



Largs Academy Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2025

Careers Fayre



As the options choice process gets underway for our pupils for another year we hosted our annual Careers Fayre earlier this month. We welcomed over 30 information stalls hosted by national employers (Police Scotland; British Army; Network Rail) local businesses (Largs Yacht Haven; Pooch Pod) and colleges/universities (Strathclyde University; University of the West of Scotland; Ayrshire College). 12Is with pupils and parents/carers are planned throughout this term for all young people in S2-S5 selecting their subjects for next session. We have also added a section on our website sharing information on specific subjects: <https://largsacademyexpressivearts.my.canva.site/options>

Young Musicians

The talent on display at our recent North Ayrshire's Young Musician of the Year semi-finals was outstanding. In a very competitive line-up Dylan Sheraer (piano) and Sydney McTaggart (voice) were our runners-up with Eva Keogh (voice) being awarded overall winner. Eva then represented Largs Academy at the finals at Saltcoats Town Hall last week. Well done to all of our pupil participants many of whom will be seen showcasing their talents at our school show - Legally Blonde - in June. Details to follow very soon...



S6 Superstars!



As they near the end of their time at Largs Academy, our S6 have continued to impress us with both their achievements and commitment to activism.

Firstly, (left) Fraser Rodger and Josh Gilmour have both been selected in the U18s Scottish Schools International Football Team. They will represent Scotland in 5 international fixtures in the coming months. They play Australia in a friendly before taking part in the Centenary Shield where they will play England and Republic of Ireland at home before playing Wales and Northern Ireland away. Secondly, (right) David Cockerill and Eva Farnell recently attended the Scottish Parliament to speak at Holocaust Memorial Day through the Lessons from Auschwitz project which saw them travel to Poland and raise awareness across our school community.

Spotlight on... MCR Pathways



Since April 2024 we have been successfully delivering the Young Talent Programme from MCR Pathways, which comprises Group Work for selected S1 and S2 pupils and weekly mentor meetings, in school, for selected S3-S6 pupils.

Building on the stunningly successful work that the Glasgow based charity MCR Pathways has been delivering for 18 years, here at Largs Academy we now have 10 pupils who have been meticulously matched with a mentor, with more in the pipeline. Those mentors are volunteers, from near and far, who are given extensive training, support and resources to work with their matched young person.

The benefits of mentoring are longstanding and soundly proven, especially when it comes to attainment, attendance and achievement. For mentored young people though, the most consistent feedback we get is that they hugely value having a space to regularly talk about whatever they like, with someone who is independent from school.

We have a full time Pathways Coordinator in school, whose role is to support both the mentors and the pupils, along with delivering the weekly Group Work programme for S1 and S2 pupils. And he works closely with our Year Head and Pastoral Support teams to select, engage with and support those who are involved.

For more information on how to be a mentor or on how the programme works, please visit www.mcrpathways.org



Key Dates – March 2025

March 4th:

S3 Parent Meeting (16:15–18:15)

March 7th:

Fundraising Friday (charity TBC)

March 13th:

P7 Transition Day

March 24th:

Senior Phase Tracking Reports and SQA Estimates issued

April 1st:

Parent Council (5:30pm at Largs Academy). We will be discussing the Options process and are always looking for new members (and a new Treasurer!) Please email largsacademyparentcouncil@gmail.com

