



**Hillhead High School**  
Oakfield Avenue  
Glasgow G12 8LJ  
Phone 0141 582 0100

**Head Teacher**  
K McAlaney

**26<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family are well. It has been wonderful to welcome back some S5&S6 pupils this week in our Technologies and Expressive Arts faculties in order to allow them to complete practical work. All S5&S6 pupils are reminded to check their year group Teams pages on a daily basis and also attend Mr Neil's Virtual Assemblies on a Friday afternoon to ensure they are up to date with information, are clear on all of the health and safety procedures and know if they are timetabled to come in next week. If you have any queries, please get in touch with Mr Neil - as always email addresses are at the end of this newsletter or you can phone the school any day between 9.00am and 3.00pm.

This week's bulletin has some information on events taking place next week, plans for tracking reports and an update on options process for current S2, S3 and S5 pupils. A separate letter has been sent out about Free School Meals and this is also on our website here:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/2021/02/26/letter-from-maureen-mckenna-free-school-meal-update/>

There is also a separate attachment with information on all of the virtual clubs and groups that are taking place at the moment which are a great way for pupils to connect with each other outside of the virtual classroom setting.

### **Wellbeing**

Thank you to all who attended last week's online Wellbeing session. All of the material has been added to our website here:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/2021/02/19/wellbeing-information-evening-presentation/>

Dr John Paul Fitzpatrick who has been working with our school for several years on resilience and wellbeing is now also working in partnership with Glasgow City Parents Group (GCPG). He is hosting a webinar for parents and carers next Tuesday at 7.00pm called **Keep the Heid: Beating the Lockdown Blues**. To find out more you can watch this clip here:

<https://youtu.be/KmYBBS1N4cA>

If you want to sign up you can do so here:

<https://www.bigmarker.com/TeachMindset/Glasgowparents>

### **S1 Information Evening: Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> March 6.00pm-6.45pm**

Mrs Campbell will lead this online Information Session for parents/carers of S1 pupils. All





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information has been put on the year group Teams page and parents/carers can join the meeting through your child's iPad. Any questions in advance of the session, please contact Mrs Campbell.

### **World Book Day – Drop Everything and Read**

As you may be aware we normally have a couple of Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R) days during the school year where staff and pupils stop what they are doing to read for half an hour. We cannot be together at the moment to do this but for World Book Day on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Miss Rothery has arranged a virtual Drop Everything and Read Event. Information has been shared with staff and also on pupil year group Teams pages and we would encourage all of our school community to take part if you can.

### **Tracking Reports**

During March tracking reports will be sent out for all year groups. These have been adapted to fit current circumstances and we plan to send these electronically to parents via email and to pupils via Glow email addresses. If we do not have a current email address for you, please get in touch with the school next week – if you are not receiving this bulletin and other messages via email then we do not have your email address on file.

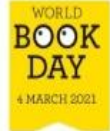
As always, if you have any concerns about your child's engagement with learning, please contact your child's Pastoral Care Teacher or Depute Head Teacher to discuss. All of the Depute Head Teachers also have virtual office hours and can arrange a Teams meeting with you and your child if that would be helpful.


### **Options Process for S2, S3 and S5 pupils**


As is usual at this time of year, depending on year group, pupils are at different stages of the options choice process. The following is a summary of the situation for each year group involved in making choices for the session ahead:

*The English department cordially invite you to join us in a virtual  
**Drop Everything and Read!***

*World Book Day is on  
Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 2021.  
Take time to enjoy a good book whenever you can during the day!*



 *Tweet us a picture of yourself reading or the book your currently reading @EnglishDept\_HHS*

 *Alternatively, you can email us your DEAR picture to:  
[Gw15rotheryemma@glow.sch.uk](mailto:Gw15rotheryemma@glow.sch.uk)*



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### S2 Moving to S3:

- Pupils were asked to either identify final options or request a pastoral care consultation ahead of a deadline on 12.02.21. Following this the pastoral care team have been in contact with all pupils who made a request. The collection of options choices from pupils has now led to the structure of S3 classes now being established. We are pleased to say that all pupils have had their choices satisfied at this point.

### S3 Moving to S4

- Pupils were previously asked to participate in a Scoping Exercise where they identified four options, by order of preference, along with a fifth, reserve option, that they would wish to embark on for the two year pathway through S4 and S5.
- The information gathered has allowed an options structure to be created. This is published at the web link below. This structure maximises the number of pupils able to access their top 4 options.
- S3 pupils have been updated continuously on their year group teams page. Advanced notice has been given that on the afternoon of 26.02.21 they will receive information about the 'Next Steps' options choice exercise. Through the week beforehand a number of documents have been released to enhance pupil understanding and reduce anxiety levels.
- On Monday 01.03.21 all S3 pupils will receive a 3 part e-letter marked FAO parents and carers. As part of this package there will be an individually addressed letter explaining the 'Next Steps' choice exercise.
- All pupils must participate in the 'Next Steps' options choice exercise by midnight Sunday 07.03.21. This will be to either confirm options, or to request support through the pastoral care team.
- From Monday 08.03.21 the pastoral care team will begin to make contact with those who have requested a consultation as part of the 'Next Steps' options choice exercise.
- All announcements, support and information resources are available here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/curriculum/curriculum-architecture/option-choice-explained-s3-into-senior-phase/s3-into-senior-phase-options-portal/>



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## S5 Moving to S6

- Mr Neil and Mr Brown will brief S5 pupils on the Scoping Exercise for them at an online assembly Friday 05.03.21. At this the importance of the Scoping Exercise will be explained. All pupils must participate in this so as to ensure that the fairest and most appropriate decisions are made as regards to the set and combination of options available for the S6 year group 2021-22. Options offered are dependent on demand so it is vital that all pupils let the school know what options they wish to follow for next years S6.
- As well as updating the year group teams page the latest announcements, support and information resources are posted here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/curriculum/curriculum-architecture/s5-into-s6-options/>

Kind regards,

Mrs K. McAlaney

### Contact Information

Our school office will be open from 9.00am-3.00pm each day to answer phone calls. Below are contact email addresses for members of the leadership team in the school.

### Questions about iPads:

Miss Cuthbertson [gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10cuthbertsonelain@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Tait [gw16taitdavid1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw16taitdavid1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Brown [gw17brownstuart@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw17brownstuart@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**Do not have adequate wi-fi at home:** Ms Higgins: [gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### Pastoral Care

Miss Hewitt – [gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Ms Robinson – [gw16robinsonlynsey1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw16robinsonlynsey1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Greechan – [gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Mr Griffin – [gw10griffinbrian@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10griffinbrian@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

Miss Campbell – [gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

### Support for Learning, EAL and Nurture:

Miss McGuire - [gw17mcguiresiobhan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw17mcguiresiobhan@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)





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**Questions about Wider Achievement, College, Work Experience, Foundation Apprenticeships & Careers:**

Contact Mr Richardson - [gw12richardsonjack@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw12richardsonjack@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**Senior Leadership Team:**

**S1 & S2 pupils:** Mrs Campbell - [gw10campbellharriet@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10campbellharriet@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**S3 Pupils** –Miss Black [gw15blackleanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw15blackleanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**S4 Pupils** – Ms Higgins [gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**S5 and S6 pupils** – Mr Neil [gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**Head Teacher:** [gw10mcalaneykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:gw10mcalaneykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk)

**Parent Council:** [hillheadhighparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:hillheadhighparentcouncil@gmail.com)

