

JUN
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Whitburn

Academy

WHITBURN ACADEMY NEWSLETTER - Summer 2017

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S3 Pupils fitting new banners at Whitburn War Memorial



June
2017

FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our final newsletter of the session.

Almost immediately after we returned from our Easter break our senior phase pupils sat their SQA exams. Almost three hundred pupils sat over fifteen hundred exams over a five week period. Mrs Gilchrist's super organisational skills meant that everyone was in the right place at the right time to sit the right exam – no mean feat! Thanks Mrs Gilchrist! Now we all have the anxious wait until the exam results are released on 8th August. Good luck everyone – fingers crossed.

Exams have not been our only focus this term. As you will see from the contents of this newsletter, our pupils and staff have also had much to celebrate in terms of wider achievement too. Many pupils have embraced opportunities to develop their own leadership skills and confidence in so many ways, and with great success. All of our S3 pupils took part in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative which saw the winning group's local charity SMILE benefit from £3000! I will leave you to read on to find out more.

At the end of term we also say goodbye to a few members of staff who are leaving us to take up posts elsewhere including Mr McIntosh in English, Mr Begarnie in biology, Miss Mark in History, Miss Justice in Business Education, and Rebecca Swan who is a Pupil Support Worker. Good luck in your new posts.

After eighteen and a half years of service to our young people, Mrs Eileen Barr from the modern languages department retires. We'd all like to say a massive thank you for everything she has done for the many hundreds of pupils she has taught over the years and wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

As the end of term fast approaches I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our hard working, dedicated staff for everything they do as well as you, our parents and carers, who continue to support us to provide the best possible experience for our young people.

Finally, I would like to wish all pupils, staff and parents a safe, happy and sunny summer break. I look forward to welcoming staff back on Monday 21st August and pupils back in full school uniform, on Tuesday 22nd August for what will be our 50th anniversary year.

Tracey Loudon

Head Teacher,
Whitburn Academy



West Lothian
Council



BOXING CHAMPION

Congratulations to S4 Pupil, Reece Lynch, who became Boxing's UK champion for his age group during the Easter Holidays. Reece, who was chosen to represent Boxing Scotland at the Great British Championships, won the gold in a hard fought contest, defeating the English number 1 and number 2 on the way.

Reece said *"I was hoping for gold. Last year, I went down and got the silver, so this year I wanted to go down and win"*.

Reece has put in so much effort into his boxing and to be the best in the UK is an outstanding achievement. Congratulations Reece, from the Staff and Pupils at Whitburn Academy.



MITSUBISHI CHALLENGE

In S2 Masterclass all pupils took part in the annual Mitsubishi challenge. Pupils have about 7 periods to come up with an idea, a design and a presentation of another use for a Heat Source Pump.

After all 6 Masterclasses nominated their winning group, these 6 groups presented in



front of the judging panel which consisted of 2 Engineers from Mitsubishi and 2 representatives from West Lothian Chamber.

All groups performed very well and the winning group was Melanie and Katie, who gave a very interesting presentation on their idea - "heat pumps used for advanced baby incubators in hospitals."

The Grand Final will be held at Howden Park in June. Good luck and well done Melanie and Katie.

UNDER 18 NATIONAL CUP FINAL

The Football Under 18 National Cup Final is a competition that is played between counties and regions. This means that the best players from that area make up the squad.

West Lothian have reached the final and will be playing against Edinburgh and the Lothians. John-James Henderson and Jake McCreadie, 2 of our S6 pupils have been part of this excellent run, with John-James as captain.



The Cup Final took place on Wednesday 26th April at Spartan's Ground, Ainslie Park in Edinburgh. Unfortunately, West Lothian lost 1-0 in a very close game in which the result could have went either way.

3RD PLACE FOR UNDER 13'S

Congratulations to our S1 (under 13) football team who finished in 3rd place in the West Lothian Schools Under 13 football league. After playing 8 games, the team had won 5 games and lost 3 games finishing the season with 15 points.



Well Done to everyone involved with the team.

P7 TRANSITION

A group of 26 pupils from our feeder primaries recently attended a 4 day enhanced transition programme to prepare them for joining the Academy in August.

During their time here, they took part in a range of activities designed to help build confidence and encourage new friendships. These included team games, orientation around

the school, timetable challenges and meeting key staff.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and are all looking forward to joining Whitburn Academy in August.



DEBATING SUCCESS

On 8th May, two of our S6 pupils, Emma Archondakis and Rebecca Millar, took part in the preliminary round of the ESU Public



Speaking Competition at Mary Erskine School in Edinburgh.

They had to prepare 5 minute speeches using only a quote from a poem/book as their stimulus, and present these to the audience, before taking questions for a further 4-5 minutes. I am pleased to report that Rebecca saw off all the competition and won, securing a place in the national final! Moreover, Emma's speech gained excellent feedback and she only narrowly missed on progressing as well.

This is a great success for the girls who have played active roles in the debating club since the start of S2, and a brilliant end to their ongoing achievements in this field.

PAPER AEROPLANES!

Normally if a teacher was to spot a paper aeroplane flying around their classroom or the corridor, the pupil involved would receive a detention, however this time it was allowed!

Our S1 Computing Science classes have been learning about programming over the past few weeks. Prior to starting to code anything, programmers make up pseudocode. Pseudocode allows the programmer to think about what they want their program to do and in which order to do it.

The pupils had to complete a worksheet which involved putting the tasks for building a paper aeroplane into the correct order. Once they had done this then they would build one by following those instructions.

Once built, they had to find out if they could fly and how far they could go! Most went a short distance along the 2nd floor corridor, however some managed to reach the Social Studies department!



Our photo shows some S1 pupils flying their aeroplanes!

FENCING SESSION

On 15th May, former British Fencing Champion and 6 times Commonwealth Medalist, Keith Cook visited Whitburn Academy. His visit, as part of the Sky Sports Living for Sport initiative involved leading a Fencing session with both our S1 and S3 pupils. The pupils all had a great time learning a new sport. Thanks to Keith for coming along to visit us.

Our photograph shows Keith with the S1 pupils at the end of their session.

S1-S2 RUGBY

The S1-S2 Girls Rugby team participated in the final SSP event of the year against schools from across West Lothian on 19th May. We were lucky to have a combination of regular and new players to represent us. The girls scored numerous tries and were competitive in all games eventually leading to a 6th place finish.

The boys once again performed well against strong opposition and are starting to develop a belief that they are capable of winning games.



They only lost to St Margaret's and St Kentigern's which enabled them to finish 3rd overall, a further top 3 finish which shows the consistency the boys are starting to have.



previously spoken to our classes about his experiences of working in the Polkemett colliery in Whitburn.

We were given a tour of the pithead and went into an underground roadway where we saw a 40 foot coal shearer . We also saw the massive winding engines which are still in working order. In the afternoon pupils enjoyed looking at the exhibitions and got the chance to dress up and join in the scenes of mining life.



S3 MINING VISIT

On 24th May fifty S3 pupils and their teachers enjoyed a trip to the National Mining Museum which is based at the Lady Victoria Colliery near Edinburgh.

We were accompanied by our Senior Technician ,Mr George Wood, who had

This was a great opportunity to recreate the atmosphere and experiences of what it must have been like in Whitburn in the past. The pupils had a memorable day and were congratulated on their good manners and the way they embraced the whole experience.

SUMMER FESTIVAL 2017

On Friday 26th May, Whitburn Academy held its annual Summer Festival. Held in glorious sunshine out on the Sports field and back



playground, pupils from S1-S4 took part in a number of events including 100m and 200m sprints, the shot putt, javelin, high jump and long jump.



The School Band entertained the crowd with a number of tunes including 'We will rock you',



the Art Department painted a mural, Home Economics sold Fruit and Water and the Jigsaw Group did T-shirt painting.



Social Subjects ran a face painting stall and the 5 Sisters Zoo brought along some animals for the pupils to see including a snake, a giant snail and some Birds of prey.

GYMFEST

On Friday 26th May, our gymnastics team participated in the annual West Lothian Schools Gymfest.



Our theme was based on 'Girl Power', with the team dressed up and dancing to the Spice Girls song 'Spice Up Your Life'. The team trained for months after school with Miss Buchanan and Miss Laing in preparation for this highly anticipated event and their hard work paid off by performing an immaculate routine with well-timed dance moves and gymnastics skills. Well done to all those involved!

NETBALL TEAM OUTING!

On Thursday 1st June, the netball team and Miss Laing had an end-of-term outing to watch the Sirens Netball team compete in their

closing match of the Vitality Netball Super league season against Hertfordshire Mavericks.



It was a very physical and competitive match, with the Sirens rounding off their debut season in style with a 57-43 win. Our girls were inspired by their skill level and athleticism, and were fortunate enough to meet the players after the match.

Our netballers also demonstrated their hidden dance talent during the half time dance off to the Macarena!

BANNER REPLACEMENT

On Friday 2nd June, three S3 pupils attended the fitting and dedication of banners displaying events of World War One in 1917 at Whitburn War Memorial.

The pupils were involved in carrying out the necessary research by attending the local history library in Linlithgow and looking



through old microfilms of the West Lothian Courier from 1917 and by consulting a range of secondary sources. The aim is to highlight the local and international impact of the war and is part of an ongoing project between the school and local community since 2014.



LOGO DESIGNS

In Art and Design, S1-S3 pupils have been designing logos to celebrate 50 years of Whitburn Academy.

On 21st August 1967, Whitburn Academy opened its doors for the first time and next session we will be celebrating our school's 50th anniversary. Details of any events taking place to mark the anniversary will be announced during next session.

Our photograph shows some of the logos designed by the pupils as well as the original school badge and the current school logo.



APPRECIATION WEEK

During the summer term, S4 Home Economics pupils held an appreciation week.

They decided to make Chocolate Muffins and deliver them to all the Teaching Staff, Pupil

Support Workers, Technicians, Office Staff, Librarians and the Senior Leadership Team to say thank you to them for all the hard work and effort that they put in during the year.



The pupils made over 120 muffins and they were greatly appreciated by all staff!

HOSPITALITY COURSE

Kayleigh and Aleisha have studied National 4 Hospitality this session and attended The Larder Cook School on a weekly basis - they have both been successful in achieving a place



at West Lothian College to study Hospitality further. Well done girls and good luck at college!

EDIBLE SOILS



The Higher Geography class have been creating soils using foods to create the main characteristics of each type of soil. In the

photograph, you can see a brown earth, podzol and gley soil. Even better (and the part that the pupils enjoyed the best!), the ingredients could be eaten afterwards.

MY WORLD OF WORK AMBASSADORS



The My World of Work ambassadors act as champions for Skills Development Scotland's career information and advice web service 'My World of Work.' The girls will help spread the word of the support it offers to their friends,

fellow pupils, teachers, parents and carers. They will be involved in activities throughout the school year.

Our photograph shows both girls at the stand that they set up to promote 'My World of Work' at the P7 Transition evening.

P7 TRANSITION EVENING



On 6th June, Whitburn Academy held a P7 transition information evening.

The main purpose of this was for Primary 7's their parents to find out more information about Whitburn Academy and some of the extra curricular clubs that pupils can sign up to take part in, when they move up into S1 after the summer.

Our photograph shows some of our pupils manning the extra curricular club's information stalls.

RUGBY AWARDS

Our annual Whitburn Academy Rugby Awards Lunch was held in the PE Department on Wednesday 7th June, Dougie Thomson from Linlithgow Rugby Club presented the awards on the day. 28 rugby players attended with 11 Awards up for grabs.

Award Winners

- Passer of the Year - Josh
- Runner of the Year - Jake
- Tackler of the Year - Connor
- Team Mate of the Year - Hasan
- Leader of the Year - Spencer
- S1 Most Improved Player - Lachlan
- S2 Most Improved Player - Reece
- Female Most Improved Player - Mary
- Female Player of the Year - Zoe
- Coach's Player of the Year - Spencer
- Players Player of the Year - Josh

A big thank you to all pupils who have represented Whitburn Academy Rugby Teams this year, it has been our most successful in a long while.

Please keep up to date with rugby fixtures, successes and the odd live streaming of games through the PE twitter feed - @WAC_PE.



competition to design a logo for Whitburn Academy's 50th Anniversary year.

From the many entries received we have narrowed down our choice to just three designs.

LOGO DESIGN FINALISTS

Over the past few weeks, pupils in S1-S3 Art and Design have been taking part in a

Our photograph shows the three designs that have been shortlisted.

STAR BADGES

Star Badges were presented during house assemblies on week beginning 12th June. The star badges were presented to pupils from S1-S3 who had gained straight 1's in both their settling in and final report during session 2016-17.

Our photograph shows the pupils from Douglas House receiving their star badges.

Well done to all the pupils whose amazing effort gained them this award!

HEALTHY EATING WEEK

The purpose of the British Nutritional Foundation's (BNF) Healthy Eating Week is to provide a dedicated week where the school can come together to focus on healthy eating and drinking in order to encourage healthy living. This year the week was divided in a series of challenges, with the Home Economics department focussing on the challenge of having a healthy breakfast every morning. In order to achieve this a pop up breakfast club was set up in the department on week





BNF
Healthy Eating Week



beginning 12th June where both staff and pupils were invited along to have a healthy breakfast together thanks to donations received by the local co-operative supermarket. It was a lovely way to start the morning for all involved.

MUSIC SUCCESS

The following pupils have sat and passed the following Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) music exams this term:

- Scott - grade 4 piano
- Kelan -grade 2 violin
- Margaret-Anne - grade 2 violin
- Adam - grade 3 violin
- Mia - grade 3 cello
- Ellie - grade 2 alto saxophone
- Reece - grade 5 baritone
- Sophie - grade 3 tenor horn
- Alexandria - grade 3 tenor horn.



Well done to all of these pupils on an excellent achievement!

Scott will be sitting his grade 5 ABRSM theory in the middle of June and we wish him luck for this!

P7 TRANSITION DAYS

From 13th - 16th June, around 160 Primary 7 pupils from Croftmalloch, Fala Hill, Greenrigg, Longridge, Polkemmet, Stoneyburn and Whitdale Primary Schools visited the Academy for their transition days.

The transition days give the pupils a taster of what it is like at High School and allow them to visit some of their new subjects and meet some of their new teachers.

On Tuesday morning, the pupils took part in a numeracy workshop that included a Maths Relay Race and a Maths Treasure Hunt.

After the morning break and also on Wednesday and Thursday, the pupils got to spend some time in some of the different subjects that they will be taking in S1, including Computing Science, DMG, HE, English, Maths, Science and PE.

Then on Friday, they were all back again to take part in a Rugby Tournament for their own primary schools against pupils from the other feeder primaries.

Feedback from the pupils has been positive with a number of them looking forward to starting at the Academy in August.



FIELD TRIP

During week beginning 19th June, S3 Geography classes enjoyed the warm weather with a stroll to the River Almond, which is located on the opposite side of the M8 from the school, to draw a field sketch of the area.

In Geography, field sketches are used to record information when studying places outside the classroom. They allow students to highlight and annotate the key features of the place being observed.



LITTER PICK

On 19th June, a large group of S2 pupils took part in a litter pick in and around Whitburn Academy and the local park. The pupils were doing their bit to tidy up their local community as part of Civic Week, which is an annual event, which is held in the week leading up to Whitburn Gala Day.



YPI NATIONAL EVENT

On Wednesday June 21st, our fantastic S3 Youth and Philanthropy Initiative winners attended the YPI National Event in Perth. Having raised £3000 for their chosen charity, the girls enjoyed a day of celebration, inspiration and popcorn with over 1000 other winning pupils from all over Scotland.



For more information, follow the @WACLanguages and @ypi_scotland Twitter pages or search the #makeadifference hashtag.

ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW TRIP

On 22nd June, the Home Economics Department ran a trip to the Royal Highland



It was a chance to see just how life-changing this project can be and to consider how charity work can become a vital part of our lives.



Show in Edinburgh. The pupils and staff who went, had a fun day out.

WINNING LOGO



Well Done to S3 pupil, Hollie, her excellent design was chosen to be the school logo for session 2017-18, which is our school's 50th anniversary. Congratulations Hollie and thanks to all the pupils who entered the competition.

PUMP IT UP CHALLENGE FINAL

Two of our S3 pupils, Melanie and Katie, represented Whitburn Academy in the finals of the Mitsubishi pump it up challenge 2017 at Howden Park.

All 11 West Lothian secondary schools had a team there but this has started with over 1600 pupils so for Melanie and Katie to get this far was a great achievement.

Melanie and Katie gave a superb, confident and detailed presentation on using heat pumps to power incubators in hospitals for premature babies.

Despite a great effort they did not win but did the school and themselves proud.



POSITIVE REWARDS TRIP

Over the course of this session, our pupils have been working extremely hard in all their subjects and those with good behaviour, reports and attendance were invited to go on a Positive Rewards Trip. There were three trips to choose from, these are Alton Towers, Blackpool Pleasure Beach and Ariel Adventures. Our photograph shows the group that went to Alton Towers.



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

On 27th June, S4 pupils Kayleigh and Aleisha received their Achievement Awards for completing their National 4 Hospitality award with The Larder Cook School, which they have attended every week over this session. Well Done Kayleigh and Aleisha!



SPECIAL EFFECTS

On 28th June, Miss Reid and some of her Drama pupils, ran a special effects workshop. The workshop involved creating some very convincing looking injuries such as holes in hands and gashes using special makeup, similar to what you would see in the movies. Our photographs show just some of the finished results!

MUSIC CORRIDOR MURAL

Over the last few years on the end of term activity weeks, the art department and groups of pupils have been working on creating a mural depicting major events, people and art from the prehistoric age right through to today. This year has been no exception as the pupils have continued to add to what is already an eye-catching piece of work. A number of pupils have spent the final 3 days of term adding to the mural, which stretches the length of the music corridor.



BATH BOMBS

On 28th June, for activities week, the Science Department had a group of pupils making Bath Bombs. The pupils tried out small samples of their mixture in water to see if it worked, then made them into different shapes and left them to set, then took them home at the end of the day.

Our photograph shows some of the pupils with their creations.



TEAS UP!

The Vine Trust Team have continued to raise funds this term for our trip to Peru in June 2018. The teachers have been very impressed at the continued commitment of the 20 pupils who are currently working hard on their personal funds (over £2,000) and general group funds for this expedition.



For example, earlier this June we ran a Car Boot Sale in the school's car-park where we also served breakfast including delicious burgers and bacon donated by local butchers (thanks to Swan and Fisher, Whitburn; David Steins, Blackburn and Boghall Butchers).

AFTERNOON TEA

The Home Economics Department had a very civilised activity day on 28th June, when they held their own Afternoon Tea. They made all their own sandwiches, cakes and scones in the morning. In the afternoon, they presented everything they had made on tiered cake

stands and the department and their guests enjoyed afternoon tea.



MUSIC WORKSHOP

On 28th June, Mr McManus and the music department held a Music Workshop as part of Activities Week. During the course of the day, they worked on a particular track to present in an impromptu performance at the end of the day.

The chosen track was 'All the Time' by Tom Waits. At 3pm a large crowd gathered in Music Room 2 to hear the finished result.

The group were fantastic and well done to everyone involved in producing such an excellent performance in such a short period of time.



The video of their performance can be found at <https://www.pscp.tv/w/1OdJryBQbEeGX>

RETRO GAMING

During the activity days at the end of term, Computing Science have set up a couple of old gaming consoles to allow the pupils to try some retro games! On 29th June, they set up a Nintendo Entertainment System (NES) from the 1990's and the pupils have been enjoying playing Super Mario Brothers 1 and 3 on it!



'ACTIVE FUN ACTIVE FEET'

'Active Fun Active Feet' Summer Holiday Programme is taking place over the Summer Holidays at various schools for all pupils in P1 to P7 (Ages 5 to 11 only)

Camps will start at 9am and finish at 3pm on each day. Access to the camps will not be permitted prior to 9am on each day.



Pupils will take part in a wide range of activities including Athletics, Basketball, Football, MultiSport activities, Parachute Games, Playground Games and much more Active Fun Active Feet is supported by West Lothian Council Accredited Sports clubs working in partnership with the Active Schools and Community Sport Team.

Cost and Payment Options

Payment can now be made online and is the best way to secure your booking. Online booking can be found at <http://activewestlothian.com/active-sports/holiday-programmes>.

The cost is as follows:

- £25 for 2 days per person
- £15 for 1 day per person

If you would prefer to pay on the first day of camp by cheque or cash, please contact Ben Boatman at ben.boatman@westlothian.gov.uk to complete your booking.

- Bathgate Active Fun Active Feet at Bathgate Academy - Tuesday 11th & Wednesday 12th July 2017
- Whitburn Active Fun Active Feet at Whitburn Academy- Wednesday 12th & Thursday 13th July 2017
- Inveralmond Active Fun Active Feet at Inveralmond CHS - Thursday 20th & Friday 21st July 2017
- ****Sold Out**** Linlithgow Active Fun Active Feet at Linlithgow Academy- Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd August 2017 ****Sold Out****
- James Young Active Fun Active Feet at James Young CHS- Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th August 2017

For more information and about any of the camps, please contact Ben Boatman , Active Fun Active Feet Coordinator at ben.boatman@westlothian.gov.uk

SCHOOL CLOTHING GRANT AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Do you have a child at school?

You could get a school clothing grant if you are in receipt of:

- Income Support / Pension Credit
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance (any income related element)
- Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit and your household income does not exceed £16,105

- Universal Credit Payments that do not exceed £610 per month

You could get free school meals if you are in receipt of:

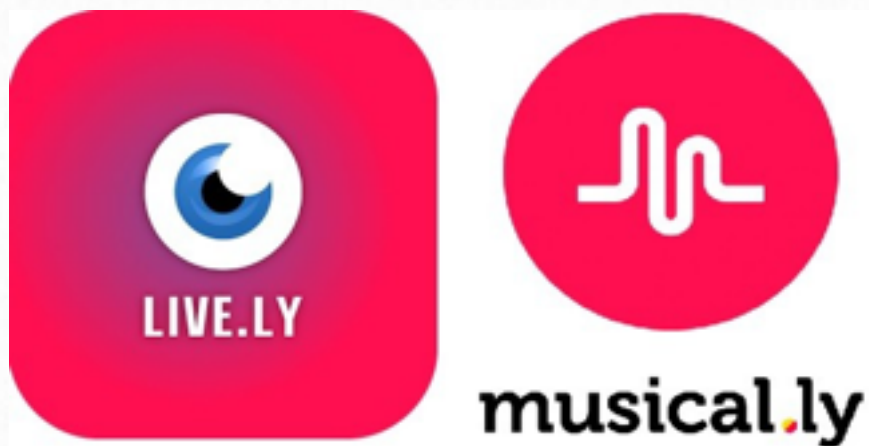
- Income Support / Pension Credit
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance (any income related element)
- Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit and your household income does not exceed £6,420 (maximum WTC)
- Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit) and your household income does not exceed £16,105
- Universal Credit Payments that do not exceed £610 per month

Application forms are available at Schools, Civic Centre, Council Information Services Advice Shop (Bathgate), Jobcentre Plus, Libraries, the council webpage (www.westlothian.gov.uk) or the letters page of the School Website.

CLAIM YOUR BENEFITS Do you have a child at school?	
<p>SCHOOL CLOTHING GRANT</p> <p>If you are in receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Support / Pension Credit • Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance • Employment & Support Allowance (any income related element) • Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit, and your household income does not exceed £16,105 • Universal Credit where the monthly earned income does not exceed £610 <p>.....you could get a school clothing grant</p>	<p>FREE SCHOOL MEALS</p> <p>If you are in receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income Support / Pension Credit • Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance • Employment & Support Allowance (any income related element) • Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit, and your household income does not exceed £6,420 (maximum WTC) • Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit) and your household income does not exceed £16,105 • Universal Credit where the monthly earned income does not exceed £610 <p>.....you could get free school meals</p>
<p>West Lothian Council Applications forms are available at Schools, Civic Centre, Council Information Services, Advice Shop (Bathgate), Jobcentre Plus, Libraries, or online at "www.westlothian.gov.uk"</p> <p>For further information please phone 01506 281952 or e-mail "EducationCustomerServices@westlothian.gov.uk"</p>	

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LIVE.LY AND MUSICAL.LY STREAMING APPS



Advice regarding use of Live.ly and Musical.ly streaming apps from West Lothian Council's Child Protection (Education) team:

There have been a number of incidents involving children from across the UK when using the Live.ly and Musical.ly streaming apps.

We would like to raise awareness of a couple of the issues associated with those apps and confirm the following information for parents:

- 1) The terms and conditions state that all users must be 13 years old or older.
- 2) Users may be exposed to adult content inappropriate for under 18's.
- 3) Live streaming is not fully private, even when the privacy settings are set to on.
- 4) Users are able to search for other users close to their location.

For further information about the potential risks to children, please visit the following pages: <https://thecybersafelady.com.au/2016/03/musical-ly-not-for-kids/>

<https://protectyouneyes.com/content/live-ly>

COMPASS CAFE



The Compass Cafe is a place to come and meet friends, have lunch, chat, do some fun things and discuss faith and life. We also try to organise occasional outings and trips.

Compass Cafe is run by the School Chaplaincy team. We meet in room 213 every Tuesday.

We would love to see you there.

VINE TRUST EASYFUNDRAISING PAGE



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations

for Whitburn Academy's Vine Trust trip to Peru in 2018?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whitburnacademyperu/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Vine Trust Peru 2017 - Whitburn Academy will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support.

IPAYIMPACT USERGUIDE FOR PARENTS

West Lothian Council have released a Parent's Guide for making online school payments using iPayimpact. The guide contains a detailed description on how to log in and how to use iPayimpact. It also gives details on what to do if you encounter the 'time out' bug in the program.

A copy of the guide can be downloaded from the 'downloads' section of the Parents page on the school website

JOB AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



Each month, Skills Development Scotland release a list of all the Jobs and Training Opportunities available in the West Lothian area. A copy of their latest bulletin is available for download from the Careers Adviser page of the School Website.

WEST LOTHIAN FOODBANK



Would you like to help feed some hungry people who live in West Lothian?

Whitburn Academy is now a collection point for the Food Bank which is based in Whitburn. Food Banks rely on the support of local communities. If you would like to contribute to the collections basket you can find it in the

House Base. The box will be taken to the Food Bank every Friday afternoon.

Thank you in advance

For more information on the West Lothian Food Bank, please visit <http://westlothian.foodbank.org.uk/>

STAYING SAFE ONLINE



The sharing of inappropriate images on Social Media is a practice that some young people are becoming involved in. This is done on a number of different forums including Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat to name a few. It normally takes place between young people in a relationship but there has been incidents where images have been sent to complete strangers.

There are many dangers associated with this including: bullying or harassment, lack of

control of the images, images becoming public, the effect this might have on the person's digital footprint and the Legal implications of taking, sharing, receiving or posting inappropriate images of anyone under the age of 18.

Our pupils receive advice regarding this issue with dedicated lessons during Personal and Social Education classes. These lessons offer advice and guidance from CEOP, the Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre, who produce very good educational packages, these inputs are jointly presented by the Campus Police Officers from Police Scotland and the PSE teaching staff.

Thinkuknow parents and carers website...

This is a fairly new website for parents and carers. It is a source of information, tips and advice for parents and carers specifically focussed on online child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

It aims to support all parents and carers, from those who need advice on how to protect their children, to those who are concerned about something that is happening right now.

The site also provides advice for parents of children who have suffered sexual abuse.

You can find this by visiting www.thinkuknow.co.uk and following the link to the parent/carer section.

ParentInfo

ParentInfo is a free service for schools which provides expert, up-to-date content for parents and carers.

The content is written by leading authorities on a wide range of topics including online safety, sex and relationships, health and wellbeing and family life. Each article aims to help parents develop their children's resilience against the risks they may face online or off. If you wish to register, then you should visit www.parentinfo.org.



We would like to offer some advice to parents and carers on how to deal with some of these issues and we have attached advice on issues such as how to set the privacy settings on Facebook, how to block a post or profile and how to report an issue directly to sites such as Youtube.

Information on this and more is available to download from the downloads section on our Internet Safety page.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Whitburn Academy will be on holiday from 12.20pm on Friday 30th June until Friday 18th

August. Staff Return for an In Service Day on Monday 21st August with Pupils returning on Tuesday 22nd August. We look forward to welcoming our new SI pupils and some new staff then.

The Head Teacher, Staff and Pupils of Whitburn Academy wish you all a fun, safe and relaxing Summer Holiday.