



9 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Closing the Gap Teacher

This week we have very much been focusing on settling in our Closing the Gap teacher, Mr Mark Jaggs, who is both supporting any students required to self-isolate as well as working with our faculties to enable students to catch up on work missed during lockdown. We feel very lucky to have Mr Jaggs who was a member of our school community last session and who knows our young people well.

SQA

You will have also seen the announcement this week from the SQA regarding the examination diet for 2021. The Deputy First Minister announced a number of measures for the awarding of National Courses at National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher in 2020–21. There will be no external assessment of National 5 courses this year – either by an exam or by coursework. Higher and Advanced Higher externally assessed exams, including the completion of coursework where appropriate, will remain as planned. Access to the website with the full article can be found [here](#). More subject specific advice will be released after the October holiday and we continue to work with our Curriculum Leaders to ensure the best possible learning experiences taking account of the new guidelines.

Reminders

With more stringent guidelines from the Scottish Government regarding keeping ourselves safe during the current pandemic it seemed like a good opportunity to ask for your support in please reminding your child of the following:

- Remember to wash/sanitise their hands regularly and on entering and leaving the building
- Remember to bring their mask to school and wear it in corridors, the atrium/hall and toilets
- Remember to keep 2 metres distance from staff where possible
- Remember to use the QR codes on tables in our dining area
- Remember to go outside for break and lunch as soon as possible
- Remember to follow the one-way system
- Remember to follow any instructions from staff regarding their safety and that of others

This is a long list and they are doing so well so must be commended for all their efforts. However, reminders from us all are really helpful too. Added to this, the S6 House Captains have suggested a reward system for after the holidays. There will be a monthly prize draw of everyone who has remembered their face covering every day and a reward of a £5 Amazon voucher.

With regard to the use of our outdoor spaces at break and lunch can I also just ask that you remind your child to bring a warm coat as we enter the colder months. It was very beautiful out there this morning but keeping warm is essential. If this is something that you require support with please contact Mrs Yvonne McGregor either through our website or by contacting our school office.

And lastly, I would just like to wish you and your family a restful weekend.

Please do stay connected, take care and most importantly, stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a final flourish.

Hazel Kinnear
Head Teacher