



GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr Colin H Johnson BSc



Friday 10 January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope that all pupils, parents/carers and members of the local community have had an enjoyable and relaxing Christmas and New Year.

As we move into this new decade we set our aims and ambitions, as ever, to providing an excellent learning experience for our pupils, and to forge closer partnerships with our parent body and our local community.

We finished 2019 on a significant high with many impressive achievements, of which we will mention a few: The Wee Sleep Out, where as a local community we came together to make a difference; Our progress and commitment to achieving our Rights Respecting School Gold Award; The achievements of so many of our pupils, and staff; the high attainment levels achieved by our pupils; the positive destinations of our pupils.

We continue to be delighted at the range, and quality, of achievements of our pupils and I hope you enjoy reading our Newsletter, and our Mid-Season Sports Report, which were uploaded to the News section of the school website on Wednesday 8 January 2020.

Contents of the Newsletter

- ✓ Renfrewshire Council Captains' Conferenc
- ✓ Parent Council Update; PTA News
- ✓ Pupil Council News
- ✓ Rights Respecting School News
- ✓ 550th Anniversary of Sikh Faith
- ✓ A Shout Our from SfL
- ✓ Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) Launch
- ✓ Space School 2020
- ✓ Young Enterprise News
- ✓ Christmas Service
- ✓ Gryffe Valley Rotary Club Young Chef Competition News
- ✓ Advanced Higher Spanish Workshop
- ✓ Geographers attend Christmas Lecture at University of Glasgow
- ✓ Modern Languages and Music in the Community
- ✓ S1 pupils enjoy Christmas Party
- ✓ Christmas Concert 2019
- ✓ S6 Snowball; Drama News
- ✓ Football Trip to Manchester
- ✓ Mid-Season Sports update; House News
- ✓ The Wee Sleep Out
- ✓ Charity News
- ✓ Morgan Stanley Visit
- ✓ Gryffe featured partner of the month – Scottish Book Trust
- ✓ Standards and Quality Report
- ✓ Upcoming priorities/events

CARING LEARNING ACHIEVING



Website



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A successful school must have clear routines and procedure, and must focus on each and every individual in order to support them as best we can.

We would like to make a few reminders of our expectations, where working together we can certainly make a difference to the learning experience of our young people:

Timekeeping - **The first bell rings at 8:47am**, and the second bell rings at 8:50am
We would like to thank all parents/carers who ensure their child is in school on time. We have 2 bells in the morning and their purpose is significant – **the first bell is when pupils should be inside the school**, the second bell is when pupils should be in class ready to start. If lessons start promptly then that maximises the learning and teaching time within the classroom, which I would hope we would all agree with.

Uniform - **Blazers/Uniform**
We would like to thank all pupils/parents/carers who have supported our school uniform standards and the introduction of Blazers across all year groups. This, we believe, has enhanced our existing positive school ethos, and improved ethos leads to improved learning. There is a notable correlation between those who identify with our school community and their successful outcomes as learners. We ask that if pupils are wearing their Jackets to school, that they wear it on top of their Blazer (many do), or have their Blazer in their bag and then put it on when in the school building.

Communication - Again, we thank all parents who are using SMHW (Show My Homework) as this is our key means of communication, along with the school website, including the monthly newsletter, Twitter, Facebook, email and through some text messaging, although this will be limited due to the cost involved.

A possible New Year resolution - ensure that you use at least one of the above, PREFERABLY SMHW and hopefully 'FOLLOWING US' on Facebook, in order to keep up to date with school matters and support our pupils.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead, where we can work together in confidence and support our young people to thrive in all aspects of their life, holding true to our key values of **Caring, Learning and Achieving**.

Yours sincerely

Colin Johnson
Head Teacher

Upcoming priorities/events

JANUARY 2019

Mon 6	Pupils return, prompt 8:50 am start
Wed 8	Newsletter uploaded on to website, along with the additional Sports Update
Fri 10	Start of Higher/AH Prelims
Mon 13	Parent Council Meeting, 7:00 pm start
Thurs 16	S4 Reports issued to pupils
Mon 20	S4 Careers Pathways Focus
Tue 21	Young Musician of the Year Competition, 7:00 pm start
Wed 22	S4 YPI Event End of Higher/AH Prelims
Thurs 23	S3 Reports issued to pupils
Fri 24	PTA Burns Evening
Mon 27	S4 into S5, S5 into S6 Options Information Evening – 7:00 pm start
Tue 28	4 th Deposits for Activities Trips S4 Options Interview Day

Full calendar detail is kept up to date on the school website

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