



Information for Parents

Welcome

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I wrote to you in October to express my gratitude and thanks for your continued support with Fourth Year. Since the previous letter the young people have continued to work extremely hard in class as well as enjoy many opportunities outside of the class room. This letter will provide some useful information with regards to Fourth Year and hopefully continue to reassure you that every young person in St Ninian's High School is fully supported in all that they do.

The following provides a brief summary of important information pertinent to all pupils. Please be mindful of our very informative school website and twitter which are updated on a daily basis. If you require any clarification please do not hesitate to contact pastoral teachers or myself.

Our Learning & Teaching

Pupils are currently working through courses in line with the National Qualification guidelines. In order for your child to continue to be successful in their studies it is important that they utilise all of the support available to them such as supported evenings as highlighted on our website and twitter.

Departments are working hard to provide a great deal of support by offering extra tuition at break times or through after school clubs and supported study. Within departments all staff are using up to date tracking information to target support in classes and, where applicable, using additional staffing to work with smaller groups of students. The response to this level of support from Fourth Year has been encouraging and I would like to ask you to continue to encourage your child to use all of the support that is available to them.

The Scottish Qualification Authority have introduced, in most subjects, an internally assessed assignment or piece of work. This internal coursework will contribute to a proportion of the final grade awarded. In order to help our young people prepare fully for these assignments teachers have given them notice in advance and have ensured that all pupils are fully prepared for these. In my previous letter I issued a brief summary and calendar of each subject's element of internal assessment; this has been posted this online.

Skills For Learning Life and Work DYW

Literacy



Numeracy



Thinking





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Our School & Community

Every pupil in Fourth Year had the opportunity to attend a one week long work experience placement during the month of November. I am pleased to say that young people found this an extremely valuable and enjoyable programme. Pupils are now reflecting on this experience through a programme of work in PSHE. Programme's such as our Work Experience Week highlight our commitment to *Developing Scotland's Young Workforce* however, developing the skills required for learning and life and work started early in the Primary Sector and continue to be developed through highly engaging and challenging lessons across a wide range of subjects.

Our *S4 Information Evening* (Thursday 25th October) was a highly successful evening. I would like to thank you for supporting this evening. The success of our young people can be attributed to the effective link between the home and the school; family engagement and learning activities such as our 'study skills' evening contribute to this vision. Following this evening **every pupil** in Fourth Year received a free study pack which contained materials useful for beginning to plan study timetables and revise for upcoming assessments. I would like to thank South Lanarkshire College for their support with this initiative.

Information from this evening can be found on our school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/2018/10/26/s4-information-evening-thank-you/>

Pupils in Fourth Year have also had to opportunity to participate in many co-curricular activities this year. Educational trips to Berlin, Salamanca and Stratford ensured pupils were immersed in other cultures and allowed them to form lasting friendships with their peers. I was also pleased to see so many pupils not only participating during in school activities but taking a lead role in groups such as the after school dance classes. A focus for this year has been to encourage pupils to continue with their interests whilst managing their study commitments. Please follow our twitter account for up to date information.

<https://twitter.com/stninianshigh>

Skills For Learning Life and Work DYW

Employability



Leadership



Digital Learning



Creativity





Information for Parents

Our Health & Wellbeing

The Health & Wellbeing of every young person continues to be our main priority. In addition to all of the positive physical & spiritual health opportunities that we offer we have been promoting positive mental health with Fourth Year pupils.

Through PSHE lessons and assemblies pupils have had presentations from various members of staff and young people emphasising how it is important to be conscious of strategies available to support positive mental health; especially in fourth year. We continue to remind pupils of all of the opportunities available to them and support them with the planning of programmes to support both studying and co-curricular opportunities. On 10th October we supported Mental Health Awareness day with various displays and a bake sales for Mental Health Charities.

In the school there are 'Positive Mental Health Boards' which highlight effective strategies and sources of support which pupils can access. Throughout this year we have planned several external speakers to come and visit Fourth Year and will continue to promote Positive Mental Health on our main school website and our Mental Health Website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/snhpositivementalhealth/>

Our Relationships

As a Community of Faith we are continually reminded of the values of love, truth, justice and peace. We have been celebrating the Centenary of Catholic Education in mainstream education through a series of events and services. Fourth Year remain committed to the Faith Life of the school through their support at these services as well as their day to day actions in the school. I am pleased to continue to invite you to Holy Mass on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8.25am in our school Oratory. It is wonderful to see our Oratory busy with staff, young people and families. Our young people are happy and eager to share their commitment to their faith with others. They have demonstrated their willingness to reach out and help others through their involvement in the faith life of the school.

We have published an excellent audit of the Faith Life of the school which can be found here:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/2018/10/25/faith-audit/>

Skills For Learning Life and Work DYW

HWB



Leadership



Thinking



Leadership





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Our Successes and Achievement

Fourth Year continue to fully participate in activities both in and out of school. The various sports teams deliver success in local and national events, pupils have had reviews published for film club, representing the school at various national events and also representing their local communities at events such as the Community Sports Hub of the year and a national multi-cultural football festival.

We continue to promote the success of our pupils on our website (below) and would like to hear of all of their out of school success via an online form which can also be access below:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians>

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/achievement/>

Useful Information

Please continue to check our website and social media platforms for daily updates about events happening in the school and local community. Fourth Year pupils can access year group specific materials through the dedicated S4 Microsoft Teams Site (accessed via GLOW).

To access SQA Information (Prelims / Study leave / Exam Timetable):

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/information/sqa/>

School Calendar:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/school-calendar-2018-19-3/>

School Plan (Year 3)

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/files/2018/10/School-Plan-16-19-Year-3-18-19-pdf.pdf>

Pupil Standards and Quality Report

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/StNinians/2018/10/25/pupil-standards-and-quality-overview/>

Skills For Learning Life and Work DYW

Creativity



Employability



HWB

