



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your family have had a lovely summer but that like us you are now ready for the new school session. We were delighted to see all our students on Wednesday for the start of a new and exciting year. As you know, we are growing school and we were very pleased to see not only our largest cohort begin in S1, but a waiting list now for S2 and S3.

We were very pleased to see our examination results continue to improve, with many of these increases leading to our best results ever. This is down to a lot of hard work on the part of both our students and staff and I welcomed the opportunity to congratulate them all this week. I would also like to thank you for all the encouragement and support you provide for your child, their learning, and our school, which is essential for their success.

Our initial improving attainment measures include the following:

Year Group	Qualification	Increase from last year
S4	5 @ National 4	19% - best ever
S4	5 @ National 4	17% - 3 year increase
S5	1 @ Higher	11% - 2 year increase
S5	3 @ Higher	6% - best ever
S6	1 @ Higher	6% - best ever
S6	3 @ Higher	12% - best ever
S6	5 @ Higher	9% - best ever

These very good examination results have ensured that our students who left in June are now embarking on a range of exciting and varied courses at both college and university. These include an SVQ in Barbering and an HND in Legal Services at Edinburgh College, an HND in 3D Product Design at Napier University, degree in Engineering at Cambridge University, Product Design at Glasgow University and Law and Medicine at Edinburgh. We are very proud of them all and wish them the very best in their studies.

This is a good time to remind you of the vital importance attendance plays in ensuring that every child achieves their potential. The target for all students in the Edinburgh City Council is 95%. If your child's attendance falls below this it will have a direct, negative impact on their attainment and achievement. If, however, there are extenuating circumstances, which require your child to be absent, then please contact their Pupil Support Leader in the first instance.

We set very high standards with regard to timekeeping also and ask that all students be in the school building before the first bell rings at 8.25am. As I am sure you will agree; punctuality is extremely important both in school and beyond.

Our very popular Breakfast Club continues to operate in our Community Wing, five mornings a week from 7.30am until 8.20am. This service is available for all students at no cost and highlights our commitment to health and wellbeing, as well as offering support to busy families. We hope to see many of your children attending and taking advantage of this service.

We were also delighted to welcome a number of new staff for this session, due to relocation, maternity leave and our rising school roll.

Additions to our staffing from June include:

Mrs Alisha Malcolm	Pupil Support Assistant
Mrs Jana Mackinlay	Pupil Support Assistant (Welfare)
Mrs Rachel Geddes	Pupil Support Assistant
Mrs Alison Carnaghan	Teacher of Art
Mrs Corrinna Patterson	Teacher of Music
Mrs Emily Marshall	Teacher of RME and Social Subjects
Miss Eve Campbell	Teacher of PE
Mrs Jan Holt	Teacher of Computing
Mrs Jen Pugh	Teacher of Music
Ms Jenn Wiggins	Teacher of Science
Ms Julie Francis	Teacher of Modern Languages
Mr Michael Hughes	Teacher of English
Mr Scott Pickering	Teacher of Modern Languages
Mrs Wei Du	Teacher of Mandarin

I am very much looking forward to our new year and working together to ensure that all our students attain and achieve. The first of opportunity to meet some key staff and other parents is **Monday 27th August** at our **End of Transition Evening** from **6.00pm – 7.00pm** if your child is in **S1**. Following this, all parents/carers for all years are welcome to attend the **Parent Council AGM** at **7.00pm**, which is another opportunity to meet new people, as well as have a say in your child's education. There is no obligation to take on a role or responsibility if you do not wish but we are looking to appoint a new chairperson. All future dates can be found on our calendar, which can be accessed through our school website.

Yours sincerely,



Hazel Kinnear
Head Teacher