

# Head Teacher Report

# January 2025

### School Matters

- Senior Phase Prelims have been completed and prelim analysis meetings with all departments have been scheduled to take place this month.
- College application workshops are taking place on Thursday, 9 January (P1-4) and Wednesday, 15 January (P1-4).
- Options Information Evenings have taken place for parents of pupils in S2 and S3. The S4/5 Information Evening will take place on the 14<sup>th</sup> January.
- Options interviews for pupils in S2 S5 will take place throughout January and February. Work on the timetable for 2025/26 will then begin.
- S3 SNSA writing assessments have been completed. Reading and numeracy assessments will take place in February and April respectively.
- Stakeholder surveys will be issued during January /February. The analysis of these returns will inform our school improvement plan for 2025/26.

#### Staffing

- Workforce planning for session 2025/26 will begin this term.
- Two long standing and highly regarded members of our school community, Eileen McGhee (SSM) and Jean Thomas (clerical assistant) have retired after 15 and 21 years of service respectively. Both colleagues will be greatly missed but we wish them every happiness as they embark on this next chapter of their lives.
- We are pleased to welcome Janice Semple to Turnbull High School as she takes up her post as School Support Manager (SSM).
- We are currently recruiting for clerical (35 hrs) and admin (17 hrs) posts.
- We are delighted to have appointed Jennifer Tinning to the post of PT Biology. Jennifer took up her post on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December. We wish her every success.
- Majed Hadiy has been appointed to the temporary post of Teacher of Technical to cover Ms Millar's maternity leave.

## Spiritual

- Liturgical services continue to take place in our school Oratory every Friday at 1pm.
- The S6 Caritas pupils bake sale for Red Wednesday raised in excess of £170. The pupils are very grateful to all who made donations and purchases.
- During Advent, BGE pupils visited our school oratory for prayer and reflection. Our Advent Charity Campaign 2024 was yet another tremendous success with over £800 raised.
- The donations received as part of dress down day were used to provide food parcels for the children and families of Chesters Nursery in Drumchapel and local foodbanks. Staff and pupils also provided over 100 Christmas gifts for the children of Chesters Nursery. In addition, we sponsored ten families from Chester's Nursery. Each family was provided with Christmas gifts, clothing and daily need items by their sponsors.
- Selection Box Appeal: The grand total for our Advent Selection Box Appeal is 366 which is a FANTASTIC amount. Selection boxes were distributed as follows: 150 - Chesters Nursery, Drumchapel
  - 150 St Aloysius Church, Springburn
  - 54 Foodbank
  - 12 Homeless.
- A donation has been made to the Kindness Homeless Street Team following a successful collection campaign. This small charity services over 200 people per week with clothing, toiletries and food, helping some of the city's most vulnerable people.
- A huge well done and thank you to everyone for their contribution to this very successful Advent Charity Appeal. Our Lenten Charity Campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March).

### **School Events**

 Pupils participated in various Bishopbriggs Community Council events during November and December. At both Remembrance services there was good THS pupil representation, and trumpeter, Harry B, played the Last Post. This was followed by two senior school History pupils attending the BCC special dedication of the WW2 Memorial on South Crosshill Road, in memory of the seven people killed in the 1941 bombing raid. Finally, at the 'Light Up Bishopbriggs' event on 21/11, a large number of Turnbull senior school helpers were in attendance. It was also great to have two of our musicians playing accordion and piano in Bishopbriggs Library where Santa's Grotto was housed.

- Live Stream Author talk 26th November. Reading School group members and library leaders attended a live-streamed author talk by Scottish writer, Brian Conaghan. We were offered the opportunity to attend the event free of charge by Scottish Book Trust as part of our Reading School application.
- Our S2 language ambassadors delivered Spanish lessons to our associated primaries during December.
- Our Sports Leaders collaborated and planned five exciting sessions for pupils in our associated primaries to take part in. These sessions were excellent! They were fun, motivational and age appropriate.
- On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, eligible BGE pupils enjoyed a trip to the cinema in recognition of their effort, behaviour, positive attitude to homework, attendance and punctuality. The pupils enjoyed the day and were a credit to the school.
- Our Christmas concert on 18<sup>th</sup> 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 on the 19<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you to the PTA for organising this event.
- Our ski trip took place from Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Initial feedback suggests that a great time was had by all!
- Our S3 Mental Health & Wellbeing Day will take place on 31/1.

## School/Individual Achievements

- All BGE pupils meeting the eligibility criteria have been issued with their Aiming High certificates.
- All SP pupils meeting the eligibility criteria for Aiming Higher certificates have received their certificates.
- Orla B was selected to participate in the East Dunbartonshire Schools Christmas Concert on Monday 2nd December in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.
- Having participated in the prestigious Young Chemical Ambassador programme, the following S3 pupils presented their project at Strathclyde University Chemical and Process Engineering department on Tuesday 17th December: Hannah W, Gurpratap S, Aidan M, Daniel G and Nana F.