



Eco Schools
Award 2004



Turnbull High School

St Mary's Road, Bishopbriggs Glasgow G64 2EF

Head Teacher Report

November 2024

School Matters

- As part of their quality assurance programme, SQA will visit Turnbull High School on Tuesday 12th November to carry out an audit of our alternative assessment arrangements processes and evidence.
- Option Choices: Pupils will complete straw polls on Monday 25th November. Parents of children staying on at school, may find the following resources useful when discussing with them which subjects that they may want to study next year if they had a “free choice” from all the award courses we have available for their year group.
 - the SUBJECT OPTIONS webpage in the LEARNING section of the School website (<http://www.turnbull.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/learning/subject-options/>)
 - the “Nutshells” advice sheets from the National Parent Council Forum of Scotland’s website - <https://www.npfs.org.uk/>
 - the SDS REGIONAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT (which shows upcoming trends in employment opportunities and subject and skills required) - <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/whatwe-do/skills-planning/regional-skills-assessments>

Please note that these straw poll choices in November are used to inform the creation of option columns. They are NOT “binding” and pupils will be able to review and adjust them if required when they make their actual final option choices later in the year.

- Senior Phase Prelims begin Monday 2nd December and will run through to Thursday 19th December. A programme of supported study is currently running.

Spiritual

- Holy Mass continues to be celebrated in our school Oratory every Tuesday during period 4. A rota of class Masses is in place to allow all pupils from S1 – S6 to participate in this programme.
- Liturgical services continue to take place in our school Oratory every Friday lunchtime.
- We continue to pray the Rosary each morning in our school oratory at 8.30am.
- All pupils participated in Holy Mass on The Feast of All Saints.
- All classes have had the opportunity to write their November lists. All deceased family and friends will be remembered at Masses during November.
- Our S6 Humanities Captains organised and led our Remembrance Day events. This involved a whole school 2 minute silence followed by the S6 captains leading an online Teams assembly as to why we mark this day and providing further information to pupils.
- Sunday 17th November marks the beginning of Catholic Education Week. Catholic Education Week takes place each year from the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland (16th November) until the Feast of St Andrew (30th November). This year, the theme of Catholic Education Week is 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

During Catholic Education Week we are asked to reflect upon how we can all help support this mission through our home, school and parish partnership.

- On Tuesday 21st November, the community of Turnbull High School will celebrate our Patronal Feast Day having consecrated our school to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on 21 November 2017.

The day will begin with a community breakfast and a whole school Catholic Education Week assembly. During the day we will set aside time for the school community to come together to pray the rosary, to pledge our on-going support of Mary's Meals sponsor a school project and to engage in sporting activities and quizzes to earn house points for our annual inter-house trophy.

The day will be a non-uniform day and, where possible, pupils are asked to donate £1 to our Mary's Meals campaign. Pupils and staff are also asked to donate baby items to support the work of the Cardinal Winning Initiative.

- During December S1 – S3 RE classes will visit the Oratory for Advent Services.

Advent is a time of prayer and a season of hope. Our themes for the weeks for Advent are:

Week 1 - Time for Preparation

Week 2 - Responding to God's Call

Week 3 - Making God's Love Visible

School Events

- From 4th – 8th November, Turnbull High School celebrated Chemistry week. Each lunchtime a new inspiring STEM ambassador visited the school to speak about their job/research and how it makes the world a better place.
- The theme for this year's Anti Bullying Week is: *Respect - What Does It Mean To You?*
Throughout the week beginning 11th November there will be activities at break, lunch, in PSE and at assemblies. Our MVP and Mental Health Ambassadors will be visiting PSE classes across the week to seek views on what respect means and to remind everyone of the supports in school should anyone be experiencing difficulties. We hope that the impact of this will be threefold:
 - Better understanding of what bullying is (and is *not*)
 - Better understanding of policy/pupil policy and use of QR code for reporting
 - Reduction in the use of offensive language used e.g. racial slurs
- Transition Events: On 15th November P7 pupils from our three associated primaries will participate in a Developing Young Workforce day.
- Cook With Turnbull: Our first family learning activity for pupils in S1 and S2 will be Christmas baking – you will receive a copy of the recipe (also on the school website) and there will be a video showing the steps involved in making the recipe. You will receive a complimentary shopping bag full of the ingredients needed to make the recipe of the month. If you and your family would like to join our Family Learning Cookery programme, please remember to bring in your tear-off slip at the bottom of the letter no later than Friday 15 November to the department.
- Our Advent Charity Campaign will begin on Friday 29th November. A number of fundraising activities are being organised.
- Our Advent Service / Christmas Concert will take place on 18th December.

School/Individual Achievements

- Aiming High and Aiming Higher pupils will receive their certificates during December and January. Reward events are being organised for December: BGE (cinema) and S5/6 (Snowball). Our S4 event will take place in January, details to follow.
- Five S3 pupils from Turnbull High School have embarked on the prestigious Young Chemical Ambassador programme at Strathclyde University. As part of this initiative, they recently participated in a full-day workshop filled with hands-on activities and experiments, inspiring talks from university lecturers, and an in-depth exploration of ethical engineering. 21 The students learnt about the essential role of engineering in society, with a focus on its ethical implications. Following the workshop, each student was introduced to their PhD mentor, who will visit the school weekly to guide them through their research project. The students will explore the science and engineering behind mobile phones, delving into ethical concerns such as the scarcity of metals like titanium, sourcing alternatives, and the working conditions in countries where these materials are mined. They will present their findings at a prize-giving event on 17th December at Strathclyde University's Engineering faculty.
- Both Chiara M and Mirren D have been successful in reaching the final trial for the U15's Central Regional Women's football team. This is a great achievement to be 2 of the top 40 girls across central Scotland who have advanced to this stage!