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Education and Families
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Dear Parents and Carers,

The school closes for Summer Holidays on Wednesday 29 June at 1.00pm and resumes on Wednesday 17 August at 8.55am.

SQA results

Young people will receive their SQA results on Tuesday 9 August. Staff will be in school on Wednesday 10 August from 10.00am till 2.00pm to meet young people and discuss any changes to S5/6 curriculum based on SQA results received. Young people who wish to speak to a teacher or their Year Head should report to school reception at 10.00am.

If the SQA final grade achieved is lower than the estimate submitted by us you may be able to make an appeal directly to SQA, or through the school.

The first step is to discuss the difference between your estimated grade and your final grade with your subject teachers to determine whether the estimated grade and the supporting evidence we have support an appeals request.

Any young person who wishes to highlight a discrepancy between the SQA grade awarded and the estimate grade should complete an *Appeal Request Form* in the first instance. This will be available on the school website from Monday 8 August 2022.

Year Heads and Principal Teachers Pupil Support will be contacting a number of young people on Wednesday 9 August and Thursday 10 August to discuss specific issues arising from the SQA awards received.

AABOUT (Attainment, Attendance, Behaviour, Opportunities, Uniform, Timekeeping)

Next session as part of our school improvement planning processes we will be focusing on 6 fundamental aspects of a successful school: Attainment, Attendance, Behaviour, Opportunities, Uniform and Timekeeping. We are introducing a 10-minute AABOUT period every day just before morning interval to allow teachers, year heads and pupil support staff to speak to young people about these priorities. There will be minor changes to the period changeover times – but no change to the starting (8.55am) and finishing times (3.45pm Mon-Thurs; 12.30pm on Fridays).



We will be asking for your help with specific aspects of the AABOUT Programme at different times of the year.

School Uniform

Ensuring all of our young people come to school each day in full uniform is a vital part of the success of our AABOUT Programme; and we are relying on you to support us.

We know that some of our young people give their parents inaccurate information about permitted items of uniform. For the avoidance of any doubt on your part, school uniform consists of:

- white shirt
- school tie
- black trousers/skirt
- plain black jumper/cardigan (no logos)
- plain black shoes/trainers (no white sole)

School uniform does not consist of:

- leggings
- jeans

Please do not allow your child to wear black and white converse boots to school – these have become common particularly amongst some groups of girls – and we will not be allowing them in the new session. They are not part of our school uniform.

If you require assistance with any items of uniform, please contact the school. We can provide any items of school uniform and footwear from our stock of new school wear.

School Calendar

The school calendar for next session has been uploaded to the school website. The calendar contains reporting dates, prelims, INSET Days, Parents' Evenings etc.

The school liturgical / chaplaincy calendar for session 2022/23 has also been uploaded to the Faith section of the website. This calendar contains all of the religious and faith-based events we have planned so far for next session.

Two dates for your diary:

- S1 Welcome Mass – Wednesday 7 September 7.00pm We look forward to welcoming our new S1 pupils and their parents.
- S1-S6 Awards Ceremony – Monday 19 September 7.00pm. We will publish a list of award winners in August and send invites to young people and their parents.

New School Chaplain

His Lordship Bishop Devine contacted me last month to say that he would be appointing a new school chaplain to Cardinal Newman High School. Our new chaplain is Rev. Fr Stuart Parkes currently Parish Priest of St. Gerard's and Sacred Heart parishes – so is well known to many of you. Fr. Parkes has already been in the school for visits and has agreed the liturgical / chaplaincy calendar with us. We very much look forward to working with him.

Our current chaplain Fr Paul Denney was appointed in 2019. Fr Paul accompanied the school during our pilgrimage to Rome for the canonisation of our school patron and worked tirelessly to support the faith mission of the school over the past 3 years. We wish Fr Paul every best wish in his new parish of St. James' in Coatbridge.

Please pray for both of them.

S6 Pupils – Interviews for School Leadership Roles

Final interviews for School and House Captains and for School Prefects will take place week beginning 22 August. Successful candidates from the first round of interviews will be notified of the outcome of that interview by 18 August 2022.

We are expecting all young people in S6 to be good role models for all of the younger pupils particularly through their behaviour, attendance and school uniform. We have spoken to them about our high expectations of them and I know they will respond positively and enthusiastically.

Paying for items of uniform / school meals / educational visits etc.

We use a cashless system in school (ipay Impact). We will reissue your personal account details together with data checks in August which will allow you to register with ipay impact if you have not already done so.

To purchase food from the school canteen requires young people to use the mobile app 'Fusion Online'. This can be downloaded free from the google play/app store. The app allows pupils to order food for break and lunch in advance.

School Photographs

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 23 August. He will be photographing all young people in all year groups. We will send you information on how to purchase the photographs should you wish to do so. If you have more than one child at the school and would like a family photograph we can arrange that too. We will send you details nearer the time.

School Transport

If you are eligible for school transport and wish to apply for a place please visit these links:

Link to the NLC page:

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-transport/free-school-transport>

Link to school transport application form:

https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-12/CC_2020_00211%20Free%20School%20Transport%20Application%20Form%20A4%20.pdf

New S1 Pupils

I know Mrs Murray wrote to all parents of our new S1 pupils last week. We are really looking forward to welcoming our new first year on a full-time basis after the holidays. I want to remind you that all S1 pupils should remain in school at lunchtime.

Thank You

Finally I want to thank you our parents and carers for your unfailing support and encouragement over the past session. I wish you and your families a very happy and relaxing summer break.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Every best wish

Robert Smith