMungosAcademy using modge podge. Great results using the Danish oil and wax finishes.





Our Journey so far.....

Our second group of senior pupils took part in their Leadership Academy with Columba 1400 from Sunday 3rd September to Friday 8th September 2017.

The purpose of this trip was simple: to help our young people realise that they already have the inner greatness and confidence to transform their own lives and those around them.

The week focused on various values based lessons and activities to allow our students to reflect on their talents and abilities to use in leadership roles within school and the wider community in which we live.

The S5 Leadership Group are now being supported in a variety of ways to plan various activities in school to put their ideas into action.

Each S5 Columba Leader has taken time to summarise their experience in a few words below you give you an insight into how they have developed as young leaders who want to use their God given talents and skills for the good of others.

Liam - This experience has really brought me out of my shell and helped me discover not only what values and qualities I put into practise the most, but those I never realised I felt so strongly about. It has also helped me get more involved in leadership opportunities within the school and I've made lots of strong bonds with others as a result of my week in Skye. Being away from the stress of exam's looming overhead and other worries allowed me to think in ways I didn't think possible and allowed me look at things in a different light. Overall I t was a wonderful experience that I'll forever cherish.



Michaela - The Columba 1400 experience really helped me discover new abilities about myself that I didn't even realise I had. It helped me build strong bonds with the people that went which I still maintain today. It also helped me gain even more confidence and I will be forever grateful for this fantastic experience.



Robyn - During my week on Skye for Columba 1400 I experienced things I never thought I would be able do such as carrying a ten stone casualty up a hill and canoeing with the help and encouragement of my group. This opportunity has made me step out of my comfort zone and become more confident with expressing my opinions and helped me to make new friendships which I didn't expect to happen.



Awareness



Focus



Creativity



Integrity



Perseverance



Service

PUTTING OUR COLUMBAN VALUES INTO ACTION

Ethan - I think Columba wasn't about how we developed as people and individuals, but rather as a team, with individual parts to it. Columba more than anything brought all of us far closer than we could've imagined, and with that peer support and comfort we grew as people. Yet this was only achievable through the teamwork displayed and grown. Columba was vital in the extra confidence and incredible communication skills developed by us as a team, which enabled us to use them with other people out with the group.

Talia - Columba 1400 was one of the best experiences I have ever had. It wasn't all about academic skills that we learn everyday in school, it was about ourselves as individuals and a group which really helped us grow as young people and have more confidence in ourselves.

Lewis - Columba 1400 gave me a week out in Skye, free from stress and distractions. This environment allowed me to explore my values and principles as an individual. This has improved my work ethic and has given me a more positive outlook in life.

Abdul - The week that I spent on Skye, taking part in Columba 1400 with my team was one of the best weeks of my life. The activities we took part in have brought all of us closer and created strong bonds between us. It helped us to break out of our comfort zones and challenge ourselves to do things that we normally be scared of doing – even when we were capable of doing them. My confidence to talk in front of a group of people has significantly improved especially I was working with different people for each activity. From taking part in this amazing experience I feel that I have become a better version of myself and I can have a positive impact on others.

Erin - I really enjoyed my experience at Columba. Before I went to Skye I didn't feel confident to speak in front of people. When we were there we were involved in a lot of presenting to each other which helped me gain confidence and during the team building tasks I got much closer with people who made me feel comfortable to get up and present.



Awareness



Focus



Creativity



Integrity



Perseverance



Service

S5 COLUMBA 1400—LEADERSHIP GROUP



Columba
1400

Rebecca - Columba 1400 gave me the chance to step out of my comfort zone and recognise values in myself I didn't know I had. The trust and support of my team helped me gain a lot more confidence and belief in myself. I intend to take the qualities and friendships I have developed, and use them to make the most out of school.

Ciara - During my week with Columba I developed my personal values and also my leadership skills. I learned so much about myself that I didn't know before and my relationships with others around me. This experience has given me new exciting friendships and also stronger bonds with friends that were there. I will be forever thankful for this experience and the memories I have which I will cherish forever.

Natalie—During my week in Columba I gained a lot of skills and qualities I never knew I had. I pushed myself to my limit and excelled as much as I could in terms of my confidence and speaking to people. I often struggled with confidence and I still have a long way to go but I feel that Columba helped me so much on that journey. I made so many friendships that I feel are for life and I truly feel welcomed when I am with these people. Working with different people every day really helped me visualise my future and helped my people skills. I have took this experience and made it my own and I hope I can influence others to be the best of themselves in the future.

Tegan - The week in Skye really helped me develop self belief and made me think of myself as an individual and the values I have and how important they are to me. I wouldn't have been able to gain confidence in speaking out and presenting to large groups without the support of my team and also the Columba staff. This opportunity made me realise that the people around you really can have a positive impact on your life. Without this experience I wouldn't have created the new friendships and stronger bonds with my group like I did.

Maria - Columba 1400 has allowed me to learn a lot about myself and those around me through facing fears, gaining confidence and sharing personal stories. Coming out of Columba 1400, I feel more optimistic and have more self confidence. I am excited about the friendships I have created and the progress we have already made in some of our activities in such a short space of time.

Arsene - My week on Skye was amazing—one of the best weeks of my life. We were able to reflect on our skills and were challenged to take part in various activities over the week. I feel I am no longer as shy and I have developed new friendships which has been great. I am keen to work hard in school and promote the values which were part of every activity we undertook.



Awareness



Focus



Creativity



Integrity



Perseverance



Service



The English Department

J. McElhone

J. Cardle

J. Longo

A. Carney

J. Duffy

L. Diamond

P. Murray

C. Collins

L. Lynch

WHAT PUPILS ARE LEARNING

1st year- First years have started their journey in the English department at St.Mungo's Academy by writing about themselves in different personal writing tasks. The quality of their work has impressed us all! In Miss Diamond's class, learners have been developing their research skills by delivering a presentation to their peers about an exotic animal. The class said they enjoyed the experience and will feel more confident in future about standing up and speaking in front of their peers. Well done!

2nd year- Second years have been learning how to support one another through reciprocal reading. In Mr Collins' class, learners have enjoyed reading the class text *Frankenstein*, knowing that they will have important roles within their groups to fulfil. One group said- "it makes it easier when you know that you've got a job to focus on" and "it's more fun when you get to help people in your group". It's great to see young people enjoying the chance to lead their learning!

3rd year- Third years have been reading a text in class, helping them to build upon their previous knowledge of different writers' techniques. In Ms Longo's class, learners have been reading *Maus*, a graphic novel that tells the story of a family's experience of the Holocaust. Being able to read and interpret the artwork of the graphic novel was a new skill for many but one that they've thoroughly enjoyed.

ESOL- Learners in both ESOL classes presented a five minute presentation to their peers in preparation for their spoken assessment at the end of the year. Learners demonstrated their hard work and organisation through their well structured and rehearsed talks and effectively demonstrated their growing vocabularies as they told the class about themselves. Well done!

Useful websites to support revision

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45672.html>:

Past papers are an extremely useful tool to aid revision and develop exam techniques. Once you have developed in confidence in how to answer questions effectively, start challenging yourself to answer them within the time you'd have in an exam.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zqxhfg8>

BBC Bitesize offer an exhaustive and comprehensive guide to all the poems that are taught in the department as part of the set Scottish text paper. Whether you're studying Loch-head or Duffy, this website will help you add to your annotated poems and consolidate your understanding.

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/commentisfree>

The Guardian is one of the few broadsheet papers that doesn't charge you to read their articles online. Opinion pieces in broadsheet papers are used in the Close Reading paper- read an article each night to familiarise yourself with the writer's tone and how they position their argument. Aim high- why not make up close reading questions for your study partner to answer if you're revising together?

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FACULTY OF PERFORMING ARTS

Miss Leslie (PT)

Miss Armstrong

Mrs Moffatt

Mrs Smith

Mr Glen

Miss Peebles

Mr Turner

LEARNING UPDATE BGE

S1 learners have settled in well. In Drama pupils have been learning all about Mime and how to use shape, size and weight to make their performances realistic. In Music, as well as making a great start on learning to play instruments, pupils have begun to get to grips with Music Literacy skills which has helped them to learn how to read the rhythm and notes on the stave.

How can you help? Support your child to complete their homework tasks and to practice their mime skills.

S2 learners are have been learning all about Music styles and instruments from around the World. They have also been revising their Music Literacy skills through their homework tasks. In Drama pupils have been working in groups to devise and perform their own creative dramas.

How can you help? Encourage your child to listen to examples of World Music styles. Youtube is a really good way to access these types of Music. Support your child to complete their homework.

S3 learners in Drama have been working on characterisation through the use of their voice and movement. In Music we are studying the styles from throughout the Decades. From 1900 to the present day we are covering every style from Ragtime to Rock 'n' Roll and Country to Rap.

How can you help? Support your child by helping them to practice and prepare their lines for their dramas. Encourage your child to listen to examples of musical styles. Youtube is a really good way to access these types of Music.

LEARNING UPDATE Senior Phase

Senior Phase Drama have been working through the Drama Skills and Production Skills Unit. National pupils are currently presenting and will evaluate their work next week. The Higher and Advanced Higher performance assessment was completed on Wednesday 25th October and the evaluation will follow.

How can you help? Support your child to complete their homework tasks and to organise their time.

Senior Phase Music Performing have made a great start to their Music studies. Performance programmes and compositions are well underway and the first Understanding Unit on Baroque has been completed.

How can you help? Support your child to complete their homework tasks. The minimum homework practice times are:

National 4/5 - 10minutes on each instrument.

Higher - 15minutes on each instrument.

Advanced - 20minutes on each instrument.

Senior Phase Music Technology have been developing their tech skills through a Radio Broadcast project and developing their understanding of 20th and 21st Century popular Music styles from Ragtime to Disco.

How can you help? Support your child to complete their regularly revise over Music and Technology concepts. Support them to research audio books in preparation for their first graded assignment.

POET VISIT

On Thursday 29th September William Letford visited the National 5 Drama class to carry out a workshop with our pupils. The class were looking at translations and in the workshop they had to translate an Edwin Morgan poem that was written as if Nessie had written it! The results were creative and interesting and the class had an opportunity to explore and develop their voice and poetry skills! We would all like to thank William for his time!



AWARDS CEREMONY PERFORMANCES

Rebecca Greenhow, S2, Choir Member:

“I love participating in the awards ceremony. This year was special because I also won an award. I was excited for the chance to perform but I was nervous too. I enjoyed celebrating the successes of the school. I appreciate this experience to help my confidence and I am proud that the school motto is ‘bringing out the best’, St Mungo’s really does.”



Congratulations to the Choir, Soul Band, Talia Webb and Jamie McTear for their excellent performances. It might seem early for Jingle Bells but we’re already preparing for the next round of performances at the Christmas Concert! We are looking forward to seeing you there!



Science @ St Mungo's Academy

LEARNING UPDATE

S1 learners

S1 Pupils are now learning about the gases in the air and will be finding out more about how our climate is changing in the modern world. How can you help?

Please support our learners with their homework tasks and help to highlight Global Warming issues on the news because this is an important issue we will be looking into in this topic

S2 learners

Are focusing on Forces and will be investigating how we can reduce friction and finding out about gravity on other planets.

How can you help?

Please support our learners with their homework.

S3 Scientists

Are continuing to make progress through our S3 courses: Biologists are learning about Circulation and more topically heart disease in Scotland. Chemists are studying fuels and Physicists are making waves!!

How can you help?

Help your child to get into good study habits by looking over their work and making sure homeworks are handed in on time

Senior Phase Scientists

Are now working towards their prelims

How can you help? Encourage your learner to attend supported study and make sure they are making preparations for the prelims

Eco Group

Wednesday	Lunchtime
	Room 141

STEM Club

STEM	Room 141 Thursday lunchtime

