

## Parent Council – School Report

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024



FIDELIS - JUSTUS - PRUDENS

### 1. General Update

#### Non-Statutory Subsidised Transport

East Ayrshire Council Cabinet has announced their decision to end non-statutory subsidised transport from June 2025. This means that any pupil using the school bus when residing within the three mile statutory limit will no longer have access to subsidised services, and must use alternative transport to get to school.

One point of clarity will be queried in terms of incidental pick up, for example, when a bus from Mauchline/Auchinleck/Cumnock passes through Hurlford, some pupils in Hurlford and surrounding areas do qualify for access to the bus and others do not. Where seating capacity allows, we will determine with transport their intention or otherwise to continue to allow pupils to use services within Hurlford if just outside the area of limit.

#### Park School Consultation

School staff shared with all parents/carers the link to the final consultation paper and response area. As many parents as possible are encouraged to complete a return by the deadline of Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2024.

[Education consultation | Engagement East Ayrshire \(east-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/education-consultation)

Pupils will soon receive a pupil friendly survey for completion.

#### SQA Appeals and Prelim Timetable

All appeals outcomes were shared by SQA prior to the October break.

The 2024 prelim timetable will be issued to pupils by close of day on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024.

#### Reporting and Parents' Evenings

S5/6 Parents' Evening was held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October. S2 Reports were issued on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

The following Parents' Evening and Reporting dates are relevant prior to our next Parent Council meeting.

S3 Parents' Evening – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024

S4 Reports Issued – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024

S2 Parents' Evening – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024

#### Attainment

Parent Council members were shown attainment for SQA diet 2024/25. School level performance is excellent against all measures, and outperforms the VC and other local schools on almost all measures.

## **Mock Interviews**

All S4-S6 pupils will have the opportunity to undergo a Mock Interview with a range of Business partners this week. Our Mock Interview programme is extensive, with over thirty professionals joining us in school to offer fifteen minute interviews and feedback. This is invaluable for pupils looking to secure employment, training or further/higher education places.

## **All Saints' Day**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November is All Saints Day, and Holy Day of Obligation. Due to the availability of our chaplains and shared access to the hall, our chaplains will celebrate a Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Mass in school for all pupils and staff after lunch on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## **Catholic Education Week/Fortnight**

All local parishes have identified preferred Mass times across two weekends as we celebrate Catholic Education Week. At the time of writing, St. Joseph's staff will be represented at every identified Mass across all parishes. We are awaiting confirmation from parish priests of pupil attendees on a weekly basis, and those pupils may be asked to take on a specific role during Mass.

Timings are as follows.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November

5.30pm, St. Sophia's, Galston

6.00pm, St. Joseph's, Kilmarnock

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November

9.30am, St. Paul's, Hurlford

11.00am, St. Joseph's, Kilmarnock

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

6.00pm, Our Lady and St. Patrick's, Auchinleck

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November

9.00am, St. Thomas the Apostle, Muirkirk

9.30am, St. Matthew's, Kilmarnock

11.00am, St. John's, Cumnock

11.30am, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kilmarnock

## **Cross Country**

A number of our pupils competed in the Ayrshire cross country event last week, with Archie Arthur taking 1<sup>st</sup> place in his race, and a number of pupils performing well. Full formal results are yet to be shared with us. Well done to all involved.

## **2. Staffing**

### **Technical Teacher (Full Time)**

We are still unable to attract any applicants for the post of Technical teacher. Previously communicated arrangements remain in place for S4 and S5 sections. S3 sections will now be collapsed where possible. The post will go back out to advert again, but as things stand, full time provision is unlikely this academic session.

### **Teacher of Chemistry – 0.4FTE (Mondays and Tuesdays)**

Mr John Fleming will join us on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

### **Classroom Assistant Vacancies**

Recruitment of classroom assistants remains ongoing. We are currently operating well below our annual allocation. First interviews are set to take place on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Teacher of Modern Studies – Maternity Leave**

Interviews to fill this maternity cover post take place on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Teacher of Support for Learning**

We will shortly have a vacancy for the post of Teacher of Support for Learning. The post should be advertised in mid-November, with the current post holder moving onto a new post in early December.