



Dear Parent/Carer,

I am conscious that reading and reflecting on the school's [Annual Report](#) is not perhaps an immediate priority for many of you. Nevertheless, at this key point of transition for the school I would encourage you so to do and to donate 45 minutes of your time to attend the AGM on 24th November. To whet your appetite, I have copied below my foreword to the Annual Report. The bursar will write separately to you regarding the AGM.

We were this week due to have a service of commemoration at Wellington Church to mark both Armistice Day and the 100th anniversary of the opening of the school on 15th November 1920. I hope that 2021 will see a return to more normal times and along with it the opportunity for the community to come together to celebrate the achievements of our young people and the school.

Kindest regards
Paul Thomson

Chief Executive's Foreword

2020 has without doubt been the most unusual of my tenure. As I write this, my 24th and final report, there is a calm and business as usual atmosphere. If it weren't for the face masks in the corridors and the asymmetrical day you would hardly know that things were different. Young people just adapt and get on with it.

The pandemic has brought two things into sharp relief. Firstly, the unique status of the school meant that we were better prepared than many to cope with and respond flexibly to emerging needs. Secondly, to those who did not already understand it, teachers have a social and pedagogical impact that no amount of digital learning can replace.

That our pupils, particularly S3-S6, have not lost ground is a testimony to the ways in which staff have embraced technology while also putting pupil well-being at the forefront. I thank everyone for rising to these challenges.

The school has been able to respond so well to the demands of the pandemic due to the forethought that has gone into developing both our Office 365 environment and our approaches to [Mental Wellbeing](#).

However, the pandemic has highlighted yet again the acute financial pressures on the school. Much of our co-curricular provision is dependent upon support from the Educational Amenities Trust Fund. Prospects would be bleak if we had not launched our Striving Higher giving campaign in 2018. In 2019-20 gifts totalling over £70,000 were received up from £35,000 in the first year. We need to get to £120,000 per annum.

This points to the key feature of the school which has underpinned the huge advances made over the past 25 years – the partnership between home and school. In choosing to send your child here, parents make a legal commitment to that partnership as “members” of the school company.



The parlous state of the public finances UK wide offer little prospect that some of the much-needed investment to improve aging facilities in P.E. and Science will become available in the next 5-10 years.

If the members wish to see the school continue to progress and improve its offering, then they will have to work creatively with the Board to this end.

As I say my farewells, I would like to thank all those parents and staff who have contributed to advancing the school over the past 24 years, particularly all those who have served on the Board of Managers.

Paul W. Thomson

Coming Soon: Jordanhill in 3D

At present, you cannot come and visit us, so we are bringing the school to you!



This term we commissioned a scan of all of our key facilities to produce 3D navigable images. The technical use of this is to support our facilities management team. However, of much more interest to parents is that we are also producing an interactive walkthrough of the public areas of each building. You can even teleport from one floor to another! More to follow in the December 2020 edition of the Journal.

S4 Mock Exams

The S4 Mock Exams will run from Monday 23rd November to Wednesday 2nd December. Pupils have been issued with a copy of the timetable and Mrs Atkinson will be in touch with pupils who will have additional arrangements for their exams. You can view the general timetable [here](#).

Pupils will be advised of the location of their exam and their seat number by class teachers and pupils are reminded that they will need to a face covering at all times when in school, including during their exam. We wish all our young people the very best of luck for their exams.

Jordanhill through the Decades

Our librarian and archivist Joanna Donaldson has produced a series of Sways capturing images of the school across each decade. You can view pdf versions [here](#).





**Striving
Higher**

Support Striving Higher

Read about our fund raising campaign [here](#).

[Donation page](#).

School Library

Read the latest [update](#) from the library including advice on how Primary and Secondary pupils can access resources.

The library uses its Twitter account to advertise new books, authors of the week, library activities etc.. Follow us at **Twitter@js_library** to keep up with news on access and developments with our Library Management System – Oliver.

Book Week Scotland 16th – 22nd November

Book Week Scotland is just round the corner! Take a look at the event programme <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/book-week-scotland/events/2020> for some fantastic links to Authors Live, events for all ages and lots of other digital content.

