



Head Teacher Report

January 2023

School Matters

- Senior Phase Prelims have been completed and prelim analysis meetings with all departments have been scheduled to take place this month.
- On-line Options Information Evenings have taken place for parents of pupils in S2 and S3. The S4/5 Information Evening will take place on the 17th January.
- Options interviews for pupils in S2 – S5 will take place throughout January and February. Work on the timetable for 2023/24 will then begin.
- S3 SNSA writing assessments have been completed.
- Stakeholder surveys will be issued this month. Returns from pupils, parents, staff and partners will be used to inform our school improvement plan for 2023/24.

Staffing

- We were delighted to welcome Miss Laura Christy to our school community as she takes up her post as Teacher of Art & Design.

Spiritual

- Liturgical services continue to take place in our school Oratory every Friday lunchtime.
- Led by our Caritas pupils, we held a bake sale and S1 sponsored silence to support Red Wednesday. These efforts combined raised £391 to support those around the world who face persecution and death for holding the same faith as our own school.
- During Advent, BGE pupils visited our school oratory for prayer and reflection. Our Advent Charity Campaign 2022 was yet another tremendous success. A brief summary of fundraising activities is provided below:

Dress Down day - £350

Maths – Christmas Tree Raffle - £60

Music – Christmas Concert - £180

PTA/Leadership Group –Snowball - £260
MFL/TECH – Candy Canes - £75

TOTAL MONEY RAISED FOR MARY'S MEALS: £925

Our Shoebox Appeal provided 40+ boxes to bring Good News and joy to children around the world.

The significant food donations and cash donations (£70) received as part of dress down day, and other events throughout Advent (e.g. science reverse Advent calendar), were used to provide food parcels for the children and families of Chesters Nursery in Drumchapel and local foodbanks.

Staff and pupils also provided 110 Christmas gifts for the children of Chesters Nursery and 30+ gifts for Alive & Kicking, Springburn.

Finally, our Selection Box Appeal resulted in an outstanding 465 boxes being distributed via St Aloysius Church, Springburn.

A huge well done and thank you to everyone for their contribution to this very successful Advent Charity Appeal.

School Events

- On 15th December, eligible BGE pupils enjoyed a trip to the cinema in recognition of their effort, behaviour and positive attitude to homework, attendance and punctuality. The pupils enjoyed the day and were a credit to the school.
- Our Christmas concert on 20th December was a resounding success. The audience were entertained by a wide range of vocal and musical talent from pupils across S1 – S6. A great night was had by all. Well done to everyone involved.
- After the completion of the prelim diet, Senior Phase pupils enjoyed the festivities of our annual Snowball. Thank you to the PTA and senior leadership group for organising this event.
- Live'n'Learn workshops entitled 'Exam Plus and Significant Six' will take place on 26th and 27th January for pupils in S5 and S6.
- Our Mental Health & Wellbeing week will take place from 7/2 to 13/2 inclusive.

School/Individual Achievements

- All BGE pupils meeting the eligibility criteria have been issued with their Aiming High certificates.
- SP pupils meeting the eligibility criteria for Aiming Higher certificates will receive them this term.
- Our World is a language and citizenship-based filmmaking project which uses an interdisciplinary approach to encourage pupils to become more engaged in their language learning. Teams of 4 (S1-S6) design a storyboard which outlines the film they propose to make. This year's film will explore the idea of global citizenship,

must include the use of a language other than English, and should touch on the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We launched this project with our S3 Spanish class. After discussing the objectives, Mr Walker delivered a lesson on the SDGs to ensure the pupils had a clear understanding of the broad themes. It was then over to the pupils to create imaginative narratives during their S3 Spanish lessons. The reviewing team met and looked through all storyboard entries. They received over 70 storyboards from schools all over Scotland this year, and we are pleased to say that Etienne, Mia, Finlay B and Anna E ('The Problems in Our World') has been successful. We now look forward to filming day at the Our World workshop on Saturday 18th of March at Brodies LLP Edinburgh. Hopefully the team can go on and win it! On croise les doigts!

- Matthew F (4HM) has been selected for the West District Cross country team and will compete against the North and East District teams at Scone Palace. The inter district competition will be part of the British Cross Country Challenge. Matthew ran at the Liverpool event earlier in season and was one of the top Scottish finishers. His selection is a great achievement and recognises the hard work he has put in over the winter.
- Rory D (4HK) has signed a further year's contract with Motherwell Football Club. We are all very proud this achievement.
- Alicia P has been kayaking/canoeing for Scotland and at Great Britain level. An incredible achievement.
- Sports Round-Up (from our sports leaders and captains)
 - S1 Boys Football Scottish Cup 2nd round vs Graeme High: 4 -- 3 Win Ethan M Man of the Match in a hard fought game vs Graeme High (JD Sports Football Performance School).
 - S4 Boys Football EDC league vs Bishopbriggs 4 – 0 Win A great win against our 'big neighbour' down the road, notably a Paul G hatrick
 - S3 Boys Football EDC league vs Bearsden 1 -- 4 Loss The first game of the S3 year was a learning curve with a few missing. D. O'D Goal (RM stepped up a year - was brilliant.)
 - S1/ 2 Netball EDC league vs Lenzie 4 -- 7 Win Our first win the netball team, an excellent achievement vs a team that won vs St Ninians. Player of the Match - Holly H and Top Goalscorer Lauren O'C.
 - S1 Interhouse Dodgeball Andrew house win event 1 for S1
 - S1/2 Girls 7s Football EDC Qualifier THS won the region and qualified for next stage (West Central Scotland).
 - S3/4 Girls 7s Football EDC Qualifier - No losses through to the next stage.
 - S1-3 Girls EDC 7s league Football Kirkintilloch 7 -- 2 Win - Juniors win the first game of the league comfortably.
 - S4-6 Girls Football EDC 7s league Kirkintilloch 1 -- 2 Loss Literally last kick of the game to concede, notably a number of our S1-3 players would make up the team of our seniors too I'd be confident of fixing this result in the return leg.
 - S1 Boys Football Scottish Cup 3rd round Galashiels 4 -- 1 Win Caiden O'H played really well and made a few good saves.
 - S2 Boys Football EDC league Boclair 4 -- 3 Win – Another excellent win for our football teams against one of our local performance schools.

- S1/2 Netball EDC league St Ninians 1 -- 12 Loss Holly H Player of the Match, Erica Cuthbertson scored our goal.
- Senior Boys Football Scottish Cup 2nd round St Maurices 1 -- 2 Loss First game of the year for the team
- S3 Boys Football Scottish Cup 2nd round Falkirk 7 -- 1 Win
- S3 Boys Football Scottish Cup 3rd round Craigmount 8 -- 2 Win -- Another great win and big notch on the CV for Mr McArthur taking down former St Mirren manager Tom Hendrie at the same time, CV's in the post Mrs K!
- Senior Boys Basketball Loss 10 – 43 vs Glasgow High School – Another story in inexperience and size vs well drilled tall players, the boys are improving with every game!