



Parent Council Tuesday 21 September 2021

Head Teacher's Report

1. Start of term.
2. Staffing update.
3. Staff / pupil absence rates.
4. Teams.
5. Senior phase assessments.
6. Parents meetings.
7. Prize giving.
8. School captains / house captains.
9. School improvement plan 2021-22.
10. School refurbishment / feasibility study.
11. Possible topics for future PC presentations.

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Staffing update

English

Ms Kelly (P) Mr Quinn (P) Ms Thorp (T) Ms Roy (NQT)

Mathematics

Ms Ivanova (T) Mr Hamilton (T) Mr Truesdale (NQT)

Modern Languages

Ms Edgar (NQT) Mr Said Hedougo (NQT)

Geography

Ms Gilmour (NQT)

Biology

Ms Gantly (Acting Principal Teacher)
Ms Ballard (NQT) Ms Shirlaw (NQT)

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Staffing (continued)

Chemistry

Dr Tippen (T)

Physics

Mr White (NQT)

Design Technology / Computing

DT Ms Gaskin (NQT)
Computing Mr Afsal (NQT)

Performing Arts

Drama – Ms Buchanan (PT Guidance)
Music – Ms Dvorakova (NQT) Mr MacDonald (NQT)

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Staffing (continued)

Health Food Technology

Ms Fairman (PT) Ms Ross (NQT)

PE

Ms Fountain (NQT)

Business Education

Mr McCombe (NQT) Ms Wilson (NQT)

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Staffing (vacancies)

1. Principal teacher of support for pupils.
2. Temporary teacher of biology.
3. Acting principal teacher of performing arts.
4. Temporary teacher of music.
5. Temporary teacher of health food technology.

Some recovery money has been downloaded for additional staffing:

Teacher of support for pupils.
Temporary teacher of chemistry.
Temporary teacher of mathematics.

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Staff / Pupil Absence

- The rates of pupil absence have been higher than normally would be the case primarily due to COVID i.e. positive cases of COVID; pupils awaiting a PCR test or awaiting the results of PCR tests. Most results are negative but pupils must self-isolate until results are known and this causes absence.
- Pupil absence rates are hovering around 12% daily, though the picture varies from day to day. The trend is now downwards after a rise in late August / early September
- Of the daily absence rates, 50% (+) was for COVID related reasons in late August / early September. This has been steadily decreasing over the past three weeks.
- Overall attendance is improving and the % of absence attributed to COVID related reasons is falling.

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Teams

- All departments have class Teams pages for all classes.
- These can be used for ANY absence, not just COVID related absence.
- Teachers have shown their classes how to access the Teams pages.
- Broadly speaking departments will put on the Teams pages the following: Records of Work for the week and they will use assignments for things such as Homework; dates for assessments etc.
- Departments are using links e.g. to You Tube clips; BBC Bite size; specific web links; materials from the West Partnership forum to bespoke websites such as 'Chalk & talk' in Geography.

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Senior Phase Assessments

- Assessment schedules have been group called out to all parents/carers and are available on the school website.
- The pathway is LEARNING --- CURRICULUM --- S4 INFORMATION or S5/6 INFORMATION.
- Our plan will be to have preliminary examinations in January. There will be a secondary HT meeting on 6 October to discuss with council officers the issue of study leave for S4-6 pupils.

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Parents Meetings

- East Dunbartonshire Council is working on plans to delivery options for parents meetings this year.
- There are a number of electronic ways to deliver these e.g. as a school we use a system called **'Parents Evening Booking System' (PEBS)**for appointments. This has a video function to allow parents/carers to meet teachers on video.
- There are other possible alternatives – Corporate Teams; SEEMIS. We expect a decision soon to allow for staff training

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Tolerance

Compassion

Embracing Change

Respect



Prize Giving

- This will take place on Friday 1 October – P1 BGE (S1-3) and P2 SP (S4-6).
- We may look to try and stream the event live and/or put on our website after the event.

School Captains / House Captains

The process is underway and we should have interviews in due course. The final selection should be done by the October week.

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School improvement plan 2021-22

There are three main targets:

1. All departments to incorporate the lessons learnt from 'remote' learning into their daily operational practices.
2. The continued promotion of inclusion and wellbeing through the development of our equality and diversity programme.
3. The development of our parental engagement strategy.

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School refurbishment / feasibility study

- Limited work on the school until the outcome of the feasibility study is known.
- Feasibility study due for completion by February 2022.
- Feasibility study looks at possible sites; role projections to inform roll capping; possible designs; cost implications of different options and so on.
- There are four possible sites for a new school but no further details at the moment.

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Possible topics for Parent Council presentations by staff

In previous year's this has included:

1. Learning & teaching approaches.
2. Literacy and numeracy.
3. Personal & social education.
4. Personal support.
5. Supporting inclusion and wellbeing.
6. Skills for learning, life and work.
7. Extra-curricular activities.

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