



# GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

Old Bridge of Weir Road, Houston, PA6 7EB

Tel: 0300 300 1323

e-mail: [gryffehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:gryffehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk)

web address: [www.gryffehigh.com](http://www.gryffehigh.com)

Head Teacher: Mr Colin H Johnson BSc



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Gryffe High School, Level 1, 2020-2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Now we are in our last week of term, I can reflect on a very different but still particularly busy year in which our pupils have endured such difficult circumstances, yet still continue to smile and flourish. Pupils adapted to a 'revised timetable' from January to April, and then senior pupils embarked on a six week assessment calendar, while still following all Covid related procedures. It has been incredible that so many of our pupils maintained a positive attitude and it was a joy to see them truly embrace our summer theme non-uniform day yesterday, amazing. Finally, our in-school assessments indicate very good Provisional Grades, which will be sent to pupils by post today, to arrive in homes tomorrow afternoon (Wednesday). Senior staff will also be available in school on Wednesday 23 June from 4:00 – 6:00 pm to hand out a Provisional Grades Certificate to any pupil who does not receive their mailed copy.

As a school we have complete confidence in our processes of assessment and we have full confidence in the provisional grades awarded to Gryffe High School pupils. All teachers have worked hard to consistently apply the national standards set by SQA to this year's Alternative Certification Model. Additional quality assurance checks such as validation of all assessments and cross marking have also taken place within and across schools in Renfrewshire to ensure that there has been a robust and fair process used to determine provisional grades. We hope that our pupils are proud of the grades that they have achieved. As in any year, some pupils may be disappointed with their grades, and as ever, we are here to help in any way we can.

We managed to publish our Newsletter in May and in June, and I will publish the final Newsletter for this term on Wednesday 30 June (the July Newsletter a day early 😊). I hope you will agree that our monthly newsletters provide you with up to date detail on the vast number of activities that our pupils are involved in and clearly shows their successes.

## **Behaviour in the Community**

I would like to take this opportunity to re-state our commitment to the promotion and support of good behaviour and positive relationships in both school and the local community. Our sixth year pupils, and at times other year groups, have been litter picking almost every weekday afternoon within in the local community. We have made improvements and are constantly reminding pupils about their responsibilities, as I am sure all our parents/carers are. We will continue to try to make improvement as we strive to form closer links within the community. We have a very strong commitment to good behaviour and discipline, and ask that should any parent/carer become aware of any issue to please inform us as quickly as possible. Parents/Carers working closely with the school, challenging inappropriate behaviour within the school and at times within the community, will only enhance the learning experience of our pupils.

## **Attendance at school in the last few days**

Gryffe High School is committed in supporting our pupils and providing them with an excellent learning experience. We work closely with employers, colleges and universities and from this close partnership working try to ensure that all our pupils are in the best position to ensure a positive destination.

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Punctuality, attendance, maturity and the broad understanding of life skills are critical for smooth pathways to career success. We provide detail on attendance and latecoming in references for jobs, reports and UCAS statements. We will also make reference to individual pupils' commitment to their overall skills development, and on their likelihood to fully commit to sustained employment or to a College/University programme.

### **School Uniform in the new session 2021/2022**

Gryffe High is a school community and one of the ways we demonstrate this is to wear our school uniform with pride. Please support the school and ensure that ALL pupils are in full uniform, including BLAZERS, at the beginning of the new term in August. We expect all pupils to wear blazers. **The Parent Teachers Association (PTA) are in the process of accepting blazers, jumpers and ties in good or unworn condition for upcycling. The PTA will be on hand to sell these items at a heavily discounted price on Thursday 1 July, 3:00 – 4:30 pm, Friday 2 July from 10:00 – 11:30 am, Thursday 8 July from 10:00 – 11:30 am, Friday 9 July from 3:00 – 4:30 pm, Tuesday 10 August 9:00 – 3:00 pm, Wednesday 11 August 9:00 – 3:00 pm. If any items are of interest, please email [gryffehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:gryffehighenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk) and items can be reserved until collection is possible.**

### **End of Term Arrangements**

**Please note that the school closes for the summer holidays at 1:00 pm on Friday 25 June**, with lunchtime starting as usual at 12:25 pm, and I would expect pupils to be in attendance up to and including that day.

I would like to thank pupils, parents/carers and staff for an amazing 12 years in Gryffe High School. It has been a genuine privilege to be Head Teacher in Gryffe, and I have been so proud of our pupil and staff achievements. It has been my pleasure to not only watch as pupils grow and develop, but also be allowed to share in their many successes, or at times to work on bouncing back. Teaching is an incredible profession and working with such caring and respectful pupils and staff, supported by parents/carers, has given me many very happy memories that will stay with me forever.

#### **AUGUST**

Tues 10	SQA Examination Results issued
Thurs 12	In-Service Day
Fri 13	In-Service Day
Mon 16	Session begins for pupils, prompt 8:50 am start in full uniform, including Blazer
Tue 17	Final S5, S6 Timetable re-negotiation
Mon 23	Photographs S1/S3/S5/S6
Wed 25	Activ8 session 1, 3:00 -4:00 pm
Mon 30	PTA AGM, 6:30 pm start Parent Council Meeting, 7:00 pm start
Wed 1	Activ8 session 2, 3:00 -4:00 pm

Gryffe is an excellent and outstanding school, I am proud saying that, however as a school we will always continue to strive for improvement and as such I look forward to hearing of many further successes in both our pupils' attainment and achievement.

I wish all pupils, and parents/carers, a relaxing and fun filled summer break. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mr Colin H Johnson



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