

Start of Term

As the new school session settles down I would like to take this opportunity to inform parents about our exam performance and some recent successes.



Congratulations go to all our pupils who successfully gained awards in their SQA examinations. This year saw the consolidation of last year's performance at S4 with this year's pupils matching the performance of their peers. Our results at S5 were outstanding and saw record levels of passes at Higher Grade and record numbers of pupils achieving 5 A passes.

We have had some stunning successes recently including being awarded Gold School status from Sport Scotland to acknowledge the range of sports and activity-based opportunities available to our pupils along with the quality of the Health and Wellbeing focus within our curriculum. Our sporting, public speaking and music successes continue unabated. I would encourage all of our pupils to grasp the opportunities available to them and to participate fully in the life of our school. Details of some of the extra-curricular activities in Music and Sport are shown on the last 2 pages of this newsletter.

George Wynne, Headteacher

Parent Voice

Parent Forum: Annual General Meeting

Our Parent Forum Annual General Meeting will be held on the evening of Monday 5th October. The AGM reports back to parents and carers on the work done over the preceding session and sets out the plan of work for this session. All adults with caring responsibilities for current Duncanrig pupils are eligible to attend and are encouraged to do so. If you are interested in becoming a parent member of the Parent Council this would be the ideal opportunity to get to know the work done on behalf of our school by its elected parents. The meeting will be held in our school library and will commence at 7 pm.

Parent Focus Groups

This session we intend to engage more fully with parents and carers through focus groups covering various aspects of school life. If you would be interested in being involved in any of the focus groups please send an email to our school office to register your interest.



School Captains Teams

I am delighted to announce the appointment of the following S6 pupils as School and House Captains.

School Captains



*Ross Wood (Vice) Lewis Milligan (Captain) Sam Hume (Vice)
Lynda Nouar (Vice) Emma Clark (Captain) Megan McFarlane (Vice)*

House Captains

Avondale

Siobhan Dobie
David Hannah
Greg Hughes
Greg Miller
Faye Mitchell
Ciaran Mullins
Morven Westmorland



Blantyre

Amy Cook
Mark Douglas
Ally Gruner
Iona Jackson
Orla Jenkins
Eilidh McManus,
Ross McColl
Rachael Millar
Callum Neil
Hayley Nicholson
Alison Thomson



Cathkin

Emily Craig
Lucy Devlin
Abigail Fleming
Monica Gallacher
Hannah Gourley
Lauren Jackson
Omar Moghrabi
Emma Stormonth
Gillian Todd



Drumclog

Katie Binnie
Jack Burns
Catriona Campbell
Ross Campbell
Lauren Gallagher
Aqsa Jaheen Ishaq
Holly Kerr
Kirsten McMillan
Georgina Massie
Sarah Mulholland
Callum Peters



Pupil Success: Art

Congratulations to the following S3 pupils who have been invited to the award ceremony of the Glasgow Museums' 2015 Annual Art Competition

Gold Medal

Gabrielle McGowan

Silver Medal

Jamie Robb

Bronze Medal

Maria Goodarzi

Commended

Alison Balmer

The ceremony will take place in Kelvingrove Art Gallery on the evening of Thursday 8th October.

Pupil Success: Piping

Congratulations to pipers

Lee McCormack and Scot Dow

who were awarded two 1st places and a 2nd place at
Rothesay Highland Games.



Sport Scotland Gold Award

Towards the end of June we were delighted to welcome representatives of Sport Scotland to Duncanrig to accept the prestigious award of Gold School Status. The School Sport Award is a national initiative that is designed to encourage schools to continuously improve the quality and quantity of physical education, school sport opportunities and healthy living. It also encourages sporting links between schools and the communities around them.

We were assessed in the following areas;

Physical Education

School Sport

Curriculum Pathways

Competing and Performing

Celebrating Sport

Leadership

Recognition and awards

Access to school facilities

Career Long Professional Learning

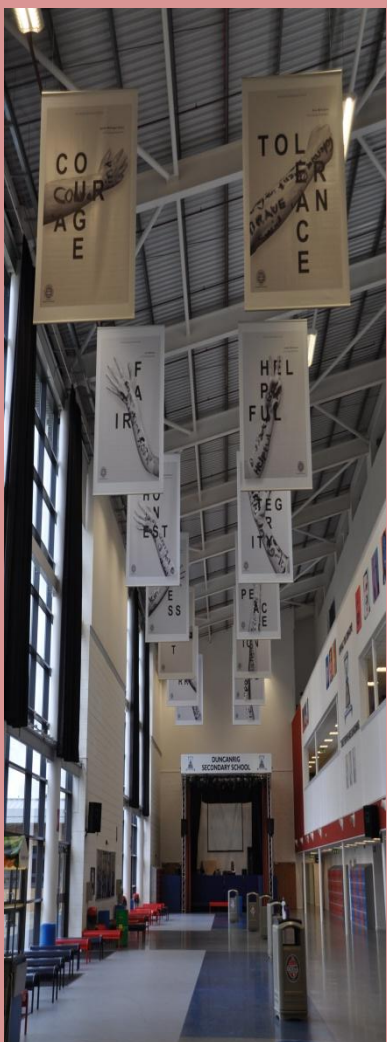
Congratulations to the staff of our PE department, other members of staff and volunteers involved in taking sports teams and clubs within the school, as well as our Active School Co-ordinator, Carina Gray and our Young Sports Ambassadors.



New Street Banners

As you enter our Street you cannot fail to notice the new banners hanging from the roof. They were designed by a group of Junior School pupils during our Tolerance Week last session to emphasise the values that they felt were important to promote tolerance among pupils and to tie into our revised school values as they were discussed in PSE classes.

The pupils whitewashed their arms to anonymise the colour of their skin and then wrote directly on to the whitewash with black ink to provide contrast and impact to their words. Under the stewardship of Mrs Sloway the original designs were turned into posters and then banners. We are very proud of the work done by the pupils and proud of the message they convey.



Pupil Success: Athletics

Congratulations to S5 pupil Greg Kelly who recently won both gold and silver medals at the the Scottish u19s Championships.

Greg won silver in the 100m event and then went one better claiming the gold medal in the 200m. This weekend he will be heading down to Manchester as part of the Scotland team participation in the UK School Games. Everyone at Duncanrig wishes him good luck.

Congratulations also to Sean Gallagher who won a silver medal in the long jump at the British Games with a jump of 6m 19cm in the Under 15 category. Sean is too young to go down to the UK School Games!

Attention All Parents! Pupil Self-Help

Our After-school Pupil Self-help Club is now up and running and all pupils are encouraged to take advantage of it. The club runs every week from Monday to Thursday for an hour after school. It is run by S6 pupils who are there to help younger pupils with their class work and/or homework. They are very happy to help their peers as they try to make progress through their different subjects.

This notice is to alert parents and carers to the existence of the club and the potential it offers to support pupils as they settle back into school. It is open to all pupils but has particular importance for S1 pupils so that they can develop good study habits at high school and to S4 and S5 pupils as they progress through national certificate courses.

The senior pupils are very keen and enthusiastic for the Club to be a busy, vibrant place where pupils can help to support each other.

Parent Council Clothes Bank

Parents may not be aware that we have set up our own clothes bank. The bank is the brainchild of our Parent Council and sits at the front of our school on the path down to Duncanrig Sports Centre. The Parent Council has taken forward this initiative to raise funds for school activities. It is hoped to raise a four-figure sum each year to pay for extra-curricular equipment and transport costs for pupils representing our school in competitions and to help fund the costs of educational visits.

Please support this venture by depositing old clothes in the bank whenever you can. Your support will be greatly appreciated and help us support the huge range of activities that our pupils are able to take advantage of. I remember making the first deposit having “pruned” the wardrobes of my 4 children. Please dare to venture into the wardrobes and drawers of your children and fill some bags – it means less washing and ironing!

Our Uniform Code

Our Uniform Code has been in existence for a number of years and was the result of consultation among staff, pupils and parents. It has made a positive contribution to our school ethos and is very straightforward.



- Blazer
- Plain white school shirt
- School tie
- Plain black school trousers or plain black school skirt (of knee length)
- Plain black v-neck jumper or cardigan that allows school tie to be seen
- ALL black footwear – including laces.

The uniform code is very simple and relatively cheap with scope for parent/pupil choice. However, certain forms of dress are not acceptable. These forms of dress/items of clothing:

- fail to identify children/young people as pupils of their school
- are not in keeping with the school ethos
- potentially encourage factions (such as football colours and football tops)
- could cause offence (such as anti-religious symbolism or political slogans)
- could be a health and safety hazard (such as loose clothing, dangling earrings)
- carry advertising, particularly for alcohol or tobacco
- could be used to inflict harm on other pupils or be used by others to do so

Unacceptable Clothing

- jeans - including black jeans, “skinny” jeans and brushed jeans, combat trousers, cargo pants, shorts, footless tights, leggings, tracksuits
- coloured tops, tops with large slogans or logos
- hooded tops, denim jackets
- white or coloured trainers/shoes
- polo shirts or black/grey/striped shirts
- very short skirts, ‘tube’ skirts
- heavy make-up
- large items of jewellery, large belts
- hats or caps

Outdoor jackets must be removed once pupils have entered school. Lockers are available for the storage of outdoor jackets. School blazers *can* be kept on in classes.

Luwero Group

As you may be aware, a group of our S6 pupils is going out to the Luwero Community Project in Uganda in October to lend support to the work being done at the project by Gabriel Kijjambu and his team.

Raising funds to cover the cost of the trip and make a donation to allow Gabriel to buy land to extend the farm that is used to feed the children has been a major challenge for the pupils and their parents/carers. They have devoted a huge amount of time and effort organising a range of fund raising events. The costs of travel are covered and we now turn our attention to raising as much as we can to help Gabriel with the work of the project and the purchase of land for the farm. The latest example of this will be a series of assemblies held by the pupils during the week beginning 14th September to raise awareness among the pupils.

The following week the participating pupils will be "Living Like a Luwero Pupil" for a week. This will involve them arriving at school at 6.30 am, walking for 2 hours, eating porridge for breakfast and lunch and then going to the school gym at the end of school for 2 hours to walk on the treadmills.

During this week the pupils will be selling Luwero wrist bands at registration and during morning interval and lunch. They will also be selling raffle tickets to give pupils the chance to win an autographed Steven Naismith Everton jersey. Steven is aware of the project and was keen to donate his match jersey to raise funds.

The Thursday of the second week will culminate with the sale of Krispy Kreme doughnuts during morning interval and lunch time.

Your support in generating funds for the project would be greatly appreciated and will allow the life-changing work of the project to continue and grow.

When the pupils return to school they will be delivering assemblies to our pupils to share their experiences and show photos of the project.

Plea to Parents from the ladies in our School Office

Could you please ensure that you notify us when you change email addresses and mobile telephone numbers? Some of our communications to parents are “bouncing back” because house and mobile numbers and/or email addresses are no longer valid.

Term One Dates to Remember

S1 Team Building Events

Thursday 17th and Friday 18th September

Senior Prizegiving

Tuesday 15th September

UCAS Information Evening

Monday 21st September

Luwero Dress Down Thursday

Thursday 24th September

September Weekend

Friday 25th - Monday 28th September

European Language Day

Wednesday 30th September.

Parent Council AGM

Monday 5 October

Careers Fayre.

Thursday 8 October

Wear it Pink or Blue Day.

Friday 9 October

October Break

Monday 12th October - Friday 16th October



**Visit our school website
and add yourself to our
mailing list if you wish to
receive updates and
notifications by email.**

www.duncanrig.s-lanark.sch.uk

Extra Curricular Activities

Music Department

Monday lunchtime - Ceilidh 'n Folk Groups B003/B015

Monday 3.15-3.45pm - S1/2 Guitar club B003

Tuesday lunchtime - String Orchestra (all S1-6 string players B015)

Tuesday lunchtime - Junior Choir- B003

Wednesday lunchtime - Senior Ceilidh 'n Folk Group B015

Wednesday lunchtime - S3-6 Choir B016 (all S3-6 pupils welcome)

Wednesday lunchtime - Junior Drama Group - Drama Studio (All S1/2 pupils welcome)

Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm - Concert band "The Street"

Thursday 4.05-4.45pm - S1-3 Drum Club B001

Friday lunchtime - Soul Band - B017

Friday 3.15-4pm - Chamber Collective (by invitation) B002

Computing Department Clubs

Animation Club - Wednesday lunch times - Mr Hunter - E108

Public Speaking and Debating Club: S1-S6

The club meets in D008 at 1 pm on Thursdays. If you enjoy a good argument or just have plenty to say for yourself, this might be the club for you. There are competitions to enter and training events to attend outside school and regular school debates to get involved in. New members are always welcome.

Public Speaking and Debating Club: S4-6

See Ms Whiteford or Mrs Oo

Sports Clubs

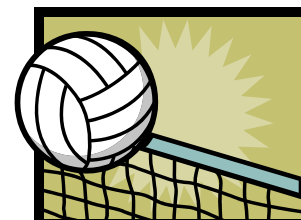
Badminton

Thursdays after school. See Mr Wynne/Mrs Reid



Volleyball

Mondays after school. See Mrs Graham (PE)



Basketball

Tuesdays after school. See Mr Fabian (PE)

S1 Boys Football

Monday lunchtimes. See Mr Wilson (PE)



Other Boys Football Teams

Look out for notices in the bulletin

Girls Football

Mondays after school. See Mrs Wilkinson (Biology)

Rugby

All years. See Mr Aranda (PE), Mr Durno (PE), Mr Shanks (Music)



Dance

All lunchtimes in the Dance studio except Mondays - see PE Staff

Netball

Wednesdays after school. See Mrs Flanagan (PE)

Handball

Wednesday lunchtimes. See Mr Durno (PE)

Fitness Suite

Look out for arrangements for induction in the bulletin and on notice boards

**Please encourage your
children to get fully
involved in the life of
their school.**