



1. General Update

SQA Appeals

One hundred and sixty-five individual course results qualify against appeal criteria. Where pupils request that we submit an appeal on their behalf we will do so. Various information has been shared with pupils since the release of exam results. No pupils are awaiting priority appeals. All results will be communicated to pupils in late October/early November.

SQA Courses 2022/23

Prior to summer, SQA confirmed that course changes made in 2020/21 and refined in session 2021/22 would remain in place for session 2022/23. This means that in some subjects, course components will not be assessed e.g., Science Investigation.

We await clarity on whether study guides similar to those released in 21/22 will follow (in advance of examinations).

ParentPay

Parents/Carers of our new S1 pupils were issued with ParentPay letters on Friday afternoon and via email.

Lockers

Communication on securing a locker will be sent out shortly and following the conclusion of IT setup across all systems.

School Lunch Pre-Order System

All pupils wishing to purchase lunch should order online the night before. A video demonstrating how to order can be found here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/stjosephsacademy/2020/08/17/ordering-lunch/> .

Mrs Flanagan and Mr Dunn can resolve access issues. Manual orders will continue this week for S1 with costs posted to ParentPay.

NB – The portal has been down since school re-opened and all orders are being taken manually on site across all stages.

Glow

The overwhelming majority of S1-S6 pupils can now access Glow accounts and are assigned to Teams/Groups and Satchel: One classes correctly.

Satchel: One (ShowMyHomework)

S1 accounts are now synced. This morning, office staff started to email Satchel: One access codes to parents/carers of those in S1. Anyone else with access issues should contact the school request further support.

School Photographs

The photographer will be on site on Wednesday 24th August. Sibling groups taken first as per letter over summer.

EMA Applications

EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) learner agreements need to be scanned and sent electronically. If anyone needs their agreement scanned, please hand the paper version into the school office. Various reminders were sent over summer as to the steps that needed to be taken to register for EMA.

Working Time Agreement

The Working Time Agreement governs the use of staff time within each school. The WTA is agreed in collaboration with staff and professional association representatives and details the dates of parents' evenings and reports.

There are various levels of agreement, and the school level agreement sits below local authority level agreement. We have fully drafted Working Time Agreements (two versions), a school calendar and a letter detailing reporting and Parents' Evening dates. As soon as our school agreement can be signed off, we will release the school calendar and Reporting/Parents' Evening letter.

Improvement Planning and School Calendar

Our draft School Improvement Plan will be the main focus of this evening's meeting.

Calendar (Draft)

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/public/stjosephsacademy/uploads/sites/2043/2022/08/22125930/School-Calendar-2223-SJA-August-Draft.pdf>

School Improvement Plan (Draft)

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/public/stjosephsacademy/uploads/sites/2043/2022/08/22130001/St.-Josephs-SIP-2223.pdf>

Further Information

The termly update sent to all parents/carers in early August provides further detail in a respect of a range of matters.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/ea/public/stjosephsacademy/uploads/sites/2043/2022/08/15085328/St.-Josephs-Academy-Termly-Update-August-2022.pdf>

2. Staffing

The following staff joined us in August.

- Miss Fiddes – History, one year post
- Mrs Basharat – Modern Studies, Maternity Cover until April 2023
- Mr Dunn – Computing, one year contract
- Miss McLachlan – Music, one year contract (joining w/c 29th August 2022)
- Mr Avery – Support for Learning, one year contract
- Mr Mann – PT RE, permanent post (joining w/c 22nd August 2022)
- Mr Hamilton-Bulger – Classroom Assistant, backfilling Mrs Walker's post (seconded to internal PEF AP base post) for one year
- Miss Stephenson – Classroom Assistant, additional CORE allocation, at least one year (joining w/c 22nd August)
- Mrs Demir – Classroom Assistant, until Christmas 2022
- Miss McPike – Clerical Assistant, permanent contract
- Mrs Preston – Allocated on a short term cover basis for general supply

Returning staff

- Mrs Lloyd, PT English, has returned from maternity leave
- Miss McCrindle, AP Base, returned to continue to fill Miss Millar's maternity cover
- Mrs McMillan – Appointed to Clerical Assistant post previously held by Mrs McCormick

Seconded staff and staff on maternity leave

- Mrs Burnett remains on secondment at Education Scotland until February 2023
 - Mrs Parker had held Mrs Burnett's post on an Acting basis but has elected to return to her substantive PE teacher post. We thank Mrs Parker for her work as Acting PT Pastoral Care
 - Mrs Duthie will take on the Acting PT Pastoral Care post until Mrs Burnett's return from Education Scotland
- Miss Gibson (Modern Studies) remains on maternity leave until April 2023
- Miss Millar, AP Base remains on Maternity Leave until October 2023

The following teaching staff have moved on. Pleasingly, all staff employed here on a temporary basis or as newly qualified teachers secured permanent employment. This is testament to their hard work and that of Miss Blacklock (NQT Rector) and those staff supporting colleagues in departments last session.

- Mr Sikora, PT RE, retired
- Mr Ritson, Technical, Banff Academy, Aberdeenshire
- Miss Martin, Chemistry, Tiree High School, Argyll and Bute
- Miss McGrath, History, Robert Gordon's College (Independent School), Aberdeen
- Mrs Kennedy, English, St. Roch's Secondary School, Glasgow City Council
- Miss Yasin, English, Pendle Vale, England
- Mr Morrison, Computing, St. Andrew's RC Secondary, Glasgow City
- Mr Jones, Mathematics, Irvine Royal Academy, North Ayrshire
- Miss Ritchie, PE, Annan Academy, Dumfries and Galloway
- Mrs Steele, SfL/History/Modern Studies, Kilmarnock Academy, East Ayrshire
- Mr Griffin, Music, Dumfries High School, Dumfries and Galloway
- Mrs McCormack, Clerical Assistant, end of Secondment with EAC, taken on a new post within EAC

Mr Sikora and Mr Ritson accumulated over forty years' service to this community, and we wish them both well in the future. I would like to put on record my thanks to all staff to have moved on.

The following vacancies exist at the time of writing:

- Teacher of English – Deadline, 2nd September 2022
- Clerical Assistant - Date of advert to follow