



NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS CHRISTMAS 2007



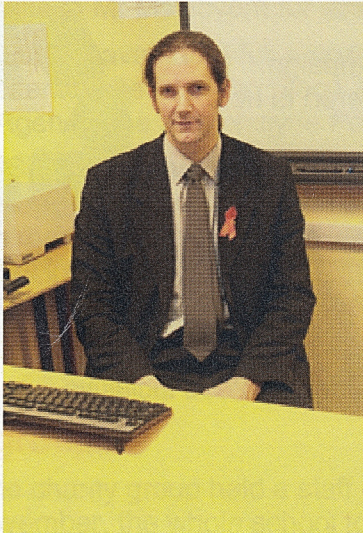
WHITEHILL SECONDARY

Farewells

We bid farewell to Mr McAllister, the Formal Depute Headteacher, and Mr Farmer, Principal Teacher of Mathematics.



Mr McAllister first came to Whitehill as Principal Teacher of Chemistry in 1973. At that time, the school was in the old building in Whitehill Street. We moved to the present building in 1977. In 1979, Mr McAllister moved to Inveralmond in Lothian as Assistant Head Teacher. He returned in 1986 as Depute Headteacher. Over the years Mr McAllister has been responsible for S5/6 curriculum and discipline, the timetable, staff, health and safety, students and administration. He also taught many science and chemistry classes. Mr McAllister has been seconded to Education Headquarters to support all Glasgow schools so that they can make the best use of the SEEMIS computer system, including Click'n'go registration, an area of administration in which he has a keen interest. He said, "We now do more and more things electronically. We're moving into an electronic age and using systems to communicate with SQA, other schools and the local authority."



Mr Farmer joined the school as Principal Teacher of Mathematics in 2004 from St Columba's in Clydebank. Mr Farmer has greatly enjoyed his time here with all his classes. He enjoys seeing pupils trying hard and improving. "The thing I've noticed is that, even with pupils finding Maths difficult, they do want to learn and try hard." Mr Farmer is moving to Knightswood Secondary as Principal Teacher of Mathematics.

Also leaving us is Mrs Isabel McDougall who has been the cleaner for the English department for 30 years. Mrs McDougall has decided to take her well-earned retirement from Christmas.

We wish them all well.

School Uniform Success

Our uniform policy has proved very successful. Pupils like the idea of wearing uniform because they feel and look smart and know that they are safe, as they are easily identifiable.



The majority of our parents also support our policy because it has reduced the element of competition with pupils not competing against each other e.g. who is wearing what and who has got the most up to the minute and most expensive pair of denims, top etc. Visitors have also commented on how smart our pupils look and this has led to more respect for the pupils coming from the public at large.

Thanks to all pupils and parents who have supported our initiative.

A reminder of our uniform – White/sky blue shirt and school tie, dark trousers or skirt, black shoes.

Well done, everyone The Faculty Heads



Christmas Assembly Arrangements

The Christmas Assembly will be held in Dennistoun Central Church at 11.30 a.m. on Friday 21st December.

The service will be conducted by the Reverend Peter Davidge. There will be performances throughout the assembly, including items from the Whitehill Brass Band, a special carol sung in French and a guitar piece by Christopher McSwegan. The Whitehill Dux Certificate will be presented to Craig Johnstone.

Attendance certificates will be presented to pupils with 100% attendance. There will also be a presentation to Student of the Month. All parents and friends of the school are welcome to attend.

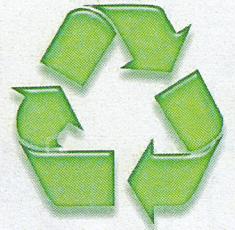
*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to all parents, pupils and staff.*



The School's "Recycle me" campaign

Thanks to all the staff and pupils of Whitehill for taking part in this campaign. I would especially like to thank the pupils and staff who have volunteered to help with the work of the Eco Group.

Jane Brownlow



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas /New Year	Monday 24 December 2007 to Friday 4 January 2008 inclusive
Second Mid-Term	Monday 11 February 2008 and Tuesday 12 February 2008
In-Service	Wednesday 13 February 2008
Easter weekend	Friday 21 March 2008 and Monday 24 March 2008
Spring break	Monday 7 April 2008 to Friday 18 April 2008 inclusive
May Day	Monday 5 May 2008
In-Service	Thursday 22 May 2008
May Weekend	Friday 23 May 2008 and Monday 26 May 2008
School Closes	Friday 27 June 2008

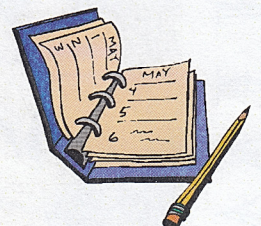
EXAMINATION DATES FOR SENIOR PUPILS

S5/6 Prelims from 4 February to 15 February 2008

SQA Standard Grade Examinations from 30 April to 5 June 2008

SQA Higher and Intermediate Examinations from 14 May to 5 June 2008

S3 Examinations from 16 May to 21 May 2008



CONGRATULATIONS

WHITEHILL STUDENT OF THE TERM

Congratulations to George MacMillan, 1D, who has been awarded the honour of Student of the Term. George always meets the requirements of ABOUT. His teachers describe him as conscientious and self-motivated. **Well done, Georget!**



Young Scot Awards - Luss Mania - Responsible citizens, confident individuals

This is an exciting project, led by Mrs West, involving senior girls participating in the Luss International Youth Project. The girls were nominated for the Young Scot Award and have been successful in getting through to the next round. **Good luck to all involved.**

PSE programmes - Responsible citizens, successful learners

3.1 were involved in the pilot of a programme developed by Barnardo's Street Team. We were one of two schools in Glasgow involved in this development. Well done to all pupils involved. They were a credit to the school. Thanks to Mr McGovern for assisting with this project.

The senior pupils have had a full programme of presentations during this term. They have worked with GOALS and had presentations from the Blood Transfusion Service, the Organ Donation and Transplant Service, Driving Standards Agency, the Strathclyde Police Traffic Team, Financial Services Partnership and the Red Cross.

As part of PSE, there have been some exciting drama performances and workshops this term. The senior pupils attended a performance of the play 'To Have and To Hold'. This is part of our Action Against Abuse programme in PSE. Our road safety programme was enhanced by the delivery of two plays. The first years attended 'The Nine Lives of Roddy Hogg' and the seniors' performance was 'Friends Disunited'. All plays were performed by the Baldy Bane Theatre Company. The plays were really well received by the pupils and are a great way to learn about important issues.

Miss McCracken

Charity group

This year the charity group held a staff coffee morning in September which raised £83.38 for Macmillan Cancer Care. In November, the whole school took part in the Radio Clyde Cash for Kids appeal "Strip for Scotland". Every pupil and member of staff either wore a Scotland top or bought a Cash for Kids badge to help support the Scotland team in their match against Italy on Nov 17th. Unfortunately our support didn't help them win the match but we did raise £192 from the sale of badges and £200 by wearing Scotland tops. We still sponsor a young girl, Elvira, in Bolivia. The money we raise to sponsor her pays for her education and health care as well as supplying fresh, clean water for her village.

The Charity Group would like to thank all pupils, parents and staff for their support this year and look forward to your continued support for our Easter Appeal and other events we will be organising in the new year.

Mrs Dalziel

Merry Christmas from two former pupils.

Pictured here are Lulu, the singer, songwriter, actor and television personality, who was at Whitehill in the 60's and Joanne Reid Rodrigues who was at Whitehill in the 70's. Joanne is the founder of the highly successful Slimming Together programme and an internationally-known journalist and motivational speaker on health, nutrition and lifestyle. Joanne's latest book, "The Life Transformation Diet", is available in the school library now and will be available through bookshops in January. You can also get a copy from Joanne's Slimmingtogether website.



Staff Changes

Welcome to Mr Sharkey, who takes over from Mr Farmer as Principal Teacher of Mathematical Studies.

Congratulations to Mr Morrison who takes over from Mr McAllister as Formal Depute Headteacher, Ms McCracken who takes over from Mr Morrison as Acting Depute in charge of S1 and S2, Mrs Dalziel, who takes over as Acting Head of the Faculty of Support and Mrs Brownlow, who takes over as Acting Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care.



Beauty School Drop-in Day

A Beauty School Drop-in Day was held in the Conference Room on 19th of December, from 10.00am till 3.00pm.

Treatments available were: manicures, facials, and hand and arm massages

The day was run by S5 and S6 girls attending the Intermediate 1 Enterprise Course at the Central College of Commerce. The girls raised £163 for charity.

Sense Over Sectarianism Activities - 'Smash Bigotry out of Sport' - 'Responsible Citizens and Effective Contributors'

Whitehill Secondary School continued their successful cross-sector partnership work with Our Lady's High School in Motherwell when Mr Renton took 12 pupils from S2 to play in a badminton festival. The next activity will be a Dance Workshop with the dance coaches from Rangers and Celtic Study Centres. One pupil said, 'It was great. People should forget about religion and have a laugh'. Another said, 'I learned a lot. If we work together, we are stronger.'

Work experience in our local community.

Over 100 S4 pupils were on work experience during October. The placements included many at local businesses and companies including Scott Brothers Garage, North Glasgow College, NRG Hairdressers at City Park and our local primary schools and nurseries. Ryan Aitken really enjoyed his placement at Halcro in City Park. Selina Cruikshank received a letter of commendation for her work experience at East End Carers. Some placements were so successful, the pupils were asked back! Jade Love, who was at Haghill Park, has continued working with pupils whenever time is available. Kieran Ginda won the overall best student during his residential army work experience placement at Garelochhead. We would like to thank all our placement providers for supporting work experience and making it such a success.

Reward Trips for pupils who have kept ABOUT

Panto Visit : 50 S1 pupils attended the ABOUT reward trip to the panto CINDERELLA at the Kings' Theatre. Ms McCracken commented that their behaviour was excellent. Congratulations, everyone.

Launch: 40 S1 and S2 pupils attended the reward trip to the launch of HMS Diamond at Govan Shipyards in November.

Glasgow On Ice: S1 and S2 pupils also attended the reward trip to Glasgow On Ice on 19th December.



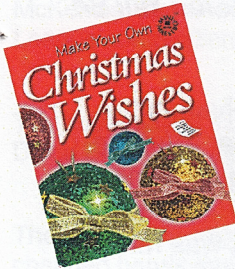
ABOUT is the Whitehill School Code for Pupils.

A is for Attendance. **B** is for Behaviour. **O** is for Organisation. **U** is for Uniform. **T** is for Timekeeping.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Glasgow City Council has renamed the independent and democratic forums for schools "School Councils". They were previously known as Pupil Councils. The changes prompted the members of Whitehill School Council to reflect on the importance of the role of our School Council and its importance in the Learning Community.

As the new title suggests, the School Council is intended to be inclusive of everybody in the school: pupils, teachers and other members of staff. The primary role of the Council is to aim to improve the school by making its views known via consultation, and by contributing to serve and improve the school and the wider community.



Christmas Charity Appeal. The School Council has been selling 'Christmas wishes' to raise money for charity. Based on a seasonal theme, these decorative bags contain a wish card and some 'magic glitter' to hang on the school tree or your Christmas at home. Behind the scenes the pupils involved have given up their lunch times to meet and plan this venture. This was just one of the many ideas that were explored during the lengthy discussions of the pros and cons of each suggestion that was made. The photograph shows three members of the Student Council, Erin Callaghan, Jenny Clark and Shannon McGowan beside the school Christmas tree.



The meetings, and the work that goes on behind the scenes, are in essence what being a member of a School Council is about: learning. Being a member of the School Council requires many skills, qualities and attributes such as communication, collaboration, organisation, planning, enthusiasm, energy and creativity.

On behalf of the staff and pupils, Mrs Rice and Mr McGovern would like to thank the pupils involved in the School Council for their contribution to Whitehill throughout the year.

Mrs Rice

UNIVERSITY PREPARATION PROGRAMME

10 senior pupils are involved in the GOALS University Top Up programme on a Wednesday afternoon. The pupils will attend school-based workshops developing seminar skills, essay writing skills and learning about university life. The pupils then attend two university experience days with the Top Up programme for workshops and lectures. They visited Strathclyde University on the afternoon of Wednesday 19th December.

30 S3 pupils also attended a day at the new University of West Scotland (Bell Campus) with Mr Clelland. The University Team leader commented that they had been the most attentive school group she had ever had.

Music for Craigielea Day Nursery

Maxine Leedham (piano), Stephen Kidd (guitar), Suzie Houston (singer /bells) and Lynda Pettigrew (singer) visited Craigielea Day Nursery to sing and play for the children. It went well and the children loved it. Shona Elliot (Head teacher) was delighted at how much the children enjoyed themselves. On Thursday the 20th December, the group is going to take part in a Christmas concert along with the children at Craigielea Day Nursery in the lecture theatre. The children's parents will be invited along.

Maxine Leedham



Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année!

Après beaucoup de travail, tout le monde est impatient de s'amuser et de fêter Noël. En espérant que le Père Noël va vous gâter.

Les classes de français

Enterprise Activities

Speednetworking at Celtic Park

Speednetworking is for people who are leaving school at Christmas. It helps you to find jobs of your choice and get information on training and colleges. I went along with 10 other pupils from Whitehill on the 13th of November. I thought it was helpful to me because I got to ask lots of questions.

Helen Hill S4

Santa's Workshop at Haghill Park Primary School

Alexis Kyle and Polly Kwok of S5 are working in the primary as part of their community involvement. They were joined by Lauren Connelly, Donna Macready, Lesley Armstrong and Karen Turner to organise this workshop to make Christmas products for the Fayre on the 29th of November. The girls worked with the primary pupils, and the Workshop and Fayre were both a great success. "Santa's Workshop was a great experience. The kids were really good and got into the activities we provided. It was fun!"

Lesley Armstrong S6

Girls into Enterprise Project

S3 Girls into Enterprise was held at the Ibrox Study Centre on the 14th and 28th of November

20 S3 pupils took part. The girls, who had worked on their product design and marketing last year, developed business plans, incorporating financial forecasts and profits. The girls were enthusiastic and highly motivated and both sessions developed core skills such as problem solving, numeracy and effective teamwork.

Emma Rowland

Enterprise is the Business

Pupils from P6 and P7 from Whitehill NLC took part in Enterprise is the Business at Hampden.

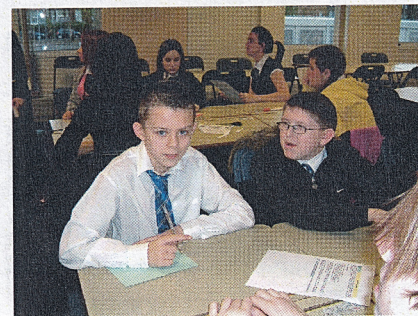
On the 19th of November, 16 pupils from our four associated primaries took part and won the award for Best Quality Products at this event. The pupils had to design and market products with the theme of France and French culture. Well Done!

Jane Brownlow

Business Dynamics Day

On Tuesday the 4th of December a group of 60 S3 pupils took part in a Business Dynamics Day (pictured right). The day consisted of a number of activities. The two coordinators (Jim and Craig) who led the day really helped the group understand more about business. We all really enjoyed it and hope there will be something else like it soon.

Caroline Leedham



Trade Fair at the Forge

Pupils from Whitehill Secondary, St James Primary and Alexandra Parade Primary took part in a Trade Fair at the Forge, Tuesday 20th of November. Shona Westwood and Elsa Manirankunda of S1 and Brendan and Duncan Robertson of S4, who are all members of the Whitehill Craft and Jewellery Club, made £27 by selling jewellery designed by the pupils and made from recycled items handed in by staff.

Thanks to Ms Dorran for all her help and support.

Jane Brownlow

Exercising Dogs: Glasgow City Council has asked us to remind parents and neighbours of the school that dogs should not be exercised in school grounds. This is for obvious reasons.

Sports activities this session

Rugby League

The Whitehill S2 Rugby League Squad, consisting of David Breen, Dean Donnelly, Craig Fairfield, Kyle Kerr, Daryl Love, Jason McCallum, Robert McDonald, Calvin McGregor, Dylan McKenzie, Derek McNeil, Fraser McTaggart and Jason Sharkey, entered the Glasgow S2 Rugby League competitions on Wednesday the 5th of December.



The team played superb rugby, easing past every team in the competition on the way to the final with Jason Sharkey, David Breen and Daryl Love scoring the majority of Whitehill's many tries.

The final was a hard fought match, with Bannerman's size finally making the difference in a match where the lead changed hands several times.

Although Whitehill did not win, many of the Scotland coaches present at the tournament complimented the boys as being the strongest team in the competition and applauded their effort for playing five games with no substitutes.

Watch this space for the next Whitehill Scotland Cap as some of these boys are certain to follow in Nathan Delgado and Indio Singh's footsteps if they decide to stay involved in Rugby League at Whitehill.

The Scottish Rugby League Academy runs in the school on a Friday afternoon. If any first or second year pupils are interested in becoming part of this successful set up, see Mr Sim for more details.

Mr Sim

Under-13 Football

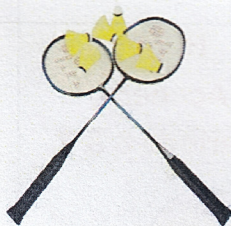
Whitehill U13 football team have played 10 league and cup games so far this academic year, with the results as follows:

WON = 4 DRAWN = 2 LOST = 4 26 players have been used in total.

Coaching takes place on a Wednesday after school in the games hall. Any pupils wishing to come along should see Mr Renton for more details. The school will also be represented at U13 level in the up and coming SSFA fun 4's to be held at Kelvinhall on 18th December.

Badminton

Following the success of the Football and Trampoline events last year, Whitehill once again have linked up with Our Lady's High School in Motherwell to promote the message of positive relationships and anti-sectarianism.



The following 2nd year pupils travelled to Our Lady's High School on 4th December to take part in a Badminton Event which involved a group coaching session and mixed school competitive matches. All pupils played well and were a credit to the school.

Stephen Semple, Danielle Cameron, Robert McDonald, Amy Waddell, Daryl Love, Joanne Paulley, Calvin McGregor, Georgina Smith, Gary Fraser, Tia Smith, Craig Fairfield, Scott Ramage.

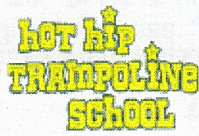

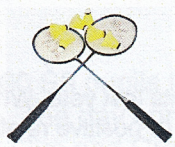


Thank you to all parents and pupils who have given up their time so far to support the school teams.

Mrs Campbell (Active Schools Co-ordinator)

**Make sure you check out
the new timetable starting in January 2008
—see the next page**

Aim for a fit and healthy life for your children

New Extra-Curricular Activities Timetable for after Christmas

DAY	LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES	CLUBS RUNNING AFTER SCHOOL		
		Games Hall	Gymnasium	Outside
Monday	Games Hall booking available S2 – S6 Tone Zone (bums)		Trampoline Club 	Rugby League S1 – S4
Tuesday	Games Hall booking available S2 – S6 Tone Zone (tums)	Netball Club 		
Wednesday	Girls Football	U13 Football		U15/U18 Football Training
Thursday	Games Hall booking available S2 – S6 Tone Zone (legs)	Badminton Club 		Football Match Night 
Friday	Games Hall booking available S2 - S6 Tone Zone (arms)	Staff/Seniors Football		Rugby Academy Periods 6 & 7 

Tone Zone will run during lunchtimes with Mrs Campbell (1.05 – 1.25pm). Each day will concentrate on toning up a different part of the body – So come along and see what a difference 20 minutes can make!!!

