

# WHITEHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



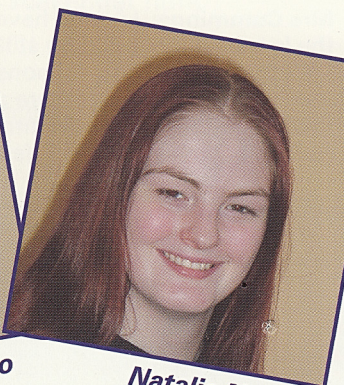
## THE DUX AWARD WINNERS

The Dux award is presented annually to the S5 pupil who has performed best in the SQA examinations. The winner for session 2002 to 2003 was Catherine So and the joint runners-up were Natalie Nimmo and Stephen Pollock.

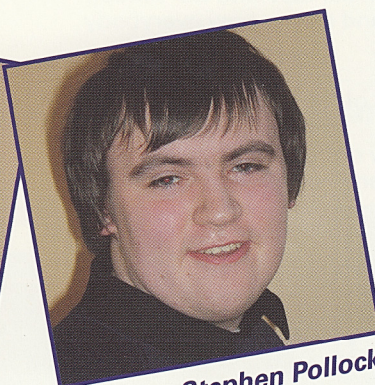
Catherine, Natalie and Stephen have been exemplary, hard working and conscientious pupils throughout their school career. We congratulate them on their achievements and wish them well in the future. The awards will be presented at the Christmas Assembly on 19th December.



Catherine So



Natalie Nimmo



Stephen Pollock

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## CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY

The Christmas Assembly will be held in Dennistoun Central Church at 11.15 a.m. on Friday 19th December. The service will be conducted by Reverend Adah Younger.

There will be a variety of performances throughout the assembly, including items from the choir, Pupil Council, staff, school orchestras, a play and readings.

All parents and friends of the school are welcome to attend.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all parents, pupils and staff.





# MRS CUMMING RETIRES

***Congratulations to Mrs Cumming who, after 28 years in Whitehill, is taking early retirement. Mrs Cumming joined the school in October 1975 as Principal Teacher of Physical Education. She has been a Depute Head since 1988. Jenna May interviews her on behalf of Whitehill pupils.***

**Jenna:** Do you have anything planned for after your retirement?

**Mrs.Cummings:** I'm hoping to continue with some of my hobbies such as tapestry. I would like to use my caravan more and go on holiday whenever I want! I'm going to get a dog, as I couldn't before now because of work commitments. I'm getting a Hungarian Vizsla and I'm going to call it Corrie after my favourite soap. I would like to teach a bit of primary swimming.

**Jenna:** What will you miss most of all about the school?

**Mrs.Cummings:** The routine of going and coming to school and getting ready to teach a class. I will also miss the friendship and support from the staff, parents and pupils, all the funny things that happened over the years and the events that I've been involved in such as concerts, prizegiving and sports days.

**Jenna:** Will you keep in contact with the school?

**Mrs.Cummings:** Yes. I will keep in contact with the school. I will also be happy coming back and seeing how everybody is getting on and visiting the staff.

**Jenna:** What's your best memory of the school?

**Mrs.Cummings:** My best memory of the school is the achievements of pupils by exams and sporting events, which they worked hard to achieve.



**Jenna:** When you look back, is there anything you would change?

**Mrs.Cummings:** I would have liked to end my career with the lower school building still being a part of the school as I felt that that was my responsibility. I have been happy and content with my career here at the school because I have been here for such a long time that I have taught many parents of pupils and I don't fancy teaching their grandchildren.



***Jacqui Coster and Campbell Mitchelson donate the first laptop to Jamie Brown and friends at Whitehill***

**FIRST PLACE - Alan McEwan - £25 voucher from HMV**

**SECOND PLACE - Leanne Ross - £20 voucher from HMV**

**THIRD PLACE - Amanda Anderson - £15 voucher from HMV**

**Ten runners up were also awarded £10 vouchers from HMV**

## THANKS TO BCW GROUP PLC

***You will have noticed that this edition of the Whitehill newsletter has been published professionally for us. This is thanks to the school's partnership with the BCW group.***

BCW Group, which is based in Glasgow, approached Whitehill with a view to developing links with us and has, since August, taken S4 pupils for work experience and presented the school with a laptop computer, as well as arranging for the publication of this Christmas newsletter.

BCW Group also asked the school to run a Christmas Card competition to design their company Christmas card. All S1,2, and 3 and a few senior pupils entered designs for it. The overall winner was Alan McEwan in S1. BCW Group and the Art department were delighted with the high standard of work.

Whitehill has strong links with a number of the city's leading businesses and organisations through our Partners in Learning Group and our world of work programme. Thanks very much for linking with the school, BCW Group. Merry Christmas!





# CHRISTMAS CRACKER REWARD DAY

**THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2003**

*During the Rewards Week last session, staff at sports centres, visitors to the school and members of the public commented on the friendliness, good behaviour and enthusiasm of Whitehill pupils. Everyone involved in the Reward Week agreed that it had been a very worthwhile venture. The photographs on this page are from the Summer Rewards Week.*

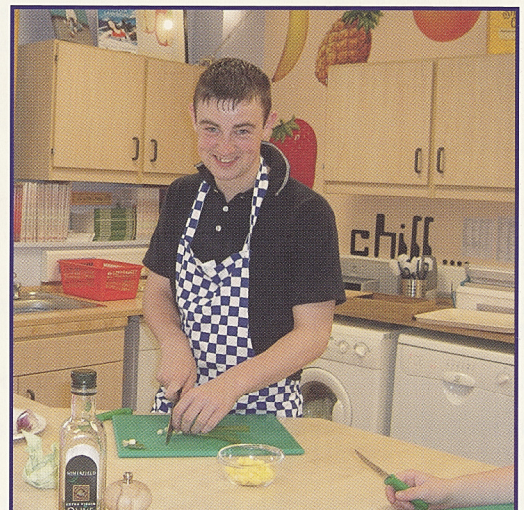
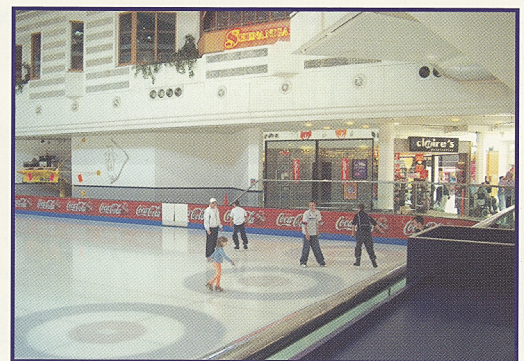
Once again, we have decided to reward those pupils who have been coming to school, behaving well and working to the best of their ability. Pupils have been given the opportunity to go on one of the following out-of-school activities:

- A visit to the pantomime
- Skating and swimming at the Time Capsule
- A visit to the Glasgow Climbing Centre
- Ten Pin Bowling at Baillieston

Pupils have also been able to choose from the following school based activities:

- Making a Christmas table decoration
- Painting Christmas ceramics or glass
- Designing Christmas cards
- An Internet Christmas scavenger hunt
- A Christmas movie

We hope everyone will enjoy this special day and, once again, prove what a great group of pupils we have at Whitehill.





# CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to LeeAnn Crichton S5 who was selected to represent Scotland in an Under 17 Football Tournament to held in United States.

Congratulations to Diane Bruce who had a very successful game as goalkeeper for her football team, Glasgow City. The team won 3-2 against the current Scottish champions. Diane doesn't usually play in goals but now the usual goalkeeper is fighting for her place.

Well done to the Under 18 School Football Team who defeated St Andrew's from East Kilbride 7-1 away from home in the third round of the Scottish Cup. In the next round, the boys have drawn Turnbull High from Bishopbriggs.

Congratulations to John McEwan, S4, who was chosen as captain of the Under-16 Flag Football team against England. Unfortunately the Scots were beaten.

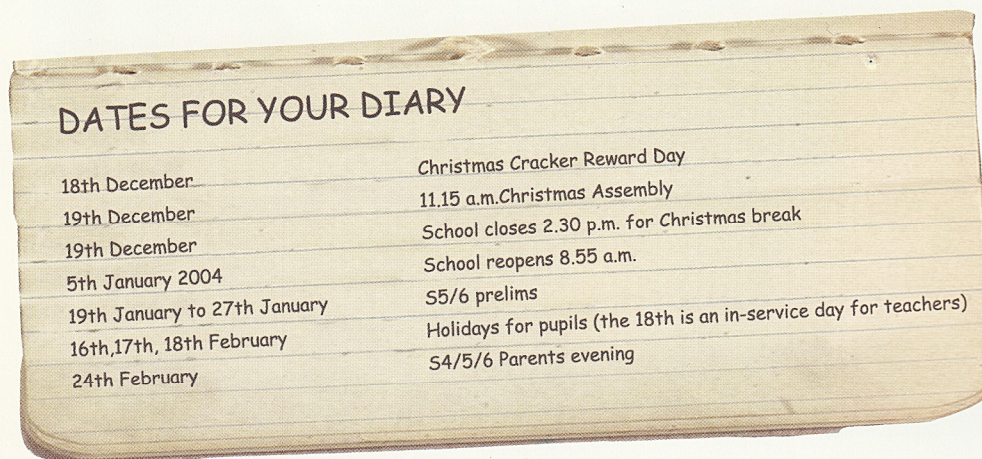
Well done, David McHendrie and Henry Coyle, who successfully completed the Youth Sports Leadership Course and will be assisting with clubs in the new term

Congratulations to Sharon Morrison who was formerly head of the school office and has now been appointed Educational Liaison Officer for the Whitehill Learning Community. We would like to thank Sharon for all her hard work and support and wish her well in her new position.



Congratulations to Susan Molloy who has been appointed as the schools Business Manager. Ms Molloy was formerly Bursar of the Whitehill learning Community.

Well done to all the S1 pupils involved in the GOALS visit to Glasgow University and to all S5/6 involved in the GOALS topup programme for university applicants.



COMMERCE FOR KIDS WAS  
LAUNCHED IN 2003 BY  
BCW GROUP PLC WITH  
THE AIM OF LIFTING THE LID  
ON THE WORLD OF COMMERCE AND  
PROVIDING PREVIOUSLY  
UNAVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
SCHOOL CHILDREN ACROSS THE  
UK AND IRELAND



## A REMINDER TO PARENTS ABOUT "ABOUT"

ABOUT is the school code for pupils

- A** is for Attendance. Ensure that your children attend regularly. Try to arrange dental appointments etc. outwith the school day. If you have any queries about attendance, telephone 582 0290 and ask for an attendance printout.
- B** is for Behaviour. Support us in making sure your child behaves in a reasonable manner.
- O** is for Organisation. Make sure that your son/daughter has a school diary and uses it, not just to record homework, but to plan ahead.
- U** is for Uniform. Most pupils wear uniform. It is not expensive and is hard wearing. School uniform is available from the National Schoolwear Shop in the Trongate. Football tops are not acceptable clothing for school, even in PE.
- T** is for Timekeeping- Latecoming disrupts teaching and learning and develops bad habits. Make sure your son or daughter leaves home in plenty of time to get to school. Detentions may be issued for persistent latecoming.





# Under the Brolly

## FACT CARD

**Age:** 19

**Where are you from?** East End of Glasgow

**What is your favourite type of food?** Indian

**What is your favourite type of music?** Hip hop & RnB

**Dream Holiday:** Dubai

**Fave shop:** River Island

**Fave Animal:** Dog

**Hobbies:** Football and going to the cinema

**Fave colour:** Blue

**Fave film:** The Green Mile

**R**obert Menzies joined bcwgroup as part of RCommerce for Kids, our project with local schools aimed at lifting the lid on the world of commerce and opening the door to new opportunities. Robert is an apprentice, and will experience a variety of bcwgroup's operational functions during his first year at the company. He was working in Client Services when Carole Erskine caught up with him.

**So, Robert how are you getting on? What have you thought of the company so far?**

**Robert** - I've really enjoyed it because everyone has treated me really well. On my first week, I was taken out for my lunch and got to meet loads of people, and everyone was really nice. I started off in admin and was taught everything about the company, which I thought was good. I started off opening mail and started taking it from there, learning how to do everything in that department. The guys were really helpful. If you had a question they were always there to answer it. You get treated really well. Like on my first day, bcwgroup really helped me out by taking me to get smart clothes for work. People make you feel comfortable and you don't have to worry. Everyone treats you like a proper worker.



n that department?

**Robert** – Yes, I did the fruit some mornings and you have to go round all the departments when you do that, so I got to meet a lot of people which was good. I got to know the departments quite quickly, plus my first day I went with David Irvine to give all the directors their mail, so it meant I got to meet all of them and learn where their offices were.

**Carole** – You have recently moved to Client Services. How's that going?

**Robert** – It looks as if it will be quite good in here, a different challenge, more responsibility. We deal with clients who phone in and ask for different things. With the apprenticeship scheme, I can move around our different departments, which gives you a taste of lots of different things.

**Carole** – You came from Whitehill as a bawgroup apprentice. How have you found the transition?

**Robert** – It's a great opportunity to get yourself into working. To work in a place like this, you couldn't ask for anything more. It's a great working environment, the people are nice and they don't treat you like a kid - they treat you like an adult. I would definitely recommend it to anyone in Whitehill now.

**Carole** – What about to other schools, say in Leeds or Dublin. How would you explain to kids there about Commerce for Kids?

**Robert** – I would say it's about going to each department and getting experience of how they work, do the day to day jobs and earn, get the experience. It's great for someone who has never had a job before. This is my first job. It's quite overwhelming because this is such a big company. It's always growing and we always get to hear the good news so it's great to be here at this time. It's exciting.

**Carole** – What would you like to do when your year is up?

**Robert** – I would really love to stay on. I get a shot in each department so I will be able to see which one I like the most and apply for a job there, if there was one. It's a good area here, where the office is. It's near where I stay and I like it. I get the bus in the morning, and my bus stop at home is just round the corner. It's really handy. I think I would like to spend some time working at Aspire, I have been past the office in Rutherglen. It's different from George Square but it looks really nice, pretty cool.

**Carole** – So, what were you doing before you came here?

**Robert** – I was at college doing a computing technicians course. It was like getting taught all the main programs and learning programming. It was good but quite hard, I got the chance to do my European Driving License, which I did but I don't know if I have passed it yet.

Before that I was at Whitehill Secondary, I think the teachers from there are really proud of me. I have been up at Whitehill and when I saw the teachers they seemed really happy for me. One of teachers, Miss Fleming, put me forward for this apprenticeship. She was my Business Management teacher and she gave me an award in her class once because I did really well. It was really nice of her to do that, so I sent her chocolates and a card to say thank you when I was finished. She was really pleased I got this job.

**Robert** – I play football. On Sundays I play 11-a-side and then later on that day I play 5-a-side. I play for Shettleston Juniors under 18s, and play the 5-asides with my brother and his friends. I really enjoy playing football.

**Carole** – What do your family think of the job here?

**Robert** – My girlfriend is really pleased I got the job. My mum and dad are really happy, they're really proud of me.

My little sister goes to Whitehill, so she's beginning to learn about the Commerce for Kids scheme, I think they're quite interested in it all. I would recommend this to her. It's a good starting block for someone young. It is really good experience. My friends seem quite impressed by the job. It is massive compared to what they are doing. It's a really big step and hopefully I will be able to make it a permanent thing in the future - perhaps the next Paul Fraser.

**Carole** – What do you think the best bit has been so far?

**Robert** – One of the best bits so far was when I was in the advertising photo shoot. That was great - really good fun. Everybody that did it had a good laugh. I was dressed in a suit and had a football because that was my story in the adverts. Some of the other guys were standing behind the camera and they had to throw the footballs at me when the photos were being taken. Then they had the football on a string and I had to look as if I was heading it. I hope they take the string out in the final photos - it will make me look good.

My picture was in one of the credit magazines. It was really cool. I got to meet other people from the office here and people from Leeds and Dublin and Rado and Martina from Aspire. The photographers were really good too. It was a great day to meet other people that work here.

But I think the best thing was when Bob Murdach took me out and got me clothes for work. I thought that was good of them. We went to Next. It was weird because it was the first time I have ever met him before but it was good because it let me get to know him a bit.

**Carole** – Did he have a good sense of fashion?

**Robert** – He was good at picking me out something to wear. I got a few ties, shoes, some trousers and shirts. Everything is great for work.

**Carole** – Do you think Bob could make it as a personal shopper then?

**Robert** – Yes, he has a fabulous eye for style!

*Next issue,*

Look out for the first member of the Stratford team appearing in 'Under the Brolly.'