



Largs Academy Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2024

Star Achievers in Physics



Largs Academy has been crowned physics champions after winning the 2024 West of Scotland Physics Education Group (WoSPEG) competition. The team was made up of Angus McEachran, Owen McGrath and Kaya Tatar who worked together to show off their impressive general knowledge and anagram and problem solving skills. From the twenty eight schools who competed, Largs Academy alongside Gryffe High School, The High School of Glasgow and Lourdes Secondary managed to reach the final at Strathclyde University. Although extremely close, Largs Academy managed to come out on top by one point to secure the prestigious lunar landing trophy for the first time. Well done!

Award Winning Teacher

Our PE teacher – Mr Murchie – was recently nominated by Scottish Rugby for the Eric Liddell Foundation awards, in recognition of his incredible work developing Rugby at the school through the School of Rugby. Thanks to Mr Murchie, 100s of young people have had the opportunity not only to play the sport but also to gain further qualifications after completing the School of Rugby programme.

We are delighted to say that Mr Murchie won the award and recently attended a ceremony in Edinburgh hosted by the Eric Liddell Foundation where Princess Anne presented Mr Murchie with his award.



Masterchefs



Our Health and Food Technology team continue to create the chefs of the future. Freddie Finn recently won the South West Scotland heats to make it through to the Scottish final of Futurechef UK in February 2025 with Tristan McNair as a close runner-up. As part of this amazing experience he will be mentored by Ryan Murphy (Head Chef at Turnberry) and will compete against 20 student chefs across Scotland! Also, a huge congratulations to all of the pupils who recently took part in our Masterchef competition where a variety of tasty two course meals were dished up and served to our judges. A special congratulations to our overall winners Megan Lafferty (S1) & Lucy Houston (S2).

Spotlight on... our Mobile Phone Policy

During November we have been evaluating our Mobile Phone Policy with pupils, parents and staff. A recent parent survey received over 250 responses with the following results:

- 90% of parents support our "Turn Off & Tune In" policy (an increase of 9% since the implementation survey in May).
- 33% of parents report improved concentration and reports from their children about less teacher time wasted in lessons.
- 25% reported improved wellbeing and improved peer to peer relationships outside of school.

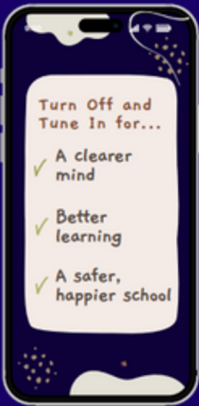
This positive parent feedback mirrors feedback from staff:

- 100% of staff support our "Turn Off & Tune In" policy
- 95% of staff report less time wasted in lessons because of mobile phones whilst 75% of staff report better pupil engagement since the implementation.

Alongside this, almost half of our pupils reported positive benefits both inside and outside the classroom since implementation.

We are proud of the success of this new approach to mobile phones in our school and with the continued implementation of our existing policy moving forwards.

Turn & Tune In



 **Mobile phones and personal headphones are not to be seen, heard or used at any time whilst in the school building.**

 **This includes at interval, lunch time, during transitions and before the bell goes at the beginning of the school day.**

 **Mobile phones and headphones can be used outside.**

Ambition Respect Achievement Community Responsibility

Key Dates – Nov/Dec

Nov 25th:
School closed for all – Monday holiday

Nov 26th:
School closed for pupils – Staff Inservice Day

Nov 30th:
Christmas Fayre (12:00–15:00)

Dec 2nd – Dec 12th:
National 5 Prelims – timetable will be issued to pupils and emailed to parents and carers

Dec 6th:
Fundraising Friday – Malawi

Dec 11th:
S5/6 Parent Meeting (15:30–17:30)

Dec 17th:
Christmas Concert

Dec 18th:
Strictly Come Dancing

Dec 20th:
Last day of term 2.

Largs Academy's
CHRISTMAS FAYRE
2024



**OVER 45
STALLS INCLUDING...**

CRAFTS & GIFTS • TOYS & GAMES • FACE
PAINTING • CONFECTIONERY • BOOKS •
FOOD & BAKING • INFLATABLES & SOFT
PLAY • RAFFLE • PUPIL STALLS • TEA,
COFFEE & HOT ROLLS • CHOIR • SANTA

AND SO MUCH MORE...

30TH
NOVEMBER 2024
@ LARGS ACADEMY

12-3PM
SUGGESTED DONATION
£2 PER PERSON

