Parent Council – School Report Monday 26th February 2024

1. General Update



Options Process/Timetabling/Letters

Letters detailing options currently held on the system will be issued to all S2-S5 pupils by Wednesday, with a very short final window for changes before we start to create the schematic for next year.

Given the number of interviews, individual choices and subsequent changes, human error is always a possibility, so this short window allows parents/carers to have a final check before school staff proceed.

Thereafter, the generation of the timetable will always present some issues for a small number of learners. Re-interviews will take place with the awareness of parents/carers if necessary and as the column structure becomes known.

Non-statutory Transport

On Friday 16th February, East Ayrshire staff posted a message on the school app inviting responses to a questionnaire on proposed trial removal of subsidised transport services in May. This is part of the broader ongoing work to bring a formal consultation on potential removal of non-statutory transport at some point this year.

A number of parents/carers contacted the school to advise school staff of mistakes, errors and access issues. Please note, all issues raised were flagged with those staffing leading on this, and forms were updated.

A number of parents/carers also shared concern around turnaround time and the proposed timing of the trial removal.

School staff could not and cannot access the survey, nor can school staff provide further clarity on why dates that were proposed were proposed. Mr Kane has encouraged as many parents and pupils as possible (if affected by the trial) to use the form to record formally their perspective on what is being proposed.

The deadline for completion has now passed.

Cumnock Tryst – East Ayrshire Young Composers

Huge congratulations to all Higher and Advanced Higher Music students after their highly anticipated recital at St. Joseph's Parish Church, Kilmarnock. Pupils have worked with Sir James McMillan, Gillian Walker and other members of the Tryst to compose a range of their own world exclusives. All feedback received from last week's recital has been overwhelmingly positive. Thanks too to all Tryst staff, Miss Thomson and Miss Heron for the significant time invested in supporting our pupils.

Study Guide Event

On Thursday of this week, we will host an event targeted at all parents/carers of current S4-S6, whereby individual subject specialists will share revision tips and advice in advance of the exams. The sign up link remains live until midnight.

Guide to Tracking and Monitoring

Mrs Marshall will join us again at our next meeting to receive feedback from the Parent Council in respect of guidance shared at our last meeting.

2. Staffing

The annual staffing exercise is underway, with an update on projected school roll and teaching staff figures likely in April.

There is one full time Physics post out to advert, with two applicants. Interviews will take place on Wednesday 28th February 2024.