

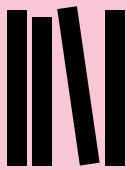
A close-up photograph of a child's hand holding a dark pencil, drawing on a white sheet of paper. The child is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt. The drawing shows a simple house with a chimney and some rectangular shapes. In the background, there are other sheets of paper and a wooden desk. The text 'Renfrewshire School Library Service Annual Report' is overlaid on the top right, and '2023/2024' is below it. In the bottom right corner, the text 'ONE REN' is visible.

# Renfrewshire School Library Service Annual Report

2023/2024

ONE  
REN

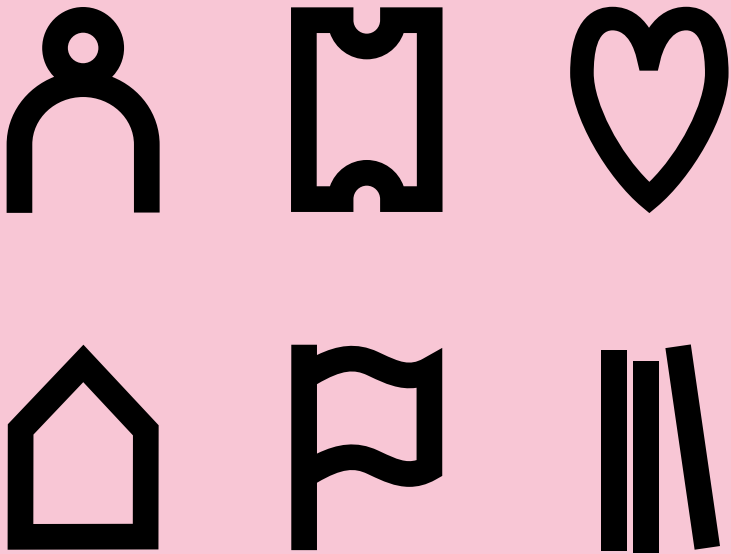
ONE  
REN



Learn  
life  
skills.

# Contents

1	Introduction
2	Vibrant Libraries, Thriving Schools
5	2024-25 School Library Team
7	Annual Statistics July 2023-June 2024
9	Highlights of the year
16	School Reports



#WeAreOneRen





# Introduction

OneRen provides a professionally qualified librarian to 11 secondary schools in Renfrewshire. School library opening hours are based upon the size of the school with the two largest schools, St. Andrew's Academy and Park Mains High, open 4 days per week. All other school libraries are open 3 days per week apart from Linwood High which is open 2 and a half days per week.

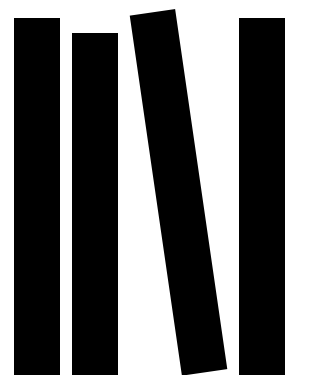
The service contributes to OneRen's vision of "everyone locally living lives that are healthy, happy and fulfilled" and its mission "to improve our community's health and wellbeing by working in partnership to design and deliver a range of life-enhancing and accessible cultural, leisure and sporting opportunities that meet local needs and improve life chances across the population".

The school library service provides equitable funding for library books and e-learning resources. School libraries support both the curricular needs of the school and the extra-curricular aspect of school life. Resources and activities support literacy and research, and there are a range of clubs and activities that pupils regularly use during their free time to support their wellbeing.

This report shows the range of activities that have taken place across the 2023-24 academic year, and a brief summary of some of the positive impacts the school library service has had on pupils.

**Andrew Givan, Children and Young People Co-ordinator**

**Clare Hemsworth, Library Support Co-ordinator (Schools), July 2024**



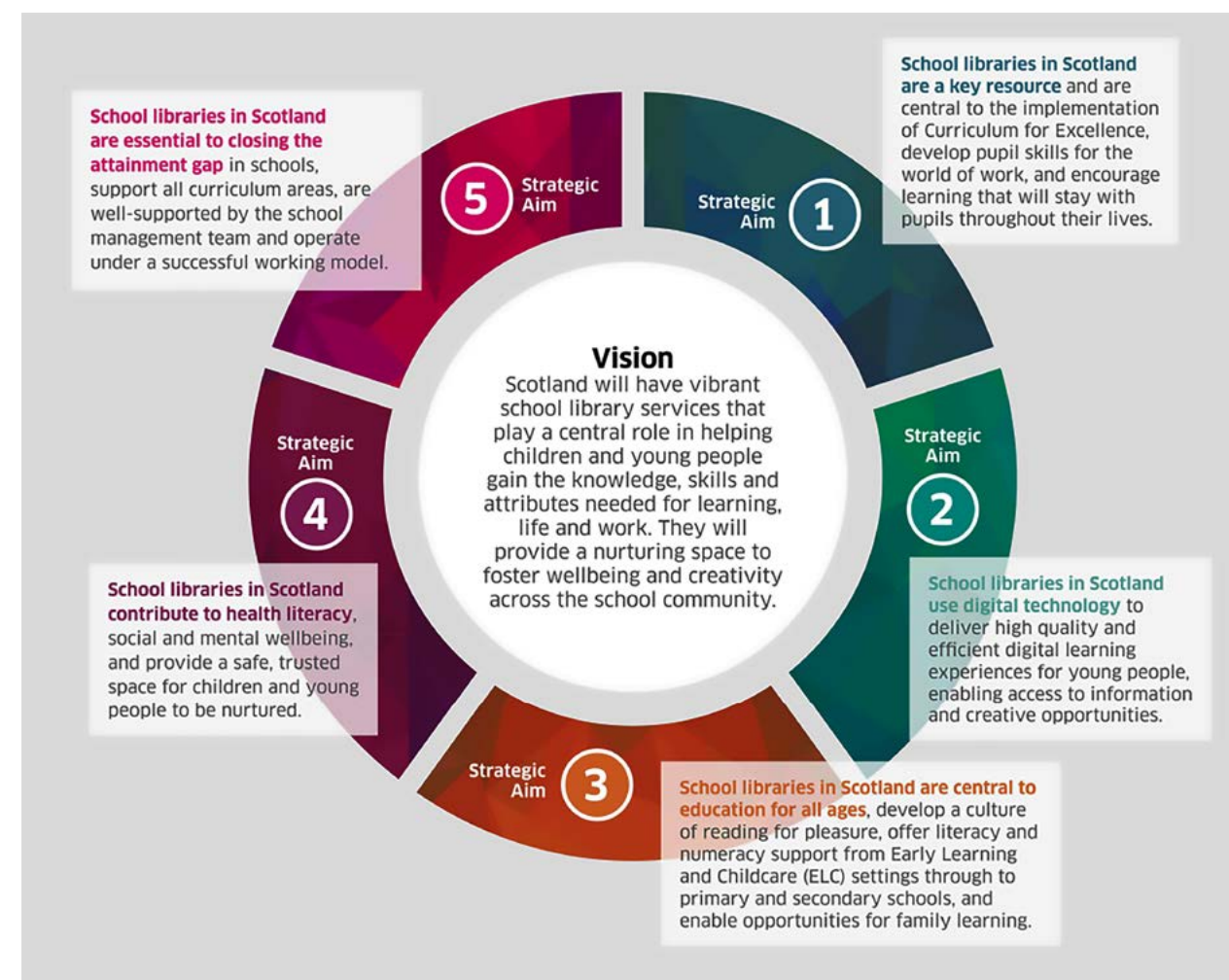


# Vibrant Libraries, Thriving Schools

## A National Strategy for School Libraries in Scotland.

The School Library should reach all ages, levels and curricular subjects to improve attainment, develop a reading culture, support information and digital literacy, and provide a nurturing space for pupils to reflect and learn.

Professionally trained librarians can provide young people with the transferable skills required to achieve throughout life and develop a lifelong love of reading. An inspiring and safe place, the library fosters wellbeing and creativity across the school community.



### Strategic aim 1:

School Libraries in Scotland are a key resource and are central to the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence, develop pupil skills for the world of work, and encourage learning that will stay with pupils throughout their lives.

*'I would like to become an author or an illustrator when I'm older. I loved working with Neil and we actually wrote a book! I didn't think we could do that!'*  
**S1 pupil at Castlehead High on the Author Residency/Comic Book Creation project.**

### Strategic aim 2:

School Libraries in Scotland use digital technology to deliver high quality and efficient digital learning experiences for young people, enabling access to information and creative opportunities.

*'I love the robot'*  
**S2 Pathways (learning support) pupil at Park Mains operating a Sphero robot as part of a digital engagement session.**

### Strategic aim 3:

School Libraries in Scotland are central to education for all ages, develop a culture of reading for pleasure, offer literacy and numeracy support from ELC settings through to primary and secondary schools and enable opportunities for family learning.

*'The trip to Waterstones with book club has been one of the best experiences I have had at school. I cannot thank you enough for your kindness, you are so encouraging and inspiring. Thank you for being amazing'*  
**S6 leaver at Paisley Grammar to librarian.**

### Strategic aim 4:

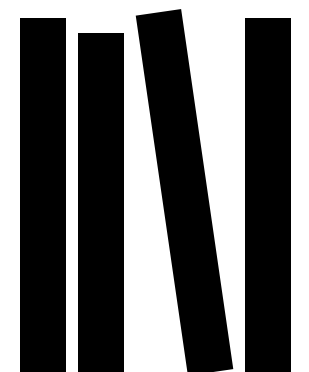
School Libraries in Scotland contribute to health literacy, social and mental wellbeing and provide a safe, trusted space for children and young people to be nurtured.

*'This is my happy place. I love it here!'*  
**S1 pupil at Paisley Grammar.**

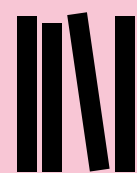
### Strategic aim 5:

School Libraries in Scotland are essential to closing the attainment gap in schools, support all curriculum areas, are well supported by the schools management team and operate under a successful working model.

*"Graeme Armstrong came to speak to all S5/6. It was an amazing session and you could have heard a pin drop. Graeme's anti-violence message really cuts through, and the pupils engaged well—even taking part in a Q+A at the end. Earlier in the week Joyce had arranged for another author, Alan Bissett, to come into school and this was also very well received"*  
**Headteacher (speaking about author visits organised by school librarian).**



ONE  
REN



Reach  
your  
goals.

#WeAreOneRen

## 2024–2025 School Library Team



Louise Gordon (school librarian). Based at Park Mains on Mondays and Fridays and Paisley Grammar on Tuesdays to Thursdays.



Sylwia Grabowska-Szumaska (school librarian). Based at St. Andrew's on Wednesdays to Fridays.



Andy Kerr (school librarian). Based at St Benedict's on Mondays, Trinity High on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and Castlehead High on Wednesdays.



Kenneth Naismith (school librarian). Based at Park Mains on Tuesday and Wednesdays and Gleniffer High on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.



Clare Hemsworth (library support coordinator/school librarian). Line management of school libraries team on Wednesdays to Fridays. Based at Castlehead High on Mondays and Tuesdays.



Onyinyechi Agwu (school librarian). Based at Linwood on Mondays, Tuesdays and Friday mornings and Gryffe High on Wednesdays on Thursdays.



Ian Love (school librarian). Based at Renfrew High on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and St Benedict's on Thursdays and Fridays.



Joyce Retnaraj (school librarian). Based at St Andrew's on Mondays, Johnstone High on Tuesdays to Thursdays and Gryffe High on Fridays.



Leilani Thomson (school librarian). Peripatetic casual who provides cover when needed across the school libraries.



Andrew Givan (children and young people co-ordinator). Overall responsibility for children's services within public libraries, school libraries and the Skoobmobile.





# Annual Statistics July 2023–June 2024

## Usage of school libraries

There were 148,833 visits to all 11 locations. 2732 class visits, clubs and groups took place in the libraries. This was a slight reduction on last year due to staffing levels being reduced in the winter term. 410 pupil hours were spent volunteering supervised by the school librarians with volunteering time used as evidence towards school recognition programmes.

number of author sessions this year was double the amount of last year due to the success of funding bids being written by the school libraries team.

## Additional funding allocated

Additional funding due to successful funding bids by school library team

Scottish Book Trust Author Residencies and Reading schools	£11,500
Scottish Book Trust Live Literature	£1,200
School Library Improvement Funding Libraries LYT up lives	£19,374
School Library Improvement Fund St Andrew’s Research Hub	£3,619
Future Paisley—Paisley Book Festival events	£10,000
Future Paisley—Libraries Events Funding	£3,448.84
Total:	£49,141.84

## Resources

26,671 physical books were issued to pupils over the year with many pupils borrowing from the library on a weekly basis. Book returns continued to be a challenge with a significant amount (approximately 6,000) not returned. This led to each budget having to be used for replacements limiting the growth of each collection and leading to delay and disappointment from pupils waiting for books that were overdue. This year was a challenging year in terms of staffing which also led to challenges with book returns and led to a lower loan rate.

## Author visits

49 author visits were held across 11 schools with additional sessions held as part of the Paisley Book Festival. Authors invited ranged from award winning authors to local authors all of which made a huge impact on the pupils who attended the sessions. The

OneRen contributed £38,000 for books and learning resources to schools as well as £1,200 in match funding for live literature events. Schools contributed £765 to ensure school trips. Trinity High committed £15,000 to completely refurbish the library.





**Vital facilities** Scottish Government education secretary Jenny Gilruth has welcomed the funding provided for school library projects in Renfrewshire

EMYLIE HOWIE

**Schools across Renfrewshire will be reading all about it after receiving a share of £200,000 to support two progressive projects.**

The funding comes as part of the 2023/24 school library improvement fund (SLIF).

St Andrew's Academy in Paisley is set to launch a research hub while 10 other schools across the area are partnering with Glasgow Life to develop 'The Library Young Team'.

Administered by the Scottish library and information council (SLIC), on behalf of the Scottish Government, the fund supports creative and innovative projects within the school library sector.

Available to all state-run nurseries, primary schools and secondary schools with a library, this year's funding priority was given to applications which focused on supporting anti-racism and racial equality.

The £200,000 SLIF 2023/24 award has been allocated to a total of 21 initiatives across 13 local authority areas in Scotland - including two in Renfrewshire.

Highlighting the social and mental benefits of reading, 'The Library Young Team - Libraries LYT up lives' project, in partnership with Glasgow Life, will host author sessions aimed at S3 to S5 boys dealing with contemporary issues.

Led by reading role models, authors Graeme Armstrong, Brian Conaghan and Alan Bisset, the project will run in parallel across 10 secondary school libraries. Two CPD sessions will also be offered to librarians and teachers.

St Andrew's Academy will create the 'Research Hub - St Andrew's Academy' for senior pupils, offering

## Brighter chapters for school libraries

Focus on racial equality reaps financial rewards

a series of workshops that teach research skills from information seeking strategies and evaluation, to using databases and online resources.

The workshop will focus on research with the social subjects department into anti-racism, social justice and gender equality.

Congratulating the successful applicants, Jenny Gilruth, cabinet secretary for education and skills, said: "School libraries play a key role in our efforts to further boost literacy and continue improving attainment but they are also places where positive values can be developed and celebrated."

"Projects supported by this funding will help young people to understand the harmful consequences of racism and ensure they feel empowered to challenge discrimination."

"Scotland's school libraries are a

vital resource, and all children should have access to the opportunities they provide. This funding will help ensure that young people from all backgrounds feel the full benefits."

Pamela Tulloch, chief executive of SLIC, said: "We're particularly proud to award support to those advocating for anti-racism and anti-discrimination through this year's fund. Many projects aim to increase access and support for pupils who may experience barriers to learning, including those with additional support needs (ASN) and pupils with English as an additional language."

"Involving children and young people, and their families, in defining the school library service creates a flexible space for reflection and conversation where learning and creativity are encouraged in a nurturing environment."

"Involving children and young people, and their families, in defining the school library service creates a flexible space for reflection and conversation where learning and creativity are encouraged in a nurturing environment."

"Scotland's school libraries are a



**Cheers** Fun at the opening ceremony

Thousands pour into town for the literary 4-day extravaganza

## Jam-packed Paisley book festival gets great review

CALAM PENGILLY

**Record-breaking crowds turned out for Paisley Book Festival with the literary extravaganza forming part of a jam-packed weekend for events in the town.**

Running over four days from Thursday, April 25 to Sunday, April 28, the festival, produced and delivered by OneTen, enjoyed a record of 2,113 attendances across 42 events, five of which were BSL [British Sign Language] interpreted.

The festival's accompanying schools' programme attracted 24 primary schools with over 1,490 children attending 38 events in the newly-refurbished Paisley Town Hall, their school or a public library.

Among those to speak at the events across the four days were Pat Nevin, Judy Murray, Graeme Armstrong, Andrew



**Record breaking** This year's festival was the best-attended yet

attending for the first time. "It was wonderful to see the refurbished Paisley Town Hall and new Paisley Central Library buzz with people excited about seeing their favourite writers, whether literary authors, sporting legends or poets. Our schools programme

"We are proud to have presented a diverse and exciting programme that had something for everyone. Paisley Book Festival has become a key event in Renfrewshire's cultural calendar and we can't wait to welcome attendees next year."

book festival can draw in, from poetry lovers to crime fans and fantasy fiction heads to families looking for some creativity to light up the weekend, as well as those seeking more urgent political discussions. "It was great to see the whole community come

# Highlights of the year

## Reading Promotion

Work towards Reading school status continued across the schools with the school librarian being an integral part of achieving this. Johnstone High achieved Silver Status in June. Renfrew High and St Andrew's Academy are in the late evidence gathering stage and on track to achieve Gold status early in the next academic year. Gryffe is also on track to achieve Gold status early in the next academic year. Castlehead High, Glencoats, Wallace and West primaries became the first Renfrewshire schools to achieve the new Cluster Reading Schools status for all schools in a school cluster to achieve reading schools awards.

Reading promotion was a key offering with activities such as book cafes, book talks, author visits, public library visits and much more in addition to the librarian providing individualised book recommendations and advice for pupils. School librarians kept up to date with new and upcoming titles to ensure that books purchased were of high interest to pupils. E-book promotion showed pupils how to access the library e-book apps online, enabling them to access library books 24/7 outside of school library opening hours. One successful project that took place in June was a Reading Cafe which took place in the new Paisley Central Library and led to pupils from 3 schools working together to work on presentations about reading to celebrate Empathy day.

In many schools, all classes in S1-3 visited either weekly or fortnightly to swap books and to spend time in the library. Due to unforeseen staffing levels being reduced

in the autumn term, it was a particularly challenging year for some schools which led to a reduction in opening days. We are now back at full capacity and expect to run full timetables in the next session.

## Information Literacy

Introductory sessions took place across many schools in August and September 2023 with S1 pupils being introduced to what their library card could do to support both recreational reading and school work with access to various e-resources. Refresher sessions were also held along with ad hoc sessions for any classes and individuals requesting support. School librarians supported pupils in building the skills to navigate the digital landscape and be able to evaluate information critically and effectively.

Advanced Higher pupils from 3 schools were taken to the University of Strathclyde and Glasgow to support their dissertation research. Introductory sessions happened in schools before pupils visited the university library. One to one support was also given to numerous pupils submitting folios and dissertations although this proved challenging in some schools due to reduction in IT provision within the libraries.

Through library membership pupils had free access to e-resources to support their studies including Britannica, Oxford Reference, Press Reader, Issues Online and more. School librarians also promoted access to high quality journals via Access to Research (available within public libraries) and the National Library of Scotland online portal.





## Paisley Book Festival Schools Programme

The Paisley Book Festival Schools Programme is funded by Future Paisley and aims to inspire children and young people to love reading and develop their own creative writing skills through meeting and hearing from authors who write for their age group. It encourages children to engage with the library to expand their reading horizons and develop their creativity through free access to books and the support and guidance of school librarians and public library staff. The Schools Programme also aspires to be inclusive, and accessible to pupils from different backgrounds and from across Renfrewshire.

This year the schools programme ran from Monday 22nd April to Friday 25th April with 38 events taking place in libraries, schools and Paisley Town Hall.

- Number of Participating Schools: 35
- Number of Participating Pupils: 1396
- Age Range of Participating Pupils: 5 to 14
- Number of Participating Teachers: 56
- Number of Authors / Artists Engaged: 15

A survey was sent out to teachers and pupils attending events and the responses were overwhelmingly positive.

### **Teacher comment:**

*"This was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to engage with authors and be inspired by their writing journey. This in turn has encouraged the children to tell their own journey through writing."*

### **Pupil comment:**

*"I really enjoyed this the author was really engaging with us and her books seem great definitely going to get them."*

## Janet Coats Memorial Prize

67 pupils from Renfrewshire High Schools entered the Janet Coats Memorial Poetry Prize (under 18s category). The judging panel for the prestigious prize included the acclaimed Scottish Caribbean poet and performer, Courtney Stoddart; local poet Mairi Murphy, winner of the 2016 Alistair Buchan Prize for poetry; and the Tannahill Makar for Renfrewshire Shaun Moore. 5 young poets from 4 schools were shortlisted and their poems printed in a booklet along with the shortlisted adult poems. All attended the special awards ceremony in Paisley Town Hall during the Book Festival. This year the winner was from St Benedict's High School and they received a cash prize and a donation for books for their school library.

## Libraries LYT Up Lives

The Libraries LYT up lives project was a major project within the school libraries team this year. After identifying a need to work with senior pupils and the success of Graeme Armstrong sessions as part of the Paisley Book Festival in February 2023, the idea evolved into inviting authors who wrote books about harm reduction and gang culture to work with schools funded through the Scottish Information and Library Council's School Library Improvement Fund. The project was awarded £19,374 to run sessions across 6 schools in Renfrewshire and 6 in Glasgow. We chose to work with a smaller number of schools to allow pupils to potentially attend all 3 sessions focussing on a book being studied at Higher level, a more junior title and a non-fiction title. The award was for running author sessions and authors were also asked to recommend 5 books each which have been ordered alongside their own books and put in each of the 12 libraries.





Work is ongoing to create a toolkit based around the project to share with teachers/librarians and there will be a CPD session for staff in the 24/25 academic year. All author sessions took place between January and June with each of the 6 schools in Renfrewshire receiving 3 visits which were a mixture of small targeted groups and larger audiences. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

The project gained attention with the Scottish Masculinities event in Paisley Town Hall as part of Paisley Book Festival. This was a fantastic opportunity to showcase our project to a much wider audience. The audience had many teaching staff attending.

We were also given the opportunity to showcase the project alongside another SLIF project with students from the University of Stirling working with the BBC. Filming for this took place during the Paisley Book Festival. We were unable to fit into filming schedules for pupil sessions to be recorded.

**Teacher:**

*'Just an email to say thanks for organising Graeme's visit yesterday—it was excellent, and the young people really responded to his presentation. It was great to have someone relatable to highlight the importance of literature and building positive relationships in helping them make positive choices in their lives.'*

**S5 pupil—speaking about Graeme's session:**

*'I really listened to what he said. After yesterday's talk I started thinking about my own groups of friends and the ones that are going down wrong road and I don't want to follow them. I think I will distance myself'*

**S4 pupil:**

*'Brian was a genuine guy and I am 100% checking his stuff out'.*

**Headteacher:**

*'It was an amazing session and you could have heard a pin drop. Graeme's anti-violence message really cuts through, and the pupils engaged well—even taking part in a Q+A at the end.'*

**S4 speaking about Alan Bissett's session:**

*'One of the best talks we've had.'*

**Teacher:**

*'It was useful for pupils to hear from Alan about life experiences from an adult outwith school about something that affects them. The event was able to open up the issue of 'lad culture' that the pupils may not feel comfortable talking with parents or a teacher about.'*

**Teacher:**

*'I can't overstate the impact felt in that room today'*

**S3 pupil on Graeme's session:**

*'Just that none of it was made up and he was telling about his actual experience. I found it really interesting.'*

**S6 pupil on Graeme's session:**

*'I liked how he reflected back to himself and gave a lot of personal detail. In my opinion, if I were like him at my age, I would have taken him seriously.'*

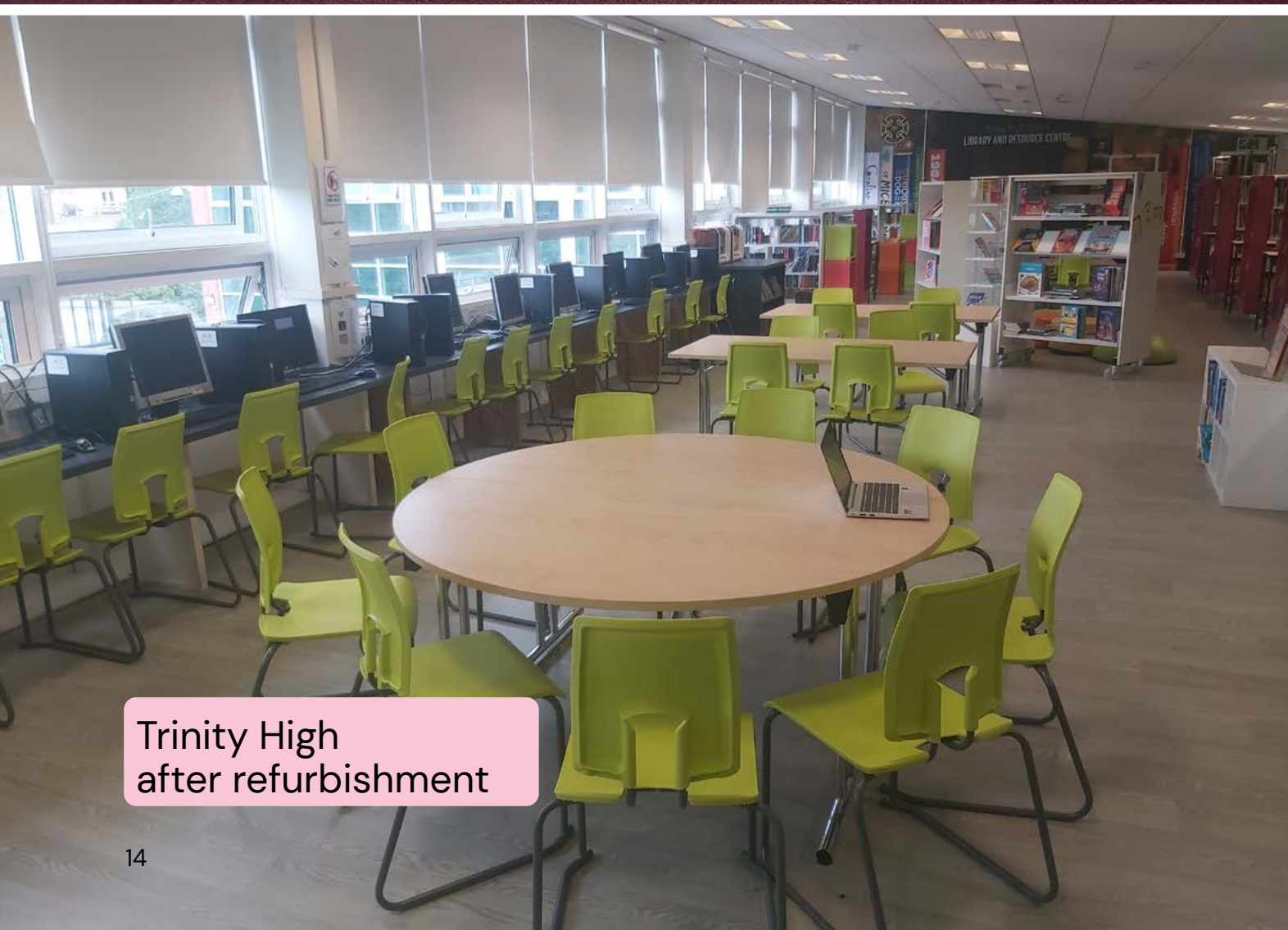
**S5 pupil on Alan's session:**

*'I loved how he gave advice that was honest to guys on how to behave'*





Trinity High  
before refurbishment



Trinity High  
after refurbishment

## Work with Nurseries and Primary Schools

Transition activities took place across the school year with intensive work during the summer term. School librarians visited primary schools to visit the P7's or hosted the pupils in the school library.

Transition activities in 2023/24 were especially successful in a number of schools. Paisley Grammar's librarian has built up very close relationships with the cluster primaries over a number of years, regularly visiting the primaries and hosting primary pupils at the school library to undertake literacy activities, encouraging reading and working alongside pupil committee members. An author visit by Neil Slorance happened for a 2nd summer in both Paisley Grammar and Park Mains to encourage both reading and creativity and was very well received by pupils. This is due to take place for a 3rd summer in 24/25. St Andrew's worked closely with St Charles' primary and was visited by over 50 pupils to take part in a literacy project. Castlehead High worked closely with the children's mobile bus, the Skoobmobile, throughout the year: primary pupils are used to visiting the bus and transition sessions ensured they were aware of how their library card worked in both public and school libraries. P7 pupils visited the bus and the school library in July as part of Homelink activities. The bus then returned in June to work with S1 and S3 pupils to film a library promotional video. This had a huge impact on the usage of the school library by S1 pupils, with loans and physical visits increasing dramatically.

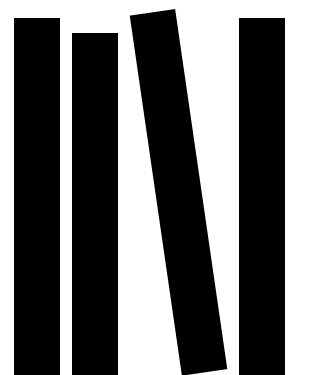
Work with nurseries took place across a number of schools with pupils identified to take part in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library programme to assist with storytelling. Training for this took place in June-August 2023 and led to senior pupils

volunteering throughout the year. This is to be expanded for the 24/25 session due to the popularity with over 30 nurseries expressing an interest in having volunteers.

## Library Investment

Trinity High staff worked closely with the OneRen libraries team to jointly design and refurbish the library using both school funds and furniture from other libraries including the old Central library. It has been transformed into a flexible and welcoming space for pupils and staff to use, is very colourful and modern with a new literary feature wall and has been generating positive comments from everyone visiting.

Andy Kerr, librarian at Trinity High, says 'I'm completely blown away by the investment, support and goodwill and outstanding partnership working between Trinity High School and Renfrewshire Libraries in achieving this remarkable modernisation.'





# School Reports

## Castlehead High

The Castlehead Library year started off in August with the exciting news that we had been chosen as one of only 10 schools in Scotland to host an author residency after successfully bidding for funding from Scottish Book Trust. Neil Slorance became our author in residence for the year and worked with 2 groups of S1 pupils to create their own comic book about friendship. The author sessions ran from October to December with the launch and editing sessions taking place from January to March. The comic book was printed professionally into a book and officially launched in March with a party with over 100 attendees including invited parents and carers. This was the main cross-curricular activity which was only a success due to working with the Art and English departments closely and our amazing 5 S5 volunteers. This led to a comic book that pupils were very proud of!

Other activities included the now annual Dot Day celebrations with Art, running a pop up museum on Judaism for S1 with RMPS, various staff being trained using the new cricut machine including technology for jewellery courses and helping with the Modern Languages Very Hungry Caterpillar filming.

Our Reading Schools journey continued with being awarded Reading School Cluster status after being awarded Gold status last year. This is a new award given to schools when all the feeder primaries and their associated high school have a Reading School Award. Volunteering activities this year in addition to the comic book project included 20 S5 and S6 pupils being part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library volunteering in local

nurseries after receiving storytelling training, various year groups creating library social media videos such as the book advent calendar, leadership pupils running an anti-bullying week book stall and the S3 leader led library promotional video which was edited, directed, filmed, acted and written all by pupils.

Library use during free time was very high due in part to a successful craft club running on Mondays which regularly had upwards of 30 pupils attending each week. This was possible due to Future Paisley Funding and the help of Ms Hughes from English. Comments included 'I love this club so much, it's so fun' and 'I love the library when I come, I love doing crafts and it is a great way to calm down'. Craft kits were also supplied during the October and Christmas holidays for pupils to do crafts at home. Evaluation of the club showed a 98% enjoyment rate and 80% learning new skills. The Board Game club and Homework club running on Tuesdays were quieter but still well attended.

School trips this year included two trips to Waterstones in Glasgow, enabling two groups of pupils to select books and have direct input into the stock held in the library as well as picking the mascot of the trip. One pupil stated that they 'got to explore book heaven!' A group of S1-5 pupils also had the very special opportunity to visit the new Central Library in Paisley before it opened to the public with one pupil stating 'I could actually cry, it's so good'. Paisley Book Festival was a trip out this year to the newly refurbished Town Hall to see award winning author Eve Ainsworth—all



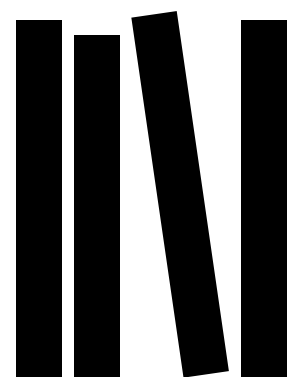
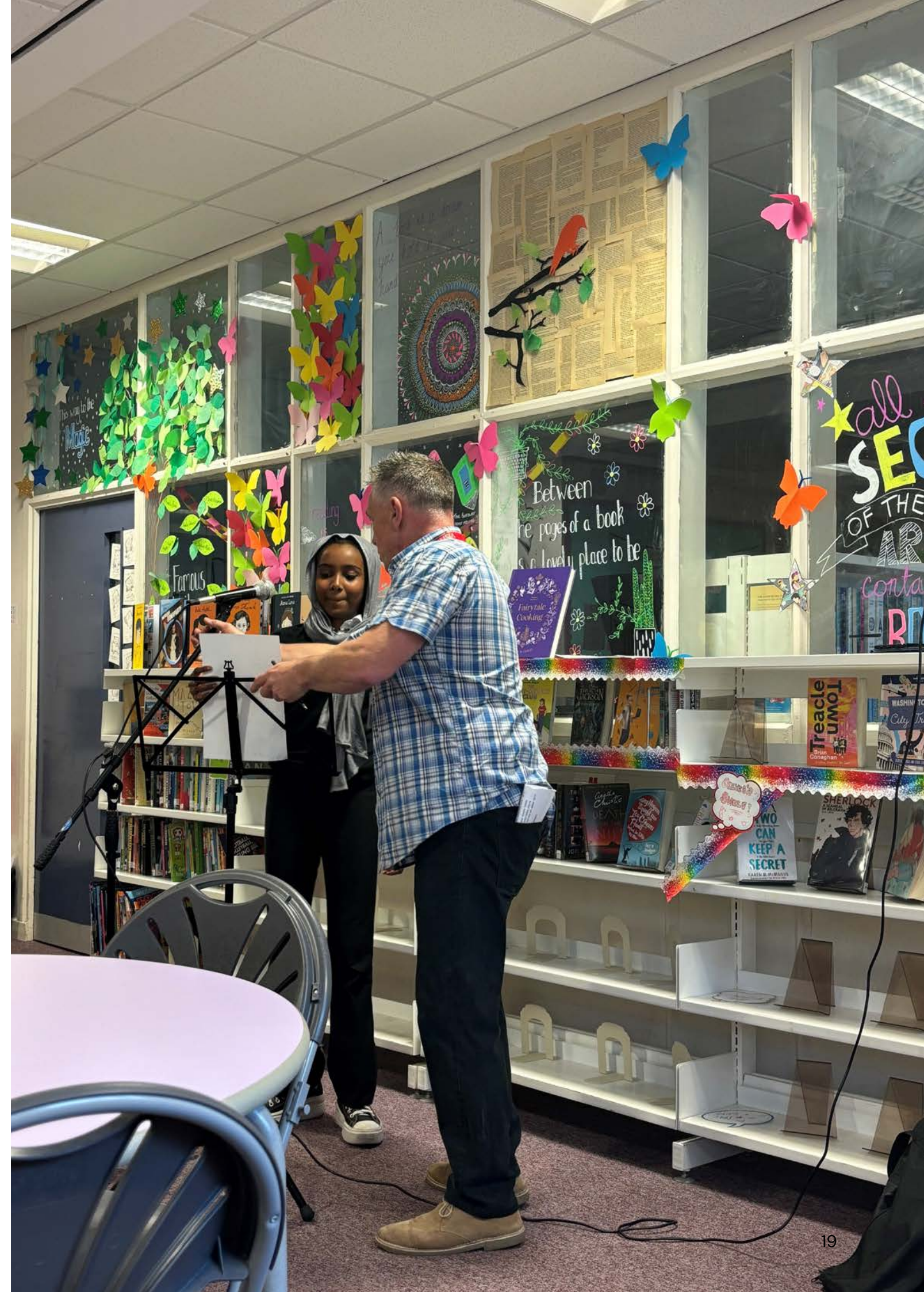


of S1 attended along with pupils from Glencoats and West primaries. Rachel Plummer delivered an in-person PBF event for a group of S1 pupils and we had the Renfrewshire Makar, Shaun Moore, do a poetry session as part of Creativity Week. Two pupils were shortlisted for the Janet Coats Memorial Prize for Poetry.

As well as having Neil Slorance as our author in residence which involved 10 sessions, we also received funding from the Scottish Library and Information Council along with other schools to take part in the Libraries LYT Up Lives project. We had author visits from Brian Conaghan, Alan Bissett and ended the year with a S5 year group author visit by Graeme Armstrong which was incredibly powerful. We also had books added to the collection that they recommended alongside copies of their own work. Altogether we had 18 author sessions throughout the year for a huge amount of pupils, providing them with the opportunity to meet an author and encourage further reading for pleasure.

There was only one major challenge this year which was an unavoidable closure due to staff absences. The library was open 2 days a week from August to February instead of 3. This meant that there was no library timetable and all classes were run as drop ins. All S1 classes had library induction sessions at the beginning of the year with individual support for research and homework help given throughout the year. This year there was a decline in Libby e-book use due in part to the new mobile phone policy but this led to a huge increase in physical borrowing with upwards of 100 loans per day. Plans for next year include the 2nd volume of the comic book after successfully receiving funding for sessions from Scottish Book Trust, the expansion of craft club and the launch of a STEAM club.

**Clare Hemsworth and Andy Kerr  
July 2024**





# Gleniffer High

This year Gleniffer High Library had 271 class sessions, and there were 8,311 visits throughout the year. To support this, 442 books, at the cost of £4084 were bought to improve the library stock and offering. The operation of the library was improved this year by the rearranging of the issues desk and the majority of the book shelving. The school supplied and fitted two new notice boards. The work of the rearrange was assisted by Robin, the librarian of Renfrew High, in helping to process the disposal of obsolete books. The pupils now read in the light of the windows, rather than purely artificial light. Assistance was also given to the library by five S6 volunteers through the year, right up to the last week, who collectively gave 98 hours of their time to the library.

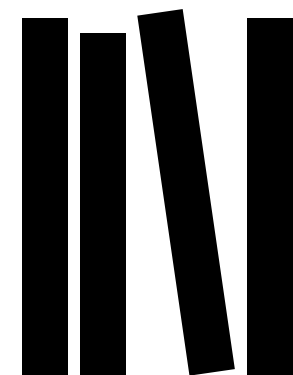
This year we had a trip out to Waterstones in Glasgow with six pupils. They thoroughly enjoyed the day, especially as they had a budget of £100 each to spend on books for the school. After discounts and being given some free books, the trip contributed 80 books to the total of new stock for the library.

Three authors visited us this year: Gary Erskine came in for Will Eisner week on World Book Day and this visit was in conjunction with the Art department; As part of the Paisley Book Festival, we had Nadine Aisha Jassat with a selection of our S1 pupils; Our selection of S2 pupils met Alastair Chisholm. All were great sessions and those attending got a lot from the visits. I was also involved in the Main PBF, hosting a session on Scottish Masculinity at Paisley Town Hall, on the Sunday.

To support the school, I aided in supervising two of the school dances at Christmas and for Activities Day, I requested some extra K'Nex building sets for pupils to either free build or do a challenge. In the challenge, one pupil built a tower 630mm tall which could hold up a set book.

In preparation for the coming year, a selection of Dungeons & Dragons materials have been purchased, with Val, one of the Public Library Assistants, donating some materials, in prelude to starting up sessions in the new academic year.

**Kenneth Naismith**  
**July 2024**





# Gryffe High

The goal of Gryffe High School Library is to offer an inspiring environment that encourages a love of reading, enhances the curriculum, and encourages lifelong learning. This annual report covers the events, achievements, and challenges faced by the library in the academic year 2023–2024.

There is a scheduled timetable for groups from S1 to S3 to visit the library and loan books, read for pleasure, and engage in their class activities. On this note, the library has a record of over 13,596 students' visits, and over 260 classes/groups this year. This year's loan statistics on books are over 1,746 and e-books are over 66. All new S1 students went through an induction on library services including Libby e-book presentation.

The library successfully conducted three reading challenges in collaboration with the English department namely, S1 Read for Gold, S2 Genre Challenge, and S3 Reading Bingo and have been able to build a friendly competitive reading culture. We also started new project Accelerated Reader for S1 from January, so the librarians labelled all books in December and January. The S1 and S2 reading challenge winners, including our top scorers on Accelerated Reader Quiz were taken to Ginger Cat Bookshop as a reward for their achievements, and a means to engage with the community bookshop. In addition, AR winners were issued certificates and free books to encourage them and other students to read more. A student was shortlisted for writing an excellent poem for Janet Coats Memorial Prize based on "Imagine Something Different," during the Paisley Book Festival. The library holds interesting activities such as Guess Who, Halloween colouring, Genre café, Word

search, Book club, Board games, Chess club, Author Spotlight club, and Manga club which offers students relaxation and improves students' use of the library.

*"I like the author talk. Thanks for bringing a celebrity to us."*

*"I bought all 3 books signed from him."*  
**S1 students after Joseph Elliott's talk.**

Talented authors and poets like Leyla Josephine, Brian Conaghan, Rachel Plummer, Graeme Armstrong, and Alan Bissett, have graced our library and inspired students through their interactive sessions and poetry workshops. These author events are courtesy of Scottish Book Trust—Live Literature and Paisley Book Festival. The library has successfully celebrated special events including Christmas activities with cupcakes, engaging students in quiz competition on World Book Day, and International Women's Day—Genre café. We secured £193 funding by Future Paisley for hosting Board Games on Friday lunchtimes. This started out well with students flocking to the library and then it gradually dropped from January. We tried to promote it on school's bulletin but there was no major change.

The trip to University of Strathclyde for Advance Higher students in October helped students to find resources to start working on their dissertation. To support students to improve their leadership skills, we have a book club run by senior students and assisted by the librarian, which is going well to this day. There are some students who engage in Dolly Parton volunteering at the nurseries which has turned out to be an interesting activity.





**Bridge of Weir Nursery:**

*"Rory is amazing. I met him last week and he is just so confident and popular with the children. My only wish is that he could be here for longer."*

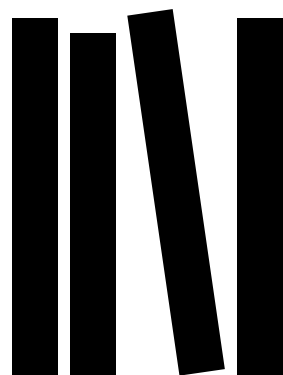
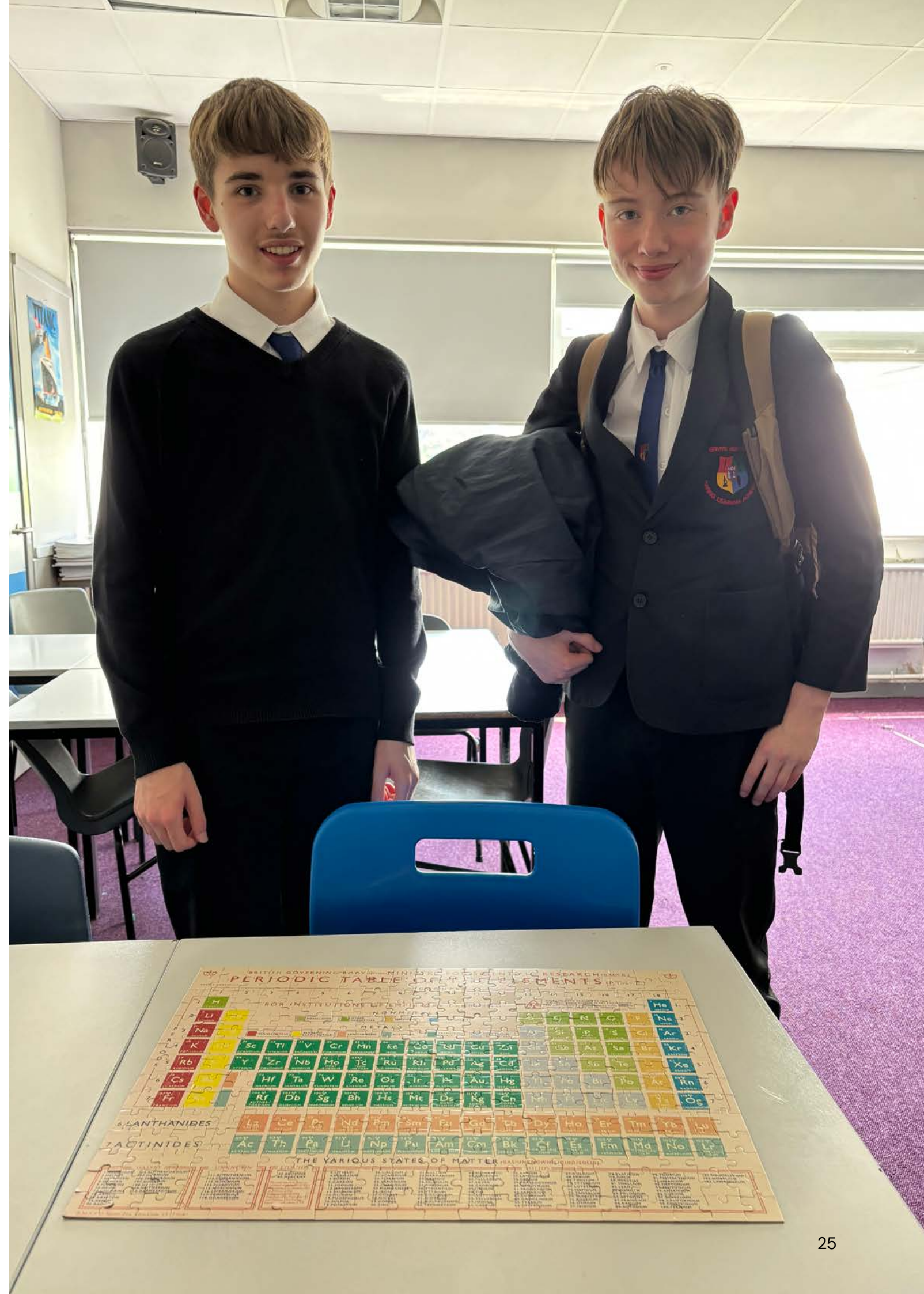
The School Librarians attended CPD, meetings, webinars, and CILIP conference that relate to school library services to expand their knowledge base on how to improve the library in different aspects. Also, they delivered a talk about Renfrewshire Libraries to University of Strathclyde students.

The challenges that we faced this year was recruiting a school librarian for 2 days from Aug to Dec. We managed to have cover for most of the days so much of the class visits weren't affected. The library has

been experiencing behavioural issues from students and appropriate measures have been taken to resolve these issues. Things got better after we changed the staff desk as well. There is also an issue of not returning loaned books when due, which causes some of the books in the library to go missing. To solve the issue of unreturned books, the library is actively informing the class to return books on time and collect books that are lying in the classroom.

Despite the challenges faced by Gryffe High School Library, strategies have been put in place to overcome them and continue to provide an enriching and conducive environment for all students who use the library.

**Onyinyechi Agwu and Joyce Retnaraj**  
July 2024





# Johnstone High

The highlight of the year 2023-2024 is that we successfully submitted the evidence for Reading School Silver Award. We enjoyed the journey of working towards the attainment through different activities that brought the whole school and families together. Another highlight of this year is the number of author visits we had to encourage pupils to read and provided a chance for them to learn new things.

The new librarian kick started this year with some weeding, rearranging shelves, new signage boards, and added some colourful decors to the library. The library was well stocked and added more according to the interest of the pupils. We had library helpers volunteering to make the library more welcome and a safer place for all pupils. Three senior pupils stepped up to lead book/reading club every Tuesday at lunchtime. With the support from the librarian, S6 pupils did a good job in involving pupils to read different genres, and take part in read-aloud sessions and craft activities to celebrate Halloween, Christmas and Easter. S1 said, "We would like a writing competition in this club." For the S2 parents' evening, S6 pupils volunteered to set up a table with 'what's happening in the library', Libby and BorrowBox cards, bookmarks, free books, a Reading School survey booklet, and library pictures. We had Manga clubs on Thursdays where pupils shared their favourites, illustrate their own stories and recommend new series for our collection. We also play some board games, Legos and casual book discussions on Wednesday lunchtimes.

We started two new projects this year, Reading School Silver Award application and Accelerated Reader for S1. We worked

with different departments as part of Reading School project which engaged pupils with activities like celebrating National Numeracy Day with math puzzles, writing session with history department and Chinese mythical stories with Inclusion department. Unfortunately, we couldn't implement Accelerated Reader program in classrooms. We also celebrated other national events like Book Week Scotland where the librarian led classroom activities with student placement teacher and with support teacher of English. Hosted activities for S1-S3 creative writing included descriptive writing, journaling, poetry writing, book quiz, illustrations and drawing favourite character on gingerbread. Totally we had seven classroom activities (2-S1, 3-S2, 2-S3). Additionally, we had World Book Day and Paisley Book Festival major events. English teacher said, "Thanks for planning all activities with my class, they loved the bookmarks that you gave." Furthermore, we went to Waterstones Glasgow with our reading champions to choose books for our library and then had lunch at McDonald's.

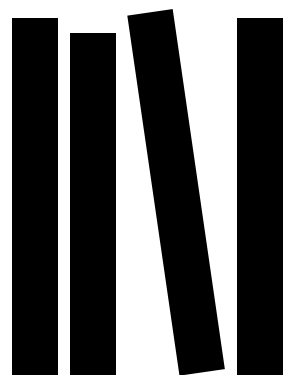
We had seven author visits during this year. We started with Joseph Elliott's Scottish Book Tour in November 2023. Pupils loved a celebrity on campus and his copies were immediately borrowed from the library. The author was really engaging with pupils, and he signed labels and poster for us. Later we had Victoria Williamson as part of Live Literature session. To our surprise, pupils were all so well behaved, and very attentive when she read 2 chapters from her book Norah's Ark. Victoria delivered an interactive session with discussion about cost of living and homelessness through snakes and ladder game, and finally, she had slides





and pictures on tables to guess animal's behaviour. Victoria was happy that she was able to talk with individual pupils. As part of Libraries LYT Up Lives project funded by Scottish Libraries and Information Council, we had Brian Conaghan, Graeme Armstrong and Alan Bissett. The talks were focused on gang culture, violence, drugs, alcohol, consent and respect. HT—"Graeme Armstrong came to speak to all S5/6. It was an amazing session and you could have heard a pin drop. Graeme's anti-violence message really cuts through, and the pupils engaged well—even taking part in a Q+A at the end. Earlier in the week Joyce had arranged for another author, Alan Bissett, to come into school and this was also very well received." We also had Victoria Gemmell and Nadine Aisha Jassat as part of Paisley Book Festival who hosted a creative writing and poetry writing workshop with S1 and S2 pupils. Looking forward to another exciting year.

**Joyce Retnaraj,**  
July 2024





# Linwood High

The Linwood High School Library continues to play a vital role in supporting the academic and personal growth of the students. This report highlights the achievements, activities, and challenges of the library for the academic year 2023/2024.

The library has recorded over 3054 students' visits, 86 classes/groups' visits, 1038 loaned books and 200 loaned ebooks. The library purchases new books to serve the needs of the students from various groups, and staff. All new S1 students are inducted on how to use Libby to borrow e-books and audiobooks. The school has started a no phone policy in school. On this note, students won't be allowed to come into the library with phones during their class visits, and this will slightly affect Libby statistics on book loans.

There are clubs and activities that are held in the library namely, Manga club and Author spotlight club, that aims at improving the use of the library and enhancing the students' well-being. Some students did reviews on footballers from the football books they have read. The top scorers for Accelerated reader quiz were taken for a book shopping activity at Waterstones Bookshop, Braehead where they assisted the library to pick stock, as a reward for being avid readers.

The library hosted visits from authors namely, Victoria Gemmell and Eve Ainsworth, courtesy of Paisley Book Festival, with over 54 students and staff in attendance. A comment from one of the teachers that attended the event was "It was an amazing and inspiring event. We need more of these author visits in our

school." Free books were gifted to some students that emerged the winners after a quiz competition. The library celebrated World Book Day with book themed quizzes, International Women's Day with book display and book loans, and Empathy Day with book display and quotes.

The school librarian was giving the opportunity to attend CPD and webinars relating to school library services, which expanded her expertise on strategies to enhance the library services. Also, had a presentation with other colleagues at University of Strathclyde about Renfrewshire school libraries.

The challenges the library faced include the closure of the library for some period, which caused the students to distance themselves a bit from the library. A lot of overdue books have not been returned by the students, caused reduction in library resources. On this account, the library's budget was mostly used to purchase missing books due to high student demand on those books. The library has been working on resolving this issue by constantly informing students about their overdue books.

Despite these challenges, the library has made significant strides in fostering a vibrant reading culture and supporting academic excellence the best way possible. With continued support and strategic planning, we aim to further enhance our services and resources in the coming year.

**Onyinyechi Agwu,**  
**July 2024**





# Paisley Grammar

*'I spoke with some on the way back and they were delighted. Especially the football books, which went down a storm. Thanks so much again for inviting them along, they had a great time.'*

**PT Williamsburgh, P7 visit**

*'This is my happy place. I love it here!'*

**S1 pupil**

*'I've got loads of eBooks out, better than being bored',*

**S1 pupil talking about Libby**

*'I definitely wasn't up to 11 last night reading Orion Lost!'*

**S1 pupil talking about book for S1 Reading Challenge**

Our in-school author events started in July last year with graphic artist Neil Slorance making a return visit to run a workshop for pupils involved in enhanced transition. This year's Paisley Book Festival was with Eve Ainsworth speaking to S2 pupils about her books and the inspiration behind the stories.

To encourage pupils to widen their reading choices, the S1 reading challenge was introduced this year. Pupils could read from a list of recommended titles, and Alastair Chisholm, one of the authors on the list, visited the school for a Fix the Future event, speaking to two classes.

School Libraries Young Team project: we hosted three events in school as part of the project. As well as a return visit from Brian Conaghan, Graeme Armstrong and Alan Bissett spoke to a group of targeted S4 boys. Graeme's inspirational and moving talk had an immediate positive impact on

the pupils with all copies of his book being issued. Those attending were asked what they liked about his talk: About his personal experience—felt relevant / Liked what he was talking about and wasn't afraid to talk about the darker stuff I guess / Very interesting, he was good at communicating his story. One of the many positive aspects of these events was seeing pupils who do not normally associate with the library, engaging with books and hopefully it will plant a seed that it is also a place for them.

Working closely with the teacher responsible for literacy, the library has supported targeted pupils in several activities. Future Paisley funding was secured for S1 and P7 pupils from Williamsburgh to work with author Lindsay Littleton on developing their writing skills, using the history of the school as inspiration. Pupils came together again for an 8-week reading buddy project.

Developing stronger links with the associated primaries has continued this year. All primary 7 classes were visited in order to meet myself and find out about all the library can offer. A group of S1 pupils made regular visits to Ralston and one visit to Williamsburgh, sharing books with the younger pupils. Pupils commented on how much they enjoyed reading at the schools: 'It was also a very positive life experience'.

The library also continues to develop links with other partners, including Place2Be staff. Information on the service is displayed in the library and the staff also attended Graeme Armstrong and Alan Bissett's events. Staff have expressed an interest in looking at further opportunities to work together.



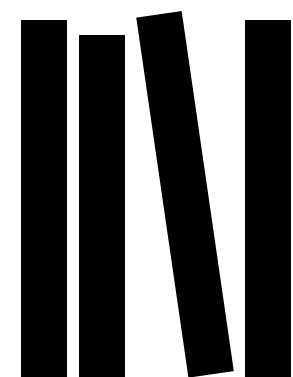


One of this year's highlights was the first school library reading café. Pupils from the school met with pupils from St Andrew's and Renfrew High on Empathy Day to talk about their favourite books and themes such as reading and mental health. The presentations were fantastic, and the pupils did well, speaking to a group they did not know. It was great to see the impact the event had, with one pupil commenting that they struggled with public speaking and felt proud that they had done a presentation. The main challenge this year continues to be encouraging engagement with reading and supporting this will be the focus of the library development plan. The library continues to be well used at breaks with a good number of regular users. There has been less interest in clubs and activities

this year (apart from the ever-popular DD club) and this is an area also being developed.

In June, we were informed that we have been successful in our application to host a creative writing workshop, part of the Scottish Friendly Children's Book Tour. The event will be with YA award winning author, Danielle Jawando for 25 S3 pupils on the 10 September. Danielle will focus on her new book 'If Words Had Wings', and its themes of young people finding their voice, and the power of words. This event will be a great way to start the new term!

**Louise Gordon**  
July 2024





# Park Mains High

## Comments from S1 pupils

*What are your favourite things about the library?*

- 'There's loads of books to read instead of getting told to read a book you don't enjoy.'
- 'How chill they are and how I can whisper to my friend about something that's happened in the book and we can discuss it later in the day.'
- 'Just reading and chilling.'

*Have you enjoyed your library periods?*

- 'Yes, it's a nice change of pace to keep the subject interesting.'
- 'Yes, after a long week of work there is a nice chill period where I can zone out and read. It helps me if I have a hard day and I am constantly looking forward to it.'
- 'The library periods are very good, there's not much to improve on.'

## In-school author events this year.

Future Paisley funding was secured for graphic artist, Neil Slorance to host a workshop in July with pupils participating in enhanced transition. Future Paisley funding was also provided for poet Sean Kwai Cheung to support targeted Higher pupils as well as the AH Higher class in English with folio and creative writing. These workshops had a positive impact on the pupils.

*'Did you learn anything from the event that you could use to support your writing?'*

- Yes, I learned how to add to a story more how to add more detail into writing

- Yes. Lots of poetry and creative writing techniques to help come up with ideas
- It's actually quite simple to think of something to write and that you don't need to put so much pressure on an idea It helps with building ideas
- learning how to create a wider range of description
- It inspired me a lot and helped me think of more ideas for folio pieces.

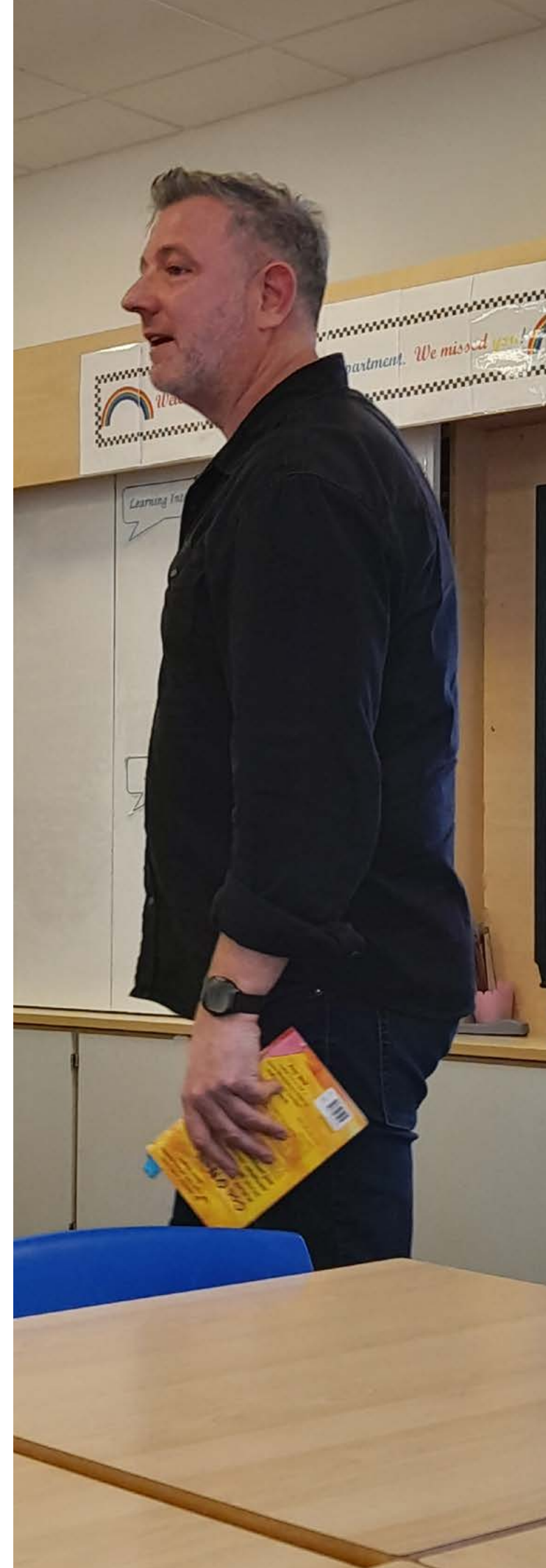
A group of S1 pupils also attended an event with Sci Fi writer Alastair Chisholm on the topic of Fix The Future. We were also delighted to have local writer, Victoria Gemmell along for a creative writing workshop with S3, part of the Paisley Book Festival.

## SLIF project.

Three events with targeted S3 boys (Libraries LYT Up Lives (Graeme Armstrong, Brian Conaghan, Alan Bissett)

Comments and impact of the events:

One of the pupils who had been at Brian's talk took Treacle Town, and he started reading it in the library before school. He said the book was quite emotional. A week later, he was asked if he had been reading the book—not as much as he had been spending too much time on his PlayStation. He then went on to say that he was taking it slow as he wasn't a good reader and that once he had finished, he wanted to move on to bigger books.





*'Graeme could not have been more impressed with the respect and attention he received from the boys during this session which lasted for a full hour.'*

*PT, English*

***Pupils at Graeme's event were asked: What did you like best?***

- Just that none of it was made up and he was telling about his actual experience. I found it really interesting*
- His change*
- sharing his own experiences*
- The fact about how he turned his life around.*

This year, we were successful in securing an opportunity to host a creative writing workshop with YA author, Joseph Elliott, as part of the Scottish Friendly Children's Book Tour. A group of S2 pupils took part in the event and when asked what they liked best: sharing ideas and getting tips / I liked how we shared ideas with one another / getting the opportunity to write part of a story/ I liked writing a scene with our character/ I would like to do something like this again as it was really fun/ I liked hearing about his personal experience of writing books. One pupil who is usually very quiet, volunteered to share his two pieces of work. Joseph asked the pupils why it was important to have LGBTQ+ representation in books and one pupil replied, 'it makes us feel part of the world'.

Work with the S1 and S2 Pathways classes has continued to try and engage them with the library and reading. This has already been reviewed for the year and plans enacted for the coming academic year.

We have also been developing links with the associated primary schools and have supported transition by visiting the P7 classes to introduce ourselves and let them know what the library has to offer. Many new pupils are looking forward to their library visits.

The library has also provided support for the Reading School's application with information added regarding the activities that take place.

### **Challenges**

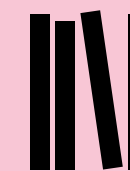
The main challenge this year has been encouraging engagement with reading. Themed book talks and book speed dating activities continue to be beneficial in encouraging pupils to try different texts. Pupils are encouraged to suggest resources and have also been involved in two visits to Waterstones to select new books for the library.

Classes often are disrupted by activities in the street area and have returned to English.

Computers not working/not enough of them. Pupils have been sent to use the library pc's throughout the year, but the machines are very slow and often pupils have had to give up.

**Louise Gordon and Kenneth Naismith,  
July 2024**

ONE  
REN



Start  
your  
future.

#WeAreOneRen



# Renfrew High

The Library at Renfrew High School returned to normal opening hours in January of this year. Since then, there has been a focus on building rapport with students and creating a space where students feel safe and free to express themselves. The library has become an increasingly popular spot for students to spend their intervals and lunchtimes as a result, with some of those students also giving up some of their free time to become library assistants, shelving books and tidying up during breaks.

Improving literacy and reading for pleasure has been a priority this year, with students helping create displays for online resources such as Libby and Borrowbox, and Renfrew High working towards the Reading Schools Gold award, where the library plays a central role. This has involved initiatives like creating 'what I'm reading' door posters for every member of staff and the creation of a reading leadership group who meet to discuss projects and plans for the library.

The library has also begun to collaborate with departments such as social subjects, Physical Education, Art, and RMPS. It offers these departments research and referencing classes, six of which took place throughout the year. Students have also been using the library to access information for research topics, practice presentations, and request information from the librarian on those topics if they aren't sure where to look.

Students have made great contributions to the library this year, including a steady supply of art to be displayed from a group of manga fans who have become regulars in the library, over 30 written book reviews, and regular meetings to discuss fundraising

and library club/activities with students and staff. Moreover, library assistants have been a huge help this year, shelving books and regularly tidying up around the library.

There have been several trips organised this year that have been very well received by students. In March a group of students visited Waterstones and hand picked a selection of reading materials for the library. We also visited Renfrew Library to learn about what a local library can offer, and created a manga display while we were there that was featured in the library, much to the delight of our contributing aspiring artists. Lastly, we attended a reading café event at the newly renovated Paisley Central Library as part of Empathy Day. The event was organised by School Librarians and was attended by students from Renfrew High, St. Andrews, and Paisley Grammar. Students who attended presented on what they love about reading, how reading can positively impact our mental health, and the ways in which reading can foster empathy. Students that presented talked in front of students from other schools they didn't know and shared personal stories, and their courage should be applauded. Additionally, students were all supportive of each other and cheered after each presentation, setting the scene perfectly for Empathy Day.

The library was used heavily during the exam period to accommodate students, resulting in the library being closed for some large periods during January, April, and May. However, this library is used out of necessity during the exam period due to a lack of free space elsewhere, so in the coming year I will work on ways in which I can still reach students and make sure they





can access books despite the library being closed.

Clubs and activities in the library have also proved popular. Since January, film club has taken place once a week. Students can come and watch a movie and enjoy some popcorn, followed by a short discussion. Some students have also taken to writing movie reviews which are displayed in the library. Films are picked with the hopes of introducing students to new issues and ideas, and the discussions allow students to express their own perceptions and feelings. The reading leadership group have also begun exploring ideas for new clubs for next year, with a book club currently being the favourite. During lunch and breaks the library has board games, drawing materials, and one PC that students can currently use. Chess is also proving very popular and competitive! There is also a speaker that students can use in one corner of the library to play music at a reasonable level which is used often. As part of the Paisley Book Festival, Renfrew High School received a visit from illustrator Neil Slorance, who

hosted a drawing workshop that received overwhelmingly positive feedback from pupils. There was also an online video conference where students got to show off what they've been working on in the library to four other schools from various parts of Scotland and author Brian Conaghan. Next year there should be even more author events planned as the library will be staffed with a librarian from August rather than from January only.

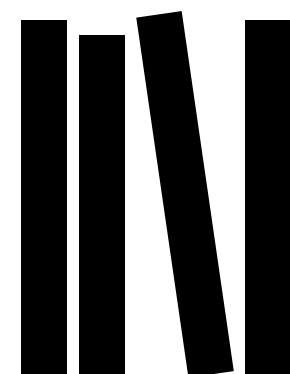
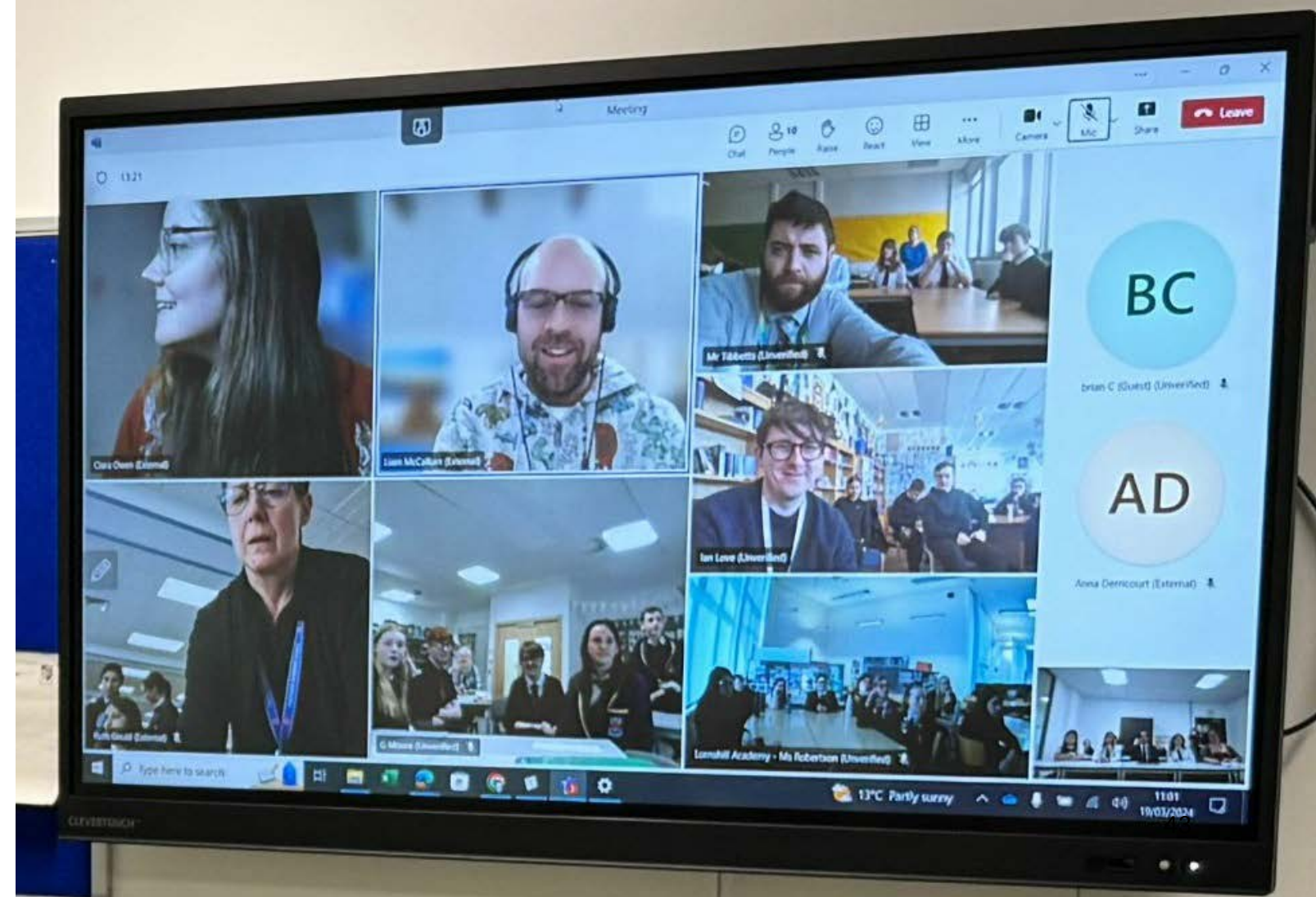
*"The Library and film club is great for meeting new friends"*

*"I struggle to remember things when I finish the page when I read, and the audiobook from Libby meant that I could do my English project."*

*"Days like this are the best" (during a school trip)*

*"Mr. Love is the GOAT"*

**Ian Love,  
July 2024**





# St Andrew's Academy

This year we were focussed on working towards the Gold level of the Reading Schools Award. To do so, we have developed and delivered a huge number of activities over the year. We started with creating a Reading Schools Leadership Team from learners in S3. We received £500 funding from Reading Schools to develop our library and create reading areas to create a pleasant, supportive environment for reading for pleasure. Pupils have been involved in the purchase of pillows, blankets, and lights and in organizing new reading corners.

All S1 pupils had Library inductions at the start of the school year to make sure they are active library users. In September, we organized Book Bake Off, where pupils created book themed biscuits. In October, we delivered our Dyslexia Ambassadors training during Dyslexia Week Scotland. In November, we visited Waterstones bookshop to give pupils the chance to incorporate their book choice into library stock. In December, we opened the Parents' Lending Library during parents' evening. In March, we teamed up with St. Charles Primary to create a transition project and welcomed 50 P7 pupils to the library. Over May, all S2 classes had a presentation about online resources available to them from Renfrewshire Libraries. In June, we celebrated Empathy Day at the Paisley Central Library, and our Library Ambassadors delivered a talk about 'Importance of reading'. We also organized a trip to the Kings Theatre as a part of the project to support enhancement literacy class.

We have been awarded fully funded Author Residency from Scottish Book Trust. It's funding of £5,500 to develop the project 'Scaling Mountains' with poet Simon Lamb. During the school year 2024-2025, a group of pupils with dyslexia and lower literacy skills will be working to create poems about Scottish hills and Munros. We were awarded £3,619 from Scottish Library and Information Council SLIF funding for the Research Hub project for senior pupils that aims to support information skills and help with dissertations. Although due to external circumstances, we hadn't been able to start the Hub until March when pupils had finished their dissertations, we were able however to secure and spend funding on a Promethean Board and five tablets and look forward to starting in August.

The school library contributed to an Art Department project with pupils creating children's books which featured in local newspapers. We had six author visits funded by Live Literature and delivered as part of Paisley Book Festival and the Libraries LYT Up Lives SLIF Project.

**Sylwia Grabowska-Szumska  
and Joyce Retnaraj, July 2024**





# St. Benedict's High

The library at St. Benedict's High School has begun to flourish since January this year after staffing issues resulted in significant periods of disruption. More and more students are beginning to use the library during interval and lunchtimes, with available desks and seating areas regularly being used at capacity. Students who come to the library during those times can use computers, relax at the beanbags, have printing access, and there are drawing materials available to use. Moreover, students have been keen to contribute to the library during lunch, and there have been regular library volunteers and illustrations contributed to the library to be used in displays.

Those who volunteer in the library have helped catalogue and shelve books, created their own unique displays, such as "tiny books, big ideas" and a mental health section that was curated by a student during the exam periods. The support for learning department at the school frequently used the library and pupils they were working with frequently used the library as a safe and quiet space, often volunteering as well.

Challenges this year included the library being closed during the exam period. Behaviour was also an issue during the first few months of 2024, with some S1 students regularly misbehaving and being disruptive during interval and lunch. However, these concerns were raised with the Senior Leadership Team and behaviour from those students has been a lot better since.

The Janet Coat's Memorial Prize was promoted during class visits to the library, and books of poetry were made available to students interested in participating. The response from students was fantastic, with a total of 12 submissions—some of which were from students who had never written a poem before and had stated before writing that they didn't think they'd be able to write one. Two of these entries were shortlisted and both Heather Brander from S6 & Mariya Javed from S3 read their poems to a live crowd at the Paisley Town Hall as part of the Paisley Book Festival. Mariya's poem won the competition and she received £50 and bagged £200 for the school library. Mariya has said she'd like to use the money for a Waterstones trip next year.

As part of the Paisley Book Festival, the school also received a visit from two authors: Margaret McDonald and Eve Ainsworth. Margaret spoke to students about her new coming-of-age novel 'Glasgow Boys' and held a workshop where students created their own characters, and Eve talked about her journey to becoming an author, the history of women's football, and held a Q&A for students. Feedback from both events was very positive, with the schools' girls football team particularly enjoying Eve Ainsworth's event, and students commenting that they couldn't wait to read Margaret McDonald's book once it was released.

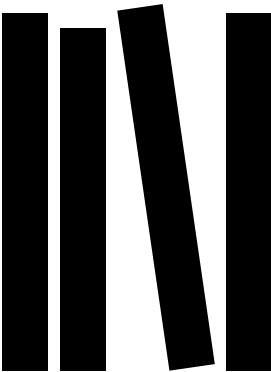
Links were established with other departments this year, with the English





Department keen to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and plans to work towards Reading Schools accreditation next year. Moreover, students undertaking research projects as part of their advanced higher English and social subjects' classes approached the library to ask for help on how to effectively search for information. Teachers from these departments have also approached the library and have requested research and referencing classes for next year.

Ian Love and Andrew Kerr,  
July 2024





# Trinity High

## Summer 2023—February 2024

During this period the librarian was absent until his return to work in mid-February 2024. Cover staff were present from time to time during this time. By far the most significant event in this academic year was the refurbishment of the school library. Even before this process had begun, during the summer of 2023 the library's PCs were refreshed, providing a suite of 15 well-functioning computers.

**Refurbishment**—The library was closed for refurbishment from December 2023—February 2024. Highly significant work was carried out at this time, including a new laminate floor and roller blinds, replacing the tired old carpet and curtains. This already made a huge difference, with a fresh, clean look to the fabric. In addition to this, in a partnership between Trinity High School and Renfrewshire Libraries, the shelving was completely replaced with modern units donated by Renfrewshire Libraries.

It is important to stress the number of partnerships and teamwork involved in this large project. Andrew Givan and Clare Hemsworth met regularly with Paul Marshall HT and Alanna McNally (PT English). Further design and layout input was submitted by Anna, a former S6 pupil, in 2022-23.

The library is still a work in progress at time of writing this report with the walls to be painted over the summer and fresh trunking (power & data cables for the PCs). A considerable amount of teamwork was also involved too, with the school library team helping with moving the book stock.

## February—April

On A Kerr's return to work until Easter, the library was staffed by A Kerr and Cat McDonald, along with additional cover by Leilani Thomson. Once the flooring and blinds were installed, the new shelving units and desk followed.

## April 2024

Trinity High Library enjoyed two author visits as part of the Paisley Book Festival (Victoria Gemmell and Alastair Chisholm). The events were very successful and were much appreciated by staff and pupils attending. May—During May the library was being used for exams, so access to classes was limited. However, during that time, the last of the new furniture arrived as part of the library refurbishment, so once the temporary exam desks were taken away the new tables and chairs were set up to complete the new library layout. Beanbags were reutilised from Linwood Library to complete the soft furnishings.

## June

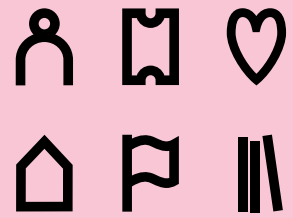
Library returned to timetable and non-timetable use, and it was great to see multiple subjects using the library again with English, Photography, Modern Studies, Psychology and Leadership classes in block bookings, as well as other classes such as PE on-spec. The library was also well-used at break times. The library is now completely refurbished apart from the decorators due in over the summer months to paint the walls.

**Andrew Kerr,  
July 2024**





ONE  
REN



For any additional information, please contact  
**[sls@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:sls@renfrewshire.gov.uk)**

OneRen, a trading name of Renfrewshire Leisure Limited  
Company limited by guarantee no: 490998  
Registered Charity in Scotland: SCO33898

OneRen, a trading name of Renfrewshire Leisure Trading Limited  
Company limited by guarantee no: 241310  
VAT Registered Company: 210 0336 83

[oneren.org](http://oneren.org)  
[#WeAreOneRen](https://twitter.com/WeAreOneRen)

