**AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY**

**Head Teacher: Calum Johnston BED (Hons)**

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**Date: 29th January 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

On behalf of my staff and I, we would again like to thank you all for your continued support with our remote learning programme. Your daily efforts to engage pupils in their work and your commitment to ensuring they all follow a structured daily routine is very much appreciated and certainly helps the work our staff are doing to support your child’s education.

Attached to this communication and available as always on our website are the following documents for your information:

**S1-6 weekly work overview for parental info.**

**S1/2 weekly distribution of work.**

**Feedback summary with planned actions based on surveys carried out last week by parents /carers and pupils.**

As you know, the First Minister will be making an announcement this coming Tuesday 2nd February on how educations will be adapting over the next few weeks. We should find out next week whether pupils will be returning to school soon, whether they will move to a blended learning model (some days in school and some days at home) or whether we will continue with the existing remote learning model. I will of course communicate what the announcement means for our school in due course.

**Feedback Surveys.**

As you know, we launched a number of surveys last week in order to receive feedback on our remote learning programme and ultimately to improve this in line with your feedback comments. I would like to thank those of you who took the time to complete our surveys last week. As an attachment to this communication I have added a summary of the feedback we received including any actions that we plan to take based on your comments. I hope you will take the time to read this. Dependent on the First Minister’s announcement on Tuesday we will be conducting further surveys over the next few weeks and again I would appreciate if you could take the time to provide us with feedback.

**S4 Personal Development Award.**

During the first few months back to school when we were unable to undertake any indoor PE our S4 pupils began to work on an SQA approved qualification called Personal Development. This is available at both National 4 and National 5. On Monday 1st February Mr Gilmour, our Principal Teacher Raising Attainment and Achievement, will be in touch directly with S4 pupils and parents / carers about taking this forward during remote learning. I would strongly advise all pupils to take up this opportunity of an extra National qualification and I look forward to monitoring pupil uptake in the coming weeks. This qualification will be delivered during S4 Core PE time.

**Stationary Support.**

This week, following our offer of support to families with stationary and other equipment we have had several families come to school to collect resources. We hope that this helps support you at home with remote learning. We will send out a further survey in the next week and offer a similar ‘click and collect’ service.

**Year Group Assemblies.**

This week we piloted year group assemblies with S1 and S2. We were unsure of how reliable the software would be with such large numbers but this has proven to be successful. We will now deliver assemblies to all year groups on a fortnightly basis. This coming week will be S4/5/6 with details as follows. Links will be sent to pupils through GLOW email.

**S5/6 assembly – Friday 5th February 12.00pm - 12.30pm**

**S4 assembly – Friday 5th February 2.00pm - 2.30pm**

**Pupil Councils.**

Prior to the Christmas holidays our Pupil Councils had made great steps forward and I am keen that despite the current restrictions that this great work continues. Pupil Council meetings will be set up again for late next week and pupils who are signed up to be pupil councillors will receive an email from me inviting them to a virtual meeting.

**Support for Parents/Parent Drop-in Sessions.**

Next week we will be offering a virtual drop-in session for parents/carers to help and support you with remote learning. This session will take place on Monday 1st February at 10.30am. You should already have received information on how to sign up for this and I look forward to speaking to you all at this virtual event.

**Further Support for Pupils – As Per Previous Communications.**

**Free Printing Service for Pupils -** we have been made aware of a company in Ardrossan who are providing a free printing service for all school pupils during this period of lockdown. This may help pupils if they are unable to come to school to collect any resources provided by their teachers.

<https://www.ardrossanherald.com/news/19010890.ardrossan-community-centre-offers-free-printing-help-schoolchildren/>

**Extra Learning Resources -** as previously intimated and to further enhance the availability of materials for pupils to study during this latest period of lockdown I would encourage all pupils to take advantage of the following additional resources:

**Crosbymathsrevision on Facebook and Instagram** is an English Maths teacher who is kindly offering two online live tutor sessions a week to help GSCE pupils in lockdown. A lot of the GSCE Maths topics overlaps with Nat 5 Maths topics. For any pupil or parent/carer who is interested, search this on Instagram or Facebook. The tutor sessions take place live on Microsoft Teams at 7pm at night, after the school day is over, so that there are no clashes with online teaching from school.  The link to the Microsoft Teams page is on the bio on Instagram. Hopefully you may find this useful. She also has another Facebook page called "Maths 4 kids" which some of the primary school pupils may find useful too.

[**https://your-way.org.uk/creating-a-positive-routine-and-planning-your-days-during-lockdown/**](https://your-way.org.uk/creating-a-positive-routine-and-planning-your-days-during-lockdown/)- during our pupil check-ins we are increasingly finding that some pupils are having issues providing structure and routine to their school day. This link will help pupils to organise themselves during the day and hopefully allow them to engage more in their school work and support their mental wellbeing.

[**https://scholar.hw.ac.uk**](https://scholar.hw.ac.uk) - Pupils can access the SCHOLAR resource using their GLOW login which will provide them with access to materials for 41 SQA NQ certificated courses. This is aimed primarily for senior pupils.

**www.e-sgoil.com**

 [- Pupils can also access this free online platform specifically designed to help during remote learning. There are a multitude of resources and live lessons are also streamed to support pupils. This resource is suitable for all pupils.](http://www.e-sgoil.com  Pupils )

[**www.bbc.co.uk/bitesizerevison**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesizerevison)- This is a resource for primary and secondary pupils with online resources and interactive videos to support learning.

**Contacts for Pupils/Parents and Carers During Lockdown.**

If parents/carers or pupils have any questions and/or issues during this period of remote learning, then please use the following e-mail addresses to contact pupil's designated House team:

Ashgrove

gw16lynchamanda@glow.sch.uk

gw10congiuletizia2@glow.sch.uk

Warner

gw09scottclaire4@glow.sch.uk

gw09davislinda@glow.sch.uk

Parkend

gw09shawhelen@glow.sch.uk

gw09herdjohn@glow.sch.uk

**School Office Reminder.**

Just a reminder that given the Government instructions on essential journeys and working from home where possible, our school office is not currently being staffed. Please contact the school using the email address provided at the top of this communication for all general enquiries where office staff, working from home, will deal with all requests. For all specific enquiries please use the house team email addresses provided above.

I hope you find this information useful and I will continue to provide you all with weekly updates as we work together through this difficult time. As ever, please do not hesitate to get in touch on the details above if you would like help, support or further information on any aspect of the information above.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Johnston

Head Teacher

Auchenharvie Academy