



# GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr Colin H Johnson BSc



Dear Pupils and Parents/Carers (new S5 and new S6 for session 2020/2021)

I hope you are well and staying safe.

Apologies, there has been a small delay in getting the timetables ready for new S5 and new S6 pupils, however we expect to get these out on Thursday. We are working from two different systems, the normal school system that feeds into the Local Authority and the Scottish Qualification Association. We are doing this in conjunction with SMHW and Glow Teams which are holding the classes we created in order to keep our continuous learning moving forward.

I hope you will be finding that the amount of work being issued is increasing and getting a little more challenging. I also hope you are seeing more and more variations on how we are teaching: via voice over PowerPoints, video recorded lessons; a few live lessons; using sway and a variety of other mediums...etc

As hard as these times are, and the possible issues with establishing routines, **I must ask that you are completing all the work issued for your subjects.** If there are **any** issues I would expect that at the very least you or someone from your family contact your teacher, or alternatively your Guidance Teacher.

Unfortunately, due to the current circumstances, we have to really focus on staying safe and on our wellbeing, as well as the wellbeing of others – **Caring.**

## Welcome to Mental Health Awareness Week at Gryffe

To support and celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week Mrs Costello has put together different ways that we can bring awareness to this key issue in a virtual world!

- The attached **presentation** is a series of slides for *ALL* pupils that explains the importance of the week and the different activities they can get involved in.
- Miss Dumbreck has produced some amazing work for us all this week. Please see the attached **'Thank You' cards**. Due to the theme of the week being Kindness and the success with our *World Kindness Day* in November, we have produced virtual kindness cards. I am encouraging you to email to both staff, pupil, parent, community member, whoever you would like to thank and help share some kindness with during this unsettling time. Cards have also been designed with some house colours, although this does not have to be the meaning behind the colour. Just download, attach and send to bring some smiles and

# CARING LEARNING ACHIEVING



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gratitude this week (and future weeks!

- The following link takes you to our Mental Health page on the Support for Learning Website. Mrs Costello will upload/change/add information here on a fortnightly basis. <https://gw07brownfiona6.wixsite.com/support/mental-health>
- Please follow **GryffeHigh\_Wellbeing** on **Instagram**, where Mrs Costello will be highlighting throughout the week the different ways that all members of our school community are getting involved.

There will be lots more ideas/activities coming your way over the week - when using social media please use the **#GryffeCares** - as Mrs Costello would like to collate all images for a future project with the Mental Health Foundation. A full list of all social media accounts linked with the school will be uploaded to the school website tomorrow.

I now bring you back to the key subject course work that you will be doing, and as I've said I believe the routines are very important in maintaining balance and positivity.

As you know we have created a tracking spreadsheet covering all pupils, covering all subjects, and are asking teachers to update us in regard to pupils completing the work and engaging with the learning. **Should a pupil not be engaging we will either contact them and/or parent/carer, and/or withdraw the pupil from that subject. Renegotiation of this will be subject to conditions in order to fully support your learning in the Senior Phase.**

For **new sixth year pupils** – As detailed by Mrs Brown in her updates, we are expecting to see **all** sixth year pupils complete a significant amount. It is good to see that many of you have applied for leadership roles already.

The Leadership Unit provides value skills for moving forward in your final year at Gryffe and then on to a positive destination beyond school. As such we expect this to be completed as part of your Induction to S6. If you are struggling with the content then please contact Mrs Brown : [gw07brownangela3@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07brownangela3@glow.sch.uk)

Please ensure that you keep update to date with all information on SMHW from Mrs Brown and also regularly check the school website. Look for all the details under 'Brief Updates' on the school website.

Finally, remember that resources - jotters, paper...etc – are available from the Church on request. Make sure you phone beforehand: 01505 612569

Stay positive, working together it will be a great year.

Mr Colin Johnson  
Head Teacher

**Upcoming dates/priorities**

... work hard ...

Friday 22 May – Holiday

Monday 25 May – Holiday

... work hard ...



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