



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

Head Teacher
K McAlaney

31st March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of term. I would like to thank you all for your support during the past 12 weeks as we have all coped with a return to remote learning in January, the return of some S5&S6 pupils for practical work from the end of February and finally the phase 2 timetable for the last three weeks. The current expectation is that all pupils will return to school full-time on Tuesday 20th April. Therefore, unless there are any further updates from the Scottish Government during the holiday we are expecting to see all pupils returning on Tuesday 20th April following their normal timetable. Pupils should be in their school uniform though they should continue to wear their PE kit on the days they have PE until further notice.

Remote Learning Superstars

We know that this term, and indeed this school year, has been challenging for everyone and that nothing beats being together in school as normal but it is important to celebrate all that has been achieved in extraordinary circumstances and so we are working on a presentation highlighting some of the successes of this term. All pupils have been invited to share something they are proud of from this term – for example, it could be a piece of work, a praise certificate they received, developing their fitness or making a family meal – and Miss Southern and Miss Lawrie are collating these into a presentation we can share when we return.

Broad General Education (BGE) Reconnection Sessions

As you are aware S1-S3 pupils have been attending one session a week for the past 3 weeks and it has been wonderful to see them back in school. These sessions have focussed on reconnection with peers, with staff and with the school community and have gone very well indeed. This week, pupils have received two gifts in their pack to take home:



- A small token of thanks to parents/carers from staff at Hillhead High. Your support and partnership over the past few months has meant a great deal.
- A copy of the book *You are Awesome* by Matthew Syed. This is a journal with a range of tasks pupils can complete to help boost confidence and support with wellbeing.





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S1&S2 Sustainability Lessons

Over the past two weeks S1&S2 pupils have also been taking part in a range of activities developed by Sustainable Scotland and Keep Scotland Beautiful and accessed via West OS and it has been wonderful to see what they have produced and shared. We have shared some examples on our school Twitter account @HillheadHS and will be collating more examples to share when we return.

Tracking Reports

Any S4, S5 & S6 Tracking reports that were not picked up by pupils were posted out last week. If you have not received your child's report, please contact Ms Higgins (S4) or Mr Neil (S5&S6) – as always all contact information is at the end of this newsletter. S1, S2 and S3 Tracking reports are being issued to pupils when they are in school this week and will be posted out if pupils are not in school. If you have any queries please contact Mrs Campbell (S1&S2) or Miss Black (S3). There will be a new set of tracking reports issued next term to all year groups.

School Holidays and In-service Days

As you may remember the Inservice Day in February was postponed for Glasgow secondary schools until Monday 19th of April. This session, an Alternative Certification Model (ACM) has been implemented by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) due to the cancellation of all examinations for National Qualifications. As a result teachers will have additional duties to develop assessments to formulate the provisional grades that are sent to the SQA and the Scottish Government has decided to implement two additional school Inservice Days for secondary schools. In Glasgow, these additional dates are in June. The list below outlines all holidays and Inservice Days for next term.

- **Thursday 1st April:** School closes at 2.30pm for the Spring break.
- **Monday 19th April:** School closed to pupils. Staff Inservice Day.
- **Tuesday 20th April:** Pupils return to school.
- **Monday 3rd May:** May Day holiday.
- **Thursday 6th May:** School closed to pupils. Staff Inservice Day.
- **Friday 28th & Mon 31st May:** School closed for May holiday.
- **Tuesday 1st June:** School closed to pupils. Additional staff SQA Inservice Day
- **Monday 7th June:** School closed to pupils. Additional staff SQA Inservice Day
- **Thursday 24th June:** School closes at 1.00pm for the Summer Holiday.
- **Monday 16th August:** Pupils return to school.



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Asymptomatic Testing Programme (Lateral Flow Tests)

As you know our school is participating in the Schools Asymptomatic Testing Programme which is part of the package of COVID-19 risk reduction mitigations in schools across Scotland. We have had a high uptake of this offer from S4 – S6 who have been in school over the past month and once we return after the break S1-S3 pupils can also take part. Letters were sent home last week to pupils and lateral flow test kits have been issued this week to those who returned consent forms so that pupils can test themselves before returning to school. You can also find a copy of the letter on our website here:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/2021/03/31/asymptomatic-testing-programme-lateral-flow-tests/>

S5&S6 - SQA Alternative Certification Model

Mr Neil and Miss Black held a meeting earlier this month to outline plans for how evidence will be gathered for S5&S6 pupils in light of SQA exams being cancelled. All of this information has been added to our website and shared with pupils on Teams pages and Mr Neil has continued to share information via virtual assemblies on Friday afternoons, class visits and also his virtual office. There will be a small number of in-school practical sessions taking place over the Spring Break, in line with current H&S guidelines and all pupils have been reminded over the past few weeks of the range of revision support available online – including through e-sgoil. When pupils return after the break they will all be issued with a study pack of resources as well as information on targeted supported study sessions in April and May as well as route maps for evidence gathering for each subject area.

Parent Council

Many thanks to our Parent Council for their excellent support and partnership this term. At last week's meeting we shared our school vision for our school community for next term and more information will be shared in the next bulletin. You can find out more information on their work and also minutes of Parent Council and Parent Forum meetings on our school website here:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/hillheadhigh/parent-zone/parent-council/>



Financial Inclusion Support Officer

The last year has been challenging financially for many families and as a school we are keen to do all we can to support. As part of a Glasgow City Council initiative we now have a Financial Inclusion Support Officer (FISO) working with us to help support families make sure they know what financial support they may be entitled to receive. As outlined below our FISO is Nicola





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McCaskill and a booklet will be sent out to all of our families this week covering some of the financial supports available to families and how to apply. Contact details for Nicola McCaskill (Hillhead High's FISO) are also in the booklet and in the graphic below. If you have any questions or require any support, you can contact Nicola who will be more than happy to help.

Financial Inclusion Support Officer

If you are on a low income and have children at school you may be entitled to financial support.
For FREE ADVICE and additional information regarding your financial situation
It may be worth speaking to the Financial Inclusion Support Officer.

FISO: Nicola McCaskill
Tel: 0141 648 2022
Email: schools@money mattersweb.co.uk

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I hope that we can look forward to a more settled term in April. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish a peaceful and joyful time for those within our school community preparing to celebrate Ramadan.

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.

Pastoral Care

Miss Hewitt – gw09hewittjenny@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Ms Robinson – gw16robinsonlynsey1@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Mr Greechan – gw07greechanjohn@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Mr Griffin – gw10griffinbrian@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk
Miss Campbell – gw19campbellkirstin@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk





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Senior Leadership Team:

S1 & S2 pupils: Mrs Campbell - gw10campbellharriet@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

S3 Pupils –Miss Black gw15blackleanne@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

S4 Pupils – Ms Higgins gw10higginsnicola@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

S5 and S6 pupils – Mr Neil gw10neilsteven@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Head Teacher: gw10mcalaneykaren@glow.ea.glasgow.sch.uk

Parent Council: hillheadhighparentcouncil@gmail.com

