



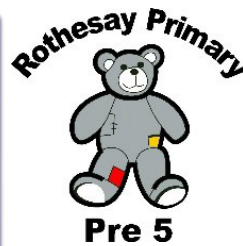
**Welcome to our Term 2
newsletter from Our Acting Head
Teacher Ms Campbell**

Welcome to our latest campus newsletter. As you will see it has been another incredibly busy and positive period across our Pre-5, Primary and Academy. From festive events, performances and trips, to achievements in wellbeing, sustainability and inclusion, our pupils continue to show enthusiasm, creativity and kindness in all that they do. We are extremely proud of the wide range of experiences on offer, made possible through the dedication of our staff and the continued support of our families and partners within the community.

A special thank you must go to our Pupil Communications Team, whose hard work, commitment and creativity have been instrumental in bringing this newsletter together. I hope you enjoy reading about everything that has been happening across the campus in term 2 and celebrating the many successes we share as a school community

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Campbell'.

Ms Kirsty Campbell



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As A Campus...

HORTICULTURAL PROGRAMME

On behalf of our school horticultural programme we would like to say a big thank you to SAPUTO for all their generous support in growing our outdoor learning spaces. We now have 3 poly tunnels sprouting fresh salad produce, a green house with award winning veggies and seed banks, raised beds and still further developing spaces. This is huge progress!



Children In Need!

We had an insanely busy day fundraising for children in need throughout the campus. In the Academy, we had a bake sale, competitions, and football organised by the Pupil Council, Captains, and S6s.

In the Primary, we had a Pudsey sale, crafts, and games organised by P7.

The pre-5 enjoyed loads of activities, and the whole campus was dressed down in their cosiest pyjamas!



School Show June 2026!

We are pleased to announce that our 2026 School Show is officially underway! Mr Lowe is putting together this production for the fourth year in a row, and we know he will do a great job!



Christmas Jumper Day



It was lovely to see our school full of festive spirit with everyone in their Christmas jumpers! We managed to raise awareness for Save the Children to help them support families over the difficult holiday season.

As A Campus...

Remembrance Day

This November, our campus came together to honour those who have fallen. Pupils learned about the importance of the poppy, observed a two-minute silence, and we held an Academy Remembrance Assembly led by our school captains. The captains reflected on past and present conflicts and the urgent need for peace. We were also grateful to hear from Sybil Tchaikovsky, Our School Chaplain who shared her thoughts on remembrance. Thank you to everyone involved.

Our Primary 7 pupils also delivered a confident assembly to the primary, sharing our Value of the Week, Articles of the Month, Children in Need information, and details about World Children's Day. A group of pupils created the supporting slideshow—well done to all involved.

We are proud of our Primary and Secondary pupils who performed with the Rothesay & District Pipe Band at the Remembrance Parade and took part in the Remembrance Service.

Lest We Forget.

Article 2: All children have rights, without discrimination.

Article 17: Every child has the right to access safe and reliable information.

Article 19: Every child must be protected from violence and harm.



As A Campus...

LGBT Youth Scotland

We are proud to announce that Rothesay Joint Campus has successfully achieved the LGBT Youth Charter Bronze Award for LGBTQ Youth Scotland!



This award is a huge step forward to ensure that every young person in our school feels safe, included and supported, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity. We are committed to continue to work on this to spread equality throughout our school to make sure that no matter what, everyone feels safe and welcome in a positive environment.

This is just the beginning of our journey to create a truly inclusive setting for young people! Thank you for your continued support.

UNCRC Article 2 - Every child has a right to equality and freedom from discrimination.

Another terrific treat we had on the last day was our staff surprising us with their own panto!

Mr Lowe wrote an original piece titled "How the Egg Sandwich Saved the Day" with the cast including Mrs Lindsay, Mrs Harrison, Mr Lowe, Ms Campbell, Mrs Milani, Mrs Davidson, Mr Mercer and Mr Canavan, with a special mention to Mr Kerr who was unable to take part due to illness but attended every single rehearsal during the run up.

A big thanks to Mr Mercer for stepping up to fulfil his role. Although we aren't sure what was funnier, the actual panto or seeing our own teachers doing it, either way it was absolutely amazing and definitely got everyone in the cheery Christmas mood.

Thank you everyone for this extraordinary production!

Staff Pantomime



As A Campus...

Janitors & Cleaners

We would like to give a special thank you to our janitorial and cleaning staff for their constant support with our discos and other events. They always set up, clean afterwards and help out with anything they can. Their perseverance is unmatched and we want them to know how much we appreciate them.

Office Staff

We would like to give a special thank you to our office staff for their ongoing support and hard work. They are always ready to help, keep everything running smoothly, and go above and beyond when needed. We truly appreciate all that they do.

Dinner Ladies



A HUGE thank you to our dinner ladies who prepared and served such an incredible Christmas lunch for our campus.

The food was absolutely delicious and was just what we needed in the run up to the Christmas Holidays!

Thank You for everything you all do!

Wreath Making

Our P7 and S1 pupils were offered an extraordinary Christmas Challenge in Wreath Making. Some pupils paired up to complete their task while others took the challenge on their own. In the end we had loads of beautiful wreathes and center pieces which they then had the opportunity to sell at Bute Yard on Sunday the 7th of December. Thank You to Dot for providing the wreath rings and dry flowers.

UNCRC ARTICLE 28 - Every child has the right to education



As A Campus...

Santa's Grotto - Bute Yard

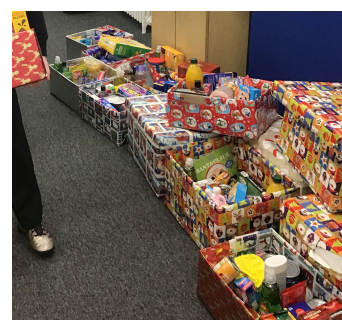
Bute Yard kindly gave us the Tipi area on the 7th of December to use as a Santa's Grotto so our students added some stalls including: Make your own reindeer food, Christmas Face Paint, Make A Wish and we sold dried flower wreaths, which were made in a workshop, with the help of Mr Dunnachie and our primary students. Our Primary Choir and Academy jazz band also provided entertainment for everyone visiting our Grotto. We'd like to thank everyone who came to visit Santa. You made his day!



Hamper Appeal

Our Learning Centre and Wellbeing Ambassadors joined together to organise a Christmas Hamper Appeal to help those most in need in our local community. On behalf of our organisers we would like to thank everyone who supported the cause by donating non-perishable goods and toiletries. Together we've made a huge difference.

UNCRC ARTICLE 27 - Every child has a right to a good standard of living



As A Campus...

Be-Inn Unity Partnership



We are delighted to share news of our partnership with Be-Inn Unity. Our first cohort of staff from across the campus recently completed three days of training with Be-Inn Unity, achieving their SCQF Level 6 Mental Health Award. Alongside this qualification, staff developed a deeper understanding of attachment, connection, and the vital importance of positive relationships. We are excited to continue this partnership with the introduction of The Bothy in both the Primary and Academy. Our Bothy mentors will be trained over the coming weeks, and we look forward to sharing more updates on this exciting development in our next newsletter.

UNCRC ARTICLE 3 - Best Interests of the Child

New Website Launch

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new campus website. The refreshed site brings all our latest news, updates, and information together in one easy-to-navigate place, making it easier for families and the wider community to stay connected with life across the campus. We are still working on developing the site and adding new content daily, so please check back regularly as it continues to grow and improve.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ab/rothesayjointcampus/>



Pupil Achievements



Congratulations to S3 pupil Lexie Sutherland Brown who travelled to Liverpool to compete in the World Irish Dance Championships achieving a brilliant 4th place!



Matilda Harrison Aitken was promoted to Corporal at Ayr Cadet Camp. Well Done!



Congratulations to Addison Whiteside, Georgina Wallace and Ella-Mae McInairnie who competed in the Lanarkshire Thistle highland dancing competition all getting excellent placings with Ella-Mae winning the trophy fling award and highland runner up in her novice age group for the 2nd month in a row.



Well done to our P7 pupil, Ashley Laird who recently passed her Scottish Dance Teachers Alliance exams, Highland Dancing Scottish Award Level 3 highly commended and Highland Dancing Theory grade 1 and grade 2 both with honours.

Pupil Achievements



Well done to the McMillan sisters -
Lola overall Highland and National
Winner Novice 12 & Over; and Leya
Highland Runner up & National
Winner Novice 9 years



Congratulations to Keira Queen who
who passed her Scottish award for
highland dancing with commend
plus. Well done!



Daisy Robertson has had a very successful year
in clay pigeon shooting, receiving the QE2
shield for the Junior High Gun in September,
the Annie Oakley coronation cup (where she
was competing against 34 other people!), as well
as the Ladies Trophy at The Glendaruel and
Colintraive Gun Club.
Congratulations, this is amazing!



A massive congratulations to Sophie McFarlane
who gained straight firsts for 6 dances in
Kilmarnock, winning overall in her section,
National winner and dancer of the day! Sophie has
also passed all of her dancing theory exams with
honours. Pictured is Sophie with her trophies from
this year, well done Sophie!

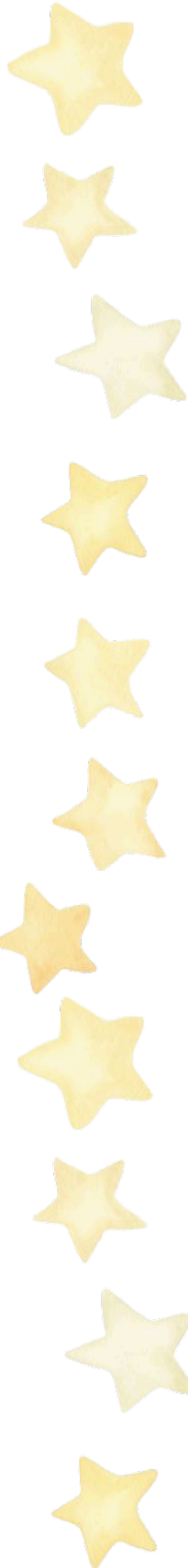
Pupil Achievements



Well done to Cameron Laird who put his newly gained Tractor licence to good use by taking part in the Bute Agricultural Society ploughing match.



Grace Wallace (S5) and Kaleigh McCrae (Our lovely Senior Office Clerical). Both competed in our local Stars in your Eyes competition. They performed in front of over 200 people. This is an amazing achievement!



Well done to S2 pupil Lewis MacQueen who won Division A in the Argyll Junior League Singles.



Congratulations to S2 pupil Sophie Mellor who achieved fantastic placings in the SDTA scholarship event in Motherwell this weekend. Sophie placed 3rd for her masterclass, 5th for her JL (Tribute to James L McKenzie) and 3rd for her choreography dance from a group of 34!

Pupil Achievements



Pupils and staff throughout the Joint Campus participated in this year's community panto.
- The Snow Queen - Written and directed by Dorothy McDonald.
They all did extremely well and it was a hilarious production. Well Done!

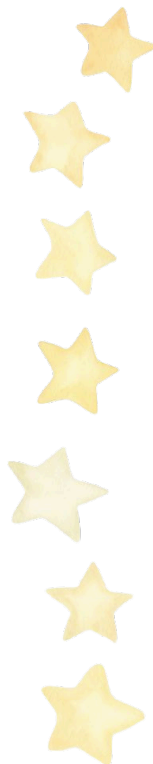


MCR
Pathways



Addison Northey (S2)
Won the MCR Pathways Thank
You card competition! Well
Done!

UNCRC
ARTICLE 15:
Every child
has
a right to meet
with others
and
join groups.



Pre-5

Thomson Court

Our pre-5 children have been regularly visiting Thomson Court as a part of our Intergenerational Partnership. Most recently they had the honour of helping the residents think of names for their cafe! After spending time with the staff and residents, they all agreed along with the children that they love the visits and can't wait to see each other again soon.

UNCRC- Article 12- The right to be listened to and taken seriously.

Article 13 - The right to share thoughts and feelings.



Children with the Residents



Potato and leek soup

We were all very excited to welcome Emelie's Nana to teach us how to make her healthy leek and potato soup! All the children helped chop, add ingredients to the pot and stir. We then all got to have a lovely bowl of our soup as a little snack. Everyone loved it and left the little ones asking for more!

Thank You Emma for sharing your recipe and time!

Health and well-being under 3's - Develop fine motor skills and co- ordination.

UNCRC Article 24 - Children have access to healthy foods.



Pre-5

Wellbeing Visit

Children in our pre-5 were very excited to welcome some of the Academy Wellbeing ambassadors to read stories and sing songs with us. We would like to say a huge thank you to them for taking the time to come down and join us in the nursery. We loved it!



Nativity

Due to illness, this year's pre-5 nativity was recorded and is now available to watch online:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_urczrAkfs

If you haven't had a chance to see it yet, it is perfect. We are so proud of how well our pre-5 children did and would like to say a big well done to them all.



Raffle

Thank You so much to all those who supported our raffle this year.

Including our teddy sale and Christmas party donations, we raised an incredible £880! This money will help immensely towards providing the children with exciting opportunities and experiences.

Open Days

It's that time of year again where we are officially starting to get ready for our next academic year! Was your child born between the 1st of March 2023 and the 29th of February 2024? If so they are eligible for funded ELC in the 2026-2027 Academic year. Come down to our open day on the 15th of January and meet our staff, see our space and learn how your child will be supported.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE 26-27
ACADEMIC YEAR MUST BE
SUBMITTED
BETWEEN THE 19TH OF JANUARY
AND THE 25TH OF JANUARY.
PLEASE APPLY ONLINE.

Primary



Pupils Receiving their cheque

Thank you For Bute

We would like to say a massive thank you to “FOR BUTE” charity shop who kindly donated £3000 towards our P7’s residential trip to Ardentinnery. They’ll have a blast!

Halloween Disco

We had a blast at our spooky Halloween party! All the pupils put in their best effort with their costumes and they really wanted to show them off! They spent their night in true Halloween fashion enjoying sweets, dancing away to the monster mash and braving the creepy corridor set up by their teachers and members of the senior pupil council. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped. They had a great time!

Litter Busters

Our Primary 1’s have been given a very important leadership role as “Litter Busters”! Most recently they ventured up Windy Hill and were shocked at the amount of litter they had found. The class persevered and collected tons of rubbish which will immensely help our plants and wildlife in our playground. Thank You and Well Done P1!

Eco Teddy Appeal

Our primary Eco Committee decided that too many teddies are abandoned when their owners get older and that they deserve to be loved. This led them to take initiative and get the teddies re-homed to not only be taken care of, but also help our environment by not wasting our toys! They put out posters and asked their community and class mates for help to give to those less fortunate this Christmas and managed to get loads of teddies donated. This is an amazing achievement as not only are they helping others, but they are helping save our planet! Well Done to our Eco Team!



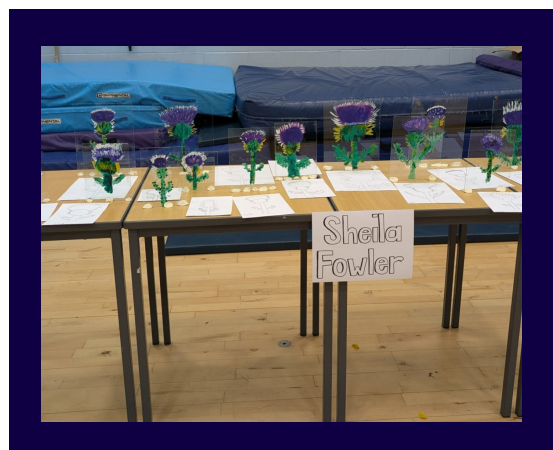
Primary

St Andrews Art Exhibition

This year we celebrated St Andrews Day with an art exhibition! We shared Scots inspired artworks from every class through the whole Primary School. The pupils took inspiration from all the great Scottish artists like Charles Rennie Macintosh, Sheila Fowlie, Lewis Deeney, and so many more.

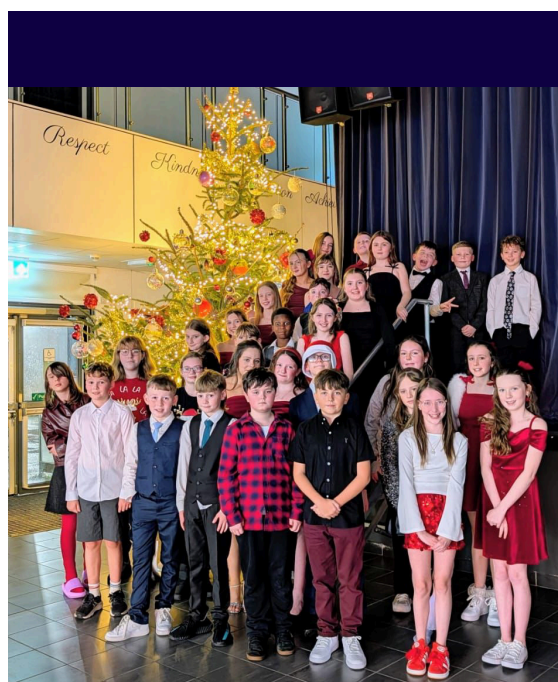
The pupils showed their talent off by welcoming people in our community to join us at the exhibition and they were very impressed. One visitor even gave a right Scots compliment and said it was “Pure Dead Brilliant”!

Congratulations to all our young artists and thank you to the staff and pupils who made it happen!



P7 Transition

We were delighted to host our P7 Christmas Dance as part of our transition programme. As well as our p7 pupils from the Primary, we also welcomed p7 pupils from St Andrews and North Bute. This is a great opportunity for the pupils to have a chance to meet people their age from our other local primary schools, and get to know them before they all join together in the Academy. It was a lovely evening full of ceilidh dancing, games and everyone loved seeing them all dressed up. We hope they all made some fantastic memories!



P7s at the Christmas Dance

Primary

Christmas Fayre

Our Primary 6's organised and ran a very successful Christmas fayre. It was full of fun, festive spirit. They made almost £600. It was a very full day with home crafts up for grabs, a bring and buy sale, a bake sale, competitions, and loads of games! We loved welcoming parents and carers to come and join in the festivities and hope everyone involved enjoyed themselves!



P1 Nativity

We had two lovely nativity performances from our Primary 1. All the children did extremely well and we were glad to see so many of our parents and carers there to watch. Thank you to the High Kirk for use of your beautiful church for our performances

Congratulations P1!



Christmas Parties

This last week of school was absolutely packed with our Christmas Parties. Everyone has had a chance to go down to the High Kirk and participate in games, social dancing and party fun with the rest of their class. The pupils were absolutely thrilled by every moment. You can tell from the pictures they had a smashing time, and all looked fabulous.



Primary

Primary Dates

5th January	School Reopens
8th January	P5 Forest Schools
15th January	P5 Forest Schools Parent Council Meeting 7pm- Online
19th - 23rd January	Open Afternoon week for perspective P1 parents
29th January	P4 Forest Schools
	P1&P2 Bookbug Session
5th February	P4 Forest Schools
	P1-P7 Neon Disco
6th February	School Closes for Holidays
16th February	In Service Day
17th February	School Reopens
19th February	P3a Forest Schools
25th February	P1 -P7 Celebration of Learning STEM
26th February	Primary Class Photo's
	P1&P2/1 BookBug Session
	P3a Forest Schools
5th March	P3a Forest Schools
12th March	P3b Forest Schools
18th March	Primary Parents Evening
19th March	Primary Parents Evening
20th March	Red Nose Day
26th March	P3b Forest Schools
	P1&P2/1 Bookbug Session
1st April	Primary Celebration of Learning
2nd April	P7 Easter Service
	School Closes for Holidays at 2.30pm

Academy

Halloween Disco

Our annual Halloween disco was once again a success this year thanks to our Captains, Pupil Council, Staff and S6's. Between the games, dancing, creepy corridor, and seeing everyone in their incredible costumes, the night was definitely one of the best discos this year.

Christmas Tree

Our Christmas tree was beautifully decorated with ornaments our pupils made themselves. Thanks to our Pupil Council and our S6's for their hard work crafting and decorating the tree. It looked fantastic!

Christmas Ceilidh

On Tuesday the 16th December we had a great night at our Academy Christmas Ceilidh. Thanks to Mr Lowe and the Bute Ceilidh band we were able to have a fun, dance filled night, with the help of the school captains, pupil council and staff.

It was lovely to see all our pupils in their best dress and we are proud to say they all gave it laldy!



Academy

Panto Trip

A huge thanks to Mr Canale, Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Morrison, Mr McIntyre and Mrs Harvey. We had an incredible trip to The Beacon Arts Centre for the Sleeping Beauty Pantomime. The panto was a fan favourite for its humour and was an amazing experience which lifted everyone's spirits. We all left The Beacon happier than when we arrived. Even after some trouble with cancelled ferries everyone got back to the island safely.



RAF STEM DAY

The S1 & S2 of the Academy and P6 & 7 of the Primary participated in the STEM program led by the Royal Air Force (RAF) to educate the next generation about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. They were educated by building LEGO™ robots and programmed them to race to the finish line and deliver the parcel.

Thank you to the RAF for helping our pupils to prepare for the future in STEM.



UNCRC ARTICLE 28

Every child has a right to education that develops their abilities, personality, and talents.



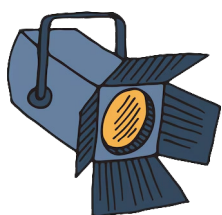
UNCRC ARTICLE 31

Every child has a right to rest, play, leisure, and cultural activities.

Academy

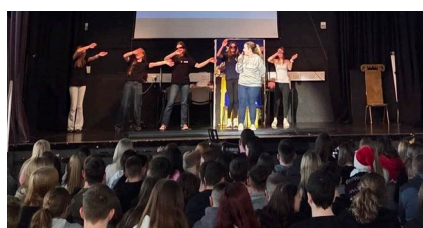
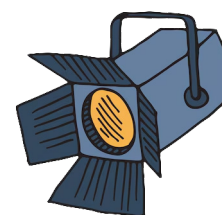
Pila Ski Trip

The Academy pupils are full of excitement as the ski trip to Pila left yesterday. For many pupils, this is their first time skiing, making it a brand new experience and a great opportunity to step outside their comfort zone. We wish everyone a wonderful time and an unforgettable trip.



Talent Show

On the last day of term we finished with a talent show to bring us into the festive spirit! Our S6's gave us a performance of "Nativity!" including songs from the movie, which they directed and choreographed themselves. Sam Feeney had a shot on the mic with some stand up comedy. Kassi Pragnell & Madeline McMillan sang 'Pink Pony Club' backed up by some dodgy dancers. Our Jazz band performed some numbers for us and two of our staff - Mrs McCrae and Mrs Davidson sang beautifully. Thank you to all of our acts for participating in the talent show, you all did a great job!



Academy

December Wellbeing Calendar

This year the Wellbeing Ambassadors put together a December wellbeing calendar featuring some christmassy things to do for each day. This calendar was designed to lift people's spirits and give them something to do every day on the countdown to Christmas. With things from "Christmas jumper day" to "make a Christmas decoration" there was always something to do. Along with the activities the ambassadors also created funny videos, what a great way to lift your wellbeing this Christmas.



Wellbeing Group

As a part of our mission to improve and support mental health as well as wellbeing throughout our school, our Wellbeing Ambassadors decided to branch out to our wider community to spread some Christmas cheer.

Over the past couple of weeks our ambassadors have been crafty, making little crochet gifts, Christmas cards, fudge and tablet to be handed out to local businesses and nominated individuals with the aim to create a more joyful atmosphere on our Island.

Our Ambassadors have also gifted over 75 Worry Worms to our primary ones, so they have a little friend to keep them safe. These were kindly donated to our Wellbeing group by Kirsty Wallace. The kids were overjoyed to receive them and absolutely loved them.



UNCRC ARTICLE 24

Every child has a right to the best possible healthcare, clean water, and nutritious food.

Academy

Academy Dates

5th January	School Reopens
11th January	Leave for Italy Ski Trip
15th January	Parent Council Meeting 7pm- Online
17th January	Arrive home from Italy Ski Trip
21st January	S4 Full Reports Issued
22nd January	Scottish Night
28th January	S5/6 Full Reports Issued
29th January	S4 Parents Evening
Week Beginning 2nd February	S4 Options Process Begins
4th February	S5/6 Parents Evening
6th February	School Closes for Holidays
16th February	In Service Day
17th February	School Reopens
19th February	S3 Tracking Reports Issued
24th February	S3 Parents Evening
Week Beginning 2nd March	S3 Options Process Begins
12th March	S2 Full Reports Issued
18th March	S1 Tracking Reports Issued
19th March	S2 Parents Evening
20th March	Red Nose Day
Week Beginning 23rd March	S2 Options Process Begins
26th March	S3 Tracking Reports Issued
2nd April	School Closes for Holidays at 2.30pm