



# Taylor High School

*Que tout soit pour Dieu*

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14 January 2022

## School Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer/Student,

It was great to welcome back our staff and pupils this week after a longer Christmas holiday. Even after a full first week, it was great to see almost 100 pupils attending our in-school Future Fridays programme.

We welcomed Mr McLaughlin this week too as he started his role as Depute Head Teacher with responsibility for S1 and S2 as well as for Learning and Teaching across the school. There is a short message from Mr McLaughlin below.

As we embark on a full term ahead, I have included in this newsletter a summary of the key activities planned in the coming weeks and months. As ever, if you have any queries or concerns, please contact your Principal Teacher of Pupil Support, or if you have a general enquiry you can use our general enquiry mailbox: [enquiries-at-taylor@northlan.org.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-taylor@northlan.org.uk).

Yours faithfully,

Paul McWatt  
Head Teacher

### \*\*\*IMPORTANT—COVID Close Contacts and Isolation Information

Pupils should only be identified as a close contact if they have had **prolonged close contact with the case – e.g. same household, overnight stays**. Further details are available about low-risk contacts in the [letter](#) on our website.

The latest guidance tells us that young people under 18 years and 4 months may take 7 daily LFD tests as an alternative to isolation so long as they do **NOT** have symptoms and test negative each day. Please check our [website](#) for more details. We can supply all pupils with replacement LFD kits to support not only our usual testing each Monday and Thursday morning, but also for any pupil undertaking daily testing: kits are available from the school office.

### Welcome from Mr McLaughlin (Depute Head Teacher)

Happy New year to all members of the Taylor High School community. I would like to introduce myself as the Depute Head teacher with responsibility for S1 and S2. I took up my new post on Monday and I have enjoyed meeting pupils and staff in the school and have appreciated the kind welcome that has been offered. Throughout this term I will continue to work closely with Mrs McConnell, and Pupil Support to ensure the best for the Taylor High School community. I hope to enhance experiences for young people by also bringing my previous experience working in schools throughout North Lanarkshire council. I look forward to working as part of a respectful and ambitious faith community. I look forward to meeting you all and supporting the valuable service that Taylor High School already provides.



<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/taylor/>

[@TaylorHS1982](#)



EMAIL: [enquiries-at-taylor@northlan.org.uk](mailto:enquiries-at-taylor@northlan.org.uk)

## S5/6 Tracking, Progress Assessments & Supported Study

Updated Tracking Reports will go out on Monday to all S5/6 families to support our pupils' final 2 weeks of study before their Progress Assessments which will begin on Monday 31 January. A separate letter will be sent out to all S5/6 families from Mr McQuaid with details of the assessments.

All S4-6 pupils continue to be invited to participate in our **Supported Study** programme which is available for download [HERE](#).

## Supporting Numeracy Development



## S6 Numeracy Leaders

Members from our Advanced Higher Maths Class have volunteered to become Taylor High's Numeracy Leaders! The leaders will aid with the interventions that are in place to provide additional support in numeracy to identified pupils in First Year and Second Year.

## Numberbox

We have started our Numberbox programme with groups in S1 and S2. This programme helps small groups of two or three pupils, three times a week to work on numeracy with for around fifteen minutes with our Numeracy Leaders and PT Numeracy Mr. Geddes.

## Future Fridays Numeracy Group

PT Numeracy and PT Future Friday's Mr. Dale have been working together to offer a Future Fridays Activity based on Numeracy for pupils in S1 and S2. Activities are planned to bring fun to maths through Numberbox, activities, interactive programs such as Numeracy Workout, and IDL Numeracy software for lots of fun maths game. Pupils who have booked in can come along on a fortnightly rota. Pupils will have their space confirmed at the beginning of each week when it is their turn to come along.

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## S1 Online Parents Evening



S1 Parents evening will take place virtually on the **27th of January**. Each meeting will last for 5 minutes to discuss young people's achievements in S1 and update you on next steps. Time is limited during these meetings and should you wish to discuss progress further please do not hesitate to contact Miss Valente (Pupil Support), Mrs Connell or myself. A full email with all instructions for joining Parents Booking has been sent to S1 Families by email.

## HPV vaccinations

The HPV Nurses will be in for S1-2 and catch up with the remaining year groups on 1st March 2022.

## Ventilation Update

Additional funding has been made available to schools through NLC to improve ventilation. Over the Christmas Holidays, most of our new ventilation work was completed where it was required across the school. Each learning space (halls and gym) and the changing rooms in PE have had new extraction fitted as well as the staffroom. Further discussions are underway to explore the reopening of our PE changing rooms to support a return to full school uniform.

## Young Persons' Free Bus Travel



All 5-21 year olds resident in Scotland are eligible from 31 January 2022 for Young Persons' Free Bus Travel, using a National Entitlement Card (Young Scot Card) with the free bus travel product on it. Without this, you will be unable to travel for free on bus services in Scotland.

Parents/carers of pupils aged 5-15 years must apply on their behalf. This will allow you to continue to exercise responsibility over their wellbeing and safety. Remember that free bus travel is available nationwide. This means your child can travel across Scotland, so please take care when making the decision about applying for them. **If your child already has a NEC** and is aged between 11 and 15, you will need to apply for Young Persons' Free Bus travel, as parental approval is required. A replacement card with the travel product on it will be delivered by post.

Further details are available [here](#).

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES—JAN/FEB

18-Jan	Online Parent Council Meeting
w/c 24-Jan	S4 Post Prelim Tracking Report
31-Jan	S5/6 Progress Assessments Begin
1-Feb	S3>S4 Options Information Evening
FEB	S3-4 OPTIONS INTERVIEWS
14-15 Feb	SCHOOL CLOSED (Mid-Term)
16-Feb	SCHOOL CLOSED - INSERVICE
w/c 21-Feb	S3 Tracking Report
28-Feb	Ash Wednesday (Lent begins)