

King's Park Secondary School Newsletter for Families and Friends

October 2007

Congratulations to Our Pupils

Dear All

This newsletter celebrates just some of the successes of our pupils. Our prefects, captains and vice-captains feature on the front page. Inside, there are many more.

Congratulations to everyone – whether featured in this newsletter or not – for your achievements in citizenship, sport, art, music, academic success, languages, charity work, enterprise, hospitality and everything else.

We are very proud of you, and your families must be proud too. Well done.

Kind Regards

M Barr

Mrs Margaret Barr
Head Teacher



Well Done! - Our New Praise Policy

Our new Praise Policy starts very soon. Pupils will be rewarded with Merits to recognise achievements in class and in citizenship.

Watch out for the leaflet for parents.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY (from October 2007)

Christmas and New Year holiday	School closes School reopens	Fri 21 Dec 07 Mon 7 Jan 08
February holiday	School closes Holidays and In Service Day 4 School reopens	Fri 8 Feb 08 Thu 14 Feb 08
Easter week-end	School closes School reopens	Thu 20 Mar 08 Tue 25 Mar 08
Spring Holiday	School closes School reopens	Fri 4 Apr 08 Mon 21 Apr 08
May Day	School closes School reopens	Fri 2 May 08 Tue 6 May 08
May week end	School closes Holidays and In Service Day 5 School reopens	Wed 21 May 08 Tue 27 May 08
End of session	School closes	Fri 27 Jun 08

ASSESS- MENTS	S5/6 English (Higher, Int 2 + Int 1) Internal Assessment of Unit 3	Mon 3 Dec 07
	S4 Prelims S5/6 Prelims S2 Assessments S1 Assessments S3 Assessments	Tue 8 Jan to Fri 18 Jan 08 Mon 28 Jan to Fri 8 Feb 08 Mon 3 to Fri 7 Mar 08 Mon 31 Mar – Fri 4 Apr 08 Mon 28 Apr – Fri 9 May 08
	SQA Examinations – S grade	Thu 1 May – Tue 27 May 08
	SQA examinations – Higher, Intermediate and Access	Wed 14 May – Fri 6 Jun 08
	S4/S5 (new S5/6) return to school	Thu 5 Jun 08

REPORTS ISSUED	S1 Interim Reports S4 Interim Reports S5/6 Interim Reports S3 Interim Reports S2 Interim Reports	Fri 12 Oct 07 Fri 2 Nov 07 Fri 16 Nov 07 Fri 23 Nov 07 Fri 14 Dec 07
	S4 Reports	Fri 15 Feb 08 <i>(Subject Choice forms due Mon 25 Feb 08)</i>
	S5/6 Reports	Tue 4 Mar 08 <i>(Subject Choice forms due Fri 7 Mar 08)</i>
	S2 Reports	Fri 4 Apr 08 <i>(Subject Choice forms due Thu 24 Apr + Fri 2 May)</i>
	S1 Reports S3 Reports	Fri 16 May 08 Tue 3 Jun 08

PARENTS' MEETINGS	Open Evening	Wed 14 Nov 07 at 7 pm
	S5/6 Parents' Meeting S1 Parents' Meeting S4 Parents' Meeting S2 Parents' Meetings S3 Parents' Meeting	Thu 22 Nov 07, 4–6 pm Tue 4 Dec 07, 4-6 pm Wed 20 Feb 08, 4-6 pm Tue 22 Apr + Wed 30 Apr 08, 4-6 pm Wed 11 Jun 08, 4-6 pm
	Course Planning Evenings S2 going into S3 S4/5 going into S5/6	Tuesday 18 March 2008 Wednesday 23 January 2008

Work Experience Week for S4	Week beginning 12 Nov 07
Induction Days for new S1 (P7 pupils)	Thu 29 and Fri 30 May 08
Parents' Evening for parents of P7 pupils	Thu 29 May 08 at 7 pm

P7 Challenge Day (event for all P7 pupils in King's Park Secondary)	Tue 13 Nov 07
Christmas Concert (in school)	Wed 12 Dec 07 at 7 pm

REWARDS

Eid Party	Fri 26 Oct 07 at 6 pm
S3/4 Ceilidh	Mon 17 Dec 07 at 7 pm
S1 Ceilidh	Tue 18 Dec 07 at 1.45 pm
S2 Ceilidh	Wed 19 Dec 07 at 1.45 pm
S5/6 Ceilidh	Thu 20 Dec 07 at 7 pm
Reward Day Trips to M&Ds, Magnum, Alton Towers - Week beginning Mon 23 Jun 08	
S3 Trip to Paris 2008	Fri 20 June 08 – Wed 25 June 08
S5/6 Leavers' Do	Date to be confirmed

AWARD CERE- MONIES	S1 and S2 Award Ceremony	Thu 19 Jun 08 at 2 pm
	Prizegiving Ceremony for S3-6	Thu 19 Jun 08 at 7 pm

FUND-RAISING: RAFFLE – NOVEMBER 2007. PLANT SALE – MAY 2008

New to King's Park Secondary

What do you think of it?

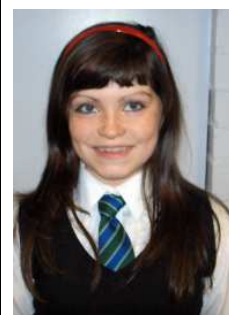
Interviewed by Mrs Irene Yuile, Primary/Secondary Transition teacher



When you are at Primary you are frightened of going to Secondary, but once you're there it's ten times better than Primary.



When you come to Secondary you have more freedom to move around on your own. You feel more grown up.



It is more difficult to remember all the teachers' names, and it is tiring going up to the third floor for Maths.



I have enjoyed being able to go out for lunch



In Secondary it is great to go round the school to different classes.



You make a lot of new friends and I've enjoyed having such a mixture of subjects.

PUPILS' NAMES HAVE BEEN REMOVED FOR WEB EDITION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.



Mr Tom Feasby, Depute Head Teacher

Hello, Mr Feasby and welcome to King's Park Secondary. Tell us a bit about your background.

I was a Forces child, educated mainly at Elgin Academy and Jordanhill College. My first appointment was as a teacher of Technical in Possilpark Secondary School, where I eventually became the Principal Teacher. I then moved to Hillhead High School. For a time I worked with LEGO UK, and built my own company car! Before coming to King's Park I was PT Technical at Calderhead High School, and also had a spell as an acting DHT.

What was your first impression of King's Park?

Too many stairs! But this is compensated for by the friendly staff and pupils.

And what about the future?

I would like to see the pupils in King's Park having the opportunity to be the best in Glasgow, and I believe that this can happen.

SQA Information – Standard Grade Awards

How do S4 pupils gain a Standard Grade Award?

For each subject they sit **external exams**, organised by the Scottish Qualifications Authority in May every year, and also **internal assessments***, which are organised by each Department in the course of the year. The results for both of these are combined to make up the final grades.

How important are the Internal Assessments?

Very important – for some subjects, they count for 50% of the final grade. Many pupils don't realise just how important it is to work really hard to get good grades for these tests.

Can parents help?

Yes. By checking that your children are working hard to prepare for their assessments in class, you can help to improve their grades. All pupils will be given homework to help them prepare and they should also note the dates of assessments in their homework diary, so it will help to check that too.

When do these Internal Assessments take place?

Right through S3 and S4, for all subjects. Here are a few examples of assessments which S4 pupils will be working for this term:

- **Computing**
Work on practical assessments is going on all the time.
- **French and German**
Writing and Speaking assessments will take place in October and December. Each assessment takes several weeks to prepare.
- **Maths**
Test for most pupils on October 4th.
- **History**
Internal assessments don't start until after December, but in order to prepare they have practice questions to complete every ten days this term.
- **P.E.**
The Fitness test is held in December.



Scottish Learning Festival

on 19 September 2007

King's Park Secondary pupils chatted with Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning in the Scottish Government.

Watch this interview on <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/slf/video/fionahyslopinterview.asp>

Then, at the Clyde Auditorium (the Armadillo), King's Park Ceilidh Band entertained delegates arriving for the Fiona Hyslop's keynote speech.



'The young people were wonderful – providing lively and excellent singing and music to illustrate their accomplishments.'

*Chris McIlroy
Chief Inspector of Education
HMIE*

'Thank you – to you and your wonderful pupils.'
*Margo Williamson, Programme Director
(A Curriculum for Excellence)*

'Your pupils did a tremendous job.'
*Events Manager,
LTScotland*



Thank you to all staff and pupils who supported this event.

King's Park also excelled in one of the Spotlight sessions at the Festival. Our 'We Are the World Ensemble' entertained delegates and featured on a short DVD shown at the session. Some pupils also demonstrated Gigajam software at other workshops.

Ramadan and Eid

Throughout Ramadan, pupils have been making use of the prayer room, supervised by staff. We will shortly celebrate Eid, and a group of senior girls are working hard to give a party for girls and their guests, which will be held in the Assembly Hall on 26 October.

Impressed with King's Park Pupils 1

The Psychologist with Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board, who worked with our S6 pupils, looking at mental health issues wrote afterwards: 'We really enjoyed coming into school, and the kids responded really well.' Excellent!

Impressed with King's Park Pupils 2

Jordan Kirkpatrick was one of a group of Glasgow pupils who volunteered to represent Culture and Sport as trainees at the Scottish Run, as part of their vocation option in Sport and Recreation. The organiser from Culture and Sport wrote: 'The guys were great on Saturday and they all worked very hard.' Well done!



Very Important Information

We believe that there are many pupils who are eligible for a clothing grant and/or free school meals, who do not claim. Pupils who do not use their free meal allowance effectively give £1.15 every day to Glasgow City Council.

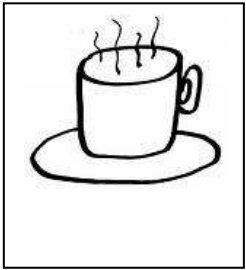
We would urge parents – if you think you may be eligible, please complete an Application Form (available from the office). This is your right. These applications need to be completed every year.

Even if you do not intend to take the free meal every day, you should still register, so that you receive it on the days you choose. If we can help in any way, please contact the school.

Our Website is in the process of being revived. You can see how we are getting on with it at <http://www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk/default.aspx>. If you would like to offer assistance with setting up or maintaining the website, please contact Mrs Barr, Head Teacher.



Summer Tea



One morning in June, pupils hosted a Summer Tea for guests from the local community. Pupils from the Social and Vocational Skills classes served tea, coffee and their own home-baked goodies to delighted local residents. Other pupils entertained those present with music from the jazz band, choir, fiddle group, and more. A free raffle with donated gifts finished off the morning.

Sometimes our neighbours have to put up with a lot, living so close to a large school. So it was a great pleasure to host this event and give something back to the local community.



Very enjoyable. Coffee and cakes delicious. Music excellent. Pupils a credit to school!

Service excellent!
Tea, coffee and cakes delicious.
Michelin star quality.

Meg - our waitress - was very attentive. Compliments to the children who provided the baking, and those who provided the entertainment. Indeed a school to be proud of!

A most wonderful morning. Everything first class.



The tea and cakes were lovely. The band were fantastic!!
The pupils were brilliant!!

Absolutely spectacular!
Can we do this again?

Very talented pupils and a nice atmosphere.

Art and Design - Glasgow Gallery Competition

Congratulations go to the following students who were successful in the Glasgow Gallery Competition

Hayley Wells	Gold medal winner
Stephen Copeland	Silver medal winner
Emma Howie	Bronze medal winner
Lara Kaminski	Commendation

The competition is now over 100 years old and attracts thousands of entries from all over the west of Scotland. The entries, drawings and paintings of objects in Glasgow Museums collections, are judged by professionals in the art world.

Winners were invited to a glittering ceremony in the Burrell Collection in August where they received their medals. An exhibition of their work runs in the Burrell Collection from 31st August – 21st October 2007.

Pupils' photos have been removed from this web edition of the newsletter.

Art and Design – Scottish Qualifications Authority

Sarah McNally's artwork was selected by the Scottish Qualifications Authority to put on display. Each year they select art work which is innovative and original to show to teachers, students and the general public – amazing work being produced by Scotland's young artists. Sarah's work will be on show in the National Gallery of Scotland in Edinburgh from 24 October to 4 January. Congratulations!



Out of Town, Out of Sight

. . . is the name of an exhibition of photography taken by the boys who travelled to the township of Khayelitsha in South Africa, along with other young Glaswegians. The exhibition took place in Kelvingrove Art Gallery for 4 days in September.

The photo shows the boys (names removed from this web edition of the newsletter) (all members of the group Global Glasgow Youth Project), along with and Mrs Barr, at a fund-raising event before the trip.

The school is grateful to the charity Glasgow the Caring City, whose initial introductions made the trip possible.



Auschwitz

Two senior pupils (names removed for this web edition of the newsletter) travelled to Poland for a day to visit Auschwitz.

Along with other pupils from Glasgow schools, they were shown around both Auschwitz and Birkenau by a guide as part of the The Holocaust Educational Trust's Lessons from Auschwitz project.

The girls wrote a very moving report of their experience which will be published in the press. The first paragraph is copied below.

It is impossible to understand simply by looking at the old black-and-white photographs, the reality of Auschwitz and Birkenau. These dated, monochrome pictures can't accurately convey how it feels to walk along the paths by the rail lines, strewn with rocks; to trip in one of the many potholes hidden by the untended grass; to shiver from the biting winds that blow through the exposed areas of the camp. They don't show the bright, dappled sunlight that glints off the barbed wire fences at Birkenau, or the rows of leafy trees in front of the red brick buildings at Auschwitz. Odd images that contrast with our perception of a concentration camp – the very antithesis of what these places seem to stand for. From an image alone, we can't begin to know what Auschwitz was truly like for those who were sent there. Is there anything that can? Visiting the camp, listening to the stories of individuals who were there, and hearing testimony from a survivor comes close.



S1/2 Award Ceremony



S3-6 Prize Giving



S3 Paris Trip June 2007

In June 2007 40 S3 pupils and 5 of their teachers travelled by coach from Glasgow to Paris. The pupils enjoyed visits to all the major sites including the Eiffel Tower, le Sacré Coeur, l'Arc de Triomphe as well as a cruise down the world famous River Seine and a memorable but *slightly* expensive afternoon shopping on the Champs Elysées. After the sightseeing, pupils and teachers got to relax on the last day with a visit to the Parc Axterix theme park on the outskirts of Paris. Our French hosts continually commented on our pupils' good manners and high levels of courtesy towards their hosts, thus ensuring that the good name of King's Park Secondary School lives on.

Well done everyone on another memorable and successful trip to France.



European Day of Languages

September 2007

S1 – La Francophonie – project reports on French-speaking countries. French breakfast in classrooms, provided by pupils and teachers.

S2 – La Francophonie – quiz T/F on French-speaking countries – Pupils worked in groups and guessed answers. Winning group received a prize. 1/2 period, other half French, Spanish, German, Italian DVD. Pupils provided refreshments.

S3 – S6 – Eurovision singalong! CD with European hits and songsheet.

Quiz as for S2 and DVD.

All classes received some tuition in a language they did not study.

Staff were invited to take part in a quiz.

NB Next year, the event will be a Eurovision Song Contest!

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED APPEAL 
Every penny you give goes towards helping disadvantaged children and young people in the UK.

Miss Taylor's S3 SVS class are preparing to make and sell cookies for the Childline Cookie Challenge, the activity being aimed at S1. This is to:

- Raise awareness of the charity CHILDLINE and the work it carries out to combat bullying
- Raise funds for CHILDLINE.



The winners of the first ever football tournament to be awarded the Calum Kyle Cup. In June, in 'Smartie Town', Paarl, South Africa, a team from Scotland played local teams in the tournament. The girls' team here were the winners.

Thank you to the charity Glasgow the Caring City for arranging the tournament.

Badminton Victory

Summer 2007

The school badminton team came first in the badminton section of the Glasgow Youth Games this summer, at Scotstoun Sports Arena.

The members of the team were:

Alexander Heeps
 Stephen Copland
 Jamie Clark
 Christopher Meechan
 Melissa Waterston
 Carol Nicoll
 Candice Towler
 Bethany Rodgers
 Alice Watson



Football

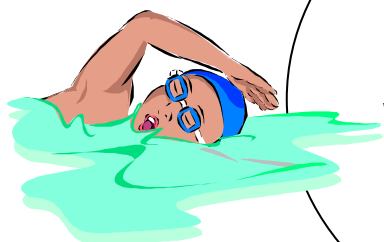


Senior boys football team

Pre season friendly results

Castlemilk	2	6	King's Park
Knightswood	2	2	King's Park
Balfron	1	5	King's Park
Whitehill	0	5	King's Park

Swimming



Anina Kamisha, Lauren Pettigrew and Ross Wood have qualified for the Glasgow Schools swimming finals