



# Largs Academy Newsletter

## MARCH 2025

### North Ayrshire Music Festival



Largs Academy musicians had a fantastic Ayrshire Music Festival! Claire Esslemont and Sophie Rice won the Duet Class (Div A), while James Bassett took second place in Cello Solos (Div D). Claire also won Cello Solos (Div A), and the String Group triumphed in the Intermediate School Orchestra class.

Meanwhile, our talented Woodwind and Brass pupils excelled at the Scottish Concert Band Festival Final in Perth, earning a prestigious Gold+ with the NA Senior Concert Band. Congratulations to our pupils on their outstanding achievements!

### Purple Friday

Largs Academy staff proudly celebrated Purple Friday in February by wearing purple to show their support for our LGBTQIA+ community. Staff and pupils joined together to champion inclusivity and equality. Our LGBTQIA+ Pupil Leaders took the lead in organising a special flag-signing event, where staff pledged to support, protect, celebrate, and act as allies for all pupils. This meaningful gesture reinforced Largs Academy's commitment to fostering a welcoming and safe environment for everyone.



### Youth Philanthropy Initiative



Largs Academy's S2 pupils have once again excelled in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), demonstrating their dedication to researching and supporting charities that make a real difference in the community. This year's winning team—Sofia, Rebecca, Imogen, and Ava—secured the £3,000 grant for North Ayrshire Women's Aid, a vital organisation that supports women and children affected by domestic abuse. Our pupils worked passionately to understand the challenges faced by local charities, developing persuasive presentations to advocate for their chosen causes.

# Spotlight on... Thematic Inspection of English & Literacy



Largs Academy was pleased to be selected as a key school in Education Scotland's Thematic Inspection of English and Literacy. As part of this opportunity, we welcomed three Inspectors to our school for two days, where they observed learning and teaching across a variety of subjects, including English, Social Subjects, Languages, Science, and Pupil Support.

During their visit, the Inspectors also met with our Young Leaders of Learning (pictured recently visiting Auchenhavrie Academy to spend a day in the life at their school), Pupil Leadership Team, and other pupils to gain a deeper understanding of their experiences at Largs Academy. These discussions provided valuable insights into how literacy is developed across the curriculum and how pupils engage with their learning in a supportive and stimulating environment.

We were delighted that the Inspectors left with a positive impression of our school. They praised the positive behaviour and engagement of our pupils throughout their visit.

Their feedback highlighted the inclusive and nurturing ethos of Largs Academy, reinforcing our commitment to excellence in education. This opportunity has been a fantastic way to showcase the hard work of our staff and pupils, and we are proud to contribute to the ongoing development of education across Scotland.



## Key Dates – April 2025

April 4th:

Last Day of term 3. Early closure at 14:30 and Fundraising Friday (non-uniform).

April 22nd:

School reopens to pupils at 9am.

April 23rd:

P7 Parent and Pupil Open Evening. Smith's of Greenock Uniform shop will also be here from 5pm for any parents (S1-S6) to purchase items..

April 28th:

S1-S3 BGE tracking reports issued.

April 28<sup>th</sup>:

Study Leave begins for all Senior Phase pupils (S4 – S6). Bespoke timetables and masterclass schedule have been issued to pupils who want to take advantage of additional tuition during this period.



Our pupils will be starring in their own play at Beacon Arts Centre on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> of April at 7:30pm during the Easter Break. Tickets available [here](https://beacon.umbraco.prcht.co.uk/events/fresh-air) and an update in our next newsletter: <https://beacon.umbraco.prcht.co.uk/events/fresh-air>