

Dear Parent/Carer,

What a lovely Spring day to end the term and also to hold the Bendo Cup, our commemorative football game for David Bendo, which is held every year as part of our last day with our S6 students. It is a huge privilege for our seniors to be able to play in this match and we are very pleased to have a large number of senior student supporters too. All proceeds will be donated to Brake, the road safety charity in memory of David.

SQA Examinations

It has been such a busy time since last I wrote and particularly regarding preparation for the first exam diet since 2019. Our students have coped incredibly well and have been working so hard. We just hope that they will make the most of the study leave and Easter Revision on offer to ensure that they achieve all they can.

Achievements

We have had young people cycling about on our new fleet of bikes, being commended in the Scottish Writing Competition, becoming SHE Ambassadors, visiting Edinburgh Zoo, trying out our new basketball nets, opening the Filmhouse Young Programmer's weekend, travelling to Manchester for the Mandarin Conference and preparing frantically for the summer term show - The Little Shop of Horrors – to name but a few of our extra-curricular activities.

Student Voice

Meanwhile, our Student Voice has gone from strength to strength and have had real impact this term; with easier access to Place2Be, new look Positive Postcards for next term and a Garden Club to grow and cook their own food amongst some of their highlights. Of course, the absolute highlight for many students is the fact that Student Voice has finally resulted in a new 3G Astro-turf for the school, which is to be laid over the summer holidays. We are so very proud of all these successes.

THS Alumni

In terms of successes we have also been working with Future First and have been creating a bank of alumni who have started to work with the school. This has resulted in some fabulous workshops for seniors and the beginning of our THS Alumni board on our website. Please do continue to sign up if you too were a THS FP or if you know someone who was. The bigger our school community grows, the better for our young people and their networking for the future.

Health and Wellbeing

Moving into next term we will be focussing on Health and Wellbeing with our students who are not involved in National Qualifications. We are very excited to be re-introducing our Sports Day, Health and Wellbeing Week and a Mini-Meaningful May. These activities will support our students as we move further out of coronavirus restrictions. More information will follow regarding all of these.

Uniform

Please note also that with the warmer summer term weather we fully expect all students to be in uniform at all times. We will be returning to the exceptionally high standards of dress code which we have grown to expect here at THS. Your support with this is hugely appreciated and please do remember that Mrs Yvonne McGregor, our PSO, can be contacted for support here Yvonne.McGregor@tynecastle.edin.sch.uk. A warm jumper or coat will continue to be permissible on colder days but we do hope that these days will be few and far between.

S6 Leavers

And lastly to our S6 Leavers again. They have been a fantastic year group and I have very much enjoyed working with them and the amazing House Captains, who have represented them during these very difficult times. I am particularly delighted that the S6 Prom is to go ahead in June because they so deserve something to look forward to at the end of the session and what better way to celebrate than with their teachers who have watched them grow and develop into amazing young adults over the last six years.

Dates for Next Session

Monday 25 April	Staff and students return to school
Wednesday 27 April	Exam Leave Starts
Monday 2 May	Bank Holiday for staff and students
Tuesday 3 May	In-service Day (students on holiday)
Wednesday 4 May	Mini Meaningful May starts
Monday 9 May	Parent/Carer Council Meeting
23 - 27 May	Health and Wellbeing Week
Monday 30 May	Exam Leave finishes
Tuesday 31 May	Senior Induction (new S5 and S6)
Wednesday 1 June	Senior Induction (new S5 and S6)
Thursday 2 June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee (student and staff on holiday)
Friday 3 June	Queen's Platinum Jubilee (student and staff on holiday)
Monday 6 June	New Timetable
Wednesday 8 June	P7 Parents' Night
Monday 13 June	P7 Fun Day
14 – 16 June	P7 3 Day Visit
Friday 17 June	S6 Prom
Wednesday 22 June	School Show – Little Shop of Horrors
Thursday 23 June	School Show – Little Shop of Horrors
Friday 1 July	End of Term

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable holiday.

Do take care, stay connected, and, most importantly, stay safe.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Hazel Kinnear', written in a cursive style.

Hazel Kinnear

Head Teacher