



## MARCH 2017—NEWSLETTER

### NEWS FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we approach the end of another busy school term, and our thoughts turn to the forthcoming SQA examinations, I would like to take this opportunity to urge our parents/carers of pupils in S4-S6 to take a very close interest in their children's preparations for their examinations. We have been urging pupils to increase on a weekly basis the amount of time spent on revising for their examinations. Many have listened to this message and have grown in security and confidence in their ability to give their best in the exams.

- Ask to see their weekly study planner. If they do not have one, encourage them to draw one up.
- Consider potential distractions in their study rooms - TV's, games consoles etc. Do they need to limit the time spent on these devices or - in extreme cases - have them removed?
- Praise your child when it is clear he/she is studying effectively. Encourage them to keep it up. Small treats can be powerful incentives.
- Where it is clear that your child is not putting in the requisite effort, please challenge him/her about this.
- Encourage your child to attend Easter Revision Classes—see page 11 of this newsletter.

The school, like you, wishes the very best success for your child. Please contact the appropriate Pupil Support Teacher if you require further information or are concerned about your child's lack of preparation.

The standard of school uniform remains generally high. Recently, however, there has been an increase in pupils coming to school with black jeans rather than black school trousers and not wearing a school tie. Please remind your child that black school trousers must be worn to school, as well as a school tie. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Thank you for your continued support for the school. I wish you and your family every blessing this Easter.

M McGee,  
Head Teacher

Our Educational Psychologist, Lynsday Holden, is running a drop-in session for pupils on how to manage exam stress and anxiety on the first Friday after the holidays, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 12.30pm for approx 1 hour. Venue to be confirmed - see school office.

Keep up to date with all our news and events by following our twitter feed @stahsnews

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Fri 31 March  
Non uniform  
End of Term Service

Easter Holidays  
Mon 3—Tues 18 April

Tues 18 April  
All resume

Mon 1 May  
May day—school closed

Tues 2 May  
SQA exams /study leave starts

Thurs 4 May  
School closed to pupils  
except those sitting exams  
(Music N5, H & AH)

Fri 5 May  
Pupils resume

Mon 22 May  
Victoria day—school closed

Wed 31 May  
S1 Attainment Reports issued

Thurs 1 June  
Junior Awards Ceremony 7pm

Fri 2 June  
End of SQA exams/study leave  
Leavers Ceremony 12.30pm

Mon 5 June  
New Timetable begins

Thurs 8 June  
Parent Council Meeting 6pm

Tues 20—Thurs 22 June  
P7 Induction  
Wed 21 June  
P7 Parents' Evening 7pm

Thurs 29 June  
Feast of St Peter & St Paul

Fri 30 June  
Non uniform day  
End of term service

### Well done to Liam McDaid and Georgia Clelland ....

Since September 2016 Liam McDaid and Georgia Clelland from S3 have been going to help at **Forrestine's Playgroup** once a week as part of their literacy development work. Initially they simply went to read to the children, a service valued highly by the children as shown by their shouts of "here they come" and their rushing to the reading corner whenever they saw Liam and Georgia arrive.

Our pupils have gradually developed their involvement in the playgroup by ordering different books from the Central Library Service with the help of Ms Smith the school librarian, helping with the children's snack and clearing up at the end of the day.



Sandra, the play leader, could not praise Liam and Georgia highly enough for their interaction and work with the children saying she "couldn't ask for more".

In October Ms Smith registered the playgroup to vote in the 2017 Bookbug Picture Book Prize so Liam and Georgia read each of the shortlisted books to the children and counted the votes for the one they liked best. The children disagreed with the judges and voted for 'There's a Bear on my Chair' by Ross Collins but 'Shark in the Park on a Windy Day!' by Nick Sharrat won. However everyone had a great time reading and voting. The photo shows Liam and Georgia presenting the certificate to the children.

Both pupils are signed up to achieve a Saltire Award for their volunteering and already have over 10 hours to their credit.

### Scottish Council Elections

Reminder to pupils and parents - **15-17 year olds**—you are eligible to vote in the Scottish Council Elections on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017 . You must register by midnight on Monday 17th April.

To register : <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

Twitter #ReadyToVote

### Mathematics News

A total of twenty S4 and S3 pupils sat the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge in February . This competition is entered by every secondary school in the UK and is run by the United Kingdom Mathematical Trust.

Awards were achieved by:

<b>S4</b>	<b>Miguel Lung 4A1</b>	<b>Gold Award and Best in S4</b>
	<b>Angela Sun 4A2</b>	<b>Bronze Award</b>
<b>S3</b>	<b>Alannah Barreto 3D1</b>	<b>Bronze Award and Best in S3</b>
	<b>Kerri Ford 3A1</b>	<b>Bronze Award</b>
	<b>TJ Gillespie 3D1</b>	<b>Bronze Award</b>

Miguel's score was so high he invited to take part in the Maclaurin Competition which is 3 levels more difficult than the Challenge. He was also selected to attend a week long prestigious Maths event hosted by the top UK universities in England during the summer. Our S4 competitors were : Harriet Arthur, Natalia Jankowska, Niamh Gillies, Uroof Ashraf, Miguel Chui, Richa Gomes, Morgan Walker and Madeleine Gallagher. From S3: Joseph Moore, Dylan Harrison, Rhona Mackay, Tolu Odewusi, Callum Watt, Sophie Watson and Aodan Burns.

The Maths department wish to congratulate all our winners and participants.

## Careers Hive—National Museum of Scotland

S2 pupils took part in Careers Hive at the National Museum of Scotland. They took part in a variety of workshops that showed them the career options involved with Science as well as listen to inspirational talks from leading scientists. There was also a group exercise to evaluate their ideas of careers in Science at the end of the day. All of the pupils thoroughly enjoyed it and gained a valuable insight into the options studying Science can offer them."



## ParentPay - our new online payment service

The City of Edinburgh Council are now in the process of rolling out a new online payment system to all schools in Edinburgh. We will shortly be accepting payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and school ties. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit or debit card. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

### What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint
- Full payment histories and statements are available to you securely online at anytime
- Your children will not have to worry about losing money at school
- Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text

**We will shortly be sending you your account activation details, just follow the instructions in the letter we give you to get started with ParentPay.**

**If you want to find out more about ParentPay go to: [www.parentpay.com/Parents](http://www.parentpay.com/Parents)**

## Career Pathways

Ten S5/4 pupils attended the Western General Hospital on 25 March to introduce pupils to the Career pathways /role and responsibilities of being a Nurse, and the specialisms involved in being a Nurse Practitioner, a Cancer Nurse, a Research Nurse, a Ward Nurse and a Bed Manager.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Mary and Bolu said “ It broadened our knowledge of how important a team approach is in hospital care. We were made aware of the different pathways in nursing and what other opportunities in the world of medicine that this can lead to. We also had the opportunity of some “hands on” experience eg CPR, Vital signs, Monitoring devices and Ultra sound equipment. It was a really valuable experience”

## HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising a free donation for St Augustine's? There are nearly 3000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to St Augustine's to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's really simple and doesn't cost you anything.

### All you have to do is:

- **Go to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk)**
- **Search for St Augustine's RC High School, Edinburgh as the cause you are supporting**
- **Sign up for free**
- **Get shopping** – your donations will be collected by easy fundraising and automatically sent to St Augustine's. It couldn't be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and St Augustine's will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

St Augustine's Parent Council

## News from the Art Department

Well done to all Senior Art pupils you have all been working hard to complete practical folios.

These will be uplifted from school the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> April.

You must ensure folios are fully completed, presented and evaluated by this deadline date.

Please note the exam dates for the written element take place on the afternoon of Tues 30<sup>th</sup> May

NAT 5 @ 13.00-14.10 hrs

HIGHER @ 13.00-15.00 hrs

Whilst we wish you a very Happy Easter please make it a productive one.



[www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper](http://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper)

SC/TS Art Staff

## Workplace Visit to ESH

St Augustine's and Forrester pupils enjoyed an excellent workplace visit to ESH at Calton Hill as part of the Career Ready Programme. Pupils got the chance to view behind the scenes redevelopment work which is taking place at Calton Hill. They plan to open up the 19th century 'birthplace of astronomy and timekeeping in Edinburgh' for public use and create a new restaurant and gallery space.

Pupils got the chance learn about the history of the area but also got to experience the beautiful views from the roof of the gallery!

[@Esh\\_Group](#) [@careerreadyuk](#) [@iamcareerready](#)



## S3 Visit to Royal Bank of Scotland

Miss Graham's S3 Business pupils enjoyed a visit to RBS Gogarburn to brainstorm business ideas! Pupils took part in an Ideation workshop which looked at potential business startups that could possibly happen over the next 2 months within St Augustine's RC High School. Watch this space!



## Current S4 Pupils

### Are you Career Ready?



Career Ready is an amazing opportunity, putting students directly in touch with employers from all areas of work. Whatever our pupils want to do with their life, Career Ready can give them the skills they need to get the career they want.

Career Ready is aimed at pupils aged between 16-19 years old who will leave school in S6 with at least 3 Highers. The structured programme of masterclasses, workplace visits and mentoring will fit around the pupils current studies and include a 4 week paid summer internship.

Our pupils at St Augustine's have gained a number of life skills and vast amounts of valuable knowledge that have assisted many of them to achieve a positive destination after they have left school.

**Interested?** – Come and see Mrs Barry or Miss Graham

**Just some of the organisations that take part in the Career Ready programme**

J.P.Morgan



## Jobs Roadshow



Thirty five pupils attended the Jobs Roadshow at the Hub with Mrs McKillop, Mrs Barry and Mr Foley. Wilton Albuquerque and Natalie White said " It gave us a great opportunity to find out more about a large number of companies and their career pathways, including Modern Apprenticeships etc. A very worthwhile opportunity.

## YPI

Recently we visited the Simpsons Special Care Babies charity to present the £3000 cheque which we had won through the YPI programme. All 4 of us were really delighted and proud to know that, because of us, more premature and sick babies would live. The money is going towards a critical machine which will prevent babies from having brain damage.

Alannah Barreto, Natalia Jozwiak, Niamh Chaffaut, Oliwia Sitowska



PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL HAS UP TO DATE ADDRESS, TELEPHONE, EMAIL AND EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR CHILD.

THANK YOU



## Fundraiser for St Patrick's Day

St Augustine's celebrated St Patrick's Day on 15 March this year. An audience of more than 100 students and staff enjoyed the lunchtime event organised by the TRUE Colours group, with music from staff band The Wild Rovers, special Irish cake and fundraising for Re-Act Refugee Action Scotland. An Irish-themed lunch was served in the canteen. Altogether more than £100 was raised for the refugee support group, along with multiple bags of clothing donated by staff and students.



## Family STEM Evening

On the evening of the 31<sup>st</sup> January we hosted our first family STEM challenge, supported by the Engineering Development Trust. After hearing about pathways into Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related careers, the families competed in a challenge using a Caesar Cipher.



The challenge involved decoding clues to solve a fictitious criminal investigation whilst enjoying pizza. Congratulations go to Georgia Clelland (S3) and her family who solved the mystery in the shortest time! We look forward to hosting similar events in the future.

## Scottish Space School

Congratulations to Geevarghese Joji (S5) who has been accepted onto the Scottish Space School 2017. The event is run by the University of Strathclyde, in conjunction with NASA. Geevarghese is one of only 100 successful S5 Scottish school pupils. He will attend a week-long residential summer school at the University where he will experience lectures, labs and workshops on a space theme, working with academics and NASA representatives. Following the week, 10 of the students are chosen for a once in a lifetime visit to NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas and we wish Geevarghese the best of luck.

**The Scottish Space School at Strathclyde aims to inspire the next generation of engineers by highlighting the career and educational opportunities available to young people with an interest in science, engineering and technology**

### THE OBJECTIVES

- Provide inspiration, increase motivation and raise aspirations of young people in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)
- Encourage more students to study STEM courses at University
- Promote the wide range of career opportunities in engineering and technology
- Increase self-confidence through the development of high quality communication, team-building and problem solving skills

# Parent and Carer Information and Support Sessions on Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Issues

An opportunity to meet other parents and supportive professionals in a safe relaxed environment.

**Suitable for parents and carers of 11-18 year olds**

## ***Communication and teenagers***

*Exploring the challenges of keeping the lines of communication open with teenagers who have emotional wellbeing and mental health issues. Considering ways to listen so that teenagers talk and talk so that teenagers listen.*

**Tuesday 25th April ,6.30-8.30pm**

Southside Community Centre, 117  
Nicolson Street, EH8 9ER

## ***Stress and the Teenage Brain***

**Tuesday 30th May, 6.30-8.30pm**

Southside Community Centre, 117  
Nicolson Street, EH8 9ER



For more information or to book a place on any of the sessions please contact Jillian Hart, Parent and Carer Support Development Officer on 07860 736129 or email [jillian.hart@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:jillian.hart@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Easter Revision Classes

Day/Date	Subject	Time A.M.	Teacher	Subject	Time P.M	Teacher
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Chemistry H	0900 – 1200	J Grant	Chemistry H	1330 – 1530	J Grant
	History N5	0900 – 1200	P Langan	Chemistry N5	1300 – 1500	P Wootton
	History N5	0900 – 1230	M Cochrane	History Higher	1245 – 1500	P Langan
	Maths Higher	0900 – 1200	C Higgins	English Adv H	1300 – 1500	L Evans
	English Adv H	1000 – 1200	L Evans			
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Chemistry H	0900 – 120	J Grant	Chemistry H	1330 – 1530	J Grant
	History Higher	0900 – 1200	P Langan	History N5	1245 – 1500	P Langan
	History Higher	0900 – 1230	M Cochrane			
	Maths N5	0900 - 1200	C Higgins			
	Home Ec N5	0900 - 1230	S Stewart			
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Chemistry N5	1100 – 1300	P Wootton	Chemistry Adv H	1300 – 1600	P Wootton
	Maths Higher	1000 – 1600	T Doherty			
	Lifeskills N5 & Maths Adv H	0900 – 1400	A Downie			
Thur 6 <sup>th</sup> April	English N5/H	1000 – 1200	J Macdonald & J Greenhorn	English N5/H	1300 – 1500	J Macdonald & J Greenhorn
	Physics N5	0930 – 1200	C Blair	Physics Higher	1230 – 1500	C Blair
	Chemistry N5	1100 – 1300	P Wootton			
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Maths N5	1000 – 1600	T Doherty			
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Maths Higher	0900 – 1200	M McGee	Physics Higher	1230 – 1500	D Dalgleish
	Biology N5	1000 – 1300	D Clark			
	Media Higher	0930 – 1230	S Boothroyd			
	Physics N5	0930 – 1200	D Dalgleish			
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Computing H	1000 – 1230	J Fyfe	Computing N5	1300 – 1530	J Fyfe
	Media Higher	0930 – 1230	S Boothroyd			
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Business Mnt N5	1000 – 1300	G Campbell			
Thur 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Geography N5 & Higher	1000 – 1230	S Connor			
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> April						
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April						