

KINLOCHBERVIE HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

August 2021

Welcome back to a new session

Welcome back to all our returning pupils and staff and a very warm welcome to our new S1 pupils and new staff. We hope everyone had a great summer and will have an enjoyable and successful year.

Staffing

We bid farewell to Ms Watkins at the end of last term, she is taking a year's career break. We welcome Ms Pintado-Mira who will be teaching Social Subjects this session.

Mrs Thackeray, (who has been one of our PSAs this last year) has been appointed as our part time Guidance Teacher. She will continue to do some PSA work when she is not teaching.

Our new Science Teacher, Dr Nigel Blackstock has not yet had his GTCS membership confirmed. As it is a legal requirement for teachers in Scotland to be registered with the General Teaching Council, he is not able to start work in Kinlochbervie until this is through. The application for membership has been processed and his PVG check has been completed so he should be with us soon. In the meantime classes will be covered by other staff and the pupils given tasks to prepare for new courses.

Paula Macleod, our Admin Team Leader is now working Monday to Thursday and is not in on a Friday. Please keep this mind if you usually send emails instead of phoning if your child is absent.

Shona Allison who worked in Kinlochbervie Primary School has now transferred to the high school for most of the school week and will continue to provide support for our pupils as required.

SQA Certification

Well done to all our pupil who received their SQA results at the start of the month. The pupils and staff worked very hard on all class assessments and material during a

difficult time of online learning and then on their return to school. All our Teacher set grades were accepted which is a credit to them and the school. This is a reflection of the hard work the pupils and teachers put into the last year and we are delighted at the excellent set of results. These were subject to a rigorous quality assurance programme at school and at council level and we are confident in the validity of these results. We do hope that next year will see pupils return to a more formal exam based system.

We wish our leaving pupils well in their new positive destinations:

Chelsea to study law & management at Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen

Michelle to study drama / performance at UHI in Inverness

Katey to study travel & tourism in Aberdeen

Caitlin will be completing her gateway to para medicine online

Gemma is working as a Ghillie on the Reay Forest Estate

Rachael will now work with adult support services and doubtless will be seen in the Old School on a regular basis.

Westminster Foundation and Education Scotland

We have been awarded £6453 from the Anne, Duchess of Westminster trust to allow us to increase the resources in the sensory room and the library. The money will be spent on books which pupils have requested and on resources to improve mental health and wellbeing.

We also have a grant from Education Scotland of £3000 as part of their "Food for Thought" initiative and this will allow us to replace the polytunnel in the high school and encourage pupils to grow fruit and vegetables and think about the food they eat and where it comes from. S1 and S2 pupils will also be working towards the John Muir Trust Award as part of their Friday curriculum. They will be looking at the local area with particular focus on the coastline. They will also be involved in the Food for Thought programme as part of the award and we hope to work closely with some of our local businesses and partners throughout the year.

Congratulations

Our new head pupil team of Demi Eastcroft and Szymon Klodzinski as Head Pupils and Ellis Munro and Owen Parker as Deputy Head Pupils were elected at the end of last session. We look forward to seeing what they accomplish in their roles in the coming year.

Uniform

We do still have a very limited supply of sweatshirts and hoodies in school, but in general, orders should be placed via the website:

www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com

Please be aware that the blue hoodies and sweatshirts are for S6 only.

End of Day

Please be aware that when you are collecting your child/ren from school at 3.50pm that the pull in space at the front door of the school is for school transport. Please make sure you allow space for all four school buses/cars to pull in to ensure pupils can safely embark.

Our Space

From the start of next month the portacabin at the village hall will be open as a drop in space for pupils on Fridays from 2.30 – 5.00. Pupils will be given more information as it becomes available.

Inset Days

Just a reminder that Mon 13th and Tues 14th September are inset days.

As always should you have any queries or concerns please contact me at the school.

Graeme Smart

Head Teacher