

Achievements!

Govan High School

November 2017

Issue No. 28

Sponsored By
BrightHouse



Cullinary Excellence



Career Ready Programme



Youth & Philanthropy



S1 Football



S1 – Shiny Happy Pupils

As our S1 pupils come to the end of their first term at secondary school it's great to see so many of them receiving 100% attendance certificates at their celebration assembly.

The two photographs say a lot about how quickly and successfully the new first year have settled in to high school life. The first photograph shows them on day one: all shiny and happy in their new Govan High School uniforms. The second photograph, taken at the celebration assembly two days before the October break, shows how far they have come in term one, with a considerable number receiving award certificates for 100% attendance.

The purpose for the achievement assembly was to celebrate the first year pupils' fantastic start in the school. 38 pupils received a certificate for 100% attendance and 42 pupils received their first bronze Irespect badge for achieving 25 merits.

Individual awards were also handed out, which included Kris Holmes (Maths Sumdog winner), Maya McGhee (pupil of the month) and Joshua O'Brien (Excellence for Mathematics). McKenzie Graham also received a fitness fanatic prize for attending the most extracurricular clubs.

At the end of the assembly we had an S1 v the rest of Govan High school challenge. Mr Reid set the S1 pupils a challenge to achieve a higher overall attendance percentage than all the other year groups. The reward for this was an afternoon of sports or a movie afternoon. S1 pupils won the challenge by 3%!

St Enoch Art Competition

Mackintosh The Innovator

Recently a group of young artists from Govan High joined pupils from three other secondary schools in Glasgow (Williamwood, Notre Dame & Hillhead) to form an exhibition at the shopping centre called 'Mackintosh the Innovator'. Last week we were invited to the Prize giving event & we are delighted to announce that Craig Brown (Age 14) won 1st prize (£100) in the Expressive category with his painting titled 'A New Era' which told the story about the Glasgow School of Art's fire and restoration initiatives. Also Megan Lewis' (Age 14) painting 'Girl In The Forest' won 2nd prize (£75) with Omer Ibrahim receiving a Special Recognition prize (£25) for his work inspired by a bookplate designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

Our entire group of artists were great ambassadors for Govan High. You can see the team's artwork displayed in the attached photograph – Anjelika Rutkowska, Craig Brown, Julia Prycz, Kimberley Murray, Megan Lewis, Omer Ibrahim, Louise Gilmour, Natasha McCorquodale, Jack Colley, Eli Kepeva, Rachel Thomson, Rebecca Morrison, Dylan McCabe, Emma Neilson, Rachel Donnelly, Jodie Duncan & Cody Crawford.

This experience has been absolutely fantastic for our pupils and the public have been extremely complimentary about the high standard of artwork and imagination displayed by our young people.

We scored another success when Alex MacMillan in the LCR won a gold medal in the Glasgow Museums Annual Art Competition. He was awarded the medal at a prestigious ceremony the Kelvingrove Art Galleries by a top Glasgow cartoonist on September the 29th of this year.





Culinary Excellence

The Village Hotel is a new Boutique 4-star hotel in the local area. Our S5/6 Culinary Excellence pupils got to work together with their Head Chef and Restaurant Manager in planning, preparing, cooking and serving of a 3-course lunch for invited guests and VIPs. What a spectacular event it was: quality food cooked to perfection and served to a very high standard resulting in a proud Home Economics teacher and Head Teacher! We have been asked to partner with the Village again for session 2017-18 – brilliant!

Gleneagles Visit May 17

GHS Former Pupil, Willie Jones, manager of the prestigious Gleneagles Strathearn Restaurant, invited a group of our new S3 & S4 pupils for lunch and a tour of this wonderful resort.

Willie and his team spent time training our young people in the art of Silver Service and general food & drink service here at the school in preparation for a Charity Dinner held at Ibrox in association with Govan Weavers. Willie said some of our young people are more confident with these skills than some adults he has seen over the year.

Our pupils were also lucky enough to be given a guided tour of the Hospitality areas of Rangers Football Club with Stephen Brannigan and John Reid. They were then treated to a lovely lunch in the Argyll Suite overlooking the pitch. The young people were suitably impressed.

All of these tours, visits and partnership workings have been invaluable experiences for our young people and have given them real hands-on preparation for that side of Hospitality. From Champagne service to Flambé Demonstrations, from five star Suite tours to Silver Service Master classes, the list is very impressive.



Feeding the Family for a Fiver

Recently we hosted a Parent & Pupil workshop in partnership with the Marriott Hotel Glasgow. Head Chef Tony came in to demonstrate just how easy it is to plan, prepare and cook a range of meals for the family, on a budget. Some of our S2 pupils and their parents came for the evening, cooked together and left with an array of dishes and ingredients. The night was a great success and we will be running another night in November for S2.



National Waiters Day

Some of our S2 pupils were invited to the Village Hotel back on National Waiters Day to take part in events planned by Springboard and The Village. It consisted of Table Setting, Assault Courses for Waiting Staff and Mocktail Making. It was a busy and great fun day – which gave our young people a flavour of what to expect in the Hospitality Industry.

STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

A group of S2 girls attended Prestwick Airport for the Scottish Air Show in August. This was in partnership with STEM, Science Centre and Scottish Universities. The girls got the chance to speak to some leading names in industry and picked up lots of gadgets for their goodie bags!

The pupils took part in 3 different STEM tasks: building wind powered cars, a CSI murder investigation and a physics inspired stars lesson. The girls excelled in the murder investigation so a future career in forensics could be an option! The girls had a great time and left highly motivated by the talks by the female representatives who are leading in the STEM industry just now.



Scottish Water Engineering Challenge

We are again taking part in the Scottish Water Engineering Challenge. Our S3 group will be working in partnership with Scottish Water and George Leslie Ltd to complete a 10 week project on renewable energy. The pupils will be working closely with their mentors to research, test out experiments and build a model which will display their findings and ideas. They will then be presenting our work to many external agencies and competing against local schools in December. Good luck to these fantastic young people!





Music News

In May this year Thomas Rankine, S3, was examined in Scottish Bagpipe Solo Performing. He achieved SCQF levels 2 and 3.

National 5 music pupils' compositions will be performed by the Stravinsky Octet in the school assembly hall on Tuesday 5th December between 10.45-12.25pm.

The school choir, band and instrumentalists will be performing at the following events:

Braehead Shopping Centre on Friday 8th December between 1-2pm.
Govan High School Christmas Fayre on Friday 15th December 10 - 12pm
Queen Elizabeth University Hospital on Friday 15th December between 1.30 -2.30pm.
The Royal Concert Hall on Wednesday 13th December between 1-2pm.

Maths week winners were:

Highest score on Sumdog:

Kris Holmes S1

David Rice S3

Jordan Hamilton S2

Maths puzzles winner:

Emma Young S3

Supported Study

Maths Supported Study is available on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the Maths Department. There has been a record turn out on a Thursday. Come along and have some biscuits!

Letter from the Head

Welcome to the first addition of our Achievements Newsletter for session 2017-18. This edition highlights some of the main activities and achievements of our young people towards the end of last session as well as their productive start to the new term. I am sure you will agree as you read through the content that it has, once again, been a successful few months for the school.

A highlight of the school year is always the Awards Ceremony which was held in June. It was a fantastic night, and so good to see the achievements of so many of our young people recognised. On the night pupils received awards for displaying our school values of Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Perseverance and Excellence as well as for their effort and attainment across their subject areas. As parents you will know the wealth of wider achievement and extra-curricular activities that our young people take part in and it was great to see so many of these achievements also being celebrated. The highlight of the evening was, as always, hearing for our school Dux and this year Melanie Gilmour and Mohsen Azizikalhori shared the title. Well done to both of these young people who worked exceptionally hard to achieve this status.

The session got off to a great start and we were able to celebrate as a school the achievements of our young people in the SQA exams with, yet again, the best set of exam results that the school has seen in a number of years. Our S4 year group in particular did exceptionally well and are in a strong position to build on their results as they move into S5. The improving attainment and achievement of our young people is a result of the many improvements that we have made to the school but also due to the individual hard work of our pupils, parents and staff. Full details of our improvements in attainment are in our Standards and Quality Report which can be found on the school website.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents, carers and partners for your continued support. Through close partnership working we are able to support all of our young people towards achieving their full potential.

I hope you enjoy the latest version of our Achievements Newsletter

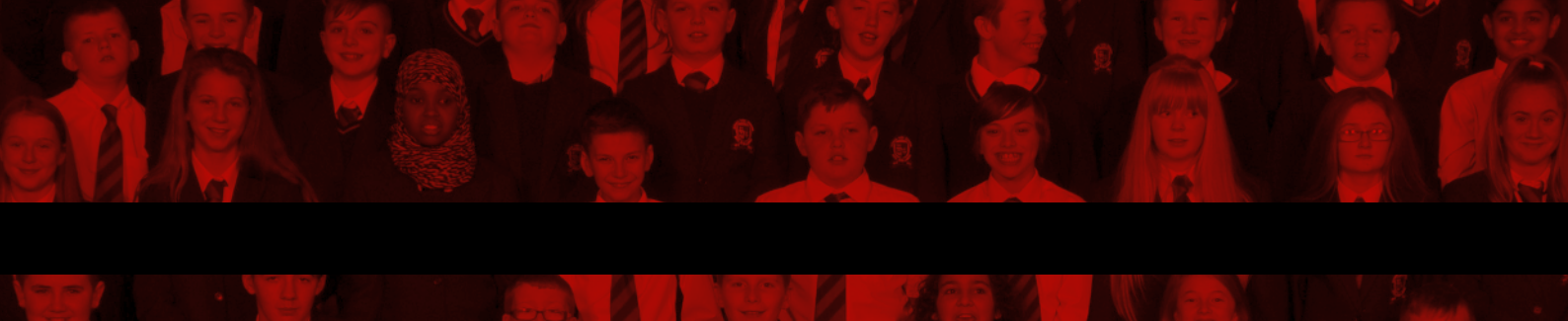
With kind regards and best wishes

Nancy Belford



Introducing our new Librarian

Hi, I'm Mr Wason. I am really excited to be taking over as the new librarian at Govan High and look forward to meeting you all in the days ahead. I've worked in both school and public libraries before in Falkirk and East Dunbartonshire. I'm originally from Falkirk but have lived in Glasgow for about twelve years. As you might expect from a librarian, I'm a big reader. As a kid, my favourite book was Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl. Nowadays, I like a good Stephen King novel and I'm also a big fan of Jack Kerouac. There are many different ways the library can support all pupils at Govan High so make sure you come in to say hello! I love to talk about books, films and football. When I'm not at Govan High, I run the library at Hillpark Secondary School. I also do a bit of cycling, listen to a lot of music and watch far too much football.



Career Ready Programme – We’re preparing for our future!

Six of our fifth year pupils took part in the Career Ready Programme this year. The aim of the programme is to prepare and support pupils into the world of work. It is a 2-year programme where pupils are matched with a mentor from an organisation, attend Master classes throughout the year and take part in a 4 week paid internship during their summer holiday between fifth and sixth year at school. All six pupils had an amazing experience and feel better prepared for their future. The table below highlights the organisations the pupils were matched with:

Lauren Costick	Glasgow City Council
Liam Donnelly	Campbell Dallas LLP
Melanie Gilmour	Scottish Water
Stephen Lowrie	Lockheed Martin
Callum Munro	JP Morgan
Dylan Sanderson	SSE



Here’s what our pupils had to say about the experience:

“Career Ready has helped me decide what I want to do when I leave school”. Callum Munro

“It gave me an insight into working in an office environment and a possible career change into going to University to study accountancy”. Liam Donnelly

“I loved working in the Recruitment Department at Glasgow City Council. I had never considered this area before but it’s definitely a possibility for the future”. Lauren Costick



Congratulations to the following Young People:

- Katie McGuffie
- Rebecca Morrison
- Sharee Al Hamandi
- Alima Gagigo
- Dylan Clark

The young people have been successful in securing a position on the Career Ready Programme following competitive interview. This programme provides young people with one-to-one mentoring, masterclasses, workplace visits and a summer internship between S5 and S6 to help them bridge the gap between school and the world of work. Govan High is very proud of our latest Career Ready students!



“I really enjoyed working in Marketing and HR. This experience has let me explore different career paths and has helped me to narrow down my possible options.”

Stephen Lowrie

Dylan Sanderson’s experience has also led him to consider a career change. Dylan’s Manager comments “Dylan’s CAD work is accurate and his work is to a very high standard. It is very impressive for someone who has never used the software before.”

Janine McFarland, Career Ready Regional Manager commented: “The pupils on internship were all very impressive! They were confident, professional and mature.”





Positive Destinations – Summer 2017

We are proud to publish this year's leavers and their positive destinations on our website – Please follow the link: <http://www.govanhigh.glasgow.sch.uk/>. As you will see our young people are off to begin careers in a wide variety of areas from English Literature to Biomedical Science and Photography to Psychology!

From an early stage at Govan High School, we strive to make all of our pupils' aware of their potential and possible pathways. We are pleased to offer our young people as many opportunities as possible to help them achieve their chosen destination.

It was been fantastic to see so many of our seniors pop back into school over the past few weeks to let us know how their first few days of University, College, Modern Apprenticeship have gone. We wish all our leavers every success in their future careers!



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CCA Programme

Congratulations to Rebecca Morrison! She has secured a place on the Centre for Contemporary Art programme. This programme works in conjunction with Glasgow School of Art to introduce eight students from across the city to the range of potential jobs and careers in the arts such as marketing in the arts, installation of exhibitions, curating exhibitions, outreach and community work, plus the running of an arts organisation – box office, duty manager, tech staff etc.

Visit to City of Glasgow College

Thank you to the Art & Design lecturer, Gillian Greechan, who allowed some of our young people to visit the design facilities in City of Glasgow College. We were all delighted to speak to HNC/D students and learn more about their college experience.

Skills Development Scotland

Govan High continues to be supported by Skills Development Scotland. Gerry Carroll (SDS Adviser).



DWF win Inspiring City Award 2017!

We are pleased to announce that DWF won the Best Corporate Responsibility Award at the recent Inspiring City Awards. Mrs Kerr and Ms McMillan were delighted to be invited to the event along with DWF staff and were even more thrilled when they won! It is fantastic that DWF have been recognised for making a significant difference to the wellbeing of the community in which they operate.

Govan High School has been working in partnership with DWF Lawyers for a number of years now. Our fourth year pupils take part in their 5-Star Futures Programme focussing on building confidence, employability skills and future pathways culminating in 4 pupils being chosen for work experience at the prestigious DWF Offices in Queen Street. Our pupils find the programme to be truly inspirational. One of our current sixth years, Jennifer Rankine, was so inspired by the 5-Star Futures Programme, that she now has a work experience placement two afternoons a week at DWF with a view to studying Law when she leaves school.



Joint DUX Prizewinners

Melanie Gilmour and Mohsen Azizikalhori were joint DUX winners at the prizewinning ceremony in June. Melanie is currently doing pre-medicine at Glasgow University and Mohsen Azizikalhori is still at school, in sixth year. He is studying for Advanced Highers in Chemistry and Biology and Higher ESOL (English as a Second Language). Mohsen hopes to study Dentistry at university next year.

IRESPECT

Throughout the year pupils are awarded merits for displaying school values and demonstrating good behaviour.

In June the 20 pupils who had achieved the most merits for each year group were rewarded with trips out of school to Laser Station, Ryze, M&Ds and Blairvadach. Everyone had a brilliant time. Well done to everyone involved - keep up the good work!

MCR

Govan High is very excited about becoming an MCR school in the near future. The MCR programme looks to match young people with mentors to support them into a positive destination. This programme supports teenagers as they unlock their potential and find their talents. Through one-to-one mentoring relationships and Talent Tasters they'll discover ambitious, achievable aspirations. More information is available: <http://mcrpathways.org>

Useful Websites to support Career Pathways and Aspirations:

www.myworldofwork.co.uk

www.planitplus.net

www.focuspoint.org.uk

www.ucas.com



University Professor & Former pupil David Campbell visits Govan High School

Just after the start of term, Ian McCracken, the School Archivist was contacted by a former pupil asking if he could visit the school. Recalling that a pupil with the same name had taken part in a very successful Bank of Scotland “Capitaliser” Competition in the 1970s, Ian thought it might be the same person, and flagged up the impending visit to Depute Head Sonja Kerr in the expectation that someone of David’s clear talents would have achieved much in his professional life.

After giving David a guided tour, which included showing him the Centenary gallery photo of the capitaliser team including his 1970s self, Ian asked him to complete a Govan High Former Pupil’s contact form. This includes a question asking the FP whether they would be willing to help the school. David having put “yes”, and seeing that he was now a Professor at Heriot Watt University, Ian asked Sonja to come and meet David.

It transpired that one of David’s university duties was student enrolment, and Sonja immediately invited David to come back in to speak to senior pupils, and later on to their parents as well. David was able to give pupils literally invaluable advice and insider insights that will stand them in excellent stead when they apply to University.

Ian says “I am always delighted to meet former pupils; in David’s case the fact that he was willing and able to help pupils and parents was a great bonus”

Sonja says “It was a pleasure to have David speak to senior pupils and parents. David gave invaluable advice regarding University applications, student life and personal statements. I can guarantee that the personal statements written by our University applicants will now have impact which will make them stand out from the crowd!

David tells us “It was a pleasure to meet with senior pupils last month and to have the chance to explain a little of the behind-the-scenes work of University Admissions. When it comes to applying to a university, remember to have a plan for your career, and to explain it - even briefly - in your Personal Statement: some Programmes are quite competitive. When it comes to your final year in Govan High School, remember that there may only be a few dozen weeks between now and your next step as a young adult - listen to the advice of your teachers, work hard and always try to do your best. The Govan High School motto will keep you on a path to success whatever your future career.”



Youth and Philanthropy Scotland

YPI Scotland is an organisation which encourages young people to become involved in philanthropic activities as part of their school Wider Achievement course. During the course the pupils select a charity and, working in groups, plan ways to support their chosen charity. The course culminates in a presentation to a select panel of judges in front of a large audience.

This year’s YPI event winners were Abbie Grimley, Thomas Rankine, Carly Hislop and David Rice. The group not only won £3000 which allowed the PEEK project to invest in a mini bus but they were also invited to perform at the Perth National Event and they were amazing.

Craig Brown also won Play Volunteer of the Year for PEEK and was a finalist in the Evening Time Community Champ Awards for Glasgow South.



Sport News



Football

The S1 football team are top of the league at the Toryglen tournament. The S1 boys are competing in the 7-a-side league. They have played lots of games against other Glasgow schools, including Glasgow Gaelic, Shawlands and Rosshall. After game-week 3 our boys were sitting top of the League!!

Well done to all involved including: Daryl Airdrie, Mark Bolger, Logan Bryans, Jamie Costick, McKenzie Graham, Daryl Hainey, Kyle McAusland, Corey McCoag, Reagan Quinn, Curtis Smith, Sean Strickland,

Bawan Jamal has been selected to represent Cardonald College at football. Bawan, who is in S6 at Govan High but studies at college on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, played his first game for the college in September, where he got two assists in the game against Langside College. Keep up the good work Bawan.

The S3/4 football team have played Holyrood and Lourdes so far in the league - unfortunately have lost both matches but they are playing an age up. Jack Smith and Reagan Foley have scored goals.

Golf

Huge Congratulations to Jennifer Rankine who won the County Championship golf trophy in September. Jennifer has also been picked to represent Scotland at the Abu Dhabi Championships in September.

Basketball

The S5/6 Sports Leaders have been in action already this session. They planned and delivered fun basketball sessions for P7 pupils from Pirie Park and Riverside Primaries. Our Sports Leaders are confident and well organised and the primary pupils loved the sessions they ran for them.



Taekwondo

Lucian Procopciuc is a black belt in Taekwondo. He has won the Portuguese National Championship three times and will now be representing his country at the European Junior Taekwondo Championships in Cyprus in November.

Lucian is hopeful of qualifying for the Youth Olympics taking place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in October 2018. Good luck!

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jordan Bow who has signed with St Johnston FC youth academy. Jordan, who is a former Govan High, School of Football player, trains in Perth 3 times a week and is a regular in the U17 team.

Well done to Karsey McGlinchey who has been picked to travel to Kazakhstan with Glasgow City Ladies team for their Champions League Game in October. Karsey was selected for the senior squad after a string of great performances for the U17 team.



PE Clubs

Day	Lunchtime (12.45 – 1.10)	After School
Monday	S1/2 Futsal Club - Gym 3 S1-4 Dodgeball – Gym 2	Senior Volleyball - Gym 3
Tuesday	Girls Yoga – Fitness Suite Young Ambassador meeting - PE classroom S1/2 Basketball – Gym 3	S1 Boys football team – Toryglen S1/2 Football club – Outside pitch
Wednesday	S1 Benchball – Gym 3 S1 Table Tennis – Gym 2	S1-4 Dance Club – Fitness suite S1-6 Swimming - Pool S3-4 Football team – Outside pitch
Thursday	Boys Badminton – Hall	S1-3 Basketball Club - Drumoyne Senior Basketball Team Practice – Drumoyne
Friday	Girls Badminton – Assembly hall	