

Report from JGHS Trust 28th May 2019

The Trust has met twice since the new year, on Thursday 28th March and on Tuesday 30th April. A number of Trust members were also able to attend the Founders Day event for S1 students, on Friday 17th May, for which the invitation was appreciated.

Business at our recent meetings has included:

- Increasing awareness of the Trust, amongst current School community and recent alumni – includes preparing a contact card for the current S5/S6 school leavers and their families; improving our website; increasing use of social media (Twitter and Facebook); including information in the programme for the Leavers Ceremony at Greyfriars, and hosting a social event for parents and carers at the City Chambers.
- Improving access to Small Grants scheme – application form is on the Trust website, and is being updated for the coming session. The School senior management team have been bringing it to the attention of more students, which is welcome.
- A number of small grants have been allocated to recent applicants, all connected with Project trust initiatives. Some funding was also given to support participants in the Royal Conservatoire Youth Guitar Orchestra.
- The Trust has funded the provision of information plaques now on each of the buildings on campus. Also in response to a request from the Head Teacher, funding was provided for the bust of James Gillespie to be placed in a protective display cabinet, and the plaque wording is to be completed by Mr MacDonald. A wider (welcome) discussion has been generated about the School's historical links through its founder, with the slave trade.
- We have been pleased to welcome Councillor Alison Dickie onto the Trust. We also noted the resignation of parent Council member Robbie McVeigh, who was thanked for his contribution to the Trust in recent years. There is a vacancy now on the Trust and we hope this will be filled following our next meeting on 18th June. Thanks to those who have expressed interest so far.
- The Trust, in conjunction with the family of former teacher Alison Laidlaw, had previously funded the memorial garden within the School grounds. During the rebuild, the garden became quite neglected and requires some work, including restoring the water supply which should not have been affected during the work on site. After much communication with the local authority, this has now been moved forward, and the necessary repair work will be funded by the Trust.
- Archive access was requested by the Commonwealth war Graves Commission, with which the Trust was pleased to assist. This has highlighted the need for separate archive space and easier access, which is under discussion with the School.

The Trust Chair (Ann Henderson) met with Ailsa Macintosh, and agreed to exchange reports for the Trust and Parent Council meetings, and will attend a parent Council meeting next session; attended a performance of the Royal Conservatoire Youth Orchestra in Glasgow; and was pleased to be able to speak at the Founders Day ceremony in School on 17th May.