



1. General Update

SQA Exams

SQA exams started today. Miss Quigley has already shared extensive information with pupils and parents/carers, including our study day and examination timetables and supporting guidance.

New Timetable

Our new S2-S4 timetable started today. During study leave, and given that the year groups remaining on site straddle the split between BGE and the Senior Phase, we will run only one lunch break daily from 1.15pm to 2.00pm.

New S5/6 pupils will return to classes formally on Monday 5th June with further information as to induction activities on Friday 2nd June to follow nearer the end of the exam diet.

S6 Final Day

Our S6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their final day celebrations, which included:

- Year Group Breakfast/Memory Lane/Quiz
- Year Group Mass
- Guard of Honour
- Ten Pin Bowling

We are very grateful to the Parent Council for funding received to purchase the breakfast. Young people behaved in an exemplary manner throughout the day.

Lenten Fundraising

Thanks to all pupils, parents and staff for contributions made to various fund raising events/sales/activities during Lent. A full breakdown on monies raised and how funds are allocated will be shared at the next Parent Council meeting.

Annual YPI Event

Hillhouse were the winner of our Annual Youth Philanthropy Initiative. The winning pupils presented on behalf of Hillhouse to our panel of judges and were assessed against various criteria, ranging from presentation to knowledge of the charity in question. The team representing Hillhouse were victorious and YPI funding will be released to the local charity in the coming weeks.

Work Experience

Accounting for feedback received following the last Parent Council meeting, further clarity is provided in terms of Work Experience.

Our anticipated S6 roll for session 23/24 is currently seventy-two and is projected to settle at around sixty-eight. We have an agreement with East Ayrshire's Council of Voluntary Organisations to pilot a work experience programme in June of this year with full rollout from September. All S6 pupils will be offered a

CVO work experience placement that will run for several weeks. Placements will align with free/study periods as much as possible.

- All pupils guaranteed placement
- Majority extend into several weeks unlike previous model
- CVO will allocate against intended career path/industry
- Pupils can still 'self-find' or access other work experience placements via the Chamber of Commerce
 - We cannot guarantee ongoing placement if this is the case
 - Relevant paperwork need be submitted
- S5 who are known to be leaving e.g. Christmas Leavers will also be given the opportunity to participate
- We continue to advise that for some careers (Medicine, Dentistry, Law etc.) pupils either aim to source work experience outwith school or attempt to secure part time work where possible

All CVO placements had to be risk assessed and logged with the chamber prior to launch, hence the delay this session.

School Holidays – Reminder

Remaining Holiday dates for pupils are as follows.

- Monday 1st May
- Monday 8th May
- Friday 26th May
- Monday 29th May
- Tuesday 30th May

The last day of term is Friday 30th June and school re-opens to pupils on Monday 21st August.

2. Staffing

Campus Head

Mr Kane has been appointed to the permanent post of Campus Head.

Teaching Vacancy

Our only permanent vacancy from August 2023 is in Computing Science, with the advert due to be released soon.