Through working in partnership with NoTosh an identified area for improvement is our communication with parents. The feedback collated via our parent arm of the NoTosh working group is that parents want to hear more frequently about what is happening in the school and upcoming events. In response to this we are launching a new monthly newsletter that should give you a flavour of the outstanding things happening in our school. I am sure you will be amazed each month by the amount of opportunities, innovation and valuable learning experiences taking place! All these are underpinned by our core values – Respect, Ambition, Responsibility, Determination, Achievement and Inclusion. We use Twitter as our biggest source of communication, however, we recognise that not all our parents are on social media so we have adapted the home page of the website to include tweets for all to see.

Respect

S1 Headspace

Working in partnership with our Chaplaincy team and community partners all S1 pupils visited our Headspace room created by our partners. The focus was very much on wellbeing and self-care. Pupils took part in activities such as ‘Unplugging’ from social media and ‘Mind your head’. Feedback from the pupils was extremely positive and follow up sessions are being arranged. During the week we were able to extend access to Headspace to pupils from other year groups. We are truly grateful to our partners who made this valuable learning experience possible.

S5/6 Paws Against Stress

The S6 volunteering class organised for Therapets to come in before prelims for S5/6. The pupils enjoyed taking time out from their busy schedules to calm themselves by spending some time with the dogs. This experience lifted their moods and helped them to refocus on the exams ahead. We even had Mrs Frazer return with her dog to be part of our support network for seniors.

Wellbeing Focus...Latest Developments

We have had lots of training opportunities that will lead to exciting projects over the coming months for staff and pupils:

- 4 members of staff trained in Mentors Violence Prevention (MVP). This programme focuses on an innovative 'bystander' approach that empowers each student to take an active role in promoting a positive school climate.
- 3 members of staff trained in Low Intensity Anxiety Management (LIAM) for Children and Young People. Staff will be sharing their knowledge with nominated staff on the inset day.
- 3 members of staff trained in Seasons for Growth to support pupils who have suffered from bereavement.
Ambition

**S2/4/5 Options Evening**

S2 pupils are about to start the Options process and are thinking about their future career ambitions. Our Options Evening was well attended and is a great part of the decision making process. All S2 pupils will be interviewed by Pupil Support Managers throughout February. The website [www.mykidscareer.com](http://www.mykidscareer.com) may be useful for helping your child with their decisions.

Alumni Mentor Session

We regularly have former pupils partner us in learning and support our seniors with transitions. It was great to have Kelsey work with a group of pupils who have applied for nursing. The girls appreciated the interview technique advice and especially the insights into University life.

Foundation Apprenticeships (FA)

Foundation Apprenticeships are a great way to gain work based learning qualifications while studying at school. There is a wide range of FA's available for S5 and S6 pupils. These will be discussed at Options Interviews and considered on an individual basis. We currently have 10 pupils who are in Year 1 of their qualifications in Engineering, Business and Childcare. All of the pupils are really enjoying their school/college/work experiences.

IDL

Well done to Victory, Sophie and Jenna who delivered a Keynote speech about their IDL experiences alongside Deputy First Minister for Education, John Swinney. The girls worked extremely hard to prepare their speech and were very articulate in front of a large audience. Mrs White and Mrs Murphy also delivered presentations on our S2 IDL programmes and how we deliver outcomes for our young people.

Calder Blend Barista Bar

Our S3 Achieve group have been partnering with LPC Design & Print behind the scenes in preparation for our new up and coming Barista Bar. This is the groups Enterprise Project as part of their Prince’s Trust Achieve Programme. The group created the name and logo and will be marketing their products soon.

Pupils involved will be fully trained and work towards a City and Guilds qualification. We hope that the Barista bar will feature soon at all our school events and you will be able to sample some of delicious coffee within the next few months.
**Determination**

**2019 Bormio Ski Trip**

Pupils and staff enjoyed a week skiing in Bormio. For many this was their 1st time skiing and they returned more confident. All pupils challenged themselves throughout the week and made big improvements in their skiing ability. Mr Bleach is back and planning next years trip already.

**S4 Curriculum Support**

Our S4 pupils are 'digging deep' in the final few months before their National examinations. We have launched our Curriculum Support classes for targeted pupils to support them in reaching their goals. This was piloted last year and was a real contributing factor to us achieving our best set of National 5 qualifications yet. We know that this year's S4's will rise to the challenge as well!

**Supported Study**

In the coming months, it is vital that S4-6 pupils are capitalising on the opportunities they have to improve and consolidate their learning. We have an extensive supported study programme offering curricular support at both lunchtimes and after school.

We hope to extend our Curriculum Support offer to S5/6 pupils after their prelims.

**Achievement**

Many of our pupils enjoy success both in school and through their extra curricular achievements. We like to celebrate this in the school and want to congratulate the following pupils for their achievements. All of these, require commendable levels of effort and commitment.

Gymnastics success ️ massive well done to Sky Bakke also from 2C3 who came 2nd in Grade 4 Womens Groups at the Scottish Invitational❤️

Silver number 1 for Kyle in the 60m hurdles with another Pb at the Scottish indoor championships @ClydesdaleFife @GlasgowHighSchool 🏆❤️
Inclusion

Uniform

Our uniform is what sets us apart. As a highly successful school we are proud to dress for success. It is important that our young people wear full and proper uniform at all times and we thank parents for ensuring this.

A reminder of our uniform policy:

- **Essential Uniform**
  - White Shirt
  - School Tie
  - Black Trousers
  - Black Shoes or Black Trainers (Must be all Black)

- **Desirable Uniform**
  - School Blazer
  - Black Shoes
  - Black Jumper with no logo but small logo no bigger than 10p size* will be accepted

* This is not an exact size but an indication
Responsibility

**Burns Night** - Miss Hamilton and her team of pupils hosted an outstanding Burns Supper for staff. Murdo Muircroft, S1, piped in the haggis perfectly! The service, presentation and quality of the meal was first class. Well done to all involved!

6th February
Battle of the Bands – Band from Calderglen participating- Hamilton Town House 6th Feb
(Tickets available from [www.sllboxoffice](http://www.sllboxoffice))

11th February
Holiday

12th February
Holiday

13th February
Inset Day

21st February
S3 Parents Evening 4.30pm to 6.30pm
Beauty Night 6.30pm to 9.30pm

28th February
Malaga Parents Night – Library 6.30pm

26th March
Anti Bullying Ambassador training for pupils and staff as part of the Diana Awards.

April (date tbc)
Mental Health First Aid training

S6 Befriending

A note from one of our senior citizens...

“There are several options by which the senior pupils can be a befriender, visiting the elderly being one of them.

When I was first approached I explained that although deemed old, a widower and living on my own I was still very independent and very capable of doing anything that needed to be done. I agreed to having befrienders visit me but suggested that I would not be asking for anything of them except a healthy two-way conversation.

I have now had befrienders visits for the past four years and find that it is an excellent way in which the young and old can discuss and exchange views on a wide range of topics in a relaxed situation. There is always a lot of laughter and they appreciate a toastie snack.

It doesn’t surprise me that many of these volunteers are planning to go into a caring career when their schooling is over. These are the type of youngsters that our schools are producing and their efforts should be fully supported and recognised”.

Len Baker

Parent Council

The Parent Council hosted a successful coffee morning in Claremont Parish Church. All money raised goes towards the school fund. The Parent Council and the school management team thank parents/carers for their continued support.

Upcoming Diary Dates

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