



GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr Colin H Johnson BSc



Dear Parents/Carers

You may know that on Friday afternoon the Government published new guidelines for schools. Most of the detail we already have in place, however **the key change that we will implement from Monday 2 November is that Senior pupils, S4 to S6, must now wear a face covering while in class.**

The Government guidelines also made a change to PE, as PE can now return indoors at all levels. We will gradually re-introduce the return of indoor PE, starting later this week.

In my previous update to parents/carers I stated 'our pupils, your children, have been outstanding since we started back. Yes, we have a few issues, and yes, there are things we wish would run a little smoother – but the overall behaviour, commitment and efforts of pupils, adhering to all our health and safety procedures, is a genuine pleasure to see.' I would like to reiterate the above – **'our pupils, your children, have been outstanding'**.

I feel for our pupils and all that they are having to put up with, however I also have great respect on how they are adapting and in how they are making the best of the situation. On Friday, non-uniform day, it was a pleasure to see the S6 pupils in their 'Eighties Theme', bringing back a few distant memories!!!, and to see smiles on faces. I long for the return of 'fun' and the normality of learning and teaching without restrictions.

I would like update you on our Health & Safety procedures:

- ✓ We have considerably more cleaners within the school in order to ensure all surfaces are continually cleaned.
- ✓ Pupils are well prepared entering the school, organised and with their face masks on.
- ✓ Pupils enter and leave classrooms with a mask on, with S4 – S6 pupils now expected to wear a face mask in class.
- ✓ In nearly all classes pupils face forward rather than face to face.
- ✓ Pupils wipe down their working area at the start and end of the period.
- ✓ There is an understanding of Dry weather procedures and Wet weather procedures when we adhere strictly to our one way system.
- ✓ Pupils remain in the same seat in a class whenever possible, with all teachers using a seating plan in order that we have clear trace and protect procedures in place.
- ✓ The canteen is running a very efficient queuing system, where pupils are in single file and the movement through the system is very quick.

Learning and Teaching

We continue, as always, with a focus on Learning and Teaching and are happy with the overall progress being made across all year groups. Pupils are working well in class, we are covering our curriculum and continue to ensure timely interventions as appropriate. Over the next few weeks we will provide a calendar of key dates for each year group, including reporting, which we hope will be useful. For S4 – S6 pupils we will also give further detail on some key assessment dates and some SQA detail.

Communication

I hope you are looking forward to our November Newsletter, to be uploaded to the school website on Wednesday 4 November – Look out for detail on our recent **RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL AWARD**.

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Website



Show My Homework



www.gryffehigh.com



Gryffe High



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How Parents/Carers can become more involved in our school life:



- ✓ **In order to protect our school community, I would remind all parents/carers that should your child display any symptoms of COVID 19, they should not attend school and self-isolate in line with Government Guidelines.**
- ✓ **Encourage your child to be in full school uniform, and be on time for school** – in school for the **FIRST** bell at 8:47am – and **to complete all homework/ assignment tasks given...** as shown on SMHW.
- ✓ **Face Masks** – Thank you for your support. Nearly all pupils are wearing their face masks in school as they move between classes, and now S4 – S6 pupils will be wearing face masks in class. Please continue to encourage your child to bring a face mask to school, and to wear it in school.
- ✓ **Show My Homework** – Please ensure that you have access to this programme as it is our key means of communication with Parents/Carers.
- ✓ **Support our PTA** - Please consider supporting our school by purchasing these lovely and very competitively priced products. →
- ✓ **Follow us on Twitter/Facebook and/or tell us how we can improve our wider communication.**
- ✓ **Dyslexia Awareness Week** - Monday 9 November marks the start of Dyslexia Awareness Week. Here at Gryffe, we have lots of plans in the pipeline to spread awareness and support this important cause. Our Support for Learning Ambassadors will be visiting classes to hand out "Ellie's Blue Dyslexia Ribbon" (produced by Dyslexia Scotland and kindly sent to the school upon request). This will allow pupils and staff to wear these ribbons to show unity and support. Informative posters and displays will adorn various walls throughout the week, and many informative videos and links will appear online to help inform people, and also to point everyone in the direction of more detailed help and advice if needed. Watch this space!"
- ✓ ... and finally, please take the time to read our Newsletter when it is uploaded to the school website on Wednesday.

Yours sincerely

Colin Johnson
Head Teacher

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

Gryffe PTA Xmas Shop 2020

The PTA are delighted to announce the opening of our online Xmas shop . We have a selection of bespoke Xmas items for you to choose from, all of which can be personalised with a name , date or Xmas message (max 15 characters). Order form is available on the school website & social media platforms. Order by 20 November for collection or delivery by 18 Dec , contactless of course . Payment by cash or cheque in envelope marked PTA Xmas Shop. Please support your school.....Merry Xmas.





Please note decoration on bottles & glasses will vary.

Price List
 Light up bottles - £5
 Decorated wine glasses - £4 each or 2 for £7
 Personalised hand sanitizer - £2
 Selection of baubles - £2
 Various fillingsplease specify when ordering .
 Choose from Mum socks , Yankee Votive candle, Lego bricks , chocolates , dog treats.....or random Xmas decs.



Website



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