



Introduction

I hope this briefing finds you safe and well. Term 2 is now well under way with lots more learning opportunities being offered in school. We continue to live within the safety measures necessary to ensure our young people continue to learn in a safe school environment, but we are also keen to open up the experiences available to them through after school and lunchtime activities. Although we are taking a cautious approach, we understand the importance wider experiences can have for our pupils, particularly over the darker, colder winter months.

Whole School Information

Active Schools

Active Schools Opportunities – Young Leader Programme

On Thursday evening this week I met with our Active School group to hear about the activities they are undertaking and their plans for this year. The enthusiasm and commitment to their leadership programme and eagerness to offer more opportunities for all pupils in KGS is fantastic. We are hoping to promote their work in the coming weeks so that every young person at KGS has the same opportunities.

- To find out more information about Active Schools, visit this page:
 - <http://sportinmoray.co.uk/mcsh/young-leaders/>
- Please feel free to contact the Keith Active Schools Co-ordinator:
amanda.walker@moray.gov.uk / 07817955335

The link below is a presentation our very own Alex Young has created to recruit some new members to our group;

- https://www.canva.com/design/DAErOLeGGTY/Ajiurl7NM22-ksUpdCweJw/view?utm_content=DAErOLeGGTY&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=homepage_design_menu

Senior Phase Pupils – Study Support

With literally 10 weeks until our prelim diet commences, it has not escaped our attention that current senior phase have never experienced any formal exams due to the pandemic.

We have engaged with Live-N-Learn who, as an educational support company, can deliver a series of study skills workshops to help our senior pupils prepare for their exams. The range of workshops they cover includes different aspects of preparation from;

- Time Management & Prioritisation
- 4 Step Study Process & 20+ Revision Strategies
- Growth Mindset & Responding to Feedback
- Marginal Gains & Managing Anxieties
- Resilience Planning & Building Confidence
- Conditions for Study & Common Distractions
- Personal Responsibility & Grasping Opportunities

Ready, Respectful, Safe

Parent Briefing

Friday 05th November 2021



Remembrance

Next week we will pay our respects to those who have fought in wars over the years. On Thursday 11th November at 11am we will hold a two minute silence across the school to commemorate Remembrance. Pupils will show their respect in class at this time.

Christmas Season

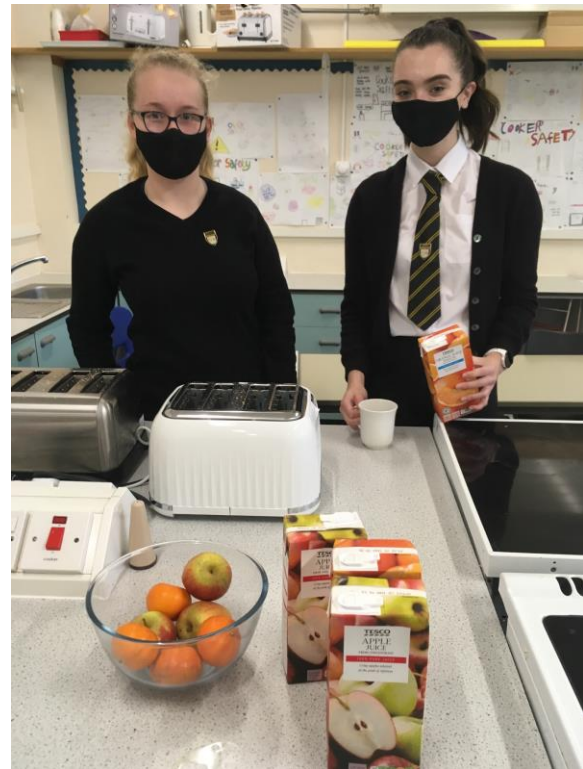
It's a time of the year where traditionally there have been lots of celebrations where pupils in school have the opportunity to attend Christmas dances and get into the festive spirit. Last year we were unable to hold any form of dance or festive experience in school and this year, under the current guidance, is unfortunately looking likely to be similar. We have made some provisional bookings and we remain hopeful that we can do something for our pupils, however as the weeks continue it is likely that any form of dance or celebration may not happen.

I wanted to share this information with you so that you have plenty of warning not to go and buy party clothing for Christmas dances when it may not be necessary. More information will be shared as quickly as possible once we have further Scottish Government guidance.

Breakfast Club

We are incredibly happy to have our breakfast club back up and running. Having stopped due to COVID restrictions our amazing prefects and helpers pictured below are taking the lead and running this brilliant resource.

Breakfast club is open to all pupils and staff, it's completely free, friendly, welcoming and available every morning in Home Economics.



Ready, Respectful, Safe

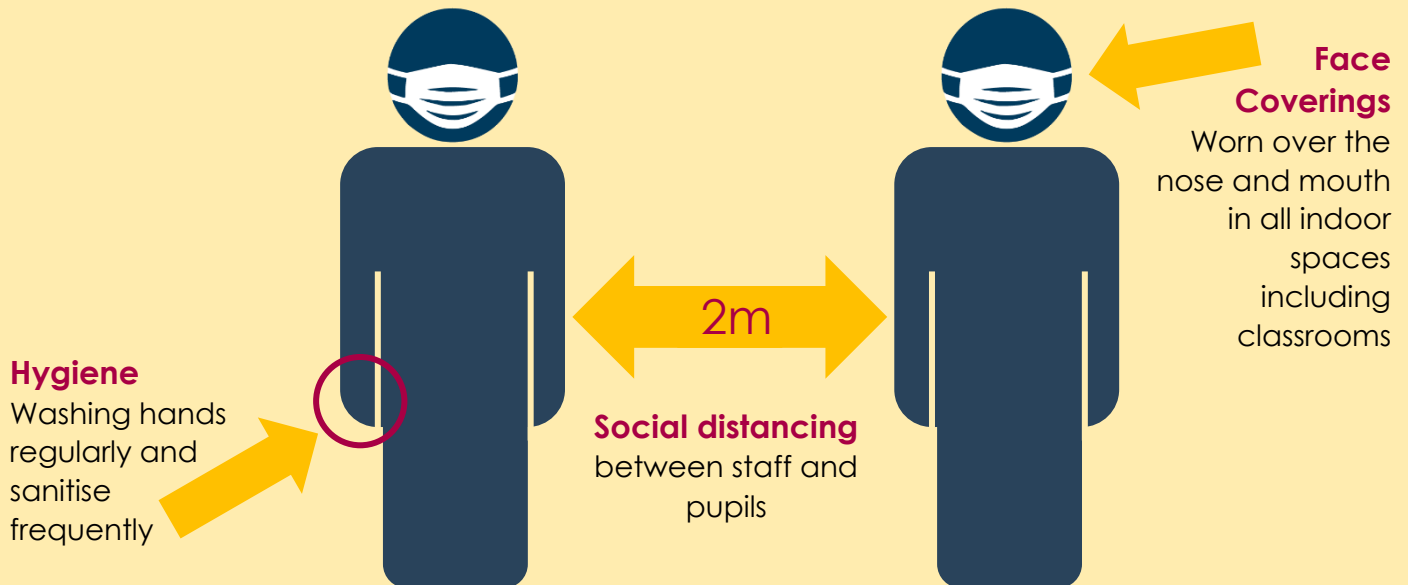


Health and Safety

COVID Update

The current safety measures continue to ensure our school community remains safe. I would ask for your continued support of these measures and reinforce them with your child(ren).

COVID-19 Measures include:



Additional measures in place:

- Continued lateral flow testing twice a week (Sunday and Wednesday)
- Following the one-way system.
- Staggered lunch break.

Lateral Flow Testing

Please remember, replacement packs are issued every Monday and Thursday between 12.45pm and 1.45pm in the hall for staff and pupils.

Ventilation

As we have explained previously, good ventilation is one of the key measures to reduce the risk across the school. We are noticing a change in temperature this week and it will only get colder as we near the winter months. Windows will not be open during the whole lesson but they will be open for parts of a lesson (roughly ten minutes in every hour). Please make sure your child(ren) dress appropriately in clothes that will keep them warm in the coming weeks and months.

S1 Pupils at Lunchtime

Mrs Bain carried out a series of assemblies recently with our S1 pupils to go through the expectations of our pupils when in the wider community at lunchtime. As part of her discussion she also covered the safety aspect of being out of school grounds so that our young people are safe at all times, particularly when crossing the A96. We will continue

Ready, Respectful, Safe



to chat to our pupils about respectful and safe behaviour and will monitor how well they are conducting themselves over the course of the term.

Mobile Phones

We realise mobile technology and particularly phones are a part of all our lives these days. When used appropriately and safely they are a great resource, however they also come with a health warning when they are used inappropriately. Unfortunately, at present, we are seeing a rise in the inappropriate use of mobile phones and social media which is having an impact on the wellbeing of our school community.

At KGS, our policy on the use of phones is clear and we would appreciate your support to remind pupils of these:

- Mobile phones are **only** to be used at break and lunchtimes.
- Phones should be switched off and in bags during class time and moving between classes (except for the few occasions where it could be used as part of the learning experience, at the discretion of the class teacher).
- If a phone is used inappropriately in class it will be confiscated and put to the office for collection at the end of the school day.

This policy applies to all pupils and there are no exceptions to this.

Winter Road Safety

At this time of year it is important we remind pupils of the need to be safe and be seen while making their way to and from school in the dark mornings and evenings. Please ensure our young people are safe by:

- making sure they are visible to cars and lorries by wearing fluorescent/ reflective clothing/ keyrings
- have working lights on their bikes if they take these to school
- reminding them to take care crossing the road by using road crossings where possible

School Flu Immunisation Programme

On the first week of term we had the flu vaccination team in school to administer the vaccine to staff and pupils. The process was very quick and the team managed to cover the pupils and staff over the course of the morning. The vaccination team commented positively on how well-mannered our pupils are which is great to hear good feedback from guests at KGS.

Any pupil who was absent on the day and would like to have this vaccine, please contact your local pharmacy and arrange an appointment.

Bonfire Night

This weekend you may be planning a fireworks display at home or heading to a display somewhere. Please take care, stay safe and follow the guidance so that you enjoy any fireworks display responsibly.

Best wishes

Alan Bruce

Head Teacher

Ready, Respectful, Safe