



PORT GLASGOW
HIGH SCHOOL
SUCCESS FOR ALL

PGHS Weekly News

Friday 23 August 2024



This week at Port Glasgow High School



Welcome

Welcome to our first school weekly newsletter of the new school year. We hope you enjoyed the summer holidays and that you and your child are looking forward to being part of our school community this year. All staff were delighted to welcome your child to Port Glasgow High School on Friday followed by DHTs, Mrs Craig, Ms Welsh, and Mrs Fitzharris having focused year group assemblies on Monday to outline the year ahead for all our young people.

I look forward to sharing all the events and opportunities that take place in Port Glasgow High School this year through our weekly newsletter.

Welcome Evening

We would like to invite the parents of our new S1 pupils to an Information session on Thursday 5th September 2024 (7-8pm).

During this evening we will deliver a carousel of workshops highlighting PGHS practices in:

Attendance & Support

Learning in PGHS

Tracking & Reporting

A text will be sent shortly inviting you. Please reply to this indicating if you are able/intending to attend this information session.

DYW

Welcome back everyone and we hope you had a great Summer!

Having a positive and sustainable destination is crucial and our DYW team are here to help you in any way to achieve this. Pupils will complete a destination tracking form in the coming weeks and the information pupils provide helps our team plan and work together with pupils - so start thinking about your pathway whether it be - university, college, apprenticeship etc.

If you have any thoughts or questions about careers, your career pathway or sectors of industry remember you can speak with any of our DYW Team - Mr Hart, Mr Rhodes and Ms Welsh.

Parent Council AGM

All parents and carers are invited to our Parent Council Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 27th August. The meeting will take place at 7pm in the school assembly hall.



Uniform Policy



Jumpers/sweatshirts should be plain and black for both girls and boys. The navy Port Glasgow High School jumper can also be worn. Please do not purchase branded items or clothing with visible logos, as your child will be asked to remove these and not to continue to wear to school. **Please note that branded jumpers or sweatshirts are NOT permitted in school.**

School shirts are white in colour and are worn with the school tie. Shirts and blouses can be short or long sleeved. Girl's blouses should be plain and without a low neckline. All young people are expected to wear a shirt and tie.

Skirts should be black and plain without checks/stripes or patterns of any kind. Girls may wear school trousers, also without patterns or designs, but these should be school uniform trousers and *not* leggings or jeans. **Please note that checked, tartan, or patterned skirts or pinafores are not within the school uniform code.**

Trousers should be black in colour and without rips, tears, or decorative belts etc. attached. Jeans of any kind are not acceptable school wear – even if black in colour. **Skirts and trousers** worn to school should be of appropriate design, fabric, and length. Shorts, PVC or leather, or skinny jeans are not appropriate school wear.

School footwear must be black in colour whether these are school shoes or trainers. A small amount of white or colour is acceptable, for example, a small stripe or a white sole - but the main footwear itself must be black.



Uniform Policy

(Continued from the previous page)

School Blazers

We encourage **all** our pupils to wear school blazers as they are smart, practical, and support the positive ethos of our school.

Senior pupils in S4, S5, and S6 are **required** to wear blazers in school.

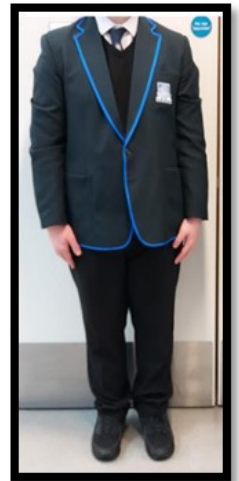
BGE pupils are encouraged to wear blazers also.



Pupils may keep blazers in their locker or in the S6 Study Room and wear them around school after wearing outdoor jackets to travel to school.

In order to support **all** of our senior pupils wearing their blazers, we offer a **Blazer Hire Scheme** which is widely used each year.

Pupils can hire a blazer in their preferred size, for an initial cost of £12.50. At the end of their S5 (or S6) year, they can return the blazer to the school and receive £5 back. The remainder of the hire charge covers the cost of dry cleaning their blazer and any necessary repairs. This represents exceptionally good value where our pupils can wear a blazer for 2/3 years at a minimal cost of £7.50.



School blazers will be provided at the end of June each year or the beginning of the new term in August each year.

Recycled Uniform

We usually hold a stock of new or laundered good quality uniform items in school which can be provided discreetly to young people and families. Please contact your child's Guidance Teacher or Year Head for further details.

Any pupil or family experiencing difficulty with the cost of a school blazer or uniform should speak confidentially to their Guidance teacher to see how the school can provide support.

Basic uniform items such as black trousers or skirts can be purchased from any local supermarket/clothing store or online from a wide range of retailers.

School ties, blazers and other PGHS items can be purchased through Smiths of Greenock. <https://www.smithsofgreenock.co.uk/>



SQA Appeals Process 2024

Information is available on the SQA website regarding examination Appeals and the process around this.

All S5/6 pupils attended an Assembly on Monday 19 August to highlight the Appeals process and have been asked to meet with class teachers to discuss exam results and whether Appeals are to be considered. Pupils have been issued with a Permission Slip to review possible Appeals which should have been returned to Ms Welsh by Friday 23 August. Information regarding the Appeals process has also been emailed to all parents of S5/65 pupils.

The SQA Appeals process undertakes to check that each examination paper has been marked in full and that marks have been totalled correctly. The Appeals process will not take into account class work or prelims undertaken in the course of the year, or undertake a re-mark of exam papers. It is important to note that, through an Appeal, candidate marks can decrease, increase, or remain the same.

The link to the SQA Appeal information is here: <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/79049.html>

The deadline for all direct Appeals is Tuesday 27 August 2024 at 11:59pm.

Change to Subject Choices

Following exam results, many pupils have re-thought their subject choices for the year ahead and have been seeing Ms Welsh to make adjustments to their timetable. The key features of this ensure that:

- Each pupil aims to attain the highest level of qualification they can each year across their timetable.
- Pupil's subject choices align with their career plans
- Subject choices are at an appropriate level for each pupil's demonstrated ability
- Timetables are balanced, achievable, and ambitious.

In some areas, class sizes are restricted and where classes are full, pupils may not be able to select these options. In these cases, we work hard to try and meet pupil expectations as fully as we can and utilise College options and Inverclyde Consortium options where required.

In order to settle classes down into their new academic year, the deadline for changes of subject options is Friday 30 August 2024. No further changes of options can be made after this point.



Learner Post Results Support

We hope that all of our pupils are pleased with their exam results each year but we realise that this can sometimes not be the case. It is important that our young people realise that if their exam results have fallen short of expectations this year, they are able to be proactive around this and, with school support, move forward positively.

S4, 5 & 6 are all qualification years where learners can build on their positive results - perhaps moving up to higher level qualifications; re-take subjects where they have fallen short of a pass; or re-think their subject choices in line with their results and their future career plans.

Young people have access to extensive support in school:

Guidance teachers can talk through results with pupils and provide support and reassurance.

Subject teachers are able to provide advice for next steps in their subject and feedback on study techniques and subject performance.

Year Heads can support pupils in working out their subject choices and ensuring that each pupil is aiming to fulfil their potential in school and maximise the qualifications they achieve before leaving us.

Mr Rhodes - our Careers Officer - can provide up to date advice and guidance on college courses, University entry, and a wide range of other career options.

Please encourage your young person to seek support in school should they need it and create a positive start to the new school year in 2024-2025.

Further information on Learner Support can also be found at www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/84153.html where a wide range of information is available:

- Certificate Information
- Wellbeing Support
- Past Exam papers for study purposes
- Information on courses
- Parent Information blog including resources to help your child be successful



Senior School Uniform

Our pupils have returned looking very smart in their new school uniforms!

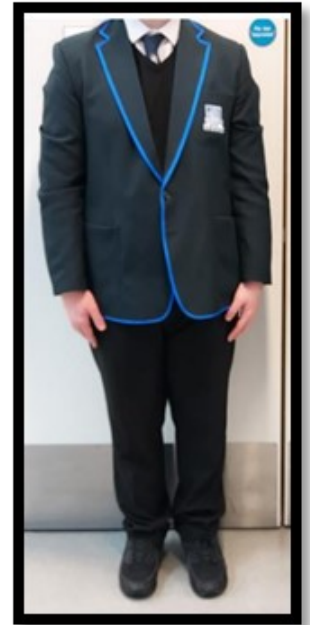


At our first S4,5,6 Assemblies of the year on Monday 19th August - we were impressed with our senior pupils— almost all wearing their school blazers proudly.

We need pupils to continue this on **each and every school day** so please encourage your child to have their blazer underneath their outdoor jacket or in their bag to put on in the school building and to wear throughout each day.

Only a very small number of pupils are still waiting for a blazer and all blazers are now in stock in school. Please contact me if your child does not have a school blazer at this time and I will help them to find their size from our stock of blazers.

Ms Welsh - gw17welshsuzanne@glow.sch.uk



West College Scotland Industrial Action

Some pupils in S5 and S6 have selected a College-based option as part of their timetable this year.

At this time, West College classes will be unable to be attended due to industrial action. Pupils will be accommodated in school until 2 September when we hope that college classes will resume. Pupils will use this time productively to attend workshops from local partners, take part in some Study Skills workshops and receive extra input from our Careers service.

Pupils are not permitted to leave campus during college or study times.

College places are currently being reviewed with pupils to ensure that they have selected an appropriate subject and level for their level of ability and career pathway.





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Senior Pupil Leadership Team

2024-2025

School Captains



Anna D



Aimee H



Stacy R



Jack K

House Captains

KINGSTON

Emma B & Lana H

LITHGOW

Emily H & Emma W

GLEN

Emma McL & Connie M

FERGUSON

Ava O & James K



S6 Ambassadors

Mental Health

Devon W

Health & Wellbeing

Cara McM



S6 Lead Prefects

Sam McG

Logan V



Subject Departments Updates this week

Music

Kerr D performed in the West of Scotland Concert Band and Emily H performed in the West of Scotland Schools Orchestra in the Showcase Concerts at the City Halls in Glasgow on Tuesday 20th. August.



Maths

Sumdog:

We are delighted to have renewed our Sumdog subscription for the coming year. Please encourage your child to use this resource at home on a regular basis to boost their confidence in Maths and improve their numeracy skills. If your child has forgotten their password please ask them to see their Maths teacher. S1 logins and passwords will be distributed shortly.



Textbooks - National 5, Higher, Advanced Higher:

If your child has a Maths textbook or a study skills book then please pass this to Mr Baxter or Mrs Lyons as soon as possible to enable the department to issue these to pupils sitting these levels this year.



Modern Languages

¡Hola! Our S1 pupils have enjoyed their first week of learning a foreign language. They are becoming increasingly more confident in saying their name and general greetings in Spanish. We have all been really impressed with their interesting contributions and discussions. Ms Paton's classes worked in groups to write down as many Spanish words and cultural facts about Spain they knew. Our S1s are real linguists in the making! ¡Fantástico!



English & Drama

New S1 have been visiting the school library this week and picking their new library books. Happy reading S1!



2024-2025 School Calendar

August 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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					13	

September 2024						
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October 2024						
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					18	

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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July 2025						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- School Closed/ Holidays
- Teacher in-Service Day (no school for students)
- School Open



Contact Details

Name	Details	E-mail
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Senior Leadership Team

Mrs G Carroll	Head teacher	gw20carrollgillian@glow.sch.uk
Mrs F Craig	Depute Head Teacher S1 - S2	INXDJ067@glow.sch.uk
Mrs L Fitzharris	Depute Head Teacher S3 - S4	gw13fitzharrislisa@glow.sch.uk
Ms S Welsh	Depute Head Teacher S5 - S6	gw17welshsuzanne@glow.sch.uk

Pastoral Team

Mrs K Brown	Head of Ferguson House	INURV606@glow.sch.uk
Mrs L Greenlees (Mon to Wed)	Head of Glen House	INXMI742@glow.sch.uk
Miss Robinson (Thurs & Fri)		gw20robinsonlydia@glow.sch.uk
Mrs A Rae	Head of Kingston House	gw16kellyamanda1@glow.sch.uk
Ms J Murray	Head of Lithgow House	gw09murrayjane@glow.sch.uk
Mrs K Wilson	Principal Teacher Support for Learning	INKAW747@glow.sch.uk
Mrs K Fraser	Principal Teacher Health & Wellbeing	INKIF712@glow.sch.uk

Careers Team

Mr N Rhodes	Skills Development Scotland School Careers Advisor	Nicol.Rhodes@sds.co.uk
Mr C Hart	Principal Teacher Developing the Young Workforce	gw18hartcraig@glow.sch.uk

