St John Ogilvie High School
March 2019

Parents’ Newsletter

School Website-  www.johnogilvie.s-lanark.sch.uk

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HOLY WEEK
SUNDAY 14th – SUNDAY 21st APRIL

Wishing all in the community of St John Ogilvie a Holy and Happy Easter holiday.

@StJOHS

St JOHS NASA Day- see page 15

Download our school app. ... see page 4
School Holidays
Spring Break- School closes Friday 29th March at 2.30pm.
Pupils return on Monday 15th April at 8.50am
Easter weekend, school closed- Friday 19th April 2019 and Monday 22nd April

ATTENTION all parents and carers-
St. John Ogilvie’s Monthly Draw

Please sign up to support the school funds for £3 a month- that’s 70p a week!
Form (below) can be handed in to the school with contact details to allow the PTA to make contact with the details for setting up the Standing Order.

Recent Winners-
Dec 18- Dermot Anderson. Jan 19- Mrs J Christie. Feb 19- Suzy Gaddis
Monthly Prize Draw

The PTA work hard to raise money for the school, with the main source of income generated through the Monthly Prize Draw where there is a guaranteed £100 prize every month.

Drop us an email if you would like more information
Email: sjohspta@outlook.com

We need you!

We would love to welcome new members at our monthly meetings or to help out at events.

Why not come along to the school on the last Wednesday of the month from 6pm - 7pm?
Email: sjohspta@outlook.com

Because of your generosity we are able to support activities such as:

- Contribute to the costs of trips and excursions
- Provide catering for events, concerts, ceremonies throughout the school year
- Purchase T-shirts/Hoodies for events such as Music trips, annual Ben Nevis climb
- Assist with funding for annual events such as the Burns Supper
- Purchase trophies and prizes for the many award ceremonies
- Purchase licence fees for the Christmas and Summer shows
- Support the Headteacher with any other financial requests

Have you heard of Easy Fundraising?

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Did you know that you can support the school while online shopping?

How? Just start your online shopping at easyfundraising, then shop as normal. Retailers will then make a small donation to say “thank you”. Just remember to choose “John Ogilvie High School” as your cause.

Parent Council
johspc@gmail.com

We also have a Parent Council in the school where issues affecting young peoples learning and development at a school, local and national level are discussed ensuring the best possible learning environment is provided for everyone. The Parent Council can be contacted on email at: johspc@gmail.com

How you can get involved to support your child

Join the PTA as a full or associate member
Join the Parent Council
Sign up for the monthly draw
Help out at events when you can
Shop online at Easy fundraising
THE NEW WAY TO KEEP UP TO DATE
WITH WHAT’S HAPPENING AT SCHOOL

We are now using mySchoolApp to communicate with parents and carers. This will enable us to let you know about important school information on your smartphone, wherever you are.

The benefits to you include:

• receiving instant messages sent by the school direct to your phone (like Parents’ Night reminders etc)
• instant access to an up-to-date school calendar to view important dates
• read our most recent school news
• report your child’s absence to the school on the app

1 Download for FREE

The first step is to get mySchoolApp on your phone or tablet. The easiest way, is to use your phone to search on the App Store (Apple) or Google Play (Android) for mySchoolApp. Once you have mySchoolApp on your device there are just a few things you need to do to ensure you get the most from the app.

2 Log-in to the school

On the initial screen, start to enter St John Ogilvie High School. When you have entered a few letters, the app will give you some suggestions. Tap on our school name and you’re logged in. You only have to do this just the first time. mySchoolApp will remember your school automatically in future.

3 Register (the first time you use it only – it remembers you from then on)

When you have selected your school you will be required to enter your details. This is a once only task and enables the app to identify you to the school. The school app will request that you create a PIN, which is private to you. Again, this is a once only task and will not need to be repeated. This PIN will be used for security reasons if you submit an absence notification via the app, ensuring only you can use this feature. Please do not share this with your child.

When using for the first time you will be asked whether you want to allow push notifications from the app. You must answer ALLOW for the school to be able to send you a quick message (push notification) like ‘School closed today due to heavy snow).

We are sure that both the school and our parents/carers will find mySchoolApp to be an enormous benefit to communication.
We are currently accepting donations of used or nearly-new items of school clothing for our pop-up shop. The shop will be open at the beginning of August (date to be confirmed—updates will be on the school Twitter feed).

All pre-loved clothing will be laundered and available to take away (at no cost). We also hope to have a small selection of new clothing which may incur a small charge or donation. Clothing donations can be dropped off anytime between now and the end of June. A collection bin is located outside the Pupil Support Office and pupils are encouraged to deposit their pre-loved clothing here.

**Feast Day Mass**

The school celebrated our Feast Day Mass commemorating the life and sacrifice of St John Ogilvie. We were honoured on this day to be joined by Bishop Toal to celebrate another important figure of faith in our school community, Mr Eddie Morrison. The school Caritas group organised and created a fabulous video presentation to highlight the contribution Mr Morrison made to the faith life of our school community. Mr Morrison was delighted to receive the Motherwell Diocesan medal for services to Catholic Education.

Lorna Lawson, Headteacher said ‘It was lovely to welcome Mr Morrison back to the school again to receive this fabulous honour. He was a very courageous faith leader in St John Ogilvie who influenced many young people. This is only the second time that this medal has been awarded by the Diocese and Mr Morrison is a very fitting recipient’.
Living Languages 2019 with Brendan Rodgers

Just before his departure from Scottish football, Brendan Rodgers gave a talk at the University of Strathclyde for students, staff and some secondary schools about the importance of learning a language and about how important languages are for improving communication skills and earning potential.

A group of our S5 pupils enjoyed the Question and Answer session with the then Celtic manager.

Rodgers speaks Spanish as well as some French and Italian. He talked about how being able to speak to his players in their own language was very important to him in building relationships and about how having a knowledge not only of language but also the culture of other countries was a very useful skill. He remarked, 'I've always been inspired by people who can speak other languages. Don't be afraid to make mistakes and be able to laugh at yourself’. He encouraged students to ‘do the extra work and put the time in’.

He talked about time he had spent in Spain and the hard work he had put in learning Spanish and about how he felt this had been very valuable. Rodgers quoted Nelson Mandela saying, ‘If you talk to a man in a language he understands that goes to his head, if you talk to him in his own language that goes to his heart.’

Rodgers also shared some advice from his father; ‘The more you learn, the more you earn.’
S1 French Cinema Trip

As part of the S1 Personalisation and Choice programme, pupils participated in a few French taster lessons over the course of February with a view to having the opportunity to opt for a second language in S2 and S3 in addition to Spanish. With this in mind, the Modern Languages department also organised a trip to the Glasgow Film Theatre to see a French film, ‘Adama’ on the 4th February.

The pupils really enjoyed the film and gave it some excellent reviews!

From what I saw, I loved the movie because it was very exciting and a really good movie! – Jennifer

It was interesting and I would watch it again. – Cain

It was interesting and I enjoyed it! -

I thought the film was good and I would maybe watch

I quite liked it. It was my first time watching a film in French! I’d like to see another French film.

I quite enjoyed Adama but it was slow at the start. I began to recognise French words throughout the film though! – Katie

I liked the film because near the end the two brothers meet in war. – Daniel

The drama between the brothers interested me and how they had to fight to see each other!

It was good and easy to understand what was happening. -

I really enjoyed it. It was really dramatic and interesting. I would love to watch it again! - Alex

Every Thursday afternoon Ogilvie is graced with very special visitors. Since late 2017, we have been lucky to have a partnership with Canine Concern Scotland. Frankie Murray and her beloved King Charles spaniel Digby join us to offer the unique Therapet service.

Therapet has been running for a number of years and relies on the generous time of volunteers who bring their dogs into schools, hospitals and care homes to support people across our community. In Ogilvie ‘Reading with Dogs’ is a much loved and very popular programme. Pupils across S1 and S2 are asked to come along and read to Digby the dog for 20 minutes each week.

Ms. Gray and Ms. McGhie support the pupils in their reading whilst Digby enjoys another story. Owner Frankie warmly welcomes the pupils to their sessions and is always keen to encourage cuddles with Digby. Pupils are able to read any book at their own pace and make mistakes as they go without any pausing or interruptions. The pupils really enjoy their session and are able to do so for 6-8 weeks before another five pupils take part. As a school, we are very thankful for Frankie and Digby’s time. It not only creates the feel good factor on long afternoons but pupils love it too.

The Hamilton Assessor for Canine Care Scotland is John Kerr who can be contacted on: 07786560400
Caritas

Pope Benedict XVI Caritas Award 2018-19

26 of our S6 Students successfully gained their Pope Benedict XVI Caritas Award this month. They have made a significant impact on both their School and Parish communities. We look forward to their Award Ceremony in May to officially mark their contribution over the past year.

S6 Retreat Leaders at St Blane’s Primary School Retreats

Four of our S6 students assisted the Motherwell Diocese Mission and Evangelisation Team in their delivery of Sacramental retreats at St Blane’s Primary. Both the primary students and our S6 girls were enriched by the experience and enjoyed working together!

Mrs McCue
Go4SET

Go4SET is a nationwide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) project for S2 pupils ran by the Engineering Development Trust (EDT). This year’s St John Ogilvie High Go4SET team consists of Katie McGuckien Cadia Jaconelli, Molly Rowe, Jacob Duffy and Sean Moulden. (pic below)

The pupils have worked extremely hard over the last 10 weeks looking into climate change and designing a house that can cope with our changing climate.

Devro are our company mentor and the pupils had a brilliant tour of their factory as part of the project. The project culminated with the team presenting their project to judges at the South Lanarkshire Region finals on Thursday 7th of March.

The judges loved their idea and the pupils were crowned overall winners for the South Lanarkshire region. The team will now go forward to the National round of the competition against the winners from each region.
The Go4Set Material World team designed a jacket that would raise the awareness of homelessness in Glasgow. In their research they found out the stories behind the people whose lives had taken an unfortunate turn. People sitting on the ground with cardboard, hand written signs like “My name is David. I am 23 years old, I have a dog called Jess”.
They decided that their jacket would tell the stories of how people came to be homeless.

The design, in the shape of a poncho, would illustrate the individual’s tale, with text and illustrated images from each person’s life. The jacket would also be made for their pets who live in the streets with them, to keep them safe and warm; this also relates to the team name ‘Tales’.
The team sent emails to charities outlining their idea and even sent an email to the First Minister from whom they got a very positive response and one of these charities is currently putting their idea into production in a ‘buy one gift one scheme’.

The team did not win the competition, but were definitely winners in their aim to raise awareness and contribute to the discussion on the issue of homelessness. Well done Team Tales! Evie Seenan, Erin Gildea, Abigail Donsamer, Natasha Keaveny, Orla Halligan and Keira Robertson

Mrs Black
MCR Pathways Mentoring is coming to St. John Ogilvie

MCR Pathways is a school-based mentoring programme that connects young people who need additional encouragement and support with caring, adult mentors. They recruit, train and supports high quality mentors who meet their mentees weekly in school for a minimum of a year under the Young Scottish Talent Programme.

MCR Pathways works in all Glasgow’s secondary schools and in schools in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Edinburgh, North Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire. The programme supports almost 2,000 young people each week. Their vision is that all young people in Scotland get the same education outcomes, career opportunities and life chance, regardless of background.

In schools, Young Lanarkshire Talent helps young people by running three activity channels - individual mentoring, group work and Talent Tasters. Each school has a Pathways Coordinator that develops and oversees their schools’ individual requirements. Schools are additionally supported by the MCR Central team based in Glasgow’s Mitchell Library.

**Mentoring**
At MCR, we know that there is amazing potential and talent in all young people, regardless of their home life and circumstances. But, for many, that potential has yet to be discovered. Each MCR-identified young person is matched with their own individual mentor from S3 onwards. They’ll meet with their mentor once a week for 50 minutes, building a positive relationship based on listening and encouraging. Mentors build relationships, confidence and self-esteem, which are the prerequisite to helping young people find their talents and progress to a positive destination after school.

**Group Work**
The S1 and S2 young people participating in the YLT programme are supported by their Pathways Coordinator, Charmaine Falconer. These weekly group work sessions are focused on building confidence and life skills and also improving Literacy and Numeracy levels. This allows the Pathways Coordinator to build trust and an individual relationship with each young person, preparing them for mentoring in S3.

**Talent Tasters**
Talent Tasters are a chance for young people to try out work and further education through manageable, bite-sized sessions. They are designed to engage and inspire the younger generation with hands-on learning experiences. Talent Tasters are organised for S3-S6 young people who participate in two half-day tasters a year. They give young people more opportunities to find their talents and focus on their pathways to achieve their ambition.

If you would like more information, please contact the school, Charmaine the MCR Pathways Coordinator or the Head Teacher. All will be happy to answer your questions.

Charmaine Falconer
MCR Pathways Coordinator
Music Department

**Thoroughly Modern Millie – Summer show**

The music department would like to encourage everyone to come along to see our summer show ‘Thoroughly Modern Millie.’

The dates will be the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of June.

Lots of our pupils have been working very hard on this fabulous performance.

*Keep the dates free in your diary!*

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**Supported Study Easter School**

The music department will be offering Easter school to our National 5 and Higher pupils.

This will run on Wednesday 3rd April.

Ms Robertson and Mr Thomson will offer both N5 and Higher in the morning.

Ms Robertson will offer Music Technology in the afternoon.

Please sign your name on the Easter school noticeboard.

We look forward to seeing you then.

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**School of Rock**

Fancy being a part of a band?
Love to sing?
Come along to Mrs Beattie’s music room D001 and join the school of rock club.

We meet every Tuesday lunchtime and rehearse many different styles of music.

Bring your lunch with you and learn a new song. The school of rock club is open to anyone in S1 – S4.

Choose an instrument to play or sing along with our choir.

We would love to see you there.

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**IMS Showcase**

The Instrumental Music Service Showcase was a massive success for our senior band led by Ms Cairn Robertson.

The senior band work tirelessly every Thursday evening and have prepared a piece of music to perform at the IMS showcase.

The band played fantastically well and thoroughly enjoyed being a part of this showcase.

Thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to perform at the Hamilton Town House.
Senior Young Musician of the Year 2019

The music department would like to thank our pupils who performed at the senior young musician of the year competition this year. This is a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to perform in front of an audience to prepare for their upcoming practical examination.

Well done to our winners –

**Young Musician of the Year – Orla Gordon**
2nd place – Rachel Murray
3rd place – Callum Speirs

**Young Vocalist of the year – Molly Geddes**
2nd place – Lucy-Ann Duffy
3rd place – Holy Airlie

Massive congratulations to every single performer that evening.

Thank you to our judging panel for coming along that evening and to Mr Graeme Barclay our head of instrumental instruction services.
Senior Mock Interview Evening – Thursday 21st March

As part of our ongoing drive to prepare pupils for the world of work, 25 of our senior pupils will participate in a ‘Mock Interview Evening’ on Thursday March 21st. This fantastic opportunity will give them the opportunity to experience a formal, professional interview and receive feedback on ways to improve their skills in preparation for their next step in their career.

We have 14 representatives across various employment sectors within our community who have kindly agreed to support us in this event.

Special thanks go to our contributors for their support:

- Rebecca Hynes – John Lewis
- Kareem Maylah – John Lewis
- Karen Robertson – Dunns Food & Drinks
- Julie Dunn – Dunns Food & Drinks
- Simon Greaney – Table Table Restaurants
- Claire McCartney – HMRC
- Lianne McCardie – The Royal Bank of Scotland
- Scott McCutcheson – Zeus Engineering
- PC Malcom Morrison – Police Scotland
- Scott Callaghan – The Mortgage Lender
- Paul McCarthy – Lloyds Banking Group
- Fiona Welsh – Glasgow Kelvin College
- Isabelle Graham-Smith – Queen Margaret University

Mrs Callaghan

St John Ogilvie Careers Fayre

As you can see from the photographs, our Annual Careers Fayre was very well attended and was a hugely successful evening. As part of our Careers and Skills for Work support that we provide for our S4, S5 and S6 pupils, we invited a large variety of businesses, colleges and universities. Among those who attended to give fantastic advice to our young people and their families were-

- Police Scotland
- John Lewis
- The University of the West of Scotland
- New College Lanarkshire
- Glasgow Caledonian University
- University of Strathclyde
- South Lanarkshire College
- Glasgow University
- The City of Glasgow College
- The University of St Andrews
- Skills Development Scotland
- Zeus
- Aldi
- Blantyre Training Unit

In total there were 52 contributors who, along with the parents, all commented very positively on how busy and productive the evening was for them.

Mr Blake
Uganda – International Mission Experience

In October of this year, 5 of our present S5 Pupils, Euan Cran, Molly Geddes, Dionne Hossack, Olivia McGrory and Lewis Shevlin, will travel to Uganda with 5 pupils from Holy Cross High School. The mission experience has been organised by Missio Scotland and G.I.G (Getting Involved Globally).

In Uganda, the pupils will carry out projects linked to parishes and school communities including working with a school for the deaf.

At the beginning of March, the group began their preparation for the mission to Uganda by participating in a weekend retreat in Stirling. Over the weekend pupils learned about what mission is and how they need to work together to get the most out of their journey. This weekend gave the pupils a new perspective on what their mission will entail in Uganda and filled them with optimism and hope for their journey and how they will be learn from their neighbours across the world.

Huge congratulations to Erin Fortune in S1 who won Gold at the recent British School’s Judo Championships held in Sheffield. This was Erin’s first venture at this level and to claim the top prize demonstrates her commitment and effort to her training.

Well done, Erin!

Judo Champ
St John Ogilvie High School
NASA Day

On Wednesday the 13th March, our ‘street’ area, under the direction of Ann Compton and her catering team, was transformed into a scene fit for any Hollywood sci-fi blockbuster thanks to the hard work of talented and creative pupils and staff from St. John Ogilvie and our associated primaries.

Following over a month of planning, many of our pupils were involved in a series of learning activities throughout the day across a vast array of subjects where the focus of learning was very much on Space and all things associated with it. Some of the work pupils were involved in included:

**Art** – Pupils in S1-3 worked on posters, murals and displays encompassing space missions and different aspects of our solar system.

**Geography** – Pupils investigated what would make a good launch site for a space mission

**Home Economics** – S3 pupils baked NASA cupcakes and a moon landing cake.

**Music** – BGE pupils completed a lesson on ‘The Planets Suite’ focussing on Mars, which was a listening and performing lesson.

**RE** – Pupils looked at the work of the Vatican Observatory.

**Technical and Technicians** - Mr McEwan (Technical Technician), Mr Rankin (AV Technician) and May Falconer (classroom assistant) designed and made many of the props and displays that were evident around the area, including the alien cave and the popular “spacemen selfie board”.

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As well as work completed in class, continuing the theme of the day was our lunchtime menu and space themed activities. From the main menu pupils were able to sample a number of space named foods such as ‘Saturn Stir Fry’ and fresh sandwiches and salads from the ‘Baguette Launch Station.

This fuelled them up to then take on the ‘Star Wars’ challenge of bringing down the enemy with a target game.
NASA Day continued

What made the day even more inclusive and special was our visit from pupils and staff from our associated primaries.

S. Blane’s, St. Cuthberts, St. Joseph’s, St. Mark’s, St. Ninian’s and St. Peter’s were all represented by pupils from primary 5 to primary 7.

These pupils, along with their supportive teachers, had been working hard prior to the day designing, creating and making models and images that were displayed for all to see. ON the day, they had the opportunity to share with each other the thoughts behind their designs and what they had learned through their involvement in the event. Even better, they received a special VIP lunch and sat alongside their future peers, pupils of St. John Ogilvie.

As well as our primary visitors we also had some special guests drop in from their busy schedules to meet the pupils. Space traveller extraordinaire Buzz dropped by with a friend he picked up whilst touring the galaxy to show our school community what talented and creative pupils we have in our school.

All in all, a fantastic, exciting and informative day was had by all and we are already looking forward to the launch of next year’s themed day. Thanks again to Ann and her dedicated team of caterers, and to all involved, for contributing to a great day, which all members of our learning community were able to be a part of.
The English department have been lucky enough to organise three theatre trips this term for our pupils.

Our lovely S6 attended a night of innovative theatre at the Tron in Glasgow on our annual Advanced Higher trip. After enjoying an Italian meal nearby, our group experienced a moving production of “In Other Words”. The play focussed on the difference music can make to those suffering from Dementia and was commissioned by the Alzheimer's Society and the charity “Play list for Life”- a group that support those suffering Alzheimer's though musical therapy. It was a powerful and thought-provoking night of theatre that was appreciated by all.

Our S3 attended a thrilling production of Shakespeare’s “Macbeth” at the Theatre Royal Glasgow in February. The live performance, by The National Theatre, had excellent reviews and did not disappoint our students. There was witchcraft, murder and mayhem on the stage, which provided a very entertaining afternoon for all of us.

Our S2 also visited the Theatre Royal again in March to see the Royal Shakespeare Company’s beautiful production of the classic “Romeo and Juliet”.
Again, students had an enthralling experience, full of romance and tension, and not a dry eye in the house by the end scene.

Thank you to Mrs Soares, Mrs Mackenzie and Miss Kelly for organising these excursions. We hope to offer more opportunities for our young people to experience live theatre in the next year.

Miss Turnbull, English.
SLLC Secondary Dance Competition 2019

At this year’s annual Secondary Dance Competition, held in Hamilton Town House on February 20th, our teams made us proud once again.

(Above)
S1-3 team lead by Gemma Glackin, Jenna Craig and Lauren Tierney won the S1-3 Other Style of Dance category.

(Right)
S4-6 team lead by Liam Ryan won the S4-6 Street Dance Category against all other schools- well done everyone!

With Liam is sister Molly (bottom left), Briony Bonnar, Elle Hulme, Mya McDade, Olivia Leslie and Emily Duffy.

Well done!

Miss Screen, PE Dept
Dance Showcase Awards 2019

Molly Holmes (S1)
S1-3 Most Improved Dancer

Molly Rowe (S2)
S1-3 Dancer of the Year 2019

Gemma Glackin (S6)
Outstanding Contribution to Dance in St. JOHS

Marianna Hamilton (S6)
S4-6 Dancer of the Year 2019

Emma Jones (S5)
S4-6 Most Improved Dancer
• Green Blazer and Badge
• Black school-length Skirt
• Black Trousers
  (not denims or combat trousers or leggings)
• School Tie
• White Shirt or Blouse
• Green or Black v-necked sweatshirt/knitted jumper
  (optional)
• Summer Dress (optional)
• Pupils are asked to refrain from wearing make-up.

We are very proud of the standard of uniform in the school and thank all parents and carers for maintaining this high standard of dress code.

HOWEVER, we ask that the following items are NOT part of the agreed dress code:
- leggings, shorts, culottes, denim trousers, dungaree-type items
- In addition, as it states above, the AGREED school shoes should be BLACK. Vans and converse-type shoes, if worn, should be black (not black and white or any other colour).

Thank you.

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.

L Lawson, Head Teacher