

Kirkintilloch High School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As we fast approach the end of this very fast-paced session, I wanted to update you on a number of arrangements and key dates for your diary. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to our families for your excellent support of our school throughout this challenging session, and for your flexibility and understanding in relation to the many changes that we have had to flow with over the course of the year. Your continued partnership with us has been hugely appreciated as we have worked through the demands of both normal school life and the Global Pandemic together.

SQA Examinations

This session we saw a return to full SQA Examinations in our assembly hall and I am proud to convey that despite the stresses of the situation, our Senior Pupils conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. We were so proud of how well they coped. The supports that we put in place such as exam stress preparation days, Easter School and Master Classes were positively evaluated by our young people and we plan to continue with these interventions for future cohorts. Exam results will be issued to pupils on Tuesday, 9th August 2022. If you wish to receive these by post, you can sign up for this service by using the following link: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/41324.html>. Members of our Senior Management Team will be available to support pupils on 9th and 10th August with any enquiries - details will follow of availability.

School Uniform Evening - 16th June 2022

We will be hosting our annual school uniform ordering evening next Thursday, 16th June 2022 from 5:00pm until 6:30pm. Our usual supplier Academy Uniforms is now known as Stevensons uniforms. They will be in attendance to support you with any enquiries.

As a reminder to parents, our school uniform consists of the following: School blazer or our school badged soft shell jacket; white school shirt; school tie (junior for S1-S3 and Senior for S5/6); Plain black v neck jumper with no logo or school branded hoodie; plain black smart trousers or skirt; plain black school shoes. We have carefully selected our uniform to be value for money and easily replaced at a low cost for families. Thank you so much for your continued support of this.

Throughout the last session, some of our pupils have begun to wear items that are not part of our uniform code. We appreciate that this year has been a genuine challenge for families in many ways and have made exceptions as a consequence, but we would greatly appreciate your support in returning to our usual high standard of uniform for the session ahead. Items which are NOT part of our school uniform but that are starting to become a feature include: Nike hoodies in various colours: jogging bottoms; leggings; Converse boots in black and white: coloured training shoes. I would be very grateful for your support in returning to our agreed uniform standard for August. Applications for clothing grants can be made on the East Dunbartonshire Council website at: <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/grants/school-clothing-grant>. In addition, we will be circulating a link to request support with specific items at the start of the new term which all families will be able to access.

Staffing Updates

We have a number of new staff who have recently joined our team, with more to follow in August. In addition, we have been able to advertise for new management posts due to the continuing increase in our school roll. As such, the following appointments have been made recently:

- Teacher of Physical Education - Mr S McAteer.
- Teacher of Computing Studies - Mr A Fan.
- Teacher of Geography - Miss K Webster.
- Teacher of Psychology - Mr D Kirk.
- Principal Teacher of Guidance - Solsgirth House (Thurs/Fri) - Mrs D Galasso.
- Depute Head Teacher - Holmfield House - Mrs J Paterson.
- Depute Head Teacher (acting) - Peel House - Miss J McLaughlin.

In addition to the above, we are about to appoint a Principal Teacher of Creative Pedagogy, a Principal Teacher of Wellbeing Support and a new school librarian. Details will follow shortly.

We bid farewell to Miss Kathryn McLennan as she takes up a promoted post at Clydebank High School and we wish her well on the next stage of her career with our sincere thanks for her service to our school. Similarly, we bid farewell and sincere thanks to Miss Robyn Johnstone from our Wellbeing Support team who is embarking on a university course in the new session.

House Group Updates

Our Senior Management Remits have been updated and as such, we have made some changes to the way that we structure our support for pupils. Instead of having Year Group heads, we are moving to linking a Depute Head Teacher to each house alongside the existing Principal Teacher of Guidance. This will provide greater continuity for families as you will be able to build a lasting relationship with both guidance staff and your link depute head.

Your links will be as follows:

House Group	Principal Teacher of Guidance	Depute Head Teacher
Holmfield	Miss K Tassell	Mrs J Paterson
Napier	Mrs R Docherty	Mrs P Bradley
Peel	Mrs B Dunlop (Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri)/Mr T Joice (Wed)	Miss J McLaughlin
Solsgirth	Mrs M Hayworth (Mon, Tue, Wed)/Mrs D Galasso (Thurs, Fri)	Mrs G Fraser
Waverley	Mrs R Hay	Mrs P Davie

School Day Timings

As Covid restrictions have now been lifted, we are able to return to our original school day timings. Our day will start daily at 8:55 and will end on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 3:00pm and at 3:50pm on Tuesday and Thursday. This means that we are able to resume registration time at the start of each day, with a packed schedule of activities provided by our registration team for all young people. In addition, we are returning to a single lunchtime for all year groups with clubs and activities for BGE Pupils and study spaces for Senior Phase pupils to benefit from.

Goodbye S6/Welcome Primary 7

This was a week of fond farewells and warm welcomes as we bid farewell to our S6 Leavers at their Final Prom and welcomed our Primary Seven pupils along to their two transitions days. The Prom, held on Wednesday evening at House for an Art Lover was simply stunning! Attended by the S6 cohort who looked absolutely wonderful and 38 members of staff, we enjoyed a mocktail reception, a beautiful dinner, Prom speeches and awards, musical accompaniment by Mr Clyde on the grand piano and an opportunity to dance the night away thereafter. It was a wonderful and quite emotional evening saying goodbye to this excellent year group, all of whom are heading off to bright futures and a range of excellent positive destinations.

On Thursday and Friday of this week, we hosted our Primary Seven pupils as part of our transition programme. Our S1 Year group is now full with 150 fantastic young people who immersed themselves across the range of classes and activities on offer throughout the two day induction programme. They were friendly, enthusiastic and beautifully behaved and we can already see that they are living up to our school motto of Dream Big, Work Hard and Show Kindness. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Cluster Primary Colleagues for their excellent work in preparing our new pupils for High School and we cannot wait to welcome them back in August.

Young Musician of the Year Competition

Our Young Musician of the Year Competition will take place on Monday, 13th June at 7pm, with doors open at 6:45pm. It will feature a number of our young people performing across a range of musical disciplines. If you would like to join us, please contact our school office to reserve seats.

Chief Medical Officer Visit - Thursday, 9th June

Yesterday, we welcomed Professor Sir Gregor Smith, Scotland's Chief Medical Officer to our school to talk to our young people. The event was attended by our Senior School pupils, aspiring medics from younger year groups and guest pupils from Boclair Academy and Lenzie Academy. Doctor Smith was so relatable and thoroughly enjoyed answering the questions posed by our pupils. S6 pupils Eilidh and Ross confidently compered the event and it was wonderful to be able to open our doors to such a prestigious guest speaker, to encourage and inspire our young people.

Trips and Excursions

We are delighted to be running trips and excursion for our young people again. Today, we have pupil competing in the Scottish Schools Track and Field Championship. Last week saw a successful History Trip for the new S3 pupils to Riverside Museum and Kelvingrove Art Gallery and we are about to see pupils engage in a rock climbing trip. Looking to the new session, we hope this will become a regular feature of school life again to enable our pupils to learn in real life contexts.

School Twitter

We publish details and celebrate many of our wider achievement and pupil activities on our school Twitter account at @kirkintillochhs and our various departmental accounts that are linked to this. Please 'follow' us to share in the life of our school and to see the many achievements of our fabulous young people celebrated online!

End of Term Arrangements

School closes for pupils at 1pm on Thursday, 23rd June 2022 for the Summer break. This will be a fun day and as such will be a non-uniform day for pupils and we would encourage comfortable, active clothing as we will be putting on a selection of fun activities on the last day of term for our young people. School re-opens for pupils at 8:55am on Wednesday, 17th August 2022. Details of all school holiday dates for next session can be found here:

<https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/school-holidays>

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a safe and happy Summer break and I look forward to welcoming your children back to school in August.

Yours faithfully,



Maureen Daniel,
Head Teacher