ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

# Christmas Newsletter 2017

www.stjosephscollege.co.uk

## A Message from the Head Teacher

The term is drawing to a close and Christmas is coming! As I write we look forward to the PFA Carol Service, End of Term Services and of course the holiday. As you will see from this newsletter it has been another action packed term which included our very successful and enjoyable Christmas Ceilidhs and Market. This week our school band will entertain those visiting the new Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary and members of the Charities Committee will take the opportunity to present £1500 to the hospital as a consequence of the Christmas Market. A huge well done and thanks are due to all who gave of their time, resources and energy at this busy time of year.

On the staffing front our best wishes and thanks go to Miss J O'Donnell who has moved to a Social Subjects teaching post closer to home and also to Miss M J Wilson who will take up a new post in Home Economics early in the new year. Joining the school will be Mrs V. MacRae who has recently been appointed to the post of Principal Teacher Pupil Support. We wish her well in her new role.

As a school community we have much to look forward to in 2018, not least the school show 'Our House' and the move back to our new school. The temporary accommodation has served us very well indeed during the redevelopment programme but we are now looking forward to returning home. Exciting times ahead!

With every best wish for a happy Christmas and a healthy and rewarding year.

*Mrs Jones*

**Thursday 4th January:** School reopens 8.50 a.m.

**Monday 8th January:** S4/S5/S6 Prelims begin

**Tuesday 9th January**: Parent Council Meeting 7 p.m.

**Friday 19th January**: S4/S5/S6 Prelims end

**Saturday 20th January:** Ski trip departs

**Saturday 27th January:** Ski trip returns

**Sunday 28th January**: Catholic Education Week begins

**Tuesday 30th January**: 100th Anniversary of Catholic Education Act Mass in St. Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr 11.30 a.m.

**Friday 2nd February**: S4 Reports to Parents

**Tuesday 6th February**: S4 Parents' Evening

**Monday 12th February:** Holiday

**Tuesday 13th – Wednesday 14th February:** Staff INSET

**Wednesday 14th February:** Ash Wednesday

**Thursday 15th February:** S5/S6 Reports to Parents

**Wednesday 21st February:** S5/S6 Parents' Evening

**Tuesday 7th March:** Smallpiece Trust Science Event for S2

**Wednesday 7th March:** PFA Meeting 7 p.m.,P7/S1 Science Fair 6-8 p.m.

**Friday 9th— 18th March:** British Science Week

**Tuesday 13th March**: Parent Council 7 p.m.

**Friday 16th March**: St. Joseph's Day Celebrations

**Monday 19th March**: St. Joseph's Day Mass

**Wednesday 28th March:** End of term services; School closes 3.25 p.m. (Provisional)

**Tuesday 3rd – Thursday 5th April:** Easter School

**Thursday 19th April:** Pupils return (Provisional)

## St. Joseph's Christmas Market 2017

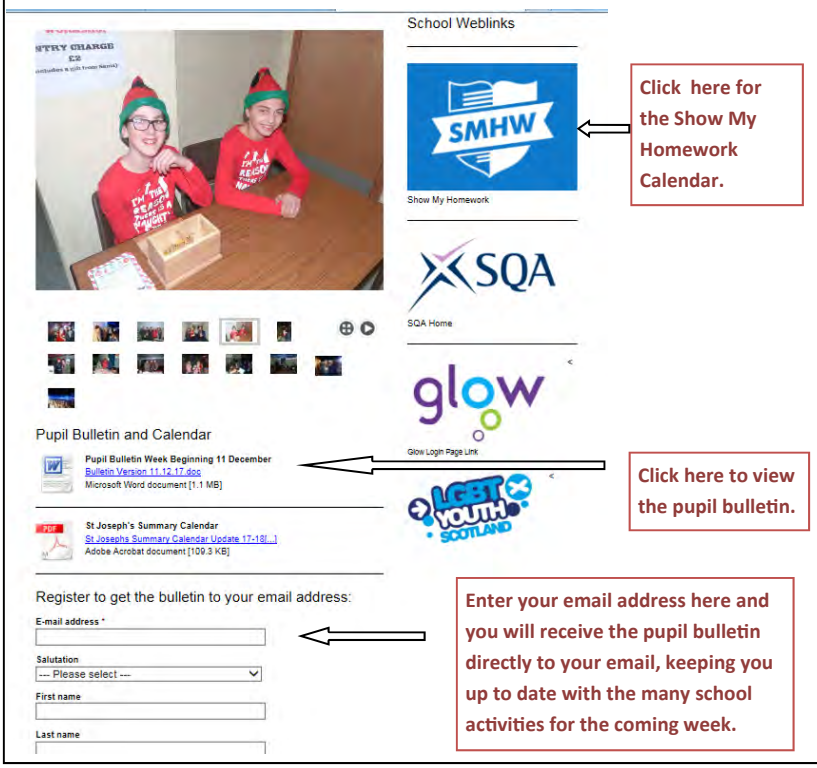
# Christmas Reflection

There are a number of phrases and expressions about time. “Time flies”, “Time goes quicker the older you get”, “What a difference a day or week or year makes”. Watching the progress of the new build at St Joseph’s it is impressive to see how a shell of steel has become an impressive new school building almost complete since this time last year. Schools by their nature chart progress by the year. What should be known by the end of First Year or Sixth Year is precisely laid down, subject by subject. But what about those less tangible things? How do we measure those? Have I improved as a person? Have I grown as a person? Has my faith deepened? Has it lessened? Do I still undertake works of charity? Have I volunteered for new or different good works? Christmas is a time of reflection and taking stock. We look at all aspects of our lives and see just how far we have come since this time last year.

**Fr. G. Donnelly, School Chaplain**

# Stay Connected

## www.stjosephscollege.co.uk




Click here for the Show My Homework Calendar.

Click here to view the pupil bulletin.

Enter your email address here and you will receive the pupil bulletin directly to your email, keeping you up to date with the many school activities for the coming week.

## Twitter

St. Joseph’s College has a Twitter page! Parents and pupils can keep themselves informed about events in the school. At the start of every week, there will be a tweet with a link to the latest version of the Pupil Bulletin on the school website. This will keep you informed about meetings, extra-curricular activities including school trips and other events taking place in the school in the forthcoming week. We would much appreciate it if you followed us **@stjosephsdgc** to keep updated**.**

# Pupil Voice

This term the pupil council have been meeting to discuss matters within our school. We have been targeting issues such as homework, Easter School and the transition into our new building, making sure that each year group has a voice. To get suggestions to us, we have created an email address. This can be used to send in any ideas that you would like the Pupil Council to discuss. The email address is pupilcouncil@stjosephscollege.co.uk and we would encourage pupils to use it. Alongside this, there will be a suggestion box in school where pupils can share their thoughts.

# Development Update

# St. Joseph's Remembers 2017

Our November Remembrance Assemblies were held in the College Memorial Chapel. The Chapel has become the natural venue for them, as it was built to commemorate the fifty-seven ex College boys who gave their lives for their country in the First World War. The Chapel continues as a focus of Remembrance for the College boys who have died serving their country, from the Second World War to the recent Afghan conflict. It is an official War Memorial.

Lieutenant Ewart Alan MacKintosh
1893-1917

The focus for the Assemblies was a poem written by a young Scottish officer, Lieutenant Ewart Alan MacKintosh who was killed in the Battle of Cambrai fought in November 1917. The poem was inspired by a trench raid during which MacKintosh had to leave behind one of his badly wounded men in a German trench. The soldier's name was David Sutherland and he was 19 years of age. MacKintosh looked upon the men under his command as his sons, so to leave young Sutherland behind would have broken his heart. In the poem MacKintosh describes the bond between himself and his men as stronger than even that of their own fathers. The words of the poem were illustrated by a series of striking images. MacKintosh and Sutherland were highlighted to remind us that the huge casualty lists from the two World Wars in particular are made up of individual human beings who had their lives tragically cut short by war. Each individual is valuable.

An important message was the Christian belief in Resurrection, that our fallen servicemen are enjoying a new life with God for all eternity.

Our S5 piper Harry McGowan gave a haunting rendition of the "Flowers of the Forest" which brought a fitting end to the thought provoking assemblies. As always the respectful attention paid by the student body was exemplary.

# Poppy Appeal 2017

The main reasons why we buy poppies are to remember the Fallen and for the future of the living, particularly providing financial assistance to ex-servicemen and women and their dependents.

A huge thank you to our Senior volunteer collectors, who faithfully went round classes selling the poppies. The response from pupils and staff was overwhelming. All of the boxes of poppies were sold and the collecting cans were filled. Thanks again to everyone involved.

# Charity Work S5/6

At this time of year, in our RE classes, we choose a charity to raise awareness of and also to raise some money for them. In our class we decided to work for Mary's Meals. This global organization, based in Dalmally in Scotland, runs from a garden shed and feeds more than 1,200,000 children at school every day for the cost of only £13.90 a year per child. We looked at the cost of our lunch everyday and came to a figure of over £1000 to feed us for a year. We watched Child 31; the film that tells the story of Mary's Meals. After the effect it had on us, those of us that could manage, helped at the Mary's Meals stall at the Christmas Market. Our collection cups were the same size as the cups that children in Africa get their meal in every day. We made posters and displays in class for our stall.

We had hoped to make £100 pounds on the night; but we exceeded that and overall we sent £125.35 to Mary's Meals.

Fortunately owing to the timing of our appeal; the Christmas market and an incentive from the benefactors of Mary's Meals, the money we raised is to be doubled to £250.70 therefore another 18 children will be fed at school for a year

Thanks to Mr. Ferguson's R.E. Classes in S6 and some pupils in S5 for their sterling work throughout this project.

If you want to know more about this charity then search https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/?pl=GB

**Thanks to all who donated at the stall beside the buskers area. Have a happy and Holy Christmas and please think of donating as the 'Double the love' incentive finishes at the end of December.**

MVP Scotland

mentors in violence prevention

St. Joseph's College's newly trained S5 Mentors in Violence Prevention have taught their first series of lessons to S1 pupils. These included lessons on types of violence, gender identity and how rumours can negatively impact people's lives. S6 Mentors visited S2 and S3 Social Education classes to progress to the next stage of the MVP programme. Pupils explored lessons on sending and receiving texts and how to behave in a responsible manner. This linked in with work S2 are currently doing on online safety. The MVP mentors are highly dedicated to their role and help to create a safe and inclusive school environment. They have volunteered their time during lunch to become MVP lunchtime buddies to support younger pupils in the school. If pupils have any issues at lunchtime they can get help from an MVP buddy.

# White Ribbon

Thirty of our MVP mentors attended the White Ribbon Champion Workshop at Dumfries and Galloway College. The workshop looked at gender violence and what we can do to try and reduce/stop gender based violence from continuing in our society. The event was organised by Dumfries and Galloway Council Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women Partnership as part of the White Ribbon Campaign. The workshop highlighted to pupils local, national and international statistics regarding this issue and how their role as MVP mentors is vital in identifying wrong behaviours and challenging pupils' thoughts to create a safer community for the future.

# Caritas Programme

## St Teresa's Quiz Night

The S6 pupils working towards their Caritas Award tried something new this year and teamed up with the ABABA project from St Teresa's church. The ABABA project works with a community in Ethiopia helping them to raise funds to support various endeavours, such as the education of their young people. The pupils organised a quiz night for the members of the St Teresa's community and became quiz masters on the night, providing all participants with a challenging and fun evening while raising vital funds for the project. Pupils spent a great deal of time preparing different rounds which appealed to all age groups and learned a few new facts in the process. Parishioners have been feeding back about how much they enjoyed their evening and how having the young people involved gave the event a great burst of energy.

# Sponsored Walk

St Teresa's church has been undertaking fundraising attempts this year to raise money to mark their 60th anniversary. Caritas pupils helped with this fundraising by taking part in a 6km sponsored walk on a very rainy and cold day. The pupils did not let that dampen their spirit and completed the walk accompanied by many of the St Teresa's parishioners, finishing in great spirits. This helped raise money for the church funds but also let pupils join members of the parish community for a much needed cup of tea in the parish hall after the walk to get to know them and see where the money raised would be going.

# Shoebox Appeal

Pupils from all year groups took part in the annual Shoebox Appeal. The S6 Caritas class helped to organise this and did a great job of finding old shoeboxes and wrapping them in festive paper to make them into attractive and welcoming gifts. We managed to fill a large number of shoeboxes again this year and donated them to the Blythswood appeal. This charity takes them to countries throughout Europe, Africa and Asia and donates them to people who otherwise would not receive Christmas presents. The pupils should be very pleased with themselves as they put together some fantastic gifts for needy children which will spread some Christmas cheer this year.

# ROTARY YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION

On Wednesday 22 November, students studying music at St. Joseph's College performed at the Dumfries Burgh Rotary Young Musician of the Year competition. The National Young Musician Competition is a well-established and successful competition promoted by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. It is a four stage national competition designed to support and encourage the development of musical talent.

Alana, Adam, Caitlin, Thomas and Harry performed two pieces of music which were well received by the audience. A detailed critique was given with Harry McGowan receiving first place in the Instrumental Section playing Bagpipes and Alana Currie gaining first place in the Vocal Section. Both Alana and Harry will go on to compete at the zone final at Annan Academy in 2018.

Congratulations to you both and we wish you well with your performances in February.

# National Youth Choir of Scotland

A number of pupils who are members of NYCoS - the National Youth Choir of Scotland - will have good reason to stay up late on Christmas Eve. The Dumfries Area Choir joined members of other local choirs and Church congregations at the Crichton Memorial Church recently for the recording of BBC One Scotland's Christmas Celebration. The programme which will be presented by Sally Magnusson will be broadcast on Christmas Eve at 11.45 pm. Viewers will be able to hear traditional carols accompanied by Alba Brass as well as reflections on what Christmas means today. Hopefully you might even catch a glimpse of some our pupils! All sections of the NYCoS Area Choir meet on a Thursday evening at Laurieknowe Primary School. Any pupils interested in joining the choir should speak to their music teacher or check out the NYCoS website.

# ST. JOSEPH'S HISTORY TRIP TO BERLIN

On the 9th November 28 pupils, 4th to 6th year, embarked on (yet another) History trip, this time to what is essentially the heartland of modern European history - Berlin. Accompanied by Miss Harvie, Miss McKie and Mr Jones, there was a non-stop 3-days ahead, between visiting the Reichstag, Sachsenhausen and the Wannsee mansion. It certainly was a tiring yet intriguing and enjoyable few days in Germany's capital. Following some of Germany's finest schnitzel, the excursion began with a trip to the Reichstag, the German Parliament. Indeed, it was the Reichstag that went on fire in 1933, leading to Hitler invoking the infamous article 48 of the Weimar Constitution and paving the way to becoming Germany's Führer. After going through security, the group went straight to the glass dome at the summit of the building, where the 360-degree view of Berlin at night was a sight to behold.

The second day of the trip was an experience in various different ways. It started with a visit to Sachsenhausen concentration camp, in East Berlin. Being able to physically see where thousands of innocent victims were murdered was a sobering and thought-provoking experience.

Following another dose of Germany's ever so tasty schnitzel, the group took a whistle-stop-tour of the Olympic Stadium, and were able to see exactly where Hitler stood during the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. A guided tour of the Wannsee mansion was next on the agenda, the place in which Nazi officials came up with the 'solution' to the so called "Jewish problem". Although everyone was feeling the effects of such a long day, the guide was extremely helpful to all students studying Weimar and Nazi Germany, and his knowledge was second-to-none.

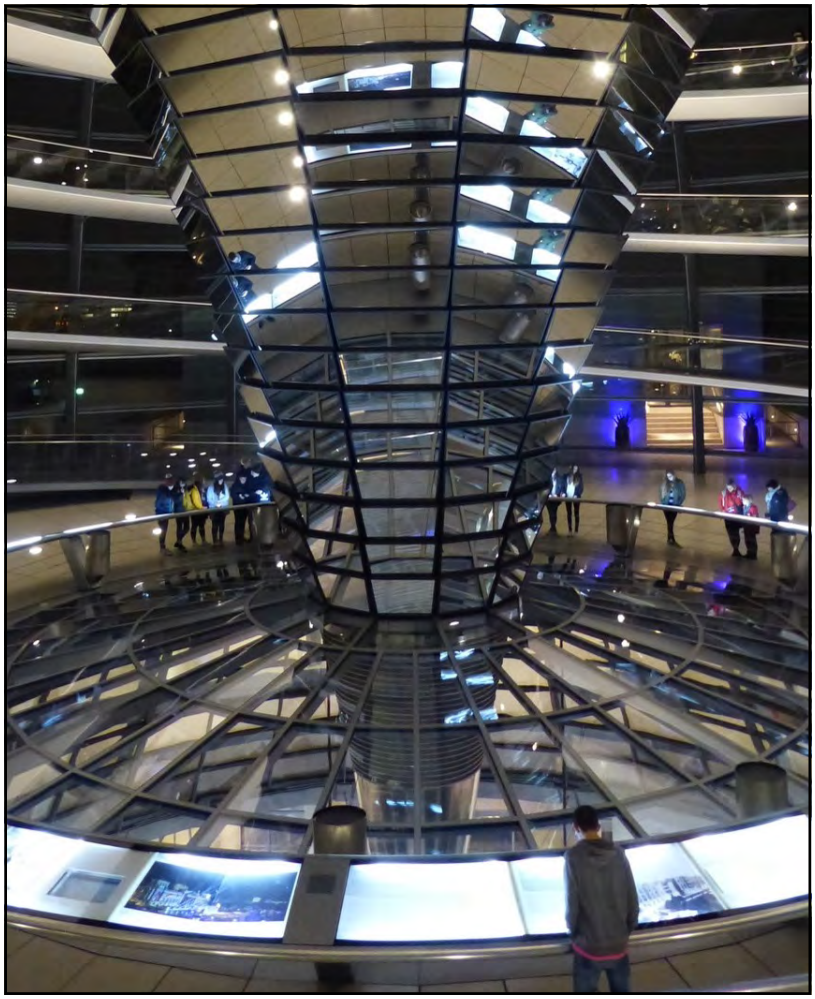
There was sadly no schnitzel for tea on Friday, pasta instead, as pupils were re-energised ahead of visiting the Berlin Christmas Market. Waffles, Currywurst and Mr Jones in a beautiful hat were the highlights of the night, and it's fair to say sleep was needed after what was an amazing - if extraordinary at some points - day.

The final day featured the Berlin Wall Museum, the Topography of Terror, and a visit to many museums as well as a mouth-watering chocolate shop. Tour guide for the duration Tatiana was very good in terms of guiding the group to some of Berlin's most famous monuments such as Hitler's bunker, and the memorial to the Jews, which is simply stunning.

All-in-all, a quick but brilliant few days in Berlin, one which pupils, and teachers, will remember for a long time and from which they gained a lot of fresh knowledge. A well done must go to the 28 pupils who remained respectful at all times and were an absolute credit to themselves and the school.

Thanks must go to Miss Harvie and Miss McKie for accompanying the group, as well as Mr Jones for organising the trip and keeping everyone entertained with his renditions of Rockabye, Caledonia and My Heart Will Go On. Thanks must also go to the Advanced Higher History pupils, who actually suggested the trip.

**Finlay Jack S6**



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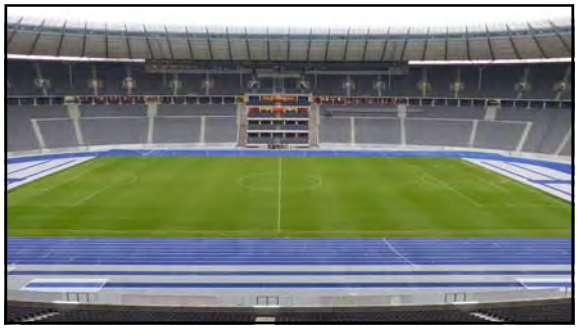

# CHRISTMAS MARKET

On Tuesday 28th November, St, Joseph's College once again hosted an amazing Christmas market. The evening was coordinated by Mr Jones with significant input from the Charities Committee and many staff and pupils. The market had everything from fresh crepes to Santa's grotto and included a range of local businesses such as NonaLou's and Serenity. Furthermore, our school Young Enterprise teams, Tote-Ally Denim and Tartan Tio enjoyed the opportunity to sell their products and showcase their hard work, with both teams enjoying a successful night. This was the second year that the school hosted a charity Christmas market and like last year, the huge turnout of both the school and local community enjoyed the range of festive food and activities. The atmosphere was amazing and despite it being cold, the various musicians and school band played music the whole night to provide cheer and entertainment for the happy shoppers. It certainly put everyone in the Christmas spirit and was a lovely way to start the Christmas period.

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# S3 Social Care Class

As part of their course the S3 Social Care pupils have recently been visiting Dumfries Day Centre and talking with members.

# Sleep in the Park

A group of thirteen pupils in combination with our 'Dress as You Please Day' managed to raise over £800 for Sleep in the Park this month. The fundraising event was hosted by Social Bite whose goal is to eradicate homelessness in Scotland within the next five years. The pupils had some very special entertainment from Rob Brydon, Sir Chris Hoy and John Cleese. Whilst music was provided by Deacon Blue, Amy McDonald, Frightened Rabbit and Liam Gallagher. Interspersed with entertainment were some disheartening stories from the homeless of Scotland and some input from the inspirational people who are working hard to give shelter, care and opportunities for those people. The event was an eye opener and broke down many misconceptions about the homeless. The pupils were very glad to be on their was home after only one night of experiencing sleeping rough in Princes St Gardens. They barely slept and endured temperatures of -6$^{o}$C and a good dusting of frost. The hardy pupils have returned inspired to do more for this very worthy cause.

# Moat Brae

Earlier in the year, the Moat Brae Trust advertised that they were offering fully funded tailored creative writing workshops primarily to Secondary schools. The English Department were delighted to take up this generous offer. They suggested that workshops discussing the creation of interesting characters would be beneficial for our S1-S2 pupils, and that workshops highlighting dual narration techniques and non-linear narratives would be insightful for S3. As a result, on Thursday 12th October, Claire Watts, a local author of a wide range of children's books on subjects ranging from history and superheroes to maths and astronomy, was commissioned to lead both workshops. Claire also gave of her time at lunch to meet pupils in our school library to discuss everything from how to get works published to how to improve writing more generally. Our pupils demonstrated themselves to be true stars. As Wendy Jones of the Moat Brae Trust commented, "The children in all three workshops were full of super ideas and their behaviour was impeccable – they are a credit to St. Joseph's College. It was also lovely to have a chance to speak to some of the children in the library in a less formal setting."

# Books Galore

All S1 pupils were afforded the opportunity of attending a book folding workshop this term. Mrs McKean, Deputy Manager of Dumfries' Oxfam store, led the workshops by demonstrating how to follow a book folding pattern. This requires exact measurement and precision of fold. Pupils were given patterns and instructions to construct the first letter of their name from within the pages of a book. Oxfam provided the books for classes to fold and in return St Joseph's Charities Committee organised a Bake Sale and a Book Rally to raise funds to donate back to Oxfam. This saw £150 donated to Oxfam for their charitable work. More than a hundred books were also donated to Oxfam from St Joseph's school community through the book rally. Pupils had a lot of fun discovering hidden talents and many have discovered a new winter project!

ART STUDENTS EXAM SUCCESS SUMMER 2017

NATIONAL 5

A sample of our students Expressive solutions

Hannah Mortlock

Beatrice Parkes

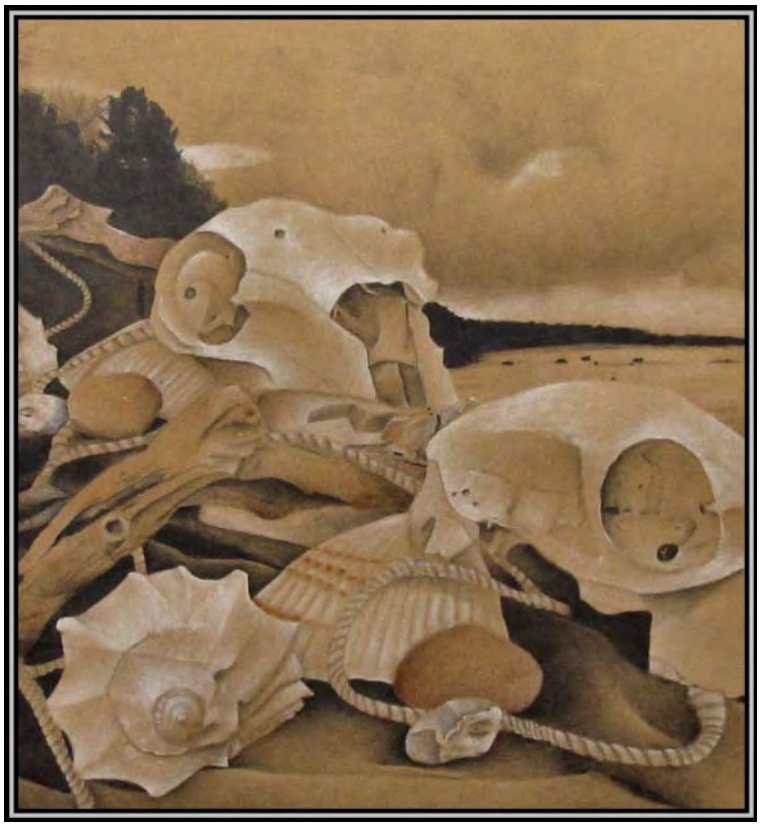
Abbie Edgar

Ellen McMyn

Erin O'Neill

# HIGHER

Yoana Sevova



Andrew Price

Nathan Saxby

Nicole Kerr

# 4th Annual STEM Speed-dating Event Success!

All S4 students from St. Joseph's College took part in the 4th Annual STEM Day where over 40 professionals kindly gave up their time to give pupils a flavour of their career paths and job roles. All the visitors came from professions related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, such as veterinary nursing, radiography, pharmacy, medicine, web design, and robotics. The purpose of the event was to provide students with an insight in to the many career opportunities offered in these areas and to enthuse them about studying related subjects. The event was organised in a 'speed-dating' format, so pupils only had 5 minutes to quiz each STEM Ambassador – a good test of effective communication skills..

Encouraging more young people to study STEM subjects is the focus of a recent government strategy. The world around us is increasingly dominated by high-tech innovations such as smartphones, drones, lasers and robots, but there is a worrying shortage of newcomers entering these industries. By exposing students to STEM related job prospects, research indicates that they are more likely to develop a passion for these exciting new fields of work.

The St. Joseph's students made the most of their allocated time with their individual 'Ambassadors'. By the end of the STEM event students told me how it had given them a better idea of what their future studies could cover, and the job prospects they might envisage. One of the 'Ambassadors', Mark McGrady, a research scientist with the Dupont company talked enthusiastically about the get-together saying *"If you're not sure exactly what field of work you want to specialize in at this stage, that's O.K!".* This was also reassuring to students as it made clear the manoeuvrability possible once in a STEM profession; not being restricted to one job for their entire career.

Participants in the STEM event were supported by S6 prefects and teachers and by the end of the day students went away with a deeper appreciation of the nature of work in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and how it might suit them individually. One student said "*It was certainly time well spent"*, and this response was probably what the organizers were hoping for.

St. Joseph's College is very grateful to all the professionals that attended and would like to thank the following organisations:

*Celessence, D&G College, Deloitte, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Dupont Tenjin Films, Edinburgh University, Environment Agency, Fuzzylime, Gates Ltd., Hazelbrook Dental, Heriot Watt University, Holland America , Line (Cruise Ships), J.P.Morgan Chase (Financial Services), Johnson Matthey, NHS D&G Royal Infirmary, NHS Dumfries and Galloway, Operation Mobilisation, Scottish Government, Scottish Power Energy Networks, Scottish Water, SRUC Barony College, University of Cumbria*

# A huge thank you to all our STEM Professionals!

| Table | **Name of Stem Ambassador** | **Job Title** | **Company/organisation** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Gail Davidson | HR Manager | Johnson Matthey |
| 3 | Ranjit Thomas | Consultant Haematologist | NHS |
| 4 | William McRobert | Curriculum Manager - Engineering | D& G College |
| 5 | David Bennett | Website/App Designer/Developer | Fuzzylime |
| 6 | Anastasia Jarman | Final Year Radiography Student | University of Cumbria |
| 7 | Gary Henderson | Synchronous Product Engineer Gates | Gates Ltd. |
| 8 | Suzanne Powell | CEO and Technical Director | Celessence |
| 9 | Ross Gibson | Assistant Engineer - Engineering Design | D&G Council |
| 10 | Suzanne Stevenson | Compliance Manager | Graham Construction |
| 10 | Campbell Black | Apprentice Joiner | Graham Construction |
| 10 | Ross Laurie | Technical Apprentice (Quantity Surveying) | Graham Construction |
| 11 | Neil Boyd | ICT Network Administrator | St. Joseph's College |
| 12 | Amy Conley | Consultant DGRI - Geriatric Medicine | NHS |
| 13 | Alan Laurie | Engineering Lecturer | D& G College |
| 14 | Dr. Julian Goodwin | Chemical Engineer | Heriot Watt University |
| 15 | Emma Hudson | Veterinary Nursing Lecturer | SRUC Barony |
| 16 | Chris Brown | Senior Consultant in Risk Analytics | Deloitte |
| 17 | Lesley McCallay | Clinical Tutor/Specialist Radiographer | NHS |
| 18 | Kenny Bowie | Head of Planning & Design, Scottish Power | Scottish Power Energy Networks |
| 19 | Amanda Hawkins | Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon | NHS |
| 20 | Lesley Wilkinson | Learning & Development Manager | Johnson Matthey |
| 21 | Emma Kennedy | Pre-registration Pharmacist | NHS |
| 22 | Karl Griffiths | Electrical Engineering Lecturer & Electrician | D & G College |
| 23 | Sean Jakobsen | Software Engineer | J. P. Morgan Chase |
| 24 | Linda Dickson | Physiotherapist | DGRI |
| 25 | Liam Cullen | Leakage Field Technician | Scottish Water |
| 26 | Yemi Oshu | Process Chemical Engineer | Johnson Matthey |
| 27 | Lawrie Thomson | Computer Technologist | UWS |
| 28 | Neville McEwen | Site Energy, Safety and Environmental Leader | Dupont Teijin Films |
| 29 | Laura Wilby | Pharmacy Technician | NHS |
| 30 | Anna-Maria Maciejuk | Outreach Co-ordinator | Edinburgh University |
| 31 | Frank Stoppard | 3rd Engineer Holland America Line | Holland America line |
| 32 | Robbie McCreath | Delivery Engineer | Scottish Power Energy Networks |
| 33 | Matt Titcombe | Website Developer | Operation Mobilisation |
| 34 | Calum Hepburn | Apprentice Engineer | Scottish Power Energy Networks |
| 35 | Muniraju Thalakunte | Consultant Physician & Nephrologist | NHS |
| 37 | Mark McGrady | Research Scientist - New Product Development | Dupont Teijin Films |
| 38 | Kirsty Ross | Outreach Officer | Strathclyde University |
| 39 | John Paul McBride | Final year radiography student | University of Cumbria |
| 40 | Ian Starr | Engineering Technician | Johnson Matthey |
| 41 | Rachel Milligan | Medical Laboratory Assistant (ex-pupil too) | NHS |
| 42 | Jonathan Crockett | Business Intelligence Contractor | Self Employed |
| 43 | Aaron Boles | PhD Chemistry Student | Edinburgh University |
| 43 | Fern Graham | Dental Nurse | Hazelbrook Dental |
| 45 | Stuart Kinghorn | Environmental Health Officer | D & G Council |

# Science Club

The S1 Science club has been running again this year and we have had a fantastic uptake of new S1 Scientists. So far we have made slime, created colourful flames by burning metals, made lava lamps, crystals and more. The Science club provides a safe and relaxed environment where pupils have the chance to work with their peers and continue to develop their practical Science skills. New members are welcome to come along.

## Digging for Elements - S3 Chemists Participate in Soil Sampling Project

Passers-by may have thought that pupils were taking their study of "the mole" too far, however it was not furry creatures S3 chemists were looking for in the cold, damp conditions; they were carefully collecting a variety of soil samples from the school playing fields. Class 3J are taking part in an outreach project being organised by Strathclyde University in conjunction with The Royal Society of Chemistry. The purpose of the project is to encourage an interest in environmental issues as well as providing an insight in to the role of analytical chemists. St. Joseph's College pupils, along with students from all over Scotland, are sending in soil samples for analysis by Strathclyde researchers. Teams of analysts will determine levels of zinc, copper and lead in each sample and report back to pupils. Meanwhile our pupils have carried out their own tests to examine levels of moisture, air and organic matter. Throughout the project pupils will receive updates on how the tests are carried out at Strathclyde University and in February they will have the opportunity to participate in a poster competition related to environmental issues. We look forward to receiving the St. Joseph's College soil analysis results in the coming weeks.

# Rural Skills – Experience in Land-Based Industries

During this term the Rural Skills class have been carrying out research about land based industries. They were invited to visit a local salmon farm and then a dairy farm to gather information for research assignments and gain some hands on experience of these two different land based industries.

Pupils enjoyed the visit to the Nith Catchment Fishery which is run by the team from the 'Fishing for the Future' project. This charitable project was set up in 2009 to raise awareness of the aquatic system in the River Nith and advance the environmental protection of fish by conserving all species in the local area. During the excursion pupils learned about the life cycle of the Atlantic Salmon, how the catchment itself is involved in conserving salmon species in the River Nith and much more about the salmon industry. They also gained some helpful information about the job remits of the numerous employees at the salmon farm.

Some daily tasks on the salmon farm were allocated to our pupils, such as checking and weighing the adult fish, washing the salmon eggs, checking the water temperatures of the tanks and stripping a female fish – removing the eggs to later be fertilised and incubated. The class will have an opportunity to work with the team again during Spring to release salmon fry into the river and carry out environmental surveys. Students will even be given the opportunity to have some lessons in fly fishing on the river.

The second (and very cold at -2$^{o}$C on the 8$^{th}$ December!) land based industry visit was to Hardgrove Dairy Farm at Ruthwell. Pupils enjoyed a tour from the head farmer Alastair Marshall along with Fiona Jamieson from RHET (Royal Highland Education Trust) who had coordinated the excursion. The group were keen to learn about farming in general and the specific roles of the farmer and the various farm hands who had been working since 3am that day! Students were given the responsibility of tagging some of the newly born calves; separating them into the correct pen depending on gender and breed and giving them their first feed.

Later in the morning they were shown the milking routine which is carried out 3 times a day for the 570 cows on the farm. A few pupils were even brave enough to go down into the milking parlour pit and attach the milking machinery to the cows. A lot of valuable information relevant to the dairy farming research assignment was collected during the day.

Now the Rural Skills class are looking forward to a visit to the Barony Farm Campus during lambing season.

# Weir Wise Engineering Course

We are delighted to report that Hannah McNaught and Brodie Thomson, both S2, have been successful in their application to attend the *Weir Wise Girls in to Engineering Course* at Strathclyde University in January 2018. The course is designed to make girls aware of the many career opportunities available in the engineering sector and to highlight the skills and subject choices required. We wish them every success and look forward to them reporting on what they learn from the experience.

# Chemists Compete to be "Top of the Bench"

Gaining a place in the St. Joseph's College Top of the Bench Team turned out to be very tough work! Following the school's success in previous years at the Royal Society of Chemistry West of Scotland competition, we decided to open up the experience to more pupils by holding some trials that would give a flavour of the event. The first ever St. Joseph's College 'Top of the Bench' heats were very well attended by pupils from a variety of year groups, who were thoroughly tested on their knowledge of Chemistry in both individual and group challenges. All candidates impressed and our S6 Senior Science Ambassador judges had a tricky job deciding on the winning team of four who would represent St. Joseph's College in Glasgow.

Harry Jackson (S2), Thomas Holmes (S3), Alasdair Little (S3) and Sayumi Rathnayake (S4) succeeded and travelled to the Scottish Regional Heat to battle against 30 other schools. Following a fast and furious evening, which included questions on Nobel Prize winning chemists, they were placed a very credible 7th.

We would like to thank all those who participated in the trials and the competing team for their efforts (and Miss McGarva for driving to and from Glasgow on a very wet evening!)

# Scottish Maths Challenge Results

From the recent maths challenge results , we would like to congratulate everyone who took part and hope all candidates enjoyed and benefited from their participation. We would like to say a special well done to the S6 bronze winner Adam Beck. In S5, Jamie Thompson, Abigail Ocansey, Hannah Little, Ross Burns, Zoe Graham, Hannah Mortlock and Euan Purdie all did a great job in achieving a bronze award. Finally, we would like to specially congratulate James Knox in S5 for achieving a Silver Award in the challenge.

We hope to see the same amount of enthusiasm when the next maths challenge rolls around. We wish good luck to future candidates in the maths challenge and hope for even more success!

# Professor McBride

S3 pupils received an extra-curricular maths lecture from Mrs Stoppard's University Professor; which spanned a wide range of topics. This took place in the Chapel during periods 6 and 7. During this lecture he covered the extended hypothetical Pythagorean theorem, prime numbers and their uses in coding, how to form a palindrome from any number and the extreme importance of maths! He kept the audience engaged throughout. Many pupils found Professor's McBride talk very interesting and different from an ordinary maths class. We all look forward to his return!

# Flying High with Mathematics

This term in the Mathematics department, students have been working very hard to develop their numeracy and mathematical skills. One S3 pupil, Matthew Johnson, literally took this to new heights

The aspiring pilot took our numeracy newspaper, The Daily Rigour, to complete on a recent flight as he explained; "even at 2000 feet it helps me dictate my fuel consumption". He also got some wonderful photos while in the cockpit. Well done Matthew!

The Daily Rigour provides regular opportunities to apply key numeracy and literacy skills in new and unfamiliar contexts across all subject areas. We invite all parents and carers to make our newspaper a weekly feature in household discussions. No flying experience necessary! All you have to do is visit the following webpage every Monday for the latest edition; http://www.cdmasterworks.co.uk/the-daily-rigour/. Video solutions are also available to check your answers.

The Daily Rigour

Sun 10th December 2017 Issue No. 80

Your free weekly numeracy newspaper!

## S3 pupil takes the Daily Rigour to new heights!

Trainee pilot, Matthew, took the Daily Rigour to new heights and put in some vital numeracy practice while flying at 2000 feet. A truly independent learner!

The typical burn rate for a small aircraft like Matthew's is 7 gallons per hour. A gallon of aircraft fuel currently costs $5·70. Will the £60 that Matthew received by Rigour Maths for this wonderful photo cover his fuel costs for his 2 hour flight? Give a reason for your answer!

Exchange Rate: £1 = $1·34

TRANSPORT

2006 Fabio Cannavaro
2007 Kaka
2008 Cristiano Ronaldo
2009 Lionel Messi
2010 Lionel Messi
2011 Lionel Messi
2012 Lionel Messi
2013 Cristiano Ronaldo
2014 Cristiano Ronaldo
2015 Lionel Messi
2016 Cristiano Ronaldo
2017 Cristiano Ronaldo

## Cristiano Ronaldo wins his fifth Ballon d'Or

Portugal forward Cristiano Ronaldo won his fifth Ballon d'Or on Friday, taking him level with Lionel Messi's record.

The table on the left shows all previous winners since 2006.

Express the number of Ballon d'Or's NOT won by Ronaldo or Messi since 2006 as a fraction in it's simplest form.

SPORT

## Contestants win big on the Chase

On Friday Matthew, Calum, Yasmin and Jan took on the 'Beast' in a bid to win thousands of pounds. Matthew and Calum were the first 2 contestants through, each winning £5000 for the prize fund.

Unfortunately, Yasmin was caught by the Chaser but after that Jan added an incredible £65 000 to the prize fund.

The contestants who made it through won the Final Chase and received an equal share of the prize fund. How much did each contestant win?

ENTERTAINMENT

JAN YASMIN CALUM MATTHEW

## Text messages celebrate 25 year anniversary

On the 3rd of December, 25 years ago, the first ever text message was sent to a mobile phone. Software engineer Neil Papworth was working for Vodafone when he wrote 'Merry Christmas' to company director Richard Jarvis. When introduced as a mobile service, text messages had a limit of 160 characters and cost £1·50 per text from some mobile providers! Excluding the headline, how much would it have cost to send the text from this article as a text message back in the day?

TECHNOLOGY

by Cdmasterworks Ltd

# Stop Press!

"Altogether Christmas" is exactly what it says in the title, everyone together, celebrating this day as a big community family.

This Christmas Day Party is for everyone and anyone who does not want to spend this day on their own as no one should be lonely if they don't wish to be.

If you know anyone who is elderly, homeless, vulnerable, from low income families or perhaps just on their own, why don't you share with them the news of this party and bring a little joy to them by making their day as special as yours will be.

Thus event is on from 1pm - 6pm at Noblehill Community centre and free transport to and from this event is available by pre-booking prior to the day by contacting Laura Florence on 07388004014.

# The Show Must Go On

This term alone, the drama department has run a number of excursions for pupils. The Advanced Higher and Higher pupils have been to the theatre to see an array of plays and musicals such as; 'A Streetcar Named Desire', which was arranged for the Advanced Higher class. They also have another trip planned for next term to help them explore some different practitioners that they study in drama. There was also a trip to Blood Brothers – a hilarious, emotional musical that fifty from S3-S6 went to see, causing the school tickets to be sold out almost immediately. The firm favourite amongst the Higher class was Trainspotting; this was a hard hitting, dazzling, emotionally raw performance leaving pupils wanting more. Whilst these outings have been great fun which some may not experience again, they have been a benefit for each pupil with regard to their coursework. The pupils have been able to watch these performances and after analysis in class they certainly help with their essays and exams. Theatre is such a great benefit to pupils, it is an environment that they all can enjoy and learn from, it has atmosphere and it is a great advantage to be part of a live audience. It is even beneficial to see how the lights and the stage are being used by professionals. The most recent trip to see Mamma Mia in Glasgow was a wonderful experience that left all uplifted and singing all the way back to Dumfries!

**Nathan B. Christie, S5**

# Show Jumping

Well done to all the girls that competed at the Schools Team Show Jumping Competition at Blackdyke Carlisle. The competition was ran by Austin Friars school and our girls competed against 12 other schools to finish third in the 75cm class. Lockerbie and Annan Academies also represented Dumfries and Galloway region in this class with most of the other competitors from Cumbria. Teams of four competed and the three lowest scores in Round One counted towards Round Two which was the jump off and was timed. The lowest score and lowest time determined the final placings. Our team was:

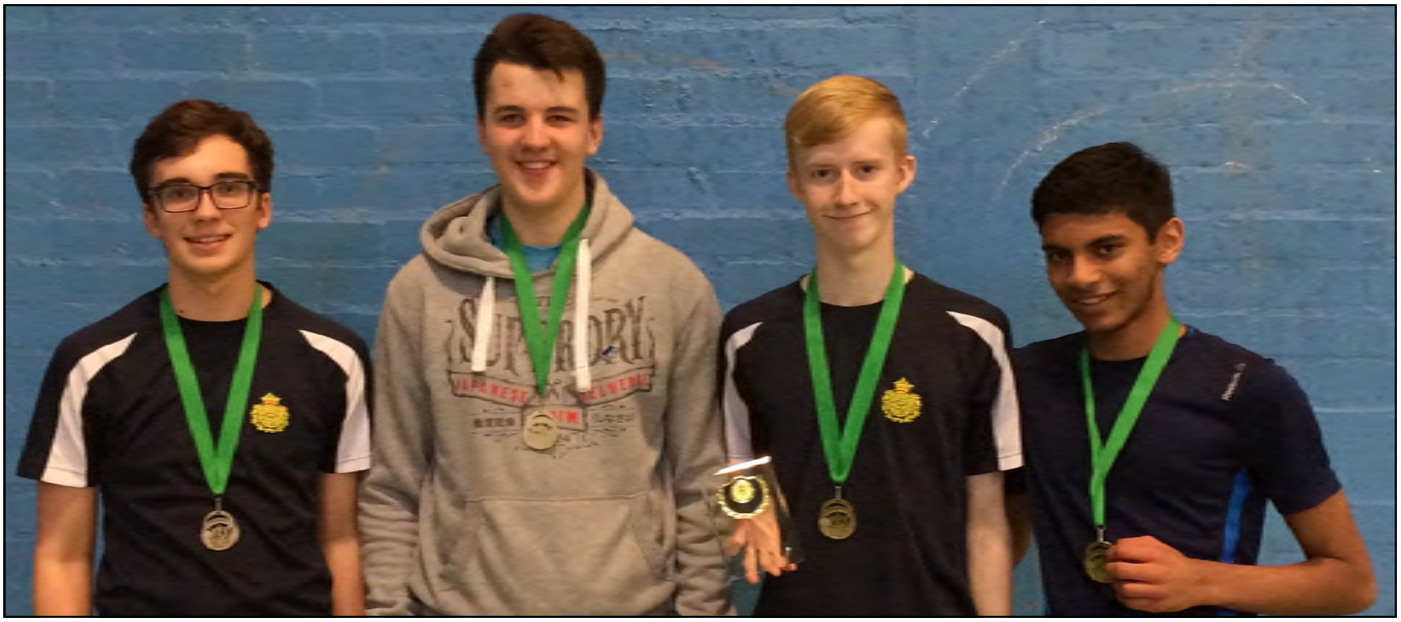
**Elizabeth Wardhaugh and Shadow**
**Anna Loughran and Harvey**
**Rowan McMaster and BillyRae**
**Charlotte MacGregor and Diesel**

# Table Tennis

On Thursday 23rd November, 12 St. Joseph's College pupils attended Maxwelltown High School for the annual Table Tennis Regional Competition. With abilities ranging from senior elite to junior, it was a real mixed bag. The senior team event began well, with the St. Joseph's team comfortably beating Dalry 6-2. Both Blaire Huxtable and Aaron Thomas won both games in an impressive display. Following this, the elite group and all the single events started. Both Ross Burns and Blaire were representing the school in the elite group, while Finlay Jack and Aaron were in the U18 Boys. On top of this, there were many representatives in the U15 and U13 events. In the U13's, Mathew Mitra did well negotiating through a tricky group and knockout phase, before eventually being stopped in the final after a string of impressive displays.

In the U18 boys, both Finlay Jack and Aaron Thomas won their groups, with the loss of just 3 sets between the players. After winning their respective quarter-finals, they met in the semi-final, with Aaron taking the game in straight sets. Aaron went on to win the final 3-0, meaning he won the U18 title losing just one set on the way. In the elite group Blaire Huxtable won the majority of his games against national level players, which resulted in him winning the elite phase. The senior team final then took place, with the St. Joseph's team comfortably beating Dumfries Academy 4 games to nil. Overall, it was a pleasing day for the staff and pupils, and one which brought much success. All players can be proud of their efforts and sportsmanship.

**Under 13s runner-up – Mathew Mitra**
**Elite Singles Gold – Blaire Huxtable**
**Senior Singles Gold – Aaron Thomas**
**Senior Team Gold – Finlay Jack, Blaire Huxtable, Aaron Thomas and Ross Burns**



# Swimming to Success

Regional Medal Winners

Congratulations to our swim team who competed at the regional schools swimming championships in November. There were a number of fantastic individual performances, personal bests and new records set over both events at Annan and Merrick pools. The event is used as a qualifier to gain entry into the national finals on Saturday 27th January 2018 at Dollan Aqua Centre in East Kilbride.

Well done to the following pupils who achieved the consideration time for the finals:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Abi Fyall** | **100Fly/200 Breast** |
| **Niamh Green** | **100 Back/200 Back** |
| **Tyler Barnard** | **100 Back** |
| **Lindsay Cameron** | **100 Free/200 Free** |
| **Cameron Gordon** | **200 IM/100 Fly** |
| **Reuben Kelly** | **100 Fly** |

Congratulations to Cameron Gordon. He is now the Scottish record holder for 50m and 100m butterfly - fastest 12 year old fly swimmer in Scotland ever!

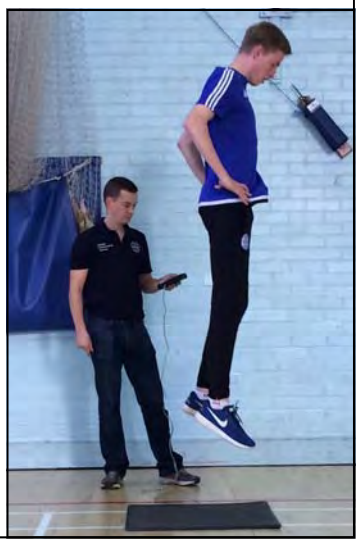
# U13 Football

St Joseph's College U13s progressed to the semi-final of the Gordon's Cup with a resounding 7-0 win over Dalbeattie High School. The boys raced into a 4-0 lead at half time, courtesy of some fantastic attacking play and high pressing. The second half was a closer affair, with the boys moving the ball well, retaining possession and exposing gaps in Dalbeattie's defence. Man of the match, Isaac Scott, was excellent in midfield, controlling the game and scoring a hat-trick in an emphatic win. Daniel McCallie led the line superbly, linking up well with the midfield and providing three assists. The U13 team will meet Lockerbie in the semi-finals after the Christmas break. Well done boys!

**Starting line-up: E. Brown, J. Watt, L. Howat, E. Mitchell, M. Mitra, M. O'Hagan, I. Scott, T. Gourlay, J. Kelly, B. Tullius, D. McCallie.**
**Subs: J. Cameron, M. Douglas, H. Alexander, K. Patterson.**
**Goal scorers: I. Scott (3), M. Mitra (2), B. Tullius and J. Watt.**

# Advanced Higher PE Visit to Edinburgh University

A group of Advanced Higher PE pupils attended Edinburgh University as part of their research project work. The session allowed pupils to gain experience of sport and exercise science by undertaking a range of tests of physical performance, collecting data, and data analysis. Pupils were pushed to their limits during tests of sprint speed, acceleration, change of direction, vertical jump, hand-grip strength and flexibility. The group also had the opportunity to observe a laboratory test of maximal physical performance, conducted by the Sports Science department at the University.



# 日本語 - Japanese Language Club

Term two has been busy for those who attend the Japanese club. Pupils from S1-6 have been learning the very challenging alphabet system, hiragana, as well as learning a little bit of kanji along the way. In addition to this, pupils have been given the opportunity to show off their artistic skill by drawing some superb manga characters. Japan is also renowned for its strange tastes and flavours, pupils would certainly agree with this as they tried different flavoured KitKats ranging from wasabi flavour to sakura.

This club runs on a Wednesday lunchtime, so if you are interested, please come and join us! From everybody at the club we hope you have a merry Christmas.

# Senior Debating

Apart from offering the pupils a chance to interact socially with others around the country, debating promotes lifelong skills such as deploying reasoned arguments, quick thinking, vocal dexterity and gaining confidence and poise in presenting to a small audience.

Three senior teams have been busy in the last few weeks debating in three national competitions. Firstly, Madeleine Martin and Dorian Eedle of S5 were asked to oppose the motion that *'This House believes that a language that needs protecting isn't worth protecting'* in the ESU Mace on October 31st; they argued convincingly and with confidence, but on the night faced an older and highly experienced team and came second. A fortnight later, Abigail Ocansey and Jonathan Crocker of S5 faced the same team by coincidence, and two others, in the Law Society Donald Dewar Memorial competition, proposing that *'monuments to controversial figures should be removed. '* They put up a robust argument and won through easily, gaining a spontaneous round of applause from the audience when the result was announced! Their next round will debate the boycotting by democratic countries from the World Cup in 2018, which should provide a vigorous verbal skirmish !

Thank you to these senior pupils for the hours spent in research, writing their well-argued speeches and being so enthusiastic (and good fun)! Thanks too to Joe Gilligan for giving up lunchtimes to provide lively opposition to the teams in their preparation.

**Mrs Willson (English Dept.)**

## St. Andrews Day Debating Competition

On the 29th of November, Abi Ocansey and I went to Edinburgh to compete in the annual St. Andrew's Day Debating Competition. We got the train early in the morning and then walked to the Parliament, where we had breakfast waiting for us while we prepared for our first heat. We were each paired with another student (either a university student or another secondary school student) and we each debated in three heats. While we both did very well in our heats, getting first and second places, neither of us made the top four final as the competition was so stiff. There was however a floor debate after the final, with the motion that, "This house believes that all citizens should be given a universal basic income, regardless of willingness or capability to work", and after making two passionate points, I was awarded the prize for the best floor debater of the day which I was very pleased with. I loved the chance to debate in the Scottish Parliament Chamber and meet new people that are as interested in debating and politics as I am. Experiencing both university level debating and debating against other highly competitive debaters was a learning experience I will never forget.

**Rebecca Coles S6**

# PFA 100 Club Winners

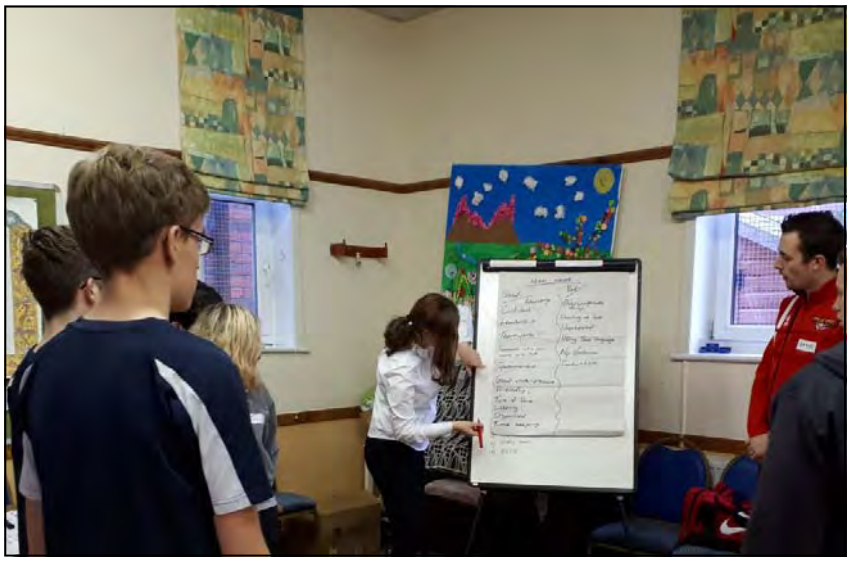
| Month | Prize | No | Name |
|---|---|---|---|
| October | 1st | 12 | A. Armstrong |
| | 2nd | 73 | E. Kennedy |
| | 3rd | 15 | B. Halliday |
| November | 1st | 21 | K. Woods |
| | 2nd | 80 | F. Meek |
| | 3rd | 58 | L. Dupuis |

**Should you wish to join the 100 Club please contact the School Office.**

## Brilliant Effort from S1

Liz Osborne from Lepra presented at an S1 assembly, informing our S1 pupils of the challenges for people afflicted with leprosy. This curable disease if left untreated can cause life changing disabilities. The pupils participated in a Lepra workout hosted by the PE department and raised £1385.15 in sponsorship. Liz was so delighted she returned to thank the pupils in person.

## Can Do Building Communities Project- Leonard Cheshire Foundation



Since 2008, **Can Do** has supported thousands of young people across the UK to contribute to their local communities through volunteering opportunities. In the process, the students were able to meet new people and make new friends; improve their confidence and independence; learn and develop new skills and create an evidence diary of their achievements.

A group of students from St Joseph's College were delighted to have been selected as the first group in Dumfries and Galloway to benefit from the Can Do programme after Olivia Robinson and James Allan from the Leonard Cheshire Foundation contacted the school. Oliver Abrines, Anastasia Cresswell –Reed-Ross, David Inglefield, Andrew Irving, Aleksandra Karwowska, Emma Kiltie, Stephen Sellers and Kimberley Tranter

Firstly the students decided that they would like to use basketball as their skill area. They were joined by Craig from *Let's Get Sporty.* A member of the school's teaching staff-, Ms Sammon also participated in the programme and training session each week. She was very proud of the students who, after gaining skills in basketball coaching, were welcomed into Cargenbridge Primary school where they delivered a training programme to the children, passing on their newly gained skills.

Each Can do students has gained and award and will be presented with this in a ceremony at Dumfries Council Offices on Friday 5 January 11.00am- 2.00pm. Parents, friends and school staff are invited to come along, enjoy some light refreshments and of course applaud the students.

# PFA Christmas Carol Service

# Junior Christmas Dinner Celebrations

St Joseph's College
NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA
Art Calendar
2018
I am delighted that we are able to share a sample of the excellent artwork completed by some of the St Joseph's College students for their SQA examinations. My thanks go to all who contributed to the production of the calendar and I wish them continuing success.
Best wishes for 2018
Mrs Jones
£5. Available to buy from the Art Dept or contact the school office

**St Joseph's College**
**Parent Council**
**&**
**Parents and Friends Association**
**(PFA)**

*Working together with our school for the best experience for all our children and young people*

***Working in partnership with the school***

As a parent, grandparent or carer you can make an enormous difference to your child's chances of success in school, at home and in their later life. Working in partnership with your child's school can help your child to succeed.

Parental involvement is about supporting pupils and their learning. It is about parents and teachers working together in partnership to help children become more confident learners.

Evidence from research shows the importance of parental involvement in raising attainment and improving outcomes for children, families and schools. Parental involvement and their aspirations shape children's and young people's achievements.

The more that parents engage in their child's learning, the more likely it is that they will help raise their child's attainment, for example, supporting homework and following their curriculum.

The Parent Council works with the school to improve communication between school and home by–

- supporting the school's Twitter feed and the Facebook page for example, where we can see photos and stories about pupil's experiences,
- as well as links to important and interesting information regarding education in general or particularly affecting Dumfries & Galloway or St Joseph's College: https://twitter.com/StJosephsDfs https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsCollegeDfs/?hc_ref=ARRW7WSL6hHti1Jz8rehqxGRaoOaoZE1lSJTQs6ydVPiMNHzZH8nVyWxK1zIngc-C2Y
- encouraging parents visit the school's web page (being redeveloped), to sign up to receive the weekly bulletin, to allow them to see not only events & news affecting their own child but also to see the wide variety of opportunities available to all year groups: https://www.stjosephscollege.co.uk
- encouraging downloading of the useful Show My Homework app to allow pupils to be more easily supported (badgered about homework needing to be done?!) at home if needed. The app is available for iOS and Android devices, log in details are available for your child from the school office.

## ***What is the Parent Council?***

The Parent Council is a group of parents who represent all the parents of children at the school, able to spare a couple of hours just once a term, to work with Mrs Jones and senior staff to support the school in their endeavours to give our children the very best learning experiences and outcomes.

The aim is for parents and carers to become more actively and effectively involved in their children's learning. It is recognised that parents play an important role both in their own child's learning and in the life of their school.

Parent Councils should and can provide a voice for parents, in schools and in their local authority, on issues that are important to them and their children.

As a valued member, you come along to meetings to hear what's happening behind-the-scenes with your child's education, perhaps help shape how some learning takes place or how policies look. *All parents and carers of a child attending the College are invited to attend any meeting during the school year; you do not need to be a voting member to attend a meeting – you will be welcomed to as many meetings as you wish to attend*.

We usually have one meeting per term - that's just 2 hours every 2 or 3 months - and the focus is often developments within the Scottish Education system on a school, local area, regional and national level.

We are not a fundraising body for the school; we leave those ventures to the Parent and Friends Association (PFA) to allow us to concentrate on the learning and teaching that takes place.

## ***Parents and Friends Association (PFA)***

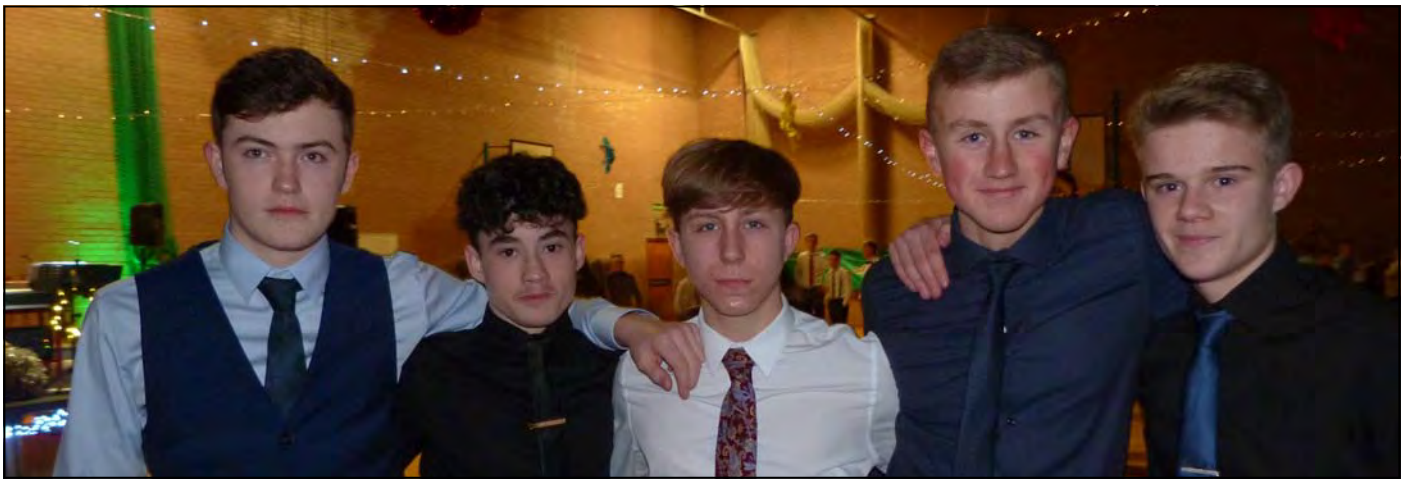
In St Joseph's College we are in the very fortunate position to also have a Parents and Friends Association (PFA) – members of this group include not only parents but also friends of the school from the local community who wish to support the school by being involved in the fundraising and hospitality aspects of school life.

It is these dedicated people who will be serving you teas and coffees at every concert, Parents' Evenings, etc held in the school, and who will organise many of the fundraising activities and events held for the benefit of the school.

There are no membership fees and parents are encouraged to play an active part so that a thriving association is maintained. All members are welcome to participate in the large variety of events that take place each year in the school.

Events will be publicised through letters, by Group Call messaging via text, by announcements in Parish Bulletins, the quarterly School Newsletter and via the school web site and Facebook page.

# Junior Ceilidh 2017



# Senior Ceilidh 2017

Friends from P1 in Cargenbridge to S6 in St. Joseph's College

# Our House

School Show 20,21,22, June 2018

Auditions for the main roles in our eagerly anticipated school show have recently been completed. We had over 70 pupils audition for the main roles—a fantastic turnout! All auditions were extremely well prepared and performed to such a high standard that the job of casting the show was very difficult. The casting lists were displayed and there was much excitement in the department. We currently have a show cast of over 40 pupils, with others involved in the ensemble for 'Our House' within various categories, namely: school kids; prisoners; neighbours; and market traders. It is not too late to sign up if you would like to be part of the on-stage cast—please see Mrs Somerville or Miss Edmonds to add your name. From January, rehearsals will continue on a Monday after-school from 3:30pm—5pm; Tuesday from 7pm-8:30pm; and, on a Wednesday at lunchtime. Rehearsals for the show will take place in the Drama studio. We would like to encourage all year groups to come along and take part so that this year's show is a big success like its predecessors!

We would like to introduce you to our principal characters:

Adam as 'Joe'

Maeve as 'Sarah'

Anita as ' Kath (Joe's Mum)'

Michael as 'Joe's Dad'

Reece as 'Reecey'

Harry and Sam as 'Lewis and Emmo'

Those interested in production roles such as lighting, sound, set and costume should keep an eye on the pupil bulletin around January for their call. We look forward to continuing with rehearsals after the Christmas break, in what promises to be an exciting year as we move into our new school!