

KIRKCALDY HIGH SCHOOL



Dunnikier Way, Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland. KY1 3LR

E-mail: Kirkcaldyhs.enquiries@fife.gov.uk

www.fifedirect.org.uk/kirkcaldyhs

Twitter: @KirkcaldyHigh

Tel: (01592) 583405

Date: 04/04/25

Our Ref:

Dear Parent / Carer,

End of term letter – April 2025

I am delighted to share with you an update from our third term of the session. This has been a long, busy but very productive term. We have had SQA assignments, practicals and course assessments taking place, assemblies with key focus around UNCRC and young people's rights and of course option choices, DYW events and much, much more. In the middle of February, we also had a team from Fife Council support our ongoing improvements focussing on leadership across the school. This was very favourable and helped to support our continued work in this area.

A huge thank you to all parents / carers for your ongoing support over the term. We are very grateful for this and know that the continued partnership between school and home is invaluable.

SQA

Young people in S4-6 will return after the Easter break for 3 days. Study leave starts on Thursday 24th April and concludes on Friday 30th May inclusive. Individual exam timetables have been issued and further information about the exams can be found in the attached letters.

For learners in S6, we will have an awards ceremony on Tuesday 22nd April at 2.45pm. S6 will spend their final day at Bedlam Paintball on Wednesday 23rd April. S6 learners need to be at the buses for 8.30am. Mrs Davidson will share further information.

For those S4s who do not have National 5 exams for any subject, there will be a learning programme over study leave based around developing skills for learning, life and work. Mrs Hume will be in touch directly if your child is involved in this.

For all examinations, there will be a masterclass the day before the exam with colleagues from the relevant subject / faculty. A timetable of these classes is attached to this letter.

Vision, Values and Aims

Over the past two terms, we have been consulting with young people and colleagues around our Vision, Values and Aims as a school community. Specifically, we have been looking at our values and consulting on whether these need to be amended as we continue to move forward in our improvement journey.



Rector : Mr Chris McKay

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Overwhelmingly, those consulted feel strongly that Respect should remain a core value for us as a community. In addition, it is clear that those surveyed so far feel that we need to add to this with aspiration, success and kindness emerging as values important to our school community.

We are now at the point of seeking the views of families and partners. To that end, can I ask you to complete a short survey to share your views on what should be our core values? Please complete this by clicking on this link: [Vision, Values and Aims - Family views](#).

Positive Relationships Policy

As you may be aware from the last letter, we trialled a new approach to positive relationships with S1 and a few faculties this term. Mrs Gibb had consulted with learners, families and our staff group prior to undertaking this. The trial has helped to highlight some key areas to improve but it was a great success and we will be looking to implement this during term 4. We will be in contact with you to share the policy and start date next term.

Change of Timetable

This session, we are seeking to change timetable earlier than previous years. The change of timetable will take place on Monday 12th May 2025. Learners in S1-3 will receive their new timetables the Friday prior to this change. Those returning from S4/5 will receive their new timetables when they come in for their induction at the end of May. This means your child(ren) will move up their new year group with their new year head from this date.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Over this term, our learning, teaching and assessment school improvement group have been developing our new learning standard. This has included seeking the views of our learners. Next term, we will share this with the community and invite feedback. Over the course of next term, we will be implementing this new standard to ensure all young people receive the same high quality learning experience across all areas.

Homework

Thank you to parents/carers for their support with our S1 homework trial over terms 2 and 3. This will be reviewed and plans for S2 will be incorporated into a whole school homework policy over term 4.

Homework will continue to be a beneficial part of learning across all levels to allow children at KHS reach their potential. We will consult with you on the updated policy in due course.

Dunnikier Play Park - Good Neighbours

Over the past two terms, we continue to have reports from residents in Dunnikier about our young people accessing the new play park at break and lunch. Unfortunately, some young people are leaving a lot of rubbish, vandalising the new equipment and there has been reports of some anti-social behaviour from our young people towards families accessing the park. Although this is small number of young people, we are keen to support our community and ask that you discuss this with your child(ren). We are, and want

to continue to be, good neighbours to our local community. Staff from KHS have been a presence in the area but we need your support in talking to young people about this.

Staffing

I wanted to update you on some staffing changes taking place for next term.

Fiona Spence (admin coordinator) has decided to leave her post to move on to new adventures away from KHS and left on Wednesday 2nd April. Fiona was a long standing member of our school and around 30 years of dedicated service within the roles she undertook. We wish Fiona well in the future. Hazel Lowson will take on the admin coordinator role full-time following Fiona's departure.

Mr McCowan has been overseeing our DYW work over the last year or so. Mr McCowan has decided to step back from this at Easter. We thank Mr McCowan for all of his work in this area.

Ms C Henderson (Teacher of Art) is leaving KHS following the end of her temporary contract. We wish Ms Henderson well for her future.

Ms E Dewar (Teacher of HE) is leaving KHS following the end of her temporary contract. We wish Ms Dewar well for her future.

Mrs Logue (Teacher of RME) is finishing up for the start of her maternity leave today. We wish Mrs Logue and family the very best for the future.

Over the Easter break, Ms Collins, PT HE, is getting married. On our return, Ms Collins will be known as Mrs Moerman. I am sure you will join me in wishing Ms Collins well for her upcoming special day.

Finally, Mrs Little has given birth to a beautiful baby boy named Lauchie. All are doing well. We wish Mrs Little and her family the best for the fun times ahead.

Notable dates for the session ahead

Term 4

21st April – Return to school following Easter break

24th April – S4-6 begin study leave

25th April – First SQA Exam – Computing Science

5th May – May holiday

6th May – Parent and Carers of Kirkcaldy High School (PACK) Meeting 6.30pm online

12th May – Change of Timetable S1-3 move to S2 - 4

16th May – S1-3 Tracking report 4

29th May – SQA Exams finish

30th May – S5/6 Induction

2nd June – June holiday

3rd June – INSET Day 5 (school closed to learners)

4th June – All new S2-6 return to school

17th June – Annual Prizegiving ceremony

18th and 19th June – P7 Welcome days

20th June – S6 Prom

3rd July – Last day of session, non school uniform day

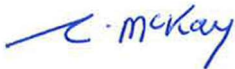
Parent Council – Provisional dates (1 meeting per term):

Term 4: w/b 5th May 2025

Parent Council meetings take place online (TEAMS). All parents / carers are welcome. Agenda and link will be sent out to all parents / carers the week prior to the meeting.

Finally, I hope you find the information contained in this letter useful. Thank you to all families for your support over this term. I look forward to working with you and your child(ren) over the coming term. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can support in any way.

Best wishes,



Chris McKay

Rector