**AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY**

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

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**Date: 11th February 2021**

Dear Parent/Carer,

After 5 weeks of remote learning and as we approach the half term break, I again wanted to thank you all for your continued support during these challenging times. Your efforts to support our pupils have been incredible and my staff and I are very grateful for this.

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.**

**Consent form for senior pupils who will return to school for Lateral Flow test kits.**

**Work for Pupils During Long Weekend**

Our staff will continue to post work for pupils during the long weekend, so they continue to catch up on time lost through not being in school. It is entirely up to you as parents/carers how you advise your child to complete this. For pupils in S1/2 work will be posted for the subjects they would normally study on a Friday and Monday. Most staff will post work on Thursday 11th February. Again we appreciate any help you can offer to support pupils in staying on top of school work.

**Senior Phase Return**

Earlier this week I sent all parents/carers a copy of the most up to date information on the return to school of senior pupils. This information is also available on our school website. It included the procedures for administering the Lateral Flow test kits which will be issued to pupils next week. Today we have concluded our rota of subjects for pupils who are required in school to complete coursework for practical based subjects and from Tuesday 16th February pupils will receive individual emails to invite them into school. Parents/carers will also receive a text to advise of details where pupils are required to be in school. Pupils will be given a consent form as an attachment to their email which has to be signed before test kits can be issued. Where a pupil is under the age of 16 the consent form must be signed by their parent/carer. I would ask that you take time to read through the information I sent on Tuesday and to discuss this with your child. Pupils will be invited into school in groups between 9-12pm on Friday 19th February to collect test kits and should bring signed consent forms with them. Blank copies will be available in school but test kits cannot be issued until the signed form is returned. Again, your support with this is greatly appreciated.

**Wellbeing/Inter-house Calendar**

To help pupil's wellbeing we have a range of activities on offer, virtually, throughout the week. We understand that young people are struggling with their sleeping routine, motivation, energy levels and wellbeing - by encouraging the pupils to move and to look after their mental health we hope to support the wellbeing of our young people.

Could parents/carers please encourage their young people to engage with the school's wellbeing activities, as listed below:

**Monday:** S1 House Check-In and DrEAM Step Challenge

**Tuesday:**S2 House Check-In, **New Active School's 'The Cube' launched**and DrEAM Step Challenge

**Wednesday:**S3 House Check-In, **Wellbeing Wednesday** and DrEAM Step Challenge

**Thursday:** S4 House Check-In and DrEAM Step Challenge

**Friday:** S5/6 House Check-In,**Feel Good Friday**and DrEAM Step Challenge

**Saturday:** **Run 5K with Mr McDougall**and DrEAM Step Challenge

**Sunday:**  DrEAM Step Challenge and **enter your steps for the** **DrEAM Step Challenge**

Family members are more than welcome to join in 🙂 feel free to tag @Auchenharvie Twitter page in any pictures you take.

***House Check-In***: Each morning, in place of what would be the normal registration period, House teams will be available to have check-ins with pupils as listed above.

***DrEAM Step Challenge***: NA Active schools have organised a steps challenge between schools in the authority. To get involved please use this link to register:  [bit.ly/392KdLL](http://bit.ly/392KdLL). The Team name is 'Auchenharvie Academy'. Every Sunday you should enter your step count for the week using the following link: [bit.ly/2XWefu3](http://bit.ly/2XWefu3) .

We were second to Greenwood last week - help us to reach first place! Family members can join and we need more pupils to sign up. Let's get moving!

House points awarded to pupils who register for the DrEAM Step Challenge and for the top 3 staff and pupils in our own leader board each week.

***Active School's 'The Cube'***: NA Active schools will be releasing a new 'The Cube' challenge every Tuesday - fun and a brain break from home learning! House points awarded to pupils and staff who share their recorded attempts at 'The Cube' challenge via:

Twitter: @NAActiveSchools

Facebook: Auchenharvie PE page

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***Wellbeing Wednesday:*** There will be exercise sessions available with members of staff at 8.30am and 12.30pm every Wednesday. Pupils and staff should look out for an e-mail on Tuesday afternoon with further information!

***Feel Good Friday****:* Every Friday the Pastoral Care team have been issuing tasks which focus on pupil wellbeing to all PSE classes.

***Run 5K with Mr McDougall***: Mr McDougall is organising a 5K leader board every Saturday. Staff members and pupils who run a 5K in their local area should send a screenshot of their route via an app that can track your journey. Let's see who can beat Mr McDougall - FYI he ran 30km last Sunday! House points will be awarded.

**Pupil Check-in’s**

At the recent parent drop-in sessions and through our parent/carer questionnaire we received feedback that you would like us to increase the number of opportunities for pupils to make contact with school staff. To provide our young people an opportunity to check in with their Pastoral Care teacher we are going to offer House Check-in's from 8:45 to 8:55am each morning. Pastoral staff will check in with S1 on Monday, S2 Tuesday and so on, and this will start on Tuesday 16th February with S2. Pupils are encouraged to look out for links to this opportunity through their GLOW email accounts.

**Pupil Engagement with Work**

As previously intimated our staff are keeping registers of who is engaging with the work being sent by teachers. We have however had some technical issues in merging our spreadsheets to give us an overview of pupil engagement. This helps us to make one communication for all subjects rather than contact you several times with the same message. We hope to have this rectified for next week and I apologise for any inconvenience caused.

**Year Group Assemblies**

As previously mentioned, we will be rotating weeks for year group assemblies between pupils in S1/2/3 and S4/5/6. Next week will be the S4/5/6 assembly week and all pupils will get a link sent through their GLOW email account. The primary focus of assemblies will continue to be pupil wellbeing but of course year group specific information will also be shared. Pupils will be sent links to these assemblies through their GLOW email accounts. This week we experienced some technical difficulties and had to cancel the S2 and 3 assemblies.

**S4 assembly – Wednesday 17th February 2-2.30pm**

**S5/6 assembly – Wednesday 17th February 2.30-3pm**

**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. I hope you all have a great long weekend.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Johnston

Head Teacher

Auchenharvie Academy