

Vol 2013/14  
1 October 2013

# ***Williamwood High School***

## ***PARENTS' NEWSLETTER***

e-mail: [schoolmail@williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

website: [www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk](http://www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

twitter page: [twitter.com/#!/WilliamwoodHS](https://twitter.com/#!/WilliamwoodHS)

Tel: 0141 577 2500

Fax: 0141 577 2545



Dear Parent,

### **NEWS OF RECENT EVENTS**

The first seven weeks of term have been busy and have featured a number of events. With the assistance of a group of S6 deutes, I have posted information about the most significant of these on the school website ([www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk](http://www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk)). For your convenience, I have listed below news items which have been put on the school website since the start of session:

- o parking around schools;
- o annual data check;
- o SQA examination results 2013 (Microsoft PowerPoint);
- o race night for Malawi project on Friday, 13 September;
- o congratulations to Isobel and James Miller;
- o Williamwood girls assist at World Netball Championships;
- o new national qualifications;
- o S1 parents' information evening on Tuesday, 17 September;
- o the Maher project;
- o PTA ladies' pamper evening - Friday, 20 September;
- o PTA recycling initiative;
- o Williamwood supporting pupils in Ghana;
- o senior awards' ceremony;
- o author Sophie McKenzie's visit to Williamwood;
- o race night for Malawi;
- o Williamwood World Challenge 2013;
- o careers' evening on 29 October;
- o autumn jazz festival on 10 October;
- o Williamwood STEM fair on 2 October;
- o study skills workshop for parents on 23 October (new date);
- o Kyle and Connor spend the day with Valencia FC coaches;
- o S1 information evening;
- o 6k fun run for St Andrew's Hospice;
- o September weekend holiday;
- o October holiday activities; and
- o art and design visit to exhibition.

### **TEXT MESSAGING, SCHOOL WEBSITE AND TWITTER**

I am keen to use text messaging, the school's website and Twitter to communicate information and news to parents. The website is regularly updated with news items, details of pupils' achievements and other important information. It also has a link to Twitter, which now has 930 'followers'.

### **WILLIAMWOOD VIDEO COMING SOON**

During May and June I arranged for a video recording to be made of a number of activities and events to reflect the very busy life of our school. I have seen the first cut of this video and I believe it is something parents and pupils will enjoy watching. When it is finished, I shall put a link to the video on the school website.

### EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE IN THE SQA EXAMINATIONS

Our pupils have again performed to an exceptionally high standard in the 2013 SQA examinations, achieving Williamwood’s best ever set of results at Higher. The table below provides a summary of the results over the last eight years at Intermediate 2 (S4) and Higher (S5). I am also delighted to report that 42 pupils in S5 achieved five A grades in their Highers.

Year	National Performance Measure	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
S4	5 or more A-C awards at Intermediate 2	63%	69%	74%	76%	72%	73%	80%	<b>79%</b>
S5	3 or more A-C awards at Higher	50%	51%	59%	63%	70%	62%	65%	<b>74%</b>
S5	5 or more A-C awards at Higher	27%	27%	35%	41%	47%	39%	46%	<b>53%</b>

Figures are given as percentages of the S4 roll

### STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

You may know that many of our pupils use *study cards* to help them revise and prepare for class tests and other examinations. During recent years, we have organised evening workshops for parents so that they can see at first hand how this method works. The next parents’ workshop will be held from 7.00pm until 8.30pm on Wednesday, 23 October. If you are interested in attending, please complete the tear-off slip on the (previously issued) letter and return it to the school office as soon as possible. I have also put a copy of the letter on the school website [www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk](http://www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk).

### DATES FOR YOU DIARY - OCTOBER 2013

Oct	01	Tue-Fri	S4 work experience week
	02	Wed	STEM fair for S1/S2 pupils and their parents (5.30pm until 8.30pm)
	06	Sun	Poland trip for S4/S5 pupils departs (6 days)
	07	Mon	Parent Council meeting at 7.00pm
	07	Mon	S2 disco' in The Street
	08	Tue	Paris trip for S3 pupils departs (4 days)
	08	Tue	Meeting of the PTA at 7.00pm
	09	Wed	Advanced Higher art and design exhibition - The Street (evening)
	10	Thu	'Dress As You Please' (non-uniform) day
	10	Thu	S4 tracking reports issued to parents
	10	Thu	Autumn jazz festival at 7.00pm
	11	Fri	In-Service Day 3 - pupils do not attend school
	14-18	Mon-Fri	October holiday week
	21	Mon	Pupils return to school
	22	Tue	S3 and S6 photographs in The Street
	23	Wed	Study skills evening workshop for parents (7.00pm until 8.30pm)
	25	Fri	S3 tracking reports issued to parents
	28	Mon	Meeting of the PTA at 7.00pm
	29	Tue	Careers' evening for S2/S4/S5 and S6 and their parents (7.00pm until 9.00pm)
	30	Wed	S5/S6 disco' in The Street

Please remember that parents are able to view the full school calendar on the school website at [www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk](http://www.williamwood.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

John Fitzpatrick  
Headteacher