

Achievements!

Govan High School

ISSUE 3



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BAE SYSTEMS



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The future's bright..

The future's First Year

REMEMBER your first day at school? The fear of the unknown – that strange sense that something brilliant and terrible was about to happen.

Who would you meet, which teachers would you like, which teachers would you find tricky? Well, that was MY first day at Govan High School anyway – and I'm a teacher!

But seriously, this year's S1 intake burst through the doors of Govan High School on the 16 August and there really is only one word to describe them – BRILLIANT. The 45 pupils split into three classes this year and

are bright, enthusiastic, funny and hard working.

They are talented young people who are eager to make the most of the unique opportunities our school has to offer.

These future stars of Scotland and beyond are just starting their journey in the Govan High family.

They are learning the ropes of our future skills agenda,

and they're learning fast.

Mr White has already sent letters to parents/carers and to the Head Teachers of our Learning Community Primary Schools. The message? That the new S1 are a credit to their homes and their primaries and that we're proud to have them here at Govan High. We had a "first impressions" parents night on Thursday 27th of

September. The great thing was that everyone in the room thought that it was a really upbeat, positive night with a great message: Keep doing what you're doing First Years! With many clubs and teams already started for S1 including Chess and Recycling, there's plenty more to come. Not to mention our very first S1 overnighter – details to follow very soon. Keep listening to those Tannoy messages! So, that's it – a great start from the group who are the bright future of Govan High.

No, on second thoughts, that's not quite right... ■

'S1 ARE THE BRIGHT PRESENT OF GOVAN HIGH SCHOOL!'

Graham Robertson, Acting Faculty Head Pastoral Care

Positive Destina Programme 200

OUR Positive Destinations Programme has been developed to achieve our aim of making sure that every pupil who leaves Govan High School has a job, or college place, or University place to go to after they leave. This is a priority in Govan High!

During last session and over the next two sessions the school has received additional funding from the Government, Glasgow City Council and the Hunter Foundation.

The Hunter Foundation receives its funding from Sir Tom Hunter the well-known Scottish businessman and philanthropist.

The programme has been set up to support and develop various learning activities and experiences

which will help pupils increase motivation and self-confidence, and to develop a wide range of employability skills, including teamwork, showing initiative, and rising to challenges. Funding from the Programme has been used to support our Senior and Junior Dance groups.

Many of you may have seen their outstanding showcase "Steps, Notes and Squeaks" in June.

We have crated a new Dance Studio and replaced 40 year old sound and lighting equipment in our School Hall.

We have also provided materials and staff training in the Learning Game pack "Creating a confident school". Mr Coates in Technical set up a class



Pupils in our Hairdressing Salon

which concentrates on making things to order. They have just completed a larger-than-life picnic table which sits proudly in our garden area.

This session the programme is financially supporting a wide range of new job-related course such as Hairdressing, Motor Mechanics and Voice and Data Cabling. ■

'FUNDING FROM THE PROGRAMME HAS BEEN USED TO SUPPORT OUR SENIOR AND JUNIOR DANCE GROUPS'



Senior pupils in the Dance Studio



The salon facilities



tions 6-2009

A GROUP of our Third year pupils are currently in a 5-day Outward Bound programme enjoying such activities as kayaking, mountain biking, hill walking, gorge walking and raft building.

Skills such as planning, organisation, and working with others are being developed through these activities.

In addition to all of this a number of our Fourth and Fifth Year leavers have received additional individual advice from careers advisers from Careers Scotland.

The Positive Destinations

programme is designed to encourage pupils to be more involved in their learning and to improve attendance, attitudes and skills development through taking part in active and creative learning experiences.

In this way, pupils will not drift away from the school at any stage and will want to continue their learning and training, or move into a job, when they leave school. ■

Jim Rafferty,
Positive Destinations
Consultant

A real benchmark for 'help get a job class'

THE "help get a job class" have completed their first major project as you can see below a garden bench that is situated in the School quadrangle garden.

The bench has already become a focal point and is able to sit eight people.

The bench has a natural look and the colour red looks great with the green foliage around.

Earlier in the year the

class made a lectern for the school Oscars celebration and helped With the building of the stage extension.

Their next project is to build another two benches and to work with the Botanic Gardens and local Primary schools.

Bobby Coates
Faculty Head of Aesthetics



The bench itself

The pupils who were involved in building the garden bench



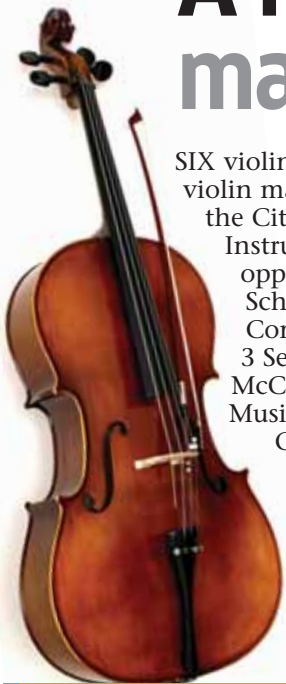
'OUR FOURTH AND FIFTH YEAR LEAVERS HAVE RECEIVED ADDITIONAL ADVICE FROM CAREERS ADVISERS FROM CAREERS SCOTLAND'

Fuel zone service is now



'NOT ONLY HAS THE MENU IMPROVED BUT THE SERVERY HAS ALSO UNDERGONE A MAKEOVER'

A musical masterclass...



SIX violinists from S1 and S3 attended a violin masterclass by Nicola Benedetti at the City Chambers on Friday 31 August. Instrumental pupils had the opportunity to attend the Glasgow Schools Symphony Orchestra Concert at the City Halls on Monday 3 September. Lauren Shaw and Lauren McCann (2nd Year) are taking part in a Music Theatre Project organised by Glasgow City Council and the Scottish Youth Theatre.

Two pupils, nominated from each secondary school in Glasgow, will devise a musical and perform it at the City Halls to family and friends in October.

Well done on credit awards!

Finally - 'Well done' to **Ricki Brown** and **Caitlin Smith**, S4 who sat Standard Grade Music one year early and both achieved credit awards.

School swap for French in Scottish water industry

FOUR pupils studying their Geography Higher will be taking part in the second year of our international project Water in Our Culture.

They will be undertaking a student exchange to Marseilles in October where they will meet the teachers

and students from our five partner schools (Turkey, Norway, France, Spain and Germany).

This will be one of two exchanges being made this year and the pupils will be researching the Scottish Water industry in terms of tourism and employment as

Fruits of labour for Christmas event

The Culinary Excellence group are involved in a social enterprise project where they will be using apples picked from an old orchard in Clyde Valley, Arthur's Crag, to produce jars of apple sauce to give to people who will attend our Christmas Coffee Morning this year.



under way!

A NEW lunch time service has been introduced in the Fuel Zone at Govan High School. After consultation with pupils, a new buffet style system is now in place. Feedback from pupils indicated that they wanted more choice when it came to selecting their lunch.

As a result, Fuel Zone is giving pupils the freedom to select their own unique lunch according to their taste.

Pupils can choose from a hot or cold counter and top up their main meal with bread, soup, fruit, yoghurt and a selection of drinks.

All food on offer meets nutrition guidelines and is exceptional value at only £1.15. By choosing to eat in the new buffet style Fuel Zone, pupils are still eligible to participate in the Fuel Zone Points Reward Scheme. By collecting points for purchases on their Young Scot Card, pupils can log in to www.fuelzone.co.uk and redeem a reward which includes items such as cinema tickets and iPods.

Not only has the menu improved but the servery has also undergone a makeover. New light boxes, posters and counter stickers are on display, helping to create a

stylish environment similar to many of the sandwich bars which are now popular on the high street.

To promote the launch of the new service, a week of entertainment took place. A magician visited the Fuel Zone, performing "close up" magic for the pupils and a karaoke competition was held, with pupils battling it out to be crowned winner.

Already the new Fuel Zone is proving a hit with pupils, with an increase in the number who are choosing to eat in it. Says Catering Manager Betty Docherty, said: "This is the pupil's Fuel Zone, they asked for it this way and we've given it to them.

They wanted more choice and variety and the Fuel Zone is able to provide them with that". ■



The XL group

The XL group are putting together a very ambitious project, where they are trying to create a DVD of everything that is going on the school.

The working title, "What we are good at" is currently in production and is being led entirely by pupils. After they have finished their work, they will fully deserve their Outward Bound course in October.

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well as promoting European citizenship.

Govan High will be continuing with its e-twinning initiative in a variety of ways this year, setting up communication links to promote school collaboration in Europe through the use of ICT.



Book trip down memory lane

THIS year's yearbook is off to a roaring start with 18 members made up of 5th and 6th years under the watchful eye of Mrs. Lowe.

It's guaranteed to entertain and walk you down memory lane for years to come as it will include the whole school and everything we do throughout the year.

We are predicting the cost of the book will be between £15 and £20 per person.

Christmas card donation to help boost Malawi fund

THIS year we shall not be sending out any Christmas cards from the school! It isn't that we are going to be short of seasonal cheer.

Instead we shall be donating the sum of money usually involved

(£220 roughly) to our fundraising efforts to provide electricity via solar panels for the library at our partner school in Malawi – Milonde Community Day Secondary School.



Football season promises exciting year



THE season has kicked off for the S1 football team and it promises to be an exciting year ahead for our talented footballers.

There were five matches played, one win, one draw and the rest narrow defeats. The first game was against St Rochs, and after an inspirational team talk from the manager, Govan were on fire winning the game 6-0 with even the defenders getting on the score sheet. Throughout the remainder of the matches the boys showed great character and fought bravely against more established and experienced teams.

"This was the first time the boys played as a team and although there is a lot of work needed on the training ground I'm sure we will build a winning team," said Manager Mr. Reid.

All pupils throughout the day behaved superbly and were a credit to Govan High. The S1 football team continued their quest for 7-a-side glory yesterday, and they didn't disappoint.

Miss McNaught took over the reins for these games and carried out Mr Reid's instructions to the letter which was highlighted in the results as Govan cruised to victory in each of their



three games played. The absence of Mr. Reid was conspicuous due to the vacant managerial position at Chelsea, however, Mr. Reid categorically denies any talks with Mr Abramovich. ■

Gavin a hat-trick hero!

On to the football now and the boys were excellent, below are the fixtures and results.

- Govan 5 Banerman 0
- Govan 5 Castlemilk 2
- Govan 3 Spingburn 0

Special mention goes to Gavin McCracken who scored two hatricks and one goal, Lee Adamiec

was the playmaker of the team and his hard work in midfield was rewarded with two goals. Other goal scorers were Grant Morris and Daniel McInnes.

All the boys behaved really well and were a credit to Govan High.

Many thanks to Miss Mcnaught, who guided the boys to victory.

'THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THE BOYS PLAYED AS A TEAM AND ALTHOUGH THERE IS A LOT OF WORK NEEDED, I'M SURE WE CAN BUILD A WINNING TEAM'



Milonde school assembly



Milonde classroom



'AN ACTION GROUP HAS BEEN SET UP CONSISTING OF 20 PUPILS AND ALREADY THEY ARE WELL ON THEIR WAY TO RAISING THEIR TARGET'

Malawi energy action group on track to hit funds target



The Govan High Milonde action group

OUR partnership with Milonde CDSS, Malawi is going from strength to strength following our exchange visit last session. Already we have built global citizenship into the curriculum in many areas and this session we aim to expand on this.

One project that we are currently working on with our partner school is about renewable energy.

Pupils in both schools will be doing a unit of work on renewable energy and as part of this we aim to raise £3,000 to install solar panels in the library of Milonde CDSS, bringing

electricity to the school for the very first time.

Obviously this is a very exciting and ambitious task, and it is being met with such enthusiasm by the pupils of Govan High.

An action group has been set up, consisting of 20 pupils and already they are well on their way to raising their target.

Activities that the pupils are undertaking to raise the funds include bag packing at the local supermarkets, a car wash, guess the sweets in the jar, dodge ball competition, swim Lake Malawi and a disco. ■



Govan Autism Unit news

■ Destinations for AU pupils

This year the Autism Unit (AU) said farewell to our first 3 school leavers – John Beckett and Lyndsay McDonald have started Cardonald College and Graeme Meheux has started Clydebank College.

■ Exam Success for AU pupils

Our S4 pupils were very successful in their SQA exams achieving General or

Credit passes in English, Maths, Spanish, Physics, Chemistry and Music. They also obtained passes at Intermediate 1 level in PC Passport and in Chemistry as well as Access courses in PSE and Home Economics.

■ Horseriding

As part of their PSE course, three pupils from the AU have begun a block of horse-riding lessons at Dumbreck Stables in Pollok

Park. The pupils involved are Denise Boyle, Hannah Brown and Catriona Burns.

Every Wednesday afternoon the girls travel to the stables accompanied by staff.

Firstly, there is a recap on health and safety rules when working with horses, before going for a short trek round Pollok Park.

The pupils then go to the exercise yard where they learn some basic techniques in bonding

with and manoeuvring the animals. This helps the pupils' communication skills as they have to listen to instructions and then process and carry out these directions.

The girls are thoroughly enjoying this experience and look forward to it each week. It is hoped that other AU pupils will have the opportunity to participate in horse-riding next session.

This helps the pupils' communication skills as they have to listen to instructions and then process and carry out these directions. ■



INTERVIEW:

With JAMES PERT, Special Badminton Championships, May 2007

Q: What was the name of the championships that you have just taken part in?

A: I took part in the Scottish National Championships

Q: Where and when was it held?

A: It was held in Firhill Sports Centre, Glasgow on 2 May

Q: This isn't the first time that you have competed in Badminton Championships. What did you compete in last year?

A: I took part in the Disabled Badminton Four Nations Championships held in Cardiff.

Q: What did you win during these championships?

A: I won gold for the singles and silver for the doubles.

Q: Well done again! What do you like best about playing badminton?

A: I like running about and I like meeting the other people that take part.

Q: When are you taking part in a championship again?

A: I'm back down in Cardiff tomorrow (12th May 2007) to

take part in the Four Nations Championships 2007.

Q: What section did you compete in?

A: I competed in Section B (the second highest section)

Q: And what did you win?

A: I won the gold medal in my section

Q: Well done! How did that feel?

A: It felt great, I was really pleased.



Awards

James Pert and Robert Ferrol are part of an athletics club called Red Star Running Club – Scotland West on 5 Sept, in Grangemouth

• **JAMES PERT** won Gold for both Badminton Singles & Badminton Doubles.

• **ROBERT FERROL** won Gold for 60m sprint, Gold for relay race, Gold for 4x4 (running) Silver for 100m sprint and Silver for 200m sprint. Well done to both boys