



School Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer/Student,

After the recent months of disruption, I thought it was important to help pupils to have a clear and common understanding of the standards and expectations that allow everyone to achieve their best at Taylor High School. Over the past weeks, around 20 classes from S1 – S6 have contributed to outlining what staff and pupils can each do to ensure that we all experience respect, wellbeing and safety, and excellent learning/teaching. At the inservice day this week, I shared the feedback from the teachers and young people in these classes, and have asked that all classes now take time to explore the pupil feedback about how we can demonstrate these core standards across the school. Teachers will also have the opportunity to explore the staff feedback for the same themes.

This week, the theme has been on **Respect**.



RESPECT

IDEAS FOR HOW PUPILS CAN HELP TO SHOW RESPECT ACROSS THE SCHOOL

PERIODS 1-2

- Listen without interrupting
- Work to the best of your ability
- Treat ALL people how you want to be treated

PERIODS 3-4

- Show manners: please, thank you , hello, goodbye, Sir/Miss
- No shouting out - hands up and indoor voices
- Show good behaviour - don't disrupt or put down

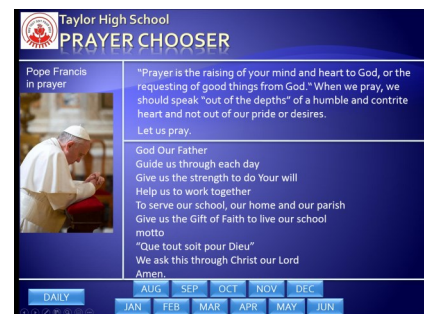
PERIODS 5-7

- Have phones off and away
- Be here, be in class and follow instructions
- Take care of school grounds, equipment and resources



Catholic Education Week began this week with the theme of **'Celebrating and Worshipping'**. Many of our staff and pupils will be representing the school at our local parishes to highlight the importance of the Eucharist to how we celebrate and worship as an integral part of our faith. This theme was brought to life in our attendance at the annual Education Mass with Bishop Toal in the Cathedral this week. It was a privilege to be able to attend the Mass with so many young people from across the Diocese.

During this week of celebrating Catholic Education, we have taken the opportunity to relaunch our approach to prayers across the day and throughout the year. Each day, pupils will have the opportunity to say the school prayer, a morning offering, and prayers before/after lunch. Further prayers are provided for use in RE, or at any other time, to support our young people to understand the particular season or theme of the month within the liturgical year.



During this time of celebrating Catholic Education, please keep all our young people and staff in your prayers.

Yours faithfully,

Paul McWatt



Virtual Parents' Evenings—UPDATE

Thank you to the parents who attended our first two online parents evenings for S5/6 and S4 through the Parents Booking system. We are aware that there have been some parents/carers who had difficulty in getting through. In some cases, a grey screen may have appeared to both the teacher and the family who were both online, but without a live connection. This has been reported to Parents Booking and we have been advised that this can happen when there is an apostrophe in a surname. For future Parents Evening, any apostrophe should be removed when registering and logging in which should remove this problem. A troubleshooting guide has been provided at the end of this newsletter to support access to the portal.

Here are some comments from parents who engaged with the new approach recently:

“I thought it was great. I would be happy for this system to continue even when things get back to normal. We have not had a parents evening since 1st year and I spent the whole time going round in circles and waiting. This is a much better system. Thank you”

“All the teachers were well prepared and organised, thank you.”

“Found it straight forward”

“A good experience. Could have been slightly longer, say 6 or 7 minutes, but realise this is an extension on to staff time.”

“Far better organised than face-to-face parents night from the perspective of no queue jumping or wandering around looking for teachers.”

In order to fully evaluate its effectiveness and plan for improving future events, we would really appreciate if you could dedicate 5 minutes of your time to complete the questions in the surveys below if you haven't already done so:

[S5/6 Parent questionnaire](#)

[S4 Parent questionnaire](#)

S3 Parents Night will be online on Tuesday 30 November 4-6.30pm.
Bookings can be made here: [Parents' Evening - Parent Details Login](#)
parents-booking.co.uk

S4 Progress Assessments: 29 Nov—7 Dec

S4 pupils were issued with a Progress Assessment timetable during an assembly yesterday. A copy of this timetable was emailed to all S4 parents. Pupils were also advised of the conduct expected during exams and reminded that all mobile phones should be switched off and kept in bags.

There is no study leave during progress assessments and all pupils are expected to attend school as normal.

On Monday 22 November, Mrs McGraw and Miss Kane will host an S4 Study Skills session from 3.45pm till 4.45pm in the school theatre to help support our young people as they prepare for their exams.

All S4 pupils should be encouraged to attend this session in addition to the wide range of supported study sessions that are also being offered throughout the week.

Taylor High School				
National 5 Progress Assessments 2021				
DAY/DATE	EXAMINATION	LEVEL	TIME	LOCATION
Monday	Biology	National 5	08.55 - 10.55	Games Hall
29 November	History	National 5	1.15 - 3.40	Games Hall
Tuesday	English Close Reading	National 5	08.55 - 9.55	Games Hall
30 November	English Scottish Text	National 5	10.05 - 10.50	Games Hall
	Physics	National	13.30 - 15.30	Games Hall
	Maths Non Calculator	National 5	08.55 - 10.10	Games Hall
Wednesday	Maths Calculator	National 5	10.40 - 12.30	Games Hall
1 December	Health and Food Tech	National 5	13.05 - 14.55	Games Hall
Thursday	Business Management	National 5	08.55 - 10.55	Middle Gym
2	Graphic Communication	National 5	08.55 - 10.55	Middle Gym
December	Modern Studies	National 5	13.15 - 15.40	Middle Gym
Friday	Practical Cookery	National 5	08.55 - 09.55	Middle Gym
3 December	Spanish Reading & Writing	National 5	11.00 - 12.30	Middle Gym
Monday	Art & Design	National 5	08.55 - 09.55	Middle Gym
6 December	Music Listening	National 5	11.45 - 12.30	Theatre
	Computing	National 5	13.15 - 14.45	Middle Gym
Tuesday	Chemistry	National 5	08.55 - 10.55	Games Hall
7 December	Geography	National 5	13.15 - 15.40	Games Hall

Troubleshooting Guide

Internet Browser Compatibility:

You must use one of the device and internet browser combinations below for the video meeting technology to work:

Apple iPhone/iPad (iOS 11+): Safari **except iOS 15.1 as there is currently an ongoing issue**

Android phone/tablet: Chrome or Firefox

Linux computer: Chrome or Firefox

Microsoft Surface: Chrome or Firefox

Mac computer: Safari, Chrome or Firefox

Windows computer: Chrome, Firefox or Edge (Chromium)

Troubleshooting Tips:

Please make sure you check that your audio and video are working on your device before the parents evening. More information on how to do this can be found here [Virtual Parents' Meetings | Taylor High School \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://www.glowscotland.org.uk/virtualparents/)

One problem we have hopefully got a resolution to is parents/pupils who have apostrophes in their name were unable to see the video call on some occasions. For the next Parents evening (S3) we plan to remove the apostrophe to resolve this problem. When parents are logging in they will then have to leave this out of their name. Affected parents will be e-mailed guidance. If you cannot login please contact the school office.

The email address field entered is only used to send your appointment confirmation. If you have problems logging in, it will not be because of the e-mail address you entered.

Please do not use an iOS device as the school has just been notified that there is a problem with the newest version of the iOS update (15.1) and this may not be resolved until another update is made available from Apple.