

School Council contact: [council@jghs.org.uk](mailto:council@jghs.org.uk)

<http://council.jghs.org.uk>

# JGHS Council Bulletin

No.5 June 2009

**You can contact the School Council by:**

email: [council@jghs.org.uk](mailto:council@jghs.org.uk)

Tel: Nigel Goddard (Chair) 667 4033 & Ann Henderson (Communications) 667 1646

Or see the web site <http://council.jghs.org.uk> for more information and news updates

Sign up for email updates via the website, or leave your postal address for us to send out mail

Or via the School Office – FAO School Council

## Update from the School Council Chair, Nigel Goddard

As we come to the end of another school year it's time to turn our attention to welcoming a new group of parents to the JGHS community. I'm sure many of us remember the exciting but challenging and often bewildering transition from being a primary parent to a being a secondary parent. Please come along on 9<sup>th</sup> June (see right) to share experiences with new S1 parents and to contribute ideas for our welcoming pack.

Many of you will have noticed that the Whitehouse Loan entrance to the school has been without a gate and not secured for over a year. The City Council say this will be fixed in August, but there is concern about the potential for vandalism over the summer when fewer people are at the school. Letters should be sent to:

Dave Anderson, City Development  
Waverley Court  
4 East Market Street  
Edinburgh EH8 8BG  
Email: [dave.anderson@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:dave.anderson@edinburgh.gov.uk)

Finally, a word about the long-running building renewal saga. In September we will hold a meeting to inform parents of plans and possibilities, and to start the process of developing what we would like to see in a new school – not the standard box! This will feed in to the City's consultation process which is expected to start in January 2010.

## Forthcoming School Council Events

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 7pm School Library**  
(rescheduled from 2<sup>nd</sup> June)

**'Primary/Secondary School transition'**  
discussion, with contributions from the parent perspective.

The meeting will also take a Report from  
Head Teacher

**Parents, students, staff** please join us for any  
part or all of our evening meetings

**All very welcome**  
even if you can only drop in for a while.

Tea and coffee available.

**SIGN UP TO OUR E-BULLETIN** – if you would like to receive updates from the School Council, and alerts when the School's own monthly newsletter is published online, send us your email address: [council@jghs.org.uk](mailto:council@jghs.org.uk)

**If you need any assistance to be able to come along to our meetings, including transport or child care please let us know as soon as possible as we may be able to help.**

If you cannot make it along to any of the meetings but still want to know more about what's happening, what we are planning, how you can make suggestions or get involved please get in touch by any of the contact methods listed above

# JGHS Council News

## S School Library Appeal: Please return all books by the end of term!

The Library is a resource for all students and the wider school community. There is no budget for replacing the many books that go missing each year – so please, collect up any school books and hand them in to school. There is a collection box at the main reception.

For more information or if you have any questions, contact the school librarian, Anne Inglis  
0131 447 1900 ext .228 or by email at [anne.inglis@jamesgillespies.edin.sch.uk](mailto:anne.inglis@jamesgillespies.edin.sch.uk).

## African Global Citizenship Project News from the JGHS Trust

Through links with business, with families in school, and with the JGHS Trust, there are numerous opportunities to get involved in raising awareness about the African Global Citizenship Project. We would like to thank all those in the wider community who have worked with the school to support the recent events.

The JGHS Trust facilitated an exhibition and auction of work by the students, which succeeded in raising £4,000. The main organisers were Jean Cathro, a former pupil, and head of art, George Coburn.

The **Bizlinx EH1 group** has now raised **£8,030** for the African project in 15 months (£7,439 from Zuluceilidh). From the core Bizlinx group of 12 Edinburgh businesses, the charity has also reached 104 additional Scottish businesses, which are now aware of the work of the JGHS Trust and the African project at school. Frances Benton, the outgoing JGHS Trust Development officer is continuing to take these links forward.

The School Trust is the charitable arm of James Gillespie's and exists to forward links between all parts of the school, including former pupils and teachers, and to help raise funds from external sources.

The Trust continues to offer small grants to pupils and teachers who need financial support to achieve special goals. The most recent project was the 'physics podcast' awarded to Mr Bryce. The funding will help pay for JGHS students to work with physics undergraduates for three weeks in the summer to develop teaching podcasts that will, hopefully, become available to all schools across Scotland.

We are also building on other ideas to raise funds. Currently a team is looking into creating a book about Gillespie's, past and present, and is on the outlook for a good, cheap, printer to support our project. Are any parents printers? Get in touch.

[www.jamesgillespiestrust.com](http://www.jamesgillespiestrust.com)

Su Clark, trustee

## JGHS EVENTS GROUP

Volunteers meet to arrange events and to assist with serving refreshments at School activities, including at one of the forthcoming Diversity evenings (Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June) If you can help or just want information for the coming year – contact [jo.clayton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jo.clayton@blueyonder.co.uk)

All welcome. Get to know other parents, and the funds raised make a real difference in school too.