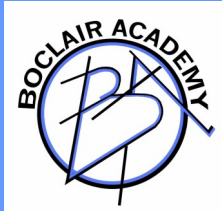




Boclair News

April 2019



Dear Parent / Guardian

Welcome to our Spring edition of Boclair News. Yet again it has been a busy few weeks for our young people and staff and it is set to get busier over the coming weeks as we approach the exam period for senior pupils.

Perhaps our most important piece of news is the announcement of the proposal to build a new Boclair with a start date of July 2020. Parents, pupils and staff have worked well together to raise concerns about the current building and I am delighted with the support we have received from both elected members of the Council and Council Officers. I look forward to sharing more information on this exciting development as the plans begin to take shape.

At the start of January our Senior pupils undertook Preliminary Examinations across all subjects. While there were some disappointments for individuals the overall performance of the year groups involved was extremely positive. A lot of hard work is now required from all young people in S4, S5 and S6 in order to ensure they build on their current performance levels. Final presentation levels for all pupils in the senior phase have been issued to parents and I would encourage you to contact your child's guidance teacher if there are issues with the levels. I would also remind you that revision classes will run for most subjects on the first four mornings of the Spring Holiday.

It has also been a busy period for S3 pupils who have completed S3 assessments across their nine subjects in the lead up to course planning. At the same time they have been contributing well to the wider life of the school through extracurricular events and through their dementia friends work. Their energy levels, enthusiasm and commitment are to be commended at this busy time.

S2 pupils have also been focussing recently on important decisions on their courses for next year. We are delighted with the maturity and responsibility they have demonstrated during the various events organised to support them in their decision making. This is an ongoing process and parents can still discuss decisions about courses with the appropriate guidance teachers or Year Head. They have also continued to make excellent contributions to the wider community through their work with local food banks.

Our S1 cohort continues to contribute well to the life of Boclair Academy. Over the last few weeks they have been taking part in the first lessons of the S1 John Muir Project. We are very proud of the way in which this year group are developing and look forward to hearing of their continuing successes.

Our P7 transition programme continues to gather pace with a number of visits from Boclair staff already having taken place. Plans are in place to welcome P7 pupils to Boclair for a number of different activities over the next few months. We are all looking forward to welcoming them to their new school.

The articles included in this month's Boclair News provide a description of some of the various successes and events which have been part of Boclair Academy over the last few weeks. I hope you find the following information helpful and as ever we welcome your comments and new information which we can share in future newsletters.

I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable Spring Holiday .

Douglas Brown
Head Teacher

Respect

Honesty

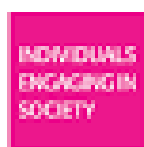
Fairness

Achievement

Bar Mock Trials — UK Finals



Congratulations to our Bar Mock Trial Team for their efforts at the UK Finals of the Bar Mock Trial Competition at Edinburgh's Court of Session. Following their victory at the Scottish Final in November the team entered the UK final as Scottish Champions. Throughout the day the team took on roles of Advocates, Court staff and witnesses to Prosecute and Defend Cases in front of Judges from across the United Kingdom. While the team did not win the UK final they performed to a high standard and were commended by the judges for their efforts. A huge well done to all members of the team – we are very proud of you.



*Citizenship
Foundation*

Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

S6 Leadership Residential

Our annual visit with S6 to Dounan's Outdoor Centre took place in March with twenty-four of our S6 students. As well as enjoying outdoor activities and team building sessions the students contributed to the school's self-evaluation process by discussing their views on the current strengths and areas for development within Boclair.



It was an enjoyable, if tiring two days and our young people were a credit to their school and their families. Looking forward to next year already!

Scottish
Outdoor
Education
Centres



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

Sporting Achievement

Athletics – Catriona and Reece.

Reece Hamilton 1D and Catriona Scott 3D ran Relay Races at the European Indoor Athletics Championships in Glasgow on Friday 1st March.

Catriona's relay team won gold in the U15 4x200m relay, setting a new Scottish record.

Congratulations to both pupils.



Basketball

14 pupils in S1-3 attended the British Basketball League Final. All had a great day.



Badminton

Thank you to Greenfaulds High school and Chryston High school for a competitive match at the start of January.

Sporting Achievement continued

Netball

Home and Away - "Friendlies" against Balfron
A big thank you to Balfron for hosting and attending some extra netball friendly matches last month. The girls had a great time playing and were really challenged playing against such a quality opposition.



Boxing

Here are some pictures of Leo Church 1B winning the Scottish Boxing Championships early in March. Leo has continued to develop his skills at boxing, which has seen him pick 1st place in Slovakia and Scottish Intermediates.



Football

- S1 The S1 team were knocked out at the quarter final stage of Scottish Cup by St. John's RC High School. It was a close and high quality game.
- S2 The S2 team are currently through to the semi-final of the Scottish Cup.
- S4 The S4 team have made it through to the Scottish Cup final to be played Wednesday the 20th of March at Airdrie FC's Excelsior Stadium.

Sporting Achievement continued

X-Country



Our very own Fraser Gilmour 3D, has been selected to represent Scotland at the British Schools Cross Country Championships in Dublin in March.

Ruairidh Allen (S3) and Emma Gilmour (S6) also competed. Well done to everyone involved.

STOP PRESS!

Fraser ran at the British Schools Cross-Country Championships on Saturday 23 March at Santry Park, Dublin, and had a fantastic time. He finished 13th overall and was the 3rd counter for Scotland helping them win a silver team medal.

We are immensely proud of him representing both Scotland and Boclair Academy.



Swimming

We had a fantastic swimming Gala at the start of February. Well done to everyone who took part and represented their class! Mr Halley will keep everyone updated on the interclass games standing.



Sporting Achievement continued

Swimming Success

Congratulations to our Swim Team who reached the finals of the Scottish Schools Swimming Championships, which took place on Saturday 26th January at Tollcross International Swimming Pool. The field is very competitive and, following time trials across the country, only the top 20 swimmers in each age group, (top 10 in the 17-18 year old category), are selected to take part.

Jake Candy, Graham Baird, Blair Johnston, Robson Miles, Fraser Baird, Angus Johnston, Boclair's team did not disappoint and everyone rose to the challenge.



Leading the way was Graham Baird (S4) who won gold in the 200m freestyle and silver in the 100m freestyle event.

Our other swimmers also competed well and came away with a number of personal bests.

Robson Miles	(S2)	100m and 200m breaststroke
Fraser Baird	(S3)	100m freestyle and 200m individual medley
Angus Johnston	(S3)	100m freestyle and 200m individual medley
Jake Candy	(S4)	100m butterfly
Blair Johnstone	(S4)	100m and 200m backstroke

Well done to everyone who took part and good luck to those competing at the Scottish National Age Group Championships later on this month!

13-14 years:

Fraser Baird	(S3)	8th 2.34.79, 11th 100m freestyle 1.03.68.
Robson Miles	(S2)	10th 200m breaststroke 2.59.77, 10th 100m breaststroke 1.21.88.

Read more at: <https://www.kirkintilloch-herald.co.uk/sport/more-sport/scotia-asc-among-medals-in-best-ever-national-swimming-championships-1-4868272>

Dementia Friends Update

Once again the S3 musicians have been out to the Dementia Friends Drop in Café at Bearsden Cross. We have had both S3 music performances classes now go out and deliver a programme this year and we are looking forward to returning once again on the 8th March. Our first set was a Burns programme in January where the students performed some famous Robert Burns songs with some added extra Scottish treats from contemporary Scottish artists. In February the students performed a Valentine programme including Moon River, All you is need is love, Love is All around and Mister Sandman. It was a great performance where we were all taken back in time with the Romantic classics.

We were also very lucky to have S3 volunteers to chat to the those attending the café, along with a group that visited Antonine House with Mrs Conn. Our next programme will be a step back in time to the Movies, including Lara's theme from Doctor Zhivago and Bare Necessities from the Jungle Book to name but a few. A huge well done to all the performers and the Dementia Friends for these experiences. It makes such a difference to those we are performing and talking too.

January – Burns celebration



February – Valentine Special



BBC Young Reporter 2019 at Boclair Academy



On the 6th of March 2019 the BBC Celebrated its first BBC Young Reporter Day, previously BBC School report.

On this Day young people all over the UK share their stories and developing media skills in their schools.

In the build up to this S1-S3 pupils at Boclair Academy were preparing news stories, like a real news team, in their Music and Music technology periods to report on.

This varied from school news to global news, but mainly focused on topics pupils felt passionately about in our forever changing and adapting world!

Topics included World Book Day (7th of March), International Women's Day (8th of March), Our wider achievement programmes including S3 Dementia friends, Sport updates and more.

BBC Young Reporter provides young people with the skills they need to create and understand the media, while developing literacy, I.C.T and listening skills.

Developing these skills for Life, Learning & Work gives pupils a deeper understanding of all platforms of media.

Boclair Academy pupils' stories were then broadcasted on our new website platform Mixital and shared with the rest of the world– this included written reports & video reports. Links for all stories & updates can be found at Boclair Academy's Twitter!

S1 Rock Club and May Road Show

Starting on 20 March, the Music department will be running a Rock Club for our S1 pupils on a Wednesday lunch time. After the success of our bands unit in the classroom, we want to offer the opportunity to them again through extra-curricular activities. This will allow the pupils to pair up with their friends and learn their favourite songs on their chosen instruments.

This is a new club and we are really keen to get as many S1 pupils involved as possible as it will open new opportunities for them. In May, Mr Brown and Ms Trainor will be visiting all of the feeder primaries and the Music department will be taking some of our S1 bands along to perform and show the Primary 7 pupils what they will be learning when they come up in August.

We have seen some great performances in class so far and are looking forward to more band work at our club!

S6 Enterprise

The students in the S6 Enterprise Team had to plan and organise a charity fundraising event as part of their course.

On the 13th of February we ran a staff coffee morning in order to raise funds for Robin House Children's Hospice. This event was very successful and popular and we managed to raise £270 for the charity. We very kindly received donations for a raffle from businesses in the local community and some of the teachers. During this event we had a variety of homebaking which was donated by pupils, parent and teachers.

Robin House is a 'home from home' in Balloch for Children who have life shortening illnesses. Robin House believes that even when dealing with a very serious illness, there can still be opportunities to create treasured memories. They help to fund trips and other activities for children to make their time at Robin House memorable.

S6 Enterprise Team.



Business and Information Management: Entrepreneur Week



As part of Entrepreneur Week, Mr Chris Allen, owner of Orchard Grove Nurseries Ltd, visited S3 Business Management classes. Mr Allen gave a presentation about his stakeholders and explained how internal and external factors affect his business.

A Director from another local firm, R & T Consultants Ltd, also talked to two Business Management classes about their business which builds towers for the mobile telecommunications network.

The classes enjoyed hearing from the local entrepreneurs and heard how the theory they have learned in class applies to 'real' businesses. The pupils will now prepare a business report from their notes.



Respect

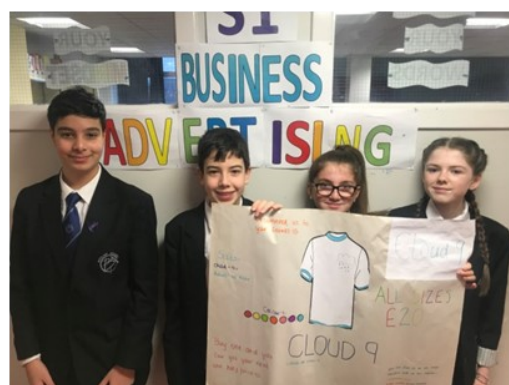
Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

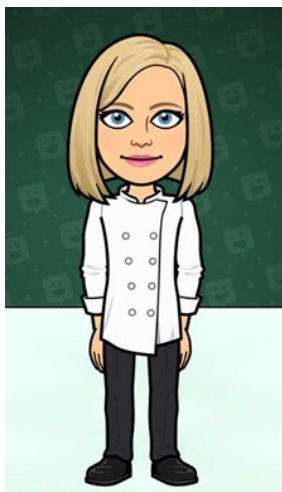
Business and Information Management: S1 T-Shirt Company

Our S1 Business classes have been running their Own t-shirt company for the last few weeks. Each group have had the opportunity to design their own t-shirt and make all the important decisions it takes to run a successful business, for example how much to charge for their t-shirt and how much to pay their employees. In a few weeks there will be one successful business from each class. All pupils have loved running their own company and we have seen some excellent designs.



Frenchercise

A new club in our school is "Frencherprise" which is a combination of our Business and French learning. On Valentine's day we ran a photo booth for the students and teachers in the school foyer. Our latest project is Bitmoji posters for teachers to put on their door which can be personalised for each teacher. All of our funds go to Callum's Cabin which is a place for kids with cancer to go to have fun with their families outside of home and the hospital.



Respect

Honesty

Fairness

Achievement

News From The Library

Hello Everyone,

I started as new librarian at Boclair Academy last November and am really enjoying getting to know all the Pupils and Staff here. Here are just a few of the recent events in the Library:

In our Readathon (pictures below) our S1s were sponsored to read by friends and family, with money raised going to local children's hospitals via the "Read for Good" charity. Many thanks to our S1 pupils from Mrs McGuire and me - we are incredibly proud of you for making the Readathon such a fun event and succeeding in your reading! Please hand in sponsor money to myself or Mrs McGuire by Friday March 29th and remember, the pupil collecting most sponsor money will receive a much sought after signed copy of "Infinity Drake" by John McNally!

We held a Scholastic Book fair in the Library and everyone from S1 through to S6 enjoyed buying books from our own wee bookshop. Pupils were sad to see the book fair leave and based on total book sales, we will receive book tokens back from Scholastic to buy more new books for the Library.



We have also been working towards fostering a reading environment across the school. Headed by Mrs McGuire, we are running a reading programme for our S1 pupils called "Accelerated Reading". Pupils read books from the Library that have been graded as appropriate for their stage in reading and, when finished, they take a short quiz to test their understanding. Results from these tests help us see how well pupils are progressing in reading. We are already seeing major improvements in pupils' reading abilities due to the programme.

S1s are also reading for at least 20 minutes a day by reading in registration and English, and we are grateful to busy parents and guardians for ensuring that pupils read at home every day too. Pupils who show the biggest increase in reading ability will be invited to a special Book Bistro in the library at the end of the year to celebrate their success in reading. Please remember to keep reading daily and see if you can be one of the lucky pupils invited to attend!

Lastly, please look out for the Reading Tree soon to appear in the Library. For every book and quiz you complete, you will get a leaf to put on the tree - if you score 100% in the test you will get a gold flower to put on the tree. I look forward to seeing our Reading Tree bloom!

Ms Davidson, Librarian 11/3/19



BNP Paribas' Investment Challenge

Higher Business Management pupils have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the 2018/19 BNP Paribas' Investment Challenge. They enjoyed a visit from a BNP Paribas' employee who gave a fascinating insight into the financial sector before introducing the simulation game to the class. They gained a valuable insight into trading on the stock market and performed exceptionally well qualifying for the final at BNP Paribas' Glasgow Head Office on Friday 15 February. During the event they participated in workshops delivered by experts in the financial sector and competed with other schools to achieve the highest return from buying and selling shares. The pupils had a fantastic day and achieved 3rd place in Scotland which is a tremendous achievement!



New School Ties

Over the course of Session 2017/2018 our Pupil Council worked with the school captains on designing new ties for the Junior and Senior School. These ties are now on sale and over the next three years the older versions of the ties will be phased out.



Please note that new ties can be purchased from the school office at any time over the next few weeks. New blazers can be ordered online from Academy Uniforms.

School Uniform

Thank you for all your support with school uniform this session. The vast majority of our young people are setting high standards and they have been looking fantastic over the last few weeks. As you know school uniform must be worn every day by all pupils.

School Uniform consists of :

School blazer

White blouse or shirt

Black jumper or cardigan

School tie

Black trousers or skirt



Please note that hooded tops, coloured tops, leggings and jeans are not part of the school uniform. Over the next few weeks we will be working with the young people and families on this important area of school life and we would ask for your continued support in ensuring young people dress appropriately for school every day.

Twitter @BoclairAcademy



Boclair Academy is on twitter. With almost 1000 followers this is a terrific way to share good practice within the classroom, wider school life and to promote the fantastic work of our pupils and staff. Follow @BoclairAcademy for daily news and updates.

Please note that pupil photos will be used occasionally to showcase good work. If you would not like your child's photo on twitter for educational purposes then please contact your child's Guidance Teacher.

Absence Reporting Line

Can we please remind parents/carers that pupil absences can be reported between 7.00 am and 8.30 am by telephoning the dedicated Absence Line 0141 955 2361. After 8.30 am please report any absences by phoning the School Office on 0141 955 2358.

School Drop Off

Can we please remind parents and carers not to drive into the school grounds and car park area to drop off or collect pupils?

Finally - some dates for your diary....

Monday 15 April	School opens at 8.50 am
19 - 22 April	Easter Weekend
Thursday 25 April	SQA Exams commence
Monday 6 May	May Day holiday
23 – 27 May	Mid-term holiday
Thursday 27 June	School closes 1pm for Summer Holiday