

**Head Teacher Report for Greenwood Connect
August 26th, Session 2019-2020**

No. 1

Support for Pupils

'See Me' Training

Twenty Eight pupils from Greenwood were accompanied by Mr Wallace and Mrs Leslie to Saltcoats Town Hall to attend a two day training session for 'See Me' training. The pupils were very successful and received a glowing report for their great achievement. They showed great enthusiasm and are eager to share their knowledge with others. Thank you to Ms Fullerton who organised this event.

Visit to Elderbank

Twelve pupils from Greenwood visited Elderbank Primary accompanied by Mr Torbit. Building the tents with the wonderful pupils of Elderbank primary was a very rewarding experience. We taught the children how to put up and dismantle the tents, then gave a small talk on what Duke of Edinburgh entails and what efforts are required of participants. The pupils also played a game teaching them the important lesson of navigating, teaching them north, east, south and west. They were very well behaved and presented themselves in a mature manner. We all had a wonderful time. By Charlotte Johnson.

PE & Home Economics Briefing Evening

S4-S6 parents and carers of pupils who are sitting National Qualifications are invited to a PE & Home Economics Briefing Evening which will be held in the school on Monday 2 September at 6pm. We look forward to welcoming you.

Attainment and Achievement

Junior Maths Challenge

Pupils took part in the recent Junior Maths Challenge and results were as follow:
4 golds, 4 silver and 11 bronzes. Over 270,000 from across the UK sat the Junior Maths Challenge with roughly the top 6% receiving a gold certificate, the next 13% silver and the next 21% bronze. Approximately 9200 of the top students are invited to sit a follow-on competition, the Junior Kangaroo. Dawid Pasik and Kate Armour were highest achievers.

The Junior Maths Challenge is run by the UK Mathematics trust and supported by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries. It is aimed at those pupils S1 and S2 and sat at schools. A huge congratulations to all our pupils who were successful on receiving an award.

Staffing

Welcome

Staff and pupils returned from the summer break for the first term at Greenwood Academy and everyone is settling back into school life. Pupils of all year groups attended assemblies with their respective year heads last week. Our new S1 pupils have had a smooth transition and they have settled into school life.

They are encouraged to take part in our range of extra-curricular activities which will benefit their health and wellbeing. Noticeboards throughout the school display all those available so please advise your child to check them out.

We would like to welcome new staff to Greenwood. Miss Walker (Music department), Miss Smith (Art), Dianne Frew (Area Inclusion Worker), and Danielle McIntyre (Family Learning Worker). We wish them well for their future in Greenwood.

Celebrating Success

Congratulations

Welcome to our new senior pupils who have been given the following positions within Greenwood this session. Ryan Young (Head Boy), Ellie Barlow (Head Girl), Ryan Lai (Depute), Aidan Jenner (Depute), Eve Bennie (Depute) and Emily Nix (Depute). We wish them well.

House Captains 2019-20

Following successful application and interview, we are delighted to announce that the successful candidates for the positions of House Captains are: Annick: Katie Bilham and Jaimie Wilson, Gales: Katie Cassells and Emma Macfarlane, Montgomery: Blair Devlin and Kirsty Murray, Overtoun: Teri-Lou McLaren and Jamie McAtee, Perceton: Jessica Hodgart and Phoebe MacMillan, Shewalton: Megan Armstrong and Aidan Fitzsimmons, Warrix: Kelsie Gillies and Ryan McGhee.

We look forward to working closely with our Captains and S6 leaders this year and wish them a very productive and successful year in post.

Top Grades for Pupils

Congratulations to all our pupils who sat their exams. Celebrations will take place at the senior prizegiving. We look forward to celebrating their achievements.

S6 Prom

Senior pupils held their Prom this year at the Gales Lodge Hotel, Irvine. A huge thank you to all staff who attended and helped make the evening a success. Bookings for Prom 2020 will be taken early in the new session. We wish all our senior leavers the very best of success and hope they all achieve their potential.

DofE

Mr Torbit and Miss Allan accompanied pupils on the silver expedition. The group survived a bog and many a scream was heard throughout the hills.

Healthy Eating Week

Home Economics were promoting healthy eating with all classes across all year groups. Classes have been making muesli biscuits which contain dried fruits, oats and oatmeal and pupils have been linking this in with previous learning in classes and the Eatwell Guide.

In classes they have been talking about the 5 healthy eating challenges which are....

Eating 5 a day, the importance of sleep, the importance of hydration, discussing different ways to keep active and the importance of eating breakfast to set you up for the day.

The classes have also been making smoothies using the smoothie bike and the fruit kindly donated by Asda Irvine. The pupils have absolutely loved this!!!

Last Wednesday the pupils had the pleasure of Miss Allan and Mr Torbit in class rocking the smoothie bike!!

N Ayrshire Sports Academy Graduation

North Ayrshire Sports Academy Graduation took place at Saltcoats Town Hall. Fifty pupils from across the Local Authority received an Award in recognition of their voluntary work and commitment to sports development across their clusters.

Eight pupils from Greenwood Academy received Awards following a year of hard work supported by Lauren Fletcher, our Active Schools Coordinator. Parents/carers were also invited to celebrate their child's achievements.

Scottish Grades Competition

Congratulations to Lee who achieved 4 Gold Medals at the Scottish Grades Competition for Gymnastics in Perth. Lee received the medals for Round, Vault, Parallel Bars and Pommel Horse. What a fantastic achievement!

GEM Barista Launch

Mrs Hegarty attended launch of our GEM Barista course. The innovative project was funded by DYW Ayrshire, Princes Trust and Cash Back for Communities and is delivered in partnership with Ayrshire College. GEM Barista is the 6th project introduced across the school and last session our pupils achieved 276 qualifications from the courses. Congratulations to Mrs Boax and the Events Management pupils for organising a very successful launch.

Summer Showcase

Summer Showcase which took place on 5th June was very well attended. Glebe and Springside Cello Group, The Dreghorn Fiddlers, Greenwood Folk, Lawthorn Tuned Percussion Group, Greenwood Concert Performers Choir, Glebe Strings & Greenwood String Orchestra, Greenwood Vocal Ensemble, Greenwood String Orchestra, Dreghorn Brass Ensemble, Elderbank, Lawthorn & Springside Woodwind Group, Dreghorn, Lawthorn, Elderbank & Springside Woodwind & Brass Ensemble, Primary 7 Music Technology Transition Projects and Greenwood Concert Band performed during the evening. All pupils performed extremely well and were a credit to their school. They also looked very smart in their different school uniforms.

The Music Department would like to thank all parents, pupils and staff for their continued support for the variety of musical groups ongoing in our schools. It would not be possible to have a concert without it. It was a very successful concert on a lovely summer's evening!

We would also like to congratulate our pupils who have excelled throughout the year. Gillian and Ryan who both won runner-up trophies in the North Ayrshire Young Singer and Young Musician competitions respectively. Sophie won the S1-S3 North Ayrshire Traditional Singer Competition, and Connor who won the trophy for the most promising piper. The pipers also welcomed guests at the Provost's Civic Pride Awards, Aidan worked with JJ Gilmour for the Young Rock and Pop Competition, our F32 Record Label sold out their first Showcase at the Harbour Arts Centre and received great reviews, Katie has supported Jill Jackson and Derek J Martin and released a brand new single, 'Maybe Later' on Spotify and iTunes. Our pupils also did a fantastic job competing at the National Burns Festival. What another great year in the world of Music.

Flying Scot Volleyball

Well done to S1 pupils Keira and Rosa who were successful at the first stage of trials for the Flying Scots Volleyball programme last Sunday. This exciting innovation will present a series of National trials, training days and competitive events for U17 boys and U16 girls. The players who are selected for the final stages of the Flying Scots will represent Scotland East & North and Scotland West & South. The Flying Scots tournament will take place the last weekend in August.

Dynamic Youth Awards

Congratulations to Jamie-Leigh Hill, Aiden Toy, Jardynlee Sim, Thomas Malanafey, Mohamed Behar, Frankie Wotherspoon, Dylan McKenzie and Callum Ferguson who achieved SCQF level 4 in the Bronze Achievement Award recently. The pupils undertook projects in Healthy Eating, Homelessness run by CHAPS (Community Housing Advocacy Project) and also for arranging Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Fayre. Well done to you all.

National Finals

Congratulations to Alistair, Amy and Emily who are through to the STEM National Final Race for the Line which will take place in Cambridge on 27th June. The pupils have been fund raising in school by selling raffles and staff choosing an element symbol from the periodic table. Also we would like to thank the local community members for donating to their final competition, this is very much appreciated. We wish them well in the final.

Stars of BBC

Some pupils got to talk to the BBC last Thursday about all things football, the World Cup and Erin Cuthbert. Some were a little shy to speak on television however happy to do a group interview for us. You can catch the snippet on our twitter page. Huge congratulations to Erin on achieving her dream. We are all so very proud of you. What a credit to Scottish Football, you are a star and inspiration to all at Greenwood.

West of Scotland Deaf Football Tournament

Congratulations to Fraser and Calvin who lead the football team at Rouken Glen Park. The tournament is run annually by the West of Scotland Deaf Society and this year Fraser and Calvin led the team to victory in the tournament. They received a trophy and medals. This was a fabulous achievement. Well done to all the pupils who took part.

Paris Trip

The Paris Trip 2019 was an amazing experience for pupils and staff. While the weather was very hot the enthusiasm did not wilt in the scorching sun. We spent four days in Paris exploring the sights and sampling French culture. The final day was spent having fun in Disneyland Paris. Disney fireworks were a highlight and also the first sight of the Eiffel Tower. It was a pleasure to spend time with young people who appreciated the opportunity and so obviously enjoyed the experience.

Communication

Senior Yearbook

Last chance to purchase 2018/19 S6 yearbooks. Pupils can purchase them for £6 from Miss M^cCormack in S32. Available for a limited time only, so purchase fast!!

EMA Applications for Session 2019-2020

The online application form is now available for eligible students. If your son/daughter requires further information, please do not hesitate to contact the main office or alternatively visit www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/ema

Return of Library Books

All library books should be returned to the school library as soon as possible. There are over 829 books still on loan. All books need to be returned before the summer break.

Marymass Festival

Twenty four pupils were interviewed by Captain Danny Kerr and Andrew Tremble from the Marymass Festival & Irvine Carters Society. The feedback was extremely positive and our pupils had lots of ideas and information about themselves to share. Congratulations to Aimee and Erin who were chosen as the Mary's from Greenwood. We hope they enjoy their duties and have a great time. The Irvine Carters Society are keen to involve more pupils in the Marymass Festival to showcase local talent. There will be a follow-up meeting to discuss this further.

Marymass

Greenwood were fortunate enough to receive a visit from the Marymass Queen and her Mary's Elect. We hope they have had a wonderful experience throughout and enjoy all their year celebrating.

Anthony Nolan Champions

The school received a visit from representatives of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service who are working with the Anthony Nolan Trust to encourage pupils and staff to volunteer for the bone marrow donor bank. So far around 60 volunteers have signed up and will be screened for compatibility following the collection of mouth swabs. This will be an annual event which Greenwood Academy is proud to be part of.

Modern Apprenticeships

Some great Modern Apprenticeships available in the local area. If your son/daughter needs help with their application then they should see their Guidance teacher or alternatively drop in to see Fiona or Alison our SDS careers advisors.

Uniform Xchange

A great engagement at our Uniform Xchange held at Greenwood. Purchase, request or recycle uniforms were available. All further donations are welcomed. Thanks to all staff involved. Watch our twitter space for our next open afternoon.

School Uniform Order

Reminder that Greenwood Academy clothing is available to purchase online from J.W. Brown at sales@jwbrownindustrial.com telephone number 01294 313863, Fax number 01294 313806 or visit their website for more information at www.jw-brown.co.uk.

Sports Swap

Greenwood Academy Sports Swap will take place on 29th August from 4.30pm until 6.00pm. If you would like to hand in any sporting clothing, equipment that you no longer use, such as football boots, t-shirts, trainers, joggies, swimming goggles, then come along on the night and see if there is something your family might need for the year ahead.

All donations should be handed in by 26th August to the PE department. If you are able to hand in any clothing or footwear can you please state the size. Many thanks Mr Cockerill PE department.

Ski Trip to Italy

If your son/daughter is interested in skiing or snowboarding and would like to participate in these activities in a foreign country then Greenwood are currently running a ski trip to the Italian Alps in February 2020. It doesn't matter whether you have skied before or not as all lessons are provided.

The trip includes 6 days skiing or snowboarding (including lessons), full board, flights, transfers to and from the airport, evening activities and much more! If this is something your child may be interested in then they should speak to Mr Torbit or Ms Greenlees as soon as possible.

Theatre Trip

There are still some spaces left for the Musical Trip to see **'The King and I'** on Wednesday 23rd October. This is open to S1-3 pupils. If your son/daughter is interested they should speak to Mr Rocks Music department.

Chess Club

Reminder to all pupils, especially for new S1 that the Chess club will take place every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in room S09 at lunchtimes. After school Chess will be on Thursday from 3.40 pm until 5.00 pm. If your son / daughter are interested please advise them to go along and join in the fun. All level of players welcome. This is the 46th session run by Mr Taylor MBE.

Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh

Reminder to pupils that registration forms and section paper work for DofE must be handed in by Monday 2nd September to Miss Allan in S15. Any issues, speak to Miss Allan or Mr Torbit.

Main Office Opening Hours

Can parents/carers please be aware that our office opening hours are from 8.30am – 4.00pm each day. However, any urgent messages can be left on our answering machine and will be dealt with at the first opportunity. Or alternatively email greenwood@ea.n-ayrshire.sch.uk and we will respond at our earliest convenience.

Catering

Breakfast Service is available from 8.00am-8.50 am. A selection of morning rolls, omelettes, beans, English muffins, quorn pate are available and also interval Meal deals are also available. Your son/daughter can pre order lunches and will be charged at Breakfast Club or morning break which will save time standing in the main queue. The kitchen offer a cashless system and also parent/carers can pre pay online through Parent Pay at visiting www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the office.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please be aware that applications must be submitted each year.

Home Economics

Home Economics department are looking for empty washing up liquid bottles or plastic cartons to put cooking in. If you have any cartons you are finished with at home they would be very much appreciated.

Xmas Fayre

Xmas Fayre will take place on Friday 29 November at Greenwood Academy. Stalls are available. For more information please contact the school office on 01294 213124.

London Trip

Due to the success of the trip in previous years, a similar trip has been organised for 2020 for S1-S3 pupils. The trip will be by coach which will leave late Saturday 4th May and return late on Wednesday 8th May. We will stay in the Ramada Hotel/Premier Inn or similar. All rooms have private facilities.

The trip includes the following:

- Tour of Westminster Abbey / Houses of Parliament
- Dinner on one evening at the Bubba Gump Restaurant. Other two evenings at Covent Garden
- Flight on the London Eye
- Thames River cruise from Greenwich to London Eye
- Victoria and Albert Museum
- Shakespeare's Globe Theatre / Behind the Scenes
- Theatre to see two west end musicals
- Trip to Cambridge
- Harry Potter Experience

The cost of the trip is approximately £475 which includes all breakfasts, dinners, excursions, tickets and entrance fees.

Further details and a payment card will be issued at a later date, however should you require further information at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

For information pupils should speak with Mr Rocks (Music), Mrs Dunker (S1 Year Head).

Lost Property

We still have a number of items in our lost property. Parents and carers are reminded where possible to have pupils names on items which will allow us to return them to their rightful owner if found.

Parental Engagement

Reporting an Absence

If your child is attending appointments, arriving late or feels unwell to attend school you should call the school telephone number 01294 213124.

Emergency Contacts

There are still a number of pupils who have not yet returned their Data Check to the school office. It is extremely important we have all parent/carer contact details and any health issues updated in case of emergency.

Greenwood are also looking at emailing information due to the rising cost of postage, therefore we ask for all email forms which were sent out to be returned as soon as possible, together with the acceptance form to use the internet and permission to have their photographs taken as soon as possible. There are 240 parents and carers who have not yet provided an e-mail address. We would appreciate it if we could reduce this number as far as possible.

Follow us on Twitter to keep up with our current events and activities. You do not have to have a Twitter account as you can Google us at @Greenwood_Acad and still access all our information. Thank you to those of you who retweet!

Currently, we have 2334 followers. Our next target is 2500. Join Team Greenwood.