

Notre Dame High School Newsletter

June 2020



Message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers



It feels very strange to be finalising the school year since it has been three months since we last welcomed young people to our school. During this uncertain time I am sure, like me, you have faced a number of challenges; loss, frustration, loneliness, but I am always heartened by the strength of support which exists in our school community. Speaking with families and through the e-mails I've received, it is clear that our school community continues to focus on the positive and look for ways to put others first. Like the staff, parents and young people have been spending time, helping others less fortunate to deal with the direct impact of this pandemic. I hope that this newsletter helps remind you of some of our more recent achievements.

I want to take this opportunity to say farewell to our sixth year pupils. Their school days came to a very abrupt end but we look forward to welcoming them back when restrictions are lifted. Thank you girls for your contribution to our school

The staff and I look forward to the new term and welcome the Education Secretary's announcement yesterday of plans to resume full-time education for all as quickly as possible but, until then, have a safe and enjoyable summer. Best Wishes, *Rosie Martin*

Food For Families Initiative



Over the lockdown period, we have been partnering with the charity, Fare Scotland, providing much-needed weekly groceries to families in need.

Around 15 staff have been volunteering to organize deliveries and pack bags at the charity's base in Knightswood Secondary School. From there, an additional six members of Notre Dame staff have collected the groceries and delivered to our families across Glasgow.

This project will continue during the summer holiday period and staff have already demonstrated their commitment to continue this work. Moving forward, Fare Scotland, hope to be able provide shopping vouchers to families, allowing them to shop for their own requirements.



Holly & Ruby

Youth Philanthropy Initiative - Winners!!!!

An integral aspect of our third year programme is YPI. Funded and promoted by the Wood Foundation, YPI provides a platform for young people to research social issues and identify local charities which are helping to meet these needs. Our third year pupils, helped by a panel of judges, decide which charity should benefit from the £3000 funding, a significant sum for small-scale local agencies. This year, the Wood Foundation released an additional £4000 through the "Your Community Fund", designed to reduce the impact of COVID19 and we are delighted that two of our dedicated pupils were successful in their application for this financial resource. During lockdown, **Ruby Warmington** and **Holly Gallagher** created a film which described the work of their charity, St. Margaret of Scotland Youth Group, and how it has been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. See the girls' entry on our website here: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/ndhs/2020/06/08/your-community-fund-smsgy/>

Congratulations girls, we are so proud of you.

Important dates for the new term

Staff return:
Monday 10 August

Pupils return:
Wednesday 12 August

HOLIDAY:
25 and Monday 28 September 2020

Equality, Respect and Tolerance at Notre Dame

NDHS community has been shocked and saddened by the events in the USA, and indeed, our own country, which have led to the global anti-racism marches and demonstrations for equality. As a school that celebrates diversity, our values revolve around tolerance, where everyone is encouraged to realise their God-given talents.

Pope Francis recently stated, "We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form." This is echoed by the hard work done by our Rights Respecting School team, who ensure that Childrens' Rights are central to everything we do.

We continue to pray for equality and an end to violence and hatred caused by racism.

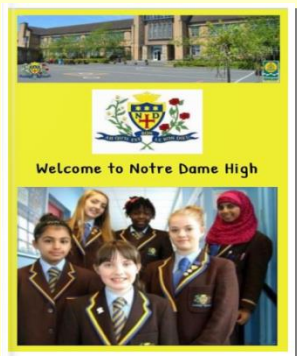
Primary 7 - Welcome to your new school!

It was fantastic to welcome so many of our new first year pupils to the school last week; the school building has been a very lonely place over the last few weeks without our lovely pupils. Thanks to our wonderful staff with Dave and Stephanie from Metro Outdoors, the Primary 7 pupils were able to begin forming new relationships whilst getting their bearings around the building.

Our school website has an interactive Welcome Booklet for P7 pupils which contains a variety of video messages from staff and pupils, alongside lessons and tasks that can be completed at home and returned via email. We are enjoying hearing from the girls who have already been engaging with the activities and departments are returning feedback to pupils who get in touch.

If you have not had the opportunity to view the Welcome Booklet, it can be found here:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/ndhs/2020/05/28/primary-7-s1-transition/>



Go4SET Victory - Success

Congratulations and well done to Safiyyah, Mercy, Amina and Cleopatra of the new S3 for their outstanding project on "A future-proof house" design. The competition is designed to help young people appreciate how STEM subjects are realised in the workplace.

The girls saw off competition from schools across the City to win the Glasgow region and are through to the national final!

Free School Meals and Clothing Grant

If you received a grant for clothing and free school meals last year you do not need to apply this year, the local authority will pay you automatically in early July. You must however let them know if your circumstances have changed such as your bank details or address.

Visit the Glasgow City website at;

<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/education>

To complete an online enquiry form. If you are a new applicant, application forms will be available on the website from mid-July.

Preparing for the New Term

Hopefully you received the letter from our Headteacher, Mrs Martin, on 15 June which outlined our altered timetable and arrangements for August. Following the Education Minister, John Swinney's, statement on 23 June, we very much hope that the COVID19 infection rate continues to decrease, allowing a safe return to school for everyone in August however, if not, all of these plans can be found on our school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/ndhs/>

Mrs Martin will keep you updated on progress over the summer holiday.

S1 Calculators

Using our Pupil Equity Funding, we have purchased a new calculator for each of our new first year pupils as an important school for their school work. This initiative will help ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged.

School Uniform

*A reminder to parents that they should order uniform for next session as quickly as possible, and **before 10 July**.*

Logoxpres, our uniform provider have arranged the following key dates to help support parents purchase uniform for next session.

Where parents choose delivery to the school;

Monday 13 July – uniform items can be collected from school

Friday 31 July – parents can return/exchange uniform items in school

These procedures will help to ensure safety.

S5/6 SQA Results

*We expect pupils to receive their results on **Tuesday 4 August**.*

*Any pupil who needs to change subjects should attend school on **Thursday 6 August** at the following times*

Iona: 9 – 11 a.m.

Melrose: 11 – 1 p.m.

Trinity: 1 – 3 p.m.