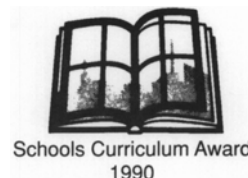




INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Parents' Newsletter

John Ogilvie High School

Issue No. 2 - October
Session 2009/2010

Why not visit our web-site at www.johnogilvie.s-lanark.sch.uk

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Official Opening of John Ogilvie High School 8th October 2009



We were finally declared officially 'open' on Thursday October 8th when The Right Honourable Tommy McAvoy MP fulfilled the formal duty of opening our new school. It was a day of celebration with Councillors from across the political spectrum being joined by dignitaries from the Council as well as former staff, parents and Mrs. Anne Marie Fagan, our former Head Teacher. It was a special morning with fabulous contributions from our pupils. There was singing from our 'Signing' Choir, African Dancing, Samba Band and Senior Band musical numbers, a poetry reading and it was all held together by our hugely entertaining comperes, Graham Wylie and Matthew Campbell. We also showcased our new JOS TV Station with a hilarious specially recorded interview with Tommy McAvoy by Connor Steven and Jacklyn McConnachie from S6. Invited guests were absolutely thrilled by the event and Isobel MacDougall our Head of Learning Community, commented, *'Fabulous event. A superb blend of formality and fun. Well done, John Ogilvie High School!!'*

Pictured above with myself at the Plaque of Dedication are Mary Smith, Chair of the Education Resources Committee and Tommy McAvoy MP. My thanks go to everyone in the school community who contributed to the success of our Opening Ceremony.

PICTURES FROM OFFICIAL OPENING



Graham Wylie introduces the pupil End of an Era DVD to commemorate the 'old school'



Matthew Campbell introduces Tommy McAvoy



Daniel Gallagher recites his Sonnet of Dedication written for the opening ceremony. See Daniel's Sonnet on page 3.



Senior Band play a medley of tunes from the 80s.



Senior Band play a medley of tunes from the 80s.



Samba Band kicks off the Event accompanied by our African Dancers

Sonnet of Dedication

On the occasion of the school's Official Opening on 8 October 2009

Fidelis ad Finem

Ogilvie's seat of knowledge and learning:
Wisdom abounds; young minds are nurtured:
To master all, for this we are yearning –
Within these walls, our future is cultured.
In locus parentis, teaching: their aim.
They ask much of us, but ours, the gain.
Shaping the future: building its builders.
They fashion the fire in its crucible.
And we, the flames that leap from the fire,
Each burning hotter, each aiming higher:
Doctors or lawyers or teachers ourselves
We spread the grain of our patron.
Our praise unto him, this beacon of faith:
Fidelis ad Finem. Amen.



Daniel Gallagher – 4A1

Pupil Achievements



❖ South Lanarkshire Council Schools Golf Championship

Congratulations to James Steven S4, who won the Schools Golf Championship held at Hamilton Golf Club on 14th September, which was a close run contest decided on a countback of the final 6 holes. Well done James!!

❖ South Lanarkshire Enterprising Maths Competition

Four of our pupils – Gary Ward 4A1, Laura Baillie 4A3, Robert Stone 3E3 and Erin Walsh 3C2 – represented the school on Thursday 8th October in the annual South Lanarkshire Enterprising Maths Competition. Their enthusiasm, behaviour and performance on the day was excellent. They did a fantastic job of representing the school and thoroughly enjoyed the day. The John Ogilvie team managed to come away with the first prize for our 'Mathscot'! Go Team John Ogilvie.



❖ National Anti-Bullying Writing Competition

Week beginning 16 November is Anti-Bullying Week and we are delighted to learn that a poem submitted by **Heather Logan from 2D2** has been awarded first prize in the national Anti-Bullying Competition. The poem which is printed below, will be the focus for all Year Group Assemblies in the week beginning 16 November and will also be discussed in English and PSE classes that week. Many congratulations to Heather.

*I look at my paper, failed again,
Every term it's always the same.
I'm not very clever; but I will try harder,
Now it's time to go out and take out my anger.*

*I look around the schoolyard and spy Stevie Cox,
There he stands with his specks and lunch-box.
"Hello Stevie, A plus again?"
He just stares at me with fear and pain.
Then I push him onto the ground,
Kick him and punch him but he makes no sound.*

*After the beating the crowd starts to cheer,
Stevie lies on the ground fighting back a tear.
In my heart I feel disgust and shame,
But all I can think about is my new found fame.*

*I enter my flat and look around,
My drunken father lies, unconscious on the ground.
In the kitchen my mother is frying,
She asks me about the test but knows I'm lying.
Then she lifts her hand and slaps me on the face,
Shouts and swears and says I'm a disgrace.*

*I lock myself in my room, sit and weep,
I wipe the the tears streaming down my cheek.
I know I'm a coward; you don't have to ask,
But I'll carry on, wearing my mask.*



Active Citizenship Together

The S6 students of John Ogilvie continue to develop their role as active citizens within the school's ACT Programme (Active Citizenship Together). The following S6 students are now committed to the following key initiatives:

➤ **Buddying**

Mollie Millar
Nicole Fallon
Connor Fleming
Demi McFadyen
Tanya Friel
Maureen Shanahan
Declan Farr
David McPherson
Tommy Brown
Thomas Kerr
Sean Behan

Rebecca Campbell
Sophie McCulloch
Natalie Paton
Nicole Fergason
Ryan McGinley
Michael Simpson
Erin McCluskey
Lisa McAdams
Laura Mitchell
David Thomson

William Fleming
Paul Adams
Connor Steven
Paul McGinley
Sinead Bonner
Megan Bell
Emma Thomson
Paul McGrory

➤ **Paired Learners**

Robyn Morton
Ainsley Denholm
Rebecca O'Brien
Carly Stark
Karina Gemmell
Jade Bryant
Nicole Fallon
Kenneth Hughes
Kayleigh Currie
Tanya Friel
Mollie Miller

Declan Docherty
Barry McLaughlin
Graham Cunningham
Stuart McPherson
Tommy Brown
Shaun Lyons
John Morris
Nicole Ferguson
Jade McGinley
Joanne Walker
William Gracie

Natalie Paton
Michael Docherty
Michael Thomson
Connor Fleming
Alix Hutcheson
Michael Simpson
Rachel McGuire
Natalie Lester
Rebecca Campbell
Lauren Kilcolm

➤ **Primary Placements**

St Blane's Primary

Maureen Shanahan
Natalie Lester
Jamie Irvine
Mollie Millar
Lisa McAdams
Karen Thomson

St Joseph's Primary

Connor O'Donnelly
Amanda Steven
Nicole McMahon
Stephanie Smith

St Cuthbert's Primary

Shaun Lyons
Graham Cunningham
Adele Kelly
Laura Mitchell



Siobhan Bonner
Joanne Walker
Jacklyn McConachie
Liam McLaughlin
David Dickson
Martin Wright

Kayleigh Anderson
Robbie McSwiggan
Barry McLaughlin
Ryan Brown

St. Mark's Primary

Natalie Paton
Christopher Brown
Marc Deanie
Collette McKale
Grant Kelly

Educational Excursion

❖ Whitelee Wind Farm – 18 November

The Science Department are planning a trip to Whitelee Wind Farm situated on Eaglesham Moor, which is the largest windfarm in Europe with 140 turbines covering approximately 55 square kilometres. This trip will allow pupils to participate in a 2 hour workshop run by Glasgow Science Centre where they will discover how to harness the power of the wind as they build and test the energy output of their own wind turbine. This is part of the Science Curriculum where different methods of generating electrical energy is investigated. Spaces on the trip is limited to 20 pupils and there is a small charge of £6 to help fund the transport and the workshop which is payable by Friday 30 October.



Pantomime Trip 2009 – Pinocchio

This year's pantomime trip is to the Pavilion Theatre in Glasgow to see Pinocchio. The trip will take place on Wednesday 16 December 2009. Pupils will leave school at 12.30pm and will return at approximately 5pm. Parents must make arrangements to see their children home safely. The cost of the bus and the ticket is £15.

Full school uniform must be worn and the usual high standards of behaviour and co-operation must be adhered to.

Gideons' Visit

On Monday 26 October, all S1 pupils received a presentation on the work of the Gideons Society during morning assembly. At the end of the visit, pupils were given a free copy of the Gideons New Testament and Psalms which they should keep safely throughout their time at John Ogilvie, both for homework use of RE and for personal reading and reflection. Many of our S6 pupils still have their Gideons "Bible".



Physical Education Department

❖ NORTH VERSUS SOUTH LANARKSHIRE TRIATHLON

On Thursday 8th of October four of our senior pupils competed in the annual North Vs South Lanarkshire Triathlon. Thomas Boyle, Dominic Murray, Mark Russell and Kieran Welsh completed a 6K run, a 6K cycle and a two man Canadian canoe race. All the boys enjoyed the event and managed not to fall in!

❖ S1 HEALTH EVENT

From Monday October 19th till Friday 30th activities within class focussing on Health chance to participate in many activities online safety, working with calories for spiritual health and looking at lifestyles. The event is brought together on will be involved in body combat classes



all S1 pupils will be experiencing a range of & Wellbeing. Pupils will be given the including the samba band, internet and healthy eating, fitness classes along with

Thursday 29th of October when all pupils and hear about the dangers of smoking.

❖ ACTIVE SCHOOLS

As part of the S1 Health Event our Active Schools Coordinator, Allison Corrigan, delivered a range of taster sessions during lunchtimes to encourage our pupils to more active during break times. These included new age curling and golf!

❖ "WEAR IT PINK"

October is the month of Breast Cancer Awareness, to mark this event. S5 and 6 pupils will be invited to wear pink on Friday 30th of October. There will also be a coffee morning to raise funds for this charity.

❖ EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Monday	Lunch time	Basketball S1-S6	Mrs Whyte Miss Rossi
Tuesday	After school After school After school	Trampolining S1-S6 Rugby S1-S6 Badminton S1-S6 and staff Boys Football S3	Mrs Maxwell Mr Clark Mrs McGeachie Mr Marr Mr Laneres
Wednesday Friday	After school After school	Boys Football S1 Girls Football	Miss Rossi Miss Stewart

Department of Art and Design

Portfolio Preparation Clinic

Two Classes, twice a week have been set up in co-operation with tutors from the Glasgow School of Art, to coach entrants to the prestigious GSA. This class consists of Upper School pupils from John Ogilvie High School, Hamilton Grammar, Duncanrig High School, St. Andrew's and St. Bride's High School, Biggar High School, Strathaven Academy, Uddingston Grammar, Stonelaw High School and Calderside Academy. The aim of the class or 'clinic'- as the GSA likes to call them – is to help prospective candidates get the best chance to enter the GSA. Thousands of people of all ages and experience, from all over the world, apply to the Art School for a limited amount of spaces every year.



Modern Languages Department

➤ Vila-Real Exchange

We would like to extend our thanks to all the parents and members of staff who made the Vila-Real exchange the great success it was. The Spanish children enjoyed themselves immensely, many friendships blossomed and personal visits have already been arranged for Christmas.

The John Ogilvie pupils also benefited on an academic and personal level. In a post-visit survey, they stated that their Spanish had improved, their self-confidence had grown and they now had a greater appreciation of the merits of learning a foreign language.



One of the highlights of the exchange was the St. Andrew's Hospice 6K charity run at Strathclyde Park. Initially the Spaniards were viewing this with some trepidation but in the end they had a tremendous day, participating fully in the event.



Other visits included Holyrood Parliament, Holyrood Palace and Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Loch Lomond, Celtic Park and M&D's. The numerous visits to the shopping centres of Glasgow and East Kilbride and the evening activities organised by the parents and pupils, ensured that there was never a dull moment. Our pupils are eagerly anticipating the reciprocal visit.

The exchange could not have taken place without substantial support from the school fund. Thanks to all involved in the disco/ceilidh and the forthcoming Race Night. Your support is greatly appreciated.

➤ **Work Experience Initiative**

The months of September and October also saw a new work experience initiative involving young adults from Ampoia in Catalunya. They had work placements provided by South Lanarkshire Council lasting approximately 2 weeks. John Ogilvie High was the base school for this initiative. It was a tremendous success with the Catalans eager to repeat the experience. Thanks go to the members of staff and in particular to our A.V. Technician Graham Rankin, who supported us in this. Graham will tell you he enjoyed the work on a professional and linguistic level.

Fundraising

❖ **Non-Uniform Day**

On Friday 9th October, the pupils took part in a non-uniform day in order to raise money for school funds and St. Andrew's Hospice. The amount raised was £641.

❖ **St. Andrew's Hospice 6k Fun Run**

The amount raised so far from the fun run is £3,000. Last year we managed to raise £3,700 and we would like to top that, so please encourage your child to bring in their sponsor money as soon as possible.

Home/School Partnership

- **Handling Teenage Behaviour**

Home School Partnership would like to invite mums, dads and other adult carers to our Handling Teenage Behaviour Programme. This course will cover:

- ***Different types of behaviour and how to manage them***
- ***Realistic goal setting and consequences***
- ***How to communicate effectively with your teenager***

This programme will run for four weeks starting on Monday 23 November 2009 from 1.00pm – 2.30pm in the Burnbank Family Centre. For more information or to book a place, please contact Gail McKillop on 01698 727600 or 07795090705.

Campcraft Programme

Home School Partnership across the John Ogilvie and Calderside Learning Communities ran a four week campcraft programme in September for male carers and their children. This programme covered team building, map reading, problem solving and safety in the outdoors. The male carers and their children then went on an overnight residential to Beinglas Farm campsite, Loch Lomond

As part of Family Learning Fortnight, a celebration event at the South Lanarkshire Council Offices was held, where the families received a certificate from Councillor Mary Smith. In total, 22 families participated in this programme, five of whom attend John Ogilvie High School. Pictured with Mr. Morrison are Dylan Cain, Sophie Buchanan, Caitlin Bradley and Calum McCafferty.



Schools Seismology Project

John Ogilvie has recently received funding from the British Geological Survey and the University of Glasgow of our very own seismometer! In the last month our seismometer has detected many earthquakes from as far away as Venezuela and Indonesia!



We are currently looking for 'seismometer monitors' to help with the running of the seismometer and to help with the activities of our seismic club.

A 'seismic day' is planned for the 8th of December where S2 pupils will experience how earthquakes and other natural disaster have an impact on our everyday lives.

If any pupil would like to become involved in the seismic club, they should speak to Jacklyn McConnachie (S6), Mrs McDaid or Mr McAllister.

Department of Music



From the start of this new session, the pupils have already embarked upon a very busy schedule.

S1 African Djembe Drumming workshop

On Friday 11th September each and every one of our S1 pupils took part in an African drumming session with our invited expert, Steve Sharpe.



All pupils involved had the opportunity to play the traditional African drums, experiencing the power that rhythm has to unite, engage and motivate people to be the best and at the same time learn about the musical culture of the African people. This was particularly apt as part of the S1 Retreat, giving our pupils a better understanding of the lives of the pupils in our twinned school, St. Joseph's school for the deaf in Sierra Leone.

S5/6 visit to Glasgow City Halls – Composition Workshop



On the 21st September, 25 of our senior pupils represented John Ogilvie High School Music department at a composition workshop by the Scottish composer Oliver Searle and his ensemble 'Symposia'. The aim of this session was to give the pupils a better insight and understanding into compositional techniques and approaches. The pupils enjoyed working with this group of live musicians and worked in collaboration with other schools to create a group composition which was performed by 'Symposia'. The positive results of this workshop can be seen in the work now being created by the pupils for their own examination folios for this session



'Holy Joe' Junior Pantomime

Auditions have taken place and rehearsals are now well underway for this year's school pantomime, 'Holy Joe'. Due to the success of our Junior show, 'Little Stars', the Music department felt that it was only right to 'showcase' the talents of our junior pupils once again.

The performances of this hilarious and most definitely unusual side to the Nativity story as we know it will take place on Thursday 10th December with a matinee performance during the day for the pupils and an evening performance for friends and family.

Watch out for tickets going on sale – they won't last long!



Official Opening of John Ogilvie High School



On Thursday 8th October, pupils from the Music department entertained our invited guests at the official opening of our new school. As usual, they performed to a very high standard and their contribution to this event was greatly appreciated by audience members.

The S4 Samba band, along with the African dancers, began the celebrations with a very colourful and energetic performance, leading our invited guests to their seats. This was followed by the exceptional talent of the 'Vocal Ensemble' performing a very emotional and poignant song 'Can you hear me?' and last, but by no means least, the celebrations were brought to a close with our Senior Concert Band.

Each and every one of the pupils involved worked extremely hard to ensure that the talents that exist within our school were on display for all to see. Well done to them all!

S1 'JOS Factor'



On Friday, 9th October our S1 pupils participated in our annual singing competition. Each and every class took to the stage and performed one song of their choice in front of our gruelling judges and audience of hundreds. This event was a great success and the spirit in which the pupils entered into this competition is to be commended.

Congratulations to our winning class 1C3!



S2 Music Industry Day

On Friday 30th October, all of our S2 pupils will be participating in several practical workshops, delivered by various outside experts. We have invited local radio DJ's from Camglen and L107 radio stations to work with the pupils on broadcasting and jingles.

We have staff from both Ayr College and Stow College in Glasgow working with pupils on Sound Engineering and Music Business, a professional singer/songwriter and our very own resident DJ, Mr Kelly delivering a workshop on DJ-ing.

This is a very exciting opportunity for our pupils to gain a better insight into just how the Music industry works and also to forge links with the professionals working in this industry.

The Music department would like to thank the contributors in advance for their input.

Community Choir Project

We are delighted to inform you that, after securing the second part of our bid, we are able to continue with the John Ogilvie Community Choir project. This opportunity allows us to work in partnership with the associated schools and also our community at large, to enhance the lives of many through Music.



our bid, we
This fantastic
Primary
many through

Plans are already well underway and here are a few dates for your diary:

Activity	Day	Time
St. Joseph's Community Choir rehearsal	Tuesdays	3:30 – 4:30pm
St. Blane's Community Choir rehearsals	Thursdays	3:30 – 4:30pm
St. Ninian's Community Choir rehearsals	Thursdays (changing to Mondays from 30/11/09)	3:30 – 4:30pm
Hamilton Harmonics Choir rehearsals	Tuesdays	7 – 8:30pm
Joint Choir Rehearsal – All choirs in JOHS	Wednesday 30 th October	3:30 – 5pm
Lanarkshire Orchestral Society Christmas Concert – Invited Choir	Monday 7 th October	6:30pm
Joint Choir Rehearsal – All choirs in JOHS	Monday 14 th December	9 – 3:30pm
Christmas Concert – All choirs in JOHS	Tuesday 15 th December	7pm

We are always looking for new members from our community to join us in the adult choir (Hamilton Harmonics) so please consider coming along and joining us.

The Primary choirs are open to any P4 – P7 pupils in that school so again, please encourage any younger children you may have in our associated schools to get involved.



Important Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 10 November - S5/6 Parents Evening
- Monday 16 November - In-Service Day for Staff
- Friday 20 November - Mass for the Deceased
- Tuesday 24 November - S3 Parents Evening



Coming Soon!!

Christmas Raffle

Wonderful Prizes to be won



**Please support this event
which will hopefully ensure
that the many fantastic
clubs, activities and
excursions can continue**

PARENT COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

SESSION 2009-2010

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES:

ANTHONY MEECHAN CHAIRPERSON	-	170 GLENFRUIN ROAD BLANTYRE TEL: 720369/07786190984
THOMAS CONWAY VICE CHAIRPERSON	-	15 SPRINGFIELD CRESCENT HIGH BLANTYRE TEL: 820060
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ELAINE DONACHIE	-	11 CAMELON CRESCENT BLANTYRE TEL: 323730
VAL McCONVILLE	-	53 BOURTREE ROAD EARNOCK TEL: 424309
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LINDA ORR TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE	-	JOHN OGILVIE HIGH SCHOOL TEL: 727600
<u>CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE:</u>		
THOMAS BRADBURN		c/o JOHN OGILVIE HIGH SCHOOL TEL: 727600

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 ...
 Please provide below any issues, concerns or even positive remarks you wish to make about the newsletter contents or about any issue related to the running of the school. Your opinion matters to us. Return this tear-off slip to the school office. Thank you.

E. Morrison
 Head Teacher
 October 2009

