



MARCH 2018—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, who are sitting exams, to take a very close interest in their children's preparations. 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 Leader if you require further information or are concerned about your child's lack of preparation.

For our S4 pupils who are not sitting exams, we have created our Meaningful May programme. This programme will involve our pupils enhancing their career education by taking part in a variety of workplace visits, skills presentations and career talks. The programme includes activities in school and will also see pupils visit workplaces and colleges around the local community and Glasgow. The 8 day programme will take place from **Tuesday 22 May to Thursday 31 May**. The programme's key focus is employability skills and will see the pupils working with organisations such as JP Morgan and Investment 2020, working on CV and interview skills as well as social media training and pupil confidence. We also have a number of exciting workplace visits that will allow pupils to explore careers options in a variety of different industries.

A big thank you to the Parent Council who have recently donated £2800 to the school, funding new resources for a number of departments, improving our young people's learning experience.

I would like to thank all members of the Parent Council for their support and also thank you to all parents and young people who supported the Christmas Fair which was a resounding success.

Finally thank you for your continued support and I wish you and your family every blessing this Easter.

M McGee
Head Teacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 29 March
Non-Uniform
End of Term Service

Thurs 30 March—Tues 16 April
EASTER BREAK

Tues 17 April—All resume

Mon 30 April
SQA exams start
Study leave begins

Mon 7 May—May Holiday

Tues 8 May
In-service Staff only

Wed 9 May—Pupils resume

Mon 21 May
Victoria Day Holiday

Tues 22 May—All resume

Thurs 31 May
Junior Awards Ceremony 7pm

Fri 1 June
End of SQA exams
Leavers Ceremony 12.30pm

Mon 4 June
New timetable begins

Tues 5 June
S6 Induction

Thurs 7 June
Parent Council Meeting 6pm

Mon 11 June
HPV Immunisations

Tues 19—Thurs 21 June
P7 Transition Days

Fri 29 June
Non Uniform Day
End of Term Service

Mon 13 & Tues 14 Aug
In-service—Staff only

Wed 15 Aug—Pupils resume

Lent

During the season of Lent pupils have been learning about the tradition of fasting, prayer and almsgiving in their RE classes. In addition to this Cassidy Henderson and Oliwia Mroz, S6 Caritas pupils, have lead the Stations of the Cross with S1 classes during tutor time in the Oratory. This traditional prayer focusses on the last days of Jesus' life.

Following on from this S2 classes are having a period of reflection. Fr Duffy has been in school meeting each class and offering the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or a blessing.

Lent has also marked the launch of YPI with all of S3 who are being asked to use their time and talents to identify and represent a local charity with the possibility of securing a £3000 grant for their charity. Issues such as homelessness, mental health and poverty have been identified by pupils as being of concern in Edinburgh.

This year's Caritas class met with SCIAF schools officer Mark Booker to hear about the Lenten campaign focussing on Cambodia. Candaice Chui and Dana Guthrie returned to their primary school to lead an assembly on behalf of SCIAF and to raise awareness of this year's campaign with pupils in St David's Primary School.



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

THANK YOU.





Well done to

Kirsten Keggie who was in a production of Little Women, which ran from Wednesday 7th until Saturday 10th of March.

The show was met with great response from critics, and Kirsten was brilliant in the role of Beth.

<http://scotlandstophostels.com/2018/03/08/little-women-broadway-musical-theatrical-review/>

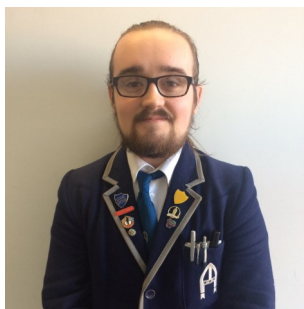
<http://www.alledinburghtheatre.com/little-women-the-musical-shoots-theatre-review-2018/>

Bake club

Easter chocolate fudge cupcakes

Kinder Country Cake Bites





Congratulations to Liam Stritch who was nominated and won the regional Career Ready student of the year award. This recognises Liam's Career Ready journey and the progress he has made by being part of the programme.

Well Done Liam!

St Augustine's Netball Team

We are very happy that St Augustine's has recently decided to start up a netball team. There hasn't been a netball team representing our school for the last few years so we were delighted to hear they started it up again. Training happens once a week on Wednesday after school. It is open to all year groups bringing in a lot of different talent. Training usually consists of a short warm up, skill work and then a match against our teammates.

We have played in a lot of friendly games, and we are now participating in a School Sport Edinburgh netball festival once a month with other schools in Edinburgh. We have recently received new St Augustine's netball kit which boosts our confidence in games as we feel like a real team.

We hope to continue growing stronger as a team in order to do our best in our games and prepare for our entry to the Scottish Cup next year."

Written by Arabella Temu and Emily Hankomo, S3.



Congratulations to Tendai Nyabadza (1D1) who came 3rd place in the Scottish Schools Cross-country Championships, which was held at Hopetoun House. With 84 runners competing, coming in 3rd was an absolutely fantastic achievement for Tendai. Well done.

School immunisation programme

Immunisation helps protect our young people and communities from a wide range of illnesses.

The NHS Lothian Community Vaccination Team carries out an annual immunisation programme, which includes:

- The HPV vaccine for girls in S1 and S2 to protect against cervical cancer (and also for any girls in S3-S6 who have not completed)
- If you receive a consent form pack please ensure you read this and discuss it at home. Please make sure the form is returned as soon as possible (within 7 days please), signed by both child and parent.

ParentPay - our online payment service

The online payment system is now up and running in all schools in Edinburgh. We can accept payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and school ties. Using the secure website ParentPay you can pay online using your credit or debit card. ParentPay is our preferred method of receiving payments to school. Currently 41% of our pupils' parent/guardians have activated their ParentPay accounts and are using the system. For those who have yet to activate their account, a letter reminding you of your activation code has recently been sent. If you require any further assistance please contact the school office.

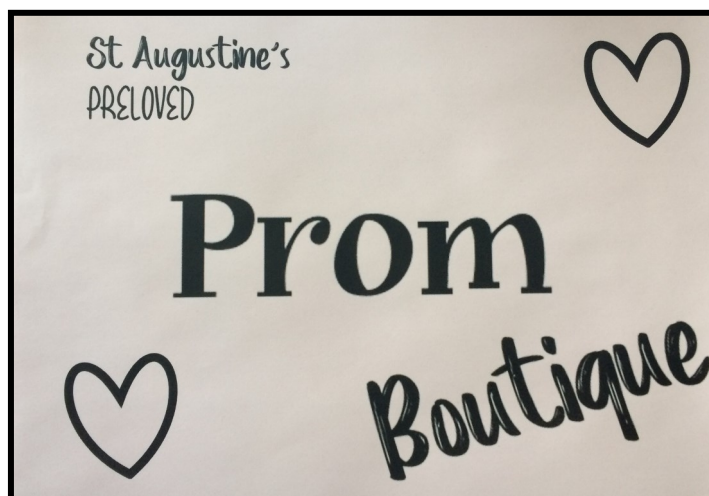
What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

- 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

For more information go to: www.parentpay.com/Parents

We would like to highlight our new social enterprise—**Prom Boutique**. Started to assist pupils who may be struggling to find a dress, tie, shirt or pair of shoes for their prom. Pupils can lease items for £5 for their prom night and then return the items to the school after prom. All money raised from leasing these items will be reinvested back into the **Prom Boutique**, paying for dry cleaning and buying new stock. Please come along to Mrs Graham's classroom at lunchtime if you are interested in leasing any items.

If any parents or carers would like to donate items such as – prom dresses, handbags, jewellery, ties, trousers, male/female shoes, kilts, shirts or jackets then please hand these into the school reception. Thank you.



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
- 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

Visit to the Scottish Parliament



S2 Art and Design students attended an architectural tour of The Scottish Parliament as part of a Built Environment design unit the class have recently completed.

They learned about the architects design inspirations as well as the use of materials within the debating chamber. All pupils agreed the parliament was well designed and felt it represented Scotland's landscape in an original way.

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

News from the Art Department

Deadline for the Art & Design folios - Wednesday 28th March.

It's not too late to sign up for our Easter revision day in the Art department on Tues 3rd April 9am -3pm

This will be a great opportunity to finish any artwork and presentations.

Mrs Chbira/Mr Cifelli



Good News

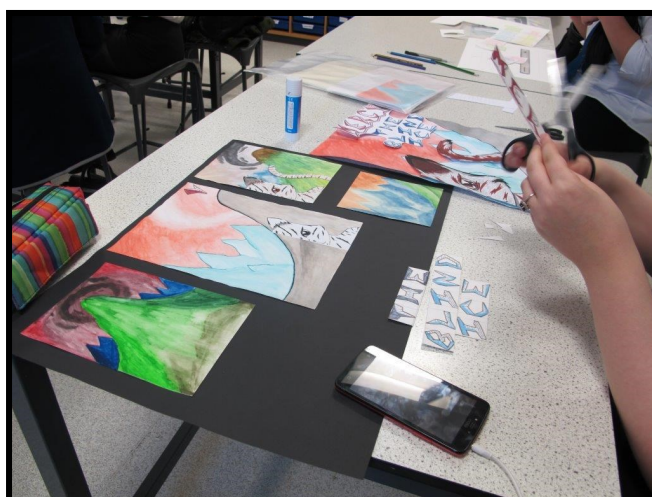
S6 pupil **Sophia Paschall** re-joined the Art & Design department this year studying at NAT 5 level.

After no Art experience since S3 she has worked extremely well developing her skills in both practical and written studies.

She took her folio of work along to interview and now has a confirmed unconditional place with UAL (University of Arts London), for Level 2 Art & Design course @ Granton campus. We wish you all the best Sophia.



Well done to
Corinne Brownlee (S4)
who was awarded a Highly
Commended Certificate at
The Royal Scottish Academy
Art award.

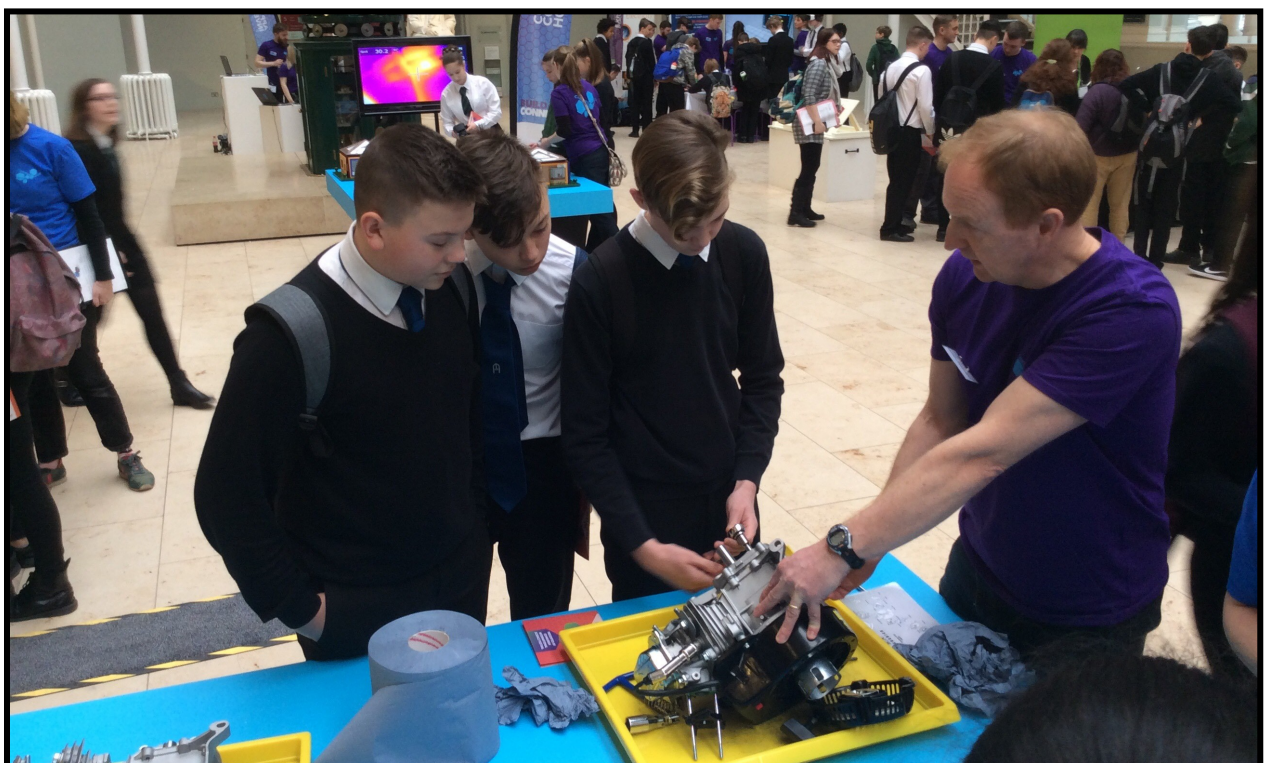


STEM Event

In Science, 30 of our S2 pupils attended a STEM event at the National Museum of Scotland called Careers Hive.



Whilst there they got the opportunity to get stuck in to hands-on workshops, listen to short, inspiring talks by motivational young speakers, and meet early and mid-career professionals from a wide range of companies and enterprises to find out more about what it is like to work in STEM fields. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day and gained a better understanding of how important STEM careers are.



Today's Science; Tomorrow's Engineers

Friday 23rd March saw the final of the 5th annual "Today's Science; Tomorrow's Engineers" competition where Primary 6 and 7 pupils from all five cluster primary schools (St Andrew's, St Cuthbert's, St David's, St Joseph's and St Margaret's) showcased their solutions to engineering challenges. The pupils impressed the group of 13 judges of local Scientists and Engineers with their solutions to the challenges which were:

- Improving access to clean drinking water for the many people around the world who do not currently have access
- Improving wind defences to reduce deaths, injuries and damage to structures
- Improving the safety of our transport systems.

Approximately 200 pupils competed and the quality of the entries was exceptionally high, with judges praised the ingenuity and communication skills of many of the pupils. Well done to all who took part.

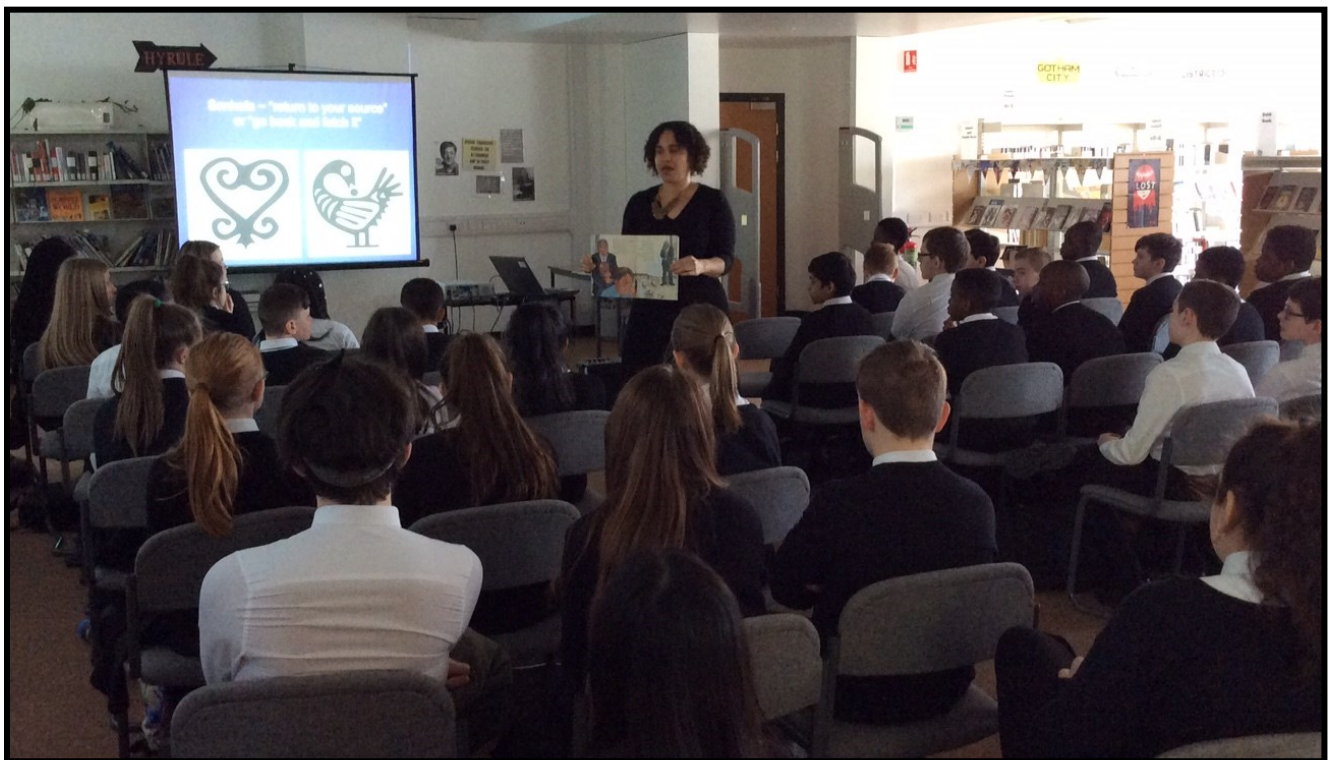


World Book Day

As part of belated World Book Day celebrations the English department was lucky enough to have a visit from American based author Zetta Elliott. Dr Elliott has a PhD in American Studies and came to talk to us about two of the books she has written: *Bird*, which won the Honor Award in Lee & Low Books' New Voices Contest and the Paterson Prize for Books for Young Readers and *Ship of Souls* named in the Booklist Top Ten Sci-fi/Fantasy Titles for Youth and a finalist for the Phillis Wheatley Book Award.

We were lucky enough to be the only high school she came to visit in Edinburgh and her presentation was fantastic. She is a brilliant speaker and a truly inspiring figure for our young people. An exciting project now awaits our students!

For more information on Zetta, go to her website: <http://www.zettaelliott.com>



Easter Revision Classes

Day/ Date	Subject	Time A.M.	Teacher	Subject	Time P.M	Teacher
Mon 2 April	English N5	1000 – 1200	G Lee	English N5	1230 – 1500	G Lee
Tues 3 April	Maths N5	0900 – 1200	M McGee	English H	1300 – 1500	J Macdonald
	Comp Science N5	0930 – 1230	S Moore	English N5	1300 – 1500	G Lee/ J Greenhorn
	English H	1000 – 1200	J Macdonald	History H	1230 – 1500	P Langan
	English N5	1000 – 1200	G Lee/ J Greenhorn	History N5	1300 – 1500	M Cochrane
	History N5	0900 – 1200	P Langan	Physics Adv H	1230 – 1500	C Blair
	History H	0900 – 1230	M Cochrane	Art N5/H	1230 – 1500	S Chbira/ D Cifelli
	Physics N5	0930 – 1200	C Blair			
	Art N5/H	0900 – 1200	S Chbira/D Cifelli			
	Geography H/N5	0900 – 1200	S Connor			
Wed 4 April	Maths H	0930 – 1230	A Downie	Maths Adv H	1245 – 1500	A Downie
	Comp Science H	0930 – 1230	J Fyfe	Mechncs Adv H	1245 – 1500	A Downie
	Media H	0900 – 1200	S Boothroyd	Comp Sci N5	1300 – 1530	J Fyfe
	Music H & N5	0900 – 1200	L Evans	Spanish N5	1230 – 1430	S Sharp
	French N5	1000 – 1200	S Sharp			
Thu 5 April	Hospitality N5	0900 – 1200	S Stewart	Chemistry Adv H	1230 – 1530	J Grant
	Media H	0900 – 1200	S Boothroyd			
	Chemistry Adv H	0900 – 1200	J Grant			
	Modern Studies H	0900 – 1200	C Carson			
Fri 6 April	Chemistry Adv H	0900 – 1200	J Grant	Chemistry Adv H	1230 – 1530	J Grant
Mon 9 April						
Tues 10 April	Chemistry H	0930 – 1200	P Wootton	Chemistry N5	1230 – 1500	P Wootton
	Physics N5	0930 – 1200	D Dalglish	Physics H	1230 – 1500	D Dalglish
	Pract Elect Assmnt	0930 – 1200	D Dalglish	Prac Elec Assmnt	1230 – 1500	D Dalglish
	Appl of Maths N4	0930—1200	R Raine			
Wed 11 April	Appl of Maths N5	1200– 1500	R Raine			
Thu 12 April						
Fri 13 April	Maths H	0930 – 1230	L Garside			

School Uniform Policy

Parents are asked to co-operate with the school in encouraging the wearing of the school uniform. Wearing school uniform contributes to a positive school ethos and helps avoid discrimination and reduces peer pressure to wear expensive designer clothing.

- **Black tailored trousers or skirts of a suitable length**
- **White school shirt**
- **School Tie**
- **Sensible black school shoes**
- **Blue School Blazer with school badge (for years S5 & S6)**

A plain black v-neck cardigan or v-neck jumper will be acceptable over a white school shirt and school tie

Ties can be purchased from the School Office

**Jeans, joggers, leggings, jeggings, tracksuit bottoms, trainers and designer tops, caps and boots
are not appropriate school wear
(including ankle boots)**



Parent Council Facebook page— St Augustine's RC Parent Council, Edinburgh. To get updates from the Parent Council we invite you to like the page.

Free Schools Meal & Help with School Uniform

Some funding allocated to schools is based on pupils receiving Free School Meal entitlement. This allows us to provide extra support to our pupils. We do think a number of families who should be receiving this benefit are not currently claiming this support. This means they do not receive the help with meals but also means we do not receive all the additional funding we could.

We would encourage you all to apply if you are entitled to do so (see below). Money for free meals is put automatically on to pupils Young Scot cards. The cards can be used to purchase food at lunchtime and a variety of hot and cold food is available. If your child does not have a Young Scot card, or has lost their card, the school office can issue a pin number and give details of how to get a new card. If you think you are entitled please do apply! Help with the form is available through your child's pupil support teacher.

Assistance is also provided to children from low income families in the form of clothing vouchers which go towards buying school uniform. You can claim for free school meals and assistance with school wear for your children if you are receiving:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (CTC), but not Working Tax Credit, and your income is less than £16,105
- Both maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit and your income is under £6,420
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit

If you are between 16 and 18 years old and receive any of these benefits in your own right, you can claim free school lunches for yourself. If you match these conditions and do not receive any element of Working Tax Credit you can also claim school wear vouchers. The form for applying can be collected from the school office and you can send the completed form and supporting evidence by post (address on the form) or by email to: school.grants@edinburgh.gov.uk