



## Head Teacher Update

28th October 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we are about to move into November, here is the latest update from the school, and covers news from my last update on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

1. Since my last update, two colleagues have left JHS for pastures new. Mr Bryce has left the English department to take up a PT English post in Glasgow; and Miss McLachlan has left the Maths department to take up a new post in Inverclyde. We wish both best of luck in their new schools. Recruitment is currently ongoing, and the heads of both English and Maths have temporary timetables in place to ensure classes are 'rotated' and no class misses out on input from a subject specialist.
2. Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October was our first non-uniform charitable fundraiser of the session. The foodbank collection was a great success and we collected in the region of 50 crates. Thanks to all the families who were in a position to donate.
3. Miss McGinley delivered a wider achievement assembly to all S1 on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October – this covers our approach to acknowledging and rewarding achievement outside of the classroom, both in and outside of school (more details can be found on the website). She also explained to the children our extra-curricular offer. Please encourage your child to sign up for at least one activity. I was pleased to see 70+ pupils attended junior band practice last week.
4. Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October was our in-service, and we had a focus on nurture, autism and looking at our curriculum offer in S3/4. This will be discussed in more detail at the next Parent Council meeting in November and parents will also be surveyed to capture your views.
5. Before October week was the S4 assessment week, and the week after was the turn of S5/6. Well done to all the pupils for their hard work and effort.
6. This week we welcomed a number of new student teachers from a range of educational institutions. Our pupils will be seeing some new faces in departments, and I am sure they will be very supportive of the next generation of teachers.
7. S3 tracking reports were issued this week.
8. On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>, I was out of school all day at a secondary head teachers' meeting. I had been asked by Julie Calder, Head of Service, to present to the

other schools on our innovative senior phase curriculum as an example of good practice.

9. S1 Halloween movie night took place on Thursday. Around 30 S1 and their families watched Hocus Pocus 2 and had Domino's pizza in a cinema-styled staffroom. I hope that those who attended had a great evening and I'm sure this will be the first of many similar events.
10. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup>, the Music dept took the Creative Industries pupils out to Sky Studios at Livingstone. The photos are already on Twitter and it looks like everyone enjoyed it.
11. On Friday we welcomed Derek Gall from CANI coaching into school to discuss a S5/6 – S1 mentoring programme for next year. Exciting times ahead!
12. Finally, we have been in discussion about our plans for Children in Need and Christmas. S6 captains and S5/6 pupil leaders will be taking forward our plans, and pupils will find out more in the next few days.

#### **Forthcoming diary dates:**

- Monday 31<sup>st</sup> sees the start of careers week in Johnstone High. Mrs Carlin and Miss Wilkie have put in a great deal of effort to ensure all the pupils experience a career themed insert at some point in their curriculum this week. Highlights in the calendar are a visit into school by Gary McLean on Wednesday – Gary is a Masterchef winner – and a trip for 50 S3/4 to the skills event at the SECC on Thursday.
- House group assemblies are taking place on Monday p1-4 on the school values of respect and responsibilities.
- On Tuesday after school (5.30pm) we will be carrying out a tour of the school for p7s and their parents who missed the open evening early in October.
- On Thursday the Music department will be showcasing talent with 'young musician of the year' for juniors in the afternoon and seniors after school. More information will come out for those learners who are taking part.
- S4 and S5/6 tracking reports will be with parents/carers over the next couple of weeks. Text messages will be sent home to confirm.
- Parents' evenings – information will be with you shortly about booking appointments.
  - S4 10<sup>th</sup> November
  - S5/6 22<sup>nd</sup> November

- Julie Colquhoun, Education Manager, and Tracy McGillivray, Head of Service, are coming into school all day on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, all day, for a learning and teaching visit. This will involve several class visits and focus group meetings with staff and pupils. We look forward to welcoming in our visitors.
- The next parent council meeting is scheduled for the evening of 14<sup>th</sup> November. 6.30pm – 8.30pm in the staff room.
- Flu jags are scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> November and pupils should have returned their consents to the office.

With best wishes to you and your family,

*Lynne Hollywood.*

Lynne Hollywood,  
Head Teacher

If you need to contact us, please call 0300 300 1331 and ask to speak to your child's pastoral teacher:

	<b>PASTORAL PT</b>	<b>DEPUTE HEAD TEACHER</b>
ARRAN	Mr Rainey	Mrs O'Malley
IONA	Miss Docherty	Ms Cole
MULL	Miss McFadden (acting)	Mrs Davidson (acting)
SKYE	Mr Kennedy	Ms Price (acting)