



Eco Schools
Award 2004



Turnbull High School
St Mary's Road, Bishopbriggs G64 2EF

Head Teacher Report

March 2023

School Matters

- **SQA Update:**

Appeals service 2023

Following extensive research with teachers, lecturers, parents, carers and learners, SQA have made some changes to the appeals service for 2023. This will bring it more in line with the service we had prior to the pandemic. Appeals 2023 will open on Results day – Tuesday 8 August. It will be a free service and available to all learners.

What is changing?

A senior SQA marker will review your assessments marked by SQA

Alternative assessment evidence will not be needed.

What is staying the same?

The service is free of charge

You can register your intention to appeal directly with SQA

You can ask your teacher or lecturer to submit an appeal for you

You can request a priority service if you have a conditional offer for further education, training or employment

Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service (EECCS)

The EECCS, which involves the review of alternative evidence for candidates with exceptional circumstances, will remain in place.

The service will be available to learners who are unable to attend an exam and widened to include those whose performance in the examination may have been affected by a personal circumstance, or an unplanned incident on the day, which is beyond their control. This could be a medical condition or bereavement, or disruption on the day of the exam as reported by the Chief Invigilator.

You can keep up-to-date with all the latest information and advice on SQA exams via their website: <https://www.sqa.org.uk>

- Planned supported study classes will begin on Monday 6 March for 4 weeks as detailed below.
- Option inserts and interviews for pupils in S2 – S5 are almost completed and work has begun on the construction of the school timetable for session 2023/24. The start date for the new timetable Monday 15th May.
- Further support is available for pupils still considering their next steps in learning. All support requests can be made via the PT Pastoral Care.
- Mrs L Kerr and Mrs Á McBride are raising the profile of Turnbull High School as a 'Care Aware' school. We have always enjoyed an excellent relationship with Carers Link in EDC but this year we are developing this further. Actions include:
All S1-S3 will, by March, have lessons delivered on what it means to be a young carer and will have an opportunity to self-identify as a young carer.
A new Young Carers group will run monthly in Turnbull, open to all year groups
Young Carers (new and already identified) will all have a 1-1 with Carers Link where they will complete their young carers statements/update statements already completed
Staff training will be delivered to all staff at the May inservice day

Staff

- Mr Cuthbertson has been appointed to the post of Curriculum Leader – Health & Wellbeing at Wallyford Learning Campus, Edinburgh. We thank Mr Cuthbertson for his outstanding contribution to Turnbull High School and wish him well in his new post.

Spiritual

- Ash Wednesday services were offered to our school community. Thank you to Father Monaghan for giving so generously of his time.
- During Lent pupils are asked to reflect on 'A Time for Prayer', 'A Time for Fasting' and 'A Time for Almsgiving' through our weekly themes. Our 'Daily Decade' continues to take place in the Oratory every morning with a range of different types of prayer every Friday in our school oratory.
- Our Lenten Charities Campaign launched on Wednesday 22nd February. All monies

raised will support our continuing sponsorship of Vonzua Public School in Liberia. Food and Easter Egg donations will be used to support local foodbanks, Chesters Nursery Drumchapel and St Aloysius Parish Springburn.

School Events

- The PTA have had a quiz night, the Snow Ball and are currently organising a 80s Disco on 24th March. There are also plans for a Ladie's night in June.
- Our Advance Higher Modern Studies pupils enjoyed an educational visit to Glasgow Sheriff Court on 17th January.
- On Friday 27th January we participated in Holocaust Memorial Day. Pupils had the opportunity to remember the victims of the Holocaust and view a very powerful 20-minute visual called " Ordinary People" – an important reminder for our students that the horror of genocide continues
- Mental Health Week:
Our S3 Mental Health Day took place on Friday 3rd February.
Pupils in S1-S6 participated in 'mental health connected' assemblies.
S1 and S2 were issued with Let's Connect through Kindness Challenge cards.
Emily D S5 and the S1 Leaders organized a tea, coffee and biscuits for staff to enjoy some time together and view a short video of self care actions made by the pupils.
- As part of the school's Holocaust education programme S2 pupils visited the Jewish Archive Centre in Glasgow during February.
- Also in February, S1 pupils received a visit from staff from East Dunbartonshire libraries. Pupils were given information about Borrow Box, the libraries' digital platform for borrowing e-books and e-audiobooks. To use Borrow Box is completely free. You just have to be a member of your local library and download the Borrow Box app to a phone or tablet. To join, drop in to your local library, or email libraries@eastdunbartonshire.gov.uk
- Our Reading School Group had a very successful trip to Waterstones bookshop in Glasgow and had a great time choosing books for the reading school project. We were greeted by Lindsie who made us feel so welcome. A bigger surprise was the 25% discount she gave us on the books we chose; we were able to purchase around £433 worth of books for the value of our vouchers (£350) - lots of beautiful, interesting books for our school!
- We were very excited to host our first virtual book fair with Books for Bugs. This is a great opportunity to purchase amazing books at just £2.99 each with free delivery to school. There are hundreds of books to choose from for babies through to teens, including lots of well know titles and authors. The school will benefit from every purchase earning a free book for every five £2.99 books - www.booksforbugs.co.uk
- On Tuesday 7th of March 2023 the S6 sustainability captains have taken the opportunity to plan a Clothes for Climate event. S6 pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a clothes swap and learn about the impacts of fast fashion on the planet. We're asking S6 to bring in pre loved clothes or clothes they

no longer wear, which can be swapped for other items or given to our chosen charity.

- The Molecular Gastronomy club (led by the Young STEM Leaders) have been fully engaging in some really interesting food science activities as supported by the RSC. As this is a growth sector in Scottish economy, the club has been discussing the many different careers available in this area. Pupils have investigated the chemistry of smell and flavours and techniques such as spherification and immobilisation.

School/Individual Achievements

- Two second year girls, Alice D and Susanna D, were successful in their applications for the Weir Wise course for girls into engineering at Strathclyde University.
- Pupils from S1/2 and the music department enjoyed a trip to Celtic Connections, Glasgow's annual folk, roots and world music festival that celebrates its connections to cultures across the globe.
- James K finished second in the Strathpuffer - "Britain's toughest mountain bike race" near Inverness. It's said to be one of the top ten toughest mountain bike races in the world. James was one of a four person mixed team. They raced in relay continuously for 24 hours. Each rider had to be standing ready and ensure once they'd ridden that they ate, changed out of wet kit and rested before their next go.
- Our active schools young ambassadors Remy McL and Lewis F participated in a workshop and activity day on Wednesday 22nd February. During the day there was a focus on leadership skills, team building and idea sharing of how they have promoted and inspired other young people to get involved in sport within their schools, clubs and communities.
- On Wednesday the 15th of Feb, 14 of our S6 communication ambassadors gave of their time on the inservice day to provide invaluable training to almost 60 support staff across the council at Bearsden Academy. They delivered a PowerPoint on different types of AAC (alternative and augmentative communication), which provides opportunities for those who struggle with spoken language to communicate, in a bid to create a more inclusive society. They then led workshops, demonstrating low tech (makaton) and high tech communication (battery/mains operated) systems and how to use them. The young people were an absolute credit to the school and we are very proud of them.
- Ragad D (S5) and her team ran a tuck shop to raise funds for the Turkey/Syria earthquake appeal. The treats on offer proved very popular with them selling out all stock! In total, they raised £140. A great achievement and effort led by Ragad
- We were all delighted to hear that our SLA, Julie McNeill, realised a lifetime ambition when her new poetry book 'Something Small' was released through a Scottish small press. If you're interested in finding out more you can click on the link below:

<https://www.drunkmusepress.com/product-page/single-copy-of-something-small>