

Achievements!

November 2014

Govan High School

Issue No. 22

Sponsored By
BrightHouse



Art Prize



Valencia



Australia



Gleneagles

Oscars and Inductions to the Hall of Fame

Thursday 9 October saw this year's Oscars Ceremony take off with its usual swirl of Hollywood glitz! The usual suspects were all there on the night: the school band, the red carpet, the tuxedos, the fancy dresses, the nominees, their families and friends, invited special guests and friends and partners of the school.

The Oscar Ceremony hosts were Billijo Graham and Kristofer Shaw of sixth year, who proved to be an effective double act and kept things moving along at just the right pace. Andy Masterson delivered the Acting Head Teacher's report prior to the first set of skills awards, which were presented to the winners by former pupil and now business partner of the school, Peter Crawford.

The Communicator award was won by Amy McPherson. The Connector went to Rhiannon Lewis. The Contributor was jointly awarded to Toni Docherty and Shauneen Flanagan. The Excellence in Music prize was another joint award and was given to Kristofer Shaw and Jennifer Baird. The Decider went to Jodie Aird. The Doer was given to Taylor Young. The Originator was won by Sulequ Mohamud and the Sorter was awarded to Baraka Ali.

The keynote speaker was Ian Taylor, Group Operations Manager and Head of Craft and Technical for GTG Training, with whom the school has a developing partnership and which currently offers pre-apprenticeship courses in motor vehicle mechanics



Continued on page 2



Continued from page 1

and business administration. Ian presented the second set of awards including: the Former Pupil Prize to Liam Harvison, the Angus Johnston memorial prize for football to Lee Wright, the Raymond Davies trophy for outstanding sports achievement, also to Lee Wright, the Govan Band prize to Kristofer Shaw and the Alan McKay Mathematics and Science trophy to Jennifer Baird.

A new award, the James Marshall award for Perseverance was presented to Dylan Bolam by Janice Cross. The Eilidh White award for spreading joy and happiness was presented by Iain and Cameron White to Shauneay Flanagan. Best start boy in S1 went to Mason Smith. Best start girl was Mirren Gregory. The Brighthouse Skills Champion award was presented to Connor Hughes by Helen Swann of Brighthouse. The Dysart Trophy and Whitelaw prize for Dux of the school was presented to Jennifer Baird by Acting Head Teacher Andy Masterson.

Like the 'real' Oscars in the film industry, our Oscars ceremony is a celebration of a year's hard work and a reward for high expectations and aspirations on the part of both students and parents. The performers, nominees and winners at the Oscars are testimony to the way we do things around here – 'The Govan High Way' – which produces young people who are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.



Welcome to our new Head Teacher

Following the departure of former Head Teacher, Iain White, the whole school community is delighted to welcome the appointment of our new Head Teacher, Nancy Belford.

Nancy was formerly Faculty Head of Humanities in Govan High School before she spent four and a half years as Depute Head Teacher at Bannerman High School in the East end of Glasgow. In her previous time at Govan High, Nancy acted up as Depute Head twice, so she is no stranger to the challenges and delights of being a member of the Leadership Team in Govan High.

Nancy took up her post on Monday 3 November and, among her duties as Head Teacher, she will be contributing a column to the "Achievements Newsletter".

Positive Destinations – our new Employment & Skills Coach

I'm Kirsteen Dunn and I'm the Employment & Skills Coach for Govan High based in the Pastoral Care office on a Thursday and Friday each week. I work for the Employment & Skills Partnership Team within Glasgow City Council's Education Services. I have worked within Glasgow City Council for 10 years, firstly delivering SVQ qualifications in Administration and Customer and Financial Services to S3 & S4 pupils. I was then involved in helping to manage the college courses that many of you have the opportunity to attend. Throughout this time I have also been involved in the recruitment and selection of young people interested in the Commonwealth Apprenticeship Initiative.



My role within the school is to help pupils develop their Employability Skills, which may involve me delivering relevant qualifications to groups or working one to one to help with job applications, CV's and preparing for interviews. I am currently co-ordinating the completion of the Skills and Aspirations Audit by all S3, S4, S5 & S6 pupils. The aim of this audit is to find out when young people are planning on leaving school and what line of work, training or further education they want to pursue. The results will allow Glasgow City Council and its partners to ensure that the Scottish Government's policy of Opportunities for All is met, whereby every 16-19 year old will have access to a place in Education, Employment or Training upon leaving school.

The Commonwealth Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI) is beginning to release this year's Modern Apprenticeship opportunities, therefore if anyone is interested in applying for one, please come and speak to me. I can help you to register with the CAI database, if you have not already done so, or help you to apply.

I look forward to helping you to move along your chosen career path.

Mark Cameron – our Modern Apprentice

My name is Mark Cameron, 18 years old and I am a Modern Apprentice working in Govan High. I have been working in Govan High for just over a year now and I have another year to go in my Apprenticeship. Within the school I am based in the Pastoral Care office and my main roles are office tasks. The office tasks that I will be doing will include producing documents, photocopying for teachers, taking minutes of meetings and updating and editing documents. I was based in the school 4 days a week for most of last year however this has now changed and I am only in the school on a Monday and Wednesday now. As well as the tasks I carry out for the school, I also need to do a VQ as part as my Apprenticeship.

A VQ is a recognised qualification which is very good to have on your

CV. Last year I worked through and completed my Advice & Guidance qualification whilst working in the school, to help complete my Advice and Guidance qualification last year I took advisor classes of my own. I got every pupil in the school registered onto the My World of Work website, and gave them a tour of the site to show them how it works. I also worked with Mr Sweeney as part of the Positive Destinations team and attended the Positive Destinations meetings in which I took the minutes and distributed them out to the correct staff.

This year I will be completing my Business and Administration Level 3 qualification. A VQ requires a lot of hard work and it takes a lot of time to complete so I need to stay focussed to get it completed as well as doing my day-to-day roles in the school.



Switzerland CERN September – experience of a lifetime.

After meeting the nine other Glasgow school students at a particle physics lecture at Glasgow University, I wasn't worried at all about going. The other recipients of the CERN trip competition were intelligent, likeminded and lovable. We spent 3 nights at CERN, staying in a hotel within the CERN area. During our stay, we visited the ATLAS, CMS and LHCb experiments – all doing different research in the field of particle physics. The most interesting was the LHCb's research into the existence of antimatter and processes that violate symmetry in the universe. But, we learned about the components and the workings of all three and they were all so interesting. What astounded me most was the immense scale and beautiful intricacy of each experiment.

We also got the chance to eat dinner and chat with PH.d. students, completing their doctorate at CERN. It was insightful and, most importantly, reassuring. They mentioned the travel opportunities they had had and the idea of studying physics became instantly appealing. I love physics even more now because being at CERN made me feel like I was let into a secret club, a club whereby only the members are aware of the universe for it really is, everything from the nucleus to the cosmos.

While in Geneva, we got a break from physics and took part in a treasure hunt around the city. We were able to see a lot of the sights and indulge in a fondue feast in a quaint little restaurant near the city centre. For thirteen of us to eat it cost 500 francs. A bit steep for a bit of bread and cheese!!

I am so grateful I got given the opportunity to go to CERN. I was able to reassure myself I am choosing the right subject to study and also meet friends for life. And admittedly, eating lunch in the same cafeteria at the same time as Nobel Prize winners was magnificent. I never forget my CERN experience, it was truly one of best trips of my life.

- By Jennifer Baird

FROM THE HEAD TEACHER'S OFFICE



It gives me great pleasure as the new head teacher to write this, my first column in the Govan High Newsletter. I am very pleased to be back at the school, having worked here previously from 2001 until 2010, carrying out the role of Assistant Principal Teacher of Geography, Faculty Head of Humanities and Acting DHT twice. For the past four and half years I have carried out

the role of DHT in Bannerman High School, in the East of the city. Although this was a fantastic experience and I learned a lot working with the head teacher there Jacqueline Purdie, who is also a former Govan High staff member, I am extremely pleased to be returning to the school and taking up the position as Head Teacher.

During my first day in position I held a whole school assembly which allowed me to speak to pupils and staff, sharing with them a bit about my background and what I believe in and am committed to in my role as Head Teacher. I explained that I believe that the core purpose of all schools is effective learning and teaching and that I am committed to ensuring that this is of the highest standard across the school. I also highlighted the importance of gaining qualifications as these qualifications are the ticket to future success and that I am committed to ensuring that there is a curriculum in place which meets the needs of all pupils and ensures that they can achieve success. A real strength of the school has always been in the wealth of opportunities available to pupils for wider achievement, particularly in taking learning beyond the classroom. This along with partnership working and the focus on skills development has afforded many young people increased opportunities and has led to positive destinations and this is a strength that I plan to continue to build upon. I explained to the young people that I have high standards and aim to raise the bar for each and every one of them. I asked them to commit to working hard and doing their best to ensure that they achieve their potential and leave Govan High School with the qualifications, skills and wider achievements which will lead to a positive destination, and is the essence of what Curriculum for Excellence is about.

Over the next few weeks I will be holding consultation meetings with groups of our young people, parents and staff as well as some of our partner agencies. This will allow me to find out more about the strengths of the school but also the changes that the school community would like to see made. This will allow us to work together to build on current success and plan improvements to keep the school moving forward to ensure that each and every young person can achieve their full potential.

I was very pleased to be invited to the Govan High Oscars, before taking up my position as Head Teacher. The evening was a great success and it was good to see so many of the young people receive awards and recognition for their achievements in school. This newsletter I believe gives a flavour of the rich variety of experiences that are on offer to the young people of Govan High School, from international study visits to Australia, Switzerland and Valencia, to outdoor pursuits at Blairvadoch, sporting successes and partnership working.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and I look forward to making regular contributions in the Head Teachers column.



The Town House Collection Apprenticeship

This year a group of Scotland's Hotels have come together to create a three year apprenticeship, giving people of all ages the chance to work in the hospitality industry.

Two of our former pupils, Jamie Lee McKenzie and Courtney Early, were invited to an interview at the Blythswood hotel in July. Willie Jones, Food and Beverages Manager of Gleneagles Hotel, suggested the girls for this great opportunity. Jamie Lee and Courtney passed the interview and got the apprenticeship along with 8 other apprentices.

Willie Jones said, "the idea for the apprenticeship programme came after seeing the superb results we have seen working with the pupils of Govan High school along with the Govan Weavers Society on the numerous dinners we have delivered at the Pearce Institute - all of which have been an incredible

success and more importantly the young people have gained invaluable experiences from it.

We got to the stage at the school were a number of pupils were asking me how they can come and work in a hotel or restaurant as a chef or as a waiter and to be honest at the time I struggled to offer the best advice as I knew we as industry didn't have the right training structure/approach for young people leaving High school as other industries do for example in engineering or construction."

The programme will last for three years, the first two years working in all the hospitality departments for six months at a time, for example Housekeeping, F&B Service, Kitchen, Front Office and finally a work placement in another hotel.

On the 12th of September Jamie Lee and Courtney will go into their third year and they will get to choose which department they want to work in for that final year. Not only do they get a chance to work in the best hotels and get



this great opportunity for a life long career, they also get to go to Italy at the end of the two years and to Disneyland for a scholarship at the end of three years. This is a chance of a lifetime for Jamie Lee and Courtney to start their career in the hospitality industry – and it all began in Govan High School's Hospitality course with Ms Baxter! What a fantastic example of logical progression from the school's Future Skills Curriculum to the world of work.





AUSTRALIA EXCHANGE

A group of 15 pupils and 2 members of staff from Mount Gambier High School in South Australia visited Govan High School from Sept 30th – Oct 7th. There is a long standing link between the two schools and this was the 6th time MGHS has visited Govan. All the Australian pupils were hosted by Govan pupils who worked exceedingly hard to make the visitors feel welcome. They attended classes with their hosts and learned some Scottish Country Dancing. They also got to taste haggis, neeps and tatties when Ms Baxter and the senior hospitality class prepared some traditional Scottish food. On Sunday pupils from Govan High School accompanied the Mount Gambier students as they travelled around the highlands, stopping at Luss, Tyndrum, Kilmahog and Callander. They particularly enjoyed seeing the Highland Cows.





School of Football trip to Valencia

On the 16th of May 2014 three members of staff and thirty School of Football (SoF) pupils travelled to Valencia for a development tour.

Various external agencies provided funding support to make the cost of the tour more reasonable and the pupils fundraised throughout the year by taking part in bag packs in our local community. As a local partner Brookfield Multiplex provided funding for SoF tracksuits so that our pupils all dressed the same and looked great.

The experience started with pupils travelling to Spain by aeroplane, which was a first for many of our pupils. As you can imagine all the pupils were excited and were looking forward to what was to come. When we arrived in Spain we were met by our inspiring sport rep Ram, who welcomed us to Valencia and took us to the hotel. The hotel was located a stone's throw away from the Valencia first team training complex and as we arrived pupils were excited to get started. The group got checked in and pupils were shown to their rooms and needed to get ready for their first training session of the tour underneath the floodlights. Pupils were coached by Valencia coaches with the focus on skill development and team play. The SoF pupils trained twice a day with one morning session and one afternoon session and were challenged both as an individual and as a team player.

As part of the programme the group visited Iale La Eliana School in Valencia. The visit was included in the programme for our pupils to see and experience school life in a different country. The pupils were given a tour of the school, attended some classes and spoke with students and teachers to share experiences. There were many differences that

our pupils highlighted, however the main difference that was noticed was that all students had an I pad and there were no text books in the school. At the end of our visit to the school the Headteacher spoke with our students about the importance of education and working towards qualifications.

The feedback from the pupils was that the best part of the tour was playing Spanish opposition; we split the pupils into two teams, a S1/2 team and a S2/3 team. Both teams competed against Valencia youth teams and performed really well in the heat. The Valencia teams played the "typical" Spanish way demonstrating the "Tiki-taka" style that they are famous for. However at Govan High School we have many talented players and the S2/3 team performed heroically and were leading 1-0 until the last ten minutes when Valencia scored a late equaliser. The performance was summed up when Lee Spence of S3 ran the length of the pitch to block a cross from a Valencia player to stop an attack, which was no easy task considering the conditions were so hot. The S1/2 team were similar in their efforts and although they lost the game they demonstrated fantastic team work and there were great individual performances. The SoF pupils enjoyed the experience of playing Spanish opposition and had to adapt their communication skills before, during and after the game when interacting with the opposition players.

Overall the SoF pupils had a fantastic experience in Valencia and developed many skills that will help them in future years. We have created some videos of the tour, which I hope to upload soon.





NEW PREMIER INN

On the last day before the summer term our pupils were invited to attend the Grand Opening of the New Premier Inn (down by the BBC building). It was an extremely important occasion attended by many visitors and local dignitaries. A group of our young artists had created paintings inspired by the history of the surrounding area and our musicians displayed their talents by providing the music on the day. The management & marketing staff enthused about our artwork and were extremely impressed by the talent and professionalism of the school band, thanking us for our contribution to the success of the event.

Georgia Carslaw's painting of 'The Waverley' won First Prize and was unveiled at the opening where it has now become a permanent fixture in the hotel foyer. Colette Rinaldi's painting of 'The Hogback Stones' received 2nd Prize and members of the Govan Parish Church were so impressed that they approached Colette to request her permission to display her painting at the church. Stanka Mladenova's image of 'The Garden Festival' won 3rd Prize. Our other artists who greatly impressed

Councillor Gordon Mathieson with the Govan prize winners, Collette Rinaldi and Georgia Carslaw

the panel of judges were Suki Man, Jennifer Baird, Alana Hendry, Jodie Aird, Charley Brown, Natalia Gibert, Caitlin McCrindle, Amy McPherson, Erin Burke and Elisei Preda. Also our musicians who were thanked personally by Councillor Mathieson were Rhys Thomson, Matthew McGlave, Melanie Gilmour, Lauren Colley, Georgia Kennedy, Paul Devlin, Kristofer Shaw and Dylan Bolam.

Gavin Edwards, Food & Beverage Manager for Whitbread Hotels & Restaurants commented that 'The kids were very well presented and well mannered, some potential stars of the future.'

This was an absolutely fantastic experience for our young people and therefore we would like to thank Gavin, Viv and all the team at the Premier Inn and Whitbread for their very kind 'Thank You' lunch event and we are delighted that we have established such an exciting new partnership with the hotel. We look forward to working with them in the future and through their expertise, learn more about the hospitality industry and the potential opportunities for our young people.

New Staff Profiles

Hi my name is Miss Laird and I am one of the new English teachers. You can find me in room 31. The thing I love most about my subject is poetry. I think there is something amazing about being able to use language to create so many different emotions and moods. I also enjoy comic books and watching Marvel and DC films. My favourite one so far has got to be Guardians of the Galaxy.

My first impression of Govan High School was that everyone was very welcoming. Pupils have lots of questions to ask me and the staff members I have met have been very supportive too. I like the fact that there are a lot of very opinionated young people in the school and that they are willing to share their views. This works particularly well in English! For example, in S1 Garry Quinn recently wrote an extremely funny Scottish fairy tale. Angelika Rutkowska and Leah Mulligan also created very good stories. In S2, our current word champion is John Ross Allan. He has won the challenge of creating an impressive word from a long word given on the board 4 weeks in a row. Katy McGuffie and Laurie McCormick have also produced very eye catching and colourful posters explaining how a character feels in the novel we are reading.

In the future I would like to continue teaching English but also have the chance to work in the area of Behaviour Support. I enjoy working one to one with pupils and am looking forward to getting to know more of the young people who are in the school.

My name is Mr Serra and I'm teaching mathematics at Govan High. I enjoy the close community of the school, where everybody knows everybody, both staff and pupils. The pupils I teach are very enthusiastic in class and happy to share their ideas. I hope this enthusiasm continues throughout the year and aids pupil learning of the expansive subject of mathematics.



My name is Miss Steen and I am one of two new English teachers at Govan High. I am getting to know all of the friendly faces at the school and look forward to becoming an integral part of Govan life. You will find me at the Dance Hall teaching Drama every Friday lunch time as it is something of a passion of mine. All S1 pupils are welcome to attend! Thank you so much for the warm welcome that I have received these last few months. I am sure it is going to be a fabulous year.

Hi, my name is Kevin Hall and I am a maths probationer teacher at Govan High. While I have wanted to be a teacher for a long time I have come into the profession quite late as I left school at 16 and started working. As much as I loved my job though, I always had the thought of teaching in my mind so studied part time while working to get my degree. I was then made redundant and this was the perfect push I needed to get my teaching qualification. At the moment I am focused on becoming the best classroom teacher I can be and have no real ambition to get promoted posts, but you never know what is around the corner so never say never! I am thoroughly enjoying being at Govan High so far and have found the staff pupils to be very welcoming and I am looking forward to that continuing throughout the year and helping the pupils in my classes work towards achieving their goals.

GTG Modern Apprentice Graduation Ceremony...and meeting an old friend

In September, Depute Heads Kevin Sweeney and Sonja Kerr represented the school at the GTG Training Modern Apprentice Graduation Ceremony. This event was a celebration of completing their apprenticeships in a variety of disciplines for 125 GTG graduates.

The event was hosted by Ian Taylor, Group Operations Manager and Head of Craft and Technical at the company's South Street training facility. He was 'assisted' by Cat Harvey and Ewan Morton from Heart Radio. All in all it was a great night for GTG, the graduates and their families and friends as they celebrated the culmination of three or four year's hard work and study and moved forward into full time employment with their various companies.

Govan High School was invited to the award ceremony because the school and GTG are working in partnership to create opportunities for positive destinations for Govan High pupils. This session there are two GHS classes attending courses in GTG: on Tuesday afternoons there is a class in City & Guilds Motor Vehicle Mechanics and on Thursday afternoons there is a class in Business Administration.

And, while attending the ceremony, Kevin and Sonja were pleased to see former pupil, Amanda Martin, walk across the stage to receive an award in SVQ Level 3 Customer Service.

Afterwards Amanda told us what she has been doing since leaving Govan High. "Since leaving school I have done loads. First I worked in hairdressing because I was once of the first pupils to 'graduate' from the Govan High Hairdressing course. Then I changed to retail for few years and worked in an insurance loss adjusters for 3 and half years. I'm currently at BMI as a helpline adviser for the insurers department. I've worked here for 2 years now. I help out with the new starts, helping to train them. Tonight I just got the award for SVQ level 3 in customer service. Hopefully this will lead me onto a higher position at BMI."

Amanda also told us that she is getting married and having a baby and that she has just passed her driving test, all of which is fantastic news for a former pupil who has turned out to be a great role model for today's Govan High pupils.

My trip with the army cadet force

Recently, I went to Fusilier House, the West Lowland Battalion's cadet training centre. This was part of a youth outreach project. The Govan High pupils who went on the trip were William Bowden, Mirren Johnston, Dylan Sanderson, Lee Airdrie, Keiran Gilogley, Lauren Costick and me. There were two other schools involved: Park School from Kilmarnock and Carrick academy from Ayr.

When we arrived I didn't know what to expect. We got split up into three different groups. I was in the Mounties with two other girls, six boys and two teachers, Mr Saleh and a teacher from Carrick Academy. They went over safety issues and rules.

The next day we did archery, biking, field craft and tug of war. I didn't like that day because when we were going down a steep hill I didn't use my brakes and I went crashing into one of the girls in front of me. The wheels got stuck into my leg and I sat down in tears. A cadet medic checked my leg and a few minutes later minutes I was able to get back onto the bike. I did well after that because that taught me a lesson :to use my brakes going down a hill!

We had to get up every morning at 6:30 am and lights out was at 11pm. Every day was the same: rules and routine. The rules were no male goes into the female accommodation and the females don't go into the male accommodation. We had to drink plenty of water. Sergeant Campbell said we had to drink one whole bottle every hour.

The activities we did were archery, biking, first aid, tug of war, bowling, swimming, field craft, command tasks, teamwork, climbing walls, drill and map and compass. we also learned the telephony alphabet.

Friday was competition and presentation day. We marched into the hall where all the families were. In syndicate the Mounties came third. Then it was the best and most improved student out of each syndicate. Then it was the best student overall. When Mr Grady said my name I was speechless, over the moon proud! It was most of all unexpected. My mum came and picked me up from the school. When I told her she was proud as well.

This year I am part of the Govan High School Cadet detachment. We have been doing the Westminster curriculum, learning about the history of the cadets and about rank. We have also been doing lots of drill. In the cadets I am learning a whole lot of skills that you can't really get in ordinary school lessons. I really enjoy being in the cadets.

- By Megan McLean

Govan High School at Glasgow University Service of Remembrance

Acting Headteacher Andy Masterson, Pupil Support Assistant Eddie Grady, Senior Pupil Kristofer Shaw and Voluntary Archivist Ian McCracken recently attended a World War One Centenary Service in the University's Memorial Chapel. Govan High was the only Glasgow school to be represented at this first event in the University's series of commemorations.

The Govan High representatives were in attendance because the names of two members of the Govan High "family" are inscribed on the wall of the Chapel on the Roll of Honour. They were John Kennedy, who was a graduate of the University and George B Smith, who worked in the University Library. John was killed in April 1917 and George in October 1918-tragically only a few weeks before the Armistice.

After being welcomed by University Chaplain Stuart MacQuarrie, we took our seats for the Service. This included the hymns "I to the hills will lift mine eyes" and "O God of Bethel". The Last Post was sounded by a member of the University's Officer Training Corps", and after a two minute silence, everyone then followed the Chancellor and academic staff outside, where a cross was laid in a new Commemorative Garden. Over the next four years, it is intended to place a cross for each of the 761 men and women from the University who lost their lives in the First World War.

Everyone then returned to the Chapel for the opening of a special exhibition on the University and the First World War. Well-known broadcaster and historian Dr Tony Pollard launched this. It was gratifying to hear Govan High mentioned in Tony's speech.

All four representatives from Govan High who had the privilege of attending this special Service will long treasure memories of it.

Govan High School



Sport News

The girls S1-4 Football team have been playing in the Glasgow league at Toryglen. They were 5th out of 18 teams after the first week of matches, winning 3 and drawing 1 of their 5 games. Aimee Smith is our top goal scorer with 9 goals already! The team is captained by S4 pupil Kelsey Craig. Others involved are: Meghan Bryans, Jennifer Glasgow, Amy Lang (all S4) Davina Brand (S3) Ailie Porteous, Lee Wright (both S2) Amy Gardiner, Aimee Smith, Elle Livingston (all S1).

Amy Gardiner (U13) and Lee Wright (U15) are playing with Rangers FC. They are training hard to improve their skill level. Earlier this year Lee represented the West of Scotland at a National training camp. Well done girls. Keep up the good work!

Six of our S5 & 6 Sports Leaders spent time in Blairvadach Outdoor Centre in September. Leigh, Shauney, Jack and David worked towards their NICAS level 1 qualification in Rock Climbing. They climbed at indoor walls at Blairvadach and Ibrox as well as outside in Kilsyth, Garelohead and Aberfoyle. They were all successful in achieving this award by the end of the week. Darren and Lee participated in Mountain Biking and cycled courses in Mugdock Park, Pollok Park, Cathkin Braes and Aberfoyle. They learned how to do safety checks on the bikes, as well as tricks whilst riding. By the end of the week Darren and Lee had both passed Cycling Scotland Level 3 award. It was a fantastic week funded by Glasgow City Council and Sports Leaders UK. The group made new friends from other schools around Glasgow and developed communication, leadership and team skills.





More recently Miss Sweeney and Mr Serra took a group of 5 pupils up to Blairvadoch for five days for a Cycling Scotland course. The pupils were; Craig Wallis, Baraka Ali, Amy McPherson, Kelsey Craig and Taylor Young. During the course the pupils experienced mountain biking, gorge walking, a nightline, a cycling obstacle course and many more fun activities. They also managed to gain two qualifications which allow them to now coach primary pupils their Bike Ability (previously known as cycling proficiency). The pupils were an absolute credit to the school and the staff at the centre were constantly telling the teachers how well behaved, well-mannered and how generally pleasant the pupils from Govan High had been.



CONTACT US:

Govan High School, 12 Ardnish Street, Glasgow, G51 4NB
T: 0141 582 0090 **F:** 0141 582 0091 **E:** ksweeney@govanhigh.glasgow.sch.uk **W:** ghs100.org.uk