April 2022

Dear P7 parent/carer,

I am writing to you at this important time in your young person’s school career to explain the next stage in Kilmarnock Academy’s primary 7 transition plan. We are delighted that all P7 pupils have had a number of visits from our staff this session and I am confident they have enjoyed a positive experience and enhanced contact with the school including:

* A visit from myself and Mr Rose, Head Teacher, to introduce our school in September/October 2021
* Our Modern Languages challenge in October 2021 which allowed the P7s to create some excellent French work with prize winners in every school.
* A virtual information evening in December 2021 to share key information with parents/carers and pupils.
* An exciting visit from our Social Subjects department in February 2022 to launch the Citizenship challenge with winners to be invited to KA after Easter.
* An S1 experience lesson delivered by myself and a video from our senior pupils in March 2022.

We have really enjoyed sharing all of these experiences with your young people and they really must be commended for how they have embraced our offerings and engaged with the work set by our teachers. The next lesson the P7s will experience will be delivered by our Maths department in their primary schools in late April/early May.

The next stage of our transition involves all P7 pupils from all schools visiting Kilmarnock Academy for our three day visit on **Wednesday 25th, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th May 2022.** This visit is an excellent opportunity for P7s to meet their new S1 classmates, meet their teachers and follow their S1 timetables – basically, they get to be S1 pupils for the day! Pupils should wear their primary uniforms and they will be transported to and from Kilmarnock Academy by primary school staff. Pupils should bring a snack for interval and are welcome to bring a packed lunch or enjoy free school meals for the three days from our school canteen to allow them to get the full secondary experience. The first two days of the visit will focus on meeting key staff, new classmates and following the S1 timetable with the third day being a P7 Science day (rescheduled from February). This will involve a fun day of experiments and activities in our Science department.

S1 class lists will be issued via primary 7 teachers the week before the 3 day visit. While we aim to ensure all young people are happy and comfortable and placed with someone they know well from P7, I would ask parents to appreciate that an important part of starting S1 is making new friends and to only contact the school if there is **an urgent issue with class placement. Classes won’t be changed to accommodate friendship groups.**

The primary 7s have clearly enjoyed all aspects of the transition so far and I am sure they will also make the most of their visit. Recent primary 7s have had a much more virtual transition due to the pandemic so we are extremely pleased and grateful that your children can have the full transition experience.

We look forward welcoming your young people to our school in May and to giving them the best start to S1 possible. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you require any information or have any concerns about transition.

Yours sincerely



Claire Wallace

Depute Head Teacher