

**P Parent Council Meeting**

Our first Parent Council Meeting of the new session took place on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> September, at 7.15 pm in the school library. Thank you to all parents and carers who joined us. Mrs Jill Pate was elected as Chairperson of our Parent Council. Mrs Michelle Wailes continues as Secretary and Mrs Karen Hynd continues as Treasurer. Thank you to Mrs Vicki O'Rourke for all her hard work as Chairperson of our Parent Council over the past three years. The next meeting takes place on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

B Lee

**P St. Andrew's Hospice 6K Run – Strathclyde Park, Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024**

Well done to all S5 and S6 students and staff who participated in the 6K event at Strathclyde Park on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, demonstrating commitment to our school and to the charity. It was lovely to see everyone mixing well and having fun together. Congratulations to Emma Gardiner, who was our first student to finish (and fourth female student at the event), to Miss Wardrope, who was our first staff member to finish the run, and to everyone who completed the run or walk. Thank you to Mr Campbell for organising our participation, to everyone who supported our pupils on the day and to everyone who donated to this very worthy cause.

B Lee

**P S3 Tracking Reports**

S3 tracking reports were issued on 26<sup>th</sup> September. If any parent/carers would prefer an electronic copy, please contact the school office.

B Lee

**P September Weekend**

School closes at 3.35 pm on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September for the September Weekend holiday and re-opens Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October at 8.40 am. We hope everyone enjoys the long weekend holiday.

B Lee

**P House Assemblies**

House Assemblies take place after the September weekend holiday, in the Street area, starting at 8.40 am. Kerse House assembly takes place on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, Milton House on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October and Logan House on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

B Lee

**P Clydesdale Sports Cup (S1/2 pupils)**

The first round of the Clydesdale Sports Cup takes place on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, when S1 and S2 pupils will represent our school in rugby and netball matches at Biggar. Please see Mr Ross and the PE Department for further information.

B Lee

**P Drama Trip**

Senior Phase Drama students have the opportunity to see 'Murder on the Orient Express' at the theatre on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October (pm). Please see Ms Kelly and Ms Clark for further information

Miss Kelly &amp; Miss Clark

**P Home Economics**

All pupils are reminded to bring a container for Home Economics when cooking. Thank you!

B Lee

**P Winter Jacket Appeal**

Please help by donating any unused winter jackets/coats. All jackets will be freshly laundered before being redistributed in our community. Winter coats can be given to Miss Leckenby, Mrs McCallum or any member of the office staff. Deadline 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**P Uniform Items and School Bags**

If you have any pre-loved uniform items or school bags that are no longer needed, we would be delighted if these could be handed into the school office so that we can add them to our uniform and school supplies for next session. Please help us to look after our environment– remember the importance of reducing, repairing, reusing and recycling!

B Lee

**P Lost Property**

A number of lost property items (including expensive outdoor jackets) remain unclaimed in the lost property store. Please check with Joan and Lynn if you have misplaced any items within the school.

B Lee

**P Community**

A reminder of the importance of placing litter in the bins provided. It is important that we look after the local environment and show respect for our community.

B Lee

**P ParentsPortal**

Thank you to all parents and carers who have signed up to ParentsPortal, our new digital communication service. ParentsPortal enables parents to update contact information, complete consent forms, view canteen menus and attendance information, link to ParentPay and other functions. From this session, school reports will also be available through ParentsPortal.

Further information can be found in the Parent letter issued last session at:

<http://www.lesmahagow.s-lanark.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Information-Letter-to-parents-and-carers.pdf> Please contact the school office if you require any further information.

B Lee

**P ‘Too good to go’**

Unsold sandwiches/wraps/baguettes left over from lunch-time can be collected from a fridge in the Pupil Support corridor at the end of the school day or by arrangement with PTs Pupil Support/SMT/PTs Equity. Please speak to SMT, PTs Pupil Support or PTs Equity for further information.

Please also remember that a supply of toiletries are available in Mr Mallaghan’s Pupil Support Office. There are also some porridge pots if anyone has missed breakfast.

B Lee

**P Uniform**

Our school uniform is:

- White shirt/blouse;
- School tie (red and black/ senior/ international);
- Plain black V-neck jumper or cardigan without logos;
- Black trousers/black skirt;
- School blazer, with option of braiding for S6;
- Plain black footwear (including laces); and

- P.E. kit (white, red or black t-shirt, black shorts).

Please speak to Mrs McCallum, your Pupil Support Teacher, Miss Leckenby, Mrs Miller or any member of SMT if you need any uniform items. Alternatively, you can request uniform items at the links below:

School uniform <https://forms.gle/AWcqcQ7seyd5c91i9>

We would welcome any donations of any pre-loved items of school uniform, particularly school blazers to add these to the supplies available to pupils. Please pass any donations to the School Office. Thank you.

B Lee

## **P Windfarm Connect2 Renewables Employability Fund – S4-S6 pupils**

The following information about the Windfarm Connect 2 Renewables Employability Fund has been shared with S4-S6 pupils and posted in S4-S6 Google Classrooms:

Due to your proximity to the Kype Muir and Middle Muir windfarms, if you plan on leaving at the end of this school year, you could be entitled to up to £500 (if going to college/university) or £200 if going into employment/apprenticeship. This is a grant payment that does not need to be paid back. The only real requirement is that you live within the required postcode areas.

I would encourage you all to apply if eligible - it is free money that could be really useful as you start your post-school journey.

To apply, you really just need to complete a form - but you won't receive the money until you start college/university as they will need to see your student card. You can make enquiries now though by contacting: [connect2renewables@southlanarkshire.co.uk](mailto:connect2renewables@southlanarkshire.co.uk) or telephone 0800 9520 070

J Mallaghan

## **P Homework**

Homework will be shared using Google Classroom. Please make sure you are a member of all your Google Classrooms, including your Year Group Google Classroom.

LA Cimmino

## **P Young Scot Card and Free Bus Travel**

If you need a new Young Scot Card, or still have to renew your card to access free bus travel, your Tutor teacher can give you a form to complete, which will allow us to apply for your card on your behalf. Completed forms should be returned to Miss Fletcher or the School Office. Please see Miss Fletcher if you have any questions about accessing free bus travel.

B Lee

## **P EMA – S5/6**

EMA application forms can be downloaded from the South Lanarkshire Council website. On the Council website, click on 'Education and Learning', then 'Secondary School Information', then 'Education Maintenance Allowance'. If you need any help with this, please see Mr Robertson or your Pupil Support Teacher. It is your responsibility to complete and send the application form.

When you receive an award letter with your EMA number on it, bring this to Mr Robertson who will then issue a copy of the Learning Agreement to be signed by your teachers and Parent/Carer. You should then return the completed Learning Agreement to Mr Robertson and the school office will then process your EMA.

Only when you have completed all of the above will the payment process begin. Please see Mr Robertson if you have any questions about EMA.

D Robertson