

INTRODUCTION

One of the most important and valuable features of life at The Glasgow Academy is the wide range of activities available away from the classroom and the playing field. Some of them are open to all pupils, others to those who have reached a certain stage in the school.

The aim of this booklet is to introduce some of these activities to girls and boys coming into the Senior School, and to their parents : the entries have all been written by the members of staff who run the activities, and the aim has been to give you just a flavour of what is on offer. If you think that you may be interested in something that you read about here, you will be made very welcome if you go along to find out at first hand just what is involved. To find out where and when to go, look at the notice boards or speak to the member of staff whose name is given in this booklet.

Other activities will also be taking place of which full details were not available when this booklet was printed. In particular, there will be a series of inter-House competitions in which you can take part either by representing your House or by going along to give enthusiastic support. The PE Department will be organising a number of lunchtime activities which may be just what you need to improve your fitness or your skills. Once again, do keep your eyes and ears open : look at notices and listen to announcements in assembly, so that you can make the most of all the opportunities which are available to you at The Academy.

The CCF

CCF stands for Combined Cadet Force – a youth organisation supported by the Ministry of Defence with Her Majesty the Queen as its Captain General. The CCF in the United Kingdom is made up of over 250 school Contingents, the majority of which are from independent schools. The CCF at The Glasgow Academy combines all three Services – Navy, Army and RAF.

Aim of the CCF

(a) The broad function of the CCF in the school is to provide the framework of a disciplined organisation, within which and through which boys and girls may develop qualities of endurance, resourcefulness, self-reliance, leadership and responsibility and a sense of public service.

(b) The specific function of the Service training undertaken in the CCF is not only to contribute to the development of the attributes already described, but also to give all cadets a background knowledge of Service methods and conditions, and to assist and encourage those pupils who have a special interest in a Service career, to become Officers in the Regular or Reserve Forces.

The CCF is open to pupils in S3, S4, S5 and S6. We meet on a Thursday after school and offer weekend and vocational training in the form of camps and courses. Uniform is provided by the Ministry of Defence and any pupil wishing to join the cadets should speak to Lt Col Anderson as soon as possible or collect an information booklet and application form from the CCF office in the Well.

DRAMA SOCIETY

The Drama Society offers a breadth of shows and plays which are performed in various venues throughout the school, both on stage and 'in the round', to pupils, parents and friends of The Academy.

Past productions have included pantomimes such as *Snow White* and musicals such as *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* as well as more serious plays such as *Waiting for Godot*. We aim to produce a show in the first term with the possibility of a third term production.

Interested pupils from S1 to S6 should contact Mr Anderson or Mrs Ruddock.

SCRIPTURE UNION

The Junior Scripture Union group (S1 and S2) meets every Thursday at lunchtime and Senior SU meets on Friday lunchtime. We will announce at the beginning of next session where we will be meeting. As well as opportunities for having a chat and playing daft games, each week we consider a different theme from the bible. The meeting is very informal and all pupils are invited to attend. Bring your packed lunch with you or come along straight after your school meal. Mr McNaught and Miss McElroy look forward to seeing you there.

THE ELECTRONICS CLUB

The Club meets every Friday throughout the school year, from 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m., in the Kelvin Physics Lab. It caters mainly for the beginner (S1 to S3) and so no previous experience is required.

Its aim is to develop the natural interest that many pupils have in both construction and 'gizmos' by building a variety of electronic devices. This is achieved by providing instruction and guidance on the many aspects of circuit construction, such as: identification of components, interpretation of circuit diagrams, construction techniques and soldering.

Simple projects include: flashing lamps; light/heat operated alarm; intruder alarm; reaction timer; four-bit binary counter.

Slightly more advanced projects (many are Vellman kits from Maplin): Flashing Christmas tree, electronic dice, beam breaker detector, metronome, roulette 'wheel' and many more.

For further information about the Electronics Club, contact Mr Stewart.

π CLUB

The π club is open to all members of S1 - S3, and pupils are welcome to attend either on a regular or infrequent basis. The aim of the club is to provide the opportunity to tackle practical problems, puzzles and pastimes and to develop problem solving skills, both on and off the computers, in a fun environment.

Our computer activities are mainly set in Pyramids. Undoubtedly the most popular activity is attempting to escape from "Chefren's Pyramid" - a computer game taking approximately 5 hours to complete. All first year pupils are encouraged to complete Chefren as many of the activities are relevant to the first and second year syllabus. Pupils move from room to room in a pyramid, progress being made each time a problem is solved.

Next step is the Maths Problem Solving Adventure which is set in a pyramid on Mars! This has 4 levels and has proved popular with our both Senior 1 Senior 2 pupils who have already completed Chefren. In this adventure pupils can choose in which order they tackle the problems, and there is no time limit.

ICT Rooms 1 and 2 are reserved for π club members one lunchtime each week for our computer enthusiasts and puzzles games etc are tackled in room M on another day.

Further information can be obtained from Mrs Ruddock (Room M).

ACADEMY BUSINESS CLUB

This new lunchtime club will give pupils in S1 and S2 a practical, activity-based introduction to the world of business. Throughout the session, pupils will have the opportunity to take part in competitive business games. Pupils will work in small groups, each one in charge of a small business for several weeks of hectic trading. Teams will have to work together and make decisions based on realistic scenarios. Various games of simulated business situations will be offered and many of the tasks will be completed using computers.

For further details, please contact Mrs McKenzie, Room U.

THE NETBALL CLUB

The Netball Club is a relatively new addition to the Senior Games and extra-curricular activities on offer in the school. Netball is a non-contact team sport which involves co-ordination and agility. No previous experience is required and the Club is open to all girls between S1 and S4.

The Club will run from 4.00 to 5.00 on an afternoon to be arranged early in the session.

Anyone interested in netball should contact Mrs McMillan.

THE CHESS CLUB

The Chess Club meets three times weekly during the lunch break. The Club is open to all ages of pupils and has a membership of approximately 24. All standards of players may join, help and advice being given to beginners by the more competent members.

Pupils are encouraged to take part in a school competition and also in the Glasgow Schools' League. This League runs tournaments for three age groups, Junior, Intermediate and Senior. There is also the P B Anderson Trophy, awarded to the winner of a knock-out competition between teams of four pupils of any age. In past years The Academy has been very successful in these events. Pupils can also enter the UK Land Chess Challenge with those who succeed qualifying for regional and national finals.

Joining the Chess Club gives an opportunity for either starting a new skill or improving an old one, both necessary requirements of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Mr McGranaghan or Mrs McClure will be happy to give more information.

THE BRIDGE CLUB

The Bridge Club meets once a week during the lunch break. It is open to pupils of all ages, though a knowledge of card games such as whist is an advantage for beginners.

Instruction is given in the Acol bidding system and the scoring for Contract bridge. More experienced players learn tactics such as finessing. The number of members attending varies each year, but in general there are two tables playing.

Bridge is now being taught in the Prep School and so the Bridge Club gives the opportunity to continue playing in the Senior School. Several players have attended to obtain the 'new skill' requirement of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. It is a skill which may be useful socially in later life as well as being very enjoyable. The member of staff responsible for the Bridge Club is Mrs McClure.

THE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

The Junior Football Club is open to pupils in S1 and S2. Meetings are held on Fridays between 4.00 and 5.00 in the Sports Hall. The aim of the club is to increase players' enjoyment of football through a greater knowledge and understanding of the Laws of the Game, improved individual skills and better teamwork.

Meetings are taken by professionally qualified football coaches. This is an excellent opportunity for pupils at The Academy to improve their footballing skills and fitness in readiness for participating in the Scottish Schools' Football Association 11-a-side Under 14 Shield competition which is normally held during the Autumn Term.

Mr Latimer will be pleased to give more details about the Junior Football Club.

MUSIC

There is a wide range of extra-curricular musical activities on offer, including the Senior Choir, Theatre Choir, Wind Band, Orchestra, Swing Band, Brass Group, and a Percussion Ensemble. Musicians are also given the opportunity to contribute to events throughout the year such as the Musical Evening, School Show, Recitals and Competitions, and pupils of all ages/abilities will be made most welcome.

Rehearsal times for all the musical activities will be published at the beginning of the session, and can be obtained from the Music Department. Further details and enquiries should be directed to Mrs Anderson, the Music Administrator.

THE COMPUTING CLUB

The Computing Club meets after school on Mondays in Miss McElroy's Computing lab, Room C4 (Chemistry Building). The club runs from 4pm - 5pm and is open to all pupils in S1, S2 or S3.

You can make your own choice of what to do from a range of activities on offer. There is the chance to use a variety of software and hardware that is not available in classes - what you use can depend on your interests and what you would enjoy exploring! Pupils can also use their time in the Computing Club to work on projects of their own, on coursework for any subject or to learn new skills on the computers.

For more details on the club, contact Miss McElroy, Mr McGranaghan or Mrs Ruddock or come along after school on any Monday.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY

Debating has a long and successful tradition at the Glasgow Academy. The Debating Society is pupil-run but supervised by Ms Fulton in the History Department. Debates usually take place every Thursday lunchtime on a variety of topics which have been suggested by pupils. All year groups are welcome to attend, participate or speak and a lively and humorous atmosphere is always present. No previous experience of debating is required and the basic rules are simple to understand. Come along and learn how you can always win your arguments!

THE SQUASH CLUB

From complete beginners to Scottish Internationalists, the Squash Club caters for everyone at their own particular standard. Several members of staff help with coaching but some pupils get regular professional coaching from John Kirby, coach of the Scottish National under 19 team. Rackets, balls and protective glasses are provided, but pupils will be encouraged to purchase their own if they continue with the sport. Usually there is squash three days a week and a minibus leaves the school as soon after the final bell as possible to take pupils to the courts at Lower Windyedge. Pupils have to make their own way home from Anniesland at the end of the day which is usually between 5.30 and 6.00. Although there are two courts, numbers do have to be limited, so sign up early if you are keen.

If you are at all interested in squash, either as a beginner or as an experienced player, please speak to a member of the PE Department, who will put you in touch with the appropriate member of staff.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is open to pupils in S3 and above. To gain awards, candidates undertake activities in a number of different fields. **Service** activities include first aid courses, working in hospitals, charity shops or conservation ventures. One pupil even joined a lifeboat crew! **Skills** also have to be completed – cookery, music and photography are popular options. **Physical activities** involve taking part in a sport outside of curricular school sport. **Expeditions** must be undertaken at each level of the Award Scheme with most pupils doing two expeditions a year. These expeditions normally take place on foot but pupils may organise their own expedition by canoe, bike or horse.

The Award is voluntary, but requires a major commitment: those who do it, however, generally find it a rewarding experience. Each year several candidates from The Academy receive Gold Awards from the Duke of Edinburgh at a ceremony at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Young Enterprise is open to pupils in S6. Meetings are held on Tuesdays between 4.00 and 6.00 in the first two terms. Numbers are limited to two groups of twenty and participants are often interested in making a career in business.

The aim of the scheme is to provide pupils with an elementary working knowledge of the organisation, methods and practice of commerce and industry through first-hand involvement. Under the guidance of advisers from CCA, achievers set up their own company and have the opportunity to experience the functions of management in personnel, marketing, production, sales and finance. The main external activities include a Trade Fair in George Square, a Y E Weekend Conference in a Glasgow hotel, a Y E exam and a Final Presentation Evening in Strathclyde University where awards are made for the best presentation, the best annual report and the best Young Enterprise company in Glasgow. The member of staff overseeing Young Enterprise at The Academy is Mr Latimer.

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Throughout their time at the Academy, pupils are offered the opportunity to take part in activities such as rock climbing, hill-walking and winter mountaineering. During winter skills weekends pupils learn the essential skills required to travel safely in the winter mountains including how to use ice axe and crampons. A number of day walks are undertaken and this normally culminates in an overnight expedition. This may involve digging a snow hole and then spending a night in this slightly chilly abode. For some students expeditions of this type are just the start of their adventures. A number go on to complete gap year expeditions in areas such as South America and Arctic Norway. Both local crags and remote mountain rock faces provide wonderful opportunities for pupils learn rock climbing techniques. When pupils are keen, and staff are content that they have mastered the essential skills, pupils can progress to 'leading' their own climbs. Activities are normally run by Academy staff qualified and experienced in this area of Outdoor Education. Sometimes there are mountaineering trips overseas, such as the rock climbing trip to Costa Blanca during Easter 2006 and Greenland during Summer 2006.

SCHOOL GOLF

Extra-curricular golf is open to any pupil in the Senior School who has a current handicap and playing access to a local golf club. There are several competitive events throughout the year.

The S1 to S3 championship entry sheets appear in March and the competition is played on a knockout basis over the months following this, with the final being held in June. There is a similar format for the championship for S4 and above, with the winner also being announced at the end of June. 2002 saw the first championship for S1 – S6 girls, and it is hoped that more girls will take the opportunity to play golf at the Academy next year.

The Macdonald Cup is a trophy presented at the end of the school year to the winner of a scratch medal round which is held one Wednesday afternoon in June. The juniors play a medal round, using handicap, over a local course during a school day near the

end of the third term and the person with the best nett score is presented with the Academicals' Cup.

Golf is a popular activity in the school, offering good-natured competition and companionship and offers the chance to pupils of playing on courses other than their own. In addition to the activities mentioned above, next year there may be the opportunity to play inter-school fixtures and also the very enjoyable (and highly competitive!) staff vs pupils match. Further information about any of these events can be obtained from Mrs McKenzie.

THE PIPE BAND

The Academy Pipe Band is for all pupils who can play, or wish to learn to play, either the bagpipes or the drums. Individual pipe and drum tuition is available within the school if desired, in addition to a twice-weekly band practice. The instructors employed by the school are experienced performers in their own right.

Whilst some of our younger members can already play the pipes, many of our new starts learn to play the chanter through the Prep School, and then move on to pipes when they join the band in the Senior School. The emphasis is on participation and pupils are encouraged to come along to band practice as soon as they have mastered a few tunes on the chanter. In this way they meet other band members and hear other band tunes they will learn in the future.

The Band plays at a variety of functions in the school calendar such as Prize Giving, the Commemoration Service and before the Christmas Show. In addition they are invited to play at a number of excellent events outside the school, both competitive and non-competitive. These include a Massed Scottish Schools' CCF Band, which performs Beating Retreat at Edinburgh Castle, one Quartet and two Band and Solo competitions and an evening at The Royal Scottish Society of Pipers in Edinburgh. The Band also gives an annual recital and runs its own internal competition. Many players go on to play for University or other senior bands.

