

St Mary's Road, Bishopbriggs G64 2EF

# Head Teacher Report

# May 2025

#### School Matters

- We are now fully immersed in the SQA Exam Timetable for 2025. Parents are reminded that SQA have procedures in place for Exam Exceptional Circumstances and Appeals. Full details are available on the SQA website.
- Our Wellbeing teachers, Mrs Wallace & Mrs Ruddy, continue to be available to offer support with exam stress. Pupils and parents can request a referral via their Pastoral Care teacher.
- Reports for S3 and S1 pupils will be issued in May. The HT will then conduct BGE Review meetings with all departments.
- The new timetable will commence on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025
- BGE award assemblies will take place in June.
- P7 Induction Days will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May. The P7 Parent Information Evening will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> May.
- Following stakeholder consultation, the School Improvement Plan for session 2025/26 is currently being developed. This has also been informed by EDC and National priorities. A summary copy of our SIP will be shared with all parents in the Turnbull Times.
- Departmental improvement planning meetings will take place in June. These will be followed by PRD interviews for all staff, incorporating the Professional Standards and Professional Update requirements.

## <u>Staff</u>

- After many years of outstanding service to Turnbull High School, Mrs Connochie will be retiring at the end of this academic session. On behalf of the pupils, parents and staff, I would like to thank Mrs Connochie for her significant contribution to our school community and wish her a long and happy retirement.
- We would also like to thank our NQTs: Miss Tunney, Mr Lindsay and Mr Saberi for their contribution to our school community over this academic session. We congratulate them on the successful completion of their probation year and wish them well in their future careers.
- Interviews for the following posts are pending:

- PT Pastoral Care (St Kentigern House)
- PT Art & Design
- Teacher of English (1FTE)
- Teacher of History (0.6FTE)
- Paternity cover (Music & PE)

#### <u>Spiritual</u>

- Our SQA Mass took place on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.
- Our first year pupils have participated in our Venerable Margaret Sinclair pilgrimage.
- On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May we held a short prayer service to commemorate the life of Pope Francis and to pray for the repose of his soul.
- Arrangements for Ascension Thursday (29 May) are currently being agreed with our clergy
- Our May Altar has been set up dedicated to honoring Our Blessed Mother. Flower donations from pupils, parents and staff throughout this month of May are welcomed.



## School Events

• On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April we bid a very fond farewell to 'The Class of 2025'. Parents, staff and pupils were able to join together in a day of celebration and fun, thanks to

the impeccable behaviour of our S6 students. We wish them all well as they embark on the next stage of their life journey.

- The S5/6 Prom is booked for Wednesday 4th June at the Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld.
- Our Active Girls Day took place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March. A wide range of activities were on offer that included gaelic football, football, gymnastics, dance, benchball, step aerobics, fitness and rounders.
- On Friday 2nd May, pupils attended the rearranged football trip down to Manchester. The pupils attended the Manchester City vs Wolves match on the Friday evening before a behind the scenes stadium tour of the Etihad and watching Bolton vs Stevenage on the Saturday afternoon.
- This year's Holy Art Attack will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June.
- Our S3 pupils have participated in the Stress Control Programme. These lessons were an engaging and insightful experience for the pupils, providing them with practical tools and strategies to better understand and manage stress. The lessons covered a range of topics, including how the body responds to stress, the impact of caffeine on stress levels, and the benefits of belly breathing as a relaxation technique. Students also learned valuable tips for managing feelings of stress, improving sleep quality, and overall wellbeing. Throughout the sessions, the pupils were highly engaged and showed an interest in learning how to handle stress in healthy ways. The interactive nature of the lessons kept them involved, and the strategies shared will help them in their daily lives as they navigate stressors in a more balanced and informed manner.

## School/Individual Achievements

- We are delighted to have received notification of our Reading Schools Gold accreditation. This award recognises the hard work the school has put in to building and sustaining a reading culture, and the range of support available to encourage all staff, learners and their families/carers to engage with the positive benefits of reading for pleasure.
- Iris M and Matthew O were selected for the 2024/2025 East Dunbartonshire Schools Art Exhibition. Parent, siblings, and teachers have been invited to attend Kirkintilloch Town Hall on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May where EDC Council Leader, Cllr Gordan Low will be in attendance to present certificates.
- Our U13s boys' football team have progressed to the Semi-Finals of the Scottish Plate an incredible achievement.
- Not to be outdone, our U15 girls' football team reached the Scottish Cup Semi-final another incredible achievement.
- Elliot G and Ellie Q have been selected to represent Scotland at the World Cheerleading Championships in Orlando.
- Kanishka B has been selected to represent Scotland at the European Women's Chess Championship, taking place in Greece.

- Orla B, Jonathan G, Aimie S, Jude McA and Isla McM were selected to perform in the East Dunbartonshire Council Schools' Spring Concerts.
- The winners of our YPI this year, N McPeake, A Sutherland, Q Liu, L Prawowska, A Chen and C Moore were representing the very worthy charity that is CHAS. This charity will now receive £3000.
- Chloe F, Tilly R and Amelia Y were noted by the visiting assessor for the SQA Leadership award for their outstanding work. Their submissions were described as some of the best work that the assessor had seen in her 12 years working for the SQA!
- We are delighted to share that Turnbull's Learning for Sustainability journey has been featured on Education Scotland's sharing best practice website. <u>https://education.gov.scot/professional-learning/video-resource-library/learning-for-sustainability-in-practice/</u>