



Gryffe High School

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Date: 30/09/15

Dear Parents/Carers

The October Newsletter will be uploaded to the News section of the school website, on Wednesday 7 October.
www.gryffehigh.com

I hope you enjoyed reading our September Newsletter and like us take pride in both the SQA attainment results as well as the significant achievements of our pupils. We offer a wide variety of additional learning experiences that our pupils engage and thrive in, which is a great credit to themselves and you, and it is particularly pleasing for staff to be involved in the pupils successes. **Reaching new heights!** as detailed in the September Newsletter.

Please remember that you can get frequent brief updates on the school website, as well as a wide range of useful information including all our letters and monthly Newsletters.

As we approach the October holiday week, we can reflect on our progress to date and feel a sense of achievement.

On a curricular and extra-curricular basis, the first eight weeks of term have certainly been 'Activ8', with Health and Wellbeing as a constant theme. We have averaged approximately 200 pupils every Wednesday across the Activ8 weeks, which is an impressive healthy start to our session – Healthy hearts healthy minds. We have had a thoroughly enjoyable 3K Fun Run and began preparations for our Global Diversity month. Many of these events have involved pupils participating in small and large groups as well as leadership roles.

OUR ACHIEVEMENT SYSTEM HAS GOT OFF TO ANOTHER FLYING START. If you wish to find out more, particularly on how to nominate, then please look at the ACHIEVEMENTS section of our School Website.... or use the school App.
Help us to recognise the achievements of our pupils both within and out with the school.



Non-Uniform Day - Friday 2 October

On Friday 2 October we are having a non-uniform day We will suspend the normal requirements to wear school uniform for this particular day and hope that everyone joins in to support our chosen charity as well as support school funds. We would not, of course, wish to see any extremes of fashion, football colours or other inappropriate dress.

Monies raised from the non-uniform day will be split, 60p of each £1 collected to the charity '**Teenage Cancer Trust**' as this is our charity focus for October, and 40p of each £1 collected will go to school funds in order to further support pupil wider achievement opportunities.

Activities Week S1-S3

The Activities Week for S1-S3 pupils will be launched very soon. Please support us by encouraging your child to 'sign up'.

This year we have decided to launch all trips/activities at the same time, and I hope you will be impressed by the number and diversity of activities running. There is a broad range in costs, including more free activities than we have had in the past.

Monitoring, Tracking and Reporting

This session we continue to have a major focus on tracking pupil progress and identifying underachievement in order to support pupils who are having difficulties. S4, S5 & S6 pupils have already had their first report, with S1, S2 & S3 pupils to receive their first report just after the October holiday. There will be further detail of this in the October Newsletter.

Parent Council Meeting, Monday 5 October, 7:00pm start

This meeting will have a wide range of presentations: Update from the Pupil Management Group; Anti-Bullying/GIRFEC presentation by Miss Brand/Mrs Skillen; Promoting Positive Behaviour and Project Leader of Employability presentation by Mrs Darroch; Duke of Edinburgh update and School Theatre costs discussion by Mr Taylor; Introductions of our Education Officer, Mrs Levens, and our Link Manager, Mrs Conboy; with Head Teacher updates from myself. Please feel free to come along.

World Challenge Presentation to S4 & S5 Parents/Carers – Tuesday 6 October, 6:30pm

World Challenge is an expedition that allows young people to have experiences and face challenges that they never thought was possible. There are 4 stages to a typical expedition: Acclimatisation; Main Trek; Project: Rest and Relaxation. Please feel free to come along to our information evening to find out more.

Senior Phase Information Evening – Tuesday 6 October, 7:30pm

This information evening has been organised to raise awareness of the challenges faced by pupils studying for national qualifications and the support and advice available to all pupils, parents and carers.

S1 Parents' Meeting

Parents of our S1 pupils will receive their first report on Tuesday 20 October and, I hope, will also attend the S1 Parents' Meeting on Thursday 22 October, 4:30 pm start.

In summary:

- Friday 2 October - Non-uniform day
- Monday 5 October -S1, S3, S5 Photographs
- Parent Council Meeting, 7:00pm start
- Tuesday 6 October - World Challenge Presentation to S4 & S5 parents, 6:30pm start
- Senior Phase Information Evening for S4,S5 parents, 7:30pm start
- Friday 9 October - Staff In-Service Day
- **Monday 12 – Friday 16** - **October holiday**
- Monday 19 October - Pupils return to school a prompt 8:50am start
- Thursday 22 October - S1 Parents' Meeting, 4:30pm start

Yours sincerely



Colin H Johnson
Head Teacher



Web Site

iPhone App

Android App